



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Horizon 2020

Alessandra Luchetti
European Commission
DG Education and Culture

MSCA Information Days, 4 June 2014, Dublin



OUTLINE

- **MSCA-Introduction**
- **MSCA-Calls**
- **MSCA-Funding**
- **MSCA-Actions**
 - ***Award criteria:***
 - **Excellence (50% weighting)**
 - **Impact (30% weighting)**
 - **Implementation (20% weighting)**
 - **Total score subject to a threshold of 70%**

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MSCA - INTRODUCTION

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Horizon 2020



An integrated programme of 79 billion EUR coupling research to innovation:

- Responding to the economic crisis to invest in future jobs and growth
- Addressing people's concerns about their livelihoods, safety and environment
- Strengthening the EU's global position in research, innovation and technology



The three pillars of H2020

Education and Culture



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MSCA Objective

Ensure the optimum development and dynamic use of Europe's intellectual capital in order to generate new skills, knowledge and innovation

Budget 2014-2020: 6 162 million €

€817.40 million in 2014 for all calls together.

MSCA - Strategic programming approach



- Attract and retain **research talent**
- Develop state-of-the-art, **innovative training schemes**, consistent with the highly competitive and increasingly inter-disciplinary requirements of research and innovation
- Promote sustainable **career development** in research and innovation
- Focus on **delivering new knowledge and skills**, in line with the key driver identified in the strategic programming approach
- Contribute to a **strong partnership with MS/AC** via the co-funding mechanism

MSCA - Key features



- Open to all domains of **research and innovation** from basic research up to market take-up and innovation services
- Entirely **bottom-up**
- Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs
- **Mobility** as the key requirement - funding on condition participants move from one country to another
- Promotion of attractive **working and employment conditions**
- Particular attention to **gender** balance
- **Public engagement** of supported researchers

Definitions



- ✓ **Academic sector:** public or private HEI awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations, international European interest organisations
- ✓ **Non-academic sector:** any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector definition
- ✓ **Beneficiaries** → signatories of the grant agreement
- ✓ **Partner organisations** → not signing the grant agreement
- ✓ Categories of researchers: **ESR** and **ER** – in line with FP7 approach
- ✓ **Full time research equivalent** and **mobility** rule – following FP7 approach
- ✓ **Staff members** in RISE: researchers, managers, administrative and technical personnel supporting research and innovation activities of the project

MSC Actions



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Innovative Training Networks - ITN

Individual Fellowships - IF

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange - RISE

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes - COFUND

European Researchers' Night

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MSCA – CALLS

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MSCA Calls 2014-2015



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ITN	11/12/2013 – 09/04/2014 02/09/2014 – 13/01/2015	EUR 405.18 million EUR 370.00 million
IF	12/03/2014 – 11/09/2014 12/03/2015 – 10/09/2015	EUR 240.50 million EUR 213.00 million
RISE	11/12/2013 – 24/04/2014 06/01/2015 – 28/04/2015	EUR 70.00 million EUR 80.00 million
COFUND	10/04/2014 – 02/10/2014 14/04/2015 – 01/10/2015	EUR 80.00 million EUR 80.00 million
NIGHT	11/12/2013 – 04/03/2014	EUR 8.00 million

Web training 10 June 2012



- The European Commission is organising web-streamed training on Tuesday 10 June 2014 from 1pm to 5 pm Irish Standard Time.
- Details on the on the MSCA 2014 calls currently open:
 - IF
 - COFUND
- Transmitted via the link:
<http://scic.ec.europa.eu/streaming/index.php?es=2&sessionno=55acf8539596d25624059980986aaa78>
- Please note that the live transmission will start approximately 10-15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Before that the link will not be active
- The web streaming will be recorded and be available via the same link for at least one year



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MSCA – FUNDING

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PANELS - OVERVIEW



o **Proposals are allocated to one of the 8 main evaluation panels:**

- o Chemistry (CHE)
- o Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
- o Economic Sciences (ECO)
- o Information Science and Engineering (ENG)
- o Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
- o Life Sciences (LIF)
- o Mathematics (MAT)
- o Physics (PHY)

o In IF, **separate multidisciplinary panels** will be created for the **Career Restart** Panel (CAR) and the **Reintegration** Panel.

o COFUND evaluation will be organised in **two different panels: Doctoral programmes** and **Fellowship programmes**.

o In ITN, **separate multidisciplinary panels** will be created for **EID** and the **EJD**

Funding



- ✓ EU contribution based on **unit costs** calculated on the basis of the researcher-months
- ✓ Two broad dimensions of unit costs: researcher and institutional
- ✓ **Allowances for the researcher**
(living, mobility and family allowance)
- ✓ Unit costs for **research, training and networking**
- ✓ Unit costs for **management** and **indirect costs**
- ✓ Country coefficients applicable only to living allowances in ITN and IF
- ✓ NIGHT: will use eligibility, award criteria and funding of the H2020 Coordination & Support actions

EU contribution – amounts



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Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers/seconded staff member (1)				Institutional costs (2)	
	Living allowance (a)	Mobility allowance (b)	Family allowance (c)	Top-up allowance (d)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action						
ITN (100%)	3 110	600	500	--	1 800	1 200
IF (100%)	4 650	600	500	--	800	650
RISE (100%)	--	--	--	2 000	1 800	700
COFUND (50%)	ESR: 3 710 ER: 5 250	--	--	--	--	650 (indirect costs not covered)



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MSCA – ACTIONS

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Innovative Training Networks - ITN

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Innovative Training Networks (ITN)



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Objective

- ✓ raise excellence and structure research and doctoral training
- ✓ train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative **early-stage researchers**

Scope

- ✓ Triple 'i' dimension of mobility and particular focus on innovation skills

European
Training
Networks (ETN)

European
Industrial
Doctorates (EID)

European
Joint
Doctorates (EJD)

Expected Impact

- ✓ structure research and doctoral training in Europe
- ✓ trigger cooperation and exchange of best practice among participants
- ✓ enhance researchers' employability and provide them with new career perspectives

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ITN – Main features



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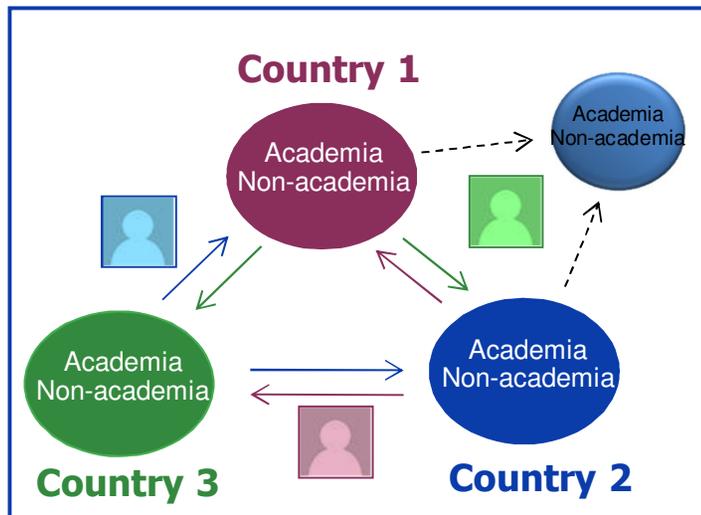


- ✓ **Budget:** € 405.18 Million in 2014 (EID: 25.5 Mio, EJD: 30 Mio)
€ 370 Million in 2015 (EID: 25 Mio, EJD 28 Mio)
- ✓ Duration of projects: maximum 4 years
- ✓ Consortium agreement: required only for EID
- ✓ Support to **early-stage researchers only**
- ✓ Fellowships of 3-36 months
- ✓ Maximum **540 researcher-months** per consortium (180 for EID with 2 partners)
- ✓ Separate **multidisciplinary panels for EID and EJD**

European Training Networks (ETN)



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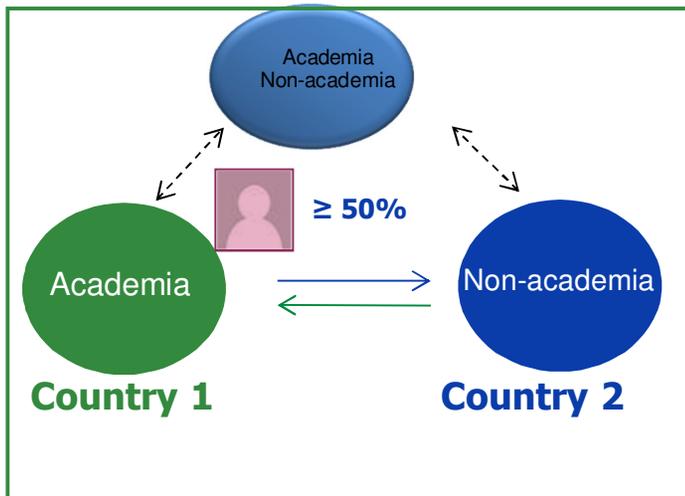


- **Minimum 3 beneficiaries**
- 3 countries (MS/AC)
- **Typical size: 6-10** participants (example)
- Each beneficiary must **recruit and host at least one researcher** at its premises.
- Participation of **non-academic sector** considered **essential**.
- **Max. 540 ReMo** for the network.
- **Secondments up to 30%** of the researcher recruitment period.
- **Joint supervision** encouraged.
- **Max. 40%** of total budget to one country.

European Industrial Doctorates (EID)



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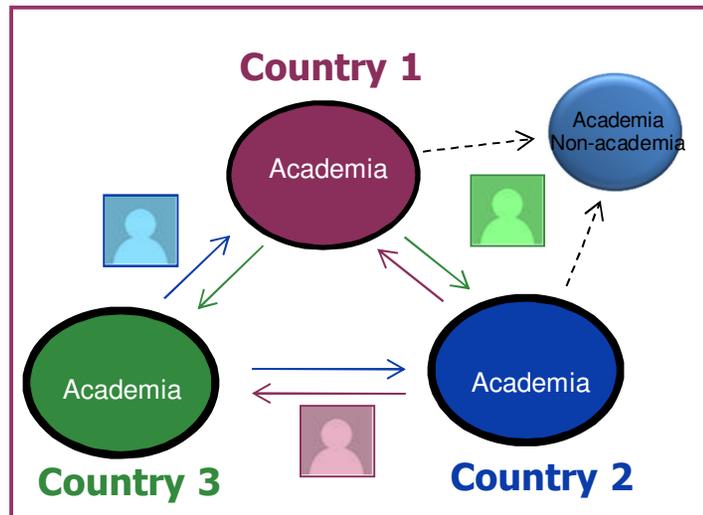


- **Minim. 2 beneficiaries**
 - 1 academic
 - 1 non-academic
 - 2 countries (MS/AC)
 - **Max. 180 ReMo**
 - PhD enrollment
 - > 50% of time at non-academic sector
 - Joint supervision
 - Mandatory Consortium Agreement
-
- **If > 2 beneficiaries,**
 - same requirements apply,
 - additional beneficiaries any sector, any country
 - **Max. 540 ReMo**

European Joint Doctorates (EJD)



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- **Minim. 3 beneficiaries**
- 3 MS/AC
- All entitled to award doctoral degrees.
- Additional beneficiaries or partner organisations from any country, sector and discipline. Participation of non-academic sector encouraged
- Mandatory enrollment of ESRs in the joint doctoral programme
- Mandatory provision of joint, double or multiple degrees (letters of institutional commitment signed by a legal representative needed in the proposal)
- Typical set-up: 48 month-projects.
- **Max. 540 ReMo**
- ESR appointments from 3-36 months
- Secondments up to 30% of the researcher recruitment period.
- Joint governance structure
- Max. 40% of total budget to one country

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Award criteria: ITN



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Excellence	Impact	Implementation
<p>Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme (including inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)</p>	<p>Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills, and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives</p>	<p>Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources (including awarding of the doctoral degrees for <i>EID</i> and <i>EJD</i> projects)</p>
<p>Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)</p>	<p>Contribution to structuring doctoral / early-stage research training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral/research training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field b) developing sustainable joint doctoral degree structures (for <i>EJD</i> projects only) 	<p>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for <i>EID</i> and <i>EJD</i> projects)</p>
<p>Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for <i>EID</i> and <i>EJD</i> projects)</p>	<p>Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and dissemination of results</p>	<p>Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the participating organisations</p>
<p>Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations</p>		<p>Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme</p>

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Submissions to ITN call deadline 09 April 2014



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	ETN	EID	EJD	2014 Total
CHE	124	13	6	143
ECO	12	1	0	13
ENG	271	43	11	325
ENV	123	11	6	140
LIF	297	29	12	338
MAT	16	3	2	21
PHY	93	3	6	102
SOC	68	4	10	82
Total	1004	107	53	1164
	86%	9%	5%	100%

152 submissions involving Republic of Ireland (28 as coordinator)

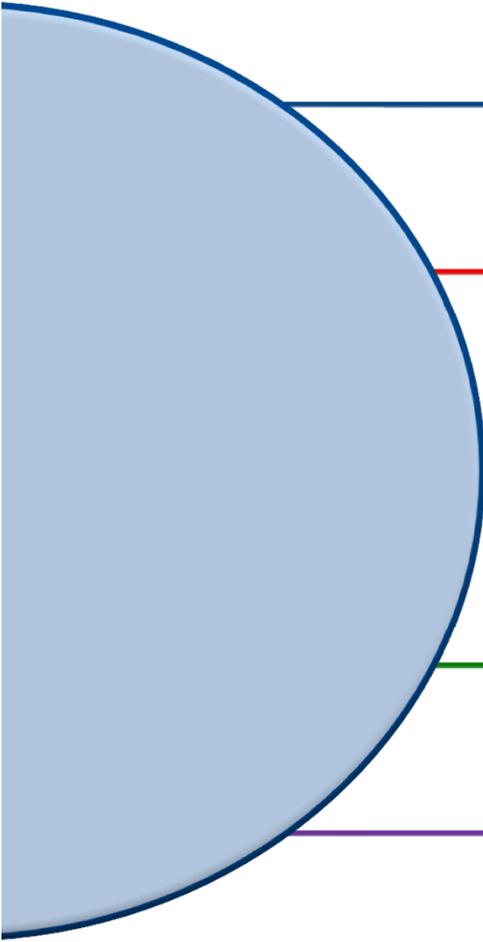
Next steps:

**Remote evaluation starting early May
Central evaluation 23-27 June in Brussels**

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**Co-funding of regional, national and
international programmes - COFUND**

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COFUND – main features



MSCA to foster excellence throughout Europe

Objective

- ✓ stimulate regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development

Scope

- ✓ international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary **research training**, as well as transnational and cross-sector **mobility** of researchers, in line with Charter & Code and with EU principles for Innovative Doctoral Training
- ✓ opportunities for **researchers from all countries**
- ✓ open and transparent selection and recruitment

Expected Impact

- ✓ exploit synergies between EU actions and those at regional, national, and international level
- ✓ leverage funding and combat fragmentation
- ✓ increase working / employment conditions of researchers

COFUND – beneficiaries



- ✓ Mono-beneficiary
- ✓ Legal entities established in MS or AC or international European interest organisations that fund or manage doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes for researchers.



**Doctoral
Programmes**



**Fellowship
Programmes**

COFUND – main features



- ✓ **Budget:** € 80 Million in 2014 (Doctoral Programmes: 30 Mio)
€ 80 Million in 2015 (Doctoral Programmes: 30 Mio)
- ✓ Maximum **€ 10 Million per single applicant** per call
- ✓ Duration of projects: between 3 and 5 years
- ✓ **Researchers** recruited for **minimum 3 months**
- ✓ All supported researchers are **Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows**
- ✓ EU unit cost contribution to **living allowances for researchers and management costs**
- ✓ **Minimum living and mobility allowance** fixed in the WP

COFUND – Eligible researchers



- ✓ All eligible researchers have to be trans-nationally mobile
- ✓ Doctoral Programmes: Early-Stage Researchers
- ✓ Fellowship Programmes: Experienced Researchers
- ✓ Restrictions on nationality to be avoided
- ✓ If host organisation is not in a MS or AC, then researchers have to be nationals or long-term residents of a MS or AC
- ✓ No support for researchers who are already **permanently** employed **at host organisation**

COFUND – synergies



Synergies with European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

- ✓ Support regional policies by internationalisation of human resources in research
- ✓ Possibility to support programmes that prioritise specific scientific disciplines based on smart specialisation strategies
- ✓ Cost items other than living allowance and management (such as research costs, travel and mobility allowances, overheads) may be funded through other resources including EU programmes other than Horizon 2020 (e.g. ESIF)

COFUND – Funding model



- ✓ EU contribution to **living allowance** for contracts with full social security:
 - Early stage researchers (ESR): € 1855 per person-month
 - Experienced researchers (ER): € 2625 per person-month
- ✓ EU contribution to **management costs**: € 325 per person-month

Example (Fellowship programme – ER)

Cost item	Examples of programme costs [€ per person-month]	EU contribution [€ per person-month]
Living allowance	e.g. 4800	2625
Mobility allowance	e.g. 500	
Research costs	e.g. 500	
Management costs	e.g. 600	325
Indirect costs	e.g. 600	
Total	e.g. 7000	2950

€ 3675 <

- ✓ Minimum amounts for monthly living + mobility allowances:
 - ESR: € 2597
 - ER: € 3675

- ✓ Other cost items may be funded through other resources (including ESIF funds)

Award criteria: COFUND



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Excellence	Impact	Implementation
<p>Quality of the selection / recruitment process for the researchers (transparency, composition and organisation of selection committees, evaluation criteria, equal opportunity)</p>	<p>Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives</p>	<p>Overall coherence, effectiveness and appropriateness of the work plan</p>
<p>Quality of the research options offered by the programme in terms of science, interdisciplinarity, intersectorality and level of transnational mobility</p>	<p>Impact of the programme on aligning practices at participating organisations with principles set out by the EU for the human resources development in research and innovation</p>	<p>Appointment conditions of researchers</p>
<p>Quality of career guidance and training, including supervision arrangements, training in transferable skills</p>	<p>Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination of the programmes</p>	<p>Competence of the participant to implement the programme</p>

COFUND – FP7 statistics

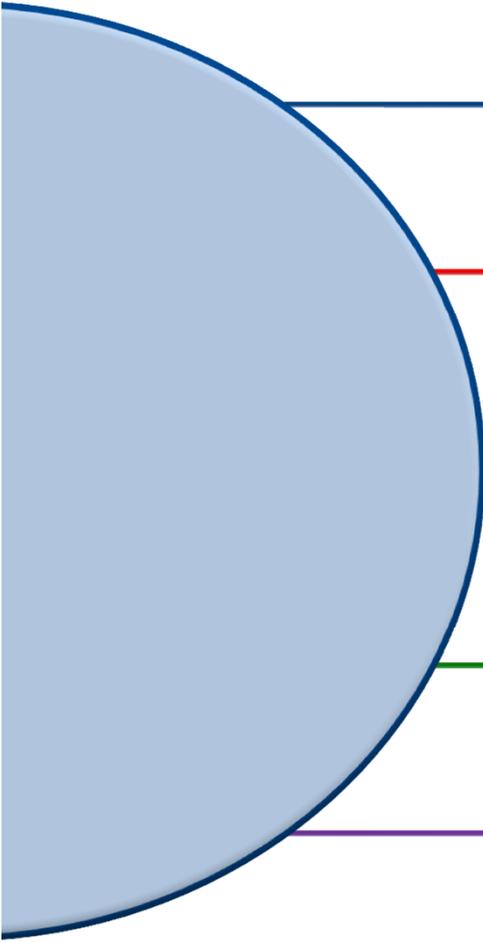


Call	Call closure date	Call budget (M€)	Eligible proposals	Funded projects	Success rate	Co-funded fellow-years	Co-funded fellows
FP7-PEOPLE-2007-2-3-COFUND	13/3/2008	65	45	23	51.1%	2515	1414
FP7-PEOPLE-COFUND-2008	19/2/2009	75	35	25	71.4%	2400	1429
FP7-PEOPLE-2010-COFUND	18/2/2010	75	53	31	58.5%	2561	1431
FP7-PEOPLE-2011-COFUND	17/2/2011	90	64	22	34.4%	2677	1370
FP7-PEOPLE-2012-COFUND	15/2/2012	110	60	35	58.3%	3916	1899
FP7-PEOPLE-2013-COFUND	5/12/2012	115	69	31 (prelim.)	44.9%	3805 (prelim.)	2298 (prelim.)
Total		530	326	167	51.2 %	17875 (prelim.)	9841 (prelim.)

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Research and Innovation Staff Exchange - RISE

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Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)



Objective

- ✓ promote **international and inter-sector collaboration** through **research and innovation staff** exchanges
- ✓ foster a shared culture of research and innovation

Scope

- ✓ International and inter-sector **transfer of knowledge** and sharing of ideas
- ✓ Common **research and innovation project**
- ✓ Highly skilled research and innovation staff
- ✓ **Within Europe: only inter-sector secondments**
- ✓ No secondments between institutions located outside Europe or within the same MS/AC

Expected Impact

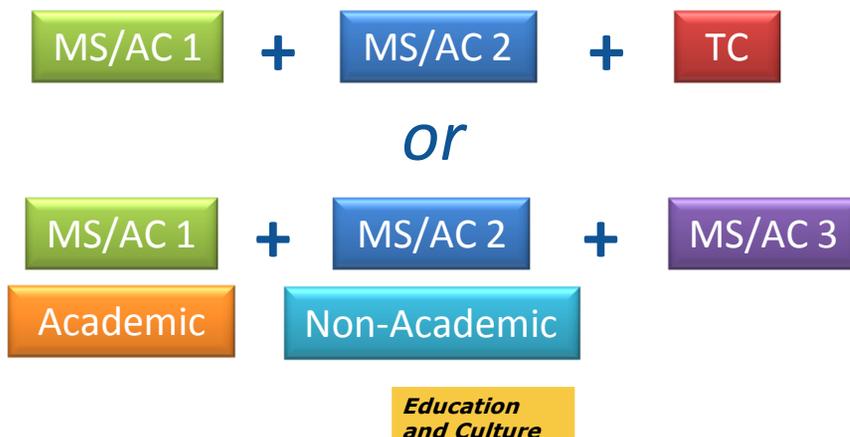
- ✓ strengthen the interaction between organisations in the academic and non-academic sectors, and between Europe and third countries

RISE – Minimum Eligibility Conditions



- At least 3 independent participants in 3 different countries
- At least 2 participants from 2 different MS/AC
- If all in MS/AC: at least 1 academic and 1 non-academic

In practice, 2 possible minimum settings:



RISE – Main features



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- ✓ **Budget:** € 70 Million in 2014
€ 80 Million in 2015
- ✓ Duration of projects: maximum 4 years
- ✓ Minimum eligibility condition: **participants in 3 different countries** (at least 2 MS/AC)
- ✓ Partnership agreement recommended
- ✓ Support to **secondments of staff members (1-12 months)**
- ✓ No mobility rule required
- ✓ **Eligibility condition** for staff member: **6 month at the sending institution** prior to the first secondment
- ✓ Maximum **540 researcher-months** per consortium

Award criteria: RISE



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Excellence	Impact	Implementation
<p>Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research (including inter/multidisciplinary aspects)</p>	<p>Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives</p>	<p>Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources</p>
<p>Clarity and quality of knowledge sharing among the participants in light of the research and innovation objectives.</p>	<p>To develop new and lasting research collaborations, to achieve transfer of knowledge between research institutions and to improve research and innovation potential at the European and global levels</p>	<p>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management</p>
<p>Quality of the interaction between the participating organisations</p>	<p>Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination</p>	<p>Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)</p>
		<p>Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and institutional commitment</p>

Submissions to RISE
call deadline
28 April 2014



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	RISE 2014
CHE	22
ECO	12
ENG	59
ENV	25
LIF	34
MAT	4
PHY	26
SOC	21
Total	203

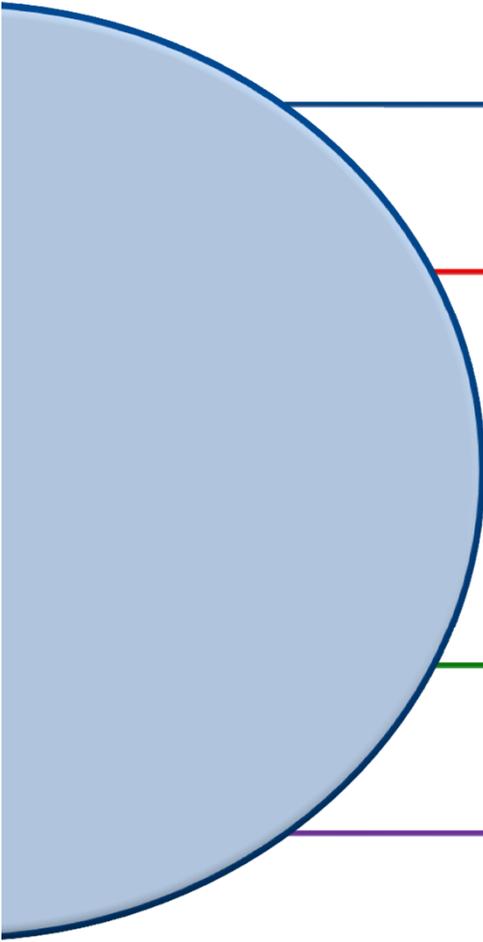
16 submissions involving Republic of Ireland (2 as coordinator)

**Next steps:
Remote evaluation starting May
Central evaluation 2-6 June in Brussels**

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Individual Fellowships - IF

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Individual Fellowships (IF)



Objective

- ✓ enhance the creative and innovative potential of **experienced researchers**
- ✓ provide opportunities to acquire new knowledge, work on research projects in a European context or outside Europe, resume a career or return to Europe

Scope

- ✓ Individual, trans-national fellowships awarded to the best or most promising researchers
- ✓ **European Fellowships** or **Global Fellowships**
- ✓ Career Restart Panel and Reintegration Panel

Expected Impact

- ✓ release the full potential of researchers and to catalyse significant development in their careers in both the academic and non-academic sectors
- ✓ strengthen the contact network of the researcher and the host organisation

IF – European and Global



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European Fellowships

Career Restart
Panel

Reintegration
Panel

For fellows coming to or moving within Europe

Global Fellowships



(1)



(2)



For fellows from Europe going to Third countries and returning

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IF – Main features



- ✓ **Budget:** € 240.50 Million in 2014 (Global Fellowships: 29 Mio)
€ 213 Million in 2015 (Global Fellowships: 27 Mio)
- ✓ Duration of projects: 2 years (IF Global: 3 years)
- ✓ Support to **experienced researchers** of **any nationality** (IF Global and IF Reintegration: nationals of EU MS/AC and long-term residents)
- ✓ Focus on **career development**, not necessarily experience
- ✓ Additional 3 or 6 month **secondment option**, within Europe and in another sector
- ✓ Separate multidisciplinary **panels for CAR and Reintegration**
- ✓ Same award sub-criteria for all proposals

IF – Award criteria



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Excellence	Impact	Implementation
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research (including inter/multidisciplinary aspects)	Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives	Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan , including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge/training for the development of researcher in light of the research objectives	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination	Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures , including quality management and risk management
Quality of the supervision and the hosting arrangements		Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)
Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity in research		Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and institutional commitment

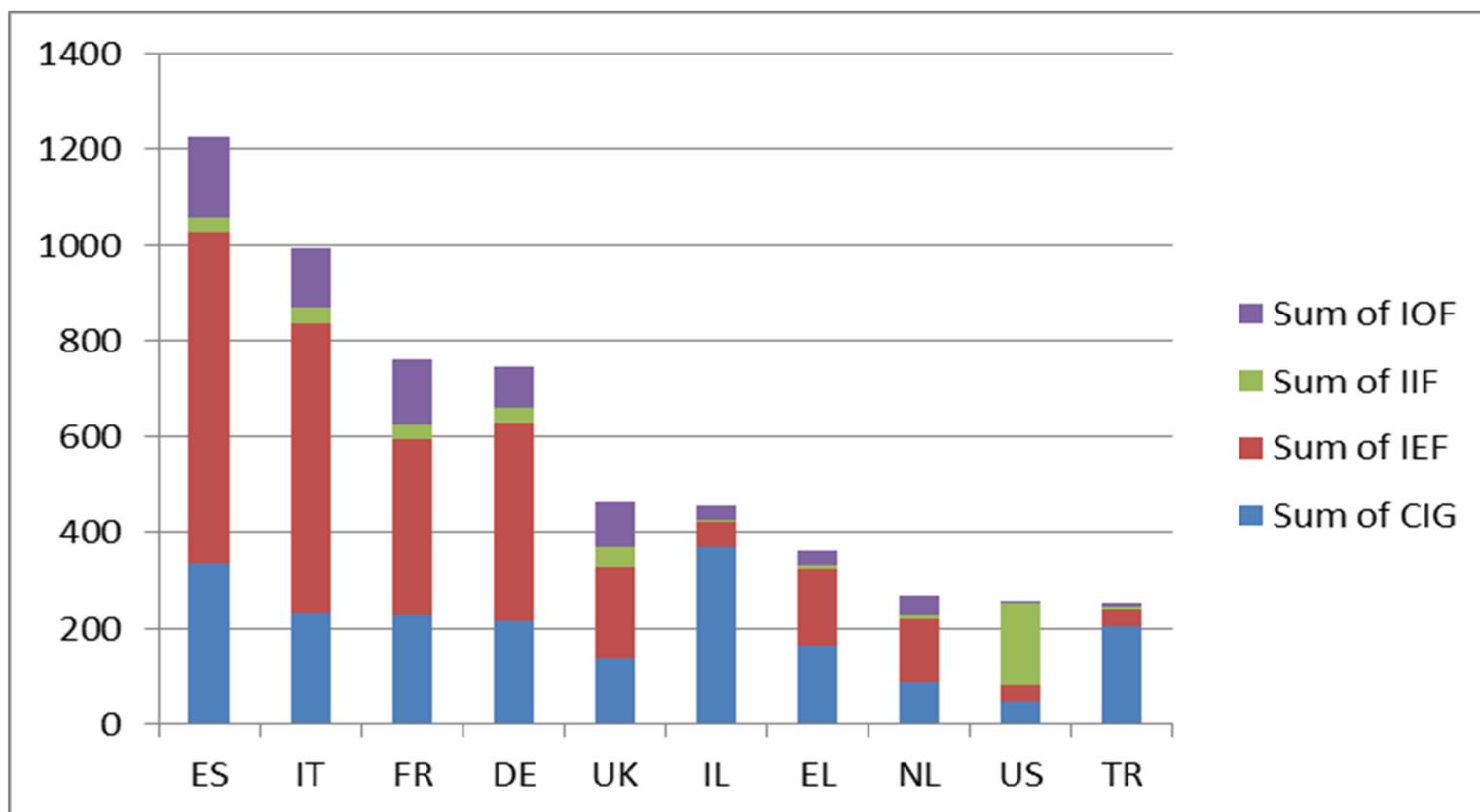
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MCA individual fellowships



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MCA 2007-13: top 10 **nationalities** of the 8 786 individual fellows

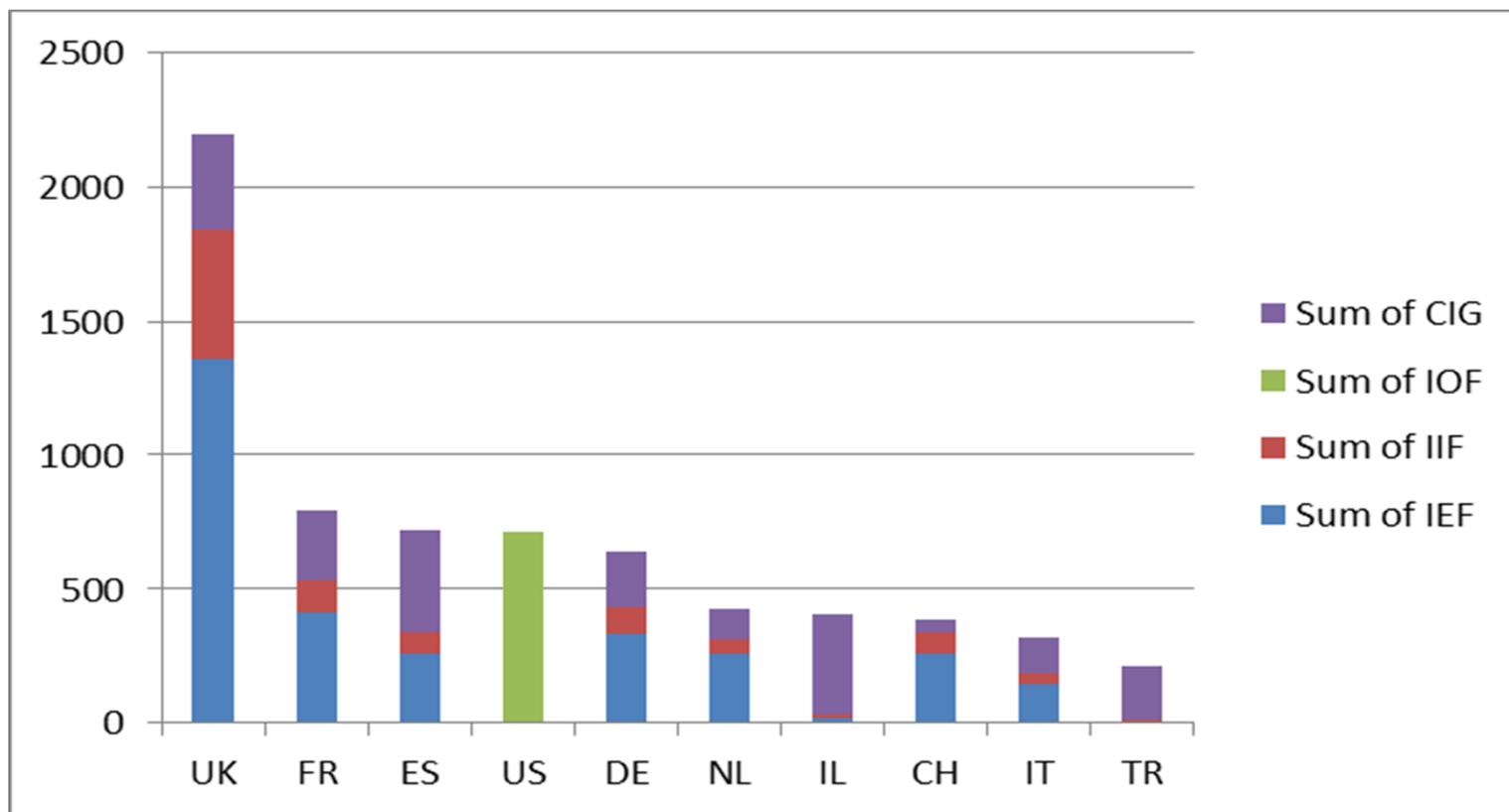


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MCA individual fellowships



MCA 2007-13: top 10 **host countries** of the 8 786 individual fellowships



Useful links



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website

<http://ec.europa.eu/msca>

Horizon 2020

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020>

Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) public consultation to identify game-changing directions for future research in any technological domain (open until 15 June 2014)

<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/content/consultation-new-fet-proactive-topics>

Participant Portal (applications, Guide for Applicants)

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>

National Contact Points

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html

Contacting the Commission



**For further questions on MSCA please send a message to
the Research Enquiry Service:**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=enquiries>

alessandra.luchetti@ec.europa.eu

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