Horizon 2020

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Horizon 2020

Europe 2020 priorities

International cooperation

European Research Area

Shared objectives and principles
Common rules, toolkit of funding schemes

Societal Challenges
- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bio-based economy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies

Industrial Leadership
- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (ICT, nano, materials, bio, manufacturing, space)
- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs

Excellent Science
- European Research Council
- Future and Emerging Technologies
- Marie Curie actions on skills, training and career development
- Research infrastructures

Supporting the objectives:
European Institute for Innovation and Technology
Joint Research Centre

Simplified access

Dissemination & knowledge transfer
Objectives

new skills, knowledge and innovation

1. Fostering new skills through excellence in initial training of researchers
2. Nurturing excellence through cross-border and cross-sector mobility
3. Stimulating innovation through cross-fertilisation of knowledge
4. Increasing structural impact by co-funding activities
5. Specific support and policy action
- 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 via the co-funding mechanism
Key features of the MSCA part

- 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

Budget 2014/2020 : 6 162 billion €
- Approximately 80,000 researchers financed since the creation of MCA.
- More than 10,000 PhDs supported in FP7.
- Approximately 9,200 projects funded so far in FP7 (€4.2 billion).
- Approximately 17,800 participations of host organisations in 83 countries (46 TC).
- Approximately 18,500 participations of MCA researchers coming from all over the world: 130 nationalities (90 TC).
- 66,000 researcher-months exchanged (~22,000 individuals) in IRSES.
- SMEs play a major role (IAPP & ITN).
- 38% women participation in FP7 MCA (target: 40%).
**Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**

**ITN**
Innovative Training Networks

*What does it offer?*
High-quality research training delivered through international and interdisciplinary networks, industrial doctorates or joint doctorates

*Who applies?*
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

*Who is funded?*
Researchers at doctoral level (less than four years of full-time research experience and no doctoral degree)

*Call details:*
Opened: 2 September 2014
Closes: 13 January 2015
at 17.00.00 Brussels time
Budget: € 370 million

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**IF**
Individual Fellowships

*What does it offer?*
Opportunities to work on personal research projects by moving between countries and possibly sectors to acquire new skills

*Who applies?*
Individual researchers together with the host organisation

*Who is funded?*
Postdoctoral researchers

*Call details:*
Opens: 12 March 2015
Closes: 10 September 2015
at 17.00.00 Brussels time
Budget: € 215 million

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**RISE**
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

*What does it offer?*
The exchange of staff members involved in research and innovation to develop sustainable collaborative projects and the transfer of knowledge

*Who applies?*
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

*Who is funded?*
Researchers, technical, administrative and managerial staff of any nationality and at all career levels

*Call details:*
Opens: 6 January 2015
Closes: 28 April 2015
at 17.00.00 Brussels time
Budget: € 80 million

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**COFUND**
Co-Funding of Regional, National and International Programmes

*What does it offer?*
Regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers’ training, mobility and career development

*Who applies?*
Organisations funding or managing doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes

*Who is funded?*
Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level

*Call details:*
Opens: 14 April 2015
Closes: 1 October 2015
at 17.00.00 Brussels time
Budget: € 80 million
At the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals (IF), or recruitment by the host organisation (ITN), researchers shall not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date.

Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.

Career Restart Panel and the Reintegration Panel in IF: researchers shall not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of their host organisation for more than 3 years in the 5 years immediately prior to the relevant deadline for submission of proposals.
Early Stage Researchers

- Shall at the time of recruitment (ITN, COFUND) or secondment (RISE), be in the first four years (full-time equivalent) of their research careers and have not yet been awarded a doctoral degree.

Experienced Researchers

- Shall, at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals (IF), recruitment (COFUND) or secondment (RISE), be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

Nationality, residence

- Global fellowships and Reintegration panel in IF are open to nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States and Associated Countries.
- Long-term residence means a period of full-time research activity of at least 5 consecutive years.
ITN : Innovative Training Networks
Innovative Training Networks

Support for early-stage/doctoral research training through:

• European Training Networks (ETN)
• European Industrial Doctorates (EID)
• European Joint Doctorates (EJD)
ITN Objectives

- Train innovative early-stage researchers
- Excellence in doctoral/early-stage research training
- Provide skills to match public and private sector needs

ITN Expected impact

- Improved career perspectives of researchers
- Structured high-quality research / doctoral training
- Collaboration academia with non-academic sectors
ITN Features (1)

- **Excellence**: International network of organisations applies and proposes a joint research training or doctoral programme
- **Bottom-up** (no pre-defined topics)
- **All domains***: CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC
- **Multidisciplinary** approach
- Meaningful exposure to **non-academic sector**

*: except areas of research covered by the EURATOM Treaty
ITN Features (2)

- Strong **networking** within the consortium
- **Mobility** across countries /disciplines
- **Career guidance** arrangements
- **Supervisory Board**
- Project duration typically **48 months**
- only for **Early Stage Researchers**
ITN typical activities

• Core activity: Training through individual research projects

• Network-wide training activities (e.g. seminars, workshops, summer schools).

• Training in key transferable skills (e.g. entrepreneurship, management, IPR, communication, ethics, grant writing).

• Collaboration and exchange of knowledge within the network

• Communication & Dissemination

• Public engagement
Who applies?

International networks of organisations actively involved in research/doctoral training

Two categories of organisations

**Academic sector**
- public/private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees
- public/private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research
- international European interest organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL)

**Non-academic sector**
- any entity not included in the academic sector:
  - e.g. large companies, SMEs, NGOs, museums, hospitals
  - international organisations (e.g. UN, WHO)

Standardised legal validation of entities is applied to determine the domain of each participant
### Which roles?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Beneficiary (✅)</th>
<th>Partner Organisation (❌)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signs Grant Agreement</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>❌</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recruits and Hosts Researchers</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trains/Hosts Researchers on secondment</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participates in Supervisory Board</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directly Claims Costs</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>❌</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU funding</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who can be recruited?

Researcher-months requested in proposal Recruitment after the project starts.

Only **Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs):**
- \(\leq 4\) years of research experience
- no PhD yet

Recruitment:
3 to **36 months (typical)**

Mandatory **trans-national mobility** at the time of recruitment.
ITN three implementation modes

- **ETN**
  - European Training Networks
  - Participants implement a joint research programme
  - €317M

- **EID**
  - European Industrial Doctorates
  - Doctoral programme with the non-academic sector
  - €25M

- **EJD**
  - European Joint Doctorates
  - Doctoral programme to deliver joint degrees
  - €28M

Research fields chosen freely by applicants (CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC)
Eligibility rules?

**ETN**
Min. 3 beneficiaries from any sector from 3 different MS/AC

**EID**
Min. 2 beneficiaries from 2 different MS/AC: min. 1 from academic sector awarding PhD + min. 1 from non-academic sector

**EJD**
Min. 3 beneficiaries from academic sector awarding PhD from 3 different MS/AC

Above this minimum: participants from any sector / country
Funding for IO/TC beneficiaries?

International organisations (e.g. United Nations) and organisations in those Third Countries not listed in the general annex to the MSCA Work Programme 2014-2015 may receive funding only in exceptional cases:

- essential to the action
- endorsed by evaluators

Example of countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States...

The case of Switzerland
European Training Networks (ETN)
Participants implement a joint research training programme

**Mandatory**
- Min. 3 beneficiaries from 3 different MS/AC
- Each beneficiary recruits and hosts at least 1 ESR
- Max 540 person-months (e.g. 15 ESRs x 36 months)

**Other features**
- Non-academic participation essential
- PhD enrolment typically expected (not mandatory)
- Secondments to other countries/sector/disciplines (≤30% time)
- Joint supervision recommended
- Partner organisations (any country/sector)
Participants implement a joint research training programme.
European Industrial Doctorates (EID)
Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

- Min. 2 organisations from 2 different EU/associated countries
  - 1 academic awarding PhD + 1 non-academic
- Max 180 person-months (if 2 organisations) - e.g. 5 x 36 months
- Max 540 person-months (if ≥3 organisations) - e.g. 15 x 36 months

- Individual research projects under the topic of the doctoral programme
- Flexible recruitment rule
- Each fellow enrolled in the doctoral programme
- Each fellow must spend ≥50% of time in non-academic sector
- Secondments above 50% rule (up to 30% of time)
- Partner organisations (any country/sector)
Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

Beneficiaries

non-academic sector

Partner organisations

≥ 50% time for each ESR

2 beneficiaries: max 180 PM
Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

≥ 50% time for each ESR

≥3 beneficiaries: max 540 PM

EID

Beneficiaries

non-academic sector

Partner organisations

Research Executive Agency
European Joint Doctorates (EJD)
Mandatory

- Min. 3 beneficiaries from academic sector awarding PhDs, from 3 different MS/AC
- Each ESR enrolled in the joint (international) doctoral programme
- Joint selection, training and supervision
- Commitment to deliver joint/double/multi degrees
- Max 540 person-months

Other features

- Meaningful stays at joint doctorate beneficiaries
- Non-academic participation through secondments to other sector/disciplines (≤ 30%)
- Flexible recruitment rule

Universities cooperating to deliver joint/multiple doctoral degrees
**Joint degree:** single diploma issued by at least 2 academic institutions, and recognised officially

**Double/multiple degree:** 2 or more separate national diplomas issued by two or more higher education institutions and recognised officially

**Letters of institutional commitment** to deliver degrees are required in the proposal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ETN</th>
<th>EID</th>
<th>EJD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>≥3 from 3 diff. MS/AC Any type</td>
<td>≥2 from 2 diff. MS/AC: (≥1 acad. award. PhD + ≥1 non-academic)</td>
<td>≥3 (acad. award PhD) from 3 diff. MS/AC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Person-months</strong></td>
<td>Max. 540</td>
<td>Max. 180 / 540</td>
<td>Max. 540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Researchers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>ESRs only (3-36 months)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner Organ.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not pre-defined (any country / sector / discipline)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PhD enrolment</strong></td>
<td>typically expected</td>
<td><strong>mandatory</strong></td>
<td><strong>mandatory</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-academic participation</strong></td>
<td>essential</td>
<td><strong>mandatory</strong></td>
<td>essential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inter-sectoral exposure</strong></td>
<td>possible through secondments</td>
<td>≥50% in non-academic</td>
<td>possible through secondments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panels and rank lists</strong></td>
<td>8 panels: CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC (317 M€)</td>
<td>EID panel (25 M€)</td>
<td>EJD panel (28 M€)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unit costs/1 researcher month:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions</th>
<th>Researcher unit cost [person/month]</th>
<th>Institutional unit cost [person/month]</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living allowance</td>
<td>Mobility allowance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovative Training Networks</td>
<td>3 110</td>
<td>600</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance**
- Researcher allowances include employer contributions.
- Researcher allowances are a minimum to be paid (top-up funds from other sources permitted).
ITN 2015: Open call

H2020-MSCA-ITN-2015

Opened 02 September 2015

Closure: **13 January 2015** (17:00:00 Brussels time)

Budget: **€ 370 Million** (ETN: 317 M€, EID: 25 M€; EJD: 28 M€)

Results of the evaluation: **5 months** after the call deadline

Signing of grant agreements: **8 months** after the call deadline
Where to find information?

Participant Portal

**ITN 2015 Call page**
- Guide for Applicants 2015
- Work Programme (2014-15)
- Call updates (e.g. Switzerland)

French Participation
Participations in evaluated proposals

Year:
- 2007: 6,588 (770) Other
- 2008: 6,833 (748) Other
- 2010: 6,985 (739) Other
- 2011: 7,397 (744) Other
- 2012: 6,817 (704) Other
- 2013: 7,667 (792) Other
- 2014: 8,382 (836) Other
Participations in main list proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>France</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>79</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITN 2014: submitted and A-list proposals

1161 Submissions

121 A-List

Success rate

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ETN</th>
<th>EID</th>
<th>EJD</th>
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<td>8,6%</td>
<td>15,3%</td>
<td>13,1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ITN 2014: eligible and A-list proposals by panel
ITN 2014: Number of beneficiaries in A-list & Role
ITN 2014: Number of beneficiaries in A-list & Mode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>ETN</th>
<th>EID</th>
<th>EJD</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>869</td>
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<td>UK</td>
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<td>76</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>Argentina</td>
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</table>

Member States

ETN: 869
EID: 76
EJD: 47
Total: 992
ITN 2014: European Joint Doctorate Programmes in Europe
RISE
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange
Scope: RISE

- Promote international and inter-sector collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges
- Sharing of knowledge and ideas for the advancement of science and the development of innovation.
- Support is provided for the development of partnerships (e.g. joint research and innovation activities)
- *Bottom-up approach: set of clear research and innovation objectives and deliverables.*
- All Countries can participate in RISE

- All nationalities can participate in RISE

- All institutions fulfilling the requirements of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation can participate in RISE

- No mobility rules* for RISE
Project Main Aspects

- Project built on joint research and innovation activities

- Project implemented through the secondment of staff *(no recruitments)*

- Each staff member seconded for a period of 1 to 12 months

- The maximum size for a project is 540 person months

- No minimum size explicitly defined for the project, but substantial impact is expected

- Maximum project duration is 4 years
- Beneficiaries
  - Sign the Grant Agreement and claim costs
  - Are responsible for the execution of the programme
  - Are established in a MS/AC

- Partner Organisations
  - Do not sign the Grant Agreement and do not claim costs
  - Must include a letter of commitment in the proposal
  - Are established in a TC
The sector of an organisation is defined automatically

- **Academic Sector**
  - Higher education establishments (public or private)
  - Non-profit research organisations (public or private)
  - International European interest organisations

- **Non-Academic Sector**
  - Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector and fulfilling the requirements of the *Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation* (SMEs, multinationals, NGOs, ...)

- Actively engaged in or linked to research/innovation activities for at least 6 months prior to first secondment

- Types of staff members:
  - ESR (no PhD and < 4 years experience)
  - ER (PhD or > 4 years experience)
  - Managerial staff
  - Administrative or Technical staff

- In-built return mechanism
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:

```
MS/AC 1 + MS/AC 2 + TC

or

MS/AC 1 + MS/AC 2 + MS/AC 3
```

Academic

Non-Academic

Research Executive Agency
Eligible Secondments 1

**Intra-European Exchanges**

- **Country**
  - MS/AC 1
  - MS/AC 2
  - MS/AC 3

- **Sector**
  - Academic
  - Non-Academic

- **Academic**
- **Non-Academic**

**Constraints**:
- **Same sector**
- **Same Country**

- **A** connected to **C** with a **×** symbol.
- **A** connected to **D** with a **×** symbol.
- **B** connected to **C** with a **×** symbol.
- **B** connected to **D** with a **×** symbol.
- **A** connected to **B** with a **×** symbol.
- **C** connected to **D** with a **×** symbol.
Eligible Secondments 2

Europe-Third Countries Exchanges

Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>MS/AC 1</th>
<th>MS/AC 2</th>
<th>TC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Sector is not relevant

Secondments from a TC to a MS/AC are not always eligible for EU funding but all of them must be described in the proposal.
Secondments

Secondments that **must** be described in the proposal:

- MS/AC 1 → Academic ← MS/AC 2 → Non-Academic
  - Eligible for EU Funding
- MS/AC → TC → MS/AC
  - Eligible for EU Funding
- TC → MS/AC
  - Eligibility for EU funding depends on the TC

Secondments that **must not** be described in the proposal:

*All other possibilities, such as:*

- MS/AC 1 → Academic ← MS/AC 2 → Academic
- MS/AC 1 → Non-Academic ← MS/AC 2 → Non-Academic
- MS/AC 1 ← MS/AC 1
- TC ← TC
Countries Eligible For EU Funding

- EU Member States

- Overseas Countries and Territories linked to the MS (As defined on page 3 of General Annex A to the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015)

- Horizon 2020 Associated Countries (In principle, the same as FP7, but subject to the adoption of the association agreements)

Countries not listed previously are not eligible for EU funding

In practice, those countries are mainly: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States.

In very exceptional cases, partners from those countries might be funded. But the following conditions have to be fulfilled:

a) This partner has competences/expertise that no organisation in MS/AC has
b) The relevant transfer of knowledge can only be done via a secondment in the direction TC → MS/AC
c) Points a) and b) must be endorsed by the expert evaluators
## EU Contribution

**Unit costs per researcher per month**

**For secondments eligible for funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action</th>
<th>Staff member unit cost *</th>
<th>Institutional unit cost *</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>person/month Top-up allowance</td>
<td>Research, training and networking costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Innovation Staff Exchange</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>1 800</td>
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*These unit costs are subject to a funding rate of 100% and no country coefficients apply.*
Evaluation Panels:
- Chemistry (CHE)
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
- Economic Sciences (ECO)
- Information Science and Engineering (ENG)
- Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
- Life Sciences (LIF)
- Mathematics (MAT)
- Physics (PHY)

Evaluation Criteria:
- Award Criteria
- Selection Criteria
- Operational capacity has to be checked

- Proposals must include a description of:
  
  • The profile of the people who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed work
  
  • Any significant infrastructure or major items of technical equipment, relevant to the proposed work
  
  • Any partner organisations (not beneficiaries) contributing towards the proposed work
- **Section 1**: General information (including abstract)

- **Section 2**: Information on participants

- **Section 3**: Budget and Secondments tables

- **Section 4**: Ethics table
Proposal Part B

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS (including data for non-academic beneficiaries)

1. SUMMARY
2. EXCELLENCE
3. IMPACT
4. IMPLEMENTATION

5. REFERENCES
6. CAPACITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS
7. ETHICS ASPECTS
8. LETTERS OF COMMITMENT OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

START PAGE COUNT

30 pages limit

STOP PAGE COUNT
- Opens 06 January 2015
- Deadline: **28 April 2015**
- Budget: € 80 Million

Results of the evaluation: **5 months** after the call deadline

Signing of grant agreements: **8 months** after the call deadline
RISE 2014: Submitted & A-list proposals

1463 participants

625 A-List

Academic
70%
Academic
1026 -> 438

Non-Academic
30%
Non Academic
437 -> 187

The success rate of Academic and non-Academic is equal!
RISE 2014: Submitted and A-list proposals by panel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>A-List</th>
<th>Others</th>
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