

Marie Curie IAPP 2013 Webinar – Q&A Session

Q. How do you define a commercial partner?

A. Here is the Definition of Commercial Sector Organisations from the IAPP Guide for Applicants:

Commercial Sector organisations ("industry"): for the purposes of the IAPP action, research-performing enterprises, including SMEs, which gain the majority of their revenue through competitive means with exposure to commercial markets.

Q. Are students studying for a 1 year taught MSc at our university eligible to take part in the secondments under IAPP?

A. No, these students would not be eligible secondees. Remember that the aim of IAPP is inter-sectoral Transfer of Knowledge between the partners, so the secondees must be people who have been highly active in the research area of their host organisation before they are seconded – otherwise they don't have the knowledge to transfer!

Q. When partners are filling the A2 forms, if they are a multinational, do they have to give information (re. employees, turnover annual balance) based on whole company or only on the local office/lab taking part in the IAPP application?

A. This information is to decide if the company meets the EU designation for SME, which is simply for statistical purposes. A multinational would not be an SME, so the data entered should reflect this. However, it would be a good idea to clarify this by discussion with Ireland's Legal and Financial NCP: <http://www.fp7ireland.com/Contacts.aspx?WCI=htmlView&WCU=UID=RQJ6091N8P>.

Q. For an IAPP with six partners, which figures would be expected in overall budget?

A. The budget for an IAPP proposal is based on the "requested researcher months", i.e., the number of months of secondment and recruitment that the consortium will carry out. Each partner is allocated one line in the budget table, so for six partners, there would be six lines in the budget table for your proposal. Each partner details how many months of secondment and (if applicable) recruitment they will carry out over the full duration of the programme. Detailed guidance on the financial regime for IAPP can be found on pages 16 to 23 of the Guide for Applicants, and instructions for completing the A4 table can be found on page 44.

Q. We are resubmitting and were planning to dedicate a brief section in part B, addressing some points raised by the reviewers last year.... But after your seminar it seems like that would not be a good idea and better to not make any reference to this in the text, correct?

A. It is a good idea to outline how you are addressing the reviewer's comments from a previous submission. Just ensure to keep it within the page limits, and remember that resubmitting does not always mean a higher chance of funded or that you will receive a higher score. However, if you clearly state that it is a resubmission, and you receive a significantly lower score than last year, the Evaluators will have to tell you why! If you do not say it is a resubmission, then you will not receive any explanation.

Q. There is an "intrinsic" problem with Table A4 which affected us last call: if the same person in one of the partners is being sent on secondment to 2 different places, he/she will count as 2 persons in this table, and that will lead to incongruence when table is compared with text explaining ToK in part B (only 1 person). Do you know how to solve this problem?

A. There isn't a way to fix this. However, having trialled the A4 form myself on SEP, I can see that it doesn't actually count up the total number of researchers, so any double-counting of the same researcher is inconsequential. What it does do is count up the total number of researcher months, so as long as this is accurate, then it is fine. You might want to explain in the Part B form why there seems to be a discrepancy in terms of the number of researchers listed in Part A vs. Part B.