

# Introduction to ITN 2017

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During webinar please type your queries using the  
**Questions** interface provided

The slides can be downloaded from the webinar  
**Handouts** interface and will be posted online at  
[www.iua.ie/mariecurie](http://www.iua.ie/mariecurie) in “Events and Training”  
along with the recorded Webinar Video

# Irish Marie Skłodowska-Curie Office

Sponsored by the [Irish Research Council](#)

- [Promote](#) the Actions to Irish researchers and research organisations
- [Support](#) researchers in preparing funding applications
- Contribute to the [development](#) of the MSCA



[Staff members:](#)

- Dr. Jennifer Brennan (NCP & National Delegate)
- Dr. Suzanne Miller-Delaney (Programme Officer -SFI Centres)
- Grace McCarthy (Part-time: Research Officer – MSCA & EURAXESS )



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# New for 2017!

## ITN 2017 Handbook

1. Introduction and Policy Context
2. Annotated Template
3. How to Submit Guide

Available latest Nov 21<sup>st</sup> @ [www.iua.ie/mariecurie](http://www.iua.ie/mariecurie) in “Events and Training”





# New for 2017!

## Training Videos

1. General Points & Section 1 – Excellence
2. Section 2 – Impact
3. Section 3 – Implementation & Part B2
4. Focus on Section 1.2 Training & Supervision
5. Focus on Sections 2.3 & 2.4 Dissemination & Communications

Available latest Nov 21<sup>st</sup> @ [www.iua.ie/mariecurie](http://www.iua.ie/mariecurie) in “Events and Training”

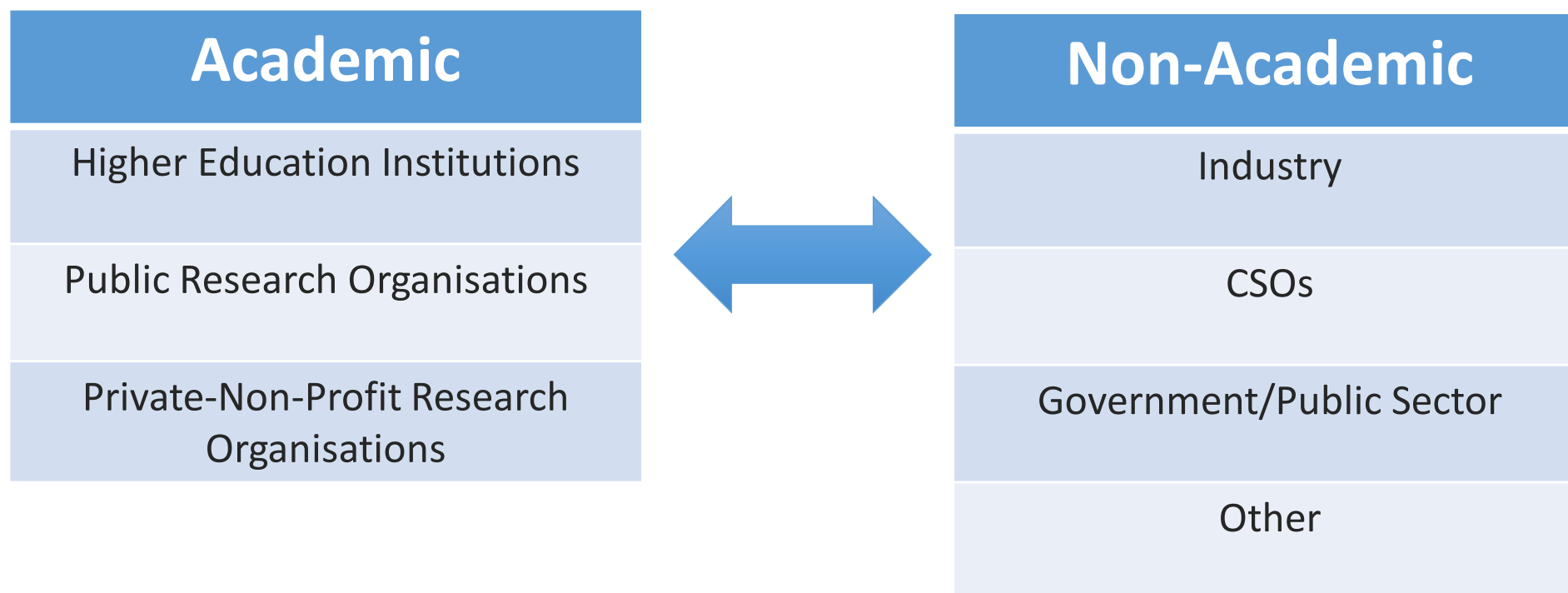


## Quality of Research Training

- Policy Objective: to train a new generation of **creative**, **entrepreneurial** and **innovative** researchers
- A Research Training Programme for Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs)
  - Less than 4 years' research experience after undergrad
- Strong focus on intersectoral and international cooperation



# Two Sectors in MSCA



**Participation by the non-academic sector is a “must have”**



# A Typical ITN

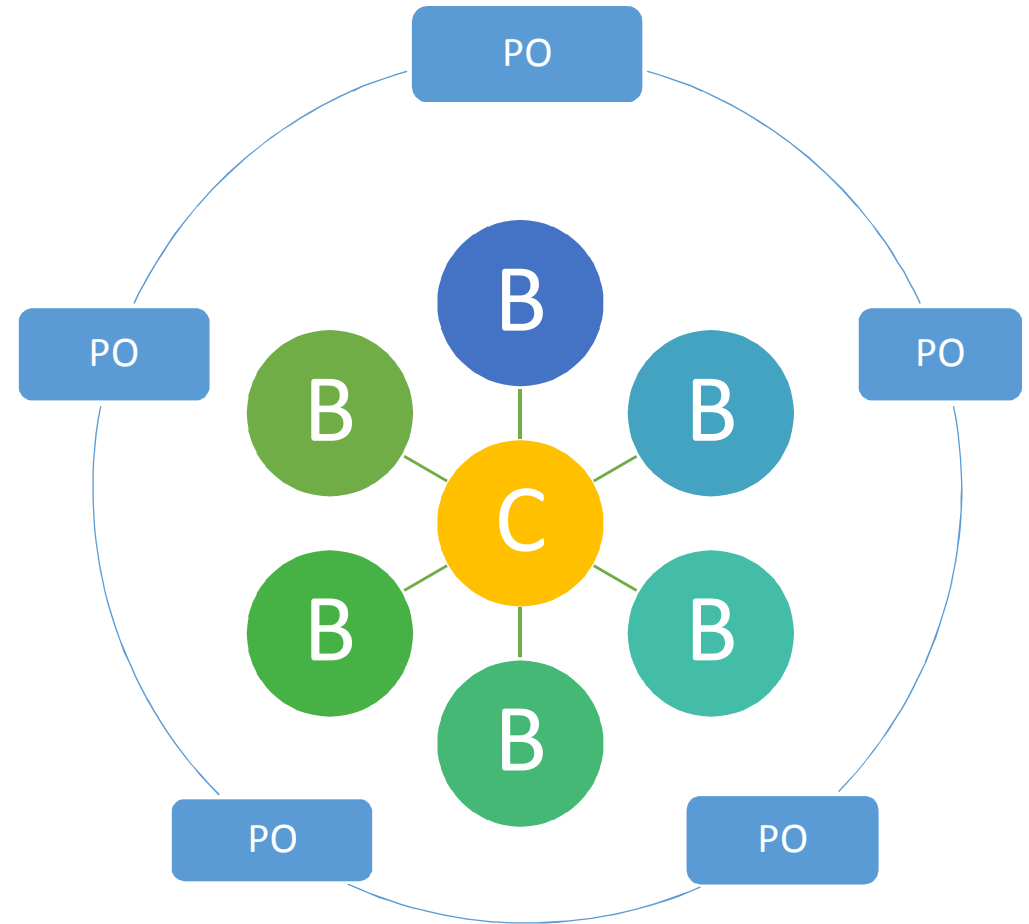
- Consortium of organisations from different countries and sectors
- Propose a joint research training programme
- Recruit researchers across the consortium– each researcher has an Individual Research Project
  - Recruits must adhere to the MSCA **Mobility Rule** – have lived in the country of their host organisation for no more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to recruitment
- Advanced **research** skills and **transferable** skills training – local and network-wide
- Networking events
- Secondments for each researcher **to another sector** (academic to non-academic, or vice-versa)





# Participants – Two Types

1. **Beneficiaries:**  
recruit and train  
researchers
2. **Partner  
Organisations:**  
host short  
secondments and/or  
contribute to  
training activities





# Three ITN Modes

	European Industrial Doctorate (EID)	European Joint Doctorate (EJD)	European Training Network (ETN)
	Duration 48 Months		
<b>Min.</b>	2 beneficiaries 2 countries 2 sectors	3 academic beneficiaries 3 countries	3 beneficiaries 3 countries
	Partner Organisations from any sector (no min or max)		
	ESRs funded 3 to 36 months		
	5 ESRs* / 15 ESRs	15 ESRs	
	PhD (50% of time in non-academic sector)	Joint/Double PhD	No educational degree reqd. (PhD typical)

\* For a two-beneficiary project



# Consortium - Which countries?

- MS and AC can participate as beneficiaries or partner organisations
- Can have >1 beneficiary from same country but:

**no more than 40% of the budget can go to one country**

(except in 2 beneficiary EID)

- Ok to include non-European countries as beneficiaries or partners– but “high income” countries (e.g. US, Australia, Japan) are better off applying as **Partner Organisations**.





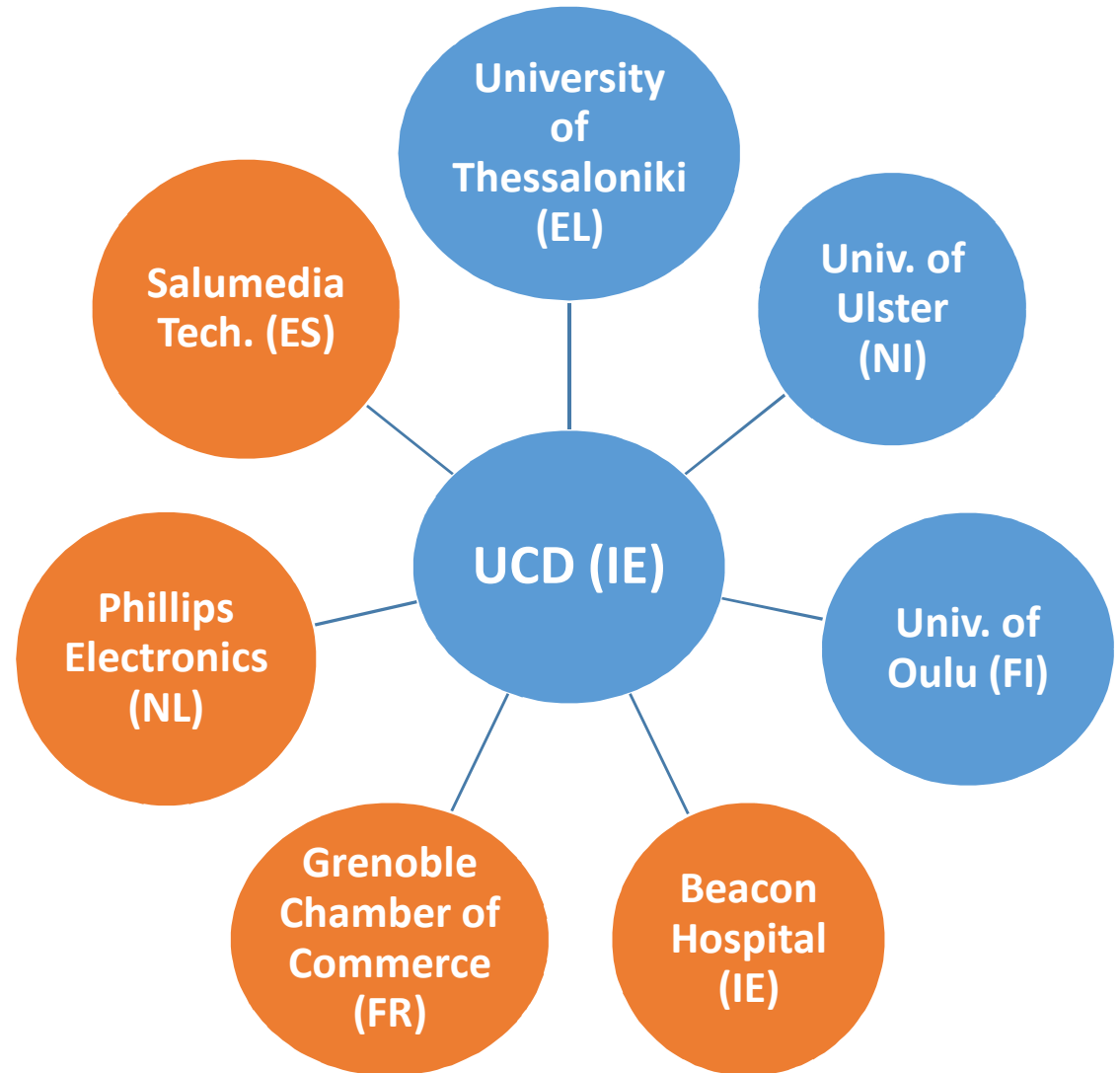
# European Training Network

CHES  
“Connected Health Early  
Stage Researcher Support  
System”

€3.95 million

8 Beneficiaries

10 Partner Organisations





# European Industrial Doctorate

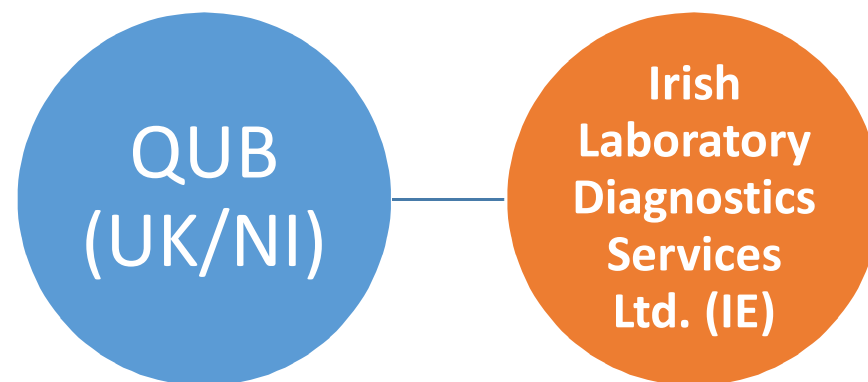
## MET-A-FOR

“Metabolomic analysis for the forensic detection of drugs of abuse in performance and food producing animals ”

€820k

2 Beneficiaries

No Partner Organisations





# European Industrial Doctorate

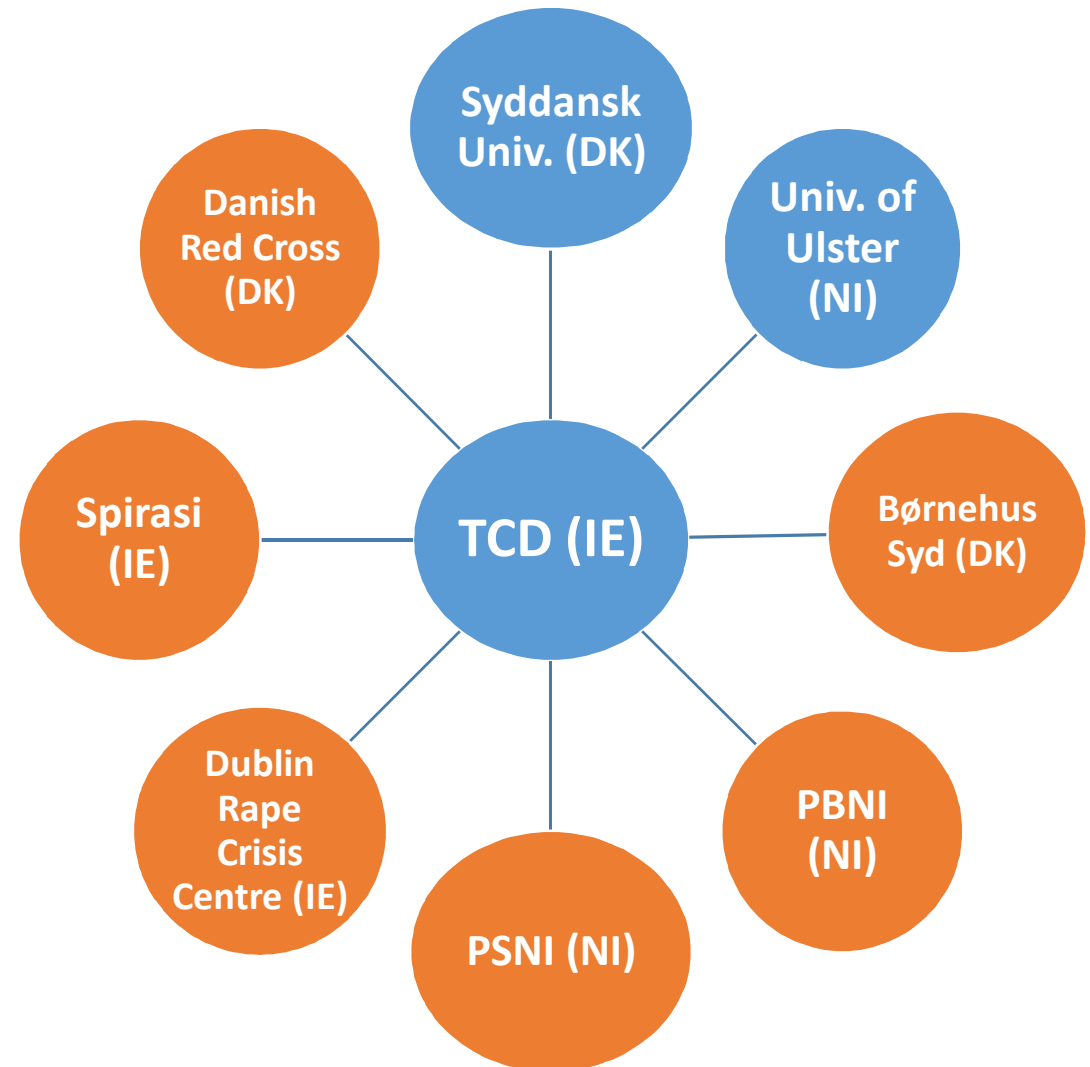
## CONTEXT

“Collaborative Network  
for Training and EXpertise  
in psychoTraumatology”

€3.95 million

8 Beneficiaries

No Partner Organisations





# European Joint Doctorate

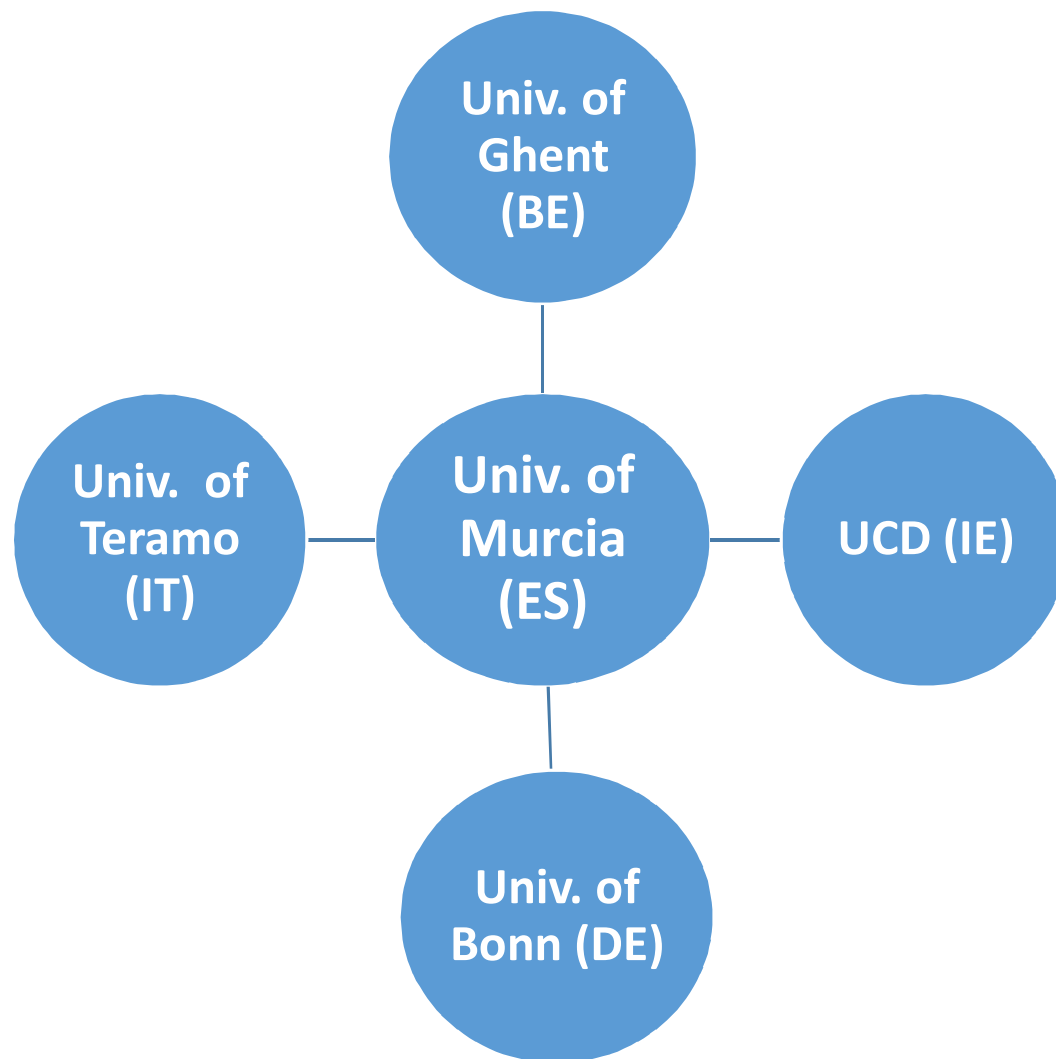
REP-BIOTECH

“European Joint Doctorate in  
Biology and Technology of  
Reproductive Health”

€3.8 million

5 Beneficiaries  
(All Academic)

9 Partner Organisations





# Writing an Application: Getting the concept right





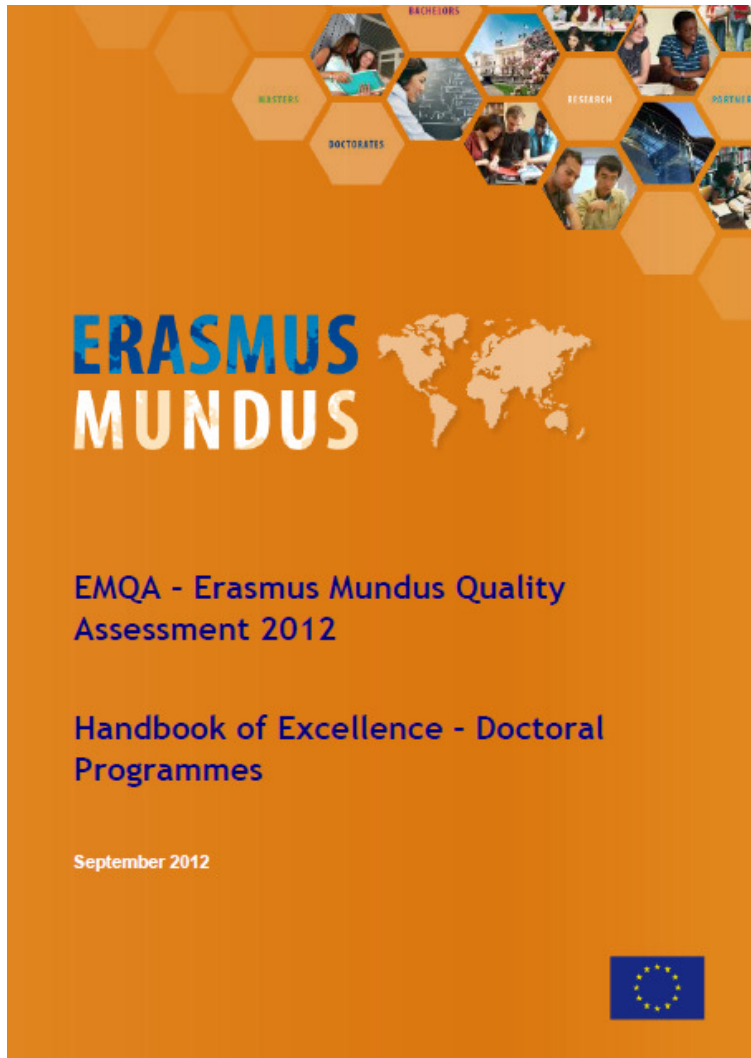


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ITN is not a  
Research Project

It is a  
Research Training  
Programme

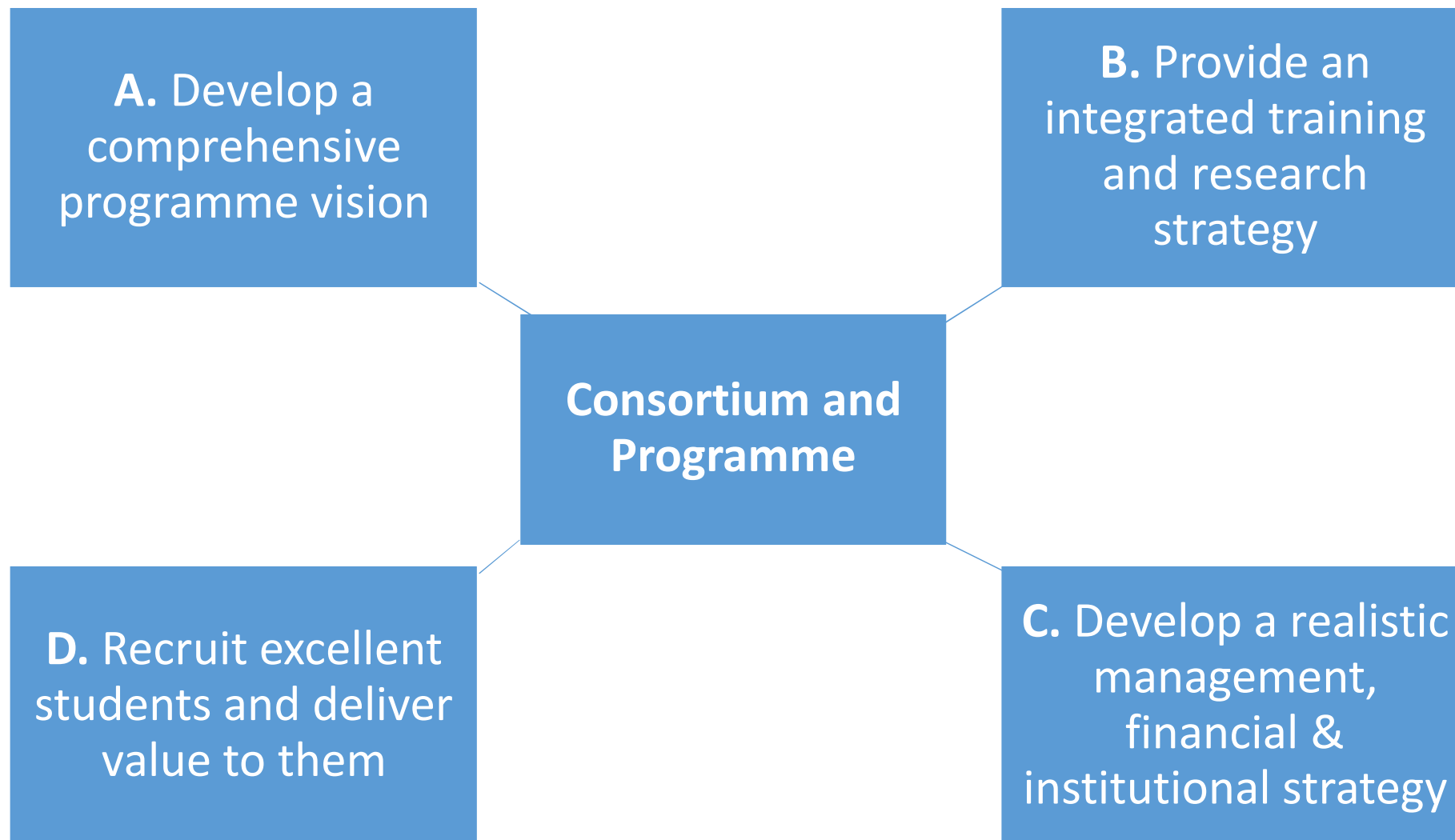




- Based on experience of Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate (now EJD)
- Content relevant for all ITN applications
- On IMSCO website



# ITN Quality Components





# A. Programme Vision

Identify the “USP” of the programme

Identify the key research goals and how the consortium will deliver it, including through secondments that are designed to maximise research excellence

Identify why this consortium should deliver the programme. What is the European added value and how will it be joined up?

Consider how the consortium and programme can be sustainable after ITN

Understand how the graduating ESRs will be employable, by who and why

EJD: Research the doctoral examination processes in place across the consortium and clearly identify those that will be used for each ESR.

EJD: Can show how the graduating ESRs are provided with recognisable degrees and how these are “joined up” across the consortium.



## B. Integrated Strategy: Research, Training, Assessment, Supervision

Develop an effective research programme with balanced supervision processes and workloads across the consortium

Provide the ESRs with access to the best training, research tools and facilities

Ensure the assessment mechanism for the ESRs are coherent/balanced across the consortium

Implement formal continuous progress monitoring

Provide a collaborative research/communication platform for all ESRs and staff

Ensure effective inter-cultural awareness across the consortium



## C. Integrated Strategy: Management, Financial, Institutional

Identify which administrative units are responsible for ESRs

Plan the finances and allow for risks and contingency

Plan for a consortium agreement including IPR and research integrity issues

Ensure that the ESRs have employment contracts

Implement a programme-wide quality assurance process: internal feedback and quality review, and external quality assurance

Implement a dynamic marketing strategy, including attracting international ESRs



## D. Recruit Excellent ESRs

Recruit and select the “best equipped” ESRs

Ensure the ESRs are well supported logistically (visas, accommodation etc.)

Support the ESRs academically and culturally to integrate into their new environment, including into local doctoral schools

Join up resource availability across the consortium e.g. infrastructure, equipment, IT capabilities

Prepare the ESRs to maximise their career potential



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Considering these issues will  
help you change your  
research project  
into a  
research training programme





# Funding Model

Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers PER MONTH			Institutional costs PER MONTH	
	Living allowance (a)	Mobility allowance (b)	Family allowance (c)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
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ITN (100%)	€3 110	€600	€500	€1 800	€1 200

- All researchers must be employed
- Salary = LA+MA(+FA) but the figures are inclusive of employer's pay costs
- A country coefficient applies to the LA
- RTN and Mgmt/Ind Cost can be divided up as required – not necessarily pro-rata





# Writing an Application: Evaluation





# Evaluation Panels

## Choose from one of eight panels:

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

## All evaluation is carried out remotely

- Proposals are read by at least 3 disciplinary experts. Virtual consensus meeting if scores differ.
- ETN – proposals are ranked by disciplinary Panel, e.g. CHE, and the distribution of awards across Panels is proportional to # of proposals received
- EID and EJD – final ranking in separate EID and EJD panels

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Implementation (20%)
<p>Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the <b>research programme</b> (including inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and, where appropriate, gender aspects)</p>	<p>Enhancing the <b>career perspectives</b> and <b>employability</b> of researchers and contribution to their skills development</p>	<p>Coherence and effectiveness of the <b>work plan</b>, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources (including awarding of the doctoral degrees for EID and EJD projects)</p>
<p>Quality and innovative aspects of the <b>training programme</b> (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and, where appropriate, gender aspects)</p>	<p>Contribution to <b>structuring doctoral / early-stage research training</b> at the European level and to strengthening European <b>innovation capacity</b>, including the potential for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral/research training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field</li> <li>b) developing sustainable joint doctoral degree structures (for EJD projects only)</li> </ul>	<p>Appropriateness of the <b>management structures</b> and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for EID and EJD projects)</p>
<p>Quality of the <b>supervision</b> (including mandatory joint supervision for EID and EJD projects)</p>	<p>Quality of the proposed measures to <b>exploit</b> and <b>disseminate</b> the project results</p>	<p>Appropriateness of the <b>infrastructure</b> of the participating organisations</p>
<p>Quality of the proposed <b>interaction</b> between the participating organisations</p>	<p>Quality of the proposed measures to <b>communicate</b> the project activities to different target audiences</p>	<p><b>Competences, experience</b> and <b>complementarity</b> of the participating organisations and their <b>commitment</b> to the programme</p>





# The “Charter and Code” & Human Resources Strategy for Researchers

- Embedded in Evaluation Criteria for all MSCA
  - Charter: researchers’ career management
  - Code: open and transparent recruitment and appraisal
  - Most Irish RPOs have “endorsed” the C&C
  - If applicable, should be included in proposal
- 
- HRS4R: mainstreaming C&C in institutions
  - Awarded the right to use “HR Logo”
  - UCD, UL, NUIG, WIT, RCSI, AIT, DCU, DkIT and UCC are awardees (to-date).
  - If applicable, should be included in proposal



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/index>

List of institutions:

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/strategy4ResearcherOrgs>



# ITN Call 2017

CALL	Opening Date	Closing Date	Indicative Budget
H2020-MSCA-ITN-2017	15-Sep-2016	10-Jan-2017	ETN = €370M
			EJD = €32M
			EID = €28M

## Results in May 2017

2016 ITN	ETN	EJD	EID	ALL
IE Success Rate	7.7%	66.7%	57.1%	13.5 %
EU Success Rate	6.3%	9.2%	9.6%	8.3%



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## Available after webinar (by Nov 21<sup>st</sup>)

- 2017 ITN Handbook
- Training Videos on writing a good proposal
- Recording of today's webinar
- Slides from today's webinar

[www.iua.ie/mariecurie](http://www.iua.ie/mariecurie) in “Events and Training”

**Thank you!**

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