

RISE

Research &
Innovation Staff
Exchange

2016 Call



Dr. Jennifer Brennan
European Advisor (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions)



During webinar please
email queries to
mariecurie@iua.ie

Presentation, Q&A
report and support
documents will be
available online





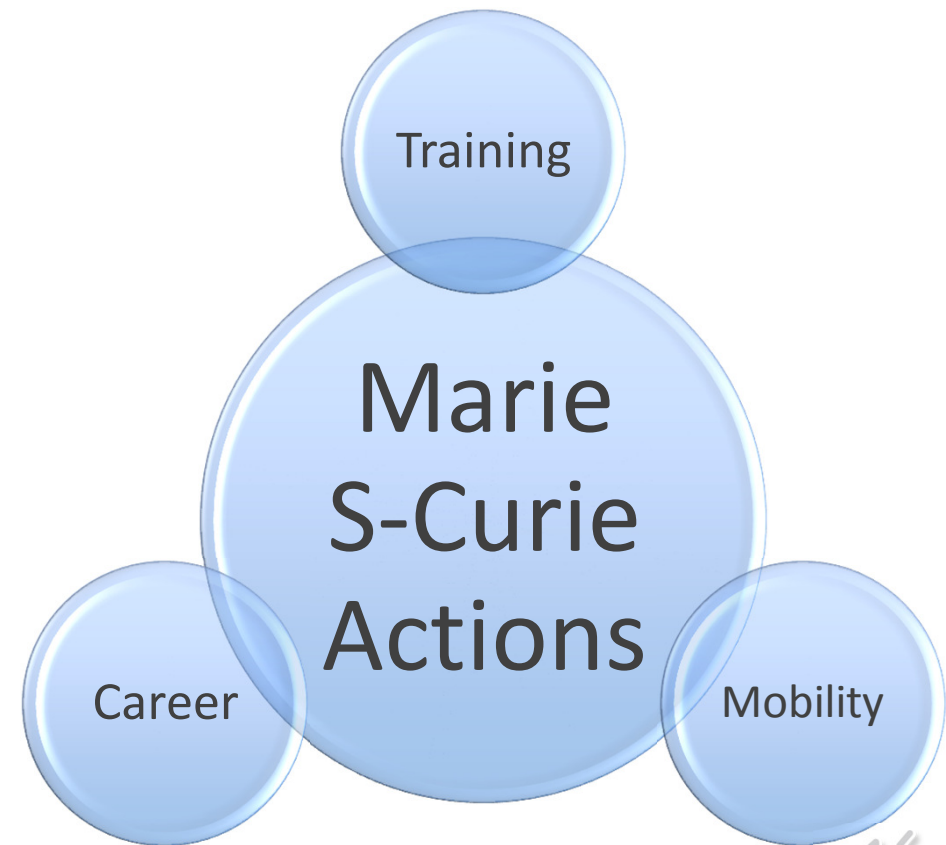
Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions in Horizon 2020:

€6.2 billion budget

In the **Excellence Science** Pillar

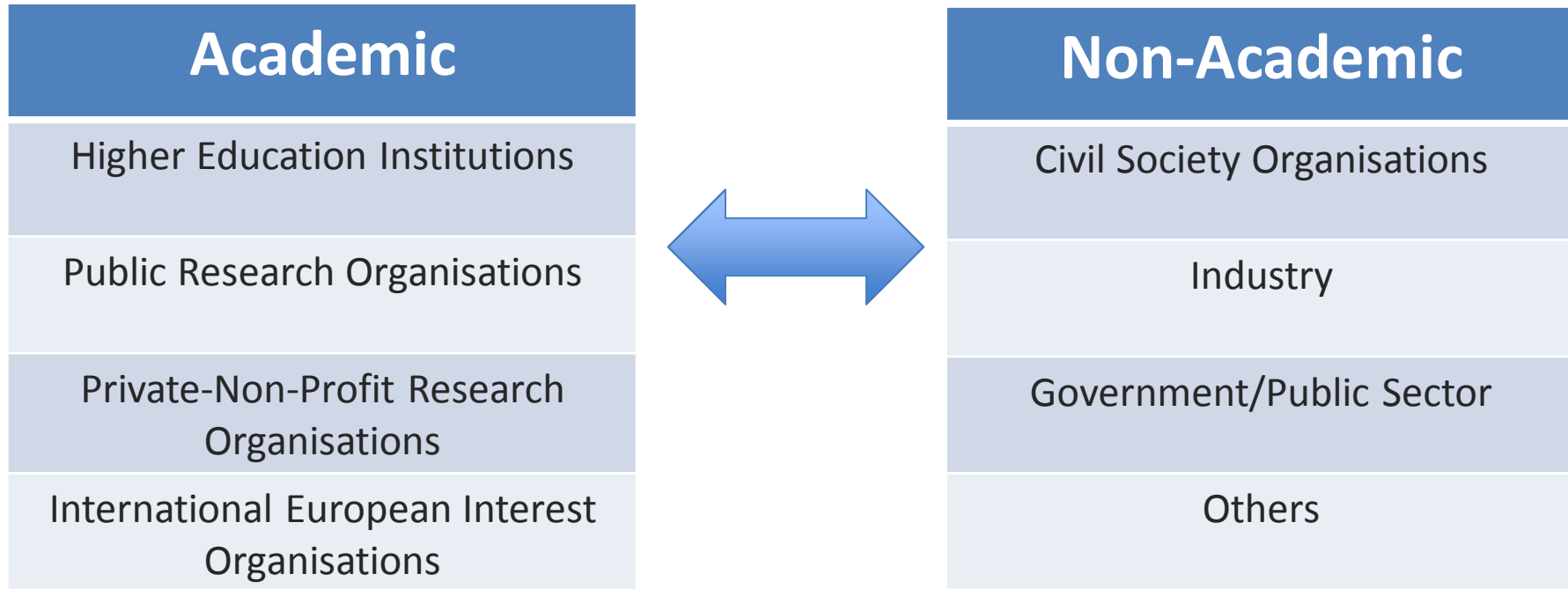
Funds **ALL RESEARCH AREAS**
(no thematic calls or priorities)

Implemented via Annual
Calls for Proposals





Inter-Sectoral Co-operation





Research & Innovation Staff Exchange



Promoting international and inter-sectoral collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges

Policy Objective: To foster a shared culture of research and innovation

Call Budget: €80M

Deadline 28th April 2016





A Typical RISE

- Consortium of organisations from different countries and sectors – can include countries from outside Europe
- Propose a joint research & innovation programme
- Implemented by secondment of “staff” around the consortium (1 month to 12 months duration)
- “Staff” = research students, postdocs, PIs, technical, research admin & managerial staff
- Secondments complemented by networking/training events
- Max. programme duration 48 months – 36 months is also common





Reasons to get involved in RISE

First step on the H2020 funding “ladder”

Forge collaborations with Research Groups and Industry Worldwide

Build on an existing research collaboration

Trial period with partners for a larger H2020 application



Funding Model



Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers (1)	Institutional costs (2)	
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action	Top-up allowance (d)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
RISE (100%)	2 000	1 800	700

- All values are PER Researcher PER Month
- Top-up allowance is for travel/accommodation/subsistence
- Maximum of 540 months of secondment => €2.4 million
- Median budget funded in 2015 => €700k





RISE Definitions

- MS = Member State
 - AC = Associated Country*
 - TC = Third Country
 - Beneficiary = organisations in MS/AC
 - Partner Organisation = organisations in TC
- } “Europe”

* Since Sep 2014, Switzerland is an AC for MSCA and the other parts of “Excellent Science”





RISE Consortia

Minimum consortium **3** participants in **3** countries

- 1. All MS/AC:** 2 academic participants plus 1 non-academic (or vice versa)

Sample consortium: UCD (IE), CNRS (FR) and SME (DE)

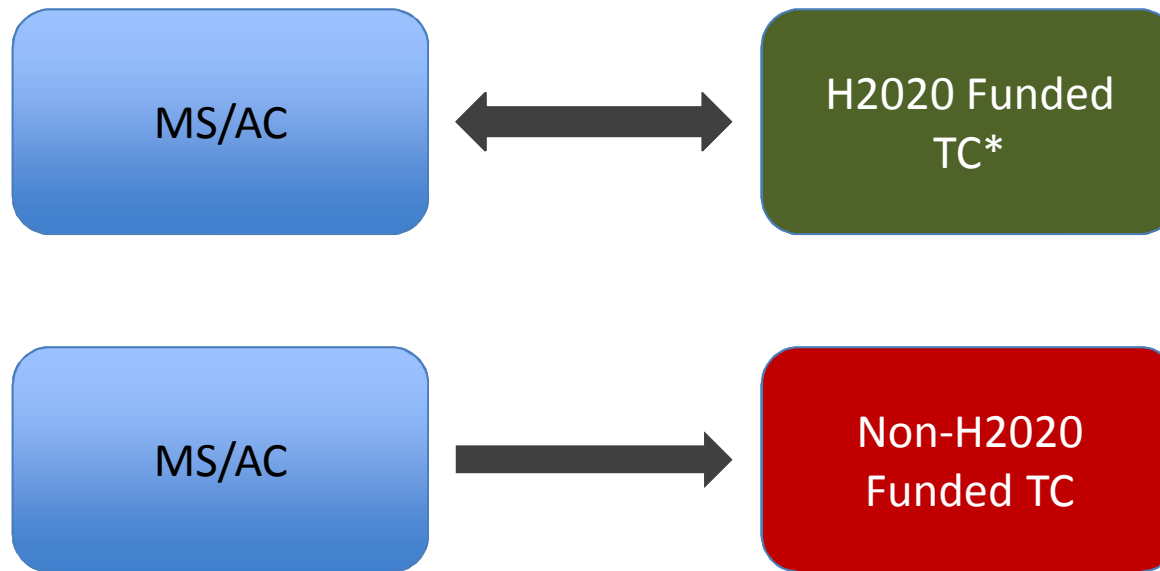
- 2. Including TC:** 2 European participants plus 1 non-European participant

Sample consortium: NUIG (IE), Univ. Oxford (UK), Univ. Chile (CL)





Non-European Countries (TC)



All countries are funded to participate in the project's networking/training events





Secondments – General Rules

- Min. Duration 1 month, Max. 12 months
- Split-stays possible e.g. researcher travels for 2 weeks in M2 and 2 weeks in M20 to the **same organisation** = 1 month during project
- “Staff” must be active at their host for 6 months before secondment
- Must be reintegrated after secondment (no duration or mechanism specified)
- Staff be seconded more than once during the project, up to 12 months’ maximum
- MSCA Mobility Rule does not apply
- No conditions on the balance of secondments





The project will not fund:

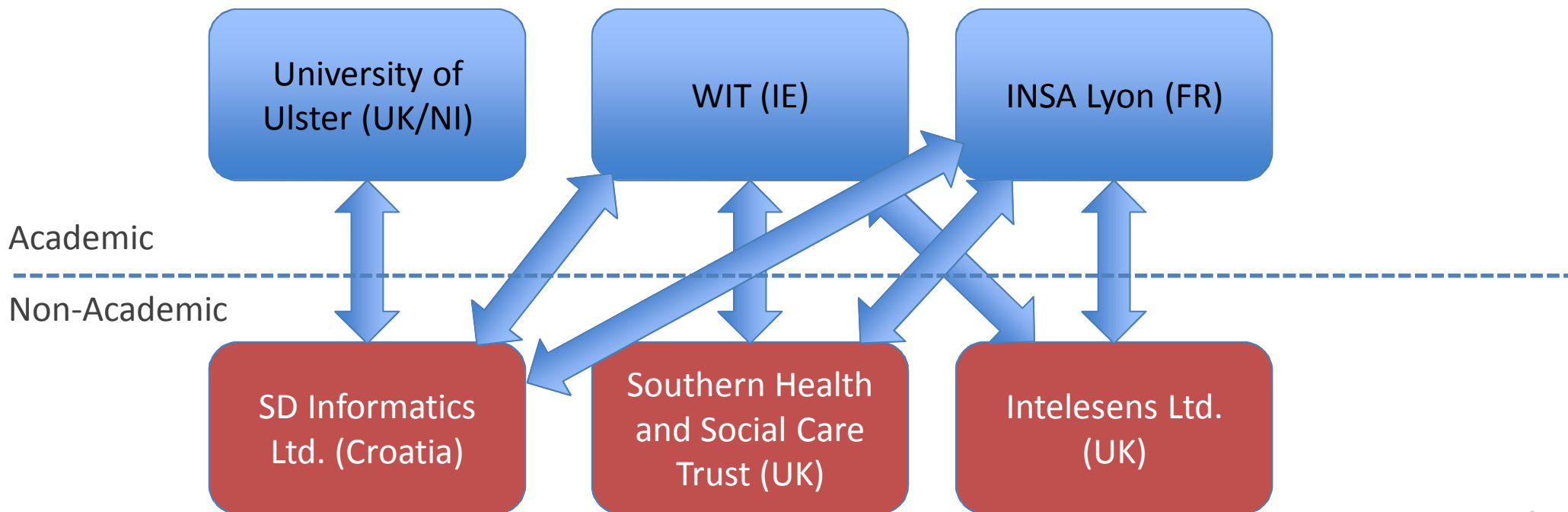
- Secondments within the same country
 - E.g. Irish SME to Irish HEI
- Secondments between TCs
 - E.g. Brazil to South Africa
- Secondments within the same sector within Europe
 - E.g. Irish HEI to French public research organisation
- Secondments from “high-income” TCs to Europe
 - E.g. US to Ireland

*These secondments can occur in a RISE project,
but must be paid for from another budget*



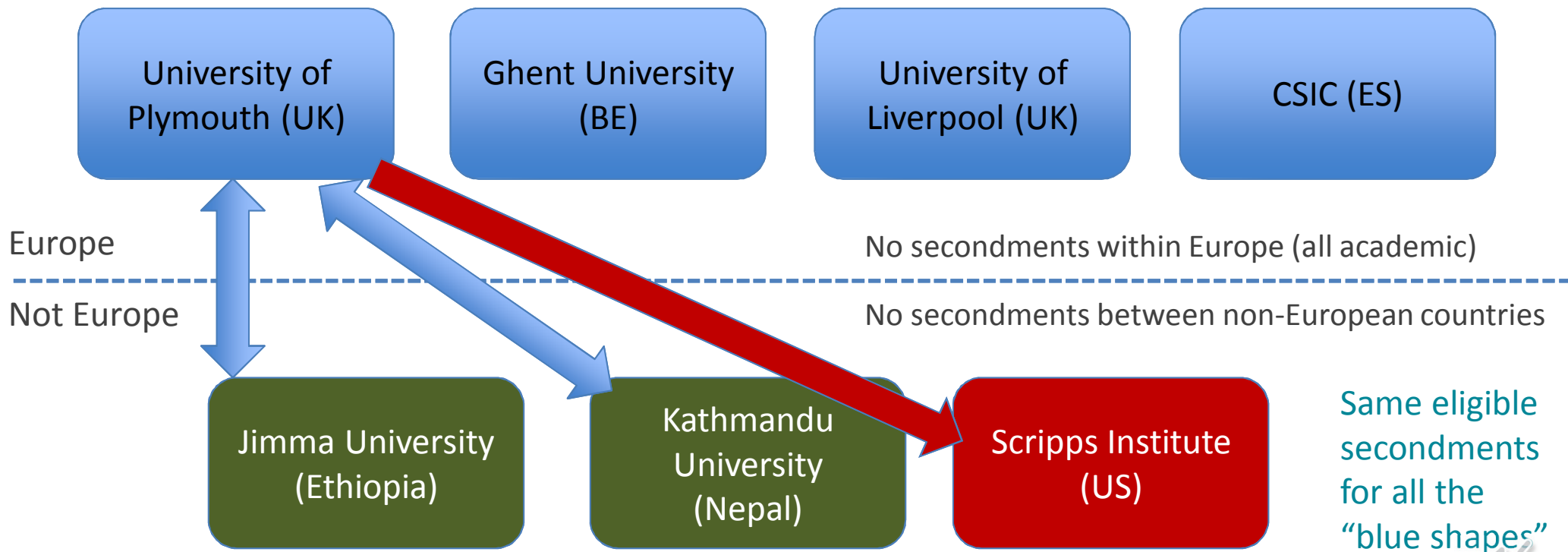


‘**WASTCARd**’ - Wrist and arm sensing technologies for cardiac arrhythmias detection in long term monitoring.





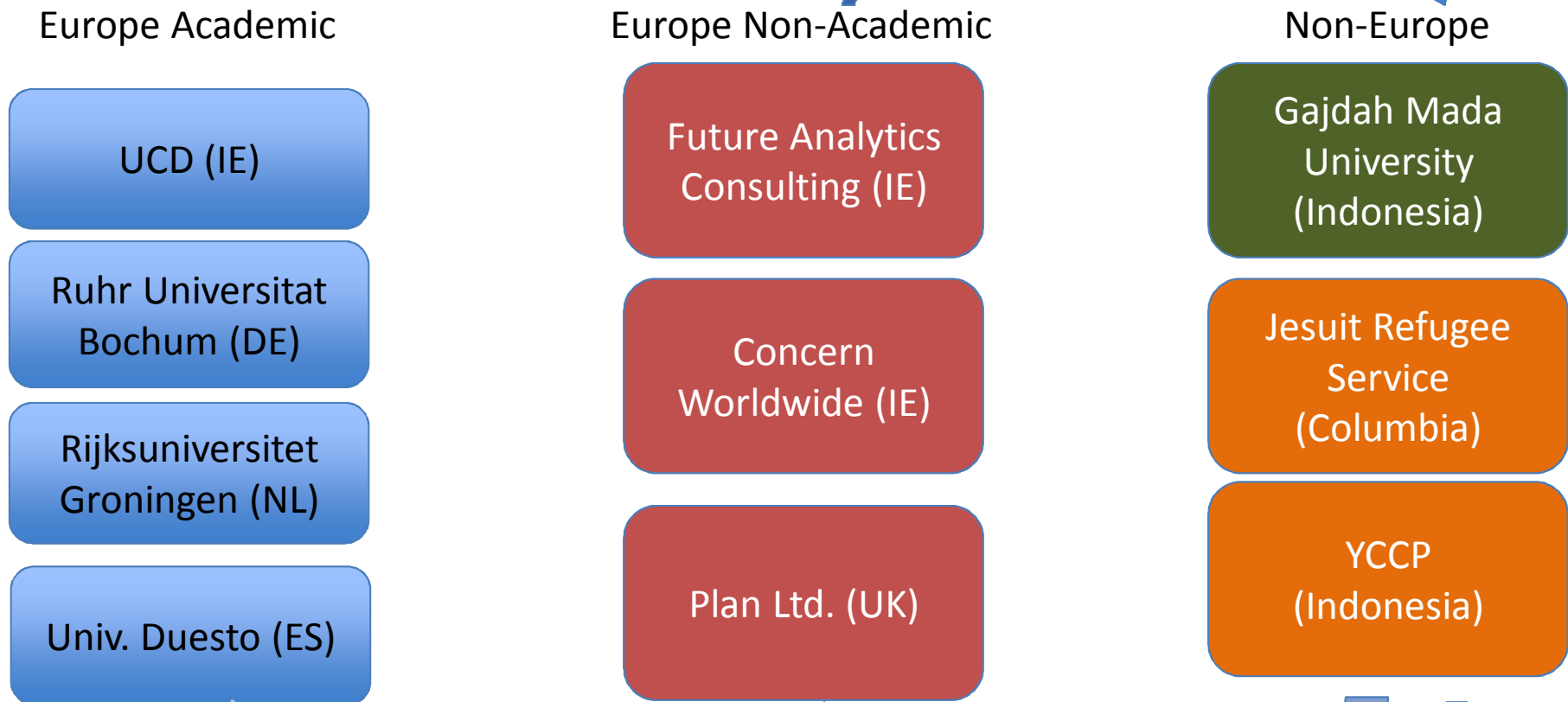
IMIXSED - “Integrating isotopic techniques with Bayesian modelling for improved assessment and management of global sedimentation problems”



RISE – International & Intersectoral Project



PRUV - “Preparedness and Resilience to address Urban Vulnerability”





Writing an Application: The Basics

Access the Call Documents and Online Submission Service at

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/2117-msca-rise-2016.html>

Topic Conditions and Documents/Additional Documents
– Guide for Applicants and Work Programme (MSCA)





Proposal Content

Part A
Administrative
Forms

Part B1 & B2
(Proposal)





Part A - Budget Tables

- SEP shows an empty table of secondments for each participant
- Coordinator fills in the outgoing secondments from each participant
- Secondments ineligible for funding **should not** be included except secondments from high-income TC to Europe e.g. Canada to Ireland
- The system automatically creates a summary budget table





Sectoral Classification

- Organisations are automatically classified in SEP as **academic** or **non-academic** based on information about them supplied during PIC application/validation
- The automatic classification may not be accurate or may not be what you expect!
- Eligibility of secondments will depend on organisations being correctly classified
- The LEAR of an organisation can ask for the classification to be changed – could take some time.....





Part B – Doc 1 (31 pages total)

- Start page (1 page)
- 1. Excellence
- 2. Impact
- 3. Implementation

30 pages total
No section page limits





Part B – Doc 2 (no overall page limit)

- 4. References
- 5. Capacities of the Participating Organisations (tables)
- 6. Ethics Aspects
- 7. Letters of Commitment of Partner Organisations

**Uploaded to online system as two separate PDF files:
Cannot submit one without the other**





Evaluation of your Application





Evaluation Panels

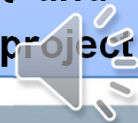
- Chemistry (CHE)
- Physics (PHY)
- Mathematics (MAT)
- Life Sciences (LIF)
- Economic Sciences (ECO)
- ICT and Engineering (ENG)
- Social Sciences & Humanities (SOC)
- Earth & Environmental Sciences (ENV)

Proposals are read by at least 3 disciplinary experts



Excellence (<u>50%</u>)	Impact (<u>30%</u>)	Implementation (<u>20%</u>)
<p>Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project: level of novelty and appropriate consideration of inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and gender aspects)</p>	<p>Enhancing the potential and future career perspectives of the staff members</p>	<p>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 participating organisations in light of the research and innovation objectives.</p>	<p>Developing new and lasting research collaborations, achieving transfer of knowledge between participating organisations and contribution to improving 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>Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results</p>	<p>Appropriateness of the institutional environment (hosting arrangements, infrastructure)</p>
	<p>Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences</p>	<p>Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the project</p>

Overall threshold of 70%





The “Charter and Code” and Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R)

Embedded in Evaluation Criteria for all MSCA

- **Charter:** researchers’ career management
- **Code:** open and transparent recruitment and appraisal

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
- Check to see if other consortium members are awardees too and include if applicable



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH





RISE 2015 – Irish performance

	Coordinator	Partner	All Participations
Evaluated	15	38	53
Retained for Funding	4	10	14
Reserve	1	2	3
Success Rates	27%	26%	26%

- Success rate for all countries 25%
- Ireland success rate ranked in top 10 MS
- Median cut-off score 87.2





Writing an Application: Getting the Impact Right



Expected impact of RISE 2016-2017



At staff member level:

- Increased set of skills, both research-related and transferable ones, leading to improved employability and career prospects both in and outside academia
- Increase in higher impact R&I output, more knowledge and ideas converted into products and services
- Greater contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society

At organisation level:

- Enhanced cooperation and transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines
- Strengthening of international and intersectoral collaborative networks
- Boosting of R&I capacity among participating organisations



Expected impact of RISE 2016-2017



At system level:

- Increase in international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility of researchers in Europe
- Strengthening of Europe's human capital base in R&I
- Increase in Europe's attractiveness as a leading destination for R&I
- Better quality R&I contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth





What's the Impact of your RISE?

Example: *“To form an international and inter-sectoral network of organisations working on a joint research programme in the fields of X and Y. The participants will exchange **skills** and **knowledge** which will allow them to progress towards **key advances** in Z, and strengthen **collaborative research** between in different countries and sectors. Advances in Z will have potential **market opportunities** for non-academic participants in the project / have significant **benefit for European society**. The staff members who participate in the project will develop **new skills**, be exposed to **new research environments** and have their **career perspectives** widened”*





How to achieve this impact?

Consortium and Complementarity

Which participants (Beneficiaries and Partner Organisations) do you need to achieve this impact? How will you harness the competencies and complementarities of these partners in order to achieve this impact?

Research Programme

How do you shape the research programme in order to achieve this impact?

Transfer of Knowledge/Training Programme

How do you shape your ToK programme (secondments, networking & training) to achieve this impact?

Implementation

How will you manage the programme to ensure that the impact is achieved?





Proposal Guidelines

Incl. insights from analysing feedback forms from previous RISE Calls



General Points



- Use a self-explanatory title and a memorable acronym
- Diagrams, Charts, Tables or Figures are easier to evaluate than text and save space too – **font size can be decreased in tables**
- For resubmissions, don't just use Evaluation Summary Report from previous submission to help revise
 - Look at the proposal as a whole to find room for improvement
 - Remember that the standard increases each year and your new proposal is not being evaluated in comparison with last year's
 - Evaluators will have access to last year's ESR after they have marked this year's application
- Be aware of the overall weighting of each criterion
 - Need to score well in all sections in order to be funded – don't spend all your time writing the 1.1 Research section (12.5% of the marks)!



Gender



- Gender now explicitly mentioned in the evaluation sub-criteria for research/training for all MSCA
- In your proposal, describe
 - **Gender balance:** equality in decision making, secondments, participation in project events
 - **Gendered Innovations:** any gender aspects in relation to the research e.g. cardiovascular research, crash-test dummies
http://www.yellowwindow.be/genderinresearch/index_downloads.html
<https://genderedinnovations.stanford.edu/>
 - **Gender Training:** training in gender equality/gendered innovations
- Ireland joined up to Athena SWAN Gender Equality Charter
 - <http://www.ecu.ac.uk/equality-charter-marks/athena-swan/>
 - TCD and UL first Irish Athena SWAN awardees



1.1 Research - 1



- Educate the Evaluator
 - The majority of evaluators will not be expert in the specific subject area of the proposal so....
 - Write in a style that is **accessible to the non-expert**
 - Use figures/tables/charts/diagrams to illustrate where appropriate – easier to understand than text
- Start with a short paragraph summarising the overall RISE programme, such as that provided on slide 31
- Outline the key **research objectives** of the programme



1.1 Research - 2



- Describe how the objectives relate to the “scope of the call”
 - Why do you need to work together on this research? How will the project “*foster a shared culture of research and innovation*”?
- Describe the state of the art and how the objectives relate to it
 - Include a list of bibliographic references (Section 4)
 - Make sure to cite consortium members (“you are the experts”)
- Break down the research programme into discrete **Work Packages**
 - 3-4 WPs is typical. Give a brief WP summary (one paragraph each) here – precise details go in Section 3.1
- **Methodology**: describe in detail how the objectives in the research programme will be explored
 - Equipment, techniques, assays, types of research etc.
 - Lack of clarity around methodology often identified as a “weakness”.



1.1 Research - 3



- Highlight **originality** and **innovative** aspects of the proposal, in the context of the state-of-the-art
 - What is new in your approach to this research programme?
 - Use a list, table, text box etc. to make them stand out
- Clearly specify any **inter- and multi-disciplinary** aspects
 - Evaluators are instructed to value this highly
- Describe any **gender aspects** in relation to performing the research – **adds value**
 - This toolkit can help you identify gendered innovation
http://www.yellowwindow.be/genderinresearch/downloads/YW2009_GenderToolKit_Module1.pdf
- Explain the **gender balance** in the secondment programme and at decision-making level in the project



1.2 Quality of Knowledge-Sharing



- Spell out the **knowledge-sharing objectives** w.r.t. the **research objectives**
- Detail the **Secondments** which will take place
 - How will they contribute to the **knowledge-sharing objectives**?
 - Identify the **knowledge provider** and the **recipient of the knowledge**
 - Specify what knowledge will be transferred in each secondment
 - How will secondees transfer knowledge whilst **on secondment**, and how will they embed that knowledge into **their home organisation** when they return?
 - Tip: Make sure both ESRs (pre-doc) and ERs are doing secondments (longer visits for ESRs, >4 months are preferred by evaluators)
 - “A picture tells a thousand words” – use a diagram to show the flow of people around the consortium
- Describe the events that will be organised to share knowledge e.g. workshops, meetings, trainings



1.3 Quality of interaction



- Clearly state what each partner will contribute towards achieving the research and knowledge transfer objectives
- Include their **expertise**, their **contribution** to networking events, and their level of **participation** in the secondments
- **Justify** how the networking events described in 1.2 will contribute to the **knowledge-sharing objectives** – explain **why** you have chosen these particular activities
- Outline the **benefits** of the knowledge-sharing to the organisations



2.1: Potential and Future Careers



Overall aim is to show an understanding of how participating in the RISE project will help the Staff to enhance their potential and improve their career prospects

- Present an analysis of how participating will affect the Staff, e.g.:
 - New knowledge gained (e.g. research skills, transferable skills)
 - Mobility to non-academic sector and/or organisations outside Europe (i.e. experiencing different research environments)
 - Improved understanding of benefits of international and/or cross-sectoral research
 - Opening their eyes to new career options, particularly outside academia
 - Raising their profile through networking, research outputs and communication activities to different target groups (including the media & general public)
- Make a tangible link between your programme's elements and EU policies about research careers/employability – we will provide a research policy brief document to help with this



2.2: Developing collaborations, ToK and improving EU & Global R&I Potential



1. Developing new and lasting collaborations

- Explain how the secondments and networking events and the **transfer of knowledge** achieved via those mechanisms will help to develop a lasting collaboration between the participants
- Relate to EU policies on international and inter-sectoral collaboration in Research & Innovation - use the research policy brief for this

2. Self-sustainability of the partnership

- What are your plans for building the collaboration and continuing it after the RISE project has ended?



2.2: Developing collaborations, ToK and improving EU & Global R&I Potential



3. Research and Innovation Potential

- Explain how the research programme will contribute to Europe's economy and/or society
- Link to EU research/policy goals e.g. Horizon 2020 Societal Challenges or Key Enabling Technologies, Research Roadmaps, EU policies on e.g. health, immigrants, digital economy,.....,..... all available online (Google it!)
- Link to EU policies on international collaboration (as outlined in our research policy brief)





2.3: Dissemination and Exploitation

1. Dissemination strategy

- Target audience: Other researchers, potential users and the wider research and innovation community
- Describe how you will ensure that this audience learns about the research activities
- What is the potential **impact** of disseminating to them?

2. Intellectual Property Rights & Exploitation

- a. How are the research results useful to business?
 - Outline plans to exploit any IP/commercial potential arising from the programme
 - How have you decided to “allocate” IP in your consortium? Rules simplified at https://www.iprhelpdesk.eu/FS_IP_management_in_MSCA-H2020
 - What is the potential **impact** of exploiting commercial potential/IP?
- b. How are the research results useful to the wider society?
 - If applicable, how will you ensure that relevant societal actors (community, voluntary sector etc. etc.) will benefit from your project?
 - What’s the potential **impact** of societal exploitation of the results?





2.4: Communication and Public Engagement

New Guidelines document* describes difference between communications and public engagement

- **Communication** is two-way from sender to receiver e.g. an article in a newspaper or on TV or radio
 - Describe how you will ensure media coverage about the activities of the project
 - What is the potential impact of media coverage?
- **Public engagement** is meant to engage a large audience and to bring knowledge and expertise on a particular topic to the general public.
 - Describe what activities the consortium will undertake to engage the general public about the activities of the project
 - Plan a range of activities (social media, specific events) targeted at multiple audiences
 - Need to take place across the whole consortium, not just in Ireland!
 - Talk to experts at your institution. See what local/national activities you can join in e.g. Pint of Science, SFI Discover
 - What is the potential impact of engaging the public in the activities of the RISE?





2.3 & 2.4

Tip! Include quantifiable targets for measuring the effectiveness of dissemination, exploitation, communication and public engagement activities



3.1: Workplan



- Use the Tables provided to describe the Work Packages (WPs)
 - 3 -4 Research WPs
 - Management WP
 - Transfer of Knowledge WP
 - Dissemination/Exploitation/Communication/Public Engagement WP
- Provide a Gantt Chart to illustrate timelines. Templates available at <http://www.hyperion.ie/templates.htm> . Ensure the project is **well-timed**.
- Describe gender balance in the planning of the activities (gender of secondees, attendees at networking events etc.)
- Common error – Coordinator leading too many WPs. Ensure the allocation of tasks is appropriate to the participants



3.1: Workplan



- **Deliverables** are for defining payment (reports, prototypes, results etc.). When the deliverable is ready (e.g. report completed) you get paid.
- **Milestones** are major checkpoints for measuring progress. For example - the report will be completed on the 18th Month (M18) of the project, or WP 1 will be complete by M9.
- Analogy:
 - Imagine you were building a bridge
 - Deliverables = foundation, pillars installed, structure in place, tarmacadam laid. This is when they get paid.
 - Milestones = Foundation will be ready on month 6, concrete of structure will be ready for testing on month 12
- You should have more Deliverables than Milestones. Don't duplicate – a Deliverable can't also be a Milestone!





3.2: Management Structure & Procedures

- Explain who is responsible for what and how they have the skills/expertise to do it well. Tasks include (not exhaustive):
 - Financial management
 - Monitoring progress and **quality**
 - Risk management – **complete the table provided with research and project management risks**
 - Internal communications strategy (between the participants)
 - Gender aspects in decision making
 - How IPR will be managed





3.2: Management Structure & Procedures

- Describe your management structure (use a diagram to show links and reporting lines)
- Make sure all participants are involved in decision making - typical to have an overall **Management Committee** where all participants are members and which endorses the main decisions and planning
- Can have sub-committees for e.g. research, secondments & events, communications
- All committees should be **gender-balanced**
- Be sure to outline the role of the Coordinator
- Describe which institutional departments will help with managing the programme (Finance, HR etc.) and what their experience is
- Common errors – Coordinator doing too much. Participant taking on a role that they have no experience in.



3.3: Infrastructure



Who is doing what, and do they have the necessary infrastructure to do it?

- Section 5 will include a Capacities Table for each participant.
- This section should complement Sec. 5 not duplicate it.
- Describe how the participants have the necessary **expertise** and **human resources** to carry out the proposed project (incl. secondments).
- Describe how the consortium has the **necessary infrastructure** (research and administrative) to implement all aspects of the programme (research, organising events, admin, communications, exploitation etc.).
- Describe how the participants provide an excellent environment for **hosting and supporting** the Staff who visit them, including:
 - Have the organisations endorsed the **Charter & Code** – if yes, say so! List at <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/charterAndCode>
 - Have the organisations earned the **“HR Excellence in Research”** logo? If yes, say so and include the logo in the Capacities Table! List at <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/strategy4ResearcherOrgs>



EURAXESS



Centralised support on
issues related to mobility,
incl. immigration

- EURAXESS Websites
- Jobs Portal & CV Database
- >200 **Service Centres** for assistance with **relocation of Staff** on secondment





3.4: Competences and Complementarity

- Explain how the consortium are the best people to implement this programme including:
 - Complementarities/synergies in expertise between **all participants** and how this complementarity allows them to successfully deliver the programme (use a diagram or table)
 - How their previous experience makes them suitable for their tasks here
- Outline the commitment of each participant by showing that they are all highly active in the project – refer to earlier sections
- For TC participants, refer to contents of Letters of Commitment from each TC participant – proposal text must match the Letter.
- Particularly important for high-income TC contributing their own budget – financial commitment





Sections 4 & 5

4. References

- List of bibliographic references
- Make sure you cite consortium members!

5. Participating organisations tables

- One per participant
- 1 page per beneficiary (MS/AC)
- ½ page per partner organisation (TC)
- Tip! For non-academic participants, ensure you provide **some evidence** of outputs/expertise in the research area e.g. patents or other IP, products on the market, relevant projects.





6: Ethics Issues

- Does not form part of the evaluation – not scored
- All proposals will be checked for ethics issues
- Ethics Table is in the Part A: Administrative Forms
- If you indicate Ethics Issues in the Table:
 - Clearly describe how Ethical Issues will be managed
 - How does the proposal meet national legal and ethical requirements of the host country?
 - Who will oversee the project's ethical aspects? E.g. institutional ethics committee, Data Protection Officer
 - Provide sample consent forms etc.
 - There is no page limit, so provide as much relevant information as possible





7. Letters of Commitment

For TC Organisations **only**

- Content is important
- Generic letters are not useful
- Must contain specifics about role and participation of Partner Organisations and their commitment to do so
- If a high-income TC is contributing their own budget, ensure this (and the amount) is clearly stated





Operational Capacity Check

- Need to match the role of a participant in the project to their current (not future) capacity to participate
- “Capacity” includes appropriate facilities, personnel, space, financial stability and level of experience in the research area
- Problematic for SMEs participating in first call
- Prepared a support document for RISE, including information on the OC check – available after the webinar



Questions?

Please email your queries
to

mariecurie@iua.ie

All material will be made
available for download
afterwards

mariecurie@iua.ie

<http://www.iua.ie/irish-marie-curie-office/introduction/>



Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Office Ireland



MarieCurieActionsIre



@Mariescurie_ire





Layout of Proposal

Not evaluated but it makes life easier for the evaluators

Template

- Use the Correct Template
- Use the Template sub-headings (provides good structure)
- Provide a Table of Contents with page numbers
- Use the Full Page Limits
- Put the proposal acronym in the Header
- Put Page Numbers (format Page X of Y) in the Footer

Format

- Use charts, diagrams, tables, text boxes, figures.
- Use appropriate font size, line spacing, page margins
- Ensure any colour diagrams etc. are understandable when printed in black and white
- Use highlighting where appropriate (bold, underline, italics) but don't overdo it!

Language

- Avoid jargon
- Explain any abbreviations
- Simple clear text
- Avoid long sentences
- Get rid of repetitions (refer to other parts of proposal if necessary)
- Don't copy text from other documents or websites
- Be consistent with language (UK/US English)