Marie **Skłodo**wska-Curie Actions in Horizon 2020

Alan Craig

Belfast, 23rd January 2014

MSCA

European
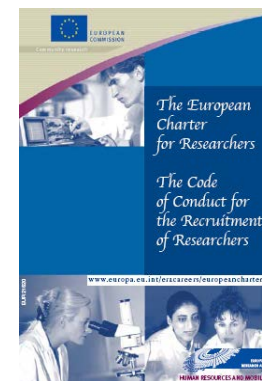Commission

Excellence

Research

Training

Skills

Mobility

European
Commission

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 €

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** via the co-funding mechanism

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

> (Almost) no nationality conditions

> Promotion of attractive **working and employment conditions**

> Particular attention to **gender** balance

> **Public engagement** of supported researchers

> 2014-2015: 10 calls foreseen -> one call per each MSC action per year + one call covering 2 years of European Researchers' Night + NCP

REA

MSCA: 4 Actions

European Commission

ITN → **ITN**
Early-stage Researchers

Innovative Training Networks

Support for doctoral and early-stage training

European Training Networks, European Industrial Doctorates, European Joint Doctorates

IEF
IOF
IIF
CIG
→ **IF**
Experienced Researchers

Individual Fellowships

Support for experienced researchers undertaking international and inter-sector mobility: **European Fellowships** and **Global Fellowships**

Dedicated support for **career restart** and **reintegration**

IAPP
IRSES
→ **RISE**
Exchange of Staff

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

International and inter-sector cooperation through the exchange of staff

COFUND → **COFUND**

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes

- **Doctoral programmes**
- **Fellowship programmes**

REA

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

MSCA: ITN

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REA

European Commission

MSCA - main EU programme for structured doctoral training

Objective

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

Scope

- ✓ European Training Networks (**ETN**), European Industrial Doctorates (**EID**) or European Joint Doctorates (**EJD**)
- ✓ mobility and particular focus on innovation skills

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

REA

Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

MSCA - main EU programme for structured doctoral training

- European Training Networks (**ETN**), largest part of the ITN. Very similar to the FP7 ITNs

- European Industrial Doctorates (**EID**) . Cooperation between academia and industry

- European Joint Doctorates (**EJD**). Cooperation between several academic institutes.

European Commission

European Training Networks (ETN)

- **At least <u>three</u> beneficiaries established in at least <u>three</u> different EU MS or AC**

- **Participation of other organisations, including international organisations and countries outside Europe possible**

- **Optimal size 6-10 beneficiaries**

ITN – Main features

European Industrial Doctorates (EID)

- At least <u>two</u> beneficiaries established in at least <u>two</u> different EU MS or AC

- One must be able to award doctoral degrees

- One must be from the non-academic sector

- Joint supervision is mandatory

- Each researcher must be enrolled on a doctoral programme and spend at least 50% of their time in the non-academic sector.

European Commission

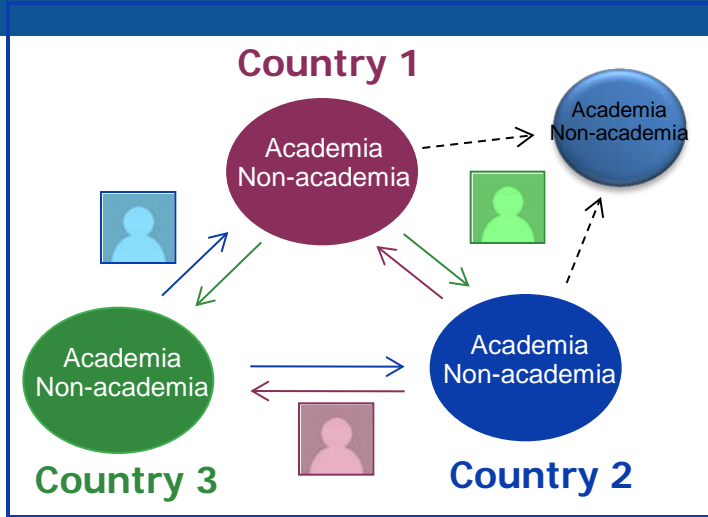## European Joint Doctorates (EJD)

- **At least <u>three</u> beneficiaries established in at least <u>three</u> different EU MS or AC that are entitled to award doctoral degrees**

- **Joint degrees or multiple degrees to be awarded**

- **Joint supervision is mandatory**
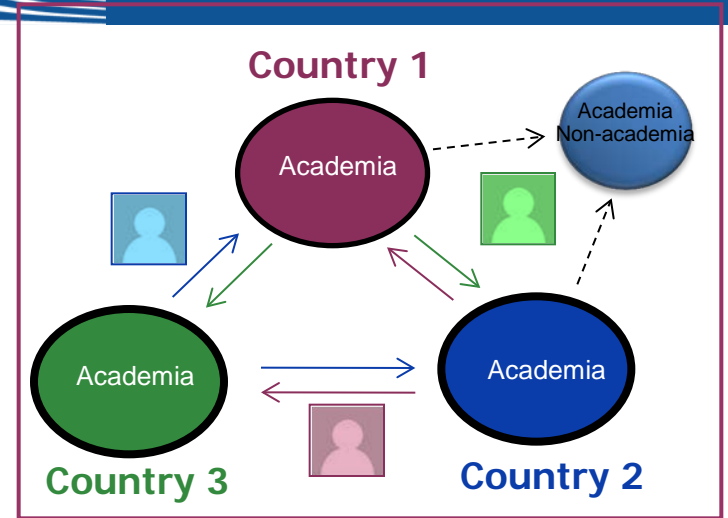
ITN – Main features

- ✓ **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**
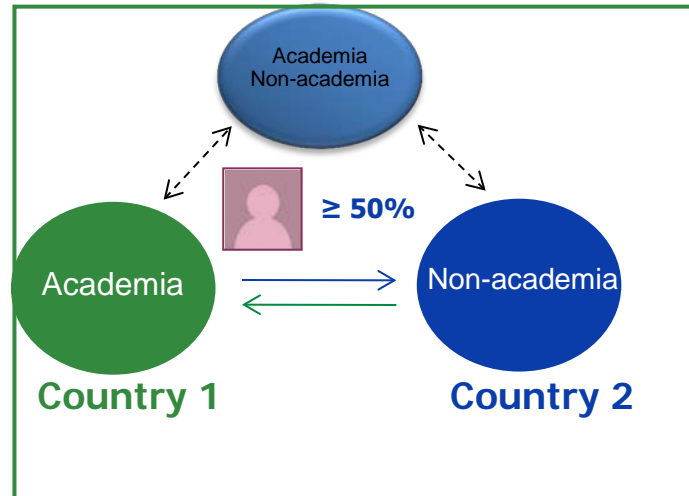
ITN – minimum consortia

Country 1
Academia Non-academia
Academia Non-academia
Academia Non-academia
Country 3
Country 2

European Training Networks

Country 1
Academia
Academia Non-academia
Academia
Academia
Country 3
Country 2

European Joint Doctorates

European Industrial Doctorates

Academia Non-academia
≥ 50%
Academia
Non-academia
Country 1
Country 2

European Commission

REA

ITN – example

European Training Networks (ETN)

Example 1 (bad)

- ✓ **An ETN is proposed comprising 4 universities located in Spain (MS), Malta (MS), Thailand (eligible for funding) and New Zealand (not automatically eligible for funding), together with 6 additional partner organisations.**

- ✓ **Not eligible. You need one extra beneficiary from EU. Although not a criterion participation from the non-academic sector would be expected.**

European Training Networks (ETN)

Example 2 (good)

✓ **An ETN is proposed comprising 2 universities located in Turkey (AC) and Croatia (MS), 1 large company located in Denmark (MS), and SME located in Norway (AC) and an NGO in Kenya (eligible for funding), together with 3 additional partner organisations.**

✓ **Eligible.**

European Commission

European Industrial Doctorates (EID)

Example

✓ **An academic research institution in Germany, a university in Finland and a research-performing enterprise in Lithuania propose an EID. The institution in Germany cannot award degrees so all researchers are enrolled in Finland and spend 50% of their time in Lithuania.**

✓ **Eligible.**

European Commission

European Joint Doctorates (EJD)

Example

- ✓ **A consortium composed of academic institutions, all of which can award degrees, based in Italy, Luxembourg and Slovenia, a polling company in France and an NGO in Bulgaria propose an EJD in political science. Fellows will be supervised by experts from at least two different beneficiaries and will be awarded a joint degree from at least two of the academic participants.**

- ✓ **Eligible.**

Award criteria: ITN

Excellence 50%	Impact 30%	Implementation 20%
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme (including inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral 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 (including awarding of the doctoral degrees for *EID* and *EJD* projects)
Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)	**Contribution to structuring doctoral / early-stage research training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for**: **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 *EJD* projects only)	**Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures**, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for *EID* and *EJD* projects*)*
Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for *EID* and *EJD* projects)	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and **dissemination of results**	**Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the participating organisations**
Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations		**Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme**

Financial aspects: ITN

- Monthly living allowance 3110 EUR, adjusted by country correction coefficient (includes all compulsory social security contributions – including the employer's)

- Monthly Mobility Allowance 600 EUR

- Monthly Family Allowance (if eligible) 500 EUR

- Research, Training and Networking costs 1800 EUR

- Management and Indirect Costs 1200 EUR

MSCA: 4 Actions

ITN → **ITN**
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REA

MSCA: IF

European Commission

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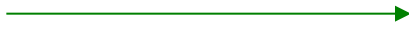
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REA

Individual Fellowships (IF)

European Commission

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

Education and Culture

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 elements of award criteria for all proposals

European Commission

Education and Culture

IF – European and Global

European Fellowships

Global Fellowships

European
Commission

- Fellows spend two years in a MS/AC research institution

- Mobility required

- Evaluation in 8 thematic panels

- Reintegration of researchers who have been long-term outside Europe is supported by a different panel

- There is also a Career Restart Panel for researchers who have not been active for at least a year.

- Fellows spend two years in a research institution outside Europe

- Mandatory return phase of 12 months to a European institution

- Mobility required

- Open to MS/AC nationals and 'long-term residents'

- Evaluation in 8 thematic panels

Education and Culture

Award criteria: IF

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Implementation (20%)
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**

Financial aspects: IF

- Monthly living allowance 4650 EUR, adjusted by country correction coefficient (includes all compulsory social security contributions – including the employer's)

- Monthly Mobility Allowance 600 EUR

- Monthly Family Allowance (if eligible) 500 EUR

- Research, Training and Networking costs 800 EUR

- Management and Indirect Costs 650 EUR

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REA

European Commission

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

REA

RISE – Main features

- ✓ **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, both ER and ESR**)

- ✓ 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

- ✓ 8 evaluation panels

REA

RISE – Main features

✓ **Two organisations located in two different MS/AC and one organisation outside Europe (no restrictions on sector)**
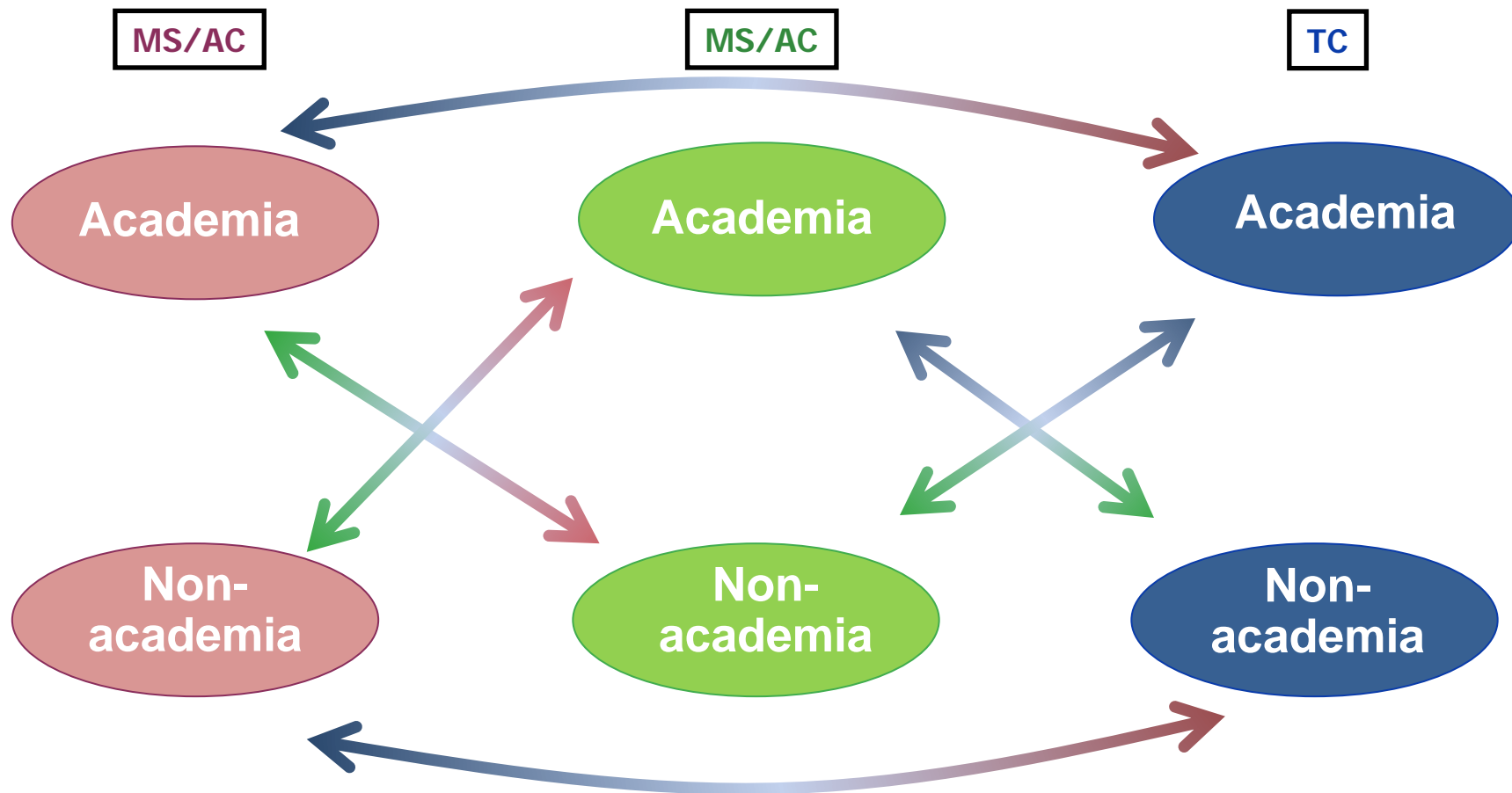
Or

✓ **If all three organisations are from MS/AC at least one should be from the academic sector and one from the non-academic sector**

RISE – Exchanges

Award criteria: RISE

European Commission

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Implementation (20%)
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 knowledge sharing among the participants in light of the research and innovation objectives.	**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	**Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures**, including quality management and risk management
Quality of the interaction between the participating organisations	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and **results dissemination**	**Appropriateness of the institutional environment** (infrastructure)
		Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations **and institutional commitment**

Financial aspects: RISE

- Staff member unit cost per month 2000 EUR

- Research, Training and Networking costs 1800 EUR

- Management and Indirect Costs 700 EUR

- Note – the staff costs are for 'extra' costs, (airfares, accommodation etc.). The staff are expected to retain their salaries from their home institutions

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REA

European Commission

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 interdicisplinary **research training**, as well as transnational and cross-sector **mobility** of researchers at all stages of their career
- ✓ Possibilities of synergies with structural funds
- ✓ Opportunities for **researchers from all countries**
- ✓ Researchers to comply with the mobility rules of the MSCA
- ✓ Open and transparent recruitment, vacancies widely publicised

Expected Impact
- ✓ exploit synergies between European Union actions and those at regional, national, and international level
- ✓ leverage funding and combat fragmentation

REA

COFUND

✓ Mono-beneficiary

✓ Legal entities (public and private) established in MS or AC and international European interest organisations

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: minimum 3 years, maximum 5 years (including the time taken to publish calls and recruit researchers)

- ✓ **Fellowships: minimum 3 months**

- ✓ EU contribution to cover **living allowances for researchers** and **management costs**

- ✓ **50% co-funding for established unit costs**

- ✓ Minimum living allowance fixed in the WP

COFUND – Main features

- ✓ **Each single application must only address the doctoral or fellowship programme, but**

- ✓ **More than one application can be submitted**

- ✓ **Recruited researchers must respect the same mobility rule as IF (for the fellowship programme) or ITN (for the doctoral programme). Existing programmes can continue with own mobility rule if well-justified.**

- ✓ **Unless prohibited by national legislation all fellows, including doctoral fellows, must be recruited on a work contract.**

- ✓ **In the doctoral programme all fellows must be registered for a PhD**

REA

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)

Award criteria: COFUND

European Commission

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Implementation (20%)
Quality of the selection / recruitment process for the researchers (transparency, composition and organisation of selection committees, evaluation criteria, equal opportunity)	**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, effectiveness and appropriateness of the work plan**
Quality of the research options offered by the programme in terms of science, interdisciplinarity, intersectorality and level of transnational mobility	**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**	**Appointment conditions of researchers**
Quality of career guidance and training, including supervision arrangements, training in transferable skills	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and **results dissemination of the programmes**	**Competence of the participant** to implement the programme

COFUND –
EU contribution

European Commission

✓ 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

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

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

Example (Fellowship programme – ER)

Cost item	Total cost [€ per person-month]	EU contribution [€ per person-month]
Living allowance	4800	2625
Mobility allowance	500	
Research costs	500	
Management costs	600	325
Indirect costs	600	
Total	7000	2950

To put the previous example in another way:

• The living allowance and management costs are 5400 EUR and the EU contributes 2950 EUR to this
•The remaining 2450 EUR in this category can come from any source, except EU funding.

•The mobility, research and indirect costs are 1600 EUR and these can come from any source except H2020 (but including ESIF)

NB – in the exceptional case where fellows are recruited on a stipend the EU COFUND contribution is further halved

EU contribution – eligibility

Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers/seconded staff member (1)				Institutional costs (2)	
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action	Living allowance (a)	Mobility allowance (b)	Family allowance (c)	Top-up allowance (d)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
ITN	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month	Ineligible	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month
IF	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month	Ineligible	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month
RISE	Ineligible	Ineligible	Ineligible	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month	Unit cost per person/month
COFUND	Unit cost per person/month (one for early-stage researchers and one for experienced researchers)	Ineligible	Ineligible	Ineligible	Ineligible	Unit cost per person/month (indirect costs not covered)

NIGHT

In 2013 >1 million people participated

Objective

✓ bring researchers closer to the general public

✓ increase awareness of research and innovation activities

Scope

✓ yearly event, typically on the last Friday of the month of September

✓ focus on the general public, addressing and attracting people regardless of the level their scientific background

✓ special focus on pupils and students

✓ promotion of the European dimension and gender balance in research and innovation

✓ involvement of researchers funded by Horizon 2020

Expected Impact

✓ raise awareness of the importance of research careers

✓ in the long term, encourage young people to embark on scientific careers

European Commission

Education and Culture

European Researchers' Night

Objective
- ✓ bring **researchers closer to the general public**
- ✓ increase **awareness of research** and innovation activities

Scope
- ✓ yearly event, typically on the last Friday of the month of September
- ✓ focus on the general public, addressing and attracting people regardless of the level their scientific background
- ✓ special focus on **pupils and students**
- ✓ promotion of the European dimension and gender balance in research and innovation
- ✓ involvement of researchers funded by Horizon 2020

Expected Impact
- ✓ raise awareness of the importance of research careers
- ✓ in the long term, encourage young people to embark on scientific careers

NIGHT – Main features

- ✓ **Budget**: € 8 Million in 2014 (2 editions covered)

- ✓ Call under **Coordination and support action**

- ✓ Maximum 100% funding

- ✓ Duration: **maximum 2 years** (option for one edition only)

- ✓ Beneficiaries: any legal entity in the EU Member States and Associated Countries

- ✓ Consortium agreement not required

For the Administrators

Link to the OJ: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/JOHtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:347:SOM:EN:HTML

The Horizon 2020 FP Regulation: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:347:0104:0173:EN:PDF

The Rules for Participation: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:347:0081:0103:EN:PDF

The Specific Programme: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:347:0965:1041:EN:PDF

 The Commission declarations are included in the "C" part of the OJ:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/JOHtml.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:373:SOM:EN:HTML

Education and Culture

Calls

ITN	**11/12/2013 – 9/04/2014** 2/09/2014 – 13/01/2015	EUR 405.18 million in 2014 EUR 370 million in 2015
IF	12/03/2014 – 11/09/2014 12/03/2015 – 10/09/2015	EUR 240.50 million in 2014 EUR 213.00 million in 2015
RISE	**11/12/2014 – 24/04/2014** 6/01/2015 – 28/04/2015	EUR 70.00 million in 2014 EUR 80.00 million in 2015
COFUND	10/04/2014 – 2/10/2014 14/04/2014 – 1/10/2015	EUR 80.00 million in 2014 EUR 80.00 million in 2015
NIGHT	**11/12/2014 – 4/03/2014**	EUR 8.00 million

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website
http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions

Horizon 2020
http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020

Participant Portal (applications)
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home

…or email
alan.craig@ec.europa.eu

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