RISE

Research & Innovation Staff Exchange

2015 Call

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During webinar please email queries to
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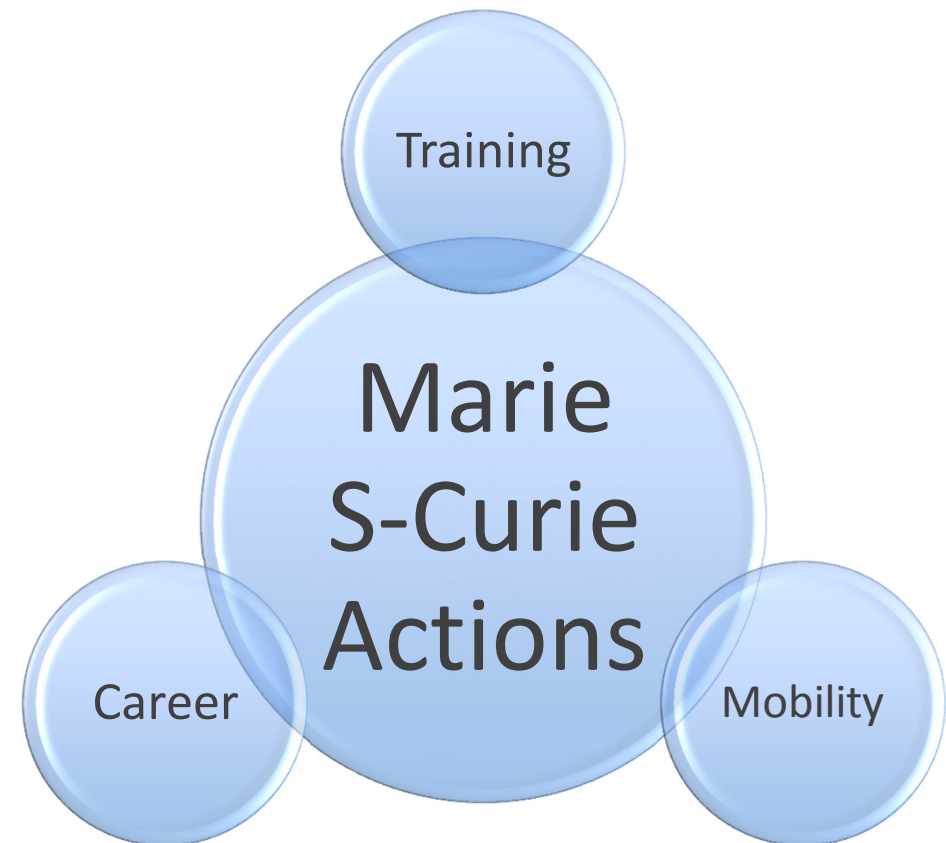Presentation and Q&A report will be available online

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions in Horizon 2020:

€6.2 billion budget

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

Implemented via Five Annual
Calls for Proposals

Training

Marie
S-Curie
Actions

Career

Mobility

Inter-Sectoral Collaboration

Academic <-> Non-Academic

- **Academic:** consists of public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research, and international European interest organisations

- **Non-Academic:** includes any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector and fulfilling the requirements of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation.

  e.g. Industry (incl. SMEs), charities, NGOs, government/public bodies, national archives, libraries…………

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

A Typical RISE

- Consortium of organisations from different countries and sectors – including 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
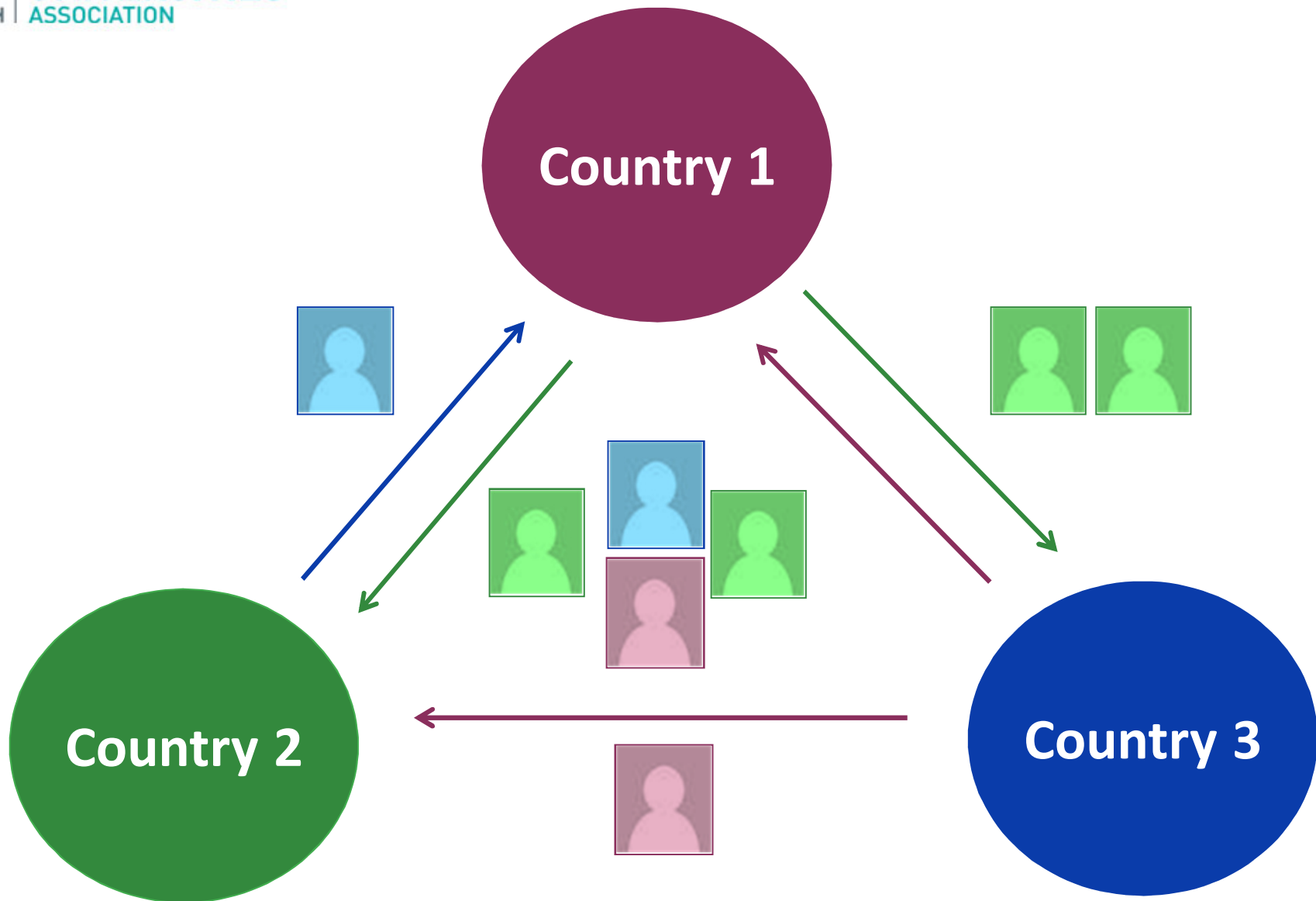
Reasons to get involved in RISE

First step on the H2020 funding "ladder"

Forge collaborations with Research Groups and Industry Worldwide

Build on an existing research grant/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
- Maximum of 540 months of secondment => €2.4 million
- Median budget funded in 2014 => €750k

RISE Definitions

- MS = Member State
- AC = Associated Country*

  "Europe"

- TC = Third Country

- Beneficiary = organisations in MS/AC

- Partner Organisation = organisations in TC

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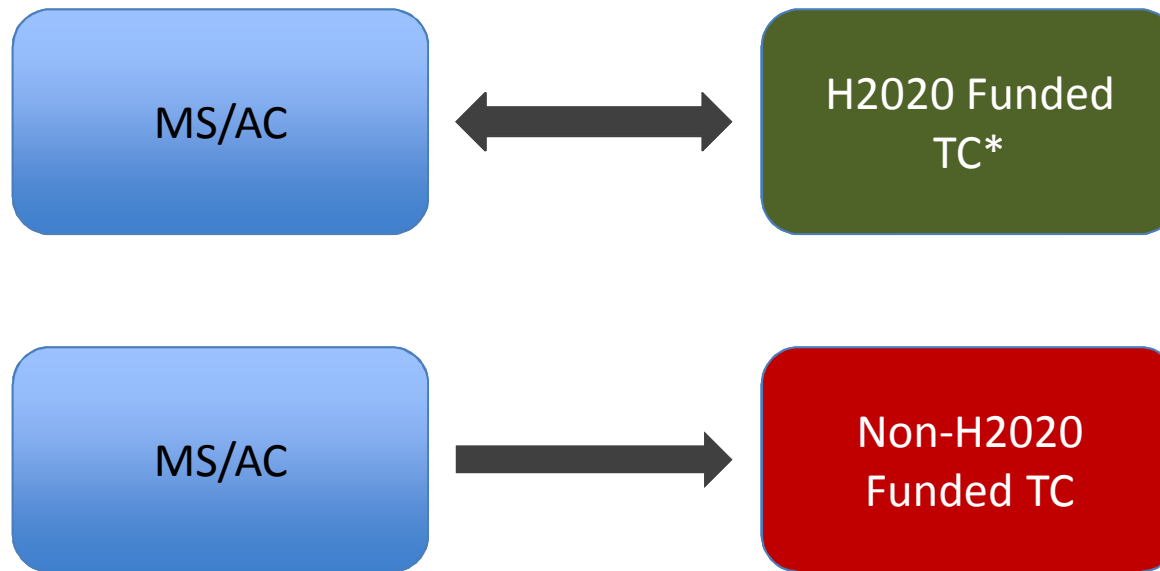
1. **All MS/AC:** 2 academic participants plus 1 non-academic (or vice versa)

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

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

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

Non-European Countries (TC)

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

* Annex A to the General Work Programme provides a list of countries that can be fully financed by Horizon 2020

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)

- MSCA Mobility Rule does not apply

- No conditions on the balance of secondments
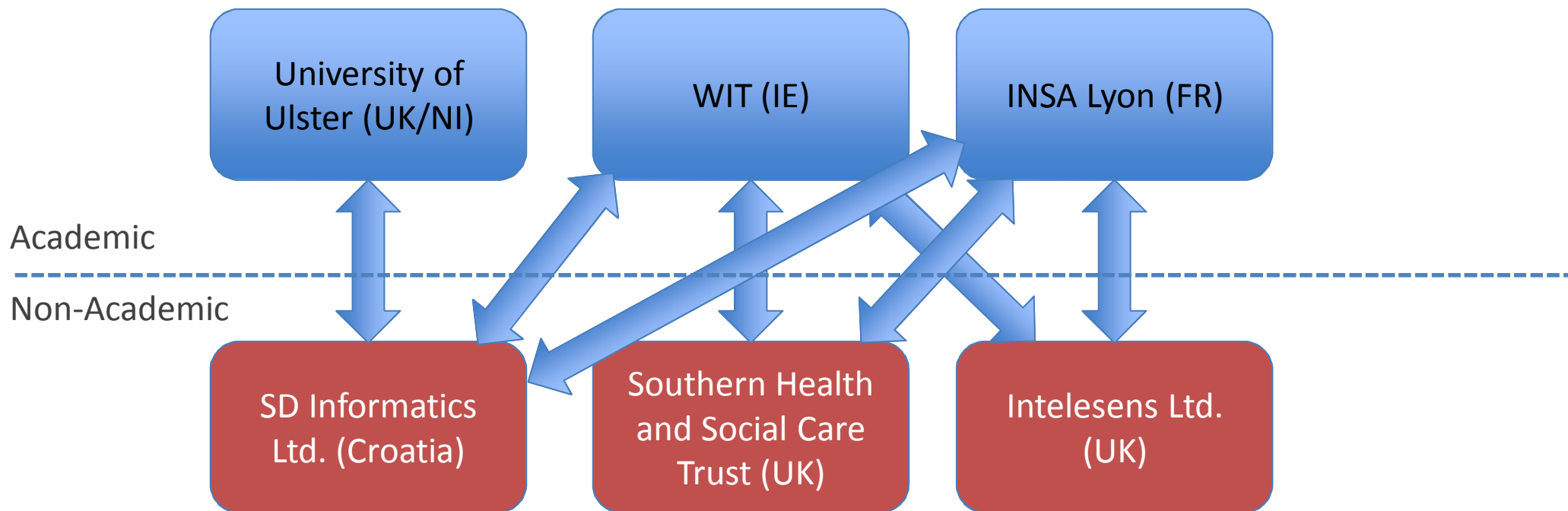
The project will not fund:

- 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
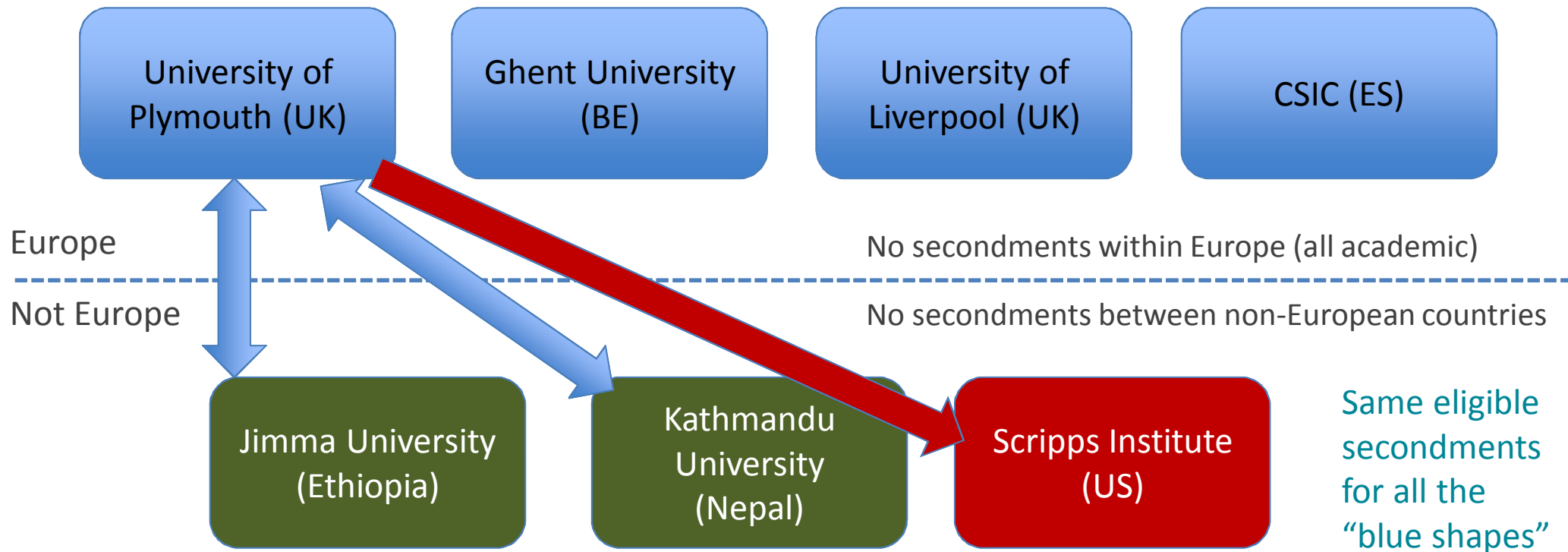
RISE 2014 Call – "All MS/AC" Project

'WASTCArD' - Wrist and arm sensing technologies for cardiac arrhythmias detection in long term monitoring.

Academic

Non-Academic

| University of Ulster (UK/NI) | WIT (IE) | INSA Lyon (FR) |

| SD Informatics Ltd. (Croatia) | Southern Health and Social Care Trust (UK) | Intelesens Ltd. (UK) |

4 countries (all Europe), 3 academic, 3 non-academic

Writing an Application:
The Basics

Preparing to Write

- Download the call documents from the Participant Portal*
  - 2014/2015 MSCA Work Programme
  - Guide for Applicants
- Read them from cover to cover!
  - Evaluation Criteria
  - Overall objective of the Action (Opening pages of GfA and Work Programme)

Preparing to Submit

- E-submission using Submission & Evaluation of Proposals Service (SEP)
- Register with SEP* for RISE
  - Download Proposal Template
- **Must** have the Participant Identification Code (PIC) for your organisation
  - Use Search Facility or ask your research office
  - Organisation can apply for PIC (temporary one issued to allow submission)
  - Get PIC validated ASAP after submission!
- SME beneficiaries should do the financial viability self-check**
- The deadline is 17:00 **Brussels time**!

* http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/index.html

** http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/organisations/lfv.html

Proposal Content

Administrative Forms

Part B (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

- 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…..

Proposal Content

1. Summary
2. Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation

Overall page limit of 30 pages
No section page limits

5. References
6. Capacities of the Participating Organisations (tables)
7. Ethical Aspects
8. Letters of Commitment of Partner Organisations (**TC**)

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

Indicative Call Timetable

Activity	Date
Publication of Call	6-Jan-2015
Deadline	28-Apr-2015
Evaluation of Proposals	June 2015
Evaluation Outcome	September 2015
Signing of Grant Agreements	November 2015

Typical delays to GA Signature:
- Validation of Participant Identification Code
  (even extending from FP7 to H2020 is time-consuming)
- Ethics Review

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weighting	Priority (ex-aequo)
Excellence	50%	1
Impact	30%	2
Implementation	20%	3

Overall threshold of 70%
No individual thresholds

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**

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, RCSI, WIT and UCC are awardees (to-date).

- If applicable, should be included in proposal

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

RISE 2014 – Irish performance

Data for **all countries** in brackets

	Coordinator	Partner	All Participations
Evaluated	3 (200)	11 (n/a)	14
Retained for Funding	2 (84)	8 (n/a)	10
Reserve	0	1	1
Success Rates	**67% (42%)**	**64% (n/a)**	**72% (43%)**

RISE 2014 Cut-Off Scores

Panel	# proposals evaluated	Funded Cut-Off	Reserve Cut-Off
Chemistry	22	82.6	76.2
Economic Sciences	12	70.6	70
ICT and Engineering	59	78.6	75.6
Environment	24	78.4	75.8
Life Sciences	33	78.2	76.4
Maths	4	76.4	n/a
Physics	25	81.4	79
Social Science and Humanities	21	77.2	75.2

Writing an Application: Getting the Impact Right

Expected impact of RISE 2014-2015

- Building or enhancing new and existing networks of **international** and **inter-sectoral** cooperation.

- Significantly strengthening the **interaction** between organisations in the **academic** and **non-academic** sectors, and between **Europe** and countries **outside Europe**.

- In terms of **knowledge sharing** and **broad skills development**, they will better align different cultures and expectations, with a view to a **more effective contribution of research and innovation** to Europe's **knowledge economy** and **society**.

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 have a better understanding of the research culture 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."*

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 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?

Tips and Tricks!

Incl. insights from analysing feedback forms from RISE 2014 Call

General Comments

- Use a self-explanatory title and a memorable acronym
- Use the proposal template:
  - It matches the evaluation criteria and helps you to put the right information in the right place for the evaluators to find it.
  - Some evaluators use a "checklist" approach to marking – if the information is not in the correct section, they will give you "zero" for that sub-criterion.
- "A picture is worth a thousand words"
  - Use Diagrams, Charts, Tables or Figures where possible - easy to evaluate
- Be aware of the overall weighting of each criterion
  - You need to score well in all sections in order to be funded – don't spend all your time writing the Excellence section!

Abstract (Admin forms) & Summary (Part B)

Provided to evaluators to help them choose the proposals they will evaluate

- Be concise
- Reflect the whole proposal including proposed impact
- Identify precise & concrete objectives for the whole proposal, not just the research
- Provide enough technical/research information to help an evaluator with knowledge of the field to select it

Layout of Proposal

Not evaluated but it makes life easier for the evaluators

Template	Format	Language
• 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	• 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!	• 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)

2.1 Quality of research programme

- 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** using figures/tables/charts/diagrams to illustrate where appropriate
- Research objectives
  - Provide a clear statement of the objectives of the proposal
  - Describe the state-of-the-art in the research area
  - Relate your objectives to this state-of-the-art - make sure the 'state of the art' is up to date
  - Include a list of bibliographic references (**in Section 5**) – make sure to cite consortium members ("you are the experts")
  - "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*"?

2.1 Quality of research programme

- Provide a clear, detailed description of the research methodology (use diagrams to explain/illustrate your point)
  - Describe methods, techniques, assays etc. that will be used to perform the research
- 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 value this highly
- Describe any gender aspects in relation to performing the research – adds value
  - This toolkit can help you identify gendered innovation – it's not about gender balance
    http://www.yellowwindow.be/genderinresearch/downloads/YW2009_GenderToolKit_Module1.pdf

2.2 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
  - How will secondees transfer knowledge whilst on secondment, and how will they embed that knowledge into their home organisation (if desirable) when they return?
  - Tip: Make sure both ESRs and ERs are doing secondments (longer visits for ESRs, >4 months are preferred by evaluators)

- Outline the benefits of the knowledge-sharing to the organisations

- If there are any novel aspects (social media, cloud-based data sharing etc.), highlight them

- "A picture tells a thousand words" – use a diagram to show the flow of people around the consortium

2.3 Quality of interaction

- Clearly state what each partner will contribute towards achieving the research objectives

- Include their expertise, their contribution to networking events, and their participation in the secondments

- Describe the networking/training events which will take place
  - Justify how the events will contribute to the knowledge-sharing objectives

3.1: Research HR and new career perspectives

In all sections, be specific: provide details of how the impact **will be achieved.**

- Explain the impact of participating in the RISE project on the Staff's careers, e.g.
    - Research skills, transferable skills gained
    - Exposure to non-academic sector, organisations outside Europe
    - Providing them with new career options, particularly outside academia
- Look to EU policies on research which refer to training/careers for researchers
    - E.g. Innovation Union, Agenda for New Skills and Jobs, Youth on the Move
    - Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training and it's Implementation Report
    - Final Report of the Expert Group on the Research Profession
    - Most docs are available on the EURAXESS Policy Library
      http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/services/researchPolicies
- Don't simply cut and paste from EU docs or "pay lip service" by naming them in the document – present an analysis of how the RISE fits in with their objectives

3.2: Developing collaborations and improving EU & Global Research and Innovation Potential

1. **Lasting Collaborations**

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

- Relate to EU policies on international and inter-sectoral collaboration in Research & Innovation International Cooperation http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm, Innovation Union

2. **Research and Innovation Potential**

- Refer to the impact of the research on EU and Globally – can link to Innovation Union objectives, research roadmaps, European Standardisation, Horizon 2020 Societal Challenges and/or Industrial Leadership Pillars

- Link to EU policies on international collaboration (as above)

3.3: Communication and Dissemination

1. Dissemination strategy

- Target audience: Other researchers, potential users and the wider research and innovation community

- What is the potential impact of disseminating to them?

2. Communication strategy & outreach/public engagement plan

- New Guidelines document* describes difference between communications and outreach/public engagement

- Outreach is meant to engage a large audience and to bring knowledge and expertise on a particular topic to the general public.

- Communication is two-way from sender to receiver e.g. an article in a newspaper or on TV or radio

- Plan a range of activities targeted at multiple audiences – what is the **impact**?

- Plan activities in all countries in the consortium, not just the coordinating country

* http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/documents/documentation/publications/outreach_activities_en.pdf

3.3: Communication and Dissemination - 2

3. **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
      - 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?

- General tip: include quantifiable targets for measuring the effectiveness of communication, dissemination, IP and exploitation

4.1: Workplan

- Must have a clear, **feasible** work plan

- Use the standard tables provided, which use the standard EU format of Work Packages, deliverables – be concise but precise

- Don't just have research Work Packages, include, e.g.:
  - Management
  - Knowledge Transfer
  - Dissemination, Exploitation and Public Engagement

- 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

4.2: Management Structure & Procedures

- Describe your management structure (use a diagram)

- 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,** including management of risk in the consortium – complete the table provided

  - Internal communications strategy (between the participants)

  - Gender aspects in decision making

  - How IPR will be managed

- You can use a **PERT chart** to illustrate who will be responsible for what - templates available at http://www.hyperion.ie/templates.htm

- Common errors – Coordinator doing too much. Participant taking on a role that they have no experience in.

- Describe which institutional departments will help with managing the programme (Finance, HR etc.) and what their experience is

4.3: Appropriateness of Institutional Environment

- Who is doing what, and do they have the necessary infrastructure to do it?
- Infrastructures: technical and other such as access to library and IT facilities etc.
- Demonstrate that the participants have the necessary "Staff" to carry out the programme (secondments in particular).
- Have the organisations endorsed the **Charter & Code** – if yes, say so!
  - List at http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/charterAndCode
- Are the organisations towards earning the **"HR Excellence in Research"** logo? If yes, say so! List at
  http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/strategy4ResearcherOrgs
  But….don't assume that evaluator knows what this means. Explain it to them.

EURAXESS

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- 'One-stop-shop' centralised support on issues related to mobility, incl. immigration
- Linked to central EU EURAXESS Site
- Website in each European Country (and beyond)
- Jobs Portal
- CV Database
- Most Irish HEIs are **EURAXESS Local Contact Points** (list on website) – mention this in the proposal

4.3: Competences and Complementarity

- <u>No need</u> to describe the expertise of each individual participant – this information is in Section 6. <u>Instead:</u>

- Provide any extra relevant expertise information not in Section 6 <u>and</u>

- Explain how the participants complement each other and how this complementarity allows them to successful deliver the project (use a diagram or a table) <u>and</u>

- Describe the synergies in expertise between the participants and how these will be exploited (use a diagram or table)

- Institutional Commitment – NB for TC participants. Refer to contents of Letters of Commitment from each TC participant. Particularly important for high-income TC contributing their own budget

Sections 5 & 6

5. References

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

6. 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.

7: 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

8. 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 is clearly stated

Remaining Deadlines 2015

CALL	Opening Date	Closing Date
RISE-2015	6-Jan-2015	28-Apr-2015
IF-2015	12-Mar-2015	10-Sep-2015
COFUND-2015	14-Apr-2015	1-Oct-2015

Download the Work Programme and Call Documentation at
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/index.html

Work Programme covers Calls in 2014 and 2015
WP 2016-2017 will be published Q3 2015

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

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