

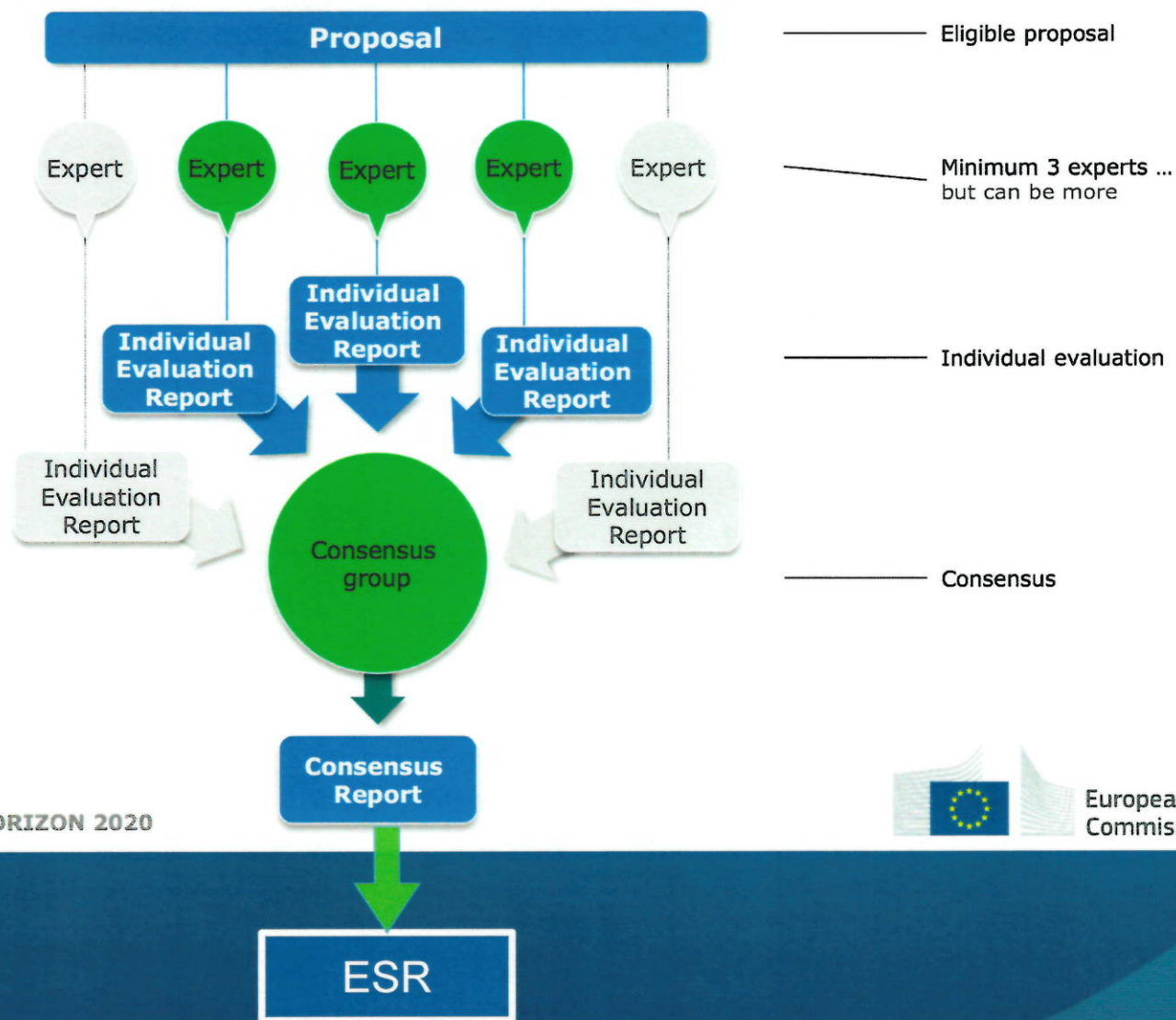
MSCA COFUND - Planning for Success IUA 21<sup>st</sup> March  
2019

## The Evaluator's Perspective

*(or how not to annoy the experts and ensure your  
proposal is optimised for success)*

Dr Conor O'Carroll  
SciPol, Ireland  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2019  
[conor.ocarroll@scipol.ie](mailto:conor.ocarroll@scipol.ie)

# Evaluation Process





MSCA COFUND (and all H2020)

EXCELLENCE

IMPACT

IMPLEMENTATION

## Interpretation of the score

**0** The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

**1 Poor** The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

**2 Fair** The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

**3 Good** The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

**4 Very good** The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

**5 Excellent** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.



# MSCA COFUND

EXCELLENCE of the Doctoral/Fellowship Programme

IMPACT of the Doctoral/Fellowship Programme and its Dissemination & Communication

IMPLEMENTATION of the Doctoral/Fellowship Programme



## Excellence = What

- × Research is not important in the evaluation and should not form part of any subconscious bias based on the institution.
- × The excellence of the process is what counts.
- × Remember that you are presenting yourselves as a funding body offering a structured doctoral (fellowship) programme
- × Don't need international partners as the point is to satisfy the triple-i mobility for the ESR's
- × Fellows to draft research proposal, feasible for PhD? This can depend on the discipline. In the humanities it would be expected fellow draft the proposal whereas this would not be the case in life sciences.



## Impact = Why

- × Impact on the careers of the fellows
- × How will this impact on doctoral education and training
- × What is the added value
- × Sustainability
- × Dissemination & Communication

## Implementation = How

- × Funding source? If doubts are present then this is an issue of implementation
- × Have they Identified the risks involved, recruitment
- × Employment vs student



## ESR Analysis - Common Errors

**Common errors identified across all programmes and level of participant experience**

- **Major** - *Not addressing MSCA call topic and its impact, poor methodology, poor implementation plan*
- **Minor** - *generic information on dissemination & exploitation, IPR and risk management; complex management structures*

***All of these can have major consequence in highly competitive MSCA calls.***



*“The Evaluators ensured that each and every proposal received a thorough, fair and objective assessment”*

Conor O’Carroll MSCA Doctoral COFUND Chair 2014-2017

