Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions (MSCA)

UK MSCA NCP Information Event, Research and Innovation Staff Exchange, London, 19 February 2016

Session overview (London)

10:00  Registration and coffee
10:30  Overview of MSCA Schemes, Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) and funding rules
       Application process, (UK MSCA NCP, UKRO)
11:45  RISE 2015 case study, (Dr Kristina Niedderer, University of Wolverhampton); Q&A
12:30 – 13:30  Lunch break
13:30  Award criteria and evaluation process of proposals, (UKRO)
14:15  RISE evaluation process – evaluator’s perspective, (Dr Christina Karatzaferi and Dr Giorgos K. Sakkas, MARJON, Plymouth)
14:45  Q&A session
15:00  Event close

Thank you to the University of West London for hosting our event today
About us

• UKRO is the office of the seven UK Research Councils in Brussels and delivers a subscription-based advisory service for around 150 research organisations in the UK and beyond.

• UKRO also provides National Contact Point services on behalf of the UK Government.

• Our mission is to maximise UK engagement in EU-funded research, innovation and higher education.

Our daily work

• UKRO services: offering a wide range of quality services to help subscribers and sponsors make informed decisions on participating in EU programmes

• Policy work: supporting UK input into European research policy development and implementation.

• Brussels liaison: establishing and maintaining contacts with the European Institutions and other major Brussels stakeholders in research and innovation.
UKRO National Contact Points

• Advice on the European Research Council and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

• Websites
  – www.ukro.ac.uk/erc
  – www.ukro.ac.uk/mariecurie

• Helpdesk
  – erc-uk@bbsrc.ac.uk; Phone: 0032 2289 6121
  – mariecurie-uk@bbsrc.ac.uk; Phone: 0032 2230 0318

• Funded by

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Policy background, schemes overview and basic participation rules
Horizon 2020 overview

- The EU's funding programme for research and innovation
- Runs for seven years from 2014 – 2020
- Almost €80 billion of funding
- Structured around three pillars including a wide range of different funding schemes

Who is eligible?

All 28 EU Member States:

- Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
Who is eligible?

• Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to the Member States
  – *Just naming a few:* Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Falkland Islands, French Polynesia, Greenland, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Pitcairn Islands, Saba, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Helena, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands, Wallis and Futuna

• Associated Countries:
  – Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland (*partial association Pillar 1, including MSCA*), Faroe Islands, as well as Tunisia and Ukraine

• Third countries (whether they can receive funding depends on GDP/list in Work Programme)

• BRIC no longer eligible for funding (Brazil, Russia, India, China)

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Third countries – eligibility and funding

• Only less developed economies (countries mentioned in Annex A to the WP) are **automatically eligible** for EU funding

• Developed and developing economies, such as the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, BRIC, Mexico, etc. will no longer automatically qualify for EU funding

• Funding may be provided in the following cases
  – Under the existence of a bilateral agreement specifying such funding i.e. EU-US agreement for Societal Challenge 1 (Heath)
  – When such funding is specifically mentioned in the call text or topic
  – When **Commission** deems participation of an entity essential for the success of the project due to its expertise, access to data, etc.
But everyone can participate!

Horizon 2020 structure

Excellent Science
- European Research Council (ERC)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
- Research Infrastructures

Industial Leadership
- Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEIT) - ICT, NMBP, Space
- Access to Risk Finance
- Innovation in SMEs

Societal Challenges
- Health and Wellbeing
- Food security
- Transport
- Energy
- Climate action
- Societies
- Security

Widening Participation; Science with and for Society; Mainstreaming of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) and ICT

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
EURATOM
Joint Research Centre (JRC)
Excellent Science: Rationale

• 30% of total Horizon 2020 budget
• Objective: to strengthen the excellence of European research
  – New research and ideas are drivers of competition
  – Attract and retain high potential individuals
  – Fund the most talented and creative researchers
  – Develop and maintain world-class research infrastructures

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

“.. Ensure excellent and innovative research training as well as attractive career and knowledge-exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility of researchers to best prepare them to face current and future societal challenges.”

Total budget: €6.2bn
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

- Operates on a **bottom-up** basis
- For any research and innovation ideas (basic research; market take-up)
- **Mobility** (cross-border and cross-sector) is a key requirement
- Enhance skills of people behind research and innovation
- Strong participation across sectors
- Dissemination and **public engagement** - public outreach
- Gender balance – equal opportunities in the research content

The ‘triple-i’ research & training experience within the ‘knowledge triangle’…
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

For institutions
- Run and take part in collaborative cross-sectoral, cross-sector research, researcher training and/or staff exchange programmes on a research topic and field of their choice
- Employ talented, well-funded researchers in any research field

For individuals
- Well-remunerated 1-3 year research fellowships in the best research facilities in their field in Europe and overseas
- PhD studies in the context of a pan-European research training network
- Exposure to work in the non-academic sector

Innovative Training Networks (ITN)
- For Early Stage Researchers

Individual Fellowships (IF)
- For Experienced Researchers

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)
- Exchange visits (secondments) of staff

Co-funding of programmes (COFUND)
- For regional, national, international doctoral or fellowship programmes
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Researchers’ Night

• Coordination and support action
• Europe-wide public and media event dedicated to the promotion of science and research careers
• Call published every two years

MSCA calls – 2016 timetable (preliminary)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call identifier</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Call budget, €M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-ITN-2016</td>
<td>15 October 2015</td>
<td>12 January 2016</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-ITN-2017</td>
<td>15 September 2016</td>
<td>10 January 2017</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-RISE-2016</td>
<td>8 December 2015</td>
<td>28 April 2016</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-RISE-2017</td>
<td>1 December 2016</td>
<td>5 April 2017</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-IF-2016</td>
<td>12 April 2016</td>
<td>14 September 2016</td>
<td>218.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSCA-IF-2017</td>
<td>11 April 2017</td>
<td>14 September 2017</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-COFUND-2016</td>
<td>14 April 2016</td>
<td>29 September 2016</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-COFUND-2017</td>
<td>5 April 2016</td>
<td>28 September 2017</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA Researchers’ Night</td>
<td>15 October 2015</td>
<td>13 January 2016</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2014 MSCA Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>No. of eligible proposals submitted</th>
<th>No. of retained proposals</th>
<th>Success Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-ITN-2014</td>
<td>1153</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>10.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-RISE-2014</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-IF-2014</td>
<td>7409</td>
<td>1305</td>
<td>17.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-COFUND-2014</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCA-Researchers' Night-2014</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2014-5 MSCA funding awarded - top 10 MS/AC

Source: European Commission
The submission in 2015 increased which reduced the success rate by half.

Source: European Commission
RISE 2015 MS and AC participants in A-listed proposals

Source: European Commission

RISE 2015 TC participants in A-listed proposals

Source: European Commission
RISE 2015 Submitted & A-list participants

3131 Participants

836 A-List

Academic
2242 => 625
72% => 75%

Non Academic
889 => 211
28% => 25%

Source: European Commission

RISE 2015 Types of Collaboration:
Submitted & A-list

International Collaboration
Success rate 22%

Intersectoral Collaboration
Success rate 19%

Intersectoral and International Collaboration
Success rate 27%

89 A-List

57
14
72
211

Source: European Commission
RISE 2015 Submitted and A-list proposals by panel compared to 2014

Key MSCA Definitions

**ITN**
- Early Stage Researcher (ESR)
  - At the time of recruitment (ITN) by the host organisation, must be in the first 4 years (full-time research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree

**COFUND**

**RISE**
- Experienced Researcher (ER)
  - At the time of the call deadline (IF) or secondment (RISE) by the host organisation, must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least 4 years of full-time equivalent research experience

**IF**
- RISE
- COFUND

**Academic sector**
- Includes universities and higher education institutions (public and private) awarding degrees, non-profit research institutions (public and private), and international European interest organisations

**Non-academic sector**
- Includes any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector

Source: European Commission
Standard Mobility Rule

“At the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals, or recruitment/secondment by the host organisation, depending on the action, researchers shall not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date.”

No restrictions on nationality!

MSCA RISE
Overview and financial rules
**Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)**

- “Aim to promote international and inter-sector collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges, and sharing of knowledge and ideas from research to market (and vice-versa) for the advancement of science and development of innovation”
- Should involve institutions from the academic and non-academic sectors (particularly SMEs) based in MS/AC and/or third countries
- Development of partnerships in the form of joint research and innovation activities between the participants
- Knowledge sharing via international and/or inter-sector mobility through two way secondments of staff with built-in return mechanism – no recruitment of new staff!
  - Exchanges between MS/AC only: secondments must be inter-sectoral
  - Exchanges between MS/AC and third countries: secondments can be same sector and/or intersectoral

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**Research and Innovation Staff Exchange**

- Participants must be from at least three different countries, at least two of which are MS/AC
- If all participants are in the same sector, one participant country must be a third country
- Secondment period: 1-12 months (does not need to be continuous)
- Projects up to 4 years and max 540 exchange visit months
- Typical activities in RISE:
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

Beneficiaries (Participants level 1)
- Signatory to the Grant Agreement
- Responsible for the execution of the project
- Are established in MS/AC

Partner organisations (Participants level 2)
- Do not sign the Grant Agreement
- Do not claim costs
- Must include a letter of commitment in the proposal
- Are established in a Third Country (TC)

Mind differences with other MSCA schemes, such as ITNs!

Eligible staff for RISE secondments
- Early-Stage Researchers (ESR), Experienced Researchers (ER) & managerial, technical, administrative staff supporting the research and innovation activities of the project

- Have been actively engaged in or linked to research and/or innovation activities at the sending institution for at least 6 months (full-time equivalent) prior to the first period of secondment

- After the secondment period(s), the exchanged staff members should be reintegrated again into the sending organisation
RISE – Minimum Set-up

- At least 3 independent participants in 3 different countries
- At least 2 participants from 2 different MS/AC
- If all in MS/AC: at least 1 academic and 1 non-academic

RISE – Eligible secondments

Intra-European Exchanges
RISE – Eligible secondments
Europe – Third Country Exchanges

• Secondments from TC to MS/AC subject to H2020 funding rules!
• If funded by TC → describe in proposal!

Around 80 RISE projects funded every year

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess

http://cordis.europa.eu
RISE is flexible – small project example

FlyHigh
Project reference: 645636
Funded under: H2020-ELI3.3.3.

Insect-plant relationships: insights into biodiversity and new applications
From 2015-07-01 to 2018-07-01, ongoing project

Project details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cost:</th>
<th>Topic(s):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EUR 450 000</td>
<td>MSCA-RISE-2014 - Marie Sklodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU contribution:</td>
<td>Call for proposal:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUR 450 000</td>
<td>H2020-MSCA-RISE-2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coordinator
HELSINKI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, Finland

Participants
University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences, Serbia
BIOFUTEC, SL, Spain
UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE, Spain

In Cordis you see summaries of successful projects

Objective

FlyHigh studies underexplored phytophagous and saprophagous flies and phytophagous plants aiming to obtaining ecological and evolutionary data that will be used to elucidate ecological features of fly species that could be exploited for nutritional mass production of flies. Artificial mass rearing of flies produces beneficial and productive fly farms that could be applied for different aspects in agriculture, ecological restoration, and conservation for e.g. complementary pollination services in natural or greenhouse environments. The main aim is to facilitate cross-sectional transfer of knowledge and training of researchers as well as technical staff in bridging the gap between scientific results and their application into novel business ideas.

For the excellence of the project lies in the synergy of basic and applied ecology for exploring and developing new protocols and end products. FlyHigh brings together experts with well-documented scientific achievements of the focal organisational groups and on evolutionary analyses with early-stage researchers with the same research focus, with experts on insect mass rearing techniques. The relevance of Flyhigh results from integration of project aims that may result in innovative results of broader impact that will benefit the EUA institutions as well as the TC partner. The results could be advantageous in developing new ideas for future use e.g. flies could be used to control pests or replace the environmentally used managed pollination in greenhouse production of many greenhouse plants. The obtained data will also allow us to estimate the possible biogeographic events that can help explain the evolutionary history, current distributions and future biogeographic patterns of some bulb plant and fly groups in South Africa and in Euro-Mediterranean regions. The outlined training courses, workshops and secondments ensure transfer of knowledge between partner academic and non-academic partners in both directions.

Visit projects’ websites

www.luomus.fi/en/flyhigh
RISE is flexible-large project example

Preclinical Intra-Operative Image-Guided Surgery and Post-Operative Radiotherapy of Tumours

From 2015-02-01 to 2019-02-01, ongoing project

Total cost: EUR 2 430 000
EU contribution: EUR 2 430 000
Coordinated in: Netherlands

Topic(s):
- MSCA-RISE-2014 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)
- Call for proposal: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2014
- Funding scheme: MSCA-RISE – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)

Coordinator
PRISCIROS BV
Netherlands

Participants
- ACADEMISCH ZIEKHERKLING LEIDEN – LEIDEN UNIVERSITAIR MEDICISCH CENTRUM
- UNIVERSITÄTSMEDIZIN GOETTINGEN – GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT GOETTINGEN – STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHT

12 participating organisations from 4 countries

www.prisar.eu – project example

Positive patient outcome: better overall survival and quality of life for the patient:
- Quality of life - less invasive surgery or personalized medicine approaches.
- Economic - avoid unnecessary or less invasive surgery which leads to reduced hospital stays, less complications and lower recuperation rates due to better margin detection and smaller damage of healthy tissue.
- Reduce the chances of recurrence - enable post-resection radiotherapy, enable
More MSCA case studies


How to find partners?

• **CORDIS Partner search** - https://cordis.europa.eu/partners/web/guest/home self-registered profiles of researchers and innovators, searchable by area of expertise, country, call for proposals

• **“Projects and Results”** on the CORDIS website Access to experienced researchers - http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/home_en.html

• **European Enterprise Network** - http://een.ec.europa.eu/ - brings together almost 600 business in over 50 countries (Particularly good for SMEs)

• Events, info days, conferences

• **National Contact Points**
How to find partners?

- Health: [http://www.fitforhealth.eu/](http://www.fitforhealth.eu/)
- Environment: [http://www.irc.ee/envncp/?page=search](http://www.irc.ee/envncp/?page=search)
- Transport: [http://www.transport-ncps.net/services/partner-search.html](http://www.transport-ncps.net/services/partner-search.html)
- Space: [http://www.fp7-space.eu/fp7-space-info-16.phtm](http://www.fp7-space.eu/fp7-space-info-16.phtm)
- Security: [http://www.seren-project.eu/](http://www.seren-project.eu/)

Proposal – Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Researcher unit cost [person/month] EURO</th>
<th>Institutional unit cost [person/month] EURO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff member unit cost</td>
<td>Research, training and networking costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Top-up allowance person/month</td>
<td>Management and overheads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Funding based fully on unit costs, multiplied by requested person months spent on secondments
- Automated calculation of budget when secondment months filled into application
- Institutional costs depend on implementation of secondments
- No detailed financial reporting but need to report on completed secondment months *(explain how unit costs work to your financial department)*
- Ensure all participants understand the financial rules
EU contribution

Staff member unit cost is intended to support the travel, accommodation and subsistence costs linked to the secondments:

- Sending organisation is expected to continue paying the salary of seconded staff during the secondment
- Ensure that the EU contribution is fully used for the benefit of the seconded staff members
- Use your usual internal policies (the amount can be managed by the institution or paid directly to the researcher; in accordance with national rules)

RISE EU contribution does not cover salary costs

EU contribution

- The Research, training and networking costs cover the costs of research and innovation related activities of the project such as purchasing of consumables, laboratory costs, participation to conferences, workshops, coordination and review meetings, and networking activities.

- Management and indirect costs cover all general costs connected with the organisation and implementation of the secondments (administrative and financial management, logistics, ethics, human resources, legal advice, documentation, etc.).

Institutional costs can be moved between beneficiaries and redistributed to partners (needs to be agreed in the Consortium Agreement)

The payment of institutional costs is linked to the implementation of the secondment. If the secondment is not implemented none of the 3 categories is paid.
**Declaration of costs**

**WHO?**
- Each beneficiary: *(not TC partners)* in its individual financial statement
- => Outgoing secondments of its own staff
- <= Incoming secondments from a TC partner
- If agreed by the consortium, a different distribution of institutional costs => shouldn’t be reported in the financial statements

When successful, if you are hosting staff from partner Third Country organisations eligible for funding, **you are responsible** for declaring costs linked to incoming secondments.
- Check the eligibility of seconded staff members.
- Retain evidence for potential audit.

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**RISE 2014 – success rate by Panel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluated proposals</th>
<th>Retain List Threshold</th>
<th>Reserve List Threshold</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Sciences</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Science and Engineering</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>75.6</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and Geosciences</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences and Humanities</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>75.2</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>42%</strong></td>
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## RISE 2015 – success rate by Panel

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Evaluated proposals</th>
<th>Retain List Threshold</th>
<th>Reserve List Threshold</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Sciences</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>75.2</td>
<td>17.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Science and Engineering</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>82.8</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and Geosciences</td>
<td>90.8</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>19.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>34.60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>84.6</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>88.6</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences and Humanities</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>25.23%</strong></td>
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RISE 2016 Call Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicative budget</th>
<th>€80M</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td>8 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call deadline</td>
<td><strong>28 APRIL 2016</strong> (17:00 Brussels time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of proposals</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation Outcome</td>
<td>August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signing of Grant Agreement</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Up to 5 months

3 months

1-stage submission

Feedback Report (ESR)

Participant Portal

RESEARCH & INNOVATION Funding

On this site you can find and access funding for research & innovation projects under the following EU programmes:
- Horizon 2020
- 6th Framework Programme
- 7th Framework Programme
- 1st Framework Programme

Non-registered users:
- search for funding
- read the funding guide & download the legal documents
- check if an organisation is already registered
- contact our support services or check our FAQ

Registered users:
- submit your proposal
- sign the grant
- manage your project throughout its lifecycle

WHAT'S NEW?
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
HOW TO PARTICIPATE
WORK AS AN EXPERT
MY PERSONAL ASSISTANT
INFORMATION AND SUPPORT
RISE FAQs

Are there restrictions with regard to the balance of secondments within a project under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)?

No. The important aspect is that the secondments are relevant for the execution of the proposed project. The quality of the interaction between the participating organisations will be assessed.

Under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE), are projects that have no international participation equally evaluated than others that have?

Yes. Proposals are evaluated solely on the basis of the pre-determined award criteria described in the MSCA-Work Programme and in the Annex Z of the Guide for Applicants related to...
Follow for new FAQ; updated version of the Guide for Applicants and other changes during the Call.

Call updates

- 08 December 2015 10:30 The submission session is now available for MSCA-RISE-2016/MSCA-RISE

Topics and submission service

To access the Submission Service, please select the topic of your interest and then open the Submission Service tab. To access existing draft proposals, please login to the portal and select My Proposals from the My Area menu.

Status: 
- Forthcoming
- Open
- Closed

Sort by: 
- (Planned) opening date
- Deadline
- Topic title
- Topic identifier

Topic: MSCA-RISE-2016: Research and Innovation Staff Exchange
Publication date: 14 October 2015
Types of actions: MSCA-RISE RISE
Deadline Model: single-stage
Opening date: 08 December 2015
Deadline: 28 April 2016 17:00:00

Submission Service

To access the Electronic Submission Service of the topic, please select the type of action that is most relevant to your proposal from the list below and click on the 'Start Submission' button. You will then be asked to confirm your choice of the type of action and topic, as these cannot be changed in the submission system. Upon confirmation you will be linked to the correct entry point.

To access existing draft proposals for this topic, please login to the Participant Portal and select the My Proposals page of the My Area section.

Type of Action: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) [MSCA-RISE]

Guidance on proposal submission: H2020 ONLINE MANUAL
IT Guidance: HOW TO

Get support

H2020 Online Manual: your online guide on the procedures from proposal submission to managing your grant.
Proposal submission

- Coordinator registers the draft proposal
  - PIC code
  - Draft acronym, draft summary, choice of panel

- Coordinator adds beneficiary organisations onto the proposal
  - PIC codes
  - Contacts

- Proposal is completed
  - Administrative forms ('Edit forms')
  - Part B ('Download template' and 'Upload')

- Proposal is submitted
  - Submission system checks ('Validate forms' and 'Print preview')
  - 'Submit' as many time as required until the deadline – **submit early and often!**
Proposal number: SEP-210341108
Proposal acronym: test
Deadline Id: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2016

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>General information (abstract, acronym, evaluation panel etc.)</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Participants &amp; contacts Coordinator is Participant 1</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Budget (number of person months per beneficiary)</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Call-specific questions Open Research Data Pilot</td>
<td>Show</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposal – Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Researcher unit cost [person/month] EURO</th>
<th>Institutional unit cost [person/month] EURO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff member unit cost</td>
<td>Research, training and networking costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Top-up allowance person/month</td>
<td>Management and overheads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Funding based fully on unit costs, multiplied by requested person months spent on secondments
- Automated calculation of budget when secondment months filled into application
- Institutional costs depend on implementation of secondments
- Institutional costs can be moved between beneficiaries and redistributed to partners (needs to be agreed in the Consortium Agreement)
- No detailed financial reporting but need to report on completed secondment months
- Institutional costs can be redistributed (at the implementation stage) between beneficiaries and redistributed to partners (needs to be agreed in the Consortium Agreement) – discuss the budget early!
Secondments ineligible for funding should not be included except those from TC not eligible for funding to MS/AC (e.g. China, USA). This will allow an assessment of these TC organisations' contribution to the implementation of the RISE project.

For each participant (beneficiaries and partners), the system will display an empty table of secondments. The Coordinator is requested to complete the table by indicating the outgoing secondments planned by each participant, noting the period and the destination.

Seconndments ineligible for funding should not be included except those from TC not eligible for funding to MS/AC (e.g. China, USA). This will allow an assessment of these TC organisations' contribution to the implementation of the RISE project.

Once the secondments plan of all participants is encoded (see previous slide), a summary table indicating the number of secondments allocated to each participant, the global number of secondments and the total budget requested for the project will be shown.
RISE Consortium Agreements

- Obligatory for RISE (new)
- No official templates, normally prepared by coordinator
  - **BAK template** for ITNs (could be adapted for RISE): [www.uni-giessen.de/bak/BAKAG_Recht_CA_Marie_CurieITN_based_on_DESCA_01062015.docx/view](http://www.uni-giessen.de/bak/BAKAG_Recht_CA_Marie_CurieITN_based_on_DESCA_01062015.docx/view)

REA is not party to this agreement and does not verify its content.

PART B – 2 documents in 2016
In drafting PART B of the proposal, applicants must follow the structure outlined below.

**DOCUMENT 1 (MAX 31 PAGES)**
START PAGE (1 page)

**START PAGE COUNT (MAX 30 PAGES SECTIONS 1-3)**

1. EXCELLENCE (starting page 2)
2. IMPACT
3. QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

**STOP PAGE COUNT (MAX 30 PAGES SECTIONS 1-3)**

**DOCUMENT 2 (NO OVERALL PAGE LIMIT APPLIED)**

4. REFERENCES
5. CAPACITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS
6. ETHICS ASPECTS
7. LETTERS OF COMMITMENT OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

END PAGE (1 page)

---

**Missing letters of commitment**

• The experts will be instructed to disregard the contribution of any partner organisations for which no such evidence of commitment is submitted.

• No possibility to submit the missing letter of commitment at a later stage.

• If the proposal is still retained for funding after the evaluation, the budget linked to the secondments of the TC organisation lacking the letter of commitment will be rejected and the total budget of the proposal will be reduced accordingly.

• No official templates, the Guide for Applicants states:

> “Each partner organisation established in a Third Country must include in the proposal an up-to-date letter of commitment, signed by its legal representative, to demonstrate their real and active participation in the proposed network. These letters should be included in Section 7 of the part B, which does not count towards the page limit. There is no official template for the letters of commitment.”
**Tips - Application**

- Register in Participant Portal / Submission Service
- Give access to the proposal to relevant people in and outside your organisation (Beneficiaries)
- Put yourself in the shoes of the evaluator
- Write clearly and concisely (plain English!)
- Stick to formatting rules (page limits, font, etc.)
- Present case clearly: use tables, diagrams, bullet points and summaries where appropriate
- Ask someone to read through your proposal
- Make sure final version is submitted!
RISE
Evaluation Process and Award Criteria

Become an evaluator!

News
H2020 call for expression of interest for experts (11/2013)
New calls for expression of interest for individual experts and for organisations to suggest experts were just published in CP 4342 of 22 November 2013. The European Commission will soon need experts to evaluate first Horizon 2020 proposals. Don’t forget to tick the H2020 box in the registration platform and update your expertise.

Quick Links

Experts
Join the database of independent experts for European research and innovation.
The European Commission appoints independent experts to assist with research and innovation assignments including the evaluation of proposals, monitoring of projects, and evaluation of programmes, and design of policy.

Who can be an expert?
You have a chance of being selected as an expert if you:
• have high-level of expertise in the relevant fields of research and innovation (see call for details on types of expertise).
• can be available for occasional, short-term assignments.

What do expert assignments involve?
Experts, as peer reviewers, assist in the:
• evaluation of proposals
• monitoring of actions
In addition, experts assist in the:
• preparation, implementation or evaluation of programmes and design of policies.

H2020 ONLINE MANUAL
Evaluation Process

1. Proposal Submission
   • Via Participant Portal
   • Admissibility/eligibility checks

2. Remote Evaluations
   • At least 3 evaluators
   • Individual reports produced

3. Consensus Meetings
   • Consensus reports produced
   • Agreement on comments/score

4. Ranked list of proposals
   • Lists by panel
   • Projects funded in priority order until budget is exhausted
   Max. 5 Months to Outcome, i.e. toward end of September 2016!

Key information

• Work Programme
  – Introduction
  – Call description (Objective, Scope, Expected impact)
  – Policy background, link to key documents

• Guide for Applicants (Evaluation section) and FAQ

• Previously funded RISE projects

• Evaluation Guidance; Evaluation Templates
RISE grant application process

- Applications on line through the ECAS Participant Portal
- Apply to specific discipline panel

### Evaluation Panels
- Chemistry (CHE)
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
- Economic Sciences (ECO)
- Information Science and Engineering (ENG)
- Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
- Life Sciences (LIF)
- Mathematics (MAT)
- Physics (PHY)

No predefined budget allocation among the panels. Budget distributed based on number of eligible proposals in each panel.

### RISE evaluation and scoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scored on a scale of 0-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority in case of ex aequo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall threshold of 70% applies to total score</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Proposals ranked within panels by overall score
- Proposals funded in ranking order – need to aim at a score of 86-90+! Depending on the panel…
- Evaluation summary reports provided
- No restrictions on re-application
## Score Descriptors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fair. Proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Good. Proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Very Good. Proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Excellent. Proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Application form reflects evaluation criteria
- Each criterion scored between 0 and 5
- Decimal points can be awarded

## RISE evaluation criteria

**Excellence**

- Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research, including inter/multidisciplinary aspects
- Clarity and quality of knowledge sharing among the participants in light of the research and innovation objectives
- Quality of the interaction between the participating organisations

It is vital to elaborate on each and every point of the evaluation criteria
Quality of the research

- Quality, novelty and credibility of the research, including inter/multidisciplinary and gender aspects
- Clear, focused research objectives (translated into specific work packages)
- Write in a way that is clear for the evaluators reading it
- Evaluators may not be exact, specific experts in your areas
- Evaluators may not be familiar with country specific arrangements
- Fit for the scope of the call – why is MSCA funding necessary; the need for consortium to work together
- Think about the benefit to Europe of having a RISE in this area
- Up-to-date state of the art (+ literature references in Section 4)
- Risk analysis provided
- Highlight all inter- and multidisciplinary aspects
- Do not underestimate gender aspects

Table B1: Work Package (WP) List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Package No</th>
<th>Work Package Title</th>
<th>Activity Type (e.g. Research, Training, Management, Communication, Dissemination...)</th>
<th>Number of person-months involved</th>
<th>Start Month</th>
<th>End Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Quality of knowledge-sharing

- Clarity and quality of knowledge sharing among the participants in light of the research and innovation objectives
- Explain methodology and approach (highlight any novelties e.g. social media data sharing)
- Secondments (+ conferences, workshops, etc.) are the tool – explain how the staff will transfer knowledge to host organisation and back to sending institution
- Knowledge-sharing objectives – clear link to research objectives and impact
- Clear methodology (use of diagrams)
Quality of interaction

• Quality of the interaction in terms of content and expertise provided

  • Role and contribution of each participant in the project (in secondments, research, network activities);
  • Highlight particular expertise, geographical location, existing links or collaborations

  • Describe and justification of the networking activities (contribution from all participants + link to knowledge-sharing)

  • Opportunity for researchers/staff to be involved in a number of linked activities at different partners

  • Highlight the complementarity of participants (academic / non-academic)

Excellence: positive feedback

- Innovation and credibility are convincingly presented and are supported by a very detailed presentation of the state of art relevant to the project goals
- The project is very challenging and innovative, as well as genuinely inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary
- Scientific objects are clearly described and detailed
- The approach of knowledge transfer to the seconded researchers is very precisely described in terms of the type of knowledge to be transferred, knowledge providers and beneficiaries, and includes all sectors
- The quality of the interactions between the participating organisations is convincing. The main expertise of the involved partners clearly demonstrates complementarity and synergies. The participants have more than adequate capacity to achieve the goals of the project
- Well-planned strategy for secondments providing for effective knowledge transfer
- The proposal is ambitious has clearly described objectives and innovation potential. It also aims at excellence in its trans-disciplinary approach to research, transfer and dissemination. It is an interesting and cross-disciplinary project that offers a complete solution: research development and experimentation and then a lot of effort on dissemination.
Excellence: negative feedback

- The scientific quality and the objectives of the project with regards to the innovation are not adequately formulated against the state of the art
- Specific objectives are not sufficiently focused. There is a lack of quantification in terms of targeted performances for the different systems to be developed
- The research programme lacks a detailed list of work packages, timetable and particular involvement of each partner is not specifically included
- The field of investigation of the proposal is not clear enough
- The methodologies proposed within such a diverse partnership are not sufficiently detailed
- The participants’ interactions are not properly presented in terms of content and contribution to the project’s objectives
- The project research methodology is not properly developed and lacks details as regards risk assessment, milestones and outcome
- Secondments are only indicated in terms of person/month within a table, but are not described in detail and no additional explanations are given

RISE evaluation criteria

- Impact
  - Enhancing the potential and future career perspectives of the staff members
  - Developing 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
  - Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results
  - Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences
Impact – Human Resources

• Impact on R&I related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and provide new career perspectives
• Describe impact on involved staff’s (transferable and research skills enhanced, intersectoral/international experience gained)
• Relate to EU documents on HR policy in research (see links at the end of the presentation)
• If applicable, mention HR Excellence in Research logo and compliance with HR Strategy for Researchers

Impact – collaborations and EU innovation potential

• 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
• Describe plans for building the co-operation and sustaining it after the end of the project (link to the EU International Co-operation policy)
• Explain innovation capacity – contribution of your research to R&D in EU and globally (link to Innovation Union, research roadmaps)
• Check H2020 Work Programme in your area – make links to EU priorities where possible
Impact – Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication

- Effectiveness of proposed measures for communication and dissemination of results
- Don’t underestimate this section – read the EC guidelines and think outside the box
- Develop a detailed dissemination strategy – involve all partners, target audiences outside research community (i.e. policy makers, general public, industry) and adjust your measures to reach them
- Explain the impact of your activities during and after the project
- Consider IP issues, explain exploitation strategy
- Relate to EC documents (public engagement) and link with existing initiatives (e.g. the European Researchers Night, UK events)

Dissemination of results - Open Access

Obligation to provide open access when publishing

Open Access to Research Data Pilot for some areas mandatory, otherwise opt-in.

Source: European Commission
Useful resources

www.openaire.eu

Impact: positive feedback

- The project addresses the expected impacts of the call very well. The tools to achieve this, instruments and the measures are clearly outlined and well described.
- The training programme enhances knowledge transfer and skills, boosts the academic prospects of the researchers and, working in close collaboration with industrial partners, the career perspectives. Both the ERs and ESRs will benefit from the exchange programme.
- The knowledge transfer will have positive implications at European and at global level and is clearly described.
- The proposal will contribute positively to develop long-lasting research collaborations between EU and TC building on already existing links. The participation of the industrial partners will result in close academia-industry collaborations and commercially-driven project ideas.
- Intellectual property rights aspects and exploitation of results are clearly articulated.
- Dissemination strategy is accurately designed and has appropriate targets; tools are adequate and of excellent quality.
Impact: negative feedback

- The expected additional research skills to be developed within academics are not well demonstrated, and this fact limits the perspectives for the career development of the researchers.
- The description of the working conditions is not sufficiently elaborated; the proposal does not particularly demonstrate how the working conditions will improve the performance of the researchers.
- Contributions to the improvement of the innovation potential at the global level have not been presented in sufficient detail.
- The measures for disseminating the results have been presented only in general terms.
- The proposed communication and dissemination measures are mainly based on conferences and papers and their objectives are not sufficiently described with reference to the project activities.
- The potential for innovation claimed in the field of clinical pharmacy is not properly sustained and, therefore, the contribution of this proposal to the potential of European research and worldwide research is narrow.
- Possible commercial impact, in particular through SME, not addressed.

RISE Evaluation Criteria

- Implementation
  - Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.
  - Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures including quality management and risk management.
  - Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure).
  - Competences, experience and complementarity of participating organisations and institutional commitment.
  - Gender aspects in the planning activities.
Work Plan and Management

- Provide a detailed work plan (who, what, how)
- Divide the project into coherent Work Packages, define clear and specific milestones and deliverables; not only for research WPs, but also for Management, Dissemination and Communication, Transfer of Knowledge WPs
- Use Gantt chart, organisational schemes, etc.
- Describe a sound management plan (consortium agreement, monitoring processes, financial management, risk monitoring, IPR management)
- Describe management team capacity

Complementarity & Genuine Involvement

- Highlight complementarity of skills and expertise in the consortium
- Consider financial implications of participation of partners from TC not automatically eligible for EU funding
- Demonstrate institutional commitment (return mechanism built-in after exchanges; knowledge-sharing)
- Provide good customised and detailed Letters of Commitment from Partner Organisations (expertise, responsibilities in the project, self-financing if necessary)
Gender Aspects

• Don’t underestimate gender aspects (gender experts in all Evaluation Panels) now explicit evaluation criteria!
• Relate to EU policies on Gender Equality – cross-cutting priority in Horizon 2020
• Equal opportunities (among seconded staff and decision-makers/supervisors)
• Gender dimension in the research content (e.g. subjects or end-users)
• Gender dimension in project management and networking activities

Gender Aspects - Links

• Gendered Innovation, Stanford University project: https://genderedinnovations.stanford.edu/
  - practical tools for researchers: methods to be used in a research project; case studies; checklist

• H2020 Gender Advisory Group paper on preparing grants that integrate the gender dimension into research.
  http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetailDoc&id=18892&no=1
Implementation: **positive feedback**

- The work plan and the activities proposed to reach the project objectives are well conceived and convincing
- The coordinator has a relevant experience in managing large and complex international projects
- The partners have specific expertise and highly qualified personnel necessary to carry out the specific task of the proposal. The mix of skill and expertise between the organizations is excellent and covers all relevant aspects of the project
- The key scientific staff involved are experienced and have an appropriate level of involvement
- The credibility, feasibility and gender aspects are well-provided in the proposal
- The infrastructural facilities are first class and fully adequate for the needs of the project
- Gender aspects in the planning of the activities are duly considered
- IP generated under this project will be carefully managed and the strategy takes carefully into account development perspectives of the industrial partner

Implementation: **negative comments**

- The project work plan proposed is not sufficiently detailed: deliverables are not appropriately measurable; the secondments and partners allocated to each task are not properly described; with interconnections between the work packages missing, and limited detail regarding the scheduling of tasks
- Although the work plan is well depicted, the R&D related work packages look overambitious and not well focused
- The complementarity of the participating organizations is not adequately discussed. The overall project offers a scheme characterized by a strong prevalence of one partner without a clear demonstration of the coordination with other partners
- The risk management and contingency plans are outlined only briefly and are insufficiently specified for a project of this size
- Secondments are not sufficiently specified or balanced between participants
- IPR aspects are unclear
Other key considerations

• Operational capacity of the organisations
  - Use well tables in Section 5 of Part B
  - Profile of key staff, description of key infrastructure or technical equipment, all partner organisations contributing towards the proposed work (special attention to SMEs)

• Ethics Issues
  - Self-assessment in Part A and strategy in Section 6 of Part B
  - Outside the 30-page limit – provide detailed strategy
  - Crucial for all research domains → need to identify any potential ethical issues and describe they will be addressed
  - All proposals considered for funding subject to Ethics Review
  - Read the Ethics Self-Assessment Guidelines


Responsible Research and Innovation

“Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions endorse the Horizon 2020 Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) cross-cutting issue, engaging society, integrating the gender and ethical dimensions, ensuring the access to research outcomes and encouraging formal and informal science education. All applicants to the MSCA calls are encouraged to adopt an RRI approach into their proposals.”

Rome Declaration on Responsible Research and Innovation in Europe, November 2014

Report from the Expert Group on Policy Indicators for Responsible Research and Innovation

Open Science: https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/open-science
Horizon 2020 IPR

- For further information see: www.iprhelpdesk.eu
  - Horizon 2020 IPR Helpdesk (advice, events, articles, webinars)

IPR Helpdesk – IP in MSCA Factsheet:

Final tips & support
Final tips – preparation

• Set aside enough time
• Clarify your own goals for participation
• Read all Call documentation (i.e. Guide for Applicants and Work Programme) - also consider relevant EU policy documents
• Fully appreciate the evaluation criteria; think IMPACT!
• Help evaluators (success is in detail)
• Discuss with and meet potential partners (aim high; you need the best possible experts)
• Use appropriate partnership (including balance of budget and activities)
• Research previous and current projects
• Work with your institution!

Useful Links

• UKRO Subscriber factsheet on MSCA
  https://www.ukro.ac.uk/subscriber/Factsheets/factsheet_msca.pdf

• Commission’s MSCA websites
  ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions and

• UK NCP Helpdesk
  Email: mariecurie-uk@bbsrc.ac.uk
  Phone: + 32 2 230 0318
  Website: www.ukro.ac.uk/mariecurie
Thank You

Good Luck!