



European
Commission



Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions

Doctoral Networks & Staff Exchanges

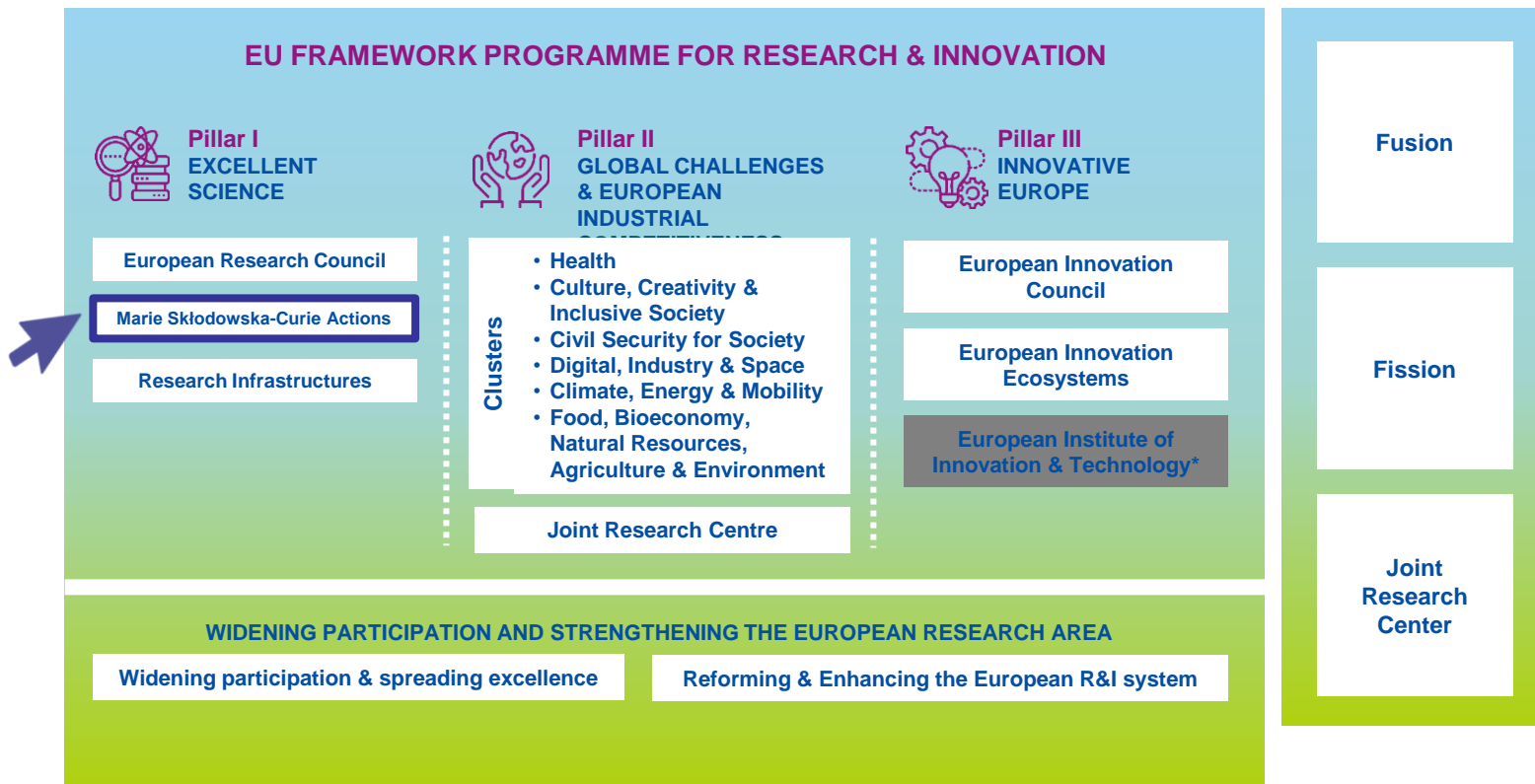
EMOS Seminar, 24 May 2024

Dora CZIFRA & Sohail LUKA

European Commission
Directorate-General for Education,
Youth, Sport and Culture
Unit C2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions

Horizon Europe

EURATOM



2021-
2027

Budget: EUR 95.5 billion

Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

European Research Council

Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams

€16 billion

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions

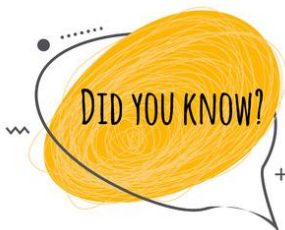
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training

€6.6 billion

Research Infrastructures

Integrated and inter-connected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion



17 Nobel Prize winners either backed by or involved in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions between 2012 and 2023



Introduction to MSCA: key features



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

The Actions

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral
programmes in and
outside academia

Postdoctoral Fellowships

*Support to excellent
postdoctoral
researchers*

Staff Exchanges

*Support for research
and innovation staff
exchanges*

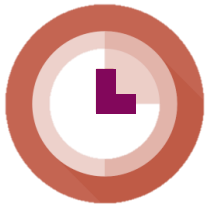
COFUND

*Co-funding doctoral
and postdoctoral
programmes*

MSCA and Citizens

*Public outreach
events (Night)*

MSCA Doctoral Networks



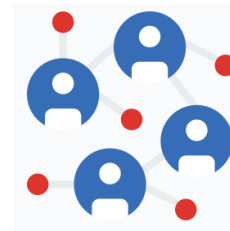
DURATION

Max 4 years
(max 5 years for Joint
Doctorates only)



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in
3 different EU MS or
HE AC (at least 1 MS)



FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36
months
(up to 48 months for Joint
Doctorates only)



BUDGET

540 PM



Next call: 29 May 2024 – 27 Nov 2024 ; 608,6 M€

Doctoral Networks Modalities

Doctoral Networks (Standard): A consortium of at least 3 entities offering innovative doctoral training in academia and/or non-academia.

Industrial Doctorates: Doctoral candidates step outside academia to develop skills in industry and business by being jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic organisations.

Joint Doctorates: Highly integrated doctoral training leading to joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees and with the candidate selection and supervision jointly done by the degree-awarding institutions.

Features

Size:

- Up to 540 person-month

Duration:

- **Programme:** Max 48 months (60 for JD)
- **Fellowship:** Between 3 and 36 months (48 for JD)
- **Secondments:** Up to 1/3 of fellowship duration for standard DN and with no upper limit for Industrial and Joint doctorates
- **Industrial Doctorate:** Minimum 50% of the fellowship duration spent at the non-academic sector

Eligible *Participants*

Who Applies?

- **Consortia** of universities, research institutions, businesses including SMEs and other non-academic actors like NGOs, Charities, Hospitals, government institutions, etc.
- At least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum of 1 beneficiary from a MS (on top of this minimum, any entity from any third country can join; no minimum for associated partners).
- Average DN consortium size: 8-10 partners.

Eligible *Researchers*

- Supported researchers must be **doctoral candidates**
- Researchers must be **enrolled in a doctoral programme**, in at least 1 EU Member State/Associated Country
- For Industrial Doctorates, candidate must spend **minimum 50%** of fellowship at **non-academic partner**
- Any nationality
- **Mobility rule**: must not have resided or carried out main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date

Beneficiaries and associated partners

	Beneficiaries	Associated Partners
Academic/Non-academic	✓	✓
Signatories of the Grant Agreement	✓	✗
Recruitment of researchers	✓	✗
Training and/or hosting of seconded researchers	✓	✓
Participation in Supervisory Board	✓	✓
Directly claim costs	✓	✗

DNs Strategic Value (1): **Structuring Effects**

- MSCA DN does not simply fund the fellowships; it **funds networks/doctoral programmes.**
- Powerful element in structuring the EHEA and the ERA.
- Structuring effects for universities; deep collaboration culture and administrative infrastructure becoming part of the DNA of Higher Education Institutions.

DNs Strategic Value (2): **Being a trend setter**

- Training on **transferable skills** (communication, science-policy interface, IPR...) at individual and network levels
- Career development plan
- New guidelines on supervision
- Green Charter (also for other MSCAs)
- Bridging Academic and Non-Academic: Industrial Doctorate; Inter-Sectoral Secondments.
- Bringing science to the Public (including children)

DNs Strategic Value (3): **Attractiveness of European programmes**

- Attractive for doctoral candidates, universities and employers.
- Access to wider portfolio of courses, expertise and infrastructure for **doctoral candidates**.
- As well as skills relevant for **innovation and long-term employability**
- **Formal acknowledgement** of international and interdisciplinary experiences providing more attractiveness to **employers**.
- Contribute to **internationalisation**, attractiveness international visibility of European doctoral programmes

The Actions

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral programmes in and outside academia

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges

Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

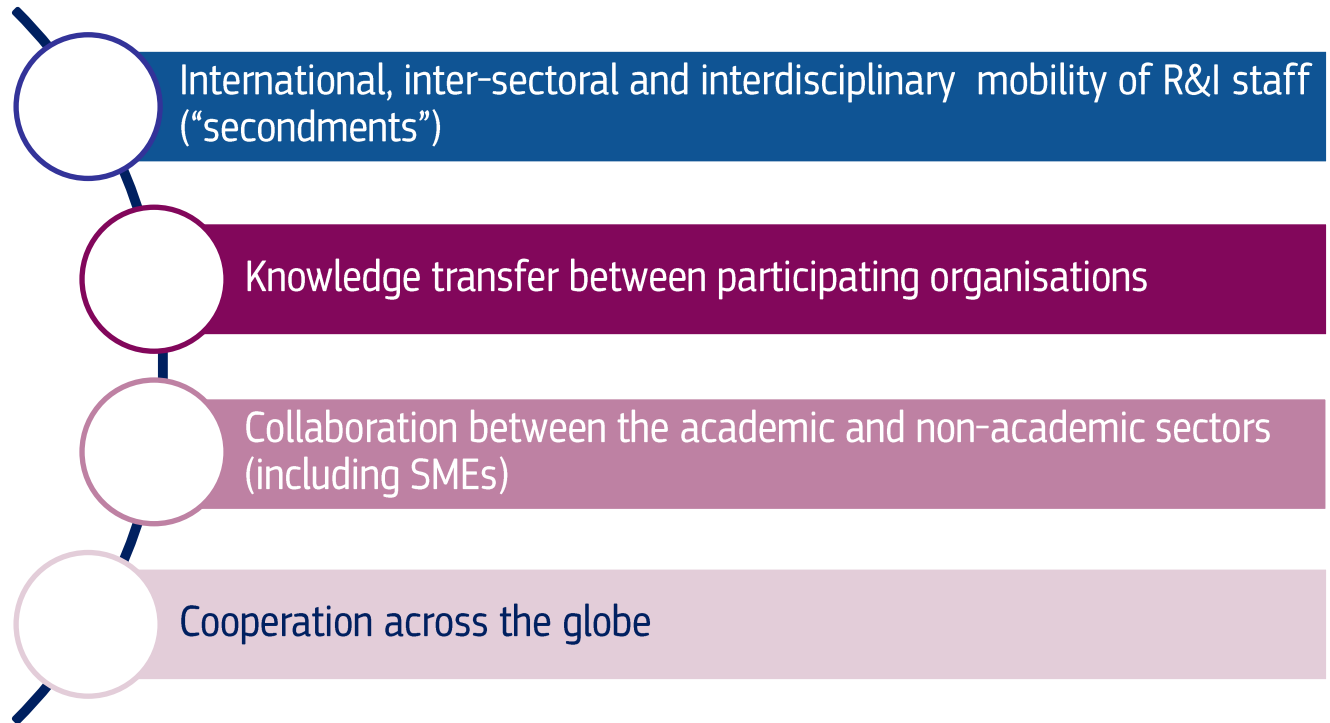
COFUND

Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

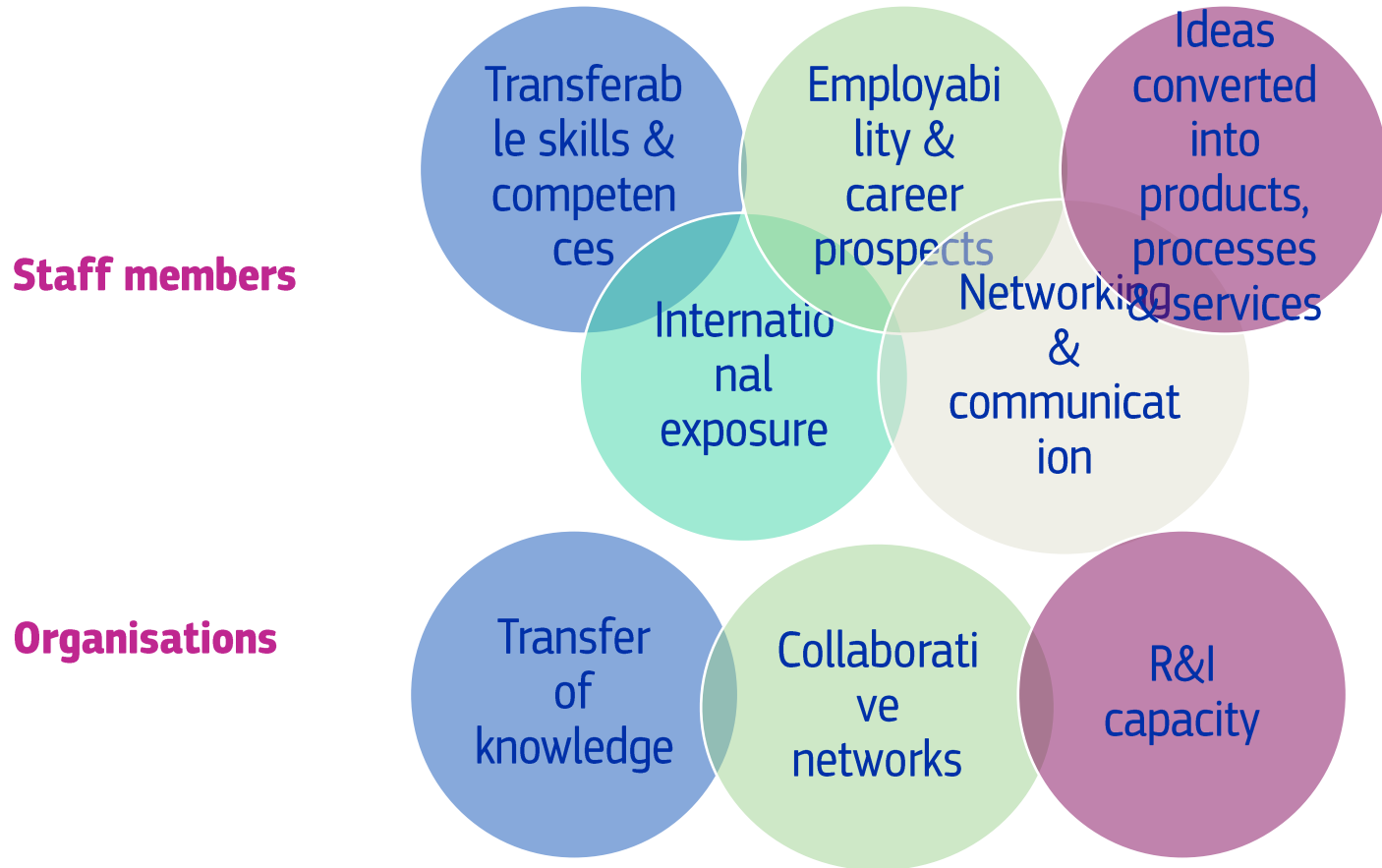
MSCA and Citizens

Public outreach events (Night)

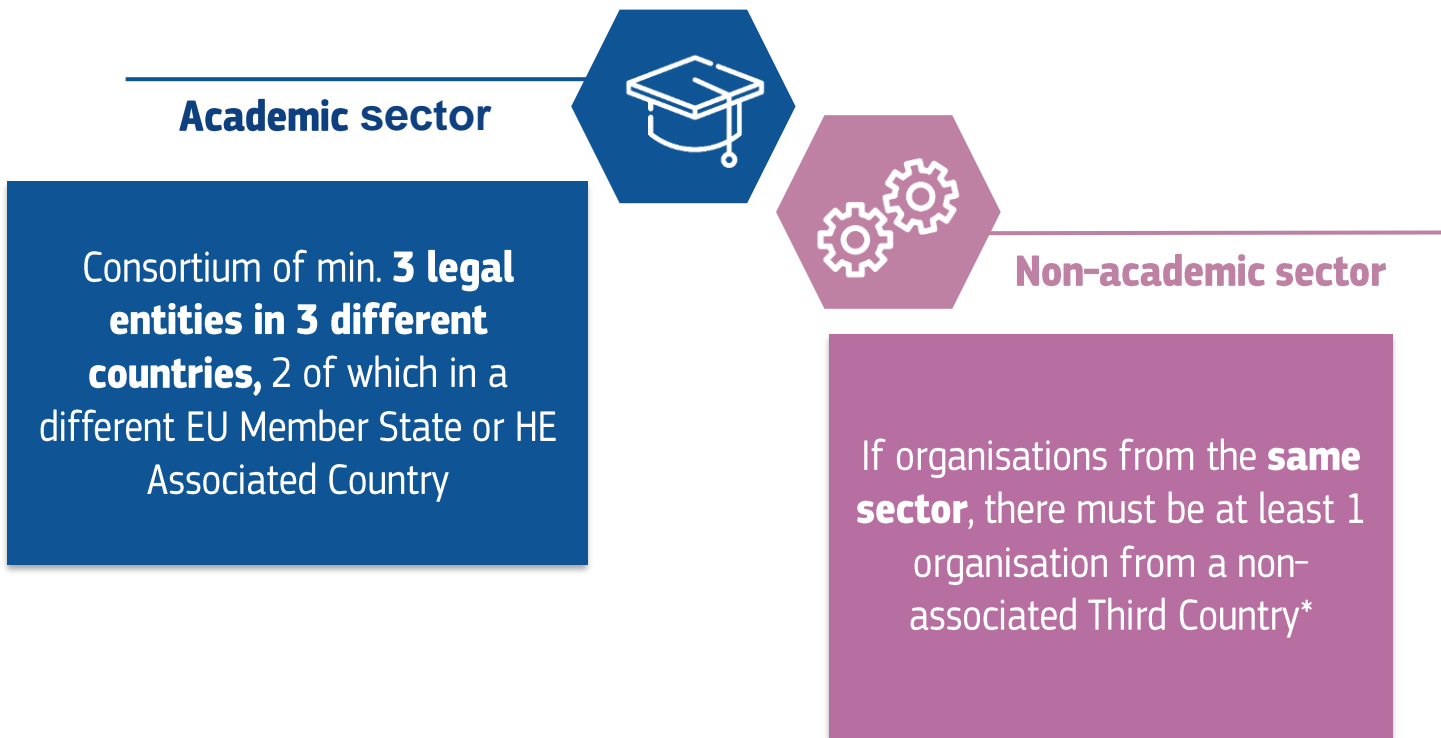
Objectives



Added value



Eligible participants



* Secondments within different European Union Member States (EU MS) or Horizon Europe Associated Countries (HE AC) must be between different sectors (between academic and non-academic), except for interdisciplinary secondments, which must be limited to a maximum of 1/3 of the total implemented months.

Eligible staff



Seconded staff members



Any type of staff involved in R&I activities (researchers, administrative staff, managerial staff, technical staff)

Each staff member is seconded for a period of **1 to 12 months** (may be split into several stays *)

Researchers at any career stage (from doctoral candidates to postdoctoral researchers)

Staff needs to be devoted **full-time** to the action during the secondment

Actively engaged in research and/or innovation activities for at least **1 month** prior at the sending institution

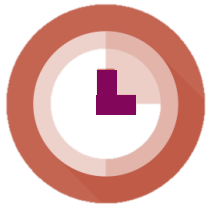
After the secondment, staff should **return to their sending organisation**

* With one or several beneficiaries or associated partners.

EU contribution



MSCA Staff Exchanges



DURATION

4 years



COMPOSITION

Min 3
organisations in 3
≠ countries (min.
2 EU MS or HE
AC)



SECONDMENTS

1-12 months per
staff



BUDGET

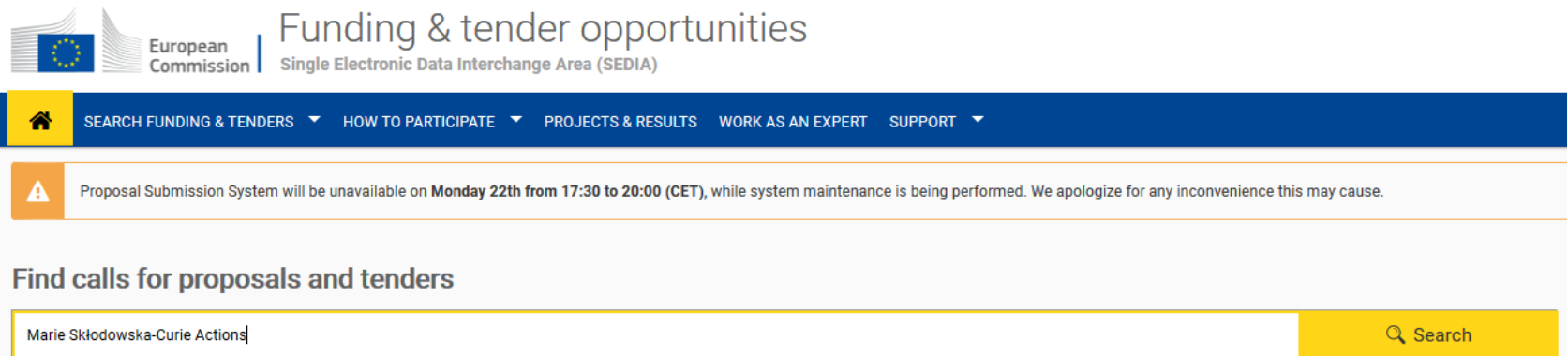
Max EUR 1.6
million (360 PM
per project)



Next call: 19 September 2024 – 25 February 2025

Funding opportunities

- All calls are published on the **Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal**
- Applications are submitted through the portal:
 - Find your call
 - Sign in to the portal and register your organisation (get a PIC number)
 - Find partners
 - Apply



European Commission | Funding & tender opportunities
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▾ HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▾ PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT ▾

⚠ Proposal Submission System will be unavailable on **Monday 22th from 17:30 to 20:00 (CET)**, while system maintenance is being performed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Find calls for proposals and tenders

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Are you a researcher looking for a host organisation? Or an organisation looking for partners?

- [EURAXESS Job Portal](#) (vacancies under Doctoral Networks, COFUND and Postdoctoral Fellowships)
- [Partner search](#) tool on the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal
- [Enterprise Europe Network](#) (for [non-academic partners](#))
- [MSCA Matchmaking platform](#) for researchers and organisations to find relevant partners and host institutions (by MSCA-Net)
- Contact your MSCA National Contact Point

Key resources and guidance

Guide for Applicants

MSCA Work Programme & annexes

Proposal templates

Model Grant Agreement

Online manual on how to submit an application

Frequently Asked Questions

[Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal](#)

CLICK HERE



Other useful links

- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website**
https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en
- **Factsheet, Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, 2021-2027**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/128028>
- **Funding and Tenders Portal (applications, documents, partner search)**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon>
- **Horizon Europe MSCA Work Programme 2023-2024**
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2023-2024/wp-2-msca-actions_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf
- **European Charter and Code for Researchers**
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter-code-researchers>
- **MSCA Guidelines on Supervision**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
- **MSCA Green Charter**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>
- **Horizon Dashboard**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-dashboard>
- **Become an Expert**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>
- **Contact:** EAC-UNITE-C2@ec.europa.eu



@MSCActions



@Marie.Curie.Actions



Thank you!

**# HorizonEU #MSCA
@MSCActions**

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