The MSCA 2022 Doctoral Network

Information for proposal preparation
as coordinator or beneficiary

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The 2022 call

- 2021 & 2022 call identical
- Different types of funding possibilities
  - **Doctoral Networks**
  - Post Doctoral Fellowships
  - Staff exchange
  - Cofund

The 2022 call

- Doctoral Networks
  - collaboration of multiple organisations for research and training of PhD students (Doctoral candidates)
  - recruit max 10 MSCA doctoral students@ 36 person months (PM) per student
  - deadline 15 November 2022

Doctoral networks

- Objective: implement **doctoral programmes by partnerships of organisations from different sectors** across Europe and beyond to train highly skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their **creativity**, enhance their **innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term**.
- Scope: implement doctoral programmes by partnerships of **universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses incl. SMEs**.
- Selection procedure: open, transparent, merit-based, in line with code of conduct
- DN should develop **substantial training modules**, incl. digital ones, addressing key transferable skills and fostering the culture of open **science, innovation and entrepreneurship.**
- Particular attention is paid to **quality of supervision,** mentoring arrangements and career guidance.

Expected Outcome

- Expected outcome for students
  - **New research and transferable skills and competences**, leading to improved employability and **career prospects within and outside academia**;
  - New **knowledge** allowing the **conversion of ideas into products and services**, where relevant;
  - **Enhanced networking and communication** capacities with scientific peers, as well as with the general public that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact.
- Expected outcome for participants
  - **Improved** quality, relevance and sustainability of **doctoral training programmes** and supervision arrangements;
  - **Enhanced cooperation and transfer of knowledge** between sectors and disciplines;
  - Increased integration of **training and research activities between participating organisations**;
  - Boosted **R&I capacity**;
  - Increased **internationalisation** and attractiveness;

Types of DN

- **Standard Doctorate** (former ETN): at least three independent legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and with at least one of them established in an EU Member State. Max. 360 pm.
- **Industrial Doctorates:** They train PhD candidates who wish develop their skills and step outside academia, in particular in industry and business. Individual participants must be enrolled in a doctoral programme and **jointly supervised by the academic and non-academic partners**. ESR must spend at least 50% of time outside academia. 360 + 180pm.
- **Joint Doctorates:** They provide a highly integrated type of international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary **collaboration in doctoral training leading to a joint doctoral degree** or multiple doctoral degrees awarded by the participating institutions. At least three independent legal entities must be entitled to award doctoral degrees. PhD candidates must be enrolled in a joint programme and be jointly supervised. 360+180 pm. Confirmed that CERN can be beneficiary to JD network with prior arrangement of a joint doctoral degree from two universities.

Doctoral network in numbers

For detailed conditions see workplan page 75ff

- Duration: up to 48 months
- Contract: 3-36 months

See Ingrid's talk in backup slides with HR details on recruitment and eligibility

- Secondments: max 30% of the contract - we typically use e.g. 2x2mo
- Standard Doctorates: max. 360pm; for Joint or Industrial doctorates: 360+180=540 pm.
- Living allowance: EUR 3400
- Mobility allowance: EUR 600
- Family allowance: EUR 660

See Florence's/Laura's talk in backup slide on financial structure and budget construction

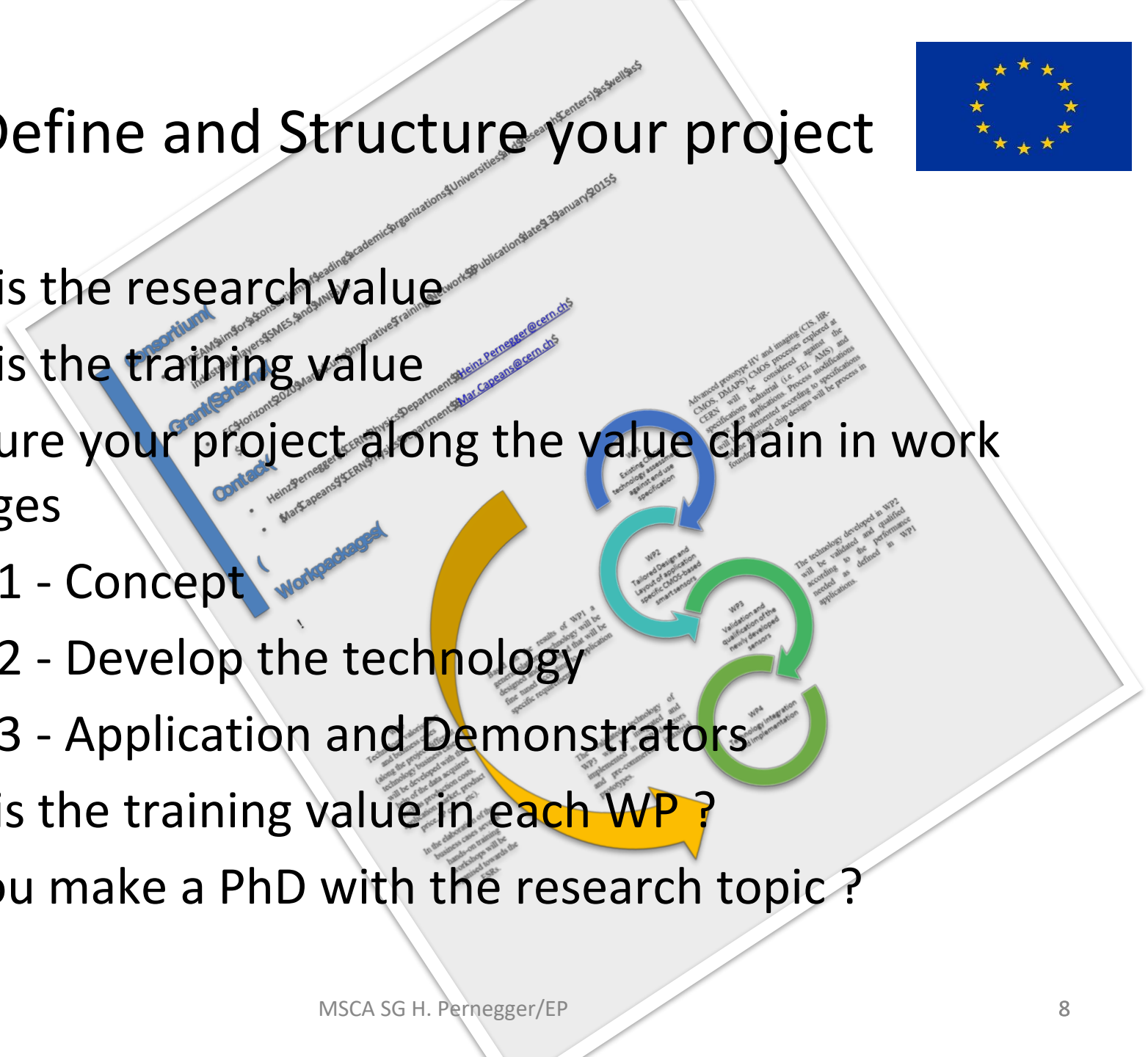
- RTN: EUR 1600 - common to allocate part for common network expenses
- Mgt and indirect costs: EUR 1200
- Long term leave allowance paid (maternity, paternity, sick leave)

Define and Structure your project

- What is the research value
- What is the training value
- Structure your project along the value chain in work packages
  - WP1 - Concept
  - WP2 - Develop the technology
  - WP3 - Application and Demonstrators

– What is the training value in each WP ?

– Can you make a PhD with the research topic ?



Build the consortium

- As coordinator you need to **choose the members of the consortium** ("Beneficiaries" and "Partner" organisations
- **What does the specific beneficiary bring to the network?**
  - is it a world leader in this technology?
  - Does it have unique infrastructure?
  - Is it renown for its excellent PhD?
  - Does it have special training opportunities?
- **What does the specific beneficiary expect from the network as return?**
  - will receive resources - how does it plan to use them ?
  - explore a new technology ?
  - startup a new R&D line or strength its position ?
  - interested in the international network ?

Links to documentation

- Most extensive: MSCA 2021/2022 work programme MSCA doctoral network proposals
  - amendment for Ukraine
  - MSCA part of the Work Programme
- Most important documentation is primarily available through Participant Portal
- MSCA DN specific instructions HE MSCA DN Guide for Applicants
  - Guide for applications (pdf with instructions)
  - Template for proposal (pdf with proposal sections)
  - Evaluation form used by evaluators
- CERN's registration for EU proposal on EDH
  - to be filled and approved before submission

Conditions (EC web page)

General conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in Annex A and Annex E of the Horizon Europe Work Programme General Annexes.

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System.

2. Eligible countries: described in Annex B of the Work Programme General Annexes. See exceptions and specific conditions in the MSCA part of the Work Programme

A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the Horizon Europe Programme Guide.

3. Other eligibility conditions: described in the MSCA part of the Work Programme.

4. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion: described in Annex C of the Work Programme General Annexes.

5. Evaluation and award:

- **Award criteria, scoring and thresholds** are described in the MSCA part of the Work Programme.
- **Submission and evaluation processes** are described in Annex F of the Work Programme General Annexes and the Online Manual. Specific MSCA evaluation process is described on the MSCA section of the REA website.
- **Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement:** described in Annex F of the Work Programme General Annexes.

6. Legal and financial set-up of the grants: described in Annex G of the Work Programme General Annexes. See exceptions and specific conditions in the MSCA part of the Work Programme.

Additional documentation (EC web page)

Additional documents:

HE Main Work Programme 2021–2022 – 1. General Introduction

HE Main Work Programme 2021–2022 – 2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

HE Main Work Programme 2021–2022 – 13. General Annexes

HE Programme Guide

HE Framework Programme and Rules for Participation Regulation 2021/695

HE Specific Programme Decision 2021/764

EU Financial Regulation

Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment

EU Grants AGA — Annotated Model Grant Agreement

Funding & Tenders Portal Online Manual

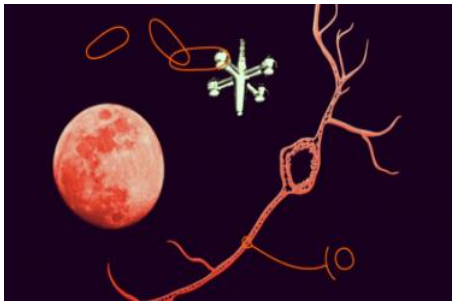
Funding & Tenders Portal Terms and Conditions

Funding & Tenders Portal Privacy Statement

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

DOCTORAL NETWORKS RECRUITMENT and ELIGIBILITY



Ingrid Haug – HR-PXE, 19.05.2022

Recruitment - Framework

- Open, efficient, transparent, supportive, internationally comparable, merit oriented and tailored to the type of position advertised, in line with the Charter & Code.
- Ensure that no conflict of interest exists.
- Recommendation to use a common recruitment platform for receiving applications + common recruitment practice.
- Advertising: international, all beneficiaries are to source as widely as possible. Publication on EURAXESS required by EC.
- Researchers of any nationality can be recruited.
- Encourage females applicants.
- Every beneficiary to verify with their own local eligibility and requirements.
- Recruitment strategy:
  - Implement what is described in the proposal.
  - Recommendation to have a Management Office responsible for the recruitment procedure and selection process in direct consultation with all involved network beneficiaries.

Recruitment – Researcher Eligibility

- Early Stage Researcher definition

  - at the date of recruitment*, must be in possession of degree giving access to PhD studies (=MSc)

  - the researcher must not have been awarded a doctoral degree => Advice: check diploma of selected candidate

  - must be in the first 4 years (full-time equivalent experience) of their research careers

- Mobility rule: The researcher must not have resided or carried out their normal activities in the country (or international organisation) in which the beneficiary is based for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to appointment

* DOR = First day of employment for the purpose of the action

For the EU the eligibility is key so this has to be carefully checked. Indeed costs will be rejected in case a candidate does not comply with the required eligibility.

RECRUITMENT - CONTRACT

- EC requires all ESRs to receive an employment contract
- Therefore '*Doctoral Student Contract*' not possible as this is 'contract of Association'.
- Consequently a Fellowship contract under the new Graduate Programme is awarded
- Note : The Marie-Curie Fellowship is considered as CERN fellowship. No further fellow contract can be awarded since a Fellowship is a one in a lifetime possibility.

AFTER RECRUITMENT

- Recruitment Summary for every ESR to be written by hosting beneficiary (template is provided)
- ESR must work on an individual research project and exclusively (100%) for the action
- Employment contract for ESR: 36 months for all ESR, Full time employment (part-time only for family reasons), incl. health and pension cover. The contract must incl. provision from GA Art. 32.1 (f)
- Supervision and integration:
  - ❑Career Development Plan: Identify research aims and training needs
  - ❑Regular contacts, review progress, guide
- In case of issues with ESR: every beneficiary needs to implement their own admin. procedure

*This employment contract is offered in the context of the implementation of the **LISA** project in compliance with the Grant Agreement number **861198** concluded between the Research Executive Agency and CERN. The supervision will be ensured by **Bruce MARSH**. The following specifications according to **article 32.1 (f)** of the Grant Agreement apply:*

- *The obligation of the researcher to work exclusively on the action.*
- *The obligation of the researcher not to receive for activities carried out in the frame of the action, other incomes than those received from the beneficiary.*
- *The obligation of the researcher to inform the beneficiary as soon as possible of any events or circumstances likely to affect the Agreement.*
- *The arrangements related to the intellectual property rights between the beneficiary and the researcher — during implementation of the action and afterwards.*
- *The obligation of the researcher to maintain confidentiality.*
- *The obligation of the researcher to ensure the visibility of EU funding in communications or publications and in applications for the protection of results.*

MSCA Steering group - Financial information

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Projects
under Horizon Europe

Doctoral Network

- Doctoral Networks call schedule:15/11/2022

EU Contribution

MSCA Doctoral Networks	Contributions for recruited researchers per person-month					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
	Living allowance	**Mobility allowance**	**Family allowance** (if applicable)	**Long-term leave allowance** (if applicable)	**Special needs allowance** (if applicable)	**Research, training and networking contribution**	**Management and indirect contribution**
	EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit[76] x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

Doctoral Network

EU contribution in CHF
(including coefficient and e/r)

ACTIONS	WP	Coeffi cient	Monthly living allowance	Monthly mobility allowance	Family allowance	Max. EU contribution / Month	Exc. Rate	Max. EU contribution CHF	24Months. EU contribution CHF
DN (ex ITN)	2021-2022	1,286	3400	600	495	5467,4	1,0000	CHF 5.467,40	CHF 131.217,60

Family allowance: average based on EU costs (660*75%) = CHF 495

Doctoral Network

CERN Contribution

ACTIONS	CERN Carreer path		CERN Standard costs	% EU contribution vs standard costs	% CERN contributio n vs EU	CERN Standard costs 24 Months	CERN contribution 24 Months	CERN contribution 12 Months
DN (ex ITN)	Zh.e0	Early career graduate/ ORIGIN	CHF 5.833,00	93,73%	6,27%	CHF 139.992,00	CHF 8.774,40	CHF 4.387,20

https://fap-dep.web.cern.ch/ef/marie-sklodowska-curie-projects-under-horizon-europe

Rates according to WP

MSCA Doctoral Networks	Contributions for recruited researchers per person-month Minimum Gross salary of the ESR					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
	Living allowance 1*	Mobility allowance 2	Family allowance (if applicable) 3	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution 4	Management and indirect contribution 5
	EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit[76] x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

* *A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers. This coefficient is the one applicable to the country of the recruiting beneficiary*

mobility allowance. This allowance covers their additional, private mobility-related costs (e.g. travel and accommodation costs), not their

Costs Category 1,2,3

MSCA Doctoral Networks	Contributions for recruited researchers per person-month Minimum Gross salary of the ESR				
	Living allowance **1***	**Mobility allowance** **2**	**Family allowance** (if applicable) **3**	**Long-term leave allowance** (if applicable)	**Special needs allowance** (if applicable)
	EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit[76] x (1/number of months)

1. The living allowance is the minimum gross amount, including compulsory deductions under national law, such as employer and employee social security contributions and direct taxes.

2. The mobility allowance covers their additional private mobility related costs (not the professional costs → RTN)

3. The ESR will be entitled to the family allowance if he/she has or acquires family obligations during the action duration

CERN department will have to contribute in order to cover the costs of the ESR because CERN stipends are higher than the EU contribution received for each ESR

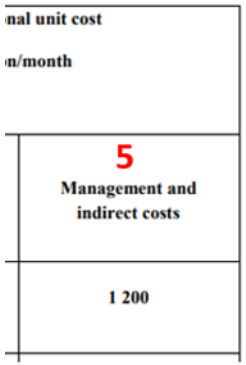
Costs Category 4

Institutional un per pers
Research, training and networking contribution **4**
EUR 1 600

This category should cover

- The travels of the ESR and their supervisors
- The training of the ESR
- The secondments
- The network wide events if the consortium agrees to give to the coordinator a portion of the RTN budget

Costs Category 5



nal unit cost n/month	
5 Management and indirect costs	
1 200	

This category is usually partially kept at the coordinator level to cover

- The travels of the management team
- The administrative and financial support
- The organisation of the KO, mid term review
- The final event
- The communication and dissemination
- Keynote speakers …..

Internal Procedure at CERN : 50% considered as Management + 50 % as Overheads

- Management share can be used for the project
- Overheads share : internal procedure : 30% kept by the department, 70% centrally

For any financial question :
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