



MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



Convocatoria MSCA COFUND 2022

Sesión informativa

Novedades, reglas, elegibilidad, aspectos generales

2 diciembre 2022

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Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

Unit C2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Marie Skłodowska-
Curie Actions

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) key features

- **Support the mobility, training** (including transferable skills) **and career development of researchers** from **all over the world** through excellent doctorates, postdoctoral fellowships and collaborative projects
- Stimulate **international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation**
- For researchers at **every stage** of their career
- Promote **attractive working and employment conditions** (financing rate of up to 100%, Charter and Code)
- Support excellent research in all domains (**bottom-up**)
- Open to all types of organisations. Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs
- Impacting **researcher careers, organisations, structures and the ERA**

MSCA in Horizon 2020: key figures (2014-2020)

+65,000

Researchers,
including 25,000
PhD candidates

50 % of all third
country participations
in H2020

37% of researchers
from outside of the EU

42%

Female
researchers

+1,000

Doctoral
programmes

Over 5000

Companies
supported

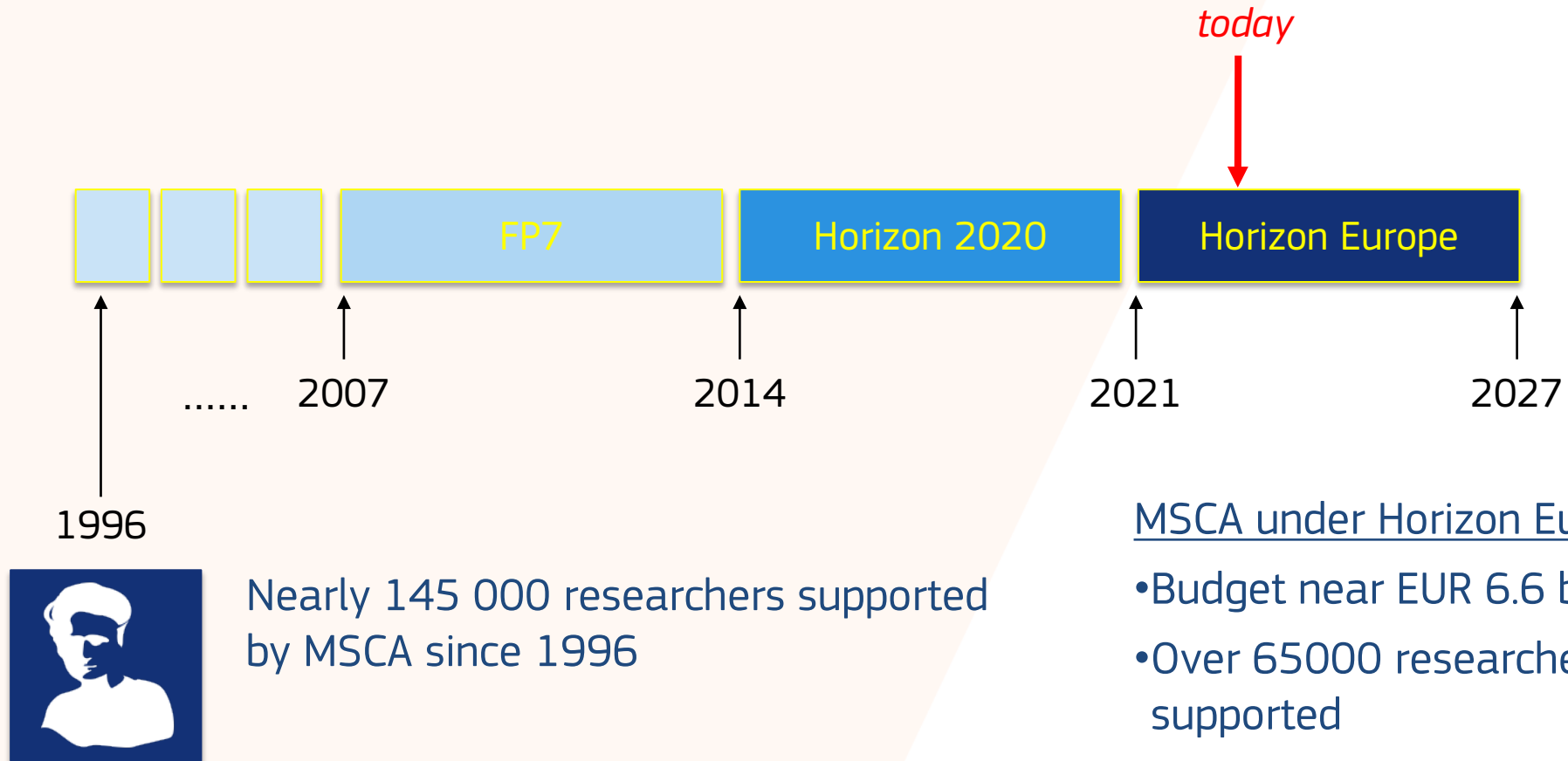
6.5 billion €

Under Horizon
2020

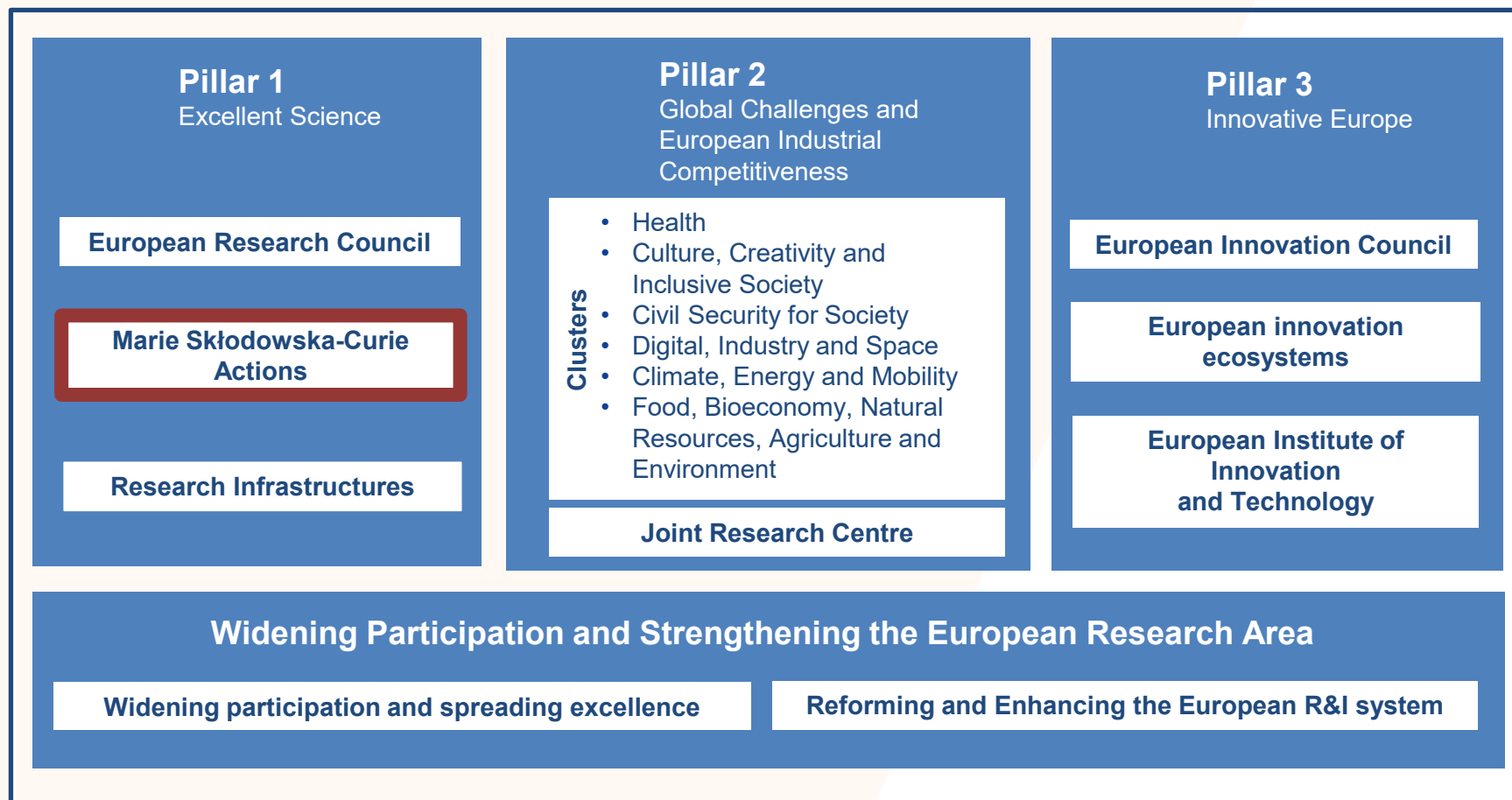


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Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) (1996-2021)



The Horizon Europe programme



Excellent Science (Pillar 1): reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

MSCA budget under Horizon Europe: **EUR 6.6 billion**

Policy objectives of MSCA (Horizon Europe regulation)

- **Equip researchers with new knowledge and skills** through mobility and exposure across borders, sectors and disciplines
- **Enhance training and career development** systems
- Structure and **improve** institutional and national **recruitment**, taking into account the **Charter and Code**
- **Help laying foundations of Europe's excellent research**, contributing to boosting jobs, growth and investment and solving current and future societal challenges

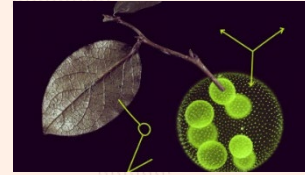
The MSCA have 5 main actions

Overall message in Horizon Europe:
continuation



Doctoral Networks

implement doctoral programmes (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) **by international partnerships** of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

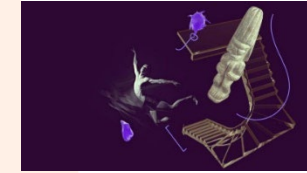


Postdoctoral Fellowships

support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research and innovation. Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

Staff Exchanges

encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.



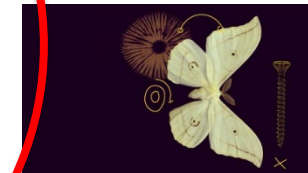
MSCA and Citizens

brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large through the European Researchers' Night - the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.



COFUND

co-finance regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers' training and career development. The COFUND action spreads MSCA's best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.



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MSCA COFUND



- **Mono-beneficiary action** to **co-fund** new or existing national, regional, institutional schemes for **doctoral** training and **postdoctoral** fellowships
- **Focus**
 - Spread **best practices** of the MSCA by promoting **high standards** in the **recruitment** process and **excellent working conditions**
 - Introduce **sustainable structuring effects**, by promoting excellent and sustainable research training
 - Encourage **synergies** with Cohesion policy funds as well as the Recovery and Resilience Facility. Bottom-up, but programmes could focus on specific **disciplines**, notably when based on RIS³.
- **Target groups**
 - **Doctoral candidates**, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme
 - **Postdoctoral researchers**, i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call
 - Each application can only cover one of the two types of programmes (doctoral/postdoctoral).
 - **Researchers apply to vacancies published** by the beneficiary or other partners
- **Who applies?**
 - **Single legal entity** established in an EU Member State or HE Associated country
 - A minimum of three researchers must be recruited.

MSCA COFUND



- **Career Development Plan**

- To be jointly established by the supervisor and each recruited researcher upon recruitment. Revised (and updated where needed) within 18 months

- **Co-funding**

- Max **10 M€** per beneficiary per call (unchanged)
- The EU contribution covers **minimum remuneration** and can be used more **flexibly**

- **Duration**

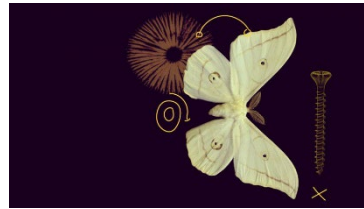
- **Programme**: max. 60 months (unchanged)
- **Fellowship**: min 3 months
- **Secondments**: up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration

- Introduction of an MSCA Cofund **Seal of Excellence** for applications scoring $\geq 85\%$

- **Call:**

- **2022**: 11 Oct 2022 – 9 Feb 2023; 95 M€

MSCA COFUND other general features



- Researchers **must be recruited** under an employment **contract** or equivalent, with full social security coverage. **Exemptions** apply, with prior agreement of the granting authority.
- When an employment contract cannot be provided, the researcher may be recruited under a '**fixed-amount fellowship**'. In this case, the COFUND **allowance will be halved** and the beneficiary must ensure that the researcher enjoys minimum social security coverage.
- Researchers should be employed **full-time**. The rates apply to full-time basis. Researchers may, in agreement with the supervisor and beneficiary and with prior approval by the granting authority, implement their project on a **part-time basis**. Part-time work due to **professional reasons** only for postdoctoral researchers.
- In cases of part-time work, researchers must dedicate at least **50%** of their working time to the MSCA action. The beneficiary should report costs as pro rata of the applicable contributions.
- Applicants must specify in their proposal the total cost of their proposed programme and in particular the **amounts** that will be provided **for the benefit of the researchers** and for the organisation(s) that will implement the programme. This information will be needed to evaluate the adequateness of employment and working conditions of the researchers

MSCA COFUND other general features



- Researchers **must comply with the mobility rule**: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary or implementing partner for more than **12 months in the 36 months** immediately before the deadline of the co-funded programme's call.
- Researchers can be of **any nationality**. Limitations regarding the researchers' origin and destination should be avoided.
- Researchers in **Postdoctoral Programmes** in third countries:
 - Must be nationals or long-term residents of an EU **MS or AC**.
 - Should carry out a mandatory **return** period of 12 months at the beneficiary or implementing partner. Secondments cannot take place during this mandatory return period. A maximum of 3 months can be spent at the start of the action at the beneficiary (or any other organisation).
- Researchers who are already permanently employed by the organisation hosting them cannot be funded by COFUND.



Participating organisations in MSCA COFUND

- **COFUND** is a **monobeneficiary action**. Applications must be submitted by a single entity.
- **Beneficiary:** takes complete responsibility for the proper implementation of the proposed programme. It **funds or manages** Doctoral or Postdoctoral **Programmes**. It can do it on its own or in conjunction with associated and/or implementing **partners**.
- **Implementing partners:** third parties **receiving financial support from the beneficiary and implementing** the **MSCA COFUND** Doctoral or Postdoctoral **programmes**. Implementing partners **can employ the researchers**.
- **Associated partners: participate** in the action (e.g. providing training or secondments).

Role in the programme	Training and/or Hosting of Seconded Researchers	Recruitment of researchers	Sign the GA Directly Claim costs	Established in
Beneficiary	Yes	Yes	Yes	EU MS or AC
Implementing Partner	Yes	Yes	No	EU MS, AC or TC eligible for funding
Associated Partner	Yes	No	No	Anywhere in the world

- All participating organisations can be from the **academic or non-academic** sector.
- When partners are involved, the signature of a **partnership agreement** is strongly encouraged.
- **Letter of commitment** required for associated and implementing partners (identified at proposal stage).

MSCA COFUND – Unit contributions



Contributions for recruited researchers and institutional contributions

Per person-month

	COFUND allowance	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)
Doctoral Programmes	EUR 2 800	EUR 2 800 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)
Postdoctoral Programmes	EUR 3 980	EUR 3 980 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

Minimum remuneration applies:

EUR 2 800 for Doctoral researcher, EUR 3 980 for Postdoctoral researcher



Funding scheme and synergies in COFUND in practice

HORIZON 2020

EU contribution: specific researcher unit cost and institutional unit cost

- Top-up from beneficiary necessary to reach minimum remuneration
- ESIF cannot be used to cover living allowance or management costs (since they are already supported by H2020)
- **OTHER COST ITEMS** may be funded through ESIF or other non-H2020 EU programmes



HORIZON EUROPE

COFUND ALLOWANCE. “Flexible” EU contribution that can be used to support **any cost items** of the programme (for researcher or institutional).

- Equal to the minimum remuneration.
- Individual cost items may be **fully or partially funded through other resources** including EU programmes other than Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe, such as the **Cohesion policy funds**, provided that double-funding is avoided (art. 15 of FP).

Regions and Member States may support COFUND projects on subjects included in their S3 and OPs and top-up the EU contribution with cohesion policy funds

COFUND in Horizon Europe offers **more flexibility** but remember!:

Researchers to be **recruited** under an employment contract or equivalent
Minimum remuneration to the researchers to be ensured always!!

MSCA Call Calendar 2022

	Action	Opening	Deadline	Budget (EUR million)
closed	Doctoral Networks	12 May 2022	15 November 2022	428.28
closed	Postdoctoral Fellowships	12 May 2022	14 September 2022	257
open	Staff Exchanges	6 October 2022	8 March 2023	77.5
open	COFUND	11 October 2022	9 February 2023	95

*[Work Programme 2023-2024](#) to be adopted soon. Yearly calls for the four actions will follow similar calendars

Sus puntos nacionales de contacto (NCPs) pueden ayudarle

NCPs España

- Xavier Ronald EEKHOUT, Cristina GÓMEZ
- FECYT, MCIN
- C/ Pintor Murillo 15 - 28100 Alcobendas, Madrid | Spain
- Tel: +34 91 425 09 09

- Jesús ROJO
- Fundación para el Conocimiento madri+d
- Calle del Maestro Ángel Llorca 6 – 3rd Floor - 28003 Madrid | Spain
- Tel: +34 91 781 65 72

- Maria HERRERO
- CSIC
- Calle Pinar 25 - 28006 Madrid | Spain
- Tel: +34 91 568 1706

- Website: <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es>

National Contact Points: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

<https://msca-net.eu/> <https://twitter.com/mscanetwork>

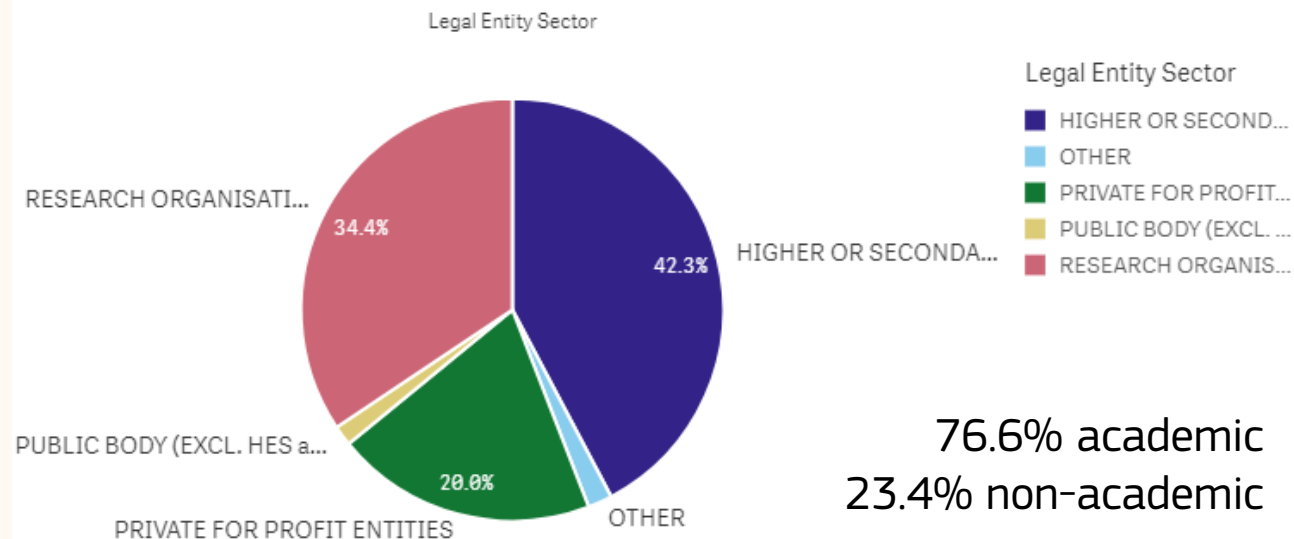
España y MSCA en Horizonte 2020

MSCA Action	Organisations Participations	Distinct Organisations	Total Budget Awarded, M€	Projects	Outgoing Researchers	Incoming Researchers
ITN	981	421	256.6	486	1.016	1.111
IF	1.107	163	193.5	1.099	1.269	1.048
RISE	519	251	63.9	269	1.651	2.251
COFUND	159	126	112.6	59	569	467
NIGHT	152	70	3.8	24	0	0
Totals	2.918	732	630.4	1.937	4.505	4.877

España es el tercer país por número de participaciones en propuestas y proyectos y financiación recibida en MSCA
 Participación de organizaciones españolas en 14641 propuestas
 2918 participaciones en 1937 proyectos
 Tasa de éxito 13.2%

España y MSCA en Horizonte 2020

Distinct Organisation Participations by Legal Entity Sector

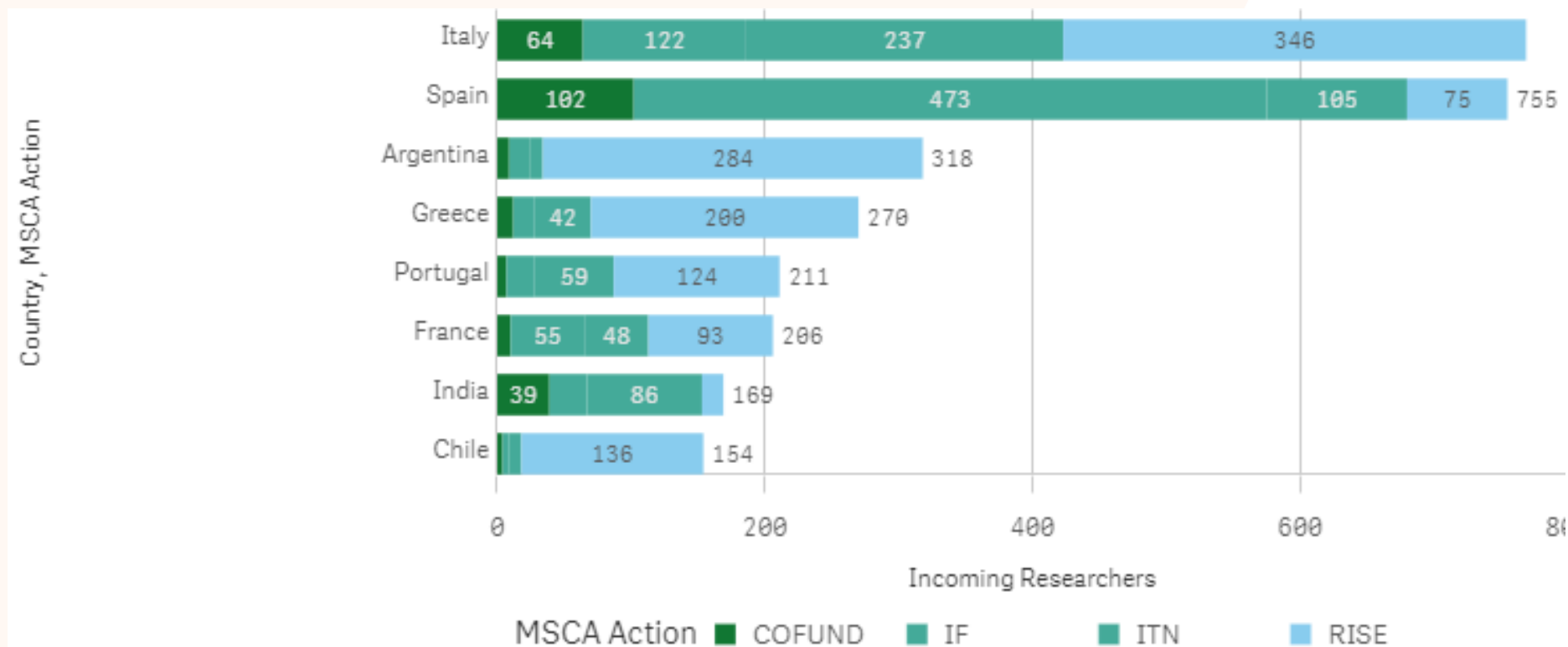


Top 10 organisations. Total budget awarded



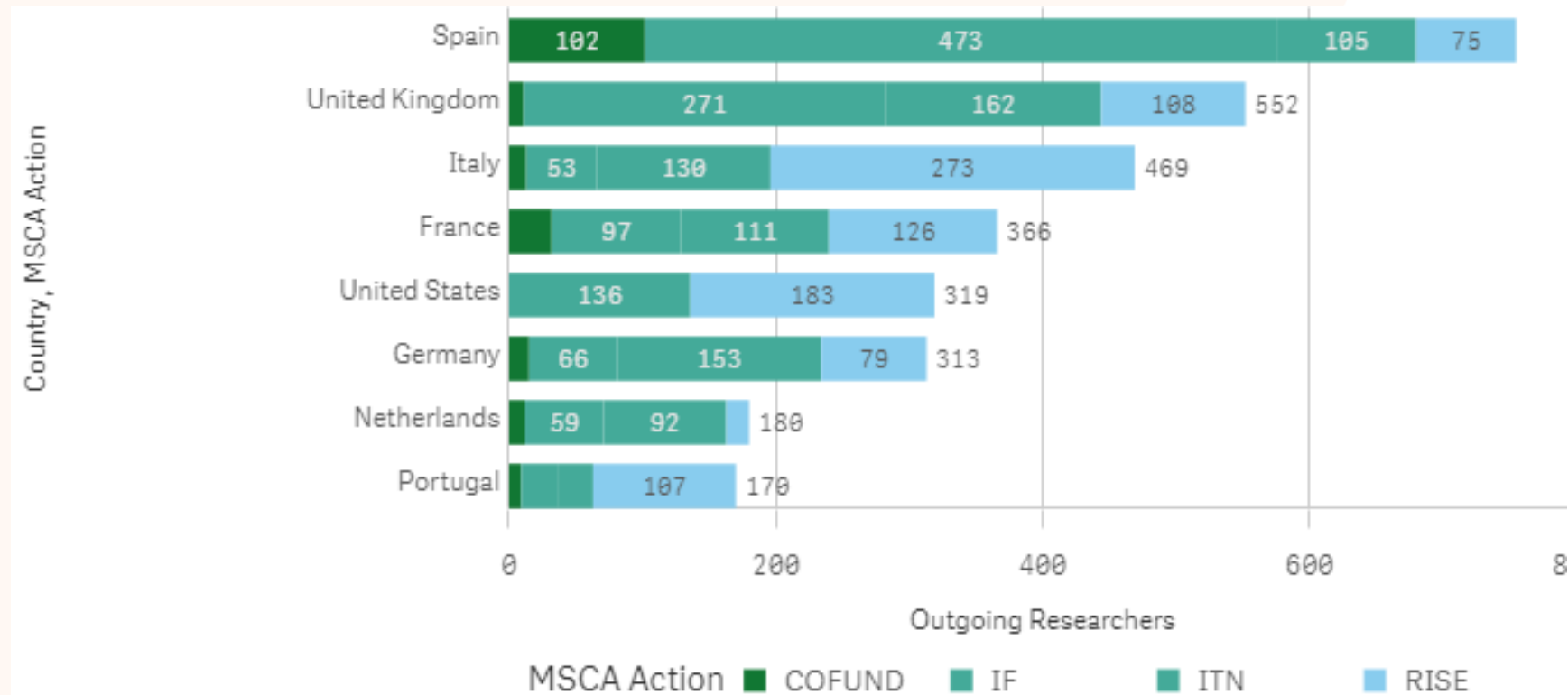
España y MSCA en Horizonte 2020

Patrones de movilidad. Investigadores que van a España, agrupados por nacionalidad. Top 10



España y MSCA en Horizonte 2020

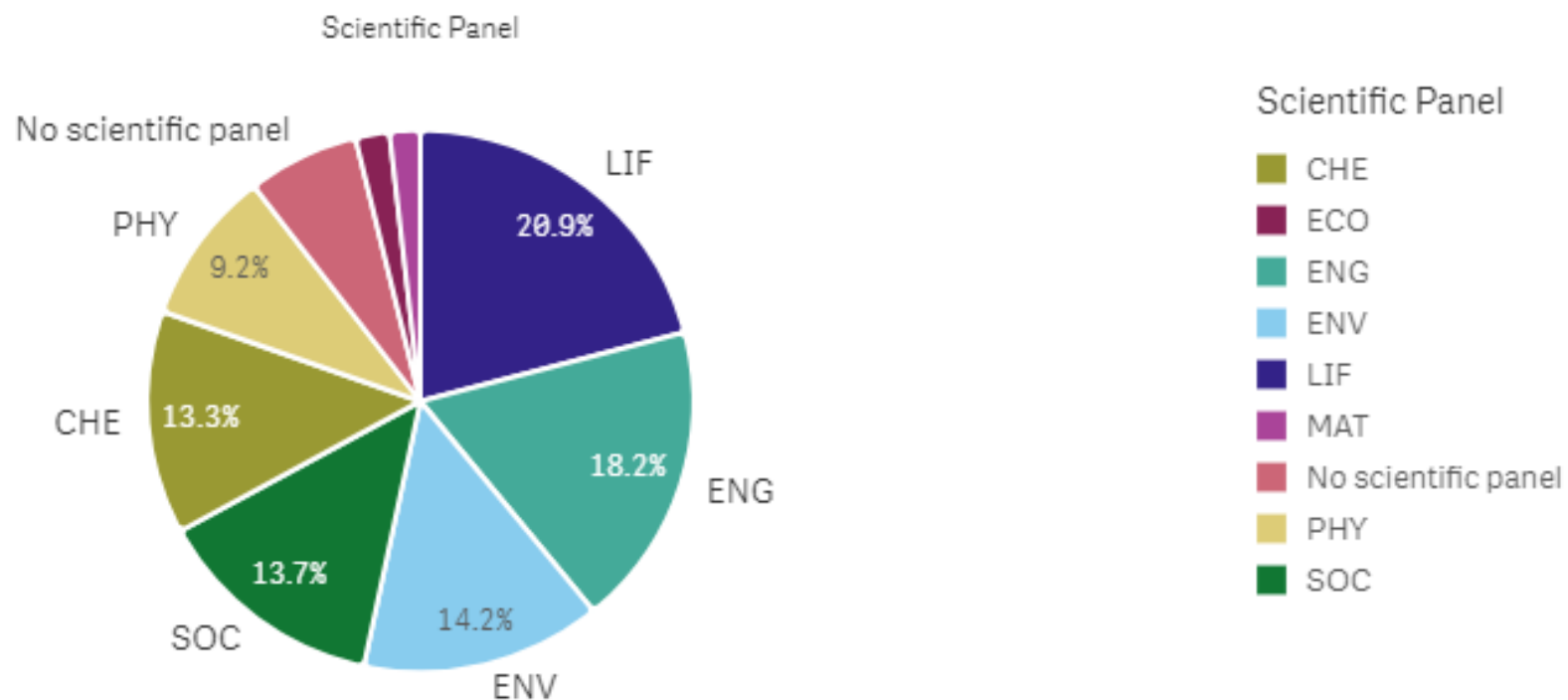
Patrones de movilidad. Investigadores españoles, agrupados por país de destino. Top 10



España y MSCA en Horizonte 2020

Distribución de proyectos por panel científico

Contracted Projects by Scientific Panel



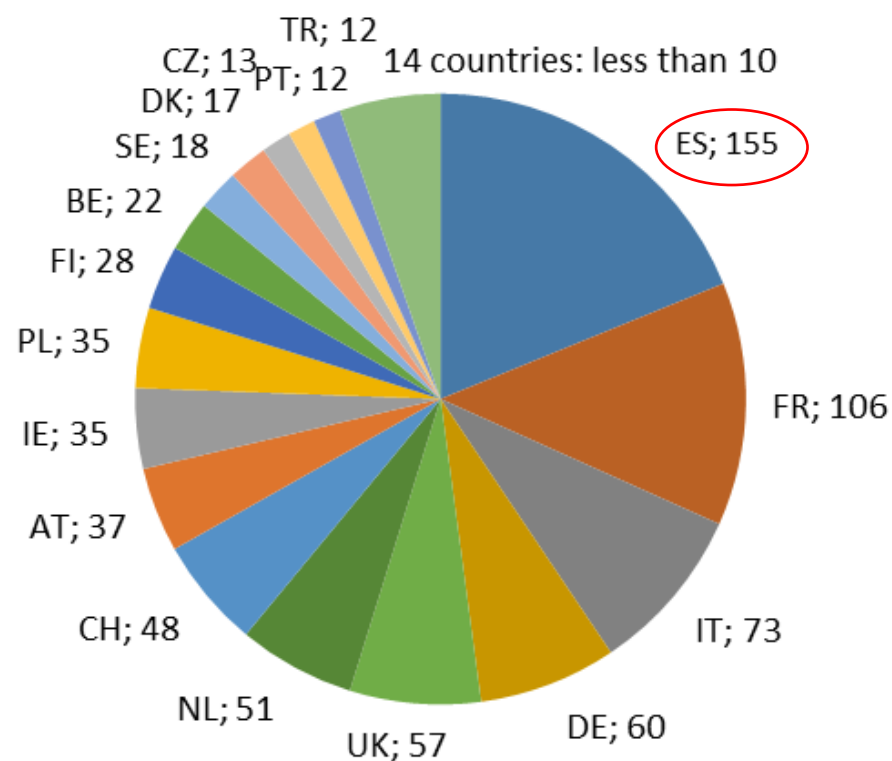
MSCA en COFUND-Horizonte 2020. Propuestas

823 propuestas: 355 DP, 468 PP

155 propuestas con beneficiario de España
(18.8%): 47 DP, 108 PP

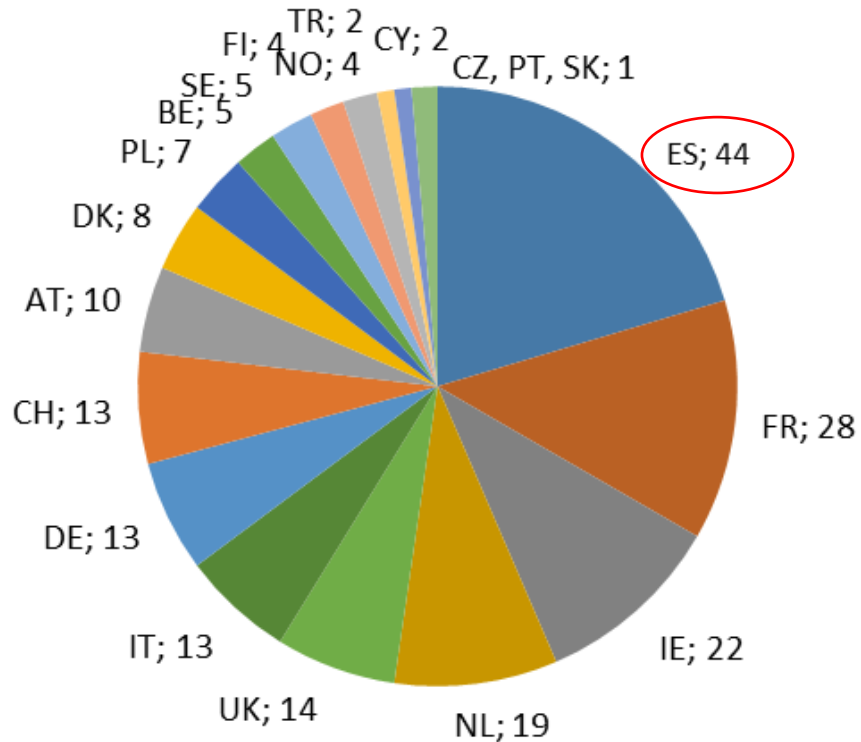
Participations per Country

Total = 823 proposals



MSCA en COFUND-Horizonte 2020. Proyectos

Participations per Country
Total = 216 projects



216 proyectos: 99 DP, 117 FP

44 proyectos con beneficiario de España
(20.4%): 18 DP, 26 PP

943 participaciones (724 socios indiv.)

159 participaciones (126) españolas en 59
proyectos (16.9%)

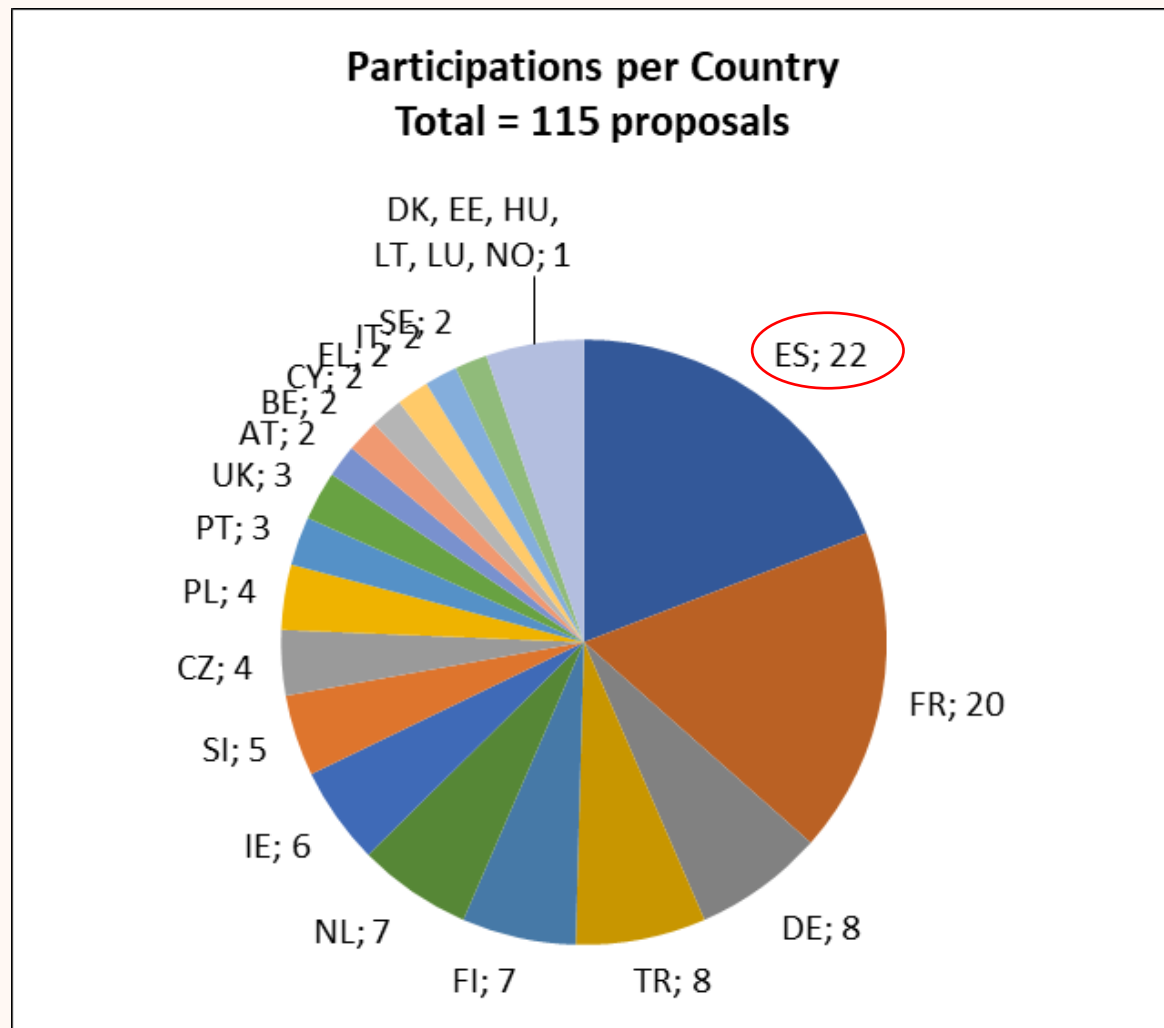
Tasa de éxito media: 26.2%

Tasa de éxito España: 28.4%

Contribución total: EUR 598.1 M

Contribución España: EUR 112.6 M (18.8%)

MSCA-COFUND Convocatoria 2021 Horizonte Europa. Propuestas



115 propuestas: 53 DP, 62 PP

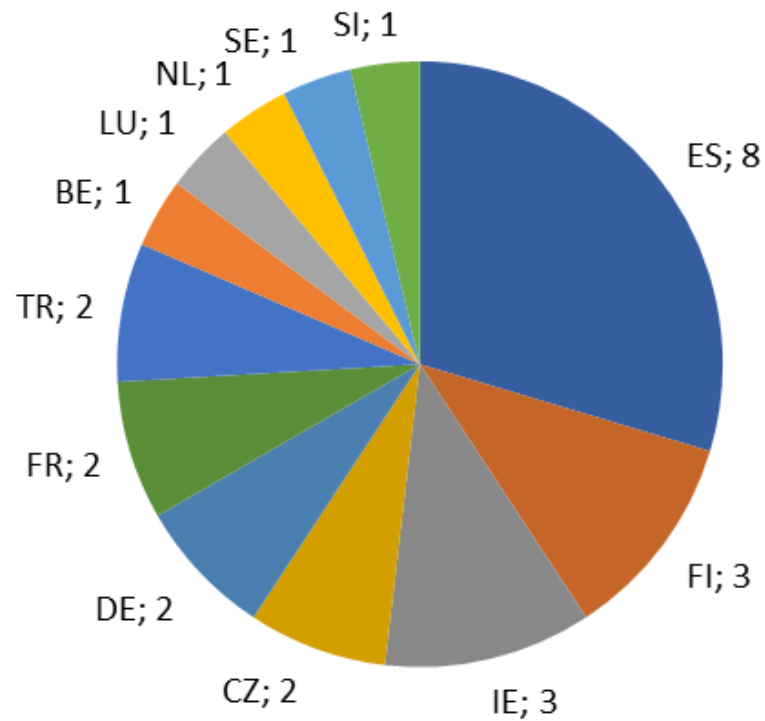
22 propuestas con beneficiario de España
(19.1%): 9 DP, 13 PP

1614 participaciones (1272 socios indiv.)

251 participaciones (197) españolas
en 49 propuestas (15.6%)

MSCA-COFUND Convocatoria 2021 Horizonte Europa. Proyectos

Participations per Country
Total = 27 projects



27 proyectos: 13 DP, 14 PP

8 proyectos con beneficiario de España
(29.6%): 5 DP, 3 PP

555 participaciones (514 socios indiv.)

72 participaciones (67) españolas en 14
proyectos (12.9%)

Tasa de éxito media: 23.5%

Tasa de éxito España: 36.4%

Contribución total: EUR 90.3 M

Contribución España: EUR 27.7 M (30.7%)

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 2021-2022**
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2021-2022/wp-2-msca-actions_horizon-2021-2022_en.pdf
- **Horizon Europe MSCA DRAFT Work Programme 2023-2024**
https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-11/ec_horizon-europe-msca-work-programme-2023.pdf
- **Horizon Europe Programme Guide**
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf
- **Euraxess (PhD and postdoctoral vacancies, more information)**
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>
- **European Charter and Code for Researchers**
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter-code-researchers>
- **EU Principles on Innovative Doctoral Training**
https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/policy_library/principles_for_innovative_doctoral_training.pdf
- **MSCA Guidelines on Supervision**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
- **MSCA Guidelines for Inclusion of Researchers at Risk**
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b73cad36-6144-11ec-9c6c-01aa75ed71a1>
- **MSCA Green Charter**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>
- **COFUND 2021 Call Beneficiaries' Day**
<https://academy.europa.eu/local/euacademy/pages/course/event-overview.php?title=cofund-call-2021-beneficiaries-day>
- **MCAA (Marie Curie Alumni association) // Spain-Portugal Chapter**
<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu> // <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/groups/spain-portugal-chapter>
- **National Contact Points**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>
- **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



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Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie



Thank you!
¡Gracias!

MSCA: Developing talents, advancing research

<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/>

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