



# MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

*Developing talents, advancing research*



# Staff Exchanges

**Matinée d'information - 18 Octobre 2022**

**Brito FERREIRA**

**European Research Executive Agency**



# Five Missions Areas



**Adaptation to  
climate change,  
including societal  
transformation**



**Cancer**



**Healthy oceans,  
seas, coastal &  
inland waters**



**Climate-neutral  
& smart cities**



**Soil health &  
food**

# The MSCA under Horizon Europe



## Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research  
Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



## Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Center



## Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European Innovation  
Ecosystems

European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading  
excellence

Reforming & enhancing the European R&I  
system

# The Actions

## The MSCA have **5** main actions

### 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.

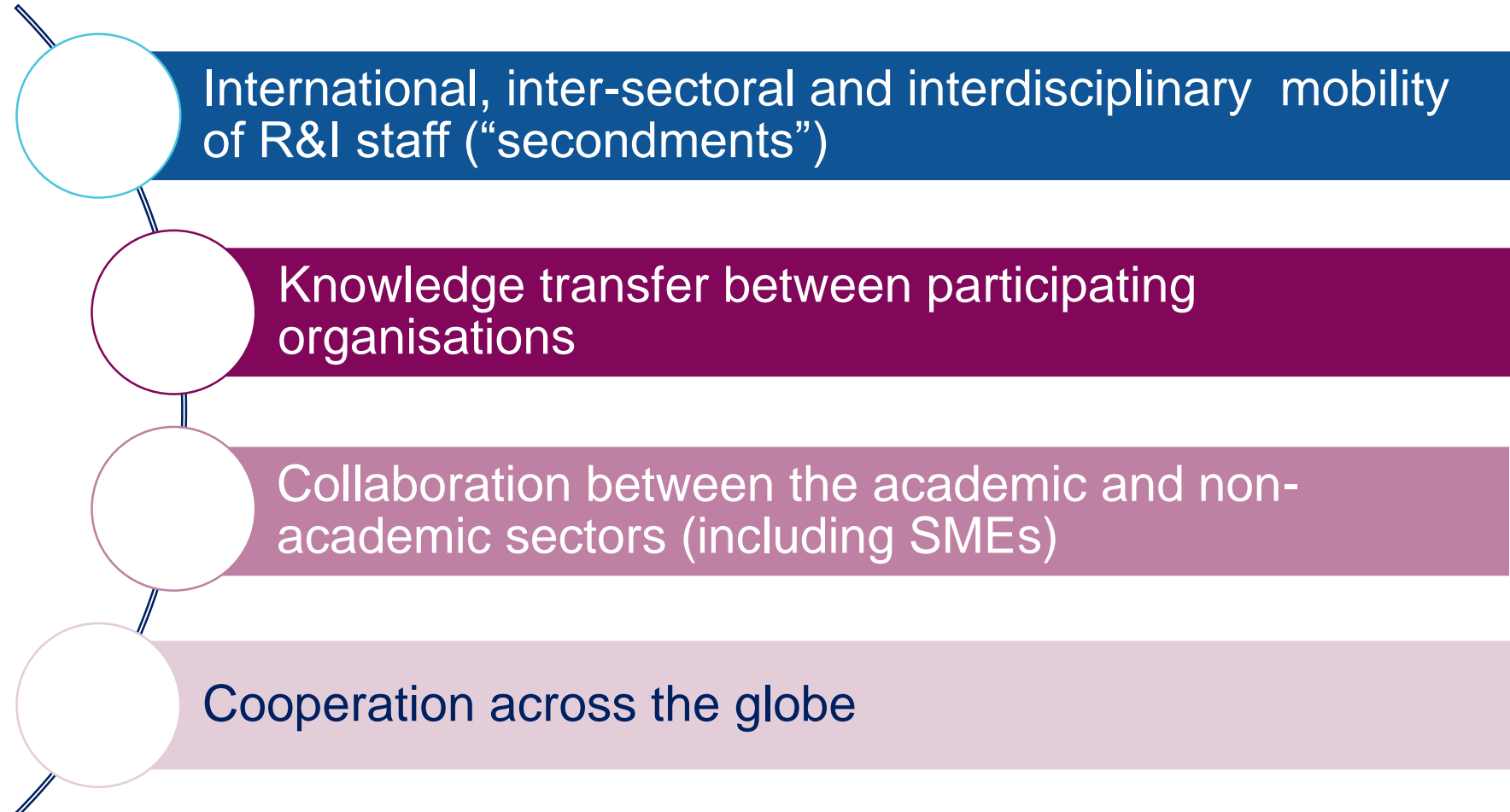
### MSCA and Citizens

**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-finances 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.

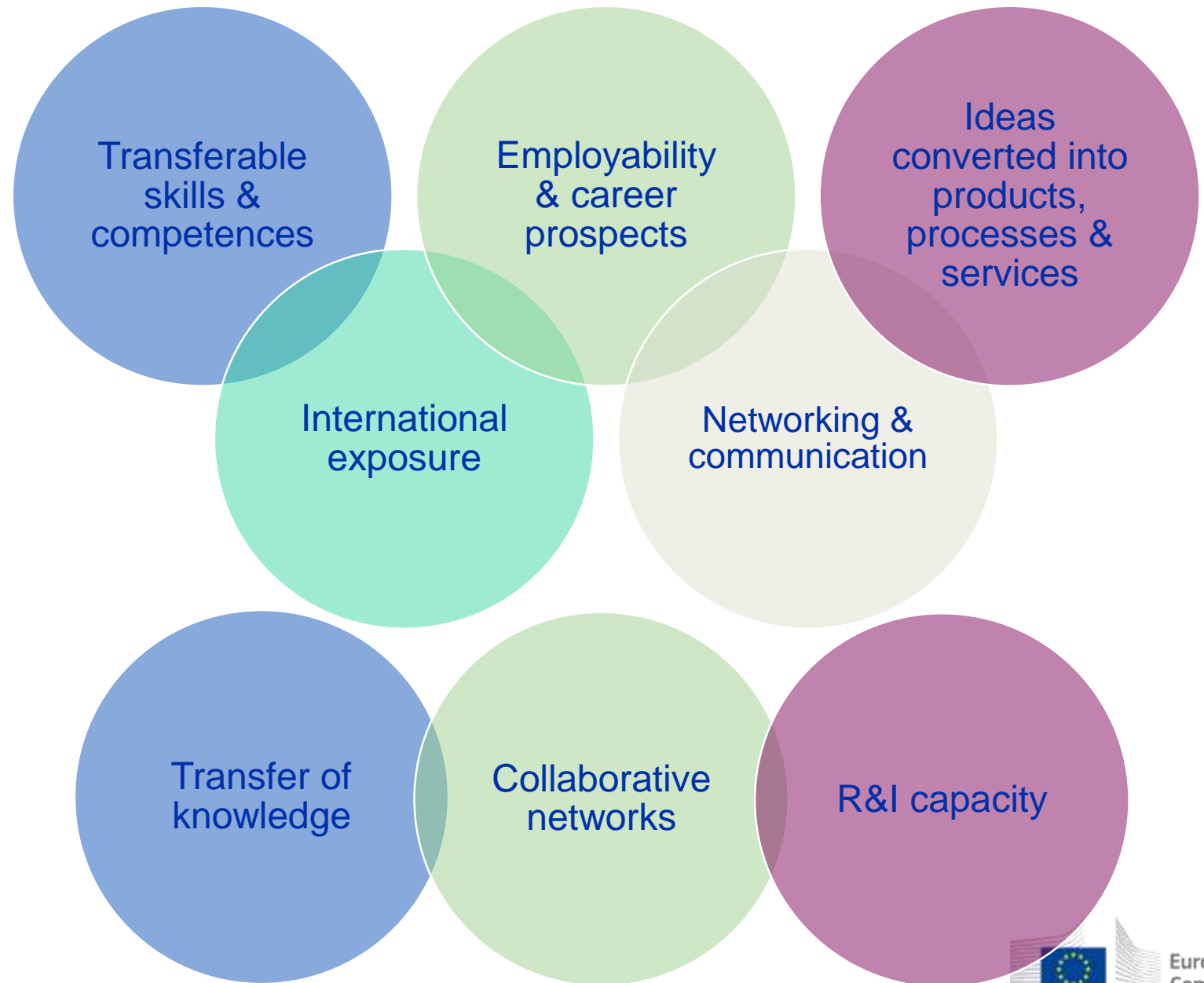
# Objectives



# Added value

## Staff members

## Organisations



# Eligible participants

## Academic sector



Consortium of min. 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different EU Member State or HE Associated Country



## Non-academic sector

If organisations from the **same sector**, there must be at least 1 organisation from a non-associated Third Country\*

\* Secondments within EU MS or 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



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)

## Seconded staff members

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 institution**



# Eligible exchanges

"HOSTING"  
(receiving seconded staff members)

"SENDING"  
(sending staff members  
from organization)

	Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	Associated Partners eligible for funding	Associated Partners non-eligible for funding
Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	1/3	✓	✓	✓
Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	✓	1/3	✓	✓
Associated Partners* eligible for funding	✓	✓	✗	✗
Associated Partners non-eligible for funding	✗	✗	✗	✗

1/3 This symbol refers to same sector secondments up to 1/3 of the total implemented secondments funded by the EU as long as they are demonstrated to be interdisciplinary.

\* Associated Partners eligible for funding (see List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe)

# Same-sector secondments in Europe (MS/AC)



$\leq 1/3$  of the total secondments funded by the EU, if considered **Interdisciplinary**

Interdisciplinary secondments integrate aspects from **two or more different scientific disciplines**.

Important: **scientific panels + descriptors/first level MSCA keywords** from proposal form part A (see [REA Website](#))

# Interdisciplinary mobility explained



Examples taken from [MSCA SE FAQ](#)

# What does Staff Exchanges fund?





# Focus on the proposal

# Proposal Submission



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



SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▼

HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▼

PROJECTS & RESULTS

WORK AS AN EXPERT

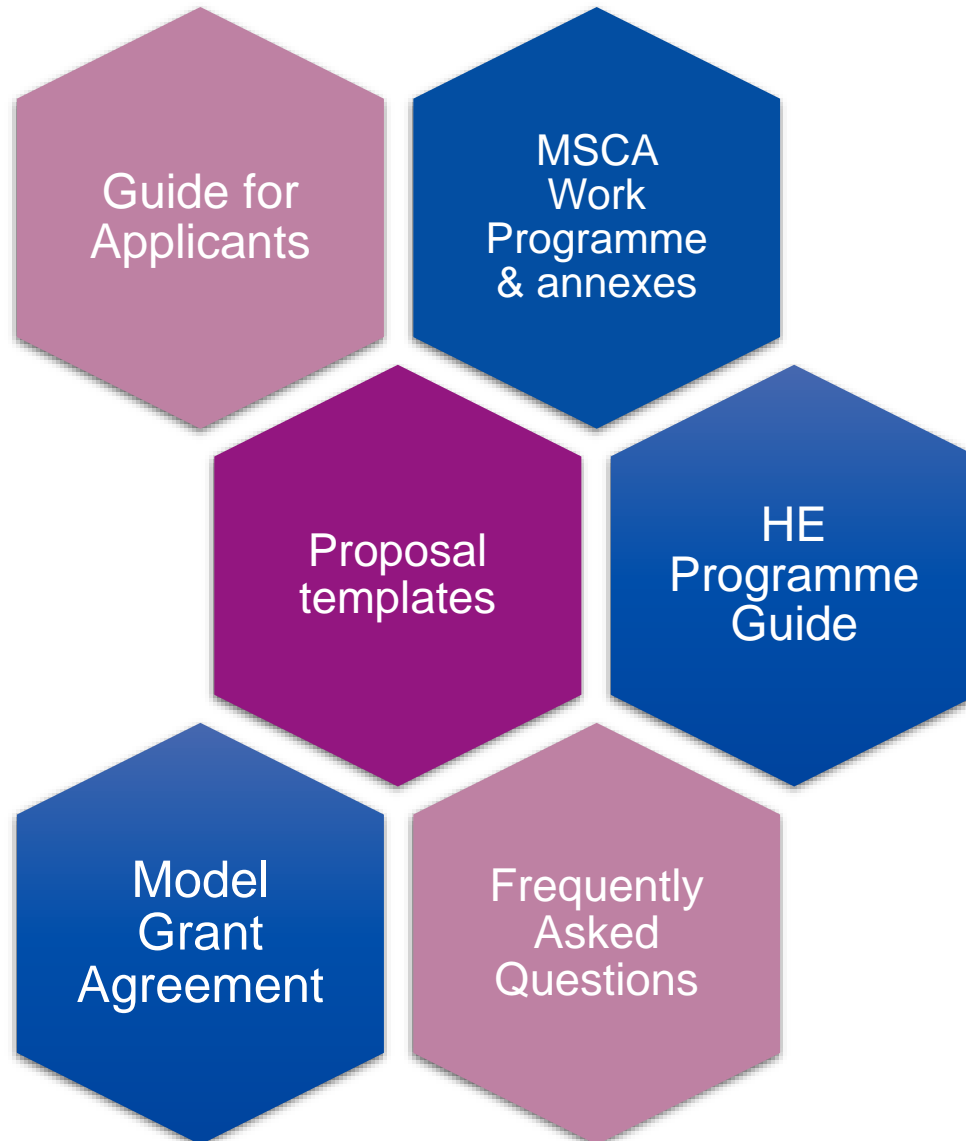
SUPPORT ▼

All calls are published on the **Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal:**

- Find your call
- Sign in to the portal and register your organisation (get a PIC number)
- Find partners
- Apply! <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/>



# Reference Documents



# Proposal documents



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



SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▼

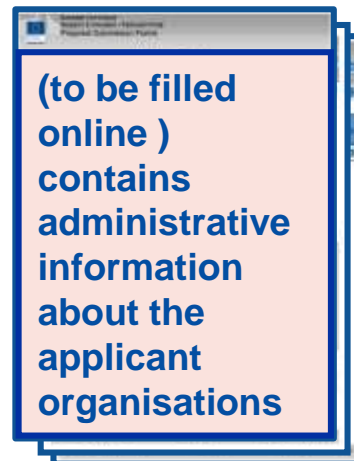
HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▼

PROJECTS & RESULTS

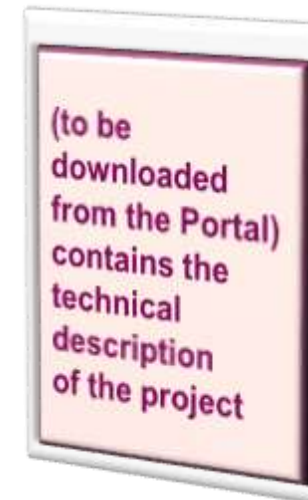
WORK AS AN EXPERT

SUPPORT ▼

**Part A**  
**(structured data)**



**Part B**  
**(description of action)**






# Evaluation criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's <b>research and innovation objectives</b> (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Developing new and lasting <b>research collaborations</b> , achieving <b>transfer of knowledge</b> between participating organisations and contributing to improving <b>research and innovation potential</b> at the European and global level	Quality and effectiveness of the <b>work plan</b> , assessment of <b>risks</b> , and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the <b>proposed methodology</b> (including i3 approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the <b>career perspectives</b> of staff members and contribution to their <b>skills development</b>	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including <b>hosting arrangements</b> and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Quality of the proposed <b>interaction between the participating organisations</b> in light of the research and innovation objectives	Suitability and quality of the measures to <b>maximise expected outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities  The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected <b>scientific, societal and economic impacts</b>	
<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>20%</b>



# Evaluation

## Formula for Staff Exchanges success stories


$$= (E + I) Impact$$

**E**xcellence and **I**mplementation are closely interlinked!



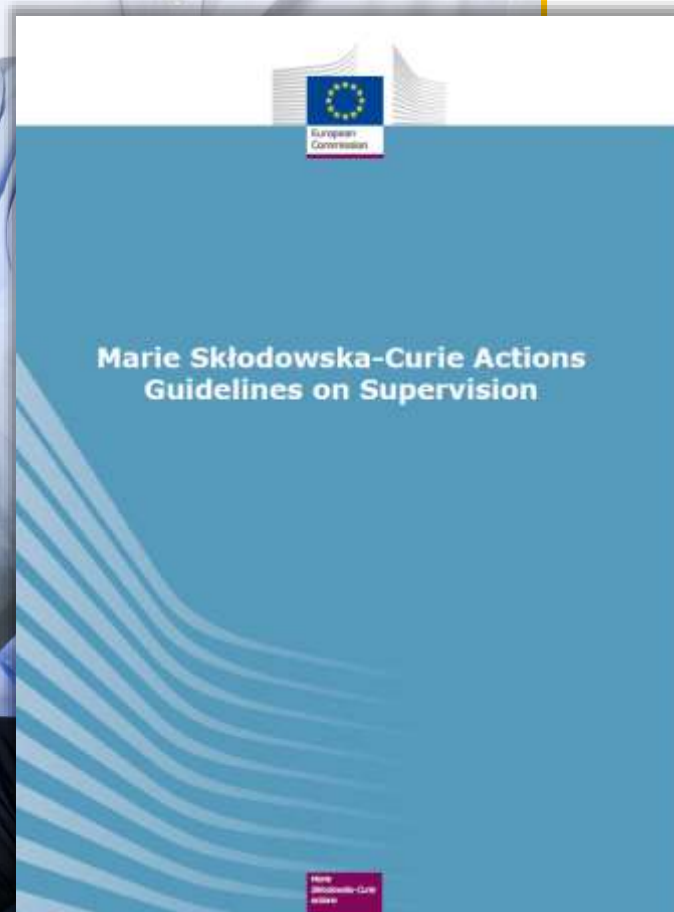
## Recommended Guidelines in the HE Work programme

Horizon Europe Work Programme :

*“All MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to follow the recommendations outlined in the **Guidelines for MSCA supervision**”.*

A set of recommendations to be adopted on a best effort basis by participants in the programme – both individuals and institutions – e.g. from research support and career development to well-being, conflict resolution and training for supervisors.

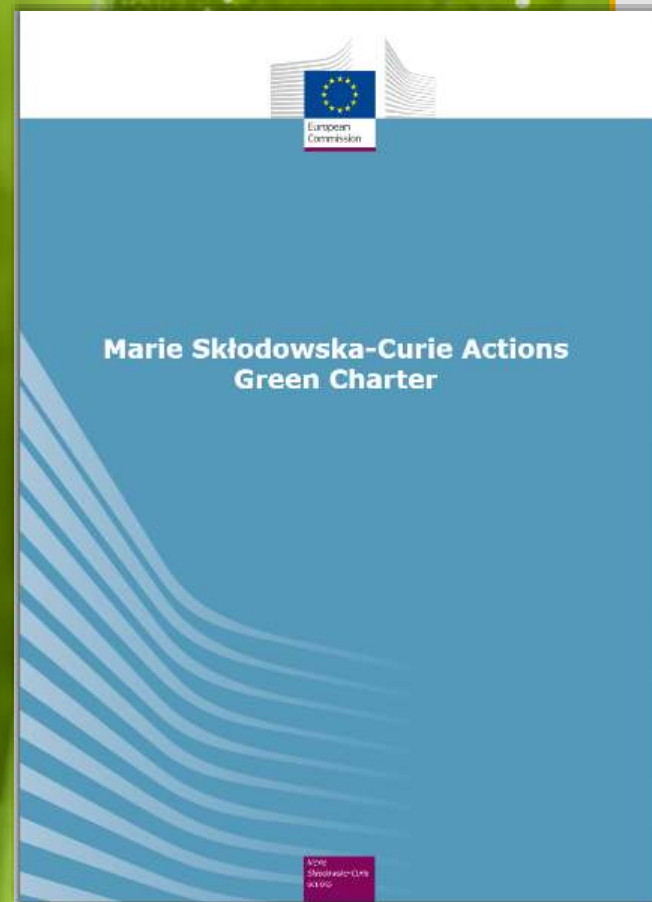
<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about-msca/msca-guidelines-supervision>



# Recommended Guidelines in the HE Work programme

Horizon Europe Work Programme :  
*“All MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to address the principles of the **MSCA Green Charter** and implement measures to minimize the environmental footprint of their activities”.*

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/green-charter>



# Tips and tricks

## **Closely follow the call requirements**

Be in line with the action's objectives and expected outcomes

## **Follow available guidelines**

Use the structure provided in the template and address all the evaluation criteria

## **Highlight the EU dimension**

Show that your proposal addresses EU policy priorities and/or societal challenges

## **Get a second opinion**

Have your proposal proof-read by a colleague and pre-screened by your NCP

## **Sustainability of collaboration**

Describe the benefits of cooperation and how they can go beyond this project

## **Contact your National Contact Point (NCP)**

# Next MSCA SE call

Call	2022	
	Opening Closing	Budget (M€)
Staff Exchanges	06/10/2022 08/03/2023	77,5



**+ 7% more  
budget vs 2021**



#StaffExchangesDay  
@REA\_research  
@MSCAactions





# Questions and answers



# Merci!

