H2020 MSCA ITN 2019

Info Session
1- Call Modalities
INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORKS

WHAT

HOW

ITN

WHY

WHO
## Excellent Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Research Council</td>
<td>€ 13.1 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)</strong></td>
<td>€ 6.1 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future and Emerging Technologies</td>
<td>€ 2.7 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European research infrastructures (including eInfrastructures)</td>
<td>€ 2.5 B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

**ITN**
Innovative Training Networks

**What does it offer?**
High-quality research training delivered through international and interdisciplinary networks, industrial doctorates or joint doctorates

**Who applies?**
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

**Who is funded?**
Researchers at doctoral level (less than four years of full-time research experience and no doctoral degree)

**IF**
Individual Fellowships

**What does it offer?**
Opportunities to work on personal research projects by moving between countries and possibly sectors to acquire new skills

**Who applies?**
Individual researchers together with the host organisation

**Who is funded?**
Postdoctoral researchers

**RISE**
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

**What does it offer?**
The exchange of staff members involved in research and innovation to develop sustainable collaborative projects and the transfer of knowledge

**Who applies?**
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

**Who is funded?**
Researchers, technical, administrative and managerial staff of any nationality and at all career levels

**COFUND**
Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes

**What does it offer?**
Regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers’ training, mobility and career development

**Who applies?**
Organisations funding or managing doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes

**Who is funded?**
Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level
MSCA Key features

Openness  Mobility
Bottom-up approach
ITN common features

- Innovation, Training and Excellent Research
- **International, multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral networks** of organisations
- Any scientific domain
- Recruiting of only Early-Stage Researchers
- EU Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training
- Secondments
- **Project duration** up to 48 months
Typical activities

- Research
- Training
- Supervision
3 modes

**ETN**
European Training Networks
*Participants implement a joint research programme*

**EID**
European Industrial Doctorates
*Doctoral training with the non-academic sector*

**EJD**
European Joint Doctorates
*Doctoral programme to deliver joint degrees*
Who applies?

**Academic sector**
- public/private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees
- public/private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research
- international European interest organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL)

**Non-academic sector**
- any entity not included in the academic sector:
  - e.g. large companies, SMEs, NGOs, museums, hospitals
  - international organisations (e.g. UN, WHO)
Roles?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefitary</th>
<th>vs.</th>
<th>Partner Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signs grant agreement</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruits and hosts researchers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims costs to the EU</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trains/hosts seconded researchers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participates in supervisory board</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Researchers

✓ Only Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs):
  • ≤ 4 years of research experience
  • no PhD yet

✓ Mandatory **trans-national mobility** at the time of recruitment.

✓ Recruitment: **3 to 36 months** after the project starts

✓ Researcher-months: requested in proposals
Impact

✓ Researcher level
  • Employability, successful career

✓ Organisation level
  • Cooperation and ToK between sectors and disciplines
  • Quality of training programmes

✓ System level
  • Societal and economic relevance of European higher education
  • Europe more attractive as a leading research destination
  • Better quality research and innovation
ETN Participants implement a joint research training programme

Mandatory
✓ Minimum 3 beneficiaries from 3 different MS/AC
✓ Each beneficiary recruits and/or hosts at least 1 ESR
✓ Max 540 person-months (e.g. 15 ESRs x 36 months)
✓ Max 40% budget to one country

Other features
✓ Non-academic sector participation essential
✓ PhD enrolment typically expected (not mandatory)
✓ Secondments to other countries/sector/disciplines (≤30% time)
✓ Joint supervision recommended
✓ Partner organisations (any country/sector)
✓ Typically 6-10 beneficiaries
Participants implement a joint research training programme
**EID**

Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

### Mandatory

- Minimum 2 beneficiaries from 2 different MS/AC
  - 1 academic + 1 non-academic
- **If:** 2 organisations = Max 180 person-months - e.g. 5 x 36 months
  - ≥3 organisations = Max 540 person-months - e.g. 15 x 36 months
- Each ESR enrolled in a PhD (institution awarding doctoral degrees)
- Each ESR spends ≥ 50% time in non-academic sector
- Joint selection, training and supervision (1 supervisor/sector)
- Intersectoral secondments are international

### Other features

- Individual research projects under the topic of the doctoral programme
- Partner organisations (any country/sector)
- Flexible recruitment rule
EXAMPLES

EID

Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

Beneficiaries

NON ACADEMIC SECTOR

≥ 50% time for each ESR

Partner organisations

2 beneficiaries: max 180 PM
Doctoral training with the non-academic sector

≥ 3 beneficiaries: max 540 PM
Universities cooperating to deliver joint/multiple doctoral degrees

**Mandatory**

- Minimum 3 beneficiaries from academic sector awarding PhDs, from 3 different MS/AC
- At least 2 beneficiaries among those awarding the joint/double/multiple degree must be established in a MS/AC
- Each ESR enrolled in the joint (international) doctoral programme
- **Joint** admission, selection, training, supervision, governance
- Commitment to deliver **joint/double/multi degrees**
- Max 540 person-months (e.g. 15 ESRs x 36 months)
- **Letters of institutional commitment** from Organisations to deliver PhD degrees are required in the proposal (template)

**Other features**

- Please refer to Guide for Applicants
EXAMPLES

EJD

Universities cooperating to deliver joint/multiple doctoral degrees

Beneficiaries

Partner organisations
Universities cooperating to deliver joint/multiple doctoral degrees

**Joint degree:** single diploma issued by at least 2 academic institutions located in 2 different countries and recognised officially

**Double/multiple degree:** 2 or more separate national diplomas issued by two or more higher education institutions located in different countries and recognised officially

**Letters of institutional commitment** to deliver joint/double doctoral degrees are mandatory in the proposal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ETN</th>
<th>EID</th>
<th>EJD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>±3 from 3 different MS/AC</td>
<td>≥2 from 2 different MS/AC: (≥1 academic + ≥1 non-academic)</td>
<td>≥3 (academic award PhD) from 3 different MS/AC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Person-months</strong></td>
<td>Max. 540</td>
<td>Max. 180 / 540</td>
<td>Max. 540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Researchers</strong></td>
<td>ESRs only (3-36 months)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner Organ.</strong></td>
<td>Unlimited (any country / sector / discipline)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PhD enrolment</strong></td>
<td>typically expected</td>
<td>mandatory</td>
<td>mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-academic participation</strong></td>
<td>essential</td>
<td>mandatory</td>
<td>essential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inter-sectoral exposure</strong></td>
<td>possible through secondments</td>
<td>≥50% in non-academic International (for beneficiaries)</td>
<td>possible through secondments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Panels and rank lists</strong></td>
<td>8 panels: CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC (400 M€)</td>
<td>EID panel (35 M€)</td>
<td>EJD panel (35 M€)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility rules?

**ETN**
Min. 3 beneficiaries from any sector from 3 different MS/AC

**EID**
Min. 2 beneficiaries from 2 different MS/AC:
min. 1 from academic
+ min. 1 from non-academic sector

**EJD**
Min. 3 beneficiaries from academic sector awarding PhD from 3 different MS/AC

Above this minimum: participants from any sector / country
Other Eligibility Criteria?

For all ITN: all beneficiaries are required to host at their premises and supervise recruited researchers.

The overall EU contribution for ITN actions is limited to a maximum 540 person-months. For EID with only two beneficiaries, this limit is set to 180 person-months.

Not more than 40% of the requested EU contribution may be allocated to beneficiaries in the same country or to any one international European interest organisation or international organisation (except for EID with only two beneficiaries).

EID eligibility issue: 3 beneficiaries from 2 different MS/AC cannot respect the 40% rule
Admissibility Criterion?

To be considered **admissible**, a proposal/application must be:

(a) submitted in the electronic submission system **before the deadline** given in the call conditions;
(b) **readable, accessible and printable**.

**Incomplete** proposals/applications may be considered inadmissible. This includes the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any supporting documents specified in the call.

**Examples of Inadmissible proposals:**
Part A/Part B1 missing or empty
Part B1 non readable or not following the template
2- Practical details
From policy objectives to a concrete proposal...

- Relevant documents available on the call page and under "Reference documents" (Participant Portal)

- MSCA Work Programme (current version available 2018-2020) and the specific Guide for Applicants for the call ITN 2019
Evaluation Criteria
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Criterion</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Priority if ex-aequo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellence</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. EXCELLENCE

✓ **Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme** (including inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)

✓ **Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme** (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and, where appropriate, gender aspects)

✓ **Quality of the supervision** (including mandatory joint supervision for EID and EJD projects)

✓ **Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations**
2. IMPACT

- Enhancing the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills development

- Contribution to structuring doctoral / early-stage research training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:
  
  a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral/research training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field

  b) developing sustainable joint doctoral degree structures (for EJD projects only)

- Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate

- Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences
3. IMPLEMENTATION

✓ Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources. This includes the awarding of the doctoral degrees for EID and EJD projects.

✓ Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for EID and EJD projects).

✓ Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the participating organisations.

✓ Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme.
Financing
Funding mechanism

Unit costs
Unit costs are a pre-estimated cost for the implementation of the action.

Advantage when applying
Automated calculation of budget when computing ESR months in your proposal
ITN Costs categories

Unit costs/1 researcher month:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Researcher</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Living allowance</td>
<td>Research, training and networking costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility allowance</td>
<td>Management and indirect costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.270</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.800</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance**
- Researcher allowances include employer contributions.
- Researcher allowances are a minimum to be paid (top-up funds from other sources permitted).
Proposal template & Specific issues
Structure of proposals (electronic submission)

Part A
- structured data -

Part B
- description of action -

Partner organisation in a separate table (manual entry, PIC encouraged but not mandatory)
Specific issues I

Page Limits

✓ Clearly indicated in Guide for Applicants and Guide for Evaluators

✓ Disregard excess pages in evaluation

30 pages max

Part B1: max 34 pages (including 1 cover page, 1 page for Table of Contents and 2 pages for the List of participants)

Page limits: Clearly set out in electronic system; excess page(s) blanked out
Funding for IO/TC beneficiaries?

International organisations (e.g. United Nations) and organisations in those Third Countries not listed in the general annex to the MSCA Work Programme 2018-2020 may receive funding only in exceptional cases:

- essential to the action
- endorsed by evaluators

Example of countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States...
Operational Capacity Check

Evaluators will also assess whether participants have the operational capacity to carry out the project.

**How?**
Based on the information in the proposal

**Ask yourself:**
- Does each beneficiary have appropriate premises to host researchers?
- Does each beneficiary have appropriate staff resources to supervise/train researchers?
Ethics issues

- **Part A** (Ethics Table) and **part B2** (Ethics section) to be filled in by the applicants.

- for proposals involving human embryos or/and human embryonic stem cells (hESC): evaluators will need to confirm that it is necessary to achieve the scientific objectives of the proposal (or not).

- All proposals likely to receive funding will undergo an ethical screening by 2 dedicated ethical reviewers.

- Screening reports will include recommendations for the Grant Agreement Preparation or will identify the need for an in-depth ethics review.
✓ Partner organisations must include a letter of commitment in the proposal in Part B2 - Section B.7 (no template).
   If missing, the partner organisation’s contribution shall be disregarded.

✓ Reference(s) to the outcome of previous evaluations (in the proposal) shall be disregarded
EID proposals must respect the following rules:

✓ All fellows must stay at the non-academic sector for min. 50% of their recruitment period. The inter-sectoral secondments must be international between beneficiaries.

✓ All fellows must be enrolled in a doctoral programme at an academic sector beneficiary/partner organisation.

✓ A mandatory joint governance structure with joint selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment procedures must be described in the proposal.

✓ Each ESR is jointly supervised by at least two supervisors, one from each sector.
EJD proposals must respect the following rules:

✓ **All fellows** must be enrolled in an **international** doctoral programme leading to a joint/double or a multiple degree organised by the beneficiaries.

✓ **EJD participants awarding the doctoral degree** must include signed **letters of institutional commitment**, demonstrating that they will award joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees. **Please USE the TEMPLATE!**

✓ **A mandatory joint governance structure** with joint admission, selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment procedures must be described in the proposal.
Pay attention to differences between ETN/EID/EJD

- The proposal must be consistent with the requirements and objectives of the different modes (ETN/EID/EJD)
- Some of the evaluation criteria are specific to EID and/or EJD
Final check

✓ Meet the eligibility requirements for the specific call/ITN implementation mode

✓ Follow the template guidance and format in the electronic submission system (access on the ITN 2018 call page)

✓ Address all evaluation criteria
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Call opening</th>
<th>Call closure (at 17:00:00 Brussels time)</th>
<th>Budget*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITN 2019</td>
<td>13/09/2018</td>
<td>15/01/2019</td>
<td>470.00 M€ (ETN 400 M€; EID 35 M€; EJD 35 M€)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where to find information?

**Participant Portal**

**ITN 2019 Call page**
- Guide for Applicants 2019 (GfA)
- Work Programme (WP 2018-20)
- FAQs
- ...
Where to find information.....

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website
http://ec.europa.eu/msca

Participant Portal (applications and reference documents)
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal

H2020 Grant Manual
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/applying-for-funding/find-a-call_en.htm