



Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions

COFUND INVITE PROJECT UNIVERSITY OF VERONA

Klaus Haupt

Head of Unit

Research Executive Agency – European Commission

H2020: World Class Science & Enabling Innovation - 80 billion EUR



MSCA: who, what and where?

- **Who: All levels** of research experience from PhD researcher upwards – there are actions for different levels of experience. All career stages and nationalities.
- **What: All areas** of research are supported: bottom-up approach.
- **Where: Anywhere:** any research performing organisation, public or private worldwide - there are actions for European and international mobility.

MSCA: What does offer to researchers?

- Prestigious **career opportunities**
- Excellent **working conditions**: employment contracts, full social security etc.
- Very competitive **salaries**
- Opportunities to work and **train with the best** researchers in Europe and worldwide
- Whole career training: **complementary skills**
- Access to top level conferences, **professional** associations & Marie Curie Alumni

MSCA: What does MSCA offer to institutions?

- Increasing the attractiveness of the participating organisation(s) towards talented researchers
- Boosting research and innovation output among participating organisations
- Strengthening of international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaborative networks
- Enhancing the organisation's position and visibility

Key figures

2014-2020

€ 6.162 billion



TOTAL BUDGET

2007-2013 2014-2020

BUDGET INCREASE



~ 100



SPIN-OFFS

~ 1 500



PATENT APPLICATIONS

~ 350 events a
year



**EUROPEAN
RESEARCHERS' NIGHT**

attended by
over 1 million
people / year



**INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERSECTORAL TRAINING
PROGRAMMES**

~ 1200

Support:

40 %



**FEMALE
RESEARCHERS**

~ 16 000



**NON-EU
RESEARCHERS**

~ 25 000



**PHD
CANDIDATES**

~ 65 000

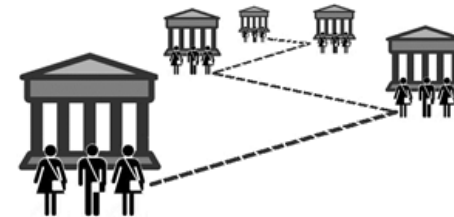


**ALL
RESEARCHERS**



IF

Individual Fellowships



RISE

Research and Innovation
Staff Exchange



ITN

Innovative Training Networks



COFUND

Co-funding of regional, national
and international programmes

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

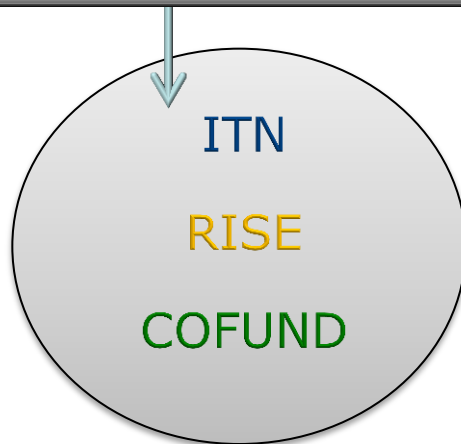
Who is funded?

Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level

Category of Researchers

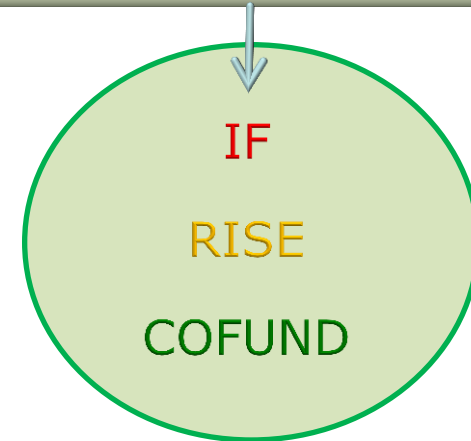
Early-stage Researchers (ESR)

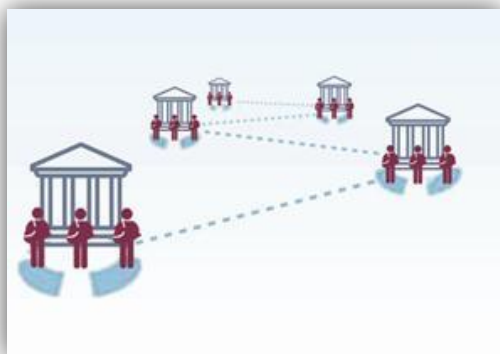
Less than four years of research
experience and
No doctoral degree



Experienced Researchers (ER)

At least four years of research
experience and / or
A doctoral degree





COFUND

COFUND: Cofunding of regional, national and international doctoral and fellowship programmes

Why: to stimulate the regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development i.e. to **spread the best practices of the MSCA**

- Opportunities for researchers from all countries
- Researchers comply with the mobility rules of the MSCA
- Open and transparent: calls/vacancies widely publicised

COFUND– Objectives

- ✓ COFUND provides funding for funders
- ✓ Stimulates regional, national or international programmes
- ✓ At all stages of their career (ESR, ER)

Doctoral Programmes

**Fellowship
Programmes**

COFUND– Key features

- ✓ Mono-beneficiary (institutions from MS or AC)
- ✓ Applications published in EURAXESS
- ✓ Maximum **€ 10 million per single applicant** per call
- ✓ Duration of projects: minimum 3 years, maximum 5 years
- ✓ **Fellowships: minimum 3 months**

COFUND

Budget and submitted proposals

- ✓ 2014 -2018: € 80 million annual budget
- ✓ 2019 (provisional): € 90 million
- ✓ 2020 (indicative): € 100 million
- ✓ 2014 – 2017: 4 calls for proposals with 442 eligible proposals submitted
- ✓ 2014 – 2017: 112 proposals funded
- ✓ Success rate: 25.4%



Successful Proposals 2014 - 2017



ES	24	50%
IE	12	
FR	10	
NL	10	
IT	9	50%
UK	9	
CH	7	
DE	7	
DK	5	
PL	4	
AT	3	
FI	3	
SE	2	
BE	1	
CZ	1	
NO	1	
PT	1	
TR	1	

Total 112



Successful Italian Proposals 2014 - 2017



Rome	3
Frascati	1
Genova	1
Milan	1
Teramo	1
Turin	1
Verona	1
Total	9



COFUND INVITE PROJECT – BASIC FEATURES

- Interdisciplinary, intersectoral and international dimension.
- Solid co-funding mechanism.
- Wide and diversified network.
- Impact at individual and institutional level.



LESSONS LEARNED FROM COFUND IMPLEMENTATION

- Successful proposals are based on high-quality peer-reviewed selection processes and provide a wide range of opportunities, including secondments and complementary training, to the researchers.
- Proposals involving networks of institutions – both national and international – offer much more choice to the researcher.



LESSONS LEARNED FROM COFUND IMPLEMENTATION

- Synergies with other European funding sources are encouraged, particularly ESF/ERDF, but – to the best of our knowledge no Italian project had taken advantage of this yet.
- Recurrent issue: transparency and fairness of selection procedures.
- Unbalanced geographical distribution across participating countries (the 4 largest beneficiary countries account for half of the projects funded; projects from only 18 out of 44 countries funded).

**Thank you for your
attention!**

