MSCA H2020

Emmanuel Babatunde

emmanuel.babatunde@uib.no

UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – H2020

- **Innovative Training Networks (ITN)**
  - Innovative doctoral-level training providing a range of skills in order to maximise employability
- **Individual Fellowships (IF)**
  - Support for experienced researchers undertaking mobility between countries, and also to the non-academic sector
- **Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)**
  - International and intersectoral collaboration through the exchange of research and innovation staff
- **Co-funding** of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)
  - Co-financing high-quality fellowship or doctoral programmes with transnational mobility

This is MSCA ITN

- **European Training Networks (ETN)**
  - These networks have the objective of training highly-skilled researchers and stimulating entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation in Europe. An ETN must be composed of at least three beneficiaries established in at least three different MS or AC
- **European Industrial Doctorates (EID)**
  - EID aims to meet the objectives of ITN in particular by involving the non-academic sector in doctoral training so that skills better match public and private sector needs. An EID must be composed of at least two beneficiaries established in two different MS or AC. At least one beneficiary must be entitled to award doctoral degrees and at least one beneficiary must come from the non-academic sector, preferably enterprise
- **European Joint Doctorates (EJD)**
  - EJD has the objective of promoting international, intersectoral and multi/inter-disciplinary collaboration in doctoral-level training in Europe through the creation of joint doctoral programmes, leading to the delivery of joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees. An EJD must be composed of at least three beneficiaries entitled to award doctoral degrees from three different MS or AC. At least two institutions conferring a joint, double or multiple doctoral degree must be established in an MS or AC.

ITN Objectives

- **Main EU programme for structured doctoral training**
- **Train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative early-stage researchers**
- **–Triple "i" dimension (international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral)**
- **–Knowledge triangle (education – innovation – research)**
- **–Employability – entrepreneurial skills**
- **–Exchange of best practise among participating organisations**

Innovative Training Networks

UKRO UK RESEARCH OFFICE

- Three options:

European Training Networks (ETN)

- Minimum 3 beneficiaries
- Minimum 3 countries: MS/AC
- Up to 540 ESR months
- Apply to one of eight scientific panels
- 2014 call budget:€349.68M

European Industrial Doctorates (EID)

- Minimum 1 academic and 1 non-academic beneficiary
- Minimum 2 countries: MS/AC
- Up to 180 ESR months (up to 540, if 3 or more beneficiaries)
- 2014 call budget: €25.5M

Euro Doctorates (EJD)

- Minimum 3 academic beneficiaries
- Minimum 3 countries: MS/AC
- Up to 540 ESR months
- 2014 call budget: €30M

Common features:

- Only Early Stage Researchers (ESR) recruited
- Maximum project length = 48 months
- Maximum ESR contract length = 36 months
- Collaboration between academic and non-academic sectors essential
- 3rd country partners are eligible (as beneficiaries, if from funded OTCs)

Evaluation Panels

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Life Sciences
- Economic Sciences
- ICT and Engineering
- Social Sciences & Humanities
- Earth & Environmental Sciences

Separate Final Ranking Lists for EID and EJD

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weighting	Priority (ex-aequo)
Excellence	50%	1
Impact	30%	2
Implementation	20%	3

Overall threshold of 70%
No individual thresholds

Excellence (50%)	Impact (30%)	Implementation (20%)
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the **research programme** (including inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)	Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, **skills,** and **working conditions** to realise the potential of individuals and to provide **new career perspectives**	Overall coherence and effectiveness of the **work plan**, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources (including awarding of the doctoral degrees for EID and EJD projects)
Quality and innovative aspects of the **training programme** (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)	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)	Appropriateness of the **management** structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for EID and EJD projects)
Quality of the **supervision** (including mandatory joint supervision for EID and EJD projects)	Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication and dissemination** of results	Appropriateness of the **infrastructure** of the participating organisations
Quality of the proposed **interaction** between the participating organisations		**Competences, experience and complementarity** of the participating organisations and their **commitment** to the programme

The dimensions of EXCELLENCE

- Inviting researchers working in industry or other socio-economic actors to deliver courses on entrepreneurship, exploitation of research results, ethics, patenting, etc;
- Mentoring of doctoral candidates by researchers and/or experts from industry or from other socio-economic actors;
- Exposing researchers to various socio-economic actors gathered in a single campus or hub;
- Offering placement opportunities for several weeks or months to young researchers to develop their research projects at the premises of future

International dimension (examples):

- Offering possibilities to take courses abroad;
- Developing partnerships and/or joint degrees with other research institutions or companies in different countries.

Inter-disciplinary dimension (examples):

- Proposing common courses or projects to doctoral candidates from different disciplines;
- Bringing together doctoral candidates in multi-disciplinary projects involving different research teams from the same or different institutions;
- Offering laboratory rotations or visits.

The dimensions of IMPACT

Innovation & human resources dimension (examples):

- Train researchers in skills needed in both the public and private sectors;
- Show how the provided training will enhance the competitiveness and the career prospects of the early-stage researchers;
- Describe how European competitiveness will be enhanced through the innovative aspects of the project.

European doctoral structuring dimension (examples):

- Establish long-lasting collaborations between European Academic Institutions;
- Ensure mutual recognition of the training acquired by all partners (including industry).

Communication & dissemination dimension (examples):

- Show how the European collaborations in the ITN helps achieve scientific excellence, contributes to competitiveness and/or solves societal challenges;
- Show how the outcomes will be relevant to everyday life, help introduce novel technologies, create new jobs etc;
- Promote results to decision makers.

The dimensions of IMPLEMENTATION

Capacities dimension (examples):

- Partner quality, expertise, facilities & infrastructures;
- Exploitation of complementarities and synergies among partners;
- Private sector involvement and evidence of true commitment.

Network structure dimension (examples):

- Clear and functional management structure with well-assigned responsibilities, task distribution, clear rules of decision making, etc;
- Comprehensive description of the Networking activities, including dissemination of best practise activities between partners;
- Thorough plan for organizing training events (workshops, courses, etc.)

Research & Training management dimension (examples):

- Well-designed, functional Work Packages;
- Informative and realistic work plan, complete with a realistic time table, lists of deliverables and milestones, contingency measures for risk mitigation and Gantt chart;
- Informative list of the fellows' projects;
- Transparent recruitment strategy.


UKRO
UK RESEARCH OFFICE
ITN activities:
ESR career development
Research and Innovation
Secondments, placements
Training: seminars, workshops, summer schools, modules
Communication & Dissemination
Collaboration & Exchange of knowledge
Public engagement
Visiting researchers

ITN EVALUATION & SCORING

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks		
Excellence	**Impact**	**Implementation**
Scored on a scale of 0-5		
50%	**30%**	**20%**
Weighting		
1	**2**	**3**
Priority in case of ex aequo		
Overall threshold of 70% applies to total score		

- Proposals ranked within panels by overall score
- Proposals funded in ranking order – need to aim at a score of 90+!
- Evaluation summary reports provided
- No restrictions on re-application

Training: Tips and Tricks

- Train fellows to develop expertise in
  - Communications skills
  - Entrepreneuer skills
  - Dealing with the media
  - Scientific writing

Training Tips and Tricks 2

- Train fellows in transferable and complementary skills
  - Project management
  - Scientific writing
  - Presentation skills
  - Financial management
  - Media, communication and Outreach training
  - Health and safety training
  - Grant proposal writing
  - Ethics
  - Environmental impact assessment
  - Commercial exploitation of results
  - Networking skills

Training? How?

- Summer Schools
- Fall Courses
- Spring seminars
- Field courses
- Online training
- Secondments
- Summer retreats
- Spring College

Impact

- Individual training and skills to equip fellow for the future
- Prepare fellow for both academic and industry
- Network buildin
- Excellence
- Software development
- Entrepreneural knowledge
- Industry knowledge
- Results exploitation (plan for dessemination and exploitation of results)
- Communication

Management and Coordination

- Coordinator
- Executive Board
- Advisory Board
- Tasks Managers
  - Transferable skills
  - Academia – industry relations
  - Communication
  - Entrepreneural skills

- ***Financial Management (From the Coordinators admin set-up and a project manager)***
- ***Recruitment strategy* (*Sub-criteria to be evaluated in the light of the principles of the 'European Charter for Researchers' and the 'Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers')***
- ***Gender***
- ***IPR***
- ***Sub contracting***
- ***Patents***
- ***Consortium Agreement***
- ***Web page***
- ***Outreach activities***

Project Monitoring and Key performance indicators

- Research Results
  - Conferences, seminars, publications, patents, awards. Prizes etc
  - Intersectoral Collaborations
- Training
  - Implemented training events and activities
  - Career Development plan
  - Transferable skills
  - Mentorship

Possible Outreach Activities (1/2)

- **Marie Curie Ambassador:**

Marie Curie fellows visit schools, universities, community organisations, etc. and promote their research field; Marie Curie fellows - "Ambassadors" - assist teachers in preparing and delivering teaching materials.

- **Workshop Day:**

A Marie Curie project runs a workshop/activity day in areas related to the raising of scientific awareness, for school/university students.

- **Summer-School Week:**

Students spend one week in a summer school where they receive a first hand experience from the Marie Curie fellows about their current research activities or wider scientific issues; the Marie Curie fellows prepare specific activities, lectures and experiments.

Possible Outreach Activities (2/2)

- **Marie Curie Project Open Day:**

Students and the general public visit the research institutions or labs and receive a first hand experience or lectures.

Public talks, TV-Talks, podcasts and articles in Newspapers:

Marie Curie fellows give a public talk/TV interview or write an article in the local newspaper about the results of the project and how these results could be relevant to the general public.

- **e-Newsletters:**

Marie Curie fellows develop a web-based document to be released on internet to the attention of the public at large (e.g. Wikipedia).

- **Multimedia releases:**

Marie Curie fellows make video-clips to be released on internet, in spaces open to the public at large.

In addition to evaluation criteria

- Operational capacity of the organisations hosting ESRs (Table in Section 5 of Part B)
- Ethics (Section 6 of Part B)
  - Crucial for all research domains → need to identify any potential ethical issues and describe they will be addressed
  - All proposals considered for funding subject to Ethics Review
- Gender
  - Equal opportunities (recruitment plan and ITN personnel)
  - Gender dimension in the research content
  - Training

ITNs – Final tips

- Non-academic participation is key
  - *Specifically addressed under the evaluation criteria: and has been strengthened with respect to training.* Aspects that are assessed under more than one evaluation criteria will count under each of these criteria
- Evaluation criteria
  - *Address thoroughly:* make sure you cover each one; do not bury in text – make the evaluators' job easy!
- Clarity of presentation
  - *Present case clearly:* use tables, diagrams, bullet points and summaries where appropriate
- Different schemes
  - *Make sure you have addressed the requirements of the relevant strand!*

Finance

European Commission

Funding mechanism

Funding mechanism

- Fully based on unit costs
- Unit cost is a pre-calculated cost for the implementation of the action
- Amounts in EURO per unit cost
- Total = unit costs* x number of units

1 unit = 1 month of eligible ESR

Advantage when applying

- Automated calculation of budget when computing ESR months in your proposal part A

*defined in the Work Programme

Costs

European Commission

Costs categories

1 unit = 1 month of eligible ESR

Researcher				Institution	
Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance		Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
3.110	600	500		1.800	1.200

- **Country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance**
- Researcher Allowances include employer contributions
- Researcher Allowances are a minimum to be paid (top-ups from other sources permitted)

Budget

Budget

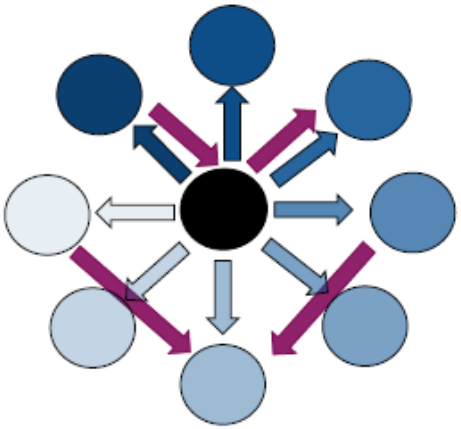
Applying for a proposal

- Max. 40% of EU contribution to the project allocated to one country (ETN+EJD only)

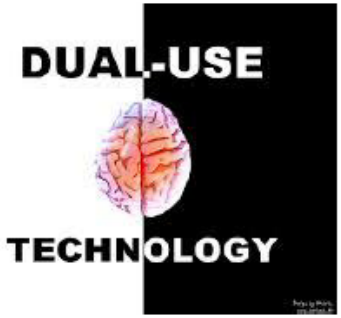
Implementing your project

- Institutional costs can be redistributed:
  - Between partners
  - Provisions covered in **consortium agreement**

3rd parties and subcontracts not applicable



Ethics



- **Research ethics** is crucial for **all scientific domains** (not only in Life Sciences).
  - ✓ Informed consent or data protection as important for a sociological study as for clinical research!
  - ✓ Dual use issues often in Physics or Engineering proposals.
  - ✓ Environmental damage also considered as ethical issues
- All proposals considered for funding will be submitted to an **Ethics Review**.

Ethics cont.:

- Each applicant is responsible for:
  - ✓ identifying any potential ethical issues
  - ✓ handling ethical aspects of their proposal
  - ✓ detailing how they plan to address them in sufficient detail already at the proposal stage.

- The Ethics part of each proposal (part A in SEP, part B section 6) must be **as complete as possible** including decription of issues and arrangements!

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Danke

Merci

Tänan

Grazie

Takk

Bedankt

Dziękuję

Gracias

Grazzi

Hvala

Many thanks for your attention

Mersi

Kiitos

Tak

D’akujem

Tack

Multumesc

Благодаря

Obrigada

Ačiū

Ευχαριστω

Paldies

Köszönöm

Go raibh maith Agat