Discussion on the future of the QG-MM network after CA18108

José Manuel Carmona

Why a "follow-up" of CA18108?

- *Keep the community that CA18108 joined together*

- *Keep the formation of new and fruitful scientific collaborations*

- *Social aspects are also important*

A number of different options:

- *Application of a further COST Action*

- *Annual meeting next to a popular conference "of the field"*

- *Creation of a society*

- *Creation of a conference series*

- *Advisory board or group (eg, EPS division, EuCAPT network,…)* **[white paper]**

- *Application for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training network*
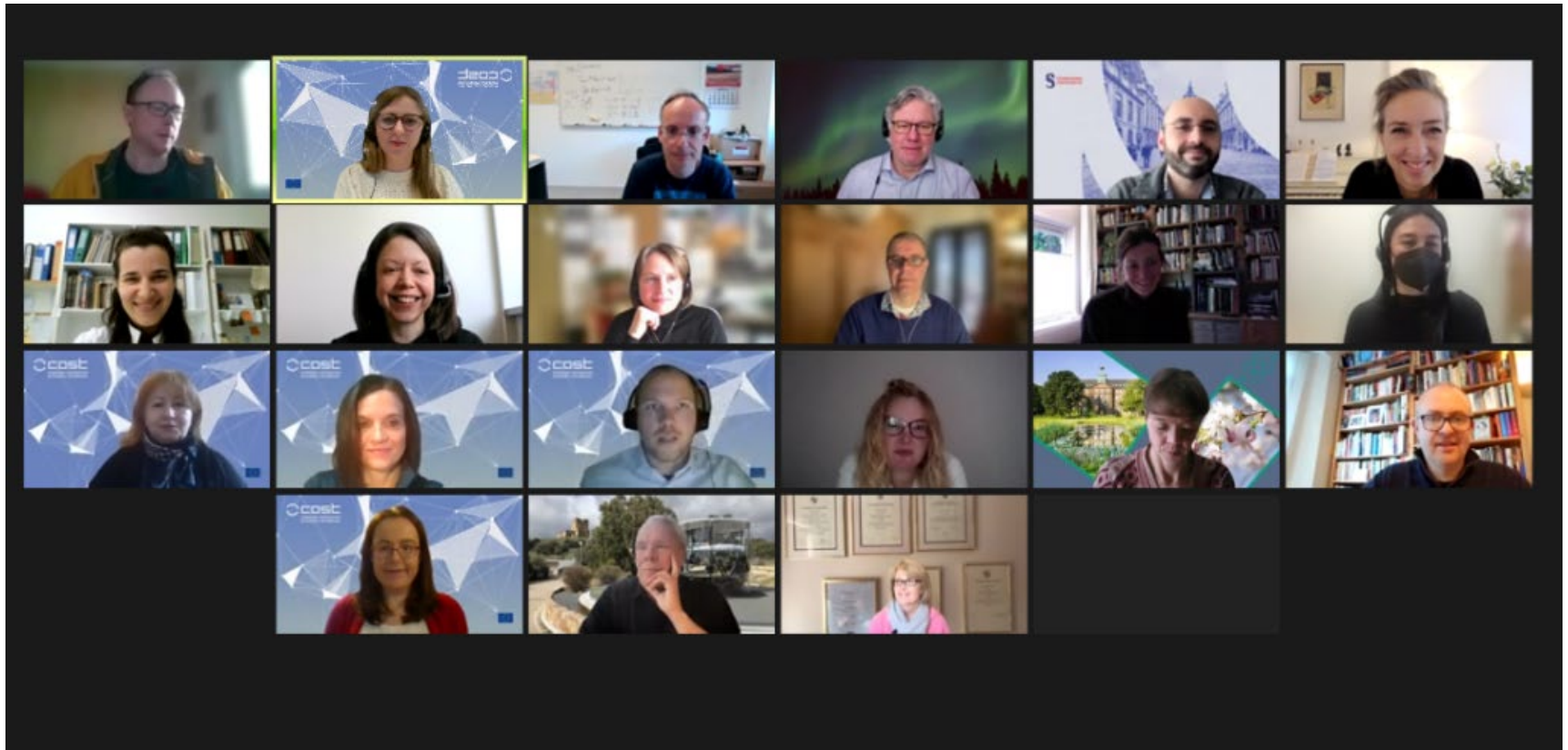
Application of a further COST Action:

Comments from our Science Officer:

- In principle, COST does not prevent any possibility for new Actions

- All Action proposals are at the same level; there are no judgements of the kind "we already had this topic"

- Proposals are anonymous: it is not possible to say "we are members of CA18108", but "we are building on the work of CA18108"

Comments from László A. Gergely:

- It is quite untypical to get funding the second time. We were not successful with that either with the Black Holes in a Violent Universe and Cantata networks.

- NewCompstar has been renewed (under a different name, Pharos) due to two circumstances: (1) the resubmission happened just after the announcement of the GW neutron star merger discovery, so they explored the hype, and (2) they promised to shift from theory to multimessenger observations, so they completely changed the focus.

COST Academy on COST Action sustainability:

COST Academy on COST Action sustainability:

Three representatives of past COST Actions with successful follow-ups presented their stories, and helped participants get a better grip on the tangible results these long-lasting relations can steer to.

Prof Marcel Swart of COST Action [ECOSTBio](#) (Explicit Control Over Spin-states in Technology and Biochemistry) explained how his Action organised the _[Quantum Bio-Inorganic Chemistry Society](#)_, which **now regularly hosts conferences** as well as **monthly virtual meetings.**

Prof Rui A. Alves of COST Action [Strengthening Europeans' capabilities by establishing the European literacy network](#) showed how his Action has been working towards a **European Literacy Network (ELN),** also involving partners from other Actions in a "network of networks".

Finally, Dr. Uldis Berkis of COST Action [EUROMENE](#) (European Network on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrom) showcased how Actions can create **synergies with other widening instruments in Horizon Europe.** In the case of EUROMENE, the experience and the connections gained through the COST Action were essential in securing the [VirA Twinning project](#), which is currently still running.
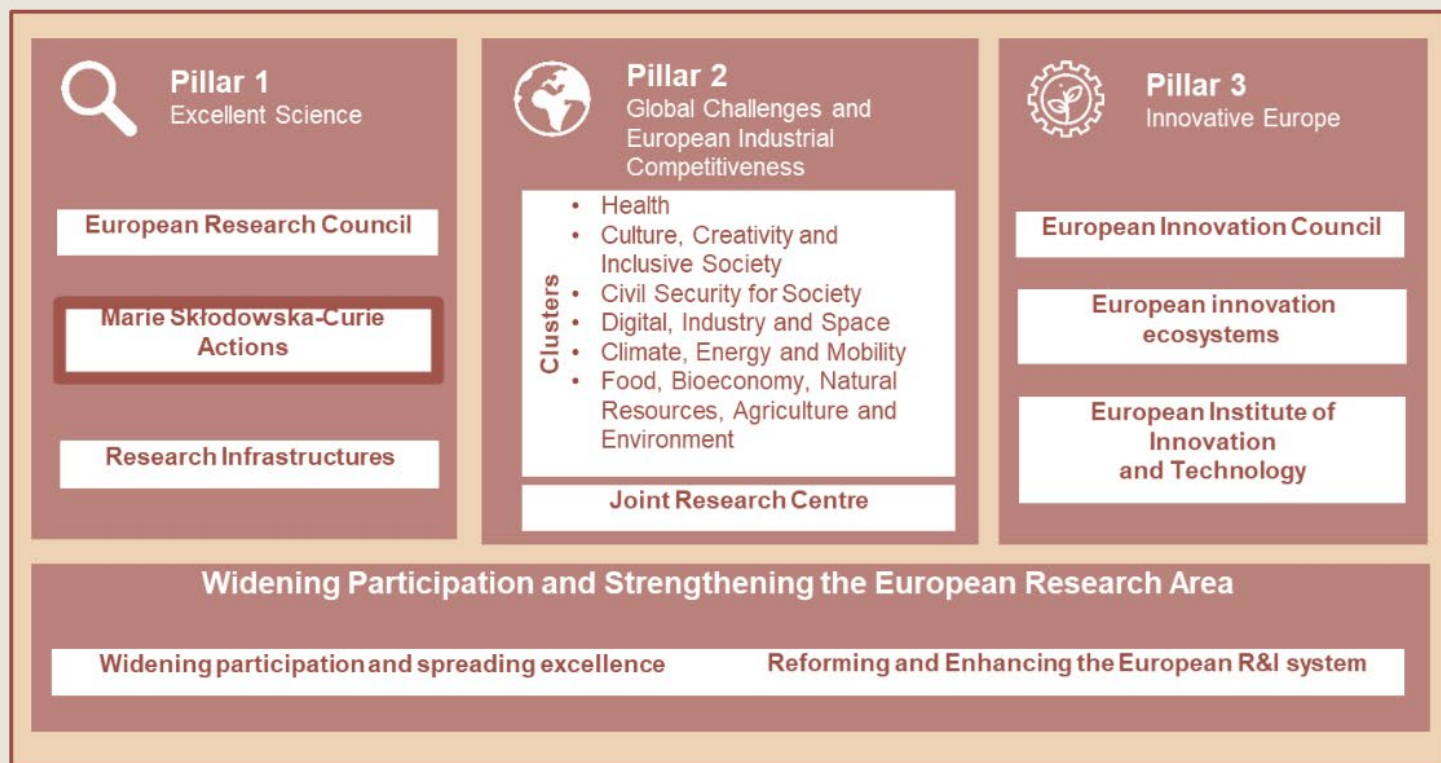
COST Academy on COST Action sustainability:

Some ideas:

- Online discussion sessions on a regular basis are of course inexpensive and feasible

- Annual or biannual conferences, perhaps organized by a society. Funding could come from conference and/or membership fees

- Suggestions are to include the society membership fee in the conference fee, and provide waivers or reduced fees for researchers from ITCs

- Another suggestion is to collect opinions from the QG-MM community through a survey, e.g., Google Form

- Action participants may try to join forces for spin-off projects in Horizon Europe, such as ERC synergy grants and, particularly, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training networks

MSCA Doctoral Networks
(slides borrowed from a presentation by Francisca Gómez, EU expert consultant from Innoscope)

MSCA in Horizon Europe

Pillar 1
Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

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

Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3
Innovative Europe

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation and spreading excellence   Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

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

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MSCA programme structure

MSCA Action	Area	Activities	Deadline
MSCA DOCTORAL NETWORKS (former Innovative Training Networks)	Nurturing excellence through mobility across borders, sectors and disciplines	Doctoral programmes in and outside academia, inc. joint and industrial doctorates	**15 November 2022**
MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS (former Individual Fellowships)	Fostering new skills and careers through training	Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers	**14 September 2022**
MSCA STAFF EXCHANGES (former RISE)	Strengthening human capital and skills development across the ERA	Support to any type of research-related staff	**8 March 2023**
MSCA COFUND	Improving and facilitating synergies	Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes	**9 February 2023**
MSCA AND CITIZENS (former Researchers' Night)	Promoting public outreach	Public outreach events	-

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MSCA Doctoral Networks

DN is a RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAMME

Objectives:

➢ Train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit.

➢ Raise the attractiveness and excellence of doctoral training in Europe.

➢ Combine research-related and transferable competences and provide researchers with enhanced career perspectives in both the academic and non-academic sectors

➢ Provide international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility combined with an innovation-oriented mind-set

➢ Respond to well-identified needs in various R&I areas (bottom-up; any scientific domain).

CHE Chemistry	SOC Social Sciences and Humanities	ECO Economic Sciences	ENG Information Science and Engineering	ENV Environmental and Geosciences	LIF Life Sciences	MAT Mathematics	PHY Physics

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Available schemes

NEW

H2020

➢ **Standard:**

- **Enrolling candidates in a doctoral programme** and a joint research training programme.

➢ **Industrial doctorates:**

- Industrial Doctorates aim to meet the objectives of DN but go further by requiring the **mandatory involvement of the non-academic sector** in the doctoral training so that the skills acquired better match public and private sector needs.

➢ **Joint doctorates:**

- Go beyond DN by proposing the creation of joint doctoral programmes, leading to the delivery of **joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees** recognised <u>in at least two EU Member States (MS) or Horizon Europe Associated Countries (AC)</u>.

European Training Networks (ETN)

European Industrial Doctorates (EID)

European Joint Doctorates (EJD)

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Standard and Industrial Doctorates

Pay attention to the list of Associated Countries!!

Standard:

➢ At least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC, with **at least one of them** established in a MS.

➢ **Additional beneficiaries** can be established in EU MS, AC or low- and middle-income non-associated countries included in the list of countries eligible for funding provided in the **Horizon Europe Programme Guide**.

➢ Associated Partners can be established anywhere in the world and from any sector.

Industrial Doctorates:

➢ ~~At least one of the **three independent legal entities** must be from the academic sector and at least one must come from the non-academic sector.~~

➢ Doctoral candidates are **jointly supervised** by academic and non-academic organisations, **both of which can be established in the same EU Member State or Associated Country**
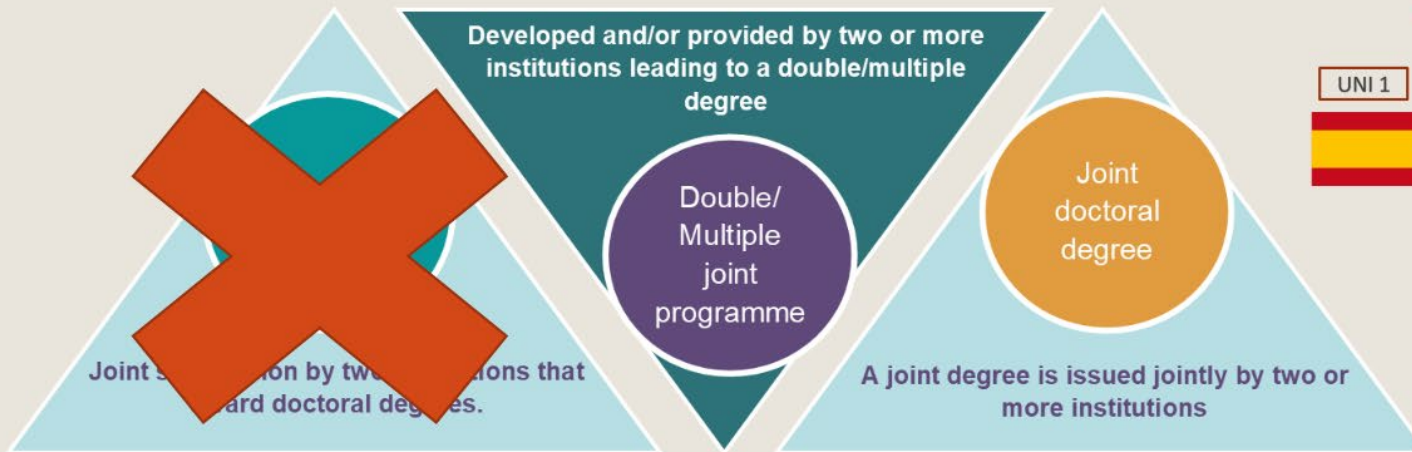
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Joint Doctorates

➤ At **least three independent legal entities** must be entitled to award doctoral degrees.

➤ At least two of the institutions conferring the degree must be established in a MS or AC.

➤ The final **double or multiple degree** must be awarded by institutions from **at least two** different MS and/or AC countries.

➤ **Pre-agreement is required** (as a compromise letter) at the proposal stage.

➤ They must set up a joint governance structure with joint admission, selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment procedures

> **Formal agreement is due by month 6 from the start date!!**

Developed and/or provided by two or more institutions leading to a double/multiple degree

Double/ Multiple joint programme

Joint doctoral degree

Joint selection by two institutions that award doctoral degrees.

A joint degree is issued jointly by two or more institutions

UNI 2

RES 1

UNI 1

UNI 3

Associated and low-income countries

Association agreements:

With legal effects:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Turkey

Under negotiation:

Albania, Armenia, Faroe Islands, Kosovo, Morocco, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Non-associated non-EU countries :

➢ Participants from non-associated non-EU countries can take part in Horizon Europe actions, but not always with funding.

➢ The list of low to middle income countries **automatically eligible for funding** can be found at: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

➢ Participants from other countries are not automatically eligible for funding and therefore usually have to participate at their own cost.

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General characteristics

Project size

➢ Up to **360 person-months** (standard) + **180 additional person-months** for joint or industrial doctorates (= 540 person-months as an incentive) *NEW*

Duration

➢ **Programme:** max. 48 months

➢ **Fellowship:** recruitment of minimum 3 and maximum 36 months

➢ **Secondments worldwide** up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration (ST) *NEW*

Budget available

➢ **2021:** 22 June - 16 Nov; 402.95M€

➢ **2022:** 12 May - 15 Nov; 427.28M€ *NEW*

Resubmission restriction applies for **applications receiving a score below 80%**

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Recruitment conditions

Recruitment conditions:

➢ **All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate.**

- They are required to host them at their premises and supervise recruited researchers, or use **associated partners linked to them** to do it.
- For Industrial and Joint Doctorates, **a researcher can be employed 100% by a beneficiary or recruited separately** by each beneficiary for the period of time spent there.
- For Industrial: **researchers must be at least 50% at the non-academic sector.**

➢ **Not more than 40.0% of the EU contribution may be allocated to beneficiaries in the same country** or to a single international organisation.

Researchers - Target Groups:

➢ Any nationality.

➢ Must be doctoral candidates (not in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of recruitment).

➢ **Must be enrolled during the project in a doctoral programme**, in at least 1 EU Member State/Associated Country (at least 2 for Joint Doctorates).

➢ Mobility rule: not resided/main activity in the country of the beneficiary more than 12 months in the last 3 years before their recruitment date.

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Finances

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit[1] x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

* A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers
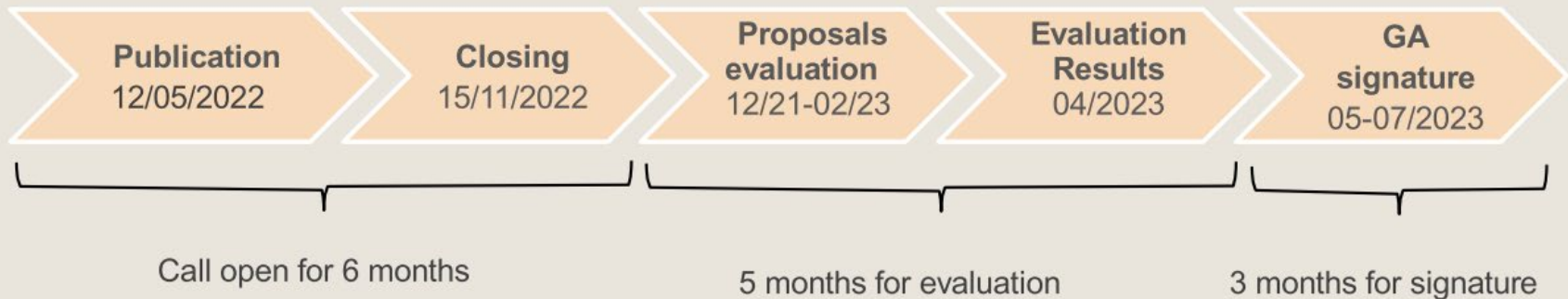
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Timing

Call DN 2022

Call ID	Opens	Closes	Budget
H2020-MSCA-DN-2022	**12-MAY-2022**	15-NOVEMBER-2022	427,28 M€

Timetable for the HEUROPE MSCA-DN-2022 Call (8 months TTG)

Publication 12/05/2022	Closing 15/11/2022	Proposals evaluation 12/21-02/23	Evaluation Results 04/2023	GA signature 05-07/2023

Call open for 6 months   5 months for evaluation   3 months for signature

Possible start date for MSCA DN Action: 1 June 2023 – 1 September 2023

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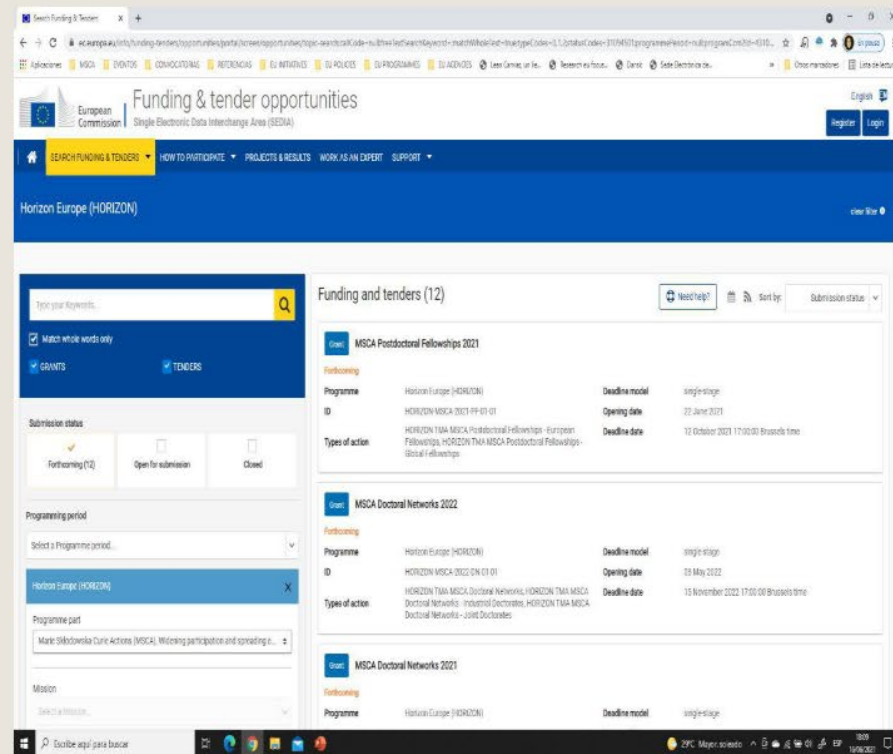
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MSCA-DN evaluation criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of **the project's research and innovation objectives** (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Contribution to **structuring doctoral training** at European level and strengthening European **innovation capacity,** including the potential for…	Quality and effectiveness **of the work plan**, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages.
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the **career perspectives** and **employability** of researchers and **contribution to their skills development.**	Quality, **capacity and role of each participant**, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the **consortium as a whole** brings together the necessary expertise.
Quality and credibility of the **training programme** (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the **dissemination** and **exploitation** plan, including **communication** activities.	
Quality of the **supervision** (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects).	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the **expected scientific, societal and economic** impacts.	
50%	**30%**	**20%**

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Search for existing projects!

➢ Do you know how innovative is your idea?

➢ Are you aware of any previous or running EU projects that deal with the subject?

➢ In which aspects is your research distinct?

Define the state of the art in terms of publications (refs.) and financed projects

CORDIS is the tool the European Commission uses to display all existing information from projects, policies, results, programmes, etc.

- ▪ It can be used to identify the projects that have been already financed making use of a series of search parameters

- ▪ Results can be filtered and information from the selected projects can be downloaded as a PDF.

- ▪ Projects information includes a summary, links to webpages, partnership and relevant documents.

CORDIS
Community Research & Development
Information Service

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