



## **Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA) in HORIZON 2020**

# MSCA in Horizon 2020:

€6.2 billion budget

In the **Excellence Science**  
Pillar

Funds **ALL RESEARCH AREAS**  
(no thematic calls or  
priorities)

Implemented via **Annual  
Calls for Proposals**



# MSCA MAIN FEATURES

- Open to **all domains** of research and innovation from basic research up to market take-up and innovation services
- Entirely **bottom-up**
- Participation of non-academic sector strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs
- **Mobility** as the key requirement - participants move from one country/sector to another
- Quality **PhD research programmes**
- Public engagement of supported researchers

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Innovative Training Networks	<b>ITN</b>	Doctoral and initial <b>training</b> (ETN, EID, EJD) <b>Early-stage Researchers</b> ; PhD studies
Individual Fellowships	<b>IF</b>	Support to <b>career development</b> of <b>Experienced Researchers</b> undertaking <b>international and inter-sectoral mobility</b> (EF & GF)
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange	<b>RISE</b>	<b>International and inter-sectoral cooperation in I &amp; R through the exchange of staff</b> (ESR, ER, admin, managerial, technical)
Co-funding of programmes	<b>COFUND</b>	Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes: - doctoral programmes - fellowship programmes
Support and policy actions		European Researchers' Night ( <b>NIGHT</b> ) <b>NCP</b> support

# MUST READ



EN

Horizon 2020

Work Programme 2016 - 2017

3. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

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RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

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Destination Europe Conference - São Paulo, Brazil

Join experts from European research organisations, universities, funding agencies and the European Commission on 16 November in São Paulo, Brazil for an event dedicated to research opportunities in Europe. [Read more](#)

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**Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions - Research Fellowship Programme**

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, named after the double Nobel Prize winning Polish-French scientist famed for her work on radioactivity, support researchers at all stages of their careers, irrespective of nationality. Researchers working across all disciplines, from life-saving healthcare to 'blue-sky' science, are eligible for funding. The MSCA also support industrial doctorates, combining academic research study with work in companies, and other

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**Open calls**

H2020-MSCA-ITN-2016  
Deadline: 12/01/2016

H2020-MSCA-NIGHT-2016  
Deadline: 16/01/2016

[See all open calls](#)

10th ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN RESEARCHERS' NIGHT

Find your partner organisation

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H2020 Programme

Guide for Applicants

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowships (IF)

Version 1.3  
28 July 2016

# CATEGORIES OF RESEARCHERS IN MSCA

## Early-stage Researchers (ESR)

Less than 4 years of research experience and **NO** doctoral degree

ITN

RISE

COFUND

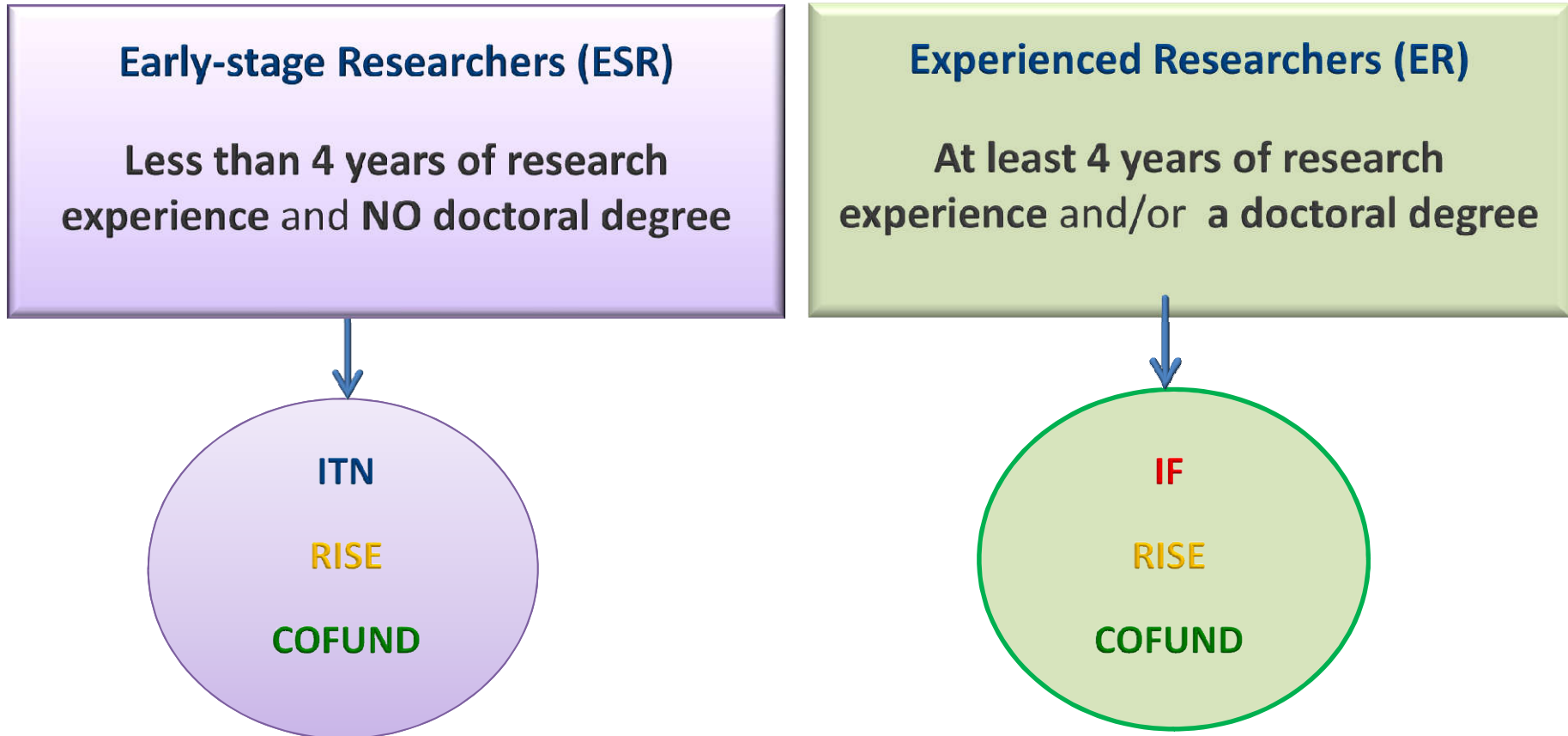
## Experienced Researchers (ER)

At least 4 years of research experience and/or a doctoral degree

IF

RISE

COFUND



# PARTNERS IN MSCA

## Academia

Public or private **HEI** awarding academic degrees

Public or private **non-profit research organisations**

International **European interest organisations**

Universities

Non-profit  
research  
institutes

IEIOs

## Business and non-academia

*Broad definition:*

Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector definition

Industry

SMEs

Other socio-economic  
actors

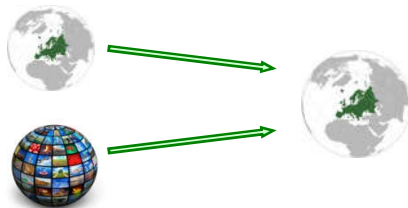
# Individual Fellowships (IF)

- A personal fellowship to support a period of mobility for **career development**
- For Experienced Researchers
  - Post-PhD or equivalent
  - No upper age or experience limit
- Fully-funded fellowships
  - Salary, research costs etc.
- Academic or non-academic host

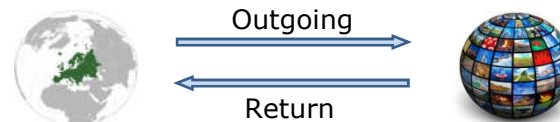
## European Fellowships (1-2 years)

Career Restart  
Panel

Reintegration  
Panel



## Global Fellowships (2-3 years)





# IF – Financial Dimension

Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researcher PER MONTH			Institutional costs PER MONTH	
	Living allowance (a)	Mobility allowance (b)	Family allowance (c)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action					
IF (100%)	4 650*	600	500	800	650

- Fellow's Salary = Living Allowance + Mobility Allowance (+ Family Allowance)
- Rates in table are inclusive of employers' costs (e.g. pension contribution)
- \*A country coefficient applies to the Living Allowance (**RS 67.1%**)
- Estimated Gross Salary (prior to employee's tax, social security and pension deductions)
  - €55,000 p.a. (no family allowance)
  - €60,000 p.a. (with family allowance)

**How to apply**

## Prospective Fellow (PI)

- Find a host organisation and a supervisor
  - 2 of each for Global F.
- Look for ads on EURAXESS
- Ask your supervisor for recommendations
- Write the application together
- Submit application together

## Prospective Supervisor

- Find an applicant
- Search EURAXESS CV Database
- Ask research collaborators for recommendations
- Write the application together
- Submit application together

# APPLICATION FORM

## Administrative Forms “Part A”

- Completed online
- Visit **Call page on Participant Portal**
- ECAS Account Login
- Need PIC (Participant Identification Code) to submit
- Call deadlines are Brussels time!
- **Abstract is here!**

## Proposal “Part B”

- Download template from inside online system
- Complete and save as PDF
- Upload to online system
- Multiple submissions possible – submit early and often!

## In drafting PART B of the proposal, applicants must follow the outlined structure and page limits!

1	• Excellence	10 pages max
2	• Impact	
3	• Implementation	
4	• Researcher's CV (5 pages max)	
5	• Capacities of the host(s) - Tables	
6	• Ethics issues	
7	• Letters of Commitment (GF only)	

# Evaluation

# Evaluation Panels

Proposals are read by at least 3 disciplinary experts

Distribution of awards across Panels is proportional to # of proposals received

From Call deadline to Grant Agreement Signature – 8 months max.

## **Global Fellowships/Standard European Fellowships – single disciplinary ranking**

- Chemistry (CHE)
- Physics (PHY)
- Mathematics (MAT)
- Life Sciences (LIF)
- Economic Sciences (ECO)
- ICT and Engineering (ENG)
- Social Sciences & Humanities (SOC)
- Earth & Environmental Sciences (ENV)

## **Reintegration (RI) European Fellowship – multidisciplinary ranking**

## **Career Restart (CAR) European Fellowship – multidisciplinary ranking**

# Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

- **Quality of Research Training**
- Objective: to train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative researchers
- A Research Training Programme for Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs)
  - Less than 4 years of research experience after undergrad

**European  
Training  
Networks  
(ETN)**

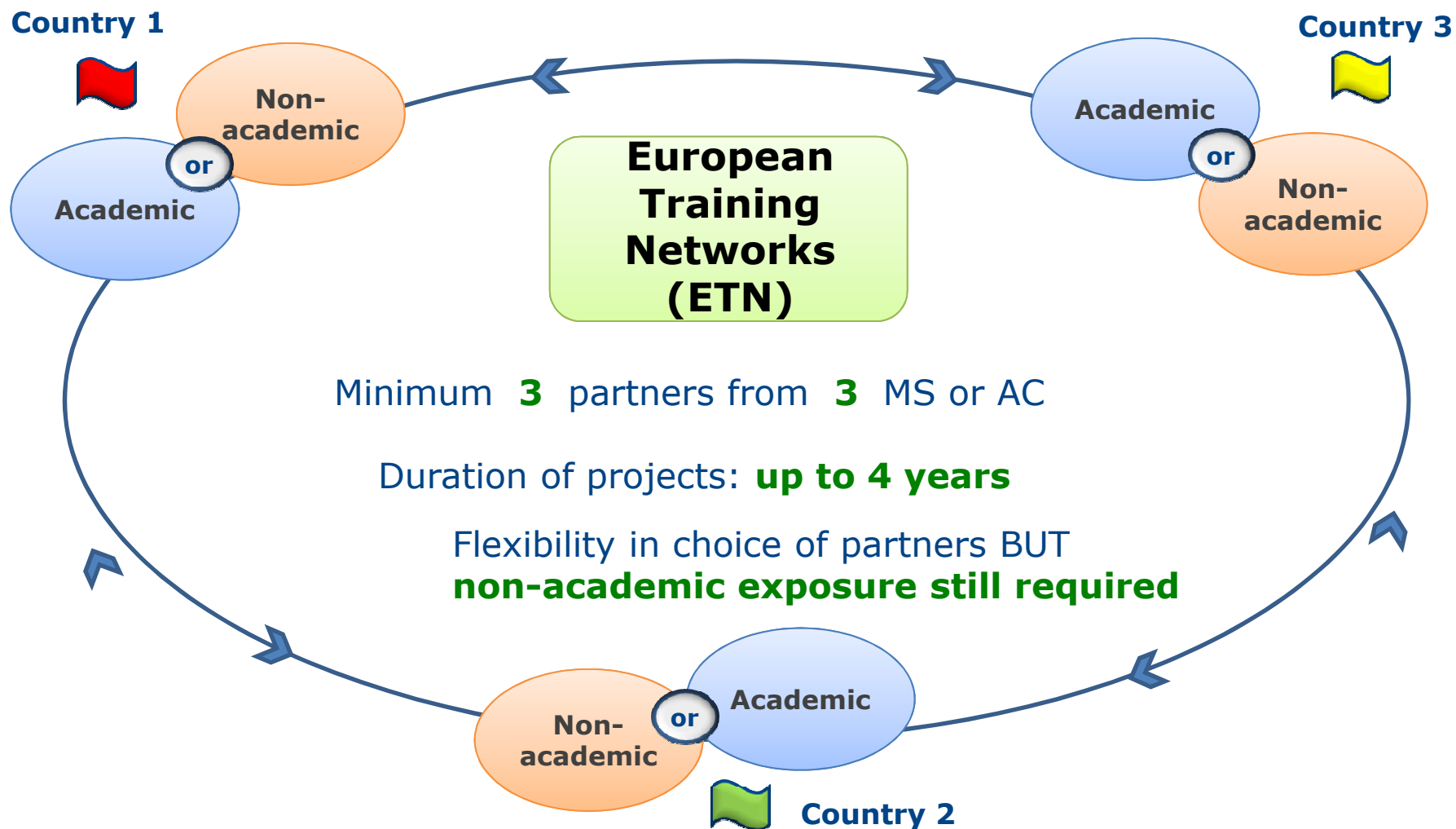
**European  
Industrial  
Doctorates  
(EID)**

**European  
Joint  
Doctorates  
(EJD)**



# Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

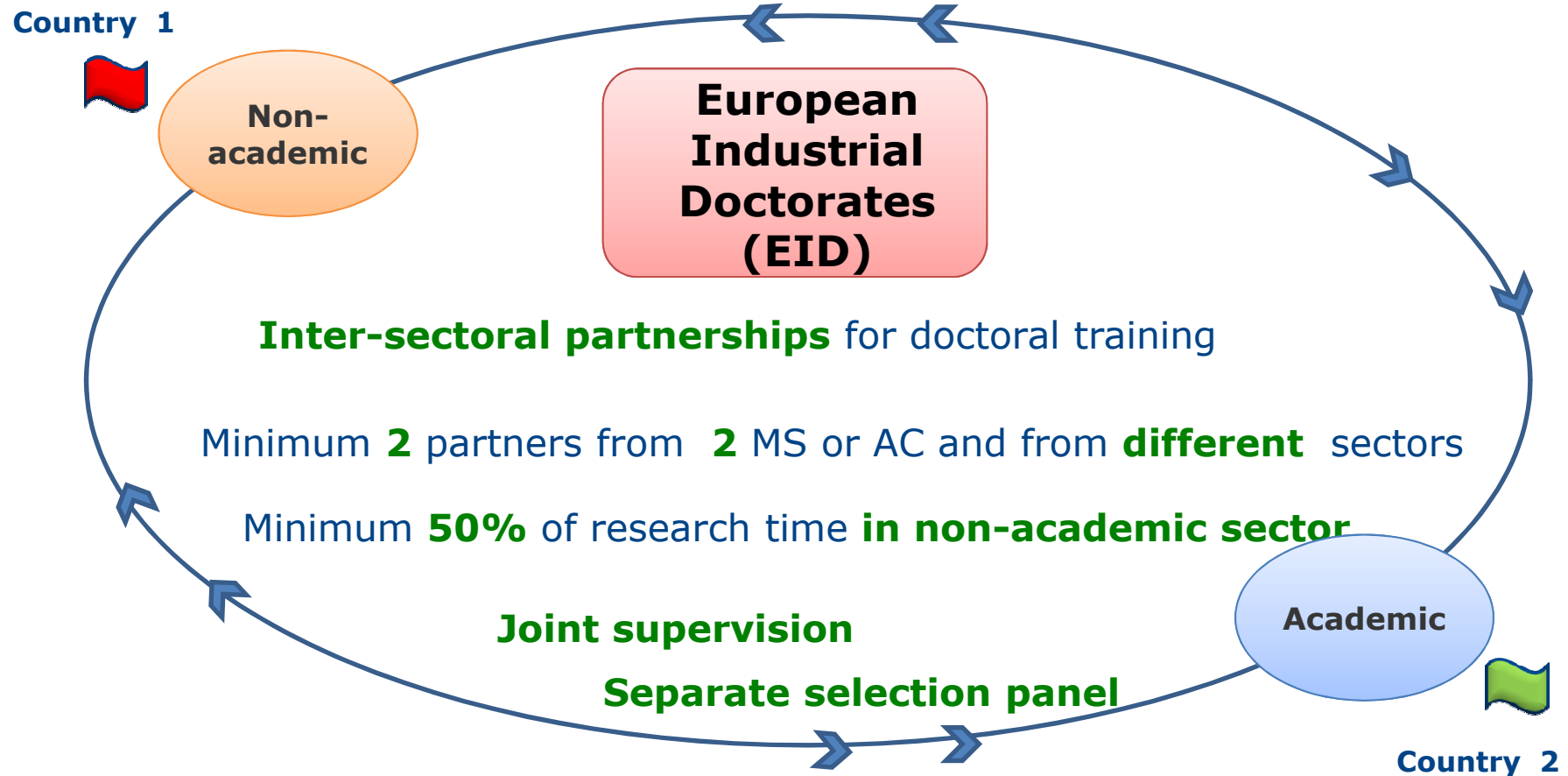
## Typical ITN



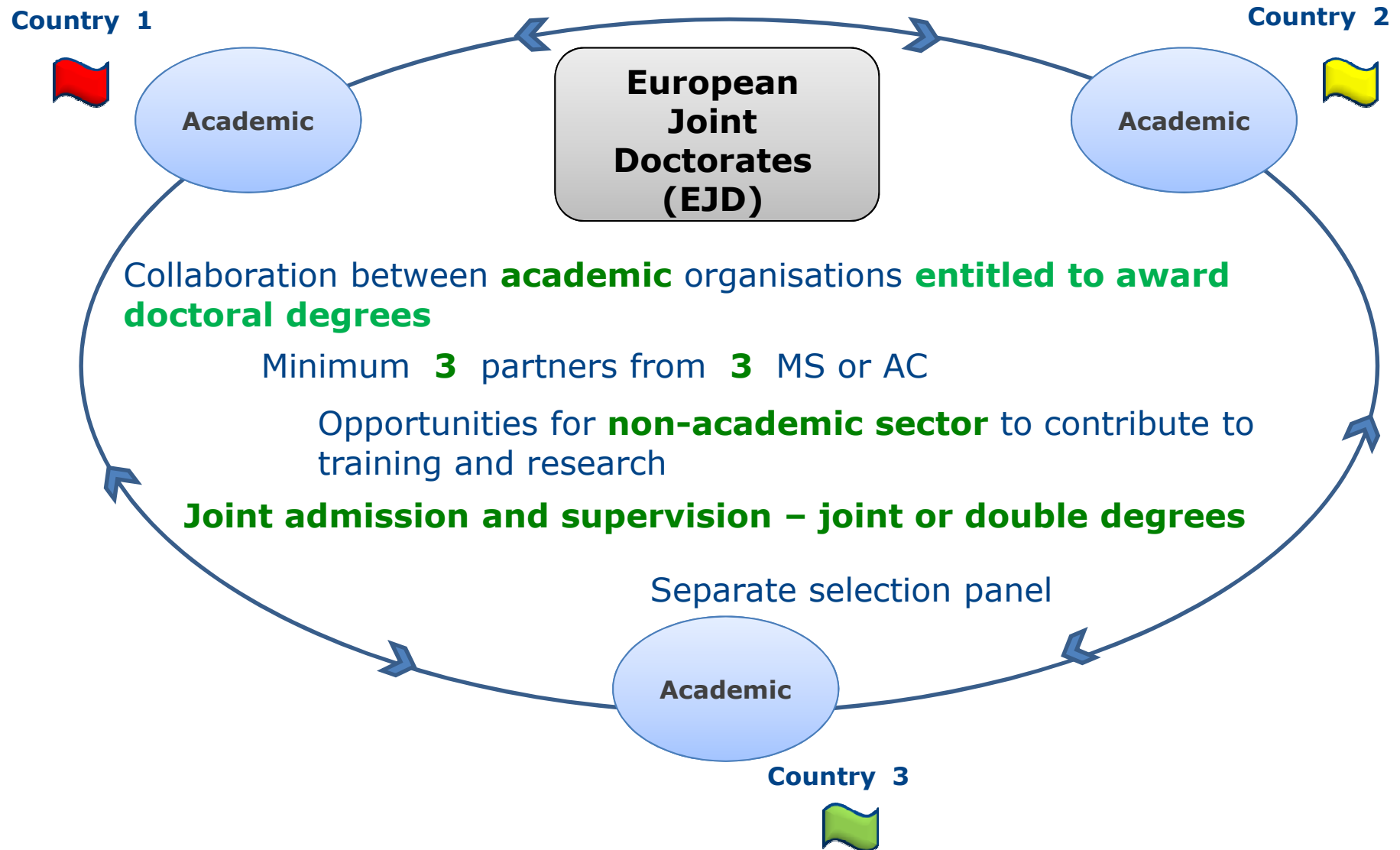
# A Typical ITN

- Consortium of organisations from different countries and sectors
- Propose a **joint research programme**
- **Recruit researchers** across the consortium— each researcher has an Individual Research Project
- **Advanced research skills** and **transferable** skills training
- Networking events
- **Secondments for each researcher to another sector** (academic to non-academic, or vice-versa)

# Innovative Training Networks (ITN)



# Innovative Training Networks (ITN)



# EID & EJD

- In EID and EJD, fellowships offered to ESRs should lead to a doctoral degree.
- EJD result in **joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees** awarded by institutions from at least two different countries.

# COST CATEGORIES IN ITN

Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers (1) PER MONTH				Institutional costs (2) PER MONTH	
	Living allowance (a)	Mobility allowance (b)	Family allowance (c)	Top-up allowance (d)	Research, training and networking costs (a)	Management and indirect costs (b)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action						
ITN (100%)	3 110*	600	500	--	1 800	1 200

Stage	Gross Salary (without family)	Gross Salary (with family)
ESR	€39,000 p.a.	€44,000 p.a.

\* Country correction coefficient

## Evaluation criteria: Marks out of 5 for each section

Excellence	Impact	Implementation
<b>Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme</b> (including inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and, where appropriate, gender aspects)	Enhancing the <b>career perspectives</b> and <b>employability</b> of researchers and contribution to their <b>skills</b> development	<b>Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan</b> , including appropriateness of the allocation of <b>tasks and resources</b> , (including awarding of the doctoral degrees for EID and EJD projects)
<b>Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme</b> (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary intersectoral, and, where appropriate, gender aspects)	Contribution to <b>structuring doctoral / early-stage research training at European level</b> and to strengthening <b>European innovation capacity</b> , including the potential for: a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral/research training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and the research field b) developing sustainable joint doctoral degree structures (for EJD only)	<b>Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures</b> , including quality management and risk management (with mandatory joint governing structure for EID and EJD)
<b>Quality of the supervision</b> (including mandatory joint supervision for EID and EJD)	Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and <b>disseminate</b> the project results	Appropriateness of the <b>infrastructure</b> of the participating organisations
<b>Quality of the proposed interaction</b> between the participating organisations	Quality of the proposed measures to <b>communicate</b> the project activities to different target audiences	<b>Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme</b>
<b>Weighting</b>		
<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>20%</b>

The Overall threshold is 70% but **successful projects normally score well over 90%**

# RISE: Research & Innovation Staff Exchange



## Promoting transfer of knowledge between countries and sectors

- Research programme executed by:
  - Secondment of “**staff**” between consortium members
  - Networking activities
- Collaborate with **any sector** and any country **worldwide**
- Duration: up to 48 months

*“Staff” = research students, postdocs, PIs, technical and managerial staff*



# Secondment Requirements

- “Staff” must be active at their host for 6 months before secondment
- Must be reintegrated after secondment
- Duration 1 month to 1 year (split stays OK)
- All secondments within Europe (only) must be **international** & **intersectoral**

# Non-European Countries

- Secondments from Europe to non-European countries are paid for
- Secondments from most non-European countries\* to Europe are paid for, **except:**
- Secondments from high-income countries e.g. USA, BRIC countries must be financed by their own budget
- **All countries** are funded to participate in the project's networking/training events

\* Annex A to the General Work Programme provides a list of countries that can be fully financed by Horizon 2020

# RISE Consortium Requirements & Funding Model

- Minimum consortium **3** participants in **3** countries
  1. 2 academic participants plus 1 non-academic (or vice versa)  
e.g. Serbian HEI, UK HEI, French SME
  2. 4 European participants plus 1 non-European/non academic  
e.g. Serbian HEI, Finnish HEI, Spanish HEI and SME, South African SME  
([FlyHigh project](#))
- OR: 1 Serbian HEI, 2 French SMEs, 1 German SME, 2 HEIs from Third Countries (Thailand and Australia) ([MEDLEM project](#))

Costs PER MONTH	Top-up Allowance	Research, Training, Networking Costs	Management/ Indirect Costs
MSCA-RISE	€2000	€1800	€700

# COFUND in Horizon 2020

## Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes

### Horizon 2020 will offer co-funding for:

- Doctoral Training/Scholarship programmes
- Post-doctoral and/or Senior Fellowship programmes (post-PhD or equivalent)
- Staff exchange programmes (post 2015)

### Co-funding rate is 45% ( $\pm$ 5%)

- If you have funding for 5 postdocs/PhD students, you can apply to turn that into funding for 10!

All COFUND Programmes are listed at <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/other/cofund.html>

# EU Contribution

Depends on whether the researcher is paid a **salary** (preferred if possible), or a **stipend**

Categories of eligible costs	Costs of researchers <u>PER MONTH</u>	Institutional costs PER MONTH
Marie Skłodowska-Curie action	Living & Mobility Allowance (a)	Management costs (b)
STIPEND	ESR (Student): 927.50 ER (Researcher): 1312.50	325
SALARY	ESR: 1855 ER: 2625	325

- COFUND co-finances only the Living + Mobility Allowance and Management Costs
- All other costs (e.g. research, travel, family allowance, indirect costs (overheads) must be financed from own budget

# Example – PhD programme

- Doctoral Programme
- Student (ESR) is paid a **Stipend**  
=> EU Contribution €927.50 per month
- Minimum living plus mobility allowance is €1298.50 per month
- Other Costs (e.g. research, management, indirect) must be 100% financed from own budget
- “Own budget” can come from any source, including Structural Funds

Cost item	Total cost [€ per person-month]	EU contribution [€ per person-month]
Living and Mobility allowance	1600 (1350+250)	927.50
Research costs	500	
Management costs	600	325
Indirect costs	600	
Total	3300	1252.50

**EU Co-Funding 38%**

# Example – Fellowships

## Programme 2

- Short-term travel fellowships programme
- Researcher (ER) is paid a **stipend** (grant on top of existing salary)
- Minimum living plus mobility allowance is €1837.50 per month
- Other Costs (e.g. research, management, indirect) must be 100% financed from own budget
- “Own budget” can come from any source, including Structural Funds

Cost item	Total cost [€ per person-month]	EU contribution [€ per person-month]
Living & Mobility allowance	2500 (2000+500)	1312.5
Research costs	500	
Management costs	600	325
Indirect costs	600	
Total	4200	1637.5

**EU Co-funding 39%**

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