Εθνικόν και Καποδιστριακόν
Πανεπιστήμιον Αθηνών

ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΑΞΙΟΠΟΙΗΣΕΩΣ
ΚΑΙ ΔΙΑΧΕΙΡΙΣΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΥΣΙΑΣ
ΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟΥ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

Δράσεις MSCA στον Ορίζοντα Ευρώπη

Μαρία Σαμαρά
Διαδικτυακό Σεμινάριο
Γραφείο Προσέλκυσης Χρηματοδοτήσεων ΕΚΠΑ
Δευτέρα, 11 Απριλίου 2022

MSCA Actions in H2020 and Horizon Europe

H2020	Horizon Europe
ITN, Innovative Training Networks	• **Doctoral Networks (DN):** Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl. joint & industrial doctorates
IF, Individual Fellowships	• **Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF):** Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers
RISE, Research and Innovation Staff Exchange	• **Staff Exchanges (SE):** support to research and innovation staff exchanges
COFUND, Co-finances of regional, national and international programmes	• **COFUND:** co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes
NIGHT, **Researchers ' Night**	• **MSCA and Citizens:** Public outreach events (Night)

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – DN standard

For organisations

Horizon Europe

- Min 3 beneficiaries from MS/AC, <u>of which 1 from a MS</u> *" NEW"*

- Maximum of 360 person-months per network *" NEW"*

- Secondments for maximum 1/3 of total recruitment period (all modes) *" NEW"*

H2020

- Min 3 beneficiaries from MS/AC

- Maximum of 540 person-months per network

- Secondments for maximum 30% of total recruitment period

- Maximum grant duration 48 months
- Maximum 40% of budget for one country
- Each beneficiary recruits and hosts at least 1 Doctoral Candidate

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – DN standard

For researchers

Horizon Europe

- **Doctoral candidates** must not already be in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment. **" NEW"**

- PhD enrolment is mandatory **" NEW"**

H2020

- **Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs)** must, at the date of recruitment by the beneficiary, be in the first four years (*full-time equivalent research experience*) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree.

- PhD enrolment is optional

- **Mobility Rule**: researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months prior to recruitment.

- Researchers are recruited for minimum 3 and maximum 36 months.

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – PF-EF

For researchers

Horizon Europe

- **Doctoral degree** (or successful defense) at call deadline **" NEW"**
- **Research experience** of maximum 8 years from date of PhD award (with exceptions) **" NEW"**
- **Nationality**: ANY
- **Duration**: 12 to 24 months

H2020*

- **Doctoral degree or at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience** at call deadline

- **Nationality**: ANY
- **Duration**: 12 to 24 months

> **Mobility Rule**: The researcher cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline

* MSCA-H2020-EF-ST

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – PF-EF

For organisations

Horizon Europe

- **Beneficiary**: MS or AC
- **Associated partner hosting the secondment:**
  - Optional
  - Duration: Up to 1/3 of project duration *" NEW"*
  - Mobility: Any country *" NEW"*
  - Timing: At any time during the project
  - Sector: Any sector
- **Associated partner hosting the non-academic placement:** *" NEW"*
  - Optional
  - Duration: Up to 6 months
  - Mobility: MS or AC
  - Timing: After the standard duration of the fellowship
  - Sector: Non-Academic
  - Letter of Commitment is required

H2020*

- **Beneficiary**: MS or AC
- **Partner Organisation hosting the secondment:**
  - Optional
  - Duration: 3-6 months depending on project duration
  - Mobility: MS or AC
  - Timing: At any time during the project
  - Sector: Any sector

* MSCA-H2020-EF-ST

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – PF-GF

For researchers

Horizon Europe

- **Doctoral degree** (or successful defense) at call deadline **"NEW"**
- **Research experience** of maximum 8 years from date of PhD award (with extensions) **"NEW"**
- **Nationality**: MS, AC or long-term residents
- **Duration**: 12 to 24 months + 12 months mandatory return phase

H2020

- **Doctoral degree or at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience** at call deadline
- **Nationality**: MS, AC or long-term residents
- **Duration**: 12 to 24 months + 12 months mandatory return phase

Mobility Rule: The researcher cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the associated partner hosting the outgoing phase for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – PF-GF

For organisations

Horizon Europe

- **Beneficiary**: MS or AC
- **Associated partner hosting the outgoing phase:** Non-associated Third Country
- Letter of Commitment is required
- **Associated partner hosting the secondment:**
  - Optional
  - Duration: Up to 1/3 of the outgoing phase *" NEW"*
  - Mobility: Any country *" NEW"*
  - Timing: NOT during the return period. It can also take place at the start of the action, at the beneficiary, for maximum 3 months *" NEW"*
  - Sector: Any sector
- **Associated partner hosting the non-academic placement:** *" NEW"*
  - Optional
  - Duration: Up to 6 months
  - Mobility: MS or AC
  - Timing: After the standard duration of the fellowship
  - Sector: Non-Academic
  - Letter of Commitment is required

H2020

- **Beneficiary**: MS or AC
- **Partner Organisation hosting the outgoing phase:** Non-associated Third Country
- Letter of Commitment is required
- **Partner Organisation hosting the secondment:**
  - Optional
  - Duration: 3-6 months depending on project duration
  - Mobility: MS or AC
  - Timing: At any time during the project
  - Sector: Any sector

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – PF

8 years experience in research can be extended for the following reasons:

European Fellowship

- *Maternity leave* (18 months – i.e. 548 days per child born after the PhD award date, or the exact duration of maternity leave taken, whichever is longest);
- *Paternity leave* (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);
- *Research in a non-associated TC* (only for nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC, wishing to reintegrate in Europe);
- *Compulsory national service;*
- *Time spent not working in research (period spent in non-research position should be completely deducted)*;
- *Long-term sick leave* (periods > 30 days).

Global Fellowship

- *Maternity leave* (18 months – i.e. 548 days per child born after the PhD award date, or the exact duration of maternity leave taken, whichever is longest);
- *Paternity leave* (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);
- *Compulsory national service*;
- *Time spent not working in research (period spent in non-research position should be completely deducted)*;
- *Long term sick leave* (periods > 30 days)

Guidelines and self-assessment tool for the calculation of the 8-years research experience can be found here: Horizon Europe MSCA - How to apply (europa.eu)

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – SE

For organisations

Horizon Europe

- Consortium of at least 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different MS/AC

- Maximum of **360** person-months per network *" NEW"*

- **Interdisciplinary** secondments 1/3 of total eligible secondments *" NEW"*

H2020

- Consortium of at least 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different MS/AC

- Maximum of **540** person-months per network

Secondments must always take place between **different countries** and between legal entities **independent** from each other

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – SE

For researchers

Horizon Europe	H2020
- Be considered "**staff**" of the sending organisation.	- Be considered "**staff**" of the sending organisation.
- Be actively engaged in or linked to R&I activities at the sending institution	- Be actively engaged in or linked to R&I activities at the sending institution
- Have the appropriate R&I experience	- Have the appropriate R&I experience
- Return to the sending institution	- Return to the sending institution
- Secondment min. 1 month independent to which institution (split stay allowed) *" NEW"*	- Secondment min. 1 month to the same hosting institution (split stay allowed)

> Researchers are seconded for minimum 1 and maximum 12 months.

Interdisciplinarity

Secondments are considered as ***interdisciplinary*** if the activities performed during the secondment integrate aspects (information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts or theories) from two or more different scientific disciplines.

In assessing the interdisciplinary dimension of proposals, expert evaluators will consider the keywords available in part A of the proposal form making reference, in principle, to the first level of MSCA keywords.

This could for example be:

- C1-Inorganic Chemistry and C2-Organic, Polymer and Molecular Chemistry, or
- C1-Inorganic Chemistry and E1-Economics

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – COFUND

For organisations

Horizon Europe

- Single legal entity established in an EU Member State or Associated country.

- All beneficiaries must recruit at least three researchers.

- The page limit of the application is 34 pages - part B (excluding annexes).

H2020

- Single legal entity established in an EU Member State or Associated country.

- All beneficiaries must recruit at least three researchers.

- The page limit of the application is 34 pages - part B (excluding annexes).

For researchers

Horizon Europe

- The minimum duration of each individual fellowship under the co-funded programme is 3 months.

- For COFUND **Doctoral Programmes**, researchers must be **doctoral candidates**, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call. *" NEW"*

- For COFUND **Postdoctoral Programmes**, researchers must be **in possession of a doctoral degree** at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call. *" NEW"*

H2020

- The minimum duration of each individual fellowship under the co-funded programme is 3 months.

- For COFUND Doctoral Programmes, **early stage researchers (ESRs)** must at the date of recruitment or the deadline of the co-funded programme's call be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree.

- FOR COFUND Fellowship Programmes, **experienced researchers (ERs)** must at the date of recruitment or the deadline of the co-funded programme's call, be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

Eligibility/admissibility conditions – COFUND

For researchers

Horizon Europe

- Any nationality

- Mobility rule: must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary or implementing partner for more than 12 months in the 36 months **immediately before the deadline of the co-funded programme's call**. *"NEW"*

H2020

- Any nationality

- Mobility rule: must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary or implementing partner for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the deadline of the co-funded programme's call or the date of recruitment

Eligibility/admissibility conditions

Plan for the Dissemination and Exploitation activities, including Communication activities **mandatory** for Admissibility!

Where? Part B

Impact criterion - DN

3 types of impact: each proposal should develop depending on their subject matter and scope:

Scientific impacts
Refer directly to the scientific progress beyond the state of the art that the proposal would produce.

Societal impact
Refer to the impact on people and society at large, for instance addressing global challenges, sustainable development, strengthening the uptake of the project's results in society, or the environmental impact of the project's results.

Economic impacts
Refer to the impact of the project's results on economic performance, for instance contributing to Europe's competitiveness, generating growth based on innovation, developing new markets.

Impact criterion - PF

Scientific impact
- Promote scientific excellence
- Support creation and diffusion of high-quality new fundamental and applied knowledge, skills and training

Societal impact
- Generate knowledge
- Strengthen the impact of R&I in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies
- Support the uptake of innovative solutions in industry, notably in SMEs, and society to address global challenges

Economic impact
- Foster all forms of innovation
- Facilitate technological development, demonstration and knowledge transfer
- Strengthen deployment of innovative solution

Impact criterion - PF

Scientific, Societal and Economic Impacts

- How widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be? For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time.

- What is the value of those benefits? For example, number of additional healthy life years; efficiency savings in energy supply, etc.

- What is the contribution to specific advances, across and within disciplines? For example, new methods that can be utilized across different fields.

- How the results are expected to have an impact beyond the immediate scope and duration of the proposal? For example, raise public awareness on the importance of combating climate change

- What is the credibility of the quantified estimates of the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impacts? For example, provide meaningful quantified estimates in areas where your project would make a direct contribution.

Impact criterion - SE

Scientific impact
- includes in particular the promotion of scientific excellence,
- the creation of high-quality new knowledge, skills, training and mobility of researchers.

Societal impact
- generation of knowledge
- involvement of R&I in developing, supporting and implementing Union policies
- application of innovative solutions in industry (including SMEs), and addressing global challenges

Economic impact
- fostering innovation
- facilitating technological development
- transferring knowledge and deploying solutions
- It may include the impact the project will generate on participant companies in terms of revenues and profits, employment creation, market share, etc.

New features in MSCA proposals

Focus on most important cross-cutting issues for MSCA in Horizon Europe:

- **Open Science** (Open science practices and data management)

- **Gender and other diversity aspects**

Gender and other diversity aspects

Eligibility: Gender Equality Plan

Award Criteria: Integration of the gender dimension

Ranking Criteria: Gender balance

Gender Equality Plan: Eligibility Criterion

Gender Equality Plan (applicable from 2022 onwards)

Participants that are **public bodies, research organisations** or **higher education institutions*** established in a Member State or Associated Country **must have a gender equality plan** in place, fulfilling **mandatory process-related requirements**

- A self-declaration will be requested at proposal stage (for all categories of participants)

- Included in the entity validation process (based on self-declaration)

Mandatory GEP process requirements

Public document

- Formal document
- Signed by top management
- Published on the institution's website
- Disseminated through institution

Dedicated resources

- Funding for gender equality positions or teams
- Reserved time for others to work on gender equality

Data collection and monitoring

- Data on sex or gender of staff across roles and leadership
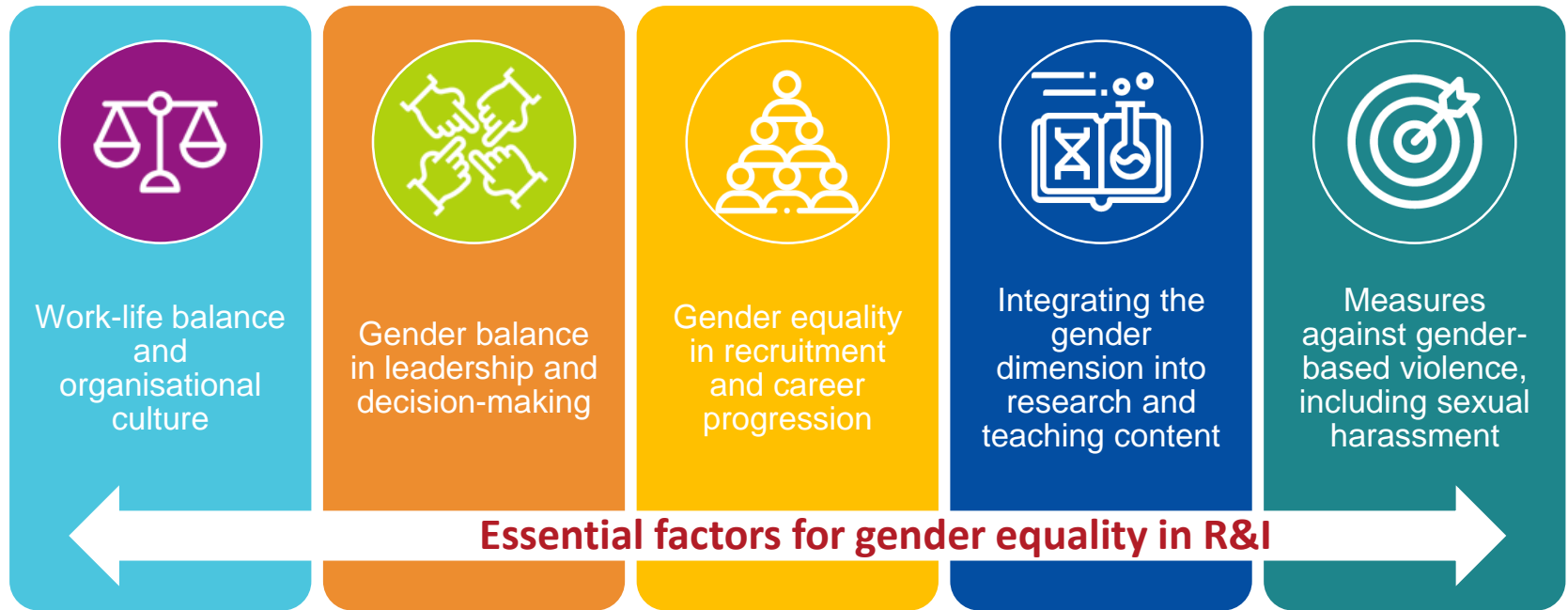- Annual reports and evaluation of progress and outcomes

Training and capacity building

- Whole organisation engagement
- Tackle gender biases of people and decisions
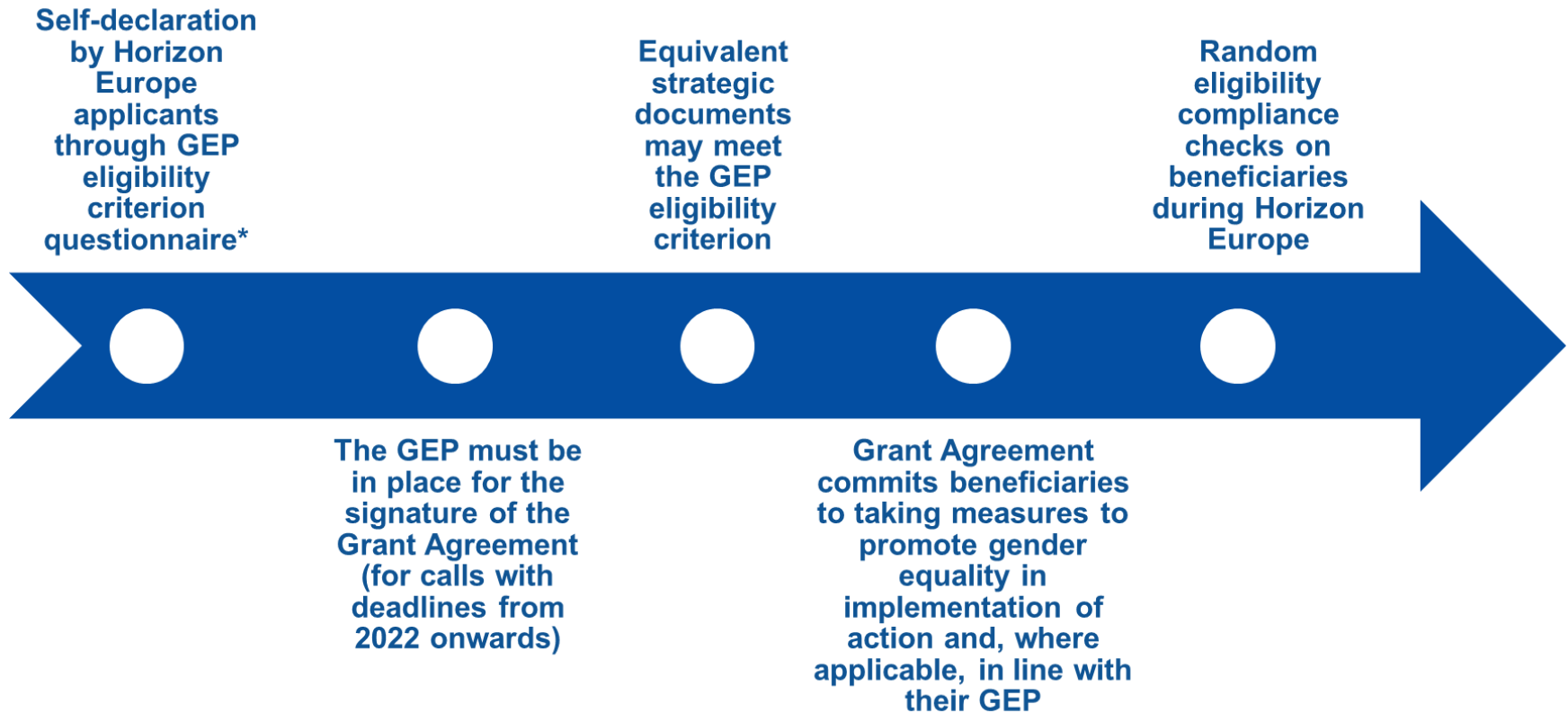- Joint action on specific topics

Recommended GEP content areas

| Work-life balance and organisational culture | Gender balance in leadership and decision-making | Gender equality in recruitment and career progression | Integrating the gender dimension into research and teaching content | Measures against gender-based violence, including sexual harassment |

Essential factors for gender equality in R&I

The eligibility criterion steps

Self-declaration by Horizon Europe applicants through GEP eligibility criterion questionnaire*

Equivalent strategic documents may meet the GEP eligibility criterion

Random eligibility compliance checks on beneficiaries during Horizon Europe

The GEP must be in place for the signature of the Grant Agreement (for calls with deadlines from 2022 onwards)

Grant Agreement commits beneficiaries to taking measures to promote gender equality in implementation of action and, where applicable, in line with their GEP

Award Criteria: Integration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects

EXCELLENCE criterion for MSCAs

- ✓ (COFUND) Quality and novelty of the selection / recruitment process for the researchers (transparency, composition and organisation of selection committees, evaluation criteria, equal opportunities, the **gender dimension and other diversity aspects**) and quality and attractiveness of the appointment conditions, including competitiveness of the salary for the standards of the hosting countries

- ✓ (DN, PF, SE) 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)

- ✓ (DN, COFUND) Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and **gender as well as other diversity aspects**)

Integration of the gender dimension in R&I content

Gender Dimension

Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation content entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process (already in H2020 MSCA)

- Why is the gender dimension important?
- Why do we observe differences between women and men in infection levels and mortality rates in the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Does it make sense to study cardiovascular diseases only on male animals and on men, or osteoporosis only on women?
- Does it make sense to design car safety equipment only on the basis of male body standards?
- Is it ethical to develop AI products that spread gender and racial biases due to a lack of diversity in the data used in training AI applications?
- Is it normal that household travel surveys, and thus mobility analysis and transport planning, underrate trips performed as part of caring work, which are predominantly undertaken by women?
- Did you know that pheromones given off by men experimenters, but not women, induce a stress response in laboratory mice sufficient to trigger pain relief?
- And did you know that climate change is affecting sex determination in a number of marine species and that certain populations are now at risk of extinction?

Example in MSCA-DN template (criterion 1.2)

- <u>Gender dimension and other diversity aspects</u>: Describe how the gender dimension and other diversity aspects are taken into account in the project's research and innovation content. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a justification.

⚠ *Remember that that this question relates to the content of the planned research and innovation activities, and not to gender balance in the teams in charge of carrying out the project.*

⚠ *Sex, gender and diversity analysis refers to biological characteristics and social/cultural factors respectively. For guidance on methods of sex / gender analysis and the issues to be taken into account, please refer to https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/gendered-innovations-2-2020-nov-24_en*

Ranking Criteria for ex aequo proposals

By order of priority

1) The proposals will be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion '**Excellence'**. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for the criterion **'Impact'.**

2) If necessary, the **gender balance among postdoctoral fellows(PF)/ the supervisors named in the proposal (DN)** will be used as a factor for prioritization

3) If a distinction still cannot be made, the panel may decide to further prioritise by considering **other factors** such as **gender and other diversity aspects in the research activities**, participation of the non-academic sector (including involvement of SMEs), geographical diversity, international cooperation, favourable employment and working conditions or relationship to the Horizon Europe objectives in general.

Open Science in Horizon Europe

"Open science" means an approach to the scientific process based on open cooperative work, tools and diffusing knowledge

(Horizon Europe Regulation and Model Grant Agreement)

The concepts of Open Science, Open Innovation, Open to the World should ensure excellence and impact of the Union´s investment in research and innovation, while safeguarding the Union´s interests

(Recital 7 Horizon Europe Regulation**)**

Important documents and resources

- **Model grant agreement (MGA), article 17** – lists the obligations you have, i.e. the requirements of the policy

- **Work Programme MSCA part** - evaluation criteria described; open science

- **Proposal template** - shows where and how to address open science- definition of open science practices

- **Annotated Grant Agreement (AGA), article 17** - offers explanations and guidance for open science requirements

- **Horizon Europe Programme Guide** – presents what is required at proposal stage and how open science is evaluated; open science practices analysed and resources provided-useful for proposers and evaluators

Open Science practices*

- **Early and open sharing** of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing)
- **Research output management** including research data management
- Measures to ensure **reproducibility** of research outputs
- Providing **open access** to research outputs (e.g. publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows) through deposition in trusted repositories
- Participation in **open peer-review**
- **Involving all relevant knowledge actors** including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science)

Listed in the proposal template (e.g. in part B of MSCA-DN proposal template)

Evaluation of proposals and Open Science

"Excellence" criterion
(methodology: Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, (...), and the quality of open science practices)

- Up to 1 page to describe OS practices + up to 1 page to describe research data/output management

- Evaluation of the quality of open science practices

"Quality of implementation" criterion

(Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise)

- Explain expertise on OS (if no OS practices are involved then no expertise required)

- List publications, software, data, etc, relevant to the project with qualitative assessment (part B2)

- Publications expected to be open access; datasets expected to be FAIR and 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'.

8/11/2021

MSCA DN part B template example:

- *Open science practices:* Describe how appropriate open science practices are implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology. Show how the choice of practices and their implementation are adapted to the nature of your work, in a way that will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives. If you believe that none of these practices are appropriate for your project, please provide a justification here.

  Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Open science practices include early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing); research output management; measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs; providing open access to research outputs (such as publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows); participation in open peer-review; and involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science).

  ⚠ *Please note that this question does not refer to outreach actions that may be planned as part of communication, dissemination and exploitation activities. These aspects should instead be described below under 'Impact'.*

MSCA DN part B template example:

- *Research data management and management of other research outputs:* Applicants generating/collecting data and/or other research outputs (except for publications) during the project must provide maximum 1 page on how the data will be managed in line with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), addressing the following (the description should be specific to your project):

    ➢ Types of data/research outputs/research outputs (e.g. experimental, observational, images, text, numerical) and their estimated size; if applicable, combination with, and provenance of, existing data.

    ➢ Findability of data/research outputs: Types of persistent and unique identifiers (e.g. digital object identifiers) and trusted repositories that will be used.

    ➢ Accessibility of data/research outputs: IPR considerations and timeline for open access (if open access not provided, explain why); provisions for access to restricted data for verification purposes.

    ➢ Interoperability of data/research outputs: Standards, formats and vocabularies for data and metadata.

➤ Reusability of data/research outputs: Licenses for data sharing and re-use (e.g. Creative Commons, Open Data Commons); availability of tools/software/models for data generation and validation/interpretation /re-use.

➤ Curation and storage/preservation costs; person/team responsible for data management and quality assurance.

⚠️ *Proposals selected for funding under Horizon Europe will need to develop a detailed data management plan (DMP) for making their data findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) as a deliverable at mid-term and revised towards the end of a project's lifetime.*

⚠️ *For guidance on open science practices and research data management, please refer to the relevant section of the HE Programme Guide on the Funding & Tenders Portal.*

European infodays and brokerage events

Horizon Europe Info days and Brokerage Events:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/events/upcoming-events/horizon-europe-info-days_en

Thank you
for your attention

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Visit our new website
https://funding.eadppa.gr/