This project is co-financed by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey
Bu proje Avrupa Birliği ve Türkiye Cumhuriyeti tarafından finanse edilmektedir

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS EVALUATION CRITERIA

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NCP Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Izmir, 17-18th March 2016

Content

- Evaluation Panels
- Evaluation Criteria for ITN
- ITN Participation
- Evaluation Criteria for IF
- Evaluation Summary Reports
- Strengths and Weaknesses in a proposal

Evaluation Panels


Chemistry (CHE)


Physics (PHY)


Mathematics (MAT)


Life Sciences (LIF)


Economic Sciences (ECO)


ICT and Engineering (ENG)

Social Sciences & Humanities (SOC)


Earth & Environmental Sciences (ENV)


European Joint Doctorate (EJD)

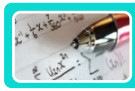

European Industrial Doctorate (EID)

Cut-off 2014-2015

ITN 2014

	Chemistry	91,6 (13)
	Physics	93,8 (8)
	Mathematics	90 (1)
	Life Sciences	93,2 (27)
	Economic Sciences	95 (1)
	ICT and Engineering	92,6 (26)
	Social Sciences & Humanities	94,8 (6)
	Earth & Environmental Sciences	91 (12)
	European Joint Doctorate	85,2 (8)
	European Industrial Doctorate	87 (19)

ITN 2015

	CHE	93,4 (9)
	PHY	95,2(6)
	MAT	88,4 (1)
	LIF	95,2 (24)
	ECO	92,4 (1)
	ENG	94,4 (24)
	SOC	95,2 (7)
	ENV	92,8 (11)
	EJD	92,6 (8)
	EID	92 (15)

Consortium Average Size 2014 - 2015

	(CHE) 9 Beneficiarios (3,3 M€)		CHE 8 (3,3M€)
	(PHY) 9 Beneficiarios (3,5 M€)		PHY 9 (3,8M€)
	(MAT) 8 Beneficiarios (3,8 M€)		MAT 8 (3,4M€)
	(LIF) 10 Beneficiarios (3,7 M€)		LIF 10 (3,6M€)
	(ECO) 9 Beneficiarios (2,3 M€)		ECO 8 (4M€)
	(ENG) 9 Beneficiarios (3,6 M€)		ENG 9 (3,7M€)
	(SOC) 8 Beneficiarios (3,5 M€)		SOC 7 (3,7M€)
	(ENV) 10 Beneficiarios (3,6 M€)		ENV 10 (3,8M€)
	(EJD) 6 Beneficiarios (3,4 M€)		EJD 4 (3,3M€)
	(EID) 4 Beneficiarios (1,6 M€)		EID 4 (1,4M€)

TURKEY in HORIZON 2020
COOPERATION, INNOVATION, COMPETITIVENESS

The evaluation of our proposal

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%

Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme (including inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and, where appropriate, gender aspects)
Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/ multidisciplinary, intersectoral And, where appropriate, gender aspects)
Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for *EID* and *EJD* projects)
Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations

- Research beyond the state-of-the-art
- Prove how excellence is the research programme and how excellence in the methodology
- How innovative is the research and the approach of the programme. Credibility of the Research Programme (How realistic is along the project duration).
- Focus on the training programme proposed. How excellence and innovative is the training
- Structure and Overview of the Programme.
- Grade of Excellence between disciplines collaboration. Contribution from the Non-Academic Sectos
- Transferable Skill programme.
- CV of the supervisors, experience in other projects, experience mentoring students and thesis. Supervision procedures.
- Capacities of the institution. ESR Exposure to differents enviroments

Impact 30%

Enhancing the **career perspectives** and **employability** of researchers and contribution to their **skills** development
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)
Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and **dissemination of results**
Quality of the proposed measures to **communicate the project activities** to different target **audiences**

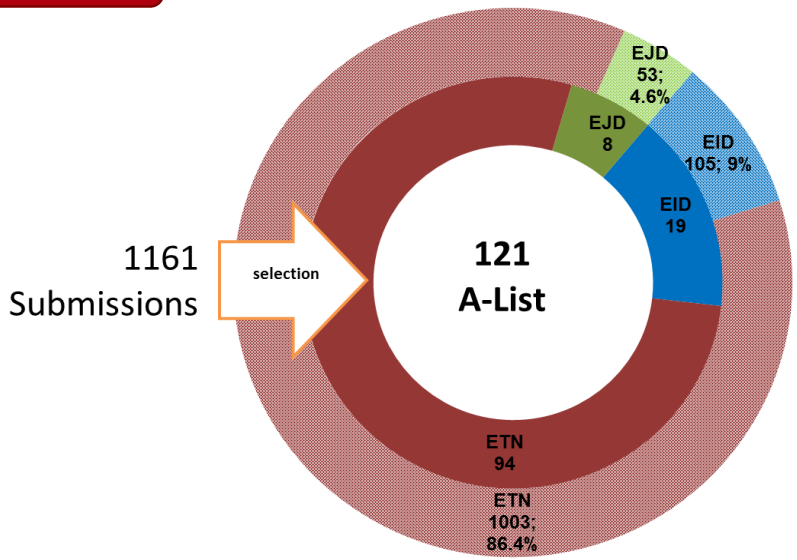
- Impact on ESR Capacities after the project
- Research done and career opportunities after the project
- Improve of the innovation potential
- Contribution to structuring the doctoral scheme in Europe, improving innovation. Realistic with a vision of future.
- New Generation of Doctoral Degrees
- Contribution from the Non-Academic Sector, adding a real value. Different outputs from different scientific areas.
- Involvement of end-users and companies
- Communication Strategy for different audiences.
- Dissemination and explotation of results. Protecction Strategy
- Public Engagement and Outreach activities

Implementación 20%

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)	• Coherence of the work plan: good definition of Work Packages, Deliverables, milestones and ESR individual Projects • Effective and logic project progress • Awarding doctoral degree procedure • Balance between capacities and tasks • ESR Balance. Recruitment Strategy
Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for *EID* and *EJD* projects*)*	• Good management structure and procedures during project • Quality assurance. Governance Structure and Committees • EJD – Compulsory joint supervisory • Risk Management, IPR management, Gender issues
Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the participating organisations	• Key point on infrastructure needed for project implementation.
Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme	• Capacities, experience and complementarity among the participants. • Commitment with the project. • Further Collaborations

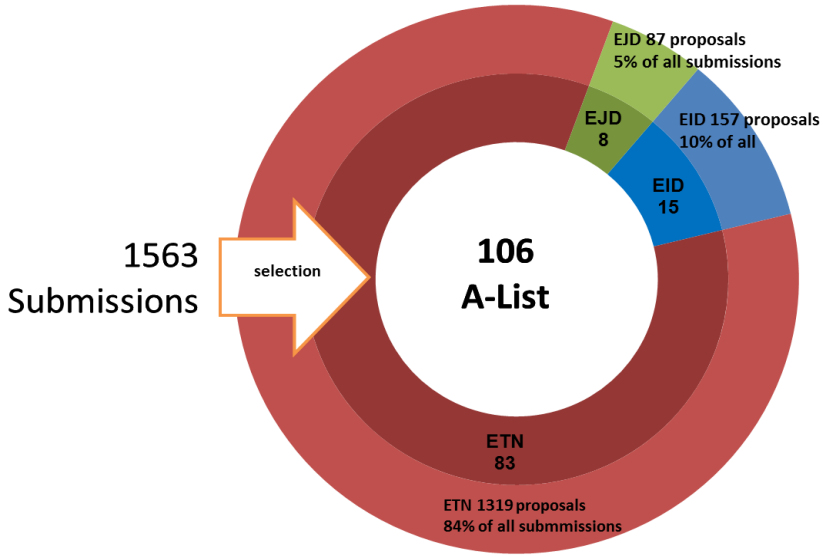
ITN 2014/2015 participation

2014



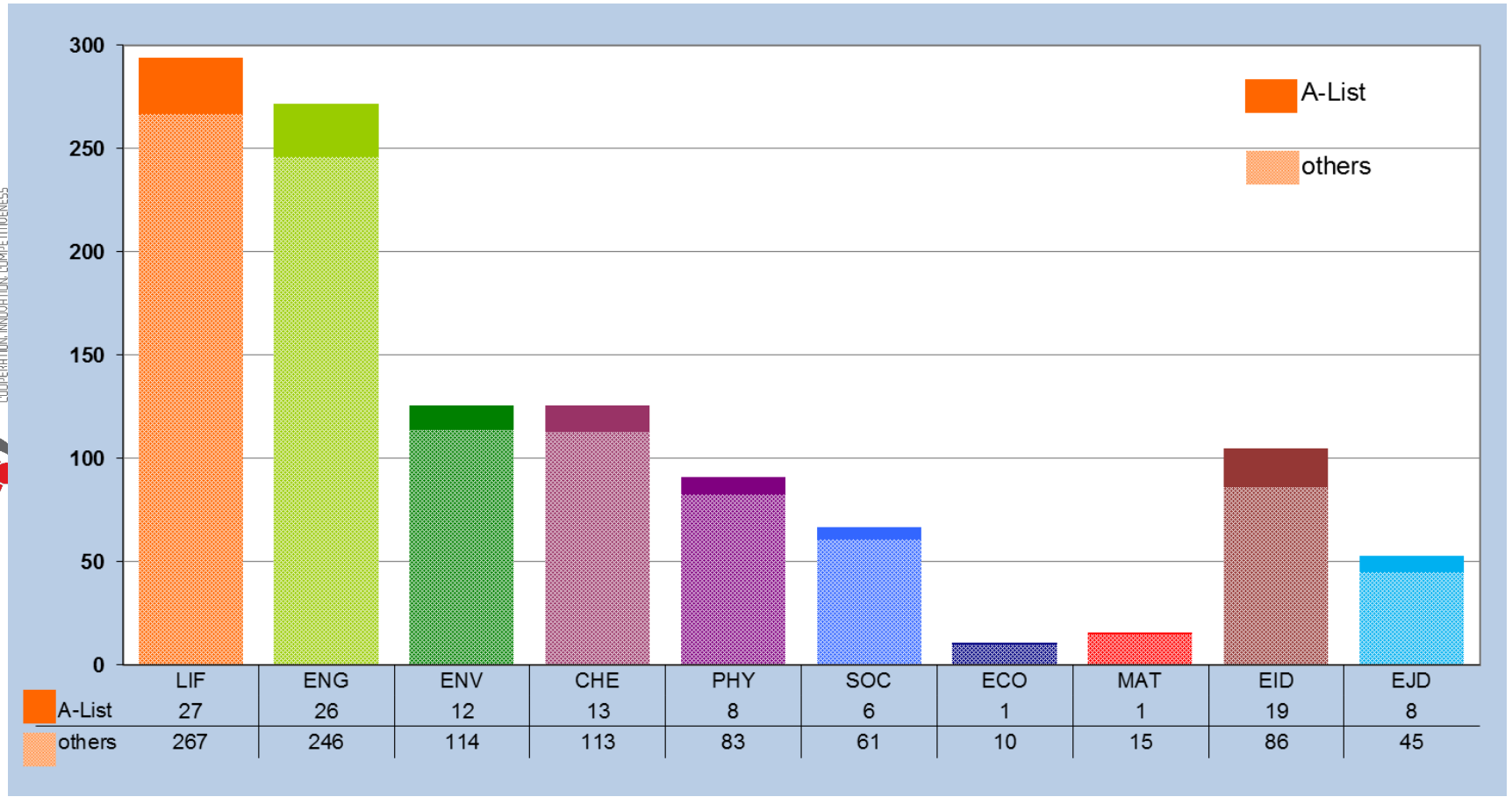
Success rate (evaluated proposals)		
ETN	EID	EJD
9,4%	18,8%	15,4%

2015



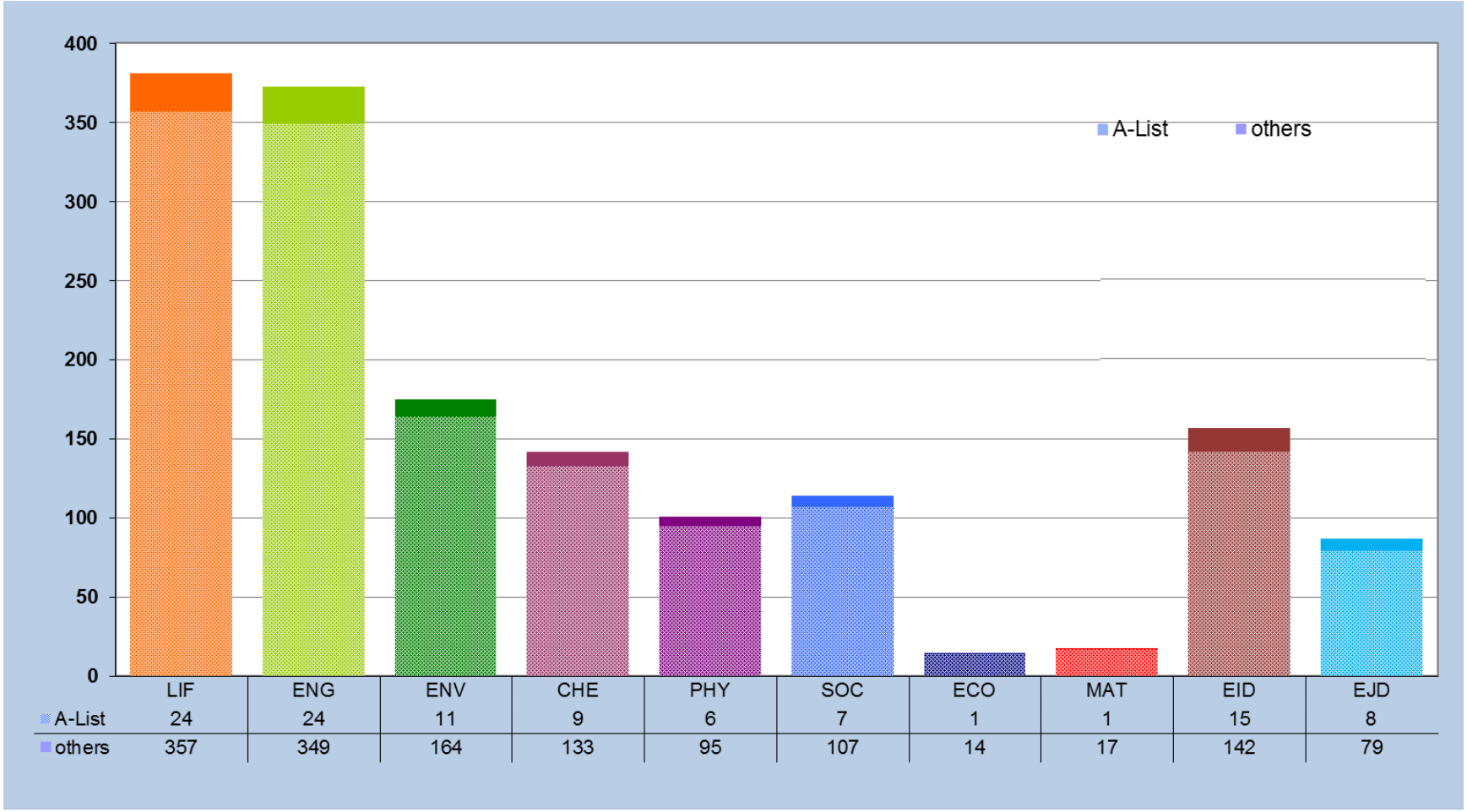
Success rate			
ETN	EID	EJD	Total
6,3%	9,6%	9,2%	6,8%

panels ITN2014



	LIF	ENG	ENV	CHE	PHY	SOC	ECO	MAT	EID	EJD
A-List	27	26	12	13	8	6	1	1	19	8
others	267	246	114	113	83	61	10	15	86	45

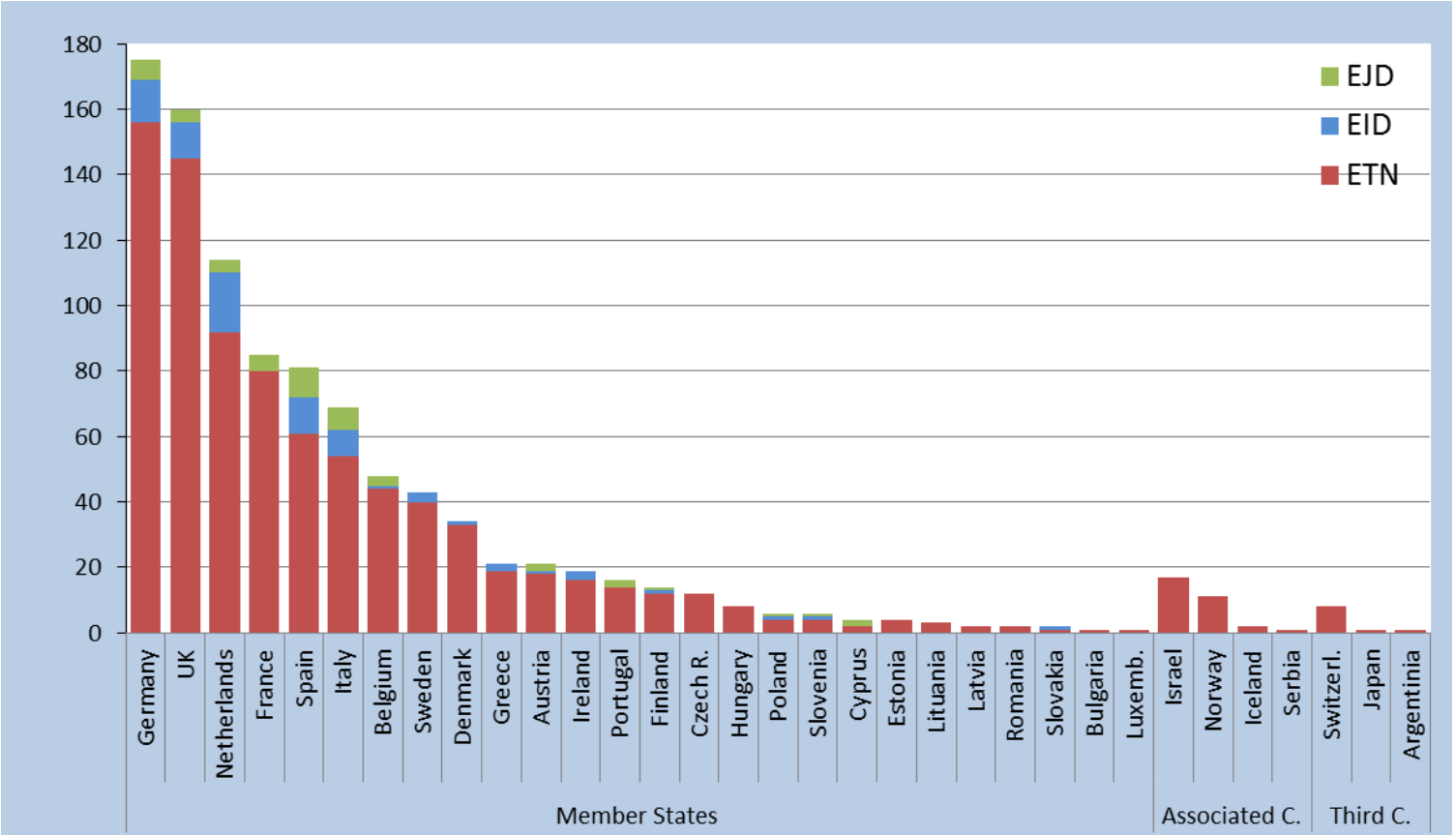
Panels ITN2015



	LIF	ENG	ENV	CHE	PHY	SOC	ECO	MAT	EID	EJD
A-List	24	24	11	9	6	7	1	1	15	8
others	357	349	164	133	95	107	14	17	142	79

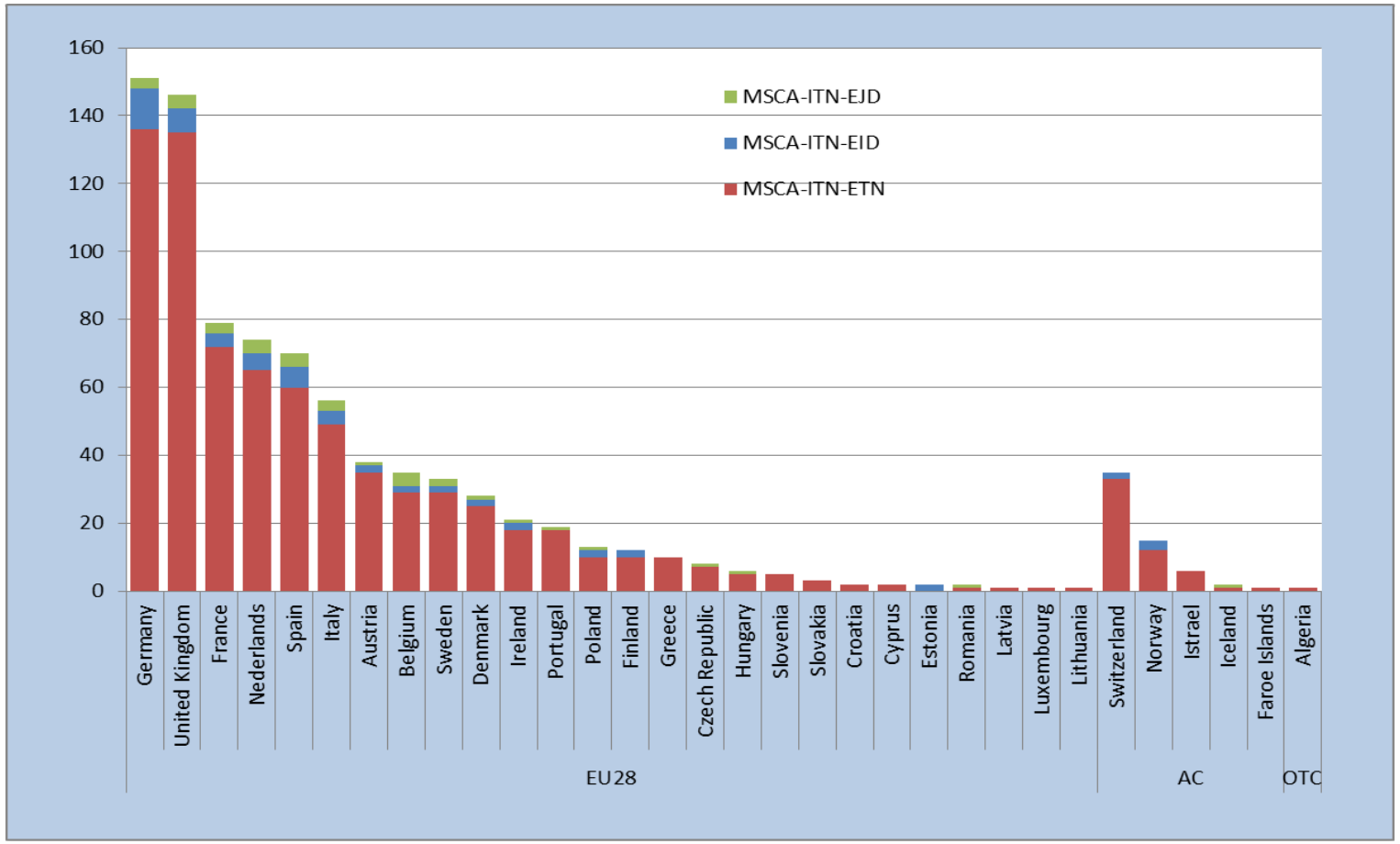
Resultados ITN 2014

ETN	EID	EJD	Total
869	76	47	992



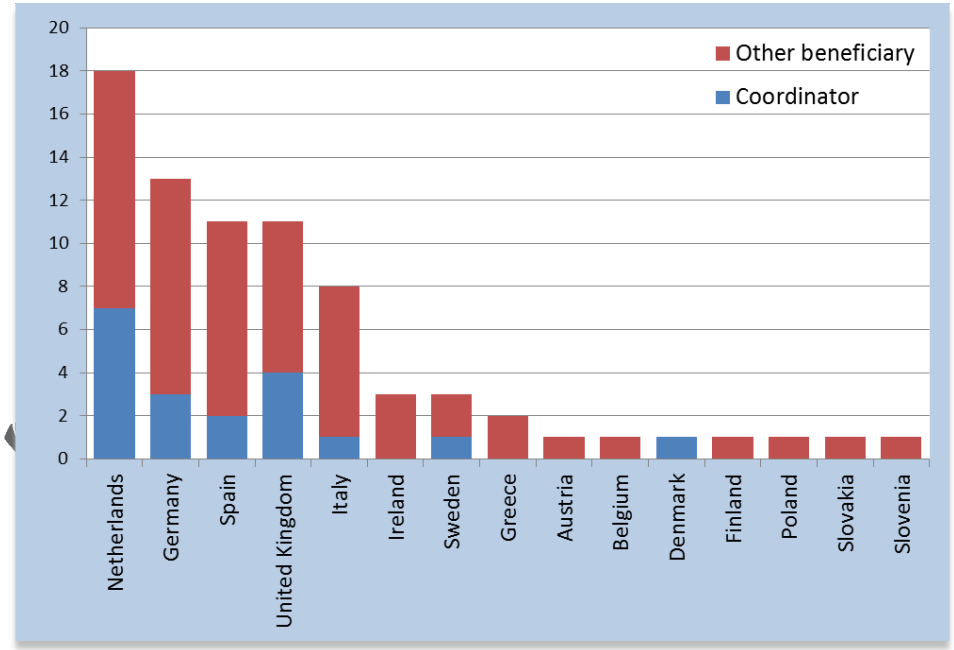
Resultados ITN 2015

ETN	EID	EJD
783	59	36



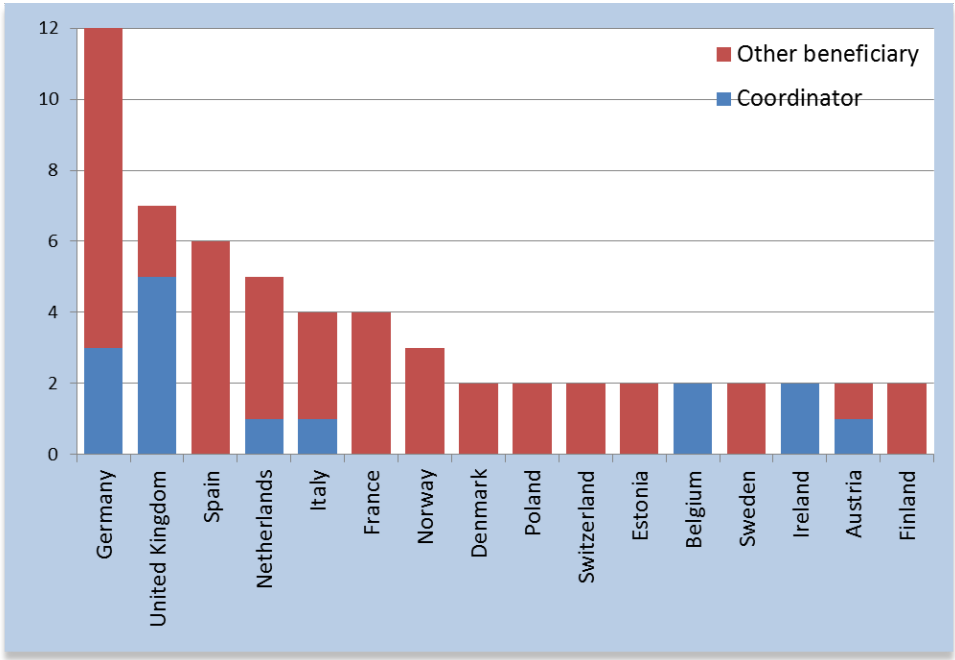
Funded EID Projects

2014



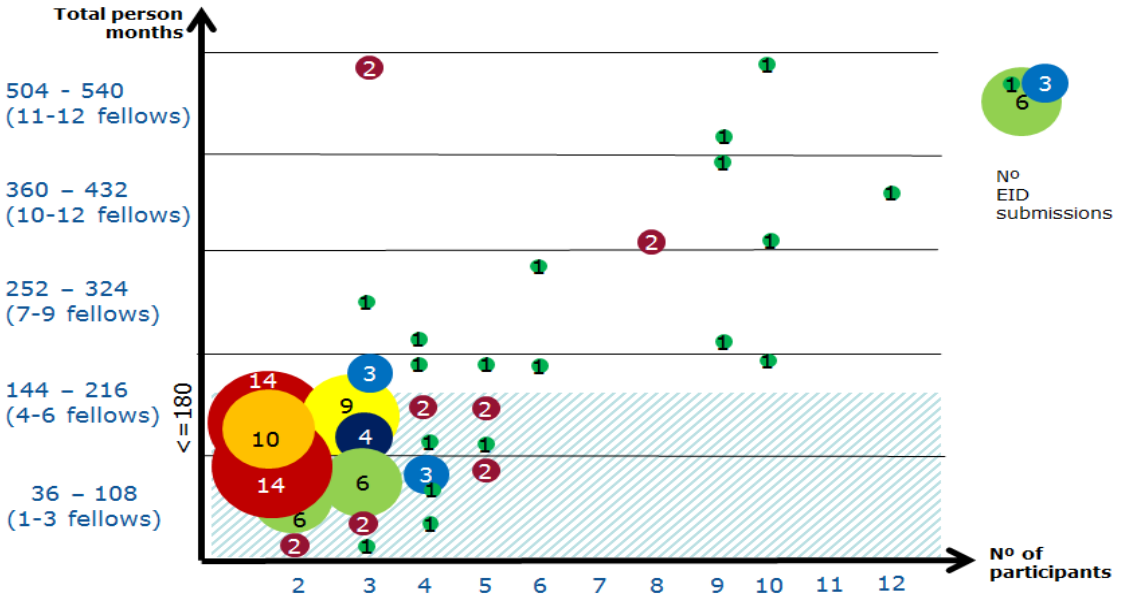
19 proyectos EID financiados
11 participaciones ES, 2 de ellas coordinaciones

2015

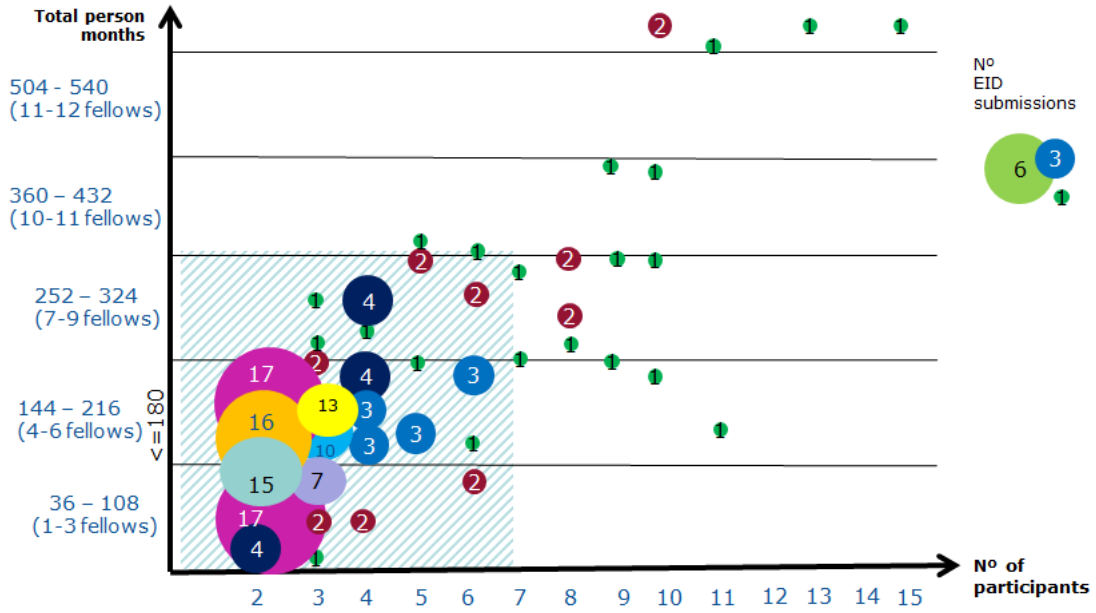


14 proyectos EID financiados
6 participaciones ES

EID 2014 - 2015



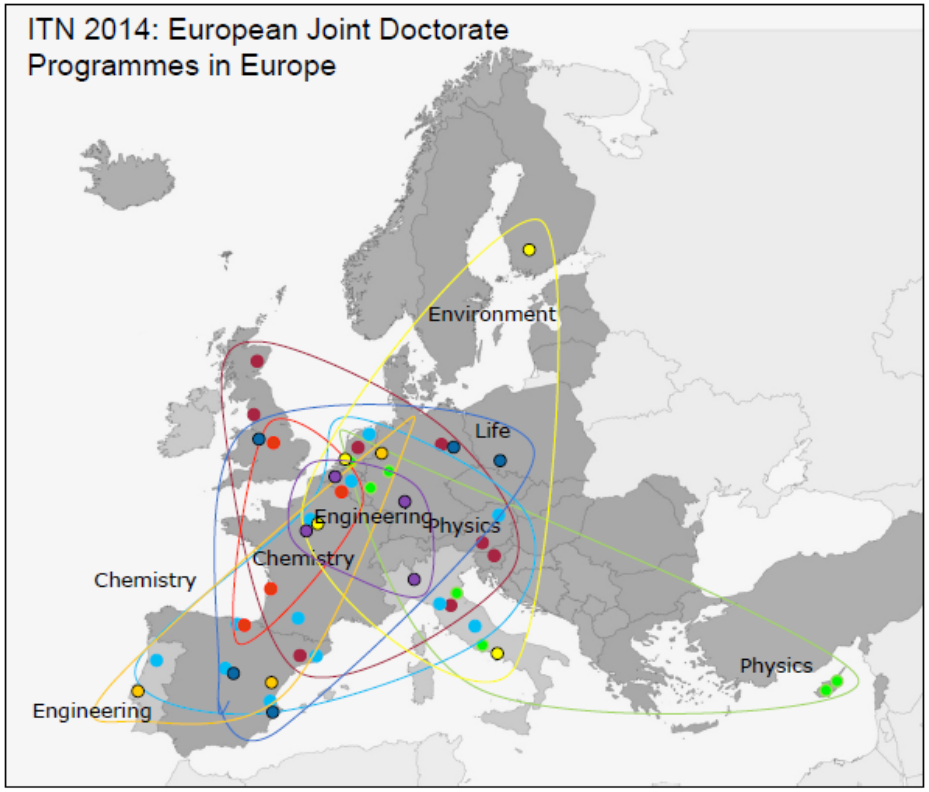
2014



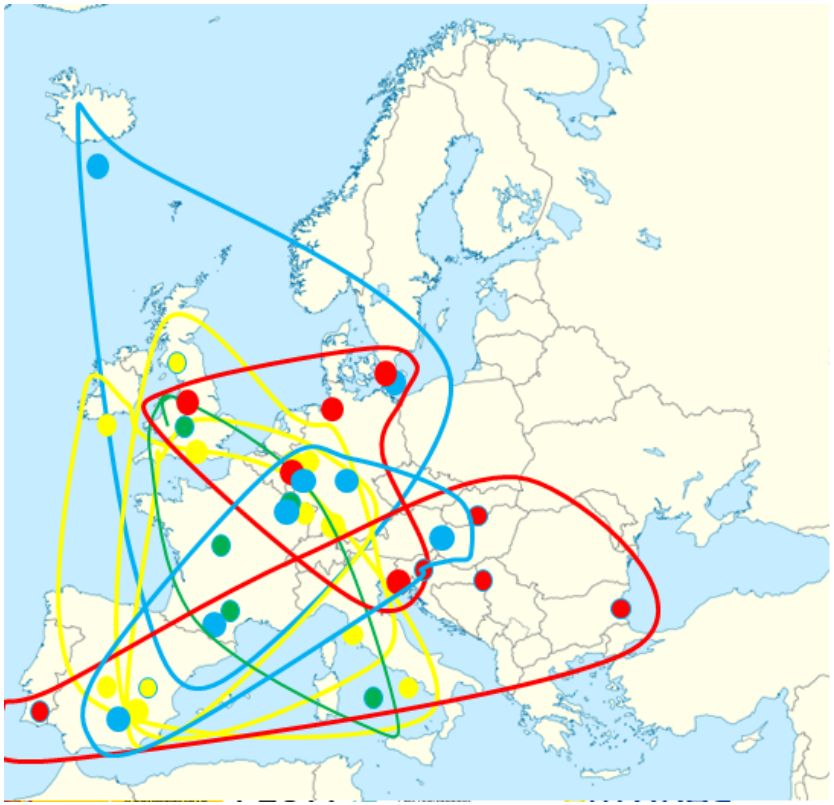
2015

EJD Funded Projects

2014 8 proyectos financiados



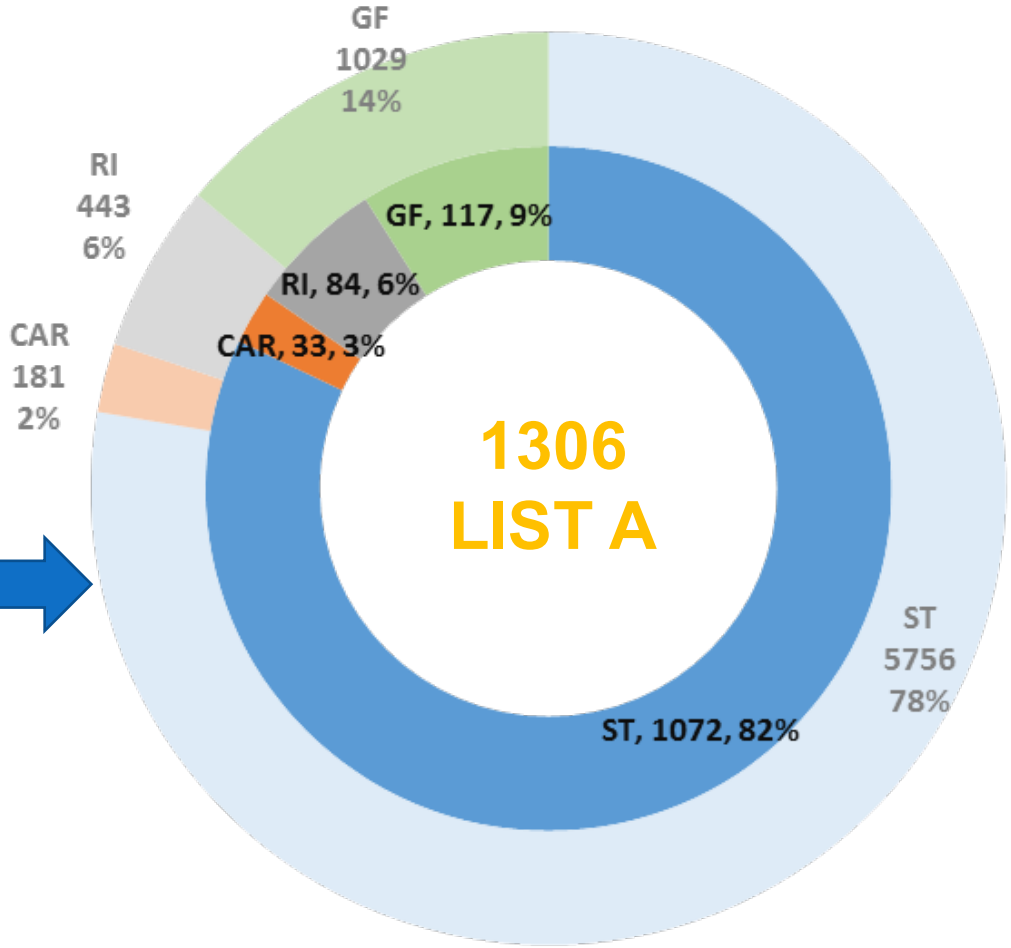
2015 8 proyectos financiados



LIFE ENG SOC ENV

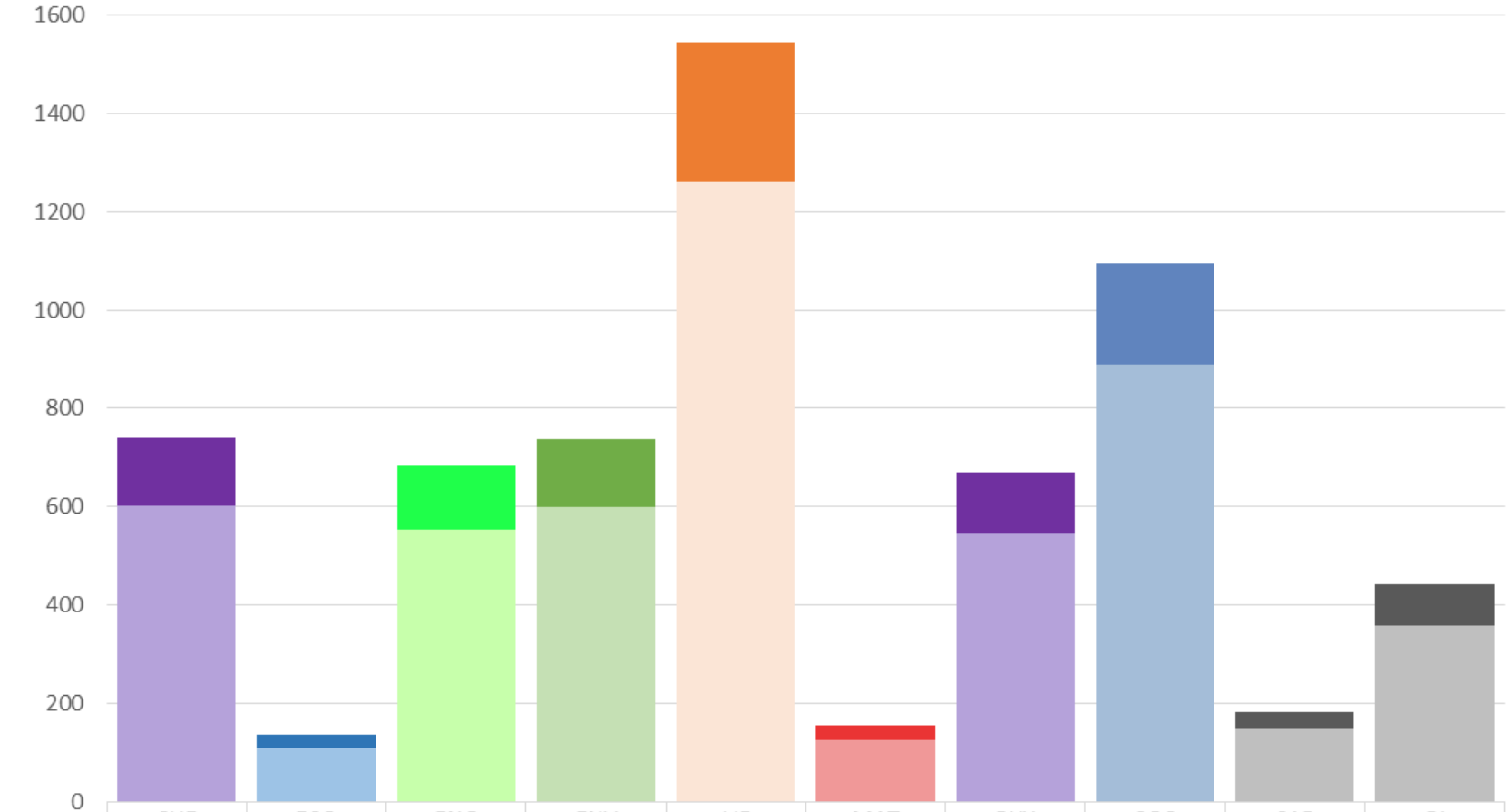
Results MSCA - IF2014

7409
Proposals Submitted



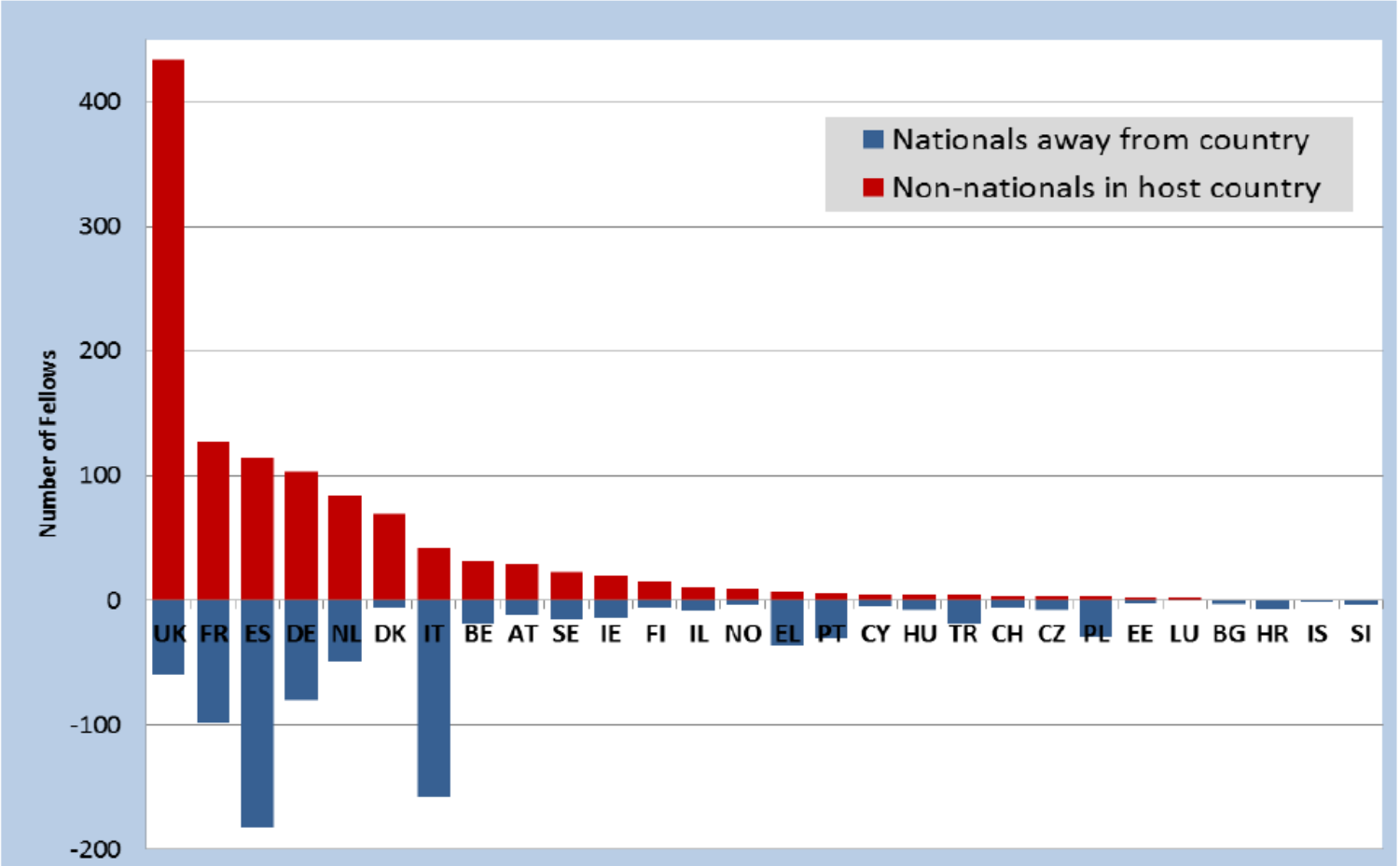
SUCCESS RATE			
ST	CAR	RI	GF
18,62 %	18,23 %	18,96 %	11,37 %

Distribution by Panels

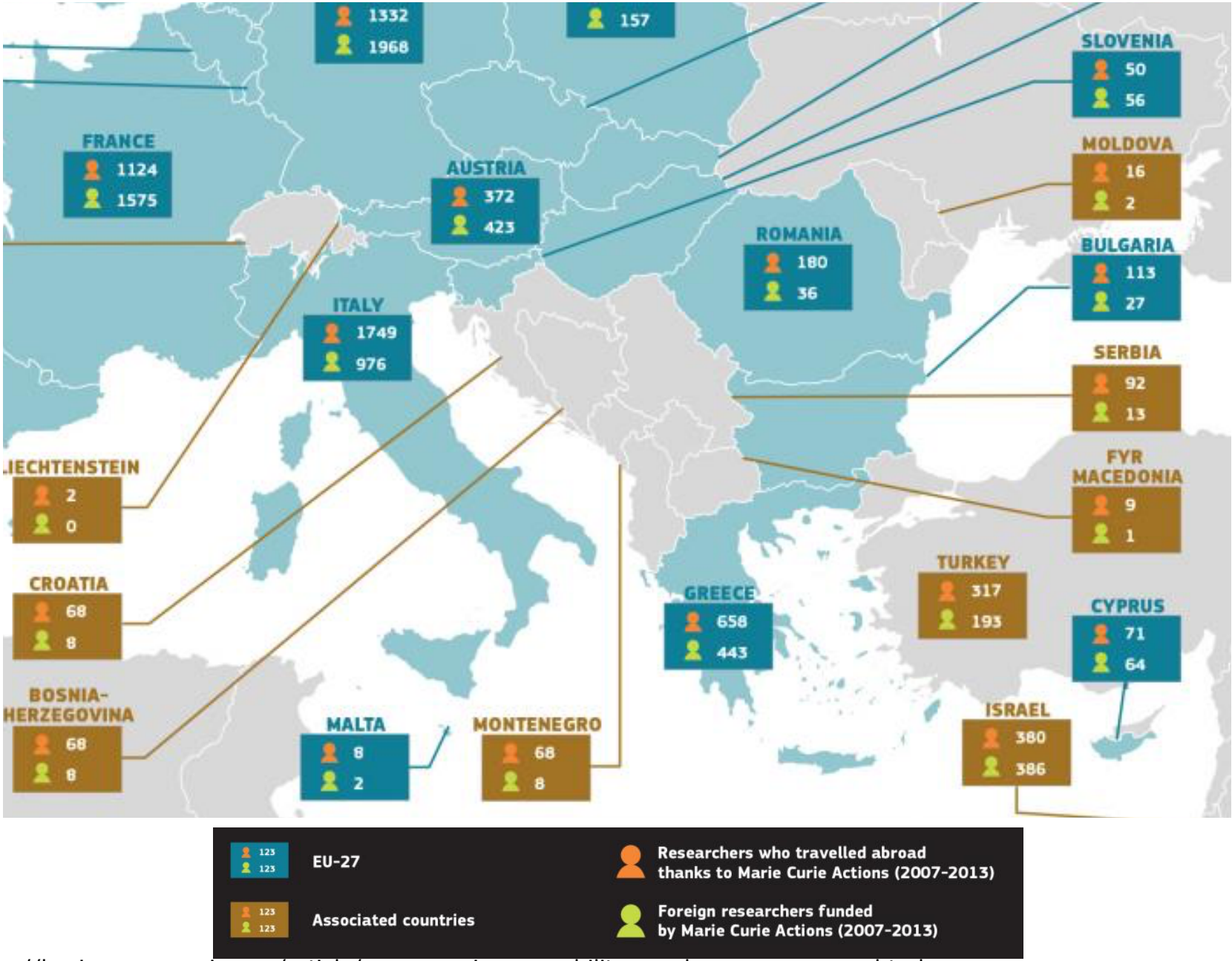


	CHE	ECO	ENG	ENV	LIF	MAT	PHY	SOC	CAR	RI
Lista A	136	26	128	137	286	29	126	204	33	84
Otras	603	110	554	599	1259	125	544	890	148	358

IF 2014: Mobility of researchers



	UK	FR	ES	DE	NL	DK	IT	BE	AT	SE	IE	FI	IL	NO	EL	PT	CY	HU	TR	CH	CZ	PL	EE	LU	BG	HR	IS	SI
Non-nationals in host country	434	127	114	103	84	69	42	32	29	23	20	15	11	9	7	6	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1
Nationals away from country	60	98	183	80	49	6	158	19	12	15	14	6	9	4	36	31	5	8	19	6	8	30	2	0	3	7	1	4



http://horizon-magazine.eu/article/women-science-mobility-good-your-career_en.html

Cut-Off Score EF-ST CAR RI and GF 2014

CHE	89,6
PHY	90,4
MAT	90,2
LIF	90,6
ECO	86,6
ENG	88,6
SOC	92,8
ENV	90,4
CAR	87,2
RI	90,8

CHE	93,6
PHY	93
MAT	92,2
LIF	91,8
ECO	92,4
ENG	93,8
SOC	92,8
ENV	93,4

3 Evaluation Criteria

EXCELLENCE
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research (including inter / multidisciplinary aspects)
Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge / training for the development of the researchers in light of the research objectives
Quality of the supervision and the hosting arrangements
Capacity of the researcher to reach and re-enforce a position of professional maturity

IMPACT
Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills, and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives
Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and **dissemination of results:** • Communication and public engagement strategy of the action • Dissemination of the research results • Exploitation of results and intellectual property

3 Evaluation Criteria

IMPLEMENTATION
Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including quality management and risk management
Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)
Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and institutional commitment

The evaluation criteria for IF

Excellence	Impact	Implementation
Weighting		
50%	30%	20%
Priority in case of *ex aequo*		
1	2	3

- **An overall threshold of 70% will be applied to the total weighted score.**
- **Each proposal will be assessed independently by at least three experts**
- **8 Scientific Panels + 2 multidisciplinary panels (CAR + RI)**

Scoring the Proposal

Each expert draft a IER (individual evaluation report) for each proposal assigned

In the IER:

List **strengths and weaknesses** in bullet point format

- Under each sub-criterion
- For each criterion (excellence, Impact and Implementation)

They will Score each Criterion

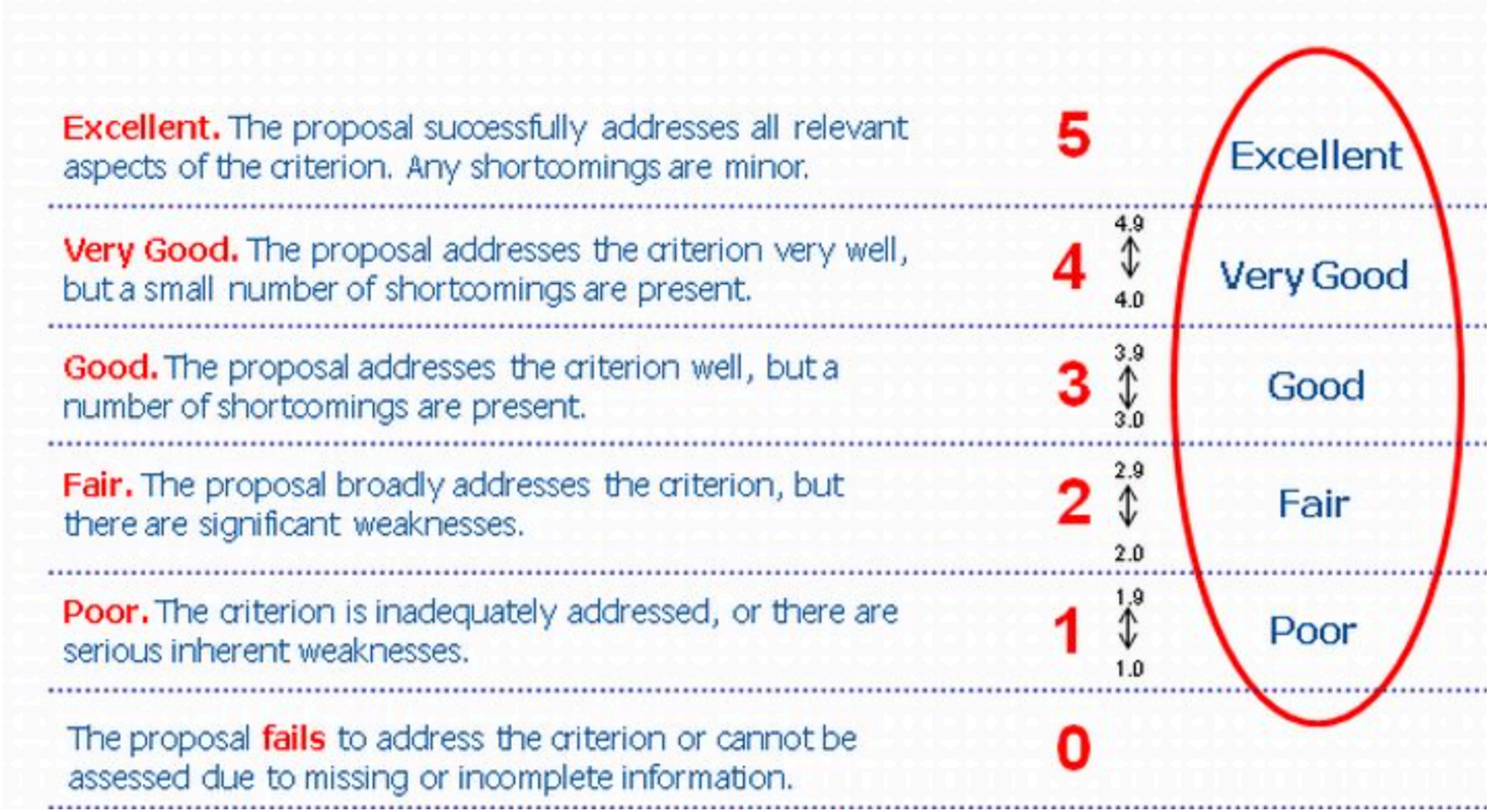
1. EXCELLENCE
Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research (including interdisciplinary aspects)
Strengths: +... +... Weaknesses: - ... - ...
Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge/training for the development of researcher in light of the research objectives
Strengths: +... +... Weaknesses: - ... - ...
Quality of the supervision and the hosting arrangement
Strengths: +... +... Weaknesses: - ... - ...
Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity in research
Strengths: +... +... Weaknesses: - ... - ...
Score (out of 5) 4,2

Scoring the Proposal

- The evaluators will score each criterion from 0 up to 5, with one possible decimal point
- The Total Score will be calculated automatically
- **Threshold**: 70% of total weighted sco

Scoring the Proposal

Full scoring scale consistent with the comments



Excellence

- 1.1 **Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research** (including inter/multidisciplinary aspects)
- 1.2 **Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge/training for the development of the researcher in light of the research objectives**
- 1.3 **Quality of the supervision and the hosting arrangements**
- 1.4 **Capacity of the researcher to reach and re-enforce a position of professional maturity in research**

Excellence

1.1 Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research (including inter/multidisciplinary aspects)

Evaluators will assess:

1. State of the art, objectives and overview of the action
2. Research methodology and approach
3. The type of research and innovation activities proposed
4. Originality and innovative aspects of the research programme
5. Gender aspects

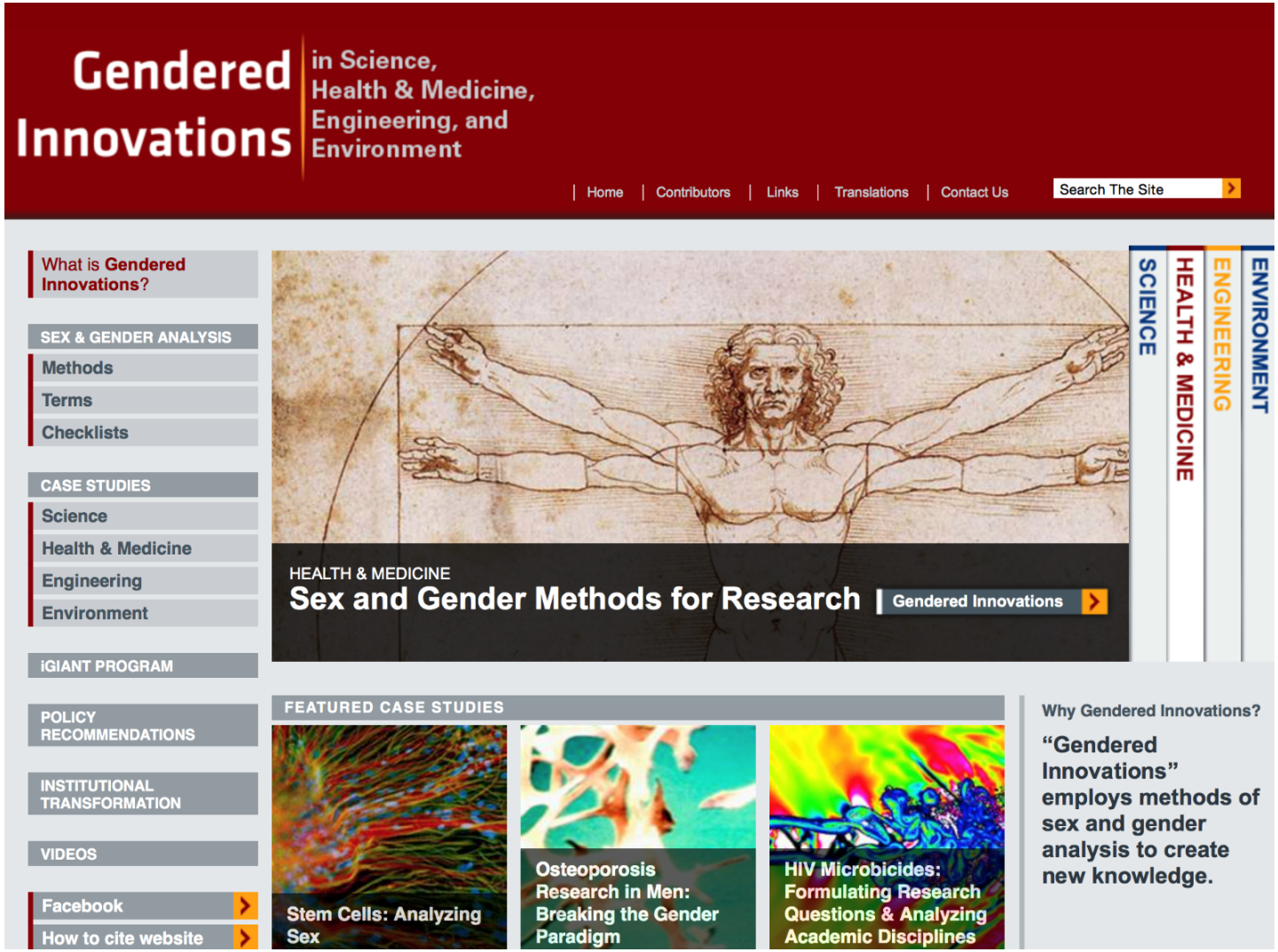
Objective: to assess how the high-quality, novel research is most likely to open up the best career possibilities for the Researchers and new collaboration opportunities for the host organization.

Excellence

Gender Dimension

- Gender dimension in **research content** means integrating sex and gender analyses into research.
- Check if biological characteristics and social/ cultural features of both women and men may affect the research results, e.g. women and men or groups of women and men differently.
- In these cases, applicants should integrate gender issues in the proposal.

Gender-Based Analysis



http://genderedinnovations.stanford.edu

http://ec.europa.eu/research/swafs/index.cfm?pg=policy&lib=gender

Excellence

1.2 Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge/training for the development of the researcher in light of the research objectives

Evaluators will assess:

1. The two way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host institution, in view of their future development and past experience:
   - How the researcher will gain new knowledge from the hosting organization during the fellowship training
   - Transfer from the researcher to the host organization of the knowledge ad skill previously acquired.
2. For **Global Fellowships**: how the new skills and knowledge acquired in the Third Country will be transferred back to the host institution in Europe.

Excellence

1.3 Quality of the supervision and the hosting arrangements

Evaluators will assess:

1. The **qualification** and **experience** of the supervisor(s):
   - The level of experience of the supervision on the research topic proposed;
   - Track record of work, including the main international collaboration.
   - Participation in project, publication, patens and any other relevant results.

2. The **hosting arrangements**; the integration of the researcher to his/her new environment in the premises of the Host. This is not about the infrastructure.

The **Career Development Plan** should not be included in the proposal but at least a brief description.

Excellence

1.4 Capacity of the researcher to reach and re-enforce a position of professional maturity in research

Evaluators will assess:

1. How can the proposed research and personal experience contribute to the professional development as an independent/mature researcher

2. They will check your Curriculum Vitae and will evaluate the track record in relation of research experience

Impact

2.1 Enhancing research- and innovation-related skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives

2.2 Effectiveness of the proposed measures for **communication** and results **dissemination**

Impact

2.1 Enhancing research- and innovation-related skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives

Evaluators will assess:

1. The expected **impact** of the research and training and new competences acquired during the fellowships on the capacity to increase prospects for the fellow after this fellowships finishes
2. To what extent competences acquires during the fellowship, including any **secondments**, increase the impact of the researchers' future activity on European Society.
3. Involving stakeholders and end-users.

Impact

2.2 Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination

Evaluators will assess:

1. Communication and public engagement **strategy** of the action

- RRI (Responsible Research and Innovation)
- How the ER get **feedback from citizens**
- **Real commitment** from the Host Institution and from the fellow
- Highlight **previous experiences** in Host Institution
- Remark fellows' profile on outreach, communication and public engagement
- Define properly Communication, Outreach and Public Engagement

Communication and Dissemination

Dissemination and exploitation

Ensure you target multiple audiences, e.g. other researchers, policy makers (can link to European excellence), industry, government science advisors, "think tanks", legislative bodies…..

Outline plans to exploit any IP arising from the programme

Public Engagement

Do not underestimate its importance – see Guidelines doc at http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/documents/documentation/publications/guidelines_en.pdf for details.

Include specifics (**what – who – when**) in a readable format (e.g. table)

Target different groups (students at all education levels and the general public) – participation in a **European Researchers' Night**

Impact

2.2 Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination

Evaluators will assess:

2. Dissemination of the research results
   - Dissemination of the research results should include papers, publications and participate in international conferences with high impact.
   - Open Access

3. Exploitation of results and intellectual property rights
   - A plan for protection of the results. Your TTO or EPO is key here.
   - Highlight previous experience in patents
   - Create a strategy for protection and exploitation

Implementation

3.1 Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources

3.2 Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including quality management and risk management

3.3 Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)

3.4 Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations **and institutional commitment**

Implementation

3.1 Overall coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.

The proposal should be designed in order to achieve the desired impact, the evaluator will assess:

1. Work Packages description
2. List of major deliverables (= tangible output: report, document, technical diagram, software, etc.)
3. List of major milestones (=control/ decision points that help to chart progress)
4. Secondments

IMPORTANT: ASK FOR HELP TO YOUR TTO - EPO

The **GANTT Chart** should be clear and complete

Implementation

3.2 Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including quality management and risk management

The evaluator will assess:

1. The **project organization** and **management structure**, including the **financial management** strategy and the progress monitoring mechanism
2. Remark possible risks for project objectives and concrete contingency plan and mitigation actions.

Your institution services here is **crucial**. Work together with your colleagues from Project Office or Tech Transfer Office.

Implementation

3.3 Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)

The evaluator will assess:

1. The commitment of the beneficiary and partner organization with the project.
2. The infrastructure, logistics, facilities offered to the fellow for the good implementation of the action
3. Section 6 (Capacities of the participating organizations) is evaluated here.

Implementation

3.4 Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations **and institutional commitment**

The evaluator will assess:

1. Remark the competences of the host institution
2. The contribution of the beneficiary to the research and training activities
3. In GF the role of the Partner organization during the outgoing phase
4. Letter of Commitment plays an important role here.

ESR Evaluation Summary Result

Proposal Evaluation Form

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Horizon 2020 - Research and Innovation Framework Programme

Evaluation Summary Report

Call: H2020-MSCA-ITN-2015
Funding scheme: European Joint Doctorates
Proposal number:
Proposal acronym:
Duration (months): 48
Proposal title: TITLE
Activity: MSCA-ITN-EJD

N.	Proposer name	Country	Total Cost	%	Grant Requested	%
1	CONSORTIUM		525,751	21.11%	525,751	21.11%
2			224,137	9.00%	224,137	9.00%
3			255,374	10.25%	255,374	10.25%
4			715,069	28.71%	715,069	28.71%
5			265,226	10.65%	265,226	10.65%
6			262,875	10.55%	262,875	10.55%
7			242,386	9.73%	242,386	9.73%
	Total:		2,490,818		2,490,818	

Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE PROPOSAL

Evaluation Result

Total score: 76.40% (Threshold: 70/100.00)

Form information

SCORING

Scores must be in the range 0-5.

Interpretation of the score:

0 *– The* ***proposal fails to address the criterion*** *or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.*

1– Poor. *The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.*

2– Fair. *The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.*

3– Good. *The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.*

4– Very good. *The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.*

5– Excellent. *The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion.Any shortcomings are minor.*

Criterion 1 - Excellence

Score: **4.00** (Threshold: 0.00/5.00 , Weight: 50.00%)

Quality, innovative aspects and credibility of the research programme (including inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)
Quality and innovative aspects of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral aspects)
Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for EID and EJD projects)
Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations

STRENGTHS

• The state-of-the-art in the field of photodynamic therapy and the corresponding medical needs have been clearly outlined and they match the project. Innovation in PDT, multidisciplinarity and credibility of this EJD have been demonstrated.
• The consortium has presented an innovative method for the selection of high quality ESRs by initial integrated selection through ECTS accredited course.
• An innovative structure of doctoral training is introduced consisting of two components, one identical for all the ESRs and the other personalized by the fellow and supervisor together, based on the courses locally available. The scientific and complementary skills trainings are well balanced. The project will form a group of talented young people skilled in photosensitizers.
• Established track records of successful supervision are convincingly evidenced for all the consortium participants.
• The different expertises and experiences are expected to synergize the accomplishment of both the training and the scientific tasks.

WEAKNESSES
• The advantages of using a triptycene-based platform are not sufficiently outlined. The rationale for the development of cellulose nanocrystals over other natural polymers has not been presented clearly.
• The two industrial beneficiaries, Ecomeris and Bet solutions, have been established only recently (2011 and 2013 respectively) and their industrial expertise is not demonstrated in convincing detail. The same applies to the non-academic partner organization PorphyChem, founded in 2013.
• The joint supervisory arrangements are vague. The compatibility and plausibility of joint supervision in connection to the rules of each graduate school has not been clearly addressed. The persons responsible for supervision of the ESRs and their training progression have not been identified.

Overall comments

The proposed project has good scientific quality with strong innovative component. The industrial partners have only limited experience in the field and the joint supervisory elements are not fully clearly addressed.

Criterion 2 - Impact

Score: **3.60** (Threshold: 0.00/5.00 , Weight: 30.00%)

Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills, and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives
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)
Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and dissemination of results

STRENGTHS

• This EJD will provide a group of young researchers with multidisciplinary training with trans-European and non-academic dimensions, centered on the planning, synthesis, evaluation and exploitation of photosensitizers. Training in entrepreneurial and social skills will also be provided. All this offers very good conditions to realize the potential of the individuals and to provide them with good career perspectives.
• The participation of the industrial partners will help the ESRs to see concrete application of their scientific research, thereby satisfying the goals of the EJD call. The EJD will make a substantial contribution to European excellence in the field of photosensitizers.
• Dissemination of the results internally, to the scientific community and to the general public has been precisely and efficiently addressed. Exploitation of the intellectual property produced by the project is appropriately managed.

WEAKNESSES

• There are no clear indications of potential sectors where the researchers' careers can be developed.
• The development of joint doctoral degree structures (e.g., common curricula, standards, monitoring and exams) is poorly described. Clear plans indicating the feasibility of joint or double arrangements in different graduate schools of different countries have not been provided. The letters of commitment are not clearly addressing whether joint-doctorates or double degrees within the EJD wil be granted.

Overall comments

In general, this project is expected to produce a positive impact on the ESRs' careers, even if the sectors for specific application of the competences acquired in the PDT field have not been clearly outlined. Also the impact on European excellence in science is expected to be high. A significant weakness of this proposal is the lack of clarity about the joint doctoral degree delivery, being an essential element of the EJD scheme.

Criterion 3: Implementation

Score: **3.70** (Threshold: 0.00/5.00 , Weight: 20.00%)

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)
Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including quality management and risk management (with a mandatory joint governing structure for EID and EJD projects)
Appropriateness of the infrastructure of the participating organisations
Competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations and their commitment to the programme

STRENGTHS

• A good project plan has been proposed with detailed work packages and predefined responsible beneficiaries. Deliverables, milestones and timelines are clear. Overall, the plan is coherent and credible. WP2 task 2.3 has been dedicated to the joint-doctorate structure development. The individual research projects for the ESRs have been nicely detailed.
• The management structure has been described and the organization of five teams under the supervisory board is well suited for the proposed project.
• The financial management will be under the responsibility of permanent staff professionals in the field.

• The risk management has been appropriately addressed and the structure of the proposed flowchart has been built to allow rapid intervention in case of emerging critical issues.
• The infrastructures available for the scientific project implementation are overall very good and well suited for the activities to carried out.
• A description of the seven beneficiaries and the five organization partners' previous experience relating to the main tasks of the plan has been provided and demonstrates competence, experience and excellent complementarity. The commitment of the participating scientists is strong and clear.
• The beneficiaries are committed to award double or joint degrees.

WEAKNESSES

• Only the institutions have been named in the roles of responsibility and not individuals. The applicants have put forward the need for external experts, but have not identified them. ESR1, ESR3, and ESR4 will not benefit from secondments to partner organizations. The proposal lacks the input of an International Advisory Board. The proposal also lacks details as to what the recruitment training for PIs entails.
• The experience of the project coordinator in managing large projects and that of the beneficiaries is insufficiently supported. The risks of changes in management at one or more of the beneficiaries and the subsequent consequences on the project outcome have not been considered.
• The role of the two partner organizations NKI-AVL and CHULOMOGES within the project have not been sufficiently detailed.

Overall comments

The implementation is overall good, with some weaknesses as outlined above.

STRENGTHS in ITN 2015

STRENGTHS in Excellence

- Individual **ESR projects** are **well integrated** into the work packages, which in turn are clearly articulated and **adequately complemented** by each other.
- The considerable number of **industrial partners** involved in the consortium proves that the planned research is very **appealing to industry** and ensures the enhanced **transfer of results** from bench to application.
- The **PhD training** programs for all ESRs are of **excellent** quality and contain sufficient **interdisciplinary** and **intersectoral** elements.
- The **exposures of ESRs** to other, both academic and industrial, environments are well balanced and appropriately described in sufficient detail.
- The network wide **training activities** are convincingly described, with precisely defined roles for the partners involved.
- The consortium is assembled of **highly competent scientists** of very good quality from **academia and industry** with ample experience in successful **supervision** of young researchers.

STRENGTHS in Excellence - EID

- This EID programme identifies **four complementary training pillars**, includes scientific excellence and technology innovation, and also transferable skills. Mapping between S&T milestones and PhD projects demonstrates the complementarity between research challenges, with a sound methodology, making the project fully credible.
- The **training programme** includes a set of **complementary activities**, including individual supervision and coaching, workshops, and peer-support. Mapping of domain-specific and transferable skills is presented in detail, very well balanced between theory and practice, and it is supported by an adequate application scenario.
- The **Supervisory Board** consists of 12 supervisors with a track-record of successful PhD supervision and completion. The team has a highly interdisciplinary profile.
- **Industry supervisors** will have access to the Researcher Development Programme course portfolio offered by the Graduate School, as the "Good Supervisory Practice" course.

STRENGTHS in Excellence - EID

- An **effective joint supervision** is provided for all ESRs. Each student will have an individual supervisory team consisting of **three supervisors** from different organisations.
- The ESRs will benefit from the **additional interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral training** and supervision opportunities from the six partners.
- The rich and complementary **nature** of the **different partners** also offers very fruitful interactions between the partners and the ESRs.
- **Beneficiaries** and **partner organisations** have a **good track record of collaboration** and the interaction between the different partners is carefully shaped to deal with the high level of integration of the different individual research projects of the ESRs into one framework.
- The **contribution** of all participants to the **research and training** program is very well demonstrated in the proposal.
- The **synergies** between partners are clearly highlighted.

STRENGTHS in Excellence - EJD

- The innovative aspect of the proposed project is well argued by **emphasizing its transnational character** as well as by engaging a large number of **non-academic partner organizations** with extensive experience in educational praxis.
- The **non-academic partners** are coconstructors of the research questions based on the practical experience in the educational field.
- There is a well-identified **multidisciplinary dimension**, **multi-sectoral approach**, appropriate emphasis upon lifelong learning and a well argued case studies and comparative research design supported by appropriate research training and involvement of the non-academic partners.
- The EJD-project and its **training section** are well grounded on a previous **Erasmus-project.**
- The training objectives and modules are clearly related to ECTS-points that are to be obtained by the ESRs

Fortalezas Excelencia EJD

- The **lead beneficiary** has significant **expertise** in relevant programs as well as international collaborations in the proposal's specific field
- The concept of **virtual European seminars** is an attractive one, as it will facilitate more regular interactions between the ESRs
- The **excellent qualifications of the supervisors** are clarified. These assure high quality supervision and co-supervision. The joint supervision arrangements are of high quality.
- A detailed account of the **synergies between the partners** is provided and these are seen as a key driver in securing a more informed contribution to **transnational accreditation of professional doctorate studies**
- The **non-academic sector** will adequately **contribute** to the **supervision** by providing guidance and scientific monitoring to the fellows in their field research in educational settings.

STRENGTHS in Impact

- This proposal aims to train a **new generation** of qualified ***** researchers with **managerial** competences and **entrepreneurial** spirit and the proposed training programme will substantially enhance the **employability** of the fellows in industry and business stakeholders.
- The non-academic sector **secondments** and other activities are **genuinely complementary** to the ESRs' projects and will provide them with valuable experience.
- **Non-academic partners** will provide state of the art and complementary training in *****,
- The consortium should significantly contribute to the establishment of a **new doctoral programme**, which should provide the tools and skills for efficient **translation of research findings into products**. As a consequence, there is strong potential to strengthen European innovation capacity.

STRENGTHS in Impact

- Good **measures for communication** with the scientific community and **stakeholder** sections of general society have been carefully planned and described.
- **ESRs participate in outreach activities**, but will also receive adequate **training** in how to plan and organize such events.
- Plans for *exploitation of the results* are adequately described and it is expected that any output generated by the ITN will be transferred for commercial development.
- The **balance** between **dissemination and protection** of IP has been carefully considered.
- The scheduled **attendance of partners to public events** is very extensive.
- A **personal career development plan** will be designed for each ESR and will be properly monitored.

STRENGTHS in Impact - EID

- The **proposal** convincingly reports on how the project will **contribute** significantly to **enhancing the potential** of the ESRs in terms of **research and innovation** capabilities, providing them with very **good career perspectives**.
- The **contribution** of the **non-academic sector** is well-formulated and evidence of their impact in the implementation of the research field is realistic.
- **International impact** via planned collaboration with existing IEEE task forces is convincing.
- Both **outreach and dissemination** activities are comprehensively and clearly explained. Clear and effective measures are provided for communication and dissemination towards both **academia and the general public**.
- The proposal will contribute to **structuring doctoral** research training at **European level**.
- The proposal will contribute to **strengthening European innovation capacity**.

STRENGTHS in Implementation

- The science has a clear defined theme and the research **work packages are well integrated**.
- The well elaborated **work packages** perfectly **organize** the research activities with clearly **described objectives** where the role of partners, including industrial ones, is well balanced.
- **Tasks** are clearly divided between the individual **ESR projects**.
- The **career development plans** (WP5) is well described.
- The recruitment strategy is efficient and is in line with the principles set out in the **European Charter** for researchers and in the **Code of**
- **Conduct** for the recruitment of researchers.
- The **gender issue** was taken into appropriate consideration.
- The scientific and **technical infrastructure** provided by the ETN can fully support the scientific research and training programmes of the network.
- **Participating organisations** have the **competences** to run the project, with **highly relevant experience** and with complementary areas of expertise.

STRENGTHS in Implementation

- The research **work plan** is well structured and developed in a **logical sequence**.
- The **ESR tasks** are well **integrated** into the **work packages** with many links, thereby **exposing the ESRs** to a broad spectrum of **research activities**.
- The very careful **description of the individual research projects** for all ESRs specifies objectives, expected results and well planned secondments to both academic and industrial partners (for every ESR) with well planned activities.
- **Credible recruitment strategy**, selection rules and procedures with coordination between the supervisor's institution and a secondary node, where each ESR will be trained, are envisaged.
- **Progress monitoring and evaluation of the individual projects** will be done **twice a year** and compared to the very well selected performance **indicators**.

STRENGTHS in Implementation - EID

- The overall **work plan** is effective and coherent for the planned project activities.
- The lists of major **deliverables** and **milestones** are very well structured, in terms of succession, scientific content, planning and timing for release. The Gantt Chart is well organised and presented.
- The **management structure** is presented properly.
- The **supervisory board and management team** are carefully planned with overall responsibilities.
- The **risk management strategy** and mitigation measures at consortium level are adequately justified. The **strategy for conflicts** and misconduct activities is well planned.
- The **IPR management** is clearly laid out.
- The **recruitment** steps and procedure are specified.
- **Gender issues** are carefully addressed by the consortium partners.
- **Progress monitoring and evaluation** of the individual projects are well explained.

STRENGTHS in Implementation - EJD

- The strong **institutional commitment** to the development of a joint doctorate is expressed in the letters institutional commitment by the legal representatives of all five beneficiaries in five European countries
- **WPs** explain convincingly the role of the beneficiaries, project objectives, outputs, milestones, planned secondments, and the ESRs Individual Projects
- The proposal gives a very precise **description of the role** of each of the beneficiary partners in the project.
- The **secondments** of the fellows are set out convincingly in relation to projects and strands
- The proposed **joint consortium's structure** is convincingly demonstrated.
- A convincing **recruitment strategy** is demonstrated. Clear criteria for selection were established.
- ESRs are to be involved in various levels of the **project governance**
- The **gender issue** is approached convincingly.

STRENGTHS in Implementation - EJD

- The role of the **Supervisory Board** is convincingly explained. The Board will include **3 external members**, who are recognised international experts in the field. They will assume responsibility for monitoring and assessment of the progress and the quality of the EJD
- A **strategy** related to **scientific misconduct** as well as to other **ethical issues**, such as transparency in recruitment, ethical research standards to be followed etc, is in place.
- The **coherence** between the proposed **participants** is convincingly explained. The already **existing collaboration** in Erasmus program between the beneficiaries favors the implementation of the proposed EJD. In addition, a large number of partner institutions, such as schools, teacher organizations, non-governmental educational institutions, and research institutions allow for an effective interaction between the participants.
- The **competences**, **experience** and **complementarity** of the participating organisations and their commitment and contributions to the program was convincingly demonstrated

WEAKNESSES TO AVOID IN OUR PROPOSAL ITN 2014/15

WEAKNESSES in EXCELLENCE

- The **state of the art** is **not** described in **sufficient detail** and the **originality** of the research program is not demonstrated.
- The **many different objectives** of the project are **inadequately interconnected**.
- **Contribution** of the **non-academic sector** to the training is **limited** given its small size compared to the academic sector.
- **No particular innovation** is seen in the methodologies proposed in the project.
- The **exposure** of recruited researchers to **different research environments** is not discussed in sufficient detail.
- The related workshops to '**Transferable skills**' has been planned **very late** in the timeline
- **Soft skills** training in **IP**, entrepreneurship and company management is only **briefly mentioned**.

WEAKNESSES in EXCELLENCE

- The proposal does not describe clearly the **mechanism** by which the two SMEs will be able to provide **co-supervision** to the 10 ESRs based in academic institution.
- The **methodology** is very general and does not provide sufficient evidence of **research rigour**.
- The proposal mainly focuses on training aspects, with too little emphasis being placed on closing technology gaps.
- The **training programme** is **not** very **innovative**.
- Local training courses are not described in sufficient detail.
- The **collaboration** between **academic and non-academic** participants is insufficiently documented in the proposal. The role of the nonacademic sector is marginal as it is not clear from the proposal that the companies involved are significantly related to the scientific programme.
- The **roles** of the **partner organizations** are not clearly defined in the proposal.

WEAKNESSES in IMPACT

- The **benefits for the ESRs** are not described in sufficient detail, only a generic description is presented.
- Most of the **communication activities** to the general public is left to the individual participant and a lot of **responsibility** is passed to the **ESRs.**
- A plan to **meet the stakeholders** to exploit the main results is **not sufficiently evident**.
- The description of **impact is rather generic** and not very specific to this particular project, reducing somewhat its credibility.
- **Specific tools** for **dissemination** to stakeholders are not sufficiently elaborated. **Exploitation of results** is insufficiently addressed.
- The predicted **scientific outputs** of the project are **not particularly ambitious**, and this may have a negative impact on ESRs career perspectives.

WEAKNESSES in IMPLEMENTATION

- There are many **inconsistencies** between the **individual work plans** and the **Gantt chart**.
- The ESRs' projects, **led by the non-academic sector**, appear of limited scientific content
- The presentation of the scientific deliverables is not comprehensive. All **ESRs working on the same WP** have the same deliverables which make it hard to evaluate which of these items were delivered and by which WP.
- It is not clear why **the recruitment description is associated** with the **scientific WPs** and not with the management WP.
- **ESR publications** are **not sufficiently described** as objectives in the milestone list.
- There are **inconsistencies regarding the ESR starting time**. In several cases the starting time is late in the program which will lower the efficiency of the joint research and cause the ESR to miss the Coordination chemistry course I.
- The **gender issue** behind the rational for the ESR representative in the SB should have been further justified.
- **Scientific risk** analysis is not adequately addressed, namely the risks associated with structural biology are not sufficiently identified.

WEAKNESSES in EXCELLENCE - EJD

- The proposal does not make a sufficiently convincing case on how the proposed **research programme** challenges or advances the existing **state of the art.**
- The consortium **lacks** sufficient **industrial participation**.
- The proposal does **not** provide a **precise** and clearly defined **research and training programmes**.
- The **innovation** in the **methodology** is moderate. New insights are not evident.
- The **project schedule** is not properly optimised nor justified.
- The **contribution of non-academic** partners to supervision is not satisfactorily demonstrated. It is not fully clear what exactly the roles and responsibilities of supervisors would be.
- **Secondments** do **not** represent a **good cross-sectorial** exposure being primarily inter-academia exchange.

WEAKNESSES in IMPACT - EJD

- The **secondments** to the non-academic sector could have been **better described**.
- **Practical arrangements** for the award of **double or joint** PhD degrees are not clearly presented.
- The proposal does not convincingly discuss how **European innovation** capacity will be **strengthened**.
- The **communication and dissemination** plan does **not** productively **engage key stakeholders** (e.g. NGOs, public authorities, private organisations etc). For example: using social media (not mentioned in the proposal) could be considered as a possible way of reaching nonacademic audiences.
- The proposal does **not** give **sufficient** information regarding the precise **expectations of ESRs** to provide concrete **outputs** (to conferences or public seminars)

WEAKNESSES in IMPLEMENTATION - EJD

- The **work package** descriptions and **milestones** list are very brief. The **deliverables** list of the work plan is **ambitious but not realistic.**
- The secondments are not thoroughly described too.
- The **letter of commitment** by one of the beneficiaries is not readable and **risk management** plan is lacking.
- The **dissemination** of results lacks clearly defined objectives.
- It is not sufficiently elaborated how the **joint degree structure** would be expanded beyond in this project.
- The **transparency of recruitment** procedures and career development plans for ESRs are not well presented.
- It is unclear whether the comments or input of ESRs will be adequately channeled to the **Supervisory Board**.
- The **involvement of the private sector** in the management of the project and ESR training is not properly addressed.
- The description of **risk management** at consortium level is not provided in sufficient detail.

WEAKNESSES in EXCELLENCE - EID

- The description of the **development of industrial applications** has not been sufficiently detailed.
- The **specific scientific training** measures that will be provided by the **industrial partner**, especially those that would be unique and different to the academic environment, are not sufficiently described.
- The description of **joint supervision arrangements** is very brief and general. It is **unclear** how the **co-supervisors** will interact with each other and with the ESRs.
- In terms of quality, the **expertise in training** was demonstrated **only by the academic group**.
- **Transferable skills** are not described and planned in adequate detail in the proposal.
- The description of the **training programme is too generic** and its innovative aspects are not clearly indicated. The network-wide training events are not planned with sufficient detail.

WEAKNESSES in IMPACT - EID

- The description of the **contribution** to structuring doctoral training at the European level and of the value added by **non-academic partners** to the overall training programme is insufficient
- The **contribution to doctorate training** at a European level and to strengthening **European innovation policy** is not sufficiently evident in the proposal.
- Plans for **communication and dissemination** are too generic and unstructured. Moreover, scientific dissemination is not properly considered. The communication measures with respect to the **public engagement strategy** is not well presented in the proposal.
- The proposed strategies for the **exploitation of results** is not convincing. In particular, plans for patent applications are too non-specific and not appropriately justified.
- The plans for **dissemination** do not extend beyond a generic list of **standard instruments.**

WEAKNESSES in IMPLEMENTATION - EID

- The proposed **management structure** and procedures are **insufficiently described**. The quality management for experimental investigations and code development is not adequately addressed.
- **Risk management** is too generally addressed and **not credible**.
- The program does not set up structures for innovative doctoral training.
- The **project deliverables** are unclear.
- It is not described in detail how personal career development plans for each ESRs will be drafted and adapted, if needed.
- The proposal does not provide sufficient details on **selection and recruitment process.**
- The **mandatory governing structure** for this EID is not sufficiently elaborated.
- The exploitation of **partners' complementarities** is not sufficiently demonstrated.

THANK YOU

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