



# Expert View on Evaluation Process of MSCA Staff Exchange



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Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA): Bridging Business and  
Research – Opportunities under MSCA Staff Exchanges  
**İstanbul Chamber of Industry**

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## Project Proposal – Technical Description (Part B)

### MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

#### Staff Exchanges (SE)

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-SE-2021

#### PART B1

“PROPOSAL ACRONYM”

DEFINITIONS	
<b>Deliverable</b>	A report that is sent to the Commission or Agency providing information to ensure effective monitoring of the project. There are different types of deliverables (e.g. a report on specific activities or results, data management plans, ethics or security requirements).
<b>Impacts</b>	Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term). Impacts generally occur sometime after the end of the project.
<b>Objectives</b>	The goals of the work performed within the project, in terms of its research and innovation content. This will be translated into the project's results. These may range from tackling specific research questions, demonstrating the feasibility of an innovation, sharing knowledge among stakeholders on specific issues. The nature of the objectives will depend on the type of action, and the scope of the topic.
<b>Outcomes</b>	The expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic. The results of a project should contribute to these outcomes, fostered in particular by the dissemination and exploitation measures. This may include the uptake, diffusion, deployment, and/or use of the project's results by direct target groups. Outcomes generally occur during or shortly after the end of the project.
<b>Pathway to impact</b>	Logical steps towards the achievement of the expected impacts of the project over time, in particular beyond the duration of a project. A pathway begins with the projects' results, to their dissemination, exploitation and communication, contributing to the expected outcomes in the world programme, and ultimately to the wider scientific, economic and societal impacts of the world programme destination.
<b>Research output</b>	Results generated by the action to which access can be given in the form of scientific publications, data or other engineered outcomes and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols and electronic notebooks.
<b>Results</b>	What is generated during the project implementation. This may include, for example, know-how, innovative solutions, algorithms, proof of feasibility, new business models, policy recommendations, guidelines, prototypes, demonstrators, databases and datasets, trained researchers, new infrastructures, networks, etc. Most project results (inventions, scientific works, etc.) are 'Intellectual Property', which may, if appropriate, be protected by formal 'Intellectual Property Rights'.



The **objective** of the SE is  
to promote **international**,  
**interdisciplinary** and  
**intersectoral** collaboration between participating organizations,  
in the form of a joint research and innovation project,  
and **sharing** of knowledge and ideas from research to market (and vice versa).

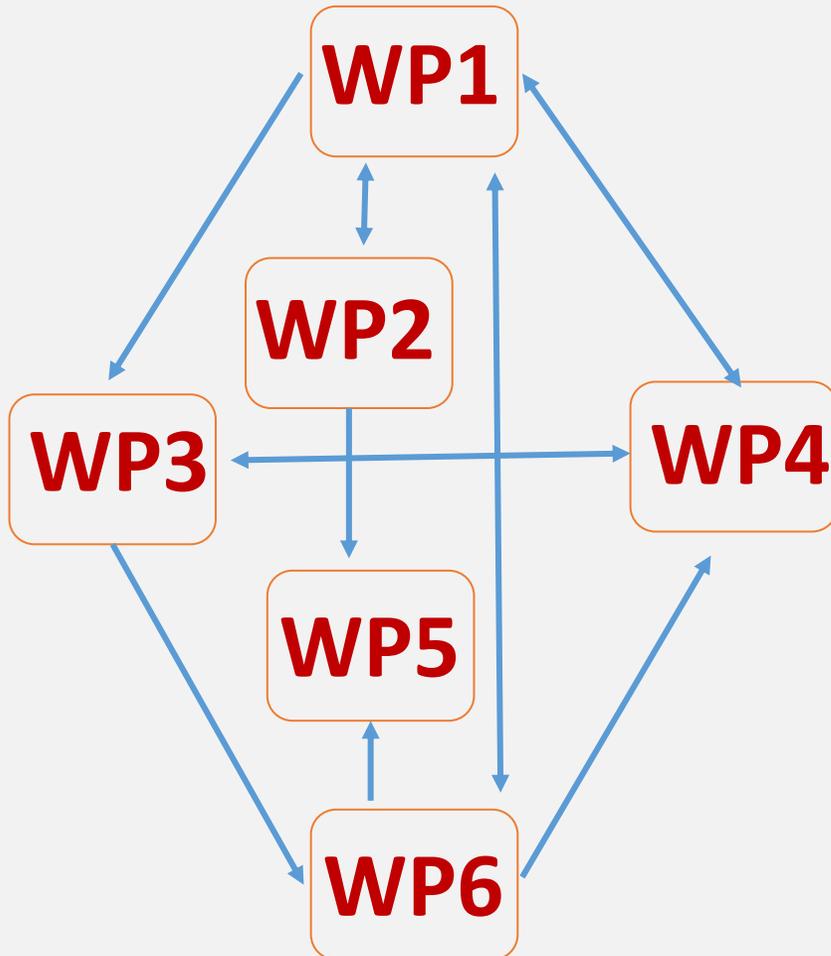
## CRITERION 1: EXCELLENCE

(%50)

- ✓ Research and innovation objectives
- ✓ Measurable-verifiable objectives
- ✓ State-of-the-art
- ✓ Overall methodology
- ✓ Expertise and methods from different disciplines
- ✓ Methodology: Challenges and solutions
- ✓ FAIR-Management of the data
- ✓ Gender dimension
- ✓ Open science practices
- ✓ Contribution of the partners
- ✓ Networking activities

SUB-CRITERIA	WHAT TO EVALUATE
<p><b>1.1</b></p> <p>QUALITY AND PERTINENCE OF THE PROJECT'S RESEARCH/INNOVATION OBJECTIVES (AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY ARE AMBITIOUS, AND GO BEYOND THE STATE OF THE ART)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are the research and innovation objectives well detailed? Is the way to measure them and verify them well explained? Are they realistically achievable?</li> <li>▪ Are the innovative aspects of the research pertinent? Does the project go beyond the state-of-the-art and is the proposed work ambitious?</li> </ul>
<p><b>1.2</b></p> <p>SOUNDNESS OF THE PROPOSED METHODOLOGY (INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY AND INTER-SECTORAL APPROACHES, CONSIDERATION OF THE GENDER DIMENSION AND OTHER DIVERSITY ASPECTS IF RELEVANT FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT, AND THE QUALITY OF OPEN SCIENCE PRACTICES)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the overall methodology well described? Will it enable the consortium to deliver the project's objectives? Are challenges identified and solutions to overcome them proposed?</li> <li>▪ Will the expertise and methods from different disciplines be brought together and integrated to pursuit the project's objectives? If not, is it well justified why this is not necessary?</li> <li>▪ Are the gender dimension and other diversity aspects taken into account in the project's research and innovation content? If not, is it well justified why this is not applicable?</li> <li>▪ Are the open science practices well integrated in the methodology and adapted to the work proposed? If not, is it well justified why they are not appropriate for the project?</li> <li>▪ Is the management of the data generated/collected and/or other research outputs (except publications) in line with the FAIR principles?</li> </ul>
<p><b>1.3</b></p> <p>QUALITY OF THE PROPOSED INTERACTION BETWEEN THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS IN LIGHT OF THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OBJECTIVES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the contribution of each participating organisation to the activities planned (in particular the scientific activities) well described?</li> <li>▪ Are the main networking activities contributing to the research and innovation activities well justified?</li> </ul>

## Work Package

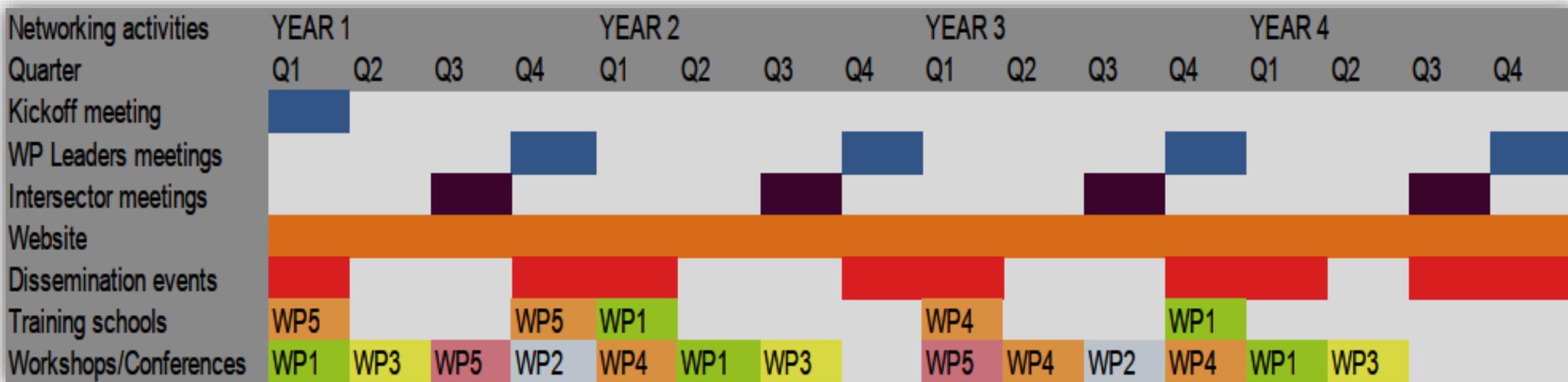


## Contribution of Partners

Consortium Institutions	Academic/ Non-Academic	Beneficiaries	WP involvement
Institution 1	Academic	Yes	WP1, WP4, WP6
Institution 2	Academic	Yes	WP1, WP5
Institution 3	Academic	No	WP2,WP3
Institution 4	Non-Academic	Yes	WP5
Institution 5	Non-Academic	Yes	WP5, WP6
Institution 6	Academic	Yes	WP3,WP4,WP5



## Networking Activities



## Gender Equality Plan

Particular attention is being paid to ensuring gender balance.

Content-wise, it is recommended that the gender equality plan addresses the following areas, using concrete measures and targets:

- ✓ work-life balance and organisational culture;
- ✓ gender balance in leadership and decision-making;
- ✓ gender equality in recruitment and career progression;
- ✓ integration of the gender dimension into research and teaching content;
- ✓ measures against gender-based violence, including sexual harassment

## CRITERION 2: IMPACT (%30)

- ✓ Sustainability of new and lasting research collaborations
- ✓ Knowledge transfer for partners
- ✓ **Innovation potential within Europe-worldwide**
- ✓ New skills-Career perspectives
- ✓ Measures to maximise the impact
- ✓ Scientific impacts
- ✓ Economic/technological impacts
- ✓ Societal impacts

SUB-CRITERIA	WHAT TO EVALUATE
<b>2.1</b> DEVELOPING NEW AND LASTING RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS, ACHIEVING TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE BETWEEN PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS AND CONTRIBUTING TO IMPROVING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL AT THE EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL LEVEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will the activities described result in the development and sustainability of new and lasting research collaborations?</li> <li>▪ Will the project generate knowledge transfer that will benefit the participating organisations?</li> <li>▪ Will the project improve the research and innovation potential within Europe and/or worldwide?</li> </ul>
<b>2.2</b> CREDIBILITY OF THE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE CAREER PERSPECTIVES OF STAFF MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THEIR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does the project contribute to realising the potential of individuals, allowing staff member to acquire new skills and enhancing their knowledge and career perspectives?</li> </ul>
<b>2.3</b> SUITABILITY AND QUALITY OF THE MEASURES TO MAXIMISE EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS, AS SET OUT IN THE DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION PLAN, INCLUDING COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are the measures to maximise the impact of the project, including the first draft of plan for the dissemination and exploitation, including communication, well described?</li> </ul>
<b>2.4</b> THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXPECTED SCIENTIFIC, SOCIETAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will the project make a difference in terms of scientific impact(s), beyond the scope and duration of the project?</li> <li>▪ Will the project make a difference in terms of economic/technological impact(s), beyond the scope and duration of the project?</li> <li>▪ Will the project make a difference in terms of societal impact(s), beyond the scope and duration of the project?</li> </ul>

## Impact: Main dissemination and public engagement activities

Activity	WP	Target Audience	Months	Where	Metrics (attendees)
Conference: Quantum computer (A1)	4	Specialists	8, 16	İstanbul	100
Conference: Science of Information (N-A)	5	Specialists and Industrial partners	10, 20	Sevilla	150
Training School in topic-1	2,3	Early-stage researchers	6	Valencia	100
Training School in topic-2	3	Early-stage researchers	12	Perugia	100
Final workshop on the project	6	All Project members and related experts	48	Bologna	200
Photographic contest on topic-3	6	General audience	12, 24, 36	Ankara	600
Science everywhere	6	General audience	9, 40	İzmir	600

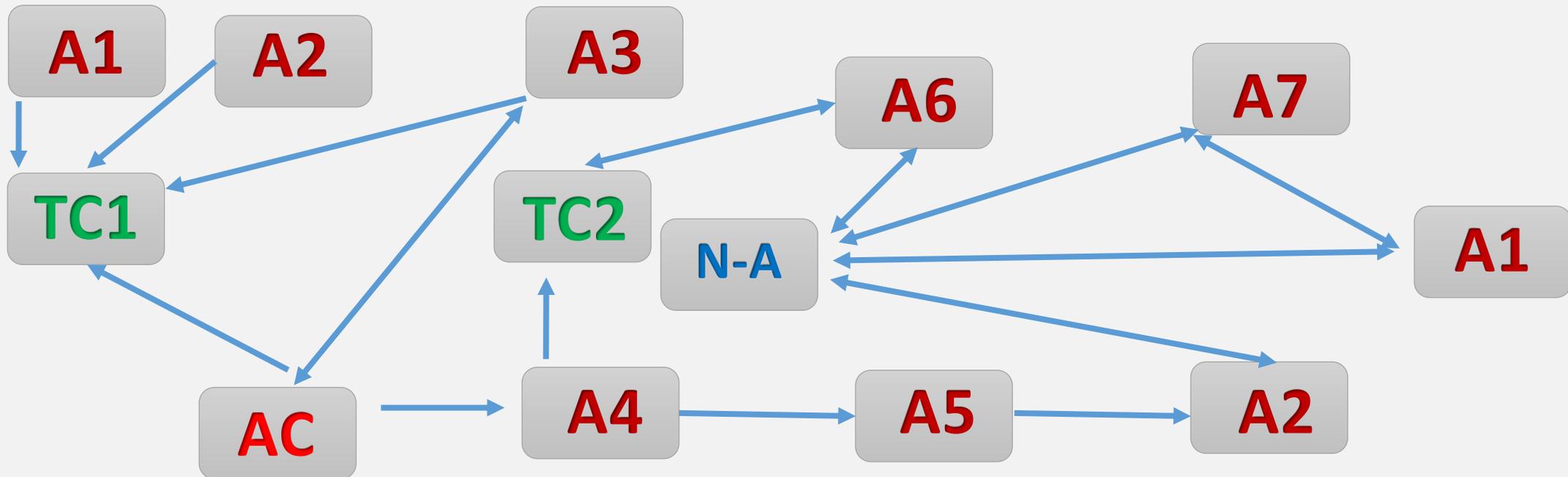
## CRITERION 3: QUALITY and EFFICIENCY of the IMPLEMENTATION (%20)

- ✓ Work plan-Secondments
- ✓ Risk-Mitigation measures
- ✓ Compatibility of participants and tasks
- ✓ Infrastructure and capacity of partners

SUB-CRITERIA	WHAT TO EVALUATE
<b>3.1</b> QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORK PLAN, ASSESSMENT OF RISKS*, AND APPROPRIATENESS OF THE EFFORT ASSIGNED TO WORK PACKAGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Is the work plan consistent and adequate? Are the proposed secondments necessary to implement the activities and are their duration appropriate to achieve the objectives?</li><li>▪ Is the project credible and feasible through the activities proposed?</li><li>▪ Is the staff available, in terms of both numbers and profiles, appropriate to implement the activities foreseen for the different secondments?</li><li>▪ Are the identified risks that might prevent the project from reaching its objectives and the proposed mitigation measures (contingency plan) well described?</li></ul>
<b>3.2</b> QUALITY, CAPACITY AND ROLE OF EACH PARTICIPANT, INCLUDING HOSTING ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTENT TO WHICH THE CONSORTIUM AS A WHOLE BRINGS TOGETHER THE NECESSARY EXPERTISE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Are the infrastructure and capacity of each participating organisation appropriate, in light of the tasks allocated to them?</li><li>▪ Are the participants compatible and complementary? Are the tasks attributed to each participating organisation coherent with their experience/expertise?</li></ul>

# Networking Secondments

Secondments in SE are the core of the research project.





## Risk List

Risk No	Description of risk	WP No	Proposed mitigation measures
1.	Not enough researchers can meet at the same time (likelihood=high, severity=low)	1-5	Each units commit to scheduling secondments such that there is an overlap of at least one week, more if possible. The SC will re-examine the scheduled secondments in agreement with the seconded researchers. Visioconferences will be organized
2.	ESRs find it difficult to engage with the various fields of research in the inter disciplinary network (high, medium)	1-3	We have planned extensive teaching activity to support ESRs. They will be tailored to the students' specific needs, using online training from different nodes.
3.	Computations require more computing resources than foreseen (high, low)	2-4	The network has access to substantial computing resources which could be shared between nodes.
4.			

REA uses independent experts to assist with the evaluation of the SE proposals.

**Evaluators** draft the Individual Evaluation Report (IER) and actively participate in the consensus discussion.

**Rapporteurs** lead the consensus phase by drafting the Consensus Report and implementing comments from the other two evaluators.

**Vice-Chairs** support and monitor the evaluation and act as quality controllers.

**Ethics Experts** participate in a separate evaluation, focussed on the ethics aspects of the proposal.

**Independent Observer** checks the functioning and execution of the overall process.

## How do Experts Prepare Reports?

1. IER: Weaknesses and Strengths
2. CR: Summarize points of convergence and divergence
3. CM: Discuss points of divergence  
Finalize the comments and assign the appropriate score

Note: Criteria are assessed as a whole, considering all sub-criteria





## Expected Outcomes (participating organisations):

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- ✓ Innovative ways of cooperation and **transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines;**
- ✓ Strengthened and broader international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaborative networks;
- ✓ Boosted R&I capacity.

## Expected Outcomes (staff members):

- ✓ Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects within and outside academia;
- ✓ More knowledge and innovative ideas converted into products, processes and services;
- ✓ More entrepreneurial mind-sets, testing new and innovative ideas;
- ✓ Increased international exposure leading to extended networks and opportunities;
- ✓ Enhanced networking and communication capacities with scientific peers, as well as with the general public that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact.

# Expected Impact

Proposals under this Action should contribute to the following expected impacts:

- ✓ Increase international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility of research staff within Europe and beyond through collaborative research networks and activities;
- ✓ Strengthen the R&I human capital base **in Europe and beyond**;
- ✓ Increase **Europe's attractiveness** as a leading destination for R&I;
- ✓ Contribute to **Europe's competitiveness** and growth through high-quality R&I;
- ✓ Foster the culture of open science, innovation and entrepreneurship.

## Tips for a Successful Proposal

- ✓ A perfect balance for project objectives that are **doable** and **imaginative**.
- ✓ The evaluators have to assess each **sub-criterion**.

**The acceptance rate in SE-Projects is very high when it is compared with others.**



## Work as an expert:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR  
PATIENCE**

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