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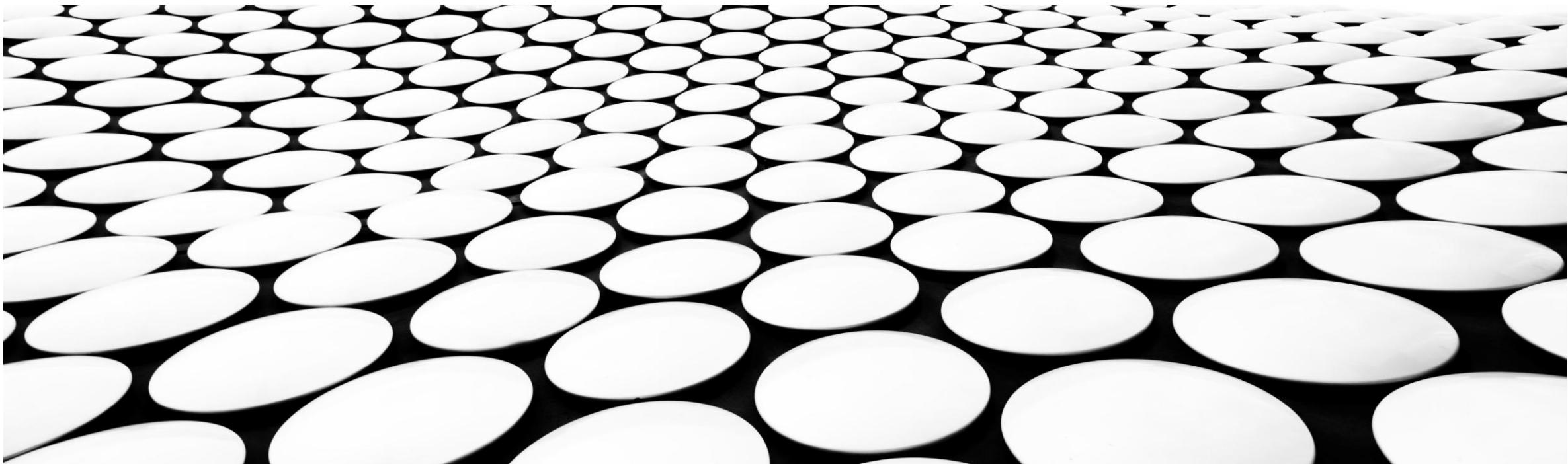
# **EVALVACIJSKE POMANJKLJIVOSTI PREDLOGOV PROJEKTOV**

## **MSCA SE 2024**

## **PRIJAVITELJI IZ SLOVENIJE**

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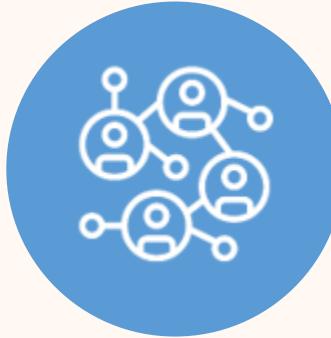
DECEMBER 2025



# Evaluation criteria



**EXCELLENCE**  
**(50%)**



**IMPACT**  
**(30%)**



**QUALITY AND  
EFFICIENCY OF  
IMPLEMENTATION**  
**(20%)**



European  
Commission

# Evaluation criteria



Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's <b>research and innovation objectives</b> (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Developing new and lasting <b>research collaborations</b> , achieving <b>transfer of knowledge</b> between participating organisations and contributing to improving <b>research and innovation potential</b> at the European and global level	Quality and effectiveness of the <b>work plan</b> , assessment of <b>risks</b> , and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the <b>proposed methodology</b> (including i3 approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the <b>career perspectives</b> of staff members and contribution to their <b>skills development</b>	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including <b>hosting arrangements</b> and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Quality of the proposed <b>interaction between the participating organisations</b> in light of the research and innovation objectives	Suitability and quality of the measures to <b>maximise expected outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected <b>scientific, societal and economic impacts</b>	
50%	30%	20%

# Osebni način izbora tipičnih pomanjkljivosti:

- Tipične pomanjkljivosti predlogov projektov s slovenskimi partnerji na razpisu MSCA SE 2024:
  - 6 projektov na Main list
  - 4 projekti Below available budget
  - 10 projektov Below Threshold



# 1. EXCELLENCE

- 1.1. Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation **objectives** (and the extent to which they are *ambitious*, and go *beyond the state of the art*)
- 1.2. 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*)
- 1.3. Quality of the proposed interaction between the **participating organisations** in light of the research and innovation objectives

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advancing research*

# 1. Elements of EXCELLENCE criteria



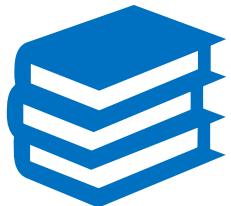
Objectives



3i



Interactions



State-of-the-art



Gender/diversity



AI



Methodology



Open Science



Originality

## 1.1. QUALITY AND PERTINENCE OF THE PROJECT'S RESEARCH AND INNOVATION **OBJECTIVES** (AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY ARE **AMBITIOUS**, AND GO BEYOND THE STATE OF THE ART)

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- **Introduction, objectives and overview of the research programme.**
  - Detail the research and innovation objectives. Are the objectives **measurable** and **verifiable**? Are they **realistically** achievable?
  - Outline key **specific research objectives** of the programme (emphasize the **novelty** and **multidisciplinary**)
- **Pertinence and innovative aspects of the research programme** (in light of the current state of the art and existing programmes / networks).
  - Describe how your project goes **beyond the state-of-the-art**, and the extent the proposed work is **ambitious** (delivering scientific **breakthroughs**).
  - Expand on the state of the art to **explain why** the research is original, innovative and timely compared to the state of the art in the research area.
  - Use **footnotes** to cite key relevant bibliography – make sure to cite consortium members' work and showing the high level expertise within consortium.
  - **Benchmark** against other EU funded projects in the same/similar field - but do not limit your benchmarking to EU funded consortia.
  - Relation to the scope of the call - **why you need to work together**, innovative nature (topics, consortium, synergies...)

**Beyond the State of the art:**

- Methodology,
- Secondments,
  - Trainings,
- Dissemination,
- Workplan



# OBJECTIVES!



Specific	Measurable	Attainable	Relevant	Time-Bound
Make sure your goals are focused and identify a tangible outcome. Without the specifics, your goal runs the risk of being too vague to achieve. Being more specific helps you identify what you want to achieve. You should also identify what resources you are going to leverage to achieve success.	You should have some clear definition of success. This will help you to evaluate achievement and also progress. This component often answers how much or how many and highlights how you'll know you achieved your goal.	Your goal should be challenging, but still reasonable to achieve. Reflecting on this component can reveal any potential barriers that you may need to overcome to realize success. Outline the steps you're planning to take to achieve your goal.	This is about getting real with yourself and ensuring what you're trying to achieve is worthwhile to you. Determining if this is aligned to your values and if it is a priority focus for you. This helps you answer the why.	Every goal needs a target date, something that motivates you to really apply the focus and discipline necessary to achieve it. This answers when. It's important to set a realistic time frame to achieve your goal to ensure you don't get discouraged.

- Show clearly, how projects contribute to **overall** objectives
- Use SMART objectives that address the **gaps** in the state-of-the-art and correspond to the **needs** of training a new generation of researchers in Europe
- Scientific objectives should correspond to Work Packages (structured under 3.1)

# What should an excellent project objective look like?

- Relevant to Research and Innovation Goals
- Scientifically Ambitious
- Innovative and Original
- Interdisciplinary
- Are the gender dimension and other diversity aspects relevant?
- Are the mandatory open science practices well integrated in the methodology?
- Research data and other research outputs in line with the FAIR principles?
- Use of AI relevant to the project?



## OBJECTIVES

- The research and innovation objectives are clear and realistically achievable. However, it is unclear **how the success of these objectives will be measured**.
- However, the **measurement and verification of the progress** on these objectives are not explained with sufficient **clarity and detail**.
- While the challenges and research objectives are well-oriented, some aspects are **not detailed enough**, introducing **uncertainties regarding the potential success of some objectives**.
- Some of the sub-objectives are **over-ambitious** and it is not sufficiently clearly presented in the proposal if they are **realistically achievable**.
- However, the objectives aiming to optimise xy **are not clearly measurable and consequently is not clear if they are achievable**.



## OBJECTIVES (1/3)

- The proposal outlines **general objectives**. However, the research and innovation objectives of the proposal are not **clearly stated or explained**. Therefore, it is not possible to determine if the proposal's scientific objectives are **measurable and achievable**.
- Most research and innovation objectives are adequately detailed and realistically achievable. However, some of them are **expressed in general terms**. The proposal also fails to indicate methods for **quantifying and verifying** the objectives.
- However, for some objectives, their achievability is not fully convincing because the methods for **measuring and verifying** them are not always **adequately described**.
- However, some aims related to the number of xy and developed xy seem **too ambitious**. The achievability of the proposed objectives is unconvincing, particularly the application of xy . Additionally, the **measurability** and **verifiability** of objectives dedicated to screening results application are not completely pertinent.



## OBJECTIVES (2/3)

- However, the proposal **lacks measurable outcomes** for each objective, such as **performance indicators**, which are essential for effective monitoring and evaluation, raising concerns about their **realistic achievability**.
- However, the means of **measuring** and **verifying** the set objectives are not convincingly presented.
- However, the proposed **key performance indicators are not quantifiable**, which makes it questionable as to whether these objectives **can realistically be accomplished** within the proposed framework.
- Yet the objectives are **too vague** and not clearly suitable for **measuring the progress of the proposal**. This leaves unclear whether they are **realistically achievable**.



## OBJECTIVES (3/3)

- It remained unclear how the consortium plans to perform the research as it appears that this project is more a **comparative study** of social science aspects and qualities than a **pure science approach** to develop improved xy science involvement and outcomes.
- The research and innovation objectives are **not sufficiently described**, they are formulated to **reflect a process** rather than the **result** to be achieved. Therefore, no **tangible outcomes** could be linked to those key goals. It is hard to determine if the proposal is **realistically achievable** as there are no measurables or quantifiable verification criteria as the overarching objective is the formation of the network and exchange of information rather than the development of new chemistry approaches or materials.



## THE STATE-OF-THE-ART

- The references and bibliography do not adequately reflect the state-of-the-art in the targeted research field, nor do they convincingly illustrate how the proposed research intends to advance beyond it.
- However, it has not been demonstrated that the proposal goes beyond the current state of the art. Moreover, the extent of the innovation that will result from this proposal is unclear.
- However, the state-of-the-art is not sufficiently described to give credibility to the action.

**1.2 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 AND APPROPRIATENESS OF OPEN SCIENCE PRACTICES)**

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- **Overall methodology:** Describe and explain the **overall methodology** including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work. Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project's objectives. Refer to any **important challenges** you may have identified in the chosen methodology and how you intend to overcome them.
- **Integration of methods and disciplines to pursue the objectives:** Explain how expertise and methods **from different disciplines** will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of your objectives.
- **Gender dimension and other diversity aspects:** Describe how the **gender dimension and other diversity aspects** are taken into account in the project's research and innovation content.
- **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.
- **Research data management and management of other research outputs**
- **Artificial Intelligence** (if applicable)



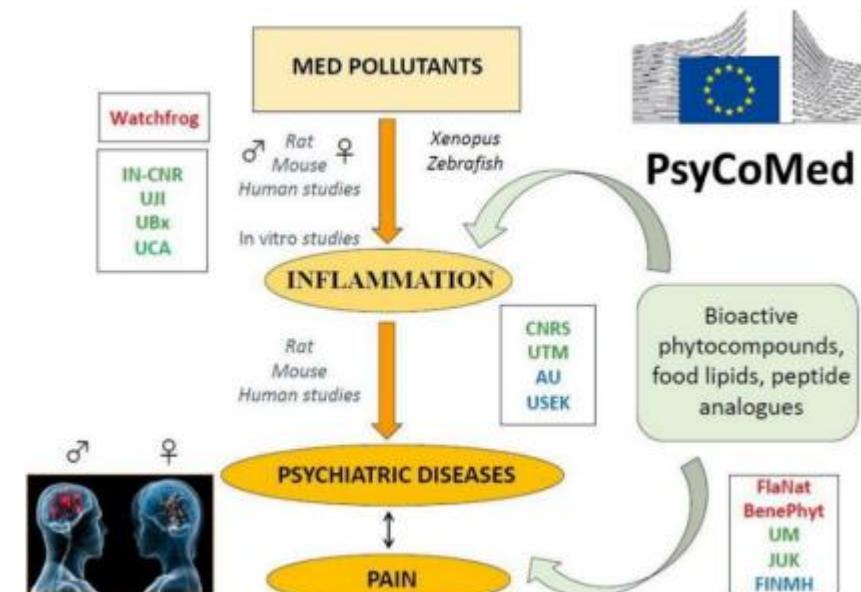
- Overall methodology:

- Describe and explain the overall methodology including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work.
- Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project's objectives.
- Refer to any important challenges you may have identified in the chosen methodology and how you intend to overcome them.

Describe how the objectives in the research programme will be explored - **equipment, techniques, assays, types of research** etc.

You need to provide enough information so that the evaluator can understand how you will tackle the problem at hand.

You need to show **what is novel/interesting** about your particular approach, and how it can be **achieved through secondment of staff** (and subsequent reintegration in their own organisation).



Source: Widening Country Inspiration Story – PsyCoMed project



## METHODOLOGY

- The overall methodology is well-developed and described in substantial detail. However, the methodology **for the creation of xy Tool** is not sufficiently clear.
- However, some **methodological challenges** are not explicitly identified and addressed.
- The methodology is outlined, providing a logical structure for the approach to be utilised including identifying challenges; however, **not all aspects of the methodology are clear** including those related to tools for predictive modelling.
- The methodological approach is very well described and will enable the consortium to deliver the proposal's objectives. On the other hand, the **methodological challenges** and **ways to overcome them** are not fully explained.
- However, the proposal does **not sufficiently identify** **potential methodological challenges** that may arise.



## METHODOLOGY (1/2)

- The research methodology does not effectively demonstrate the suitability of the proposed approach for achieving the expected results. While a list of potential methodological challenges is provided, there is insufficient analysis regarding how these challenges will be addressed and overcome.
- There is not enough focus and detail on the overall scientific approach to fulfill the objectives.
- However, some methodologies lack sufficient detail to convincingly demonstrate all expected outcomes, and challenges are not properly identified.
- However, the methodology of the proposed research is insufficiently described to appreciate how it will be used to deliver all of the project's objectives. Also, while methodological challenges have been convincingly identified, the proposed solutions to overcome them are described in relatively generic terms.
- The overall methodology is not well described. The proposal does not explain convincingly how challenges will be overcome.



## METHODOLOGY (2/2)

- The overall methodology is not convincingly explained. Obvious xy mismatches and gaps across different countries were clearly identified but further consistent methodological development has not been described in sufficient detail. The presentation is rather generic and does not clarify how the proposal's objectives will be delivered and there appears to be no generation of new learning material. The initial challenges set out by the applicant relate to a lack of training in xy techniques but the methodology of the project appears to be about procedures rather than technical training and scientific skills.

# GENDER ASPECTS

## Definitions

**Gender balance** refers to share of different genders in a research team; **NOT to be discussed here, but under 3.1.**

**Gender equality** refers to equal treatment of men and women (for example by employers) – Gender equality plan is an eligibility criterion for public bodies, HE institutions and RES organisations.

**NOT to be discussed here, but under 3.1.**

## Gender dimension and other diversity aspects in R&I content

refers to the integration of sex and/or gender analysis through the entire R&I cycle, from the setting of research priorities through defining concepts, formulating research questions, developing methodologies, gathering and analysing sex/gender disaggregated data, to evaluating and reporting results and transferring them to markets into products and innovations which will benefit all citizens and promote gender equality. **This has to be addressed under 1.2**

- How to deal with gender issues in the proposal?
- HE programme guide is a good source of information and contains links to further sources, including examples
- Describe how you are going to integrate gender dimension into your research – or *why you consider that this is not relevant for your research.*





## GENDER AND DIVERSITY ASPECTS

- Gender and diversity aspects are acknowledged as relevant within the proposal, and the consortium aims at incorporating them into the planned activities. However, it is not explained how this will be done, and which aspects of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects will be addressed.
- This proposal mentions that ‘objective criteria’ will be used to mitigate the risk of gender bias, and has not clarified this concept. Moreover, it does not explicitly specify how diversity will be addressed through the different phases of the proposed project. The human-in-the-loop investigations and validation tasks for different gender drivers are not included clearly in the proposed project.



## GENDER AND DIVERSITY ASPECTS

- The gender dimension **is not adequately addressed**, considering the proposal's goal is to monitor marketing. The proposal **does not explicitly address gender biases** in AI-generated marketing content.
- While the technical aspects of the proposed research are **gender neutral**, the proposal lacks a **sufficient discussion of why the consequence analysis will not affect different societal groups** in a specific manner.
- **Specific details** on how gender and diversity will be integrated into the research are not properly **demonstrated**
- The gender dimension in the proposal's research **is not sufficiently addressed**.
- The gender and diversity dimensions related to those affected by XY **are not described** or addressed in sufficient detail in the proposal.
- Although the authors state that addressing gender-specific risks in the planned research is crucial, they do not **explain how this would be done**.
- The proposal does not provide **sufficient justification** for **the relatively low attention** given to the gender dimension and other diversity aspects of the planned research and innovation activities.
- Gender dimension has not been properly **considered** by the proposal, it focuses **only on gender balance issues** within the consortium and the XY sector. **Gender-related issues in sciences** were not sufficiently **addressed** in the proposal.

# OPEN SCIENCE PRACTICES

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## Definitions

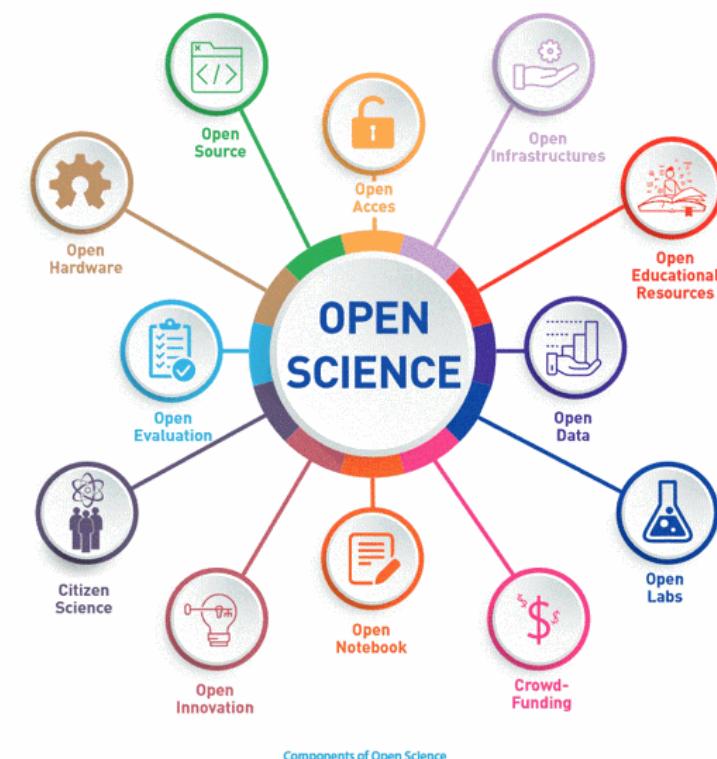
**Open Science** is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process.

**Open science practices** include **early and open sharing** of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowdsourcing); **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).

This question **does not refer to outreach actions** that may be planned as part of communication, dissemination and exploitation activities.

**MSCA-NET The Policy Brief on Open Science** provides an overview of the open science and data management requirements under MSCA, and provides additional information on approaching the evaluation criteria, training and skills development, dissemination, communication, and exploitation

- HE programme guide is a good source of information and contains links to information on mandatory and optional (recommended) OS practices



Source: [Meaningful Interactions Lab \(mintlab\)](#)



## OPEN SCIENCE

- While the proposal briefly mentions open-access publications and collaborative scientific activities via digital platforms, **it does not integrate these practices** (for example, reproducibility of results) effectively within the **methodology**.



## OPEN SCIENCE

- While there is a strong commitment to open-access publications, with plans to use platforms like Zenodo, the open science practices **are described in very general terms**. Since the proposal involves marketing and customer data, it does not sufficiently elaborate on **how data privacy concerns will be addressed**. The proposal aligns with FAIR principles but lacks **sufficient details on the action plan** and the measurement indicators to be convincing, and **no specific activities** are planned for research data management.
- However, the **measures to ensure the reproducibility** of results are insufficiently detailed.
- However, the **details** about how databases may be shared if they **contain sensitive information** is unclear.

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

IF YOU PLAN TO USE, DEVELOP AND/OR DEPLOY **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)** BASED SYSTEMS AND/OR TECHNIQUES YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THEIR TECHNICAL ROBUSTNESS. AI-BASED SYSTEMS OR TECHNIQUES SHOULD BE, OR BE DEVELOPED TO BECOME:

- TECHNICALLY ROBUST, ACCURATE AND REPRODUCIBLE, AND ABLE TO DEAL WITH AND INFORM ABOUT POSSIBLE FAILURES, INACCURACIES AND ERRORS, PROPORTIONATE TO THE ASSESSED RISK THEY POSE
- SOCIALLY ROBUST, IN THAT THEY DULY CONSIDER THE CONTEXT AND ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY OPERATE
- RELIABLE AND FUNCTION AS INTENDED, MINIMIZING UNINTENTIONAL AND UNEXPECTED HARM, PREVENTING UNACCEPTABLE HARM AND SAFEGUARDING THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL INTEGRITY OF HUMANS
- ABLE TO PROVIDE A SUITABLE EXPLANATION OF THEIR DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES, WHENEVER THEY CAN HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S LIVES.

If your project has AI usage, you must address its technical robustness here. You must also mention it in the Part A Ethics Assessment table. More information is available in [Guidelines on ethics by design/operational use for Artificial Intelligence](#).

1 de 1



## The European Research Area

### Living guidelines on the RESPONSIBLE USE OF GENERATIVE AI IN RESEARCH

Artificial Intelligence is transforming every stage of the research process across scientific disciplines. Generative AI tools, like ChatGPT, are powerful technologies that can facilitate scientific work and accelerate discovery, when used in the right way. The European Commission, countries and research and innovation stakeholders of the European Research Area have collaboratively developed a set of recommendations to support the responsible integration of generative AI in research.

The guidelines follow the principles of research integrity and address the main challenges researchers face when using generative AI. As the technology is evolving, [feedback from the community](#) is welcome to keep the guidelines up to date.

#### KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

##### RESEARCHERS should...

- Follow key principles of research integrity, use GenAI transparently and remain ultimately responsible for scientific output.
- Use GenAI preserving privacy, confidentiality, and intellectual property rights on both, inputs and outputs.
- Maintain a critical approach to using GenAI and continuously learn how to use it responsibly to gain and maintain AI literacy.
- Refrain from using GenAI tools in sensitive activities e.g. peer reviews or evaluations.

##### RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS should...

- Guide the responsible use of GenAI and actively monitor how they develop and use tools.
- Integrate and apply these guidelines, adapting or expanding them when needed.
- Deploy their own GenAI tools to ensure data protection and confidentiality.

##### FUNDING ORGANISATIONS should...

- Support the responsible use of GenAI in research.
- Use GenAI transparently, ensuring confidentiality and fairness.
- Facilitate the transparent use of GenAI by applicants.

#### MORE INFO



Find the complete guidelines [here](#)

Provide feedback on the guidelines [here](#)

More on ERA [here](#)

More on the AI in Science [webpage](#)





# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- The artificial intelligence methodology is **inadequately discussed**. The **robustness** of the artificial intelligence-driven Decision Support Tool is not fully credibly presented.
- The proposal utilises AI applications which are an important part of the proposal, and the consortium is committed to use **ethically correct and trustworthy AI**. However, there is **no clear information** regarding the use of specific algorithms or techniques **to assess their robustness**.
- The proposal clearly specifies that AI will be developed in full compliance with the EC's ethics recommendations for trustworthy AI, as well as the relevant legal requirements. However, the proposal does not provide **details on metrics, data structuring, or bias mitigation strategies**.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- However, it remains unclear whether the AI models and methods will be developed during the course of the project or if they are already established resources within one of the project partners. While the proposal acknowledges key strategies for utilizing AI techniques concerning stability and security, it does not comprehensively address the technical robustness of the proposed system.
- The proposal involves the development, deployment, and use of AI-based systems, but in terms of robustness, there is no explicit consideration of how the system would conform to AI regulations. It lacks a detailed evaluation and testing procedure to ensure the technical robustness of these methods. Additionally, the proposal assumes that existing LLMs, which are well regarded for handling complex linguistic patterns, can effectively detect marketing integrity issues. However, these LLMs may not have been specifically tested for this task, making their technical robustness in this context uncertain.
- Although AI methods have been integrated for data analysis and pattern recognition, the proposal provides inadequate information to evaluate the technical robustness of the AI systems.



## INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

- The innovative aspects of the research are also relevant. However, the proposal fails to **sufficiently describe** how some of the developed techniques will **advance the state-of-the-art**.



## INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

- The level of ambition presented is quite low and there is a **lack of evidence** to support claims that the consortium's approach **will deliver significant benefits** that will allow it to outperform the current state-of-the-art.
- The innovative aspects of the research are modest and **not pertinent enough**.
- However, the novelty and innovation expected from the proposal regarding xy applications **are not sufficiently demonstrated or supported by the description of the state of the art**.
- However, while it is ambitious, the proposal lacks a strong **comparative analysis** of **how the proposed approach will improve upon existing xy techniques**, particularly in xy
- The innovative aspects are clearly pertinent but **not sufficiently linked to the state of the art** in xy models for xy. The ambitions of the proposal to advance research in these areas **remain unclear**.
- However, the innovative **aspects have not gained sufficient attention in the explanation**, and therefore the ambition of the proposal **is not evident**.

- **Contribution of each participating organisation in the activities planned**, with particular emphasis on the scientific objectives described in section 1.1.
  - Clearly state what each participating organisation will contribute towards achieving the research and knowledge transfer objectives – use a table for brevity and clarity
  - Include their expertise, their contribution to networking events, and their level of participation in the secondments
- **Justification of the main networking activities** (e.g. workshops/trainings/conferences, etc.).
  - Describe the **networking activities** that will be organised to **share knowledge** e.g. workshops, meetings, trainings, online networking and knowledge sharing
  - Justify how **these will contribute to the knowledge-sharing objectives** – explain why you have chosen these particular activities

There should be explicit **link between networking activities and specific objectives** of the project

## Knowledge sharing role of each participating organization:

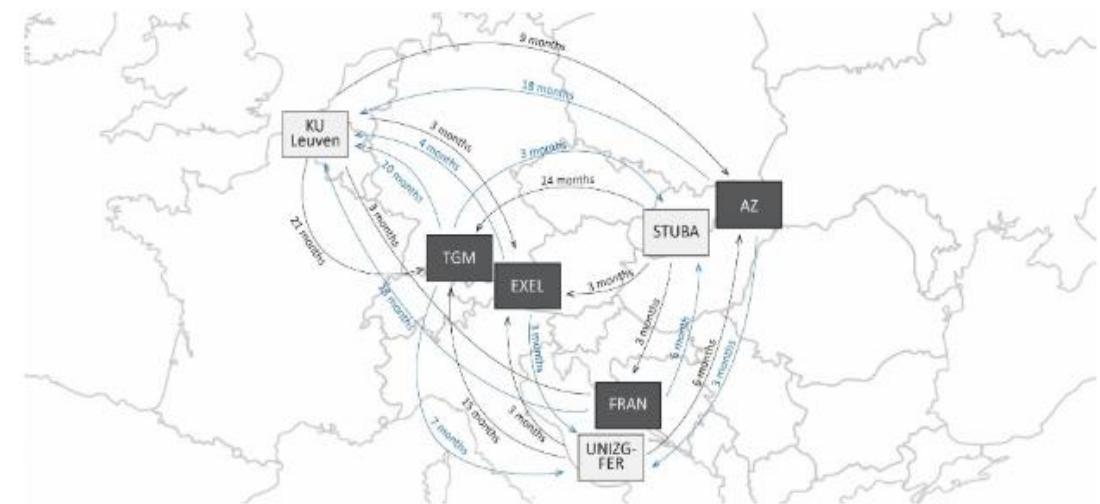
- Knowledge-sharing objectives and how they are **related to research and innovation objectives**
- Describe the overall **strategy for knowledge-sharing** and explain
  - Secondment programme, networking events e.g. workshops/training/conferences
- Detail the **secondments**:
  - How secondment will contribute to the knowledge sharing objectives
  - What knowledge, knowledge provider and recipient
  - Transfer of knowledge (also to home organisation)

Make sure both doctoral students and postdocs are doing secondments (longer visits >4 months for young researchers are preferred by evaluators).

Use a **diagram** to show the flow of people around the consortium

### About the Papabuild project

- Project goals can be reached only by a great mobility of the partners in the project





## NETWORKING

- The participating organizations will bring relevant contribution to the planned activities, in tight correlation to their experience and expertise. However, the networking events are described with insufficient details, for example about the content and audience.



## NETWORKING (1/2)

- The role of networking events is not sufficiently addressed.
- However, the frequency of workshops is not sufficient to create a strong and in-depth collaboration, and the structure of the activities is weak.
- The contribution of the participating organizations to the planned research and innovation activities is clearly addressed and relevant to each of the partners. The main networking activities are also sufficient described, but some activities are not fully supported with appropriate metrics.
- The networking activities are poorly described to demonstrate partners' interactions and their crosslinking contributions to the implementation of objectives.
- However, the precise scientific and research contributions of partners is unclear. While networking activities (workshops, training, conferences) are described and outlined, there is insufficient detail as to how they relate to the research and innovation activities of the proposal.
- However, little information has been provided about the planned workshops and other networking activities.



## NETWORKING (2/2)

- The contributions of several of the participating organisations to key scientific activities are not clearly presented in the proposal. Each of the work packages 1-8 involves a relatively large number of participating organisations without a clear description of their role in the tasks. Networking activities, such as the annual meetings and workshops listed in Task xy, are not sufficiently described nor explained to justify their contributions to research and innovation activities.
- Presentation of the contribution of participating organisations is limited to that of the work package leaders. The role of the other participants has not been explicitly specified. The main networking activities are around training and dissemination of the learning. However, limited detail has been given about networking activities apart from one project meeting.

## 2. IMPACT

2.1. Developing **new and lasting research collaborations**, achieving **transfer of knowledge** between participating organisations and contribution to improving research and innovation potential at the European and global level

2.2. Credibility of the measures to enhance **the career perspectives of staff members** and contribution to their **skills development**

2.3. Suitability and quality of the measures **to maximise expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out **in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities**

2.4. The magnitude and **importance of the project's contribution** to the **expected scientific, societal and economic impacts**.

## MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

*Developing talents,  
advancing research*

## 2. Elements of IMPACT criteria



Collaboration



Career  
perspectives



Communication



Knowledge transfer



Dissemination



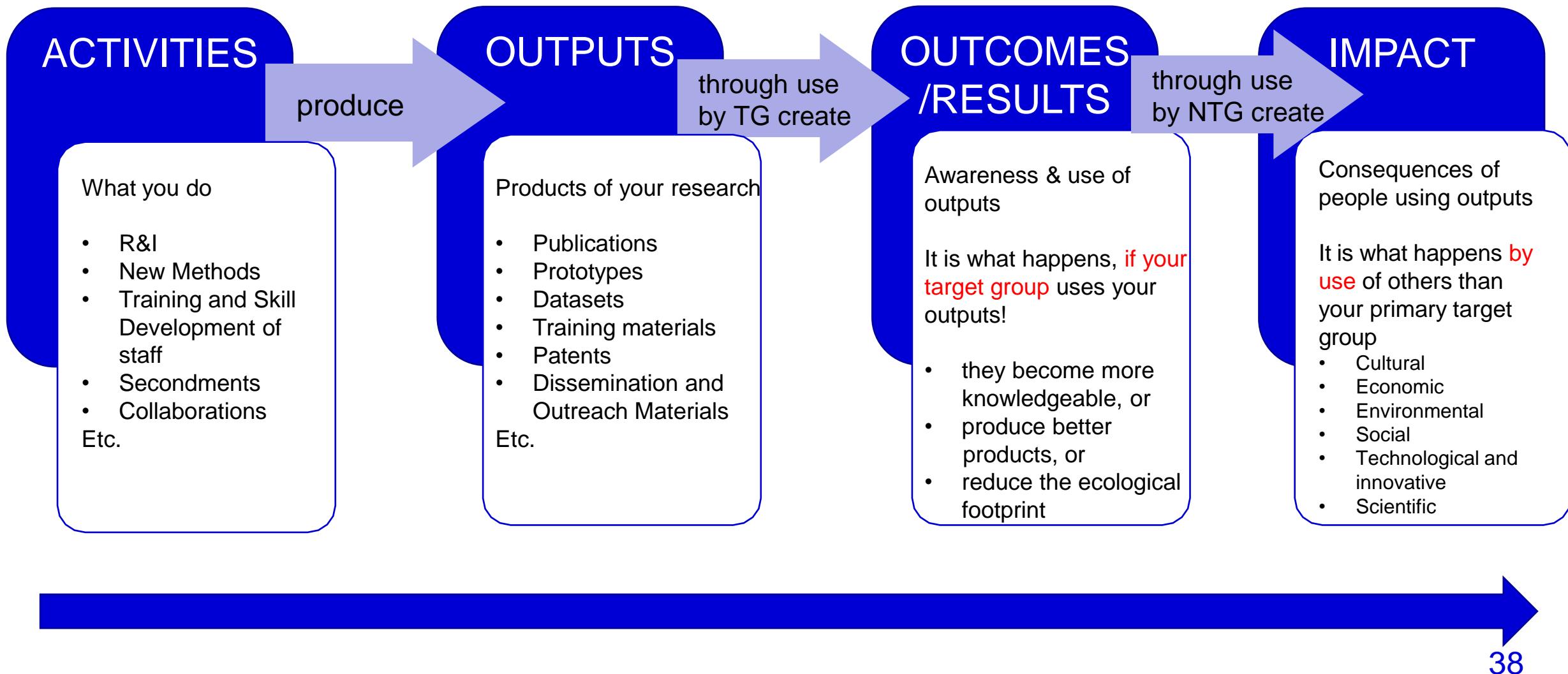
Impact



EU/global



Exploitation



## 2.1 DEVELOPING NEW AND LASTING RESEARCH **COLLABORATIONS**, ACHIEVING **TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE** BETWEEN PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS AND CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL AT THE **EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL LEVEL**

- **Describe the development and sustainability of new and lasting research collaborations resulting from international, interdisciplinary and/or inter-sectoral secondments and the networking activities implemented.**
  - Explain how the secondments and networking activities and the knowledge-transfer achieved via those mechanisms will help to develop a lasting collaboration between the participants
  - Outline your plans for building the collaboration and continuing it after the project has ended (potential new collaborative projects MSCA DN, COST, Erasmus+...)
- **Describe how the project will generate knowledge transfer that will benefit the participating organisations.**
  - Outline the benefits of the knowledge-sharing through to the participating organisations
- **Describe the contribution of the action to the improvement of the research and innovation potential within Europe and/or worldwide.**
  - Explain how the research programme and the Staff's activities (incl. Dissemination /exploitation /communication /outreach) will contribute to Europe's economy and/or society
  - Make a link to a EU research /policy goals

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### Organisations

Empowering organisations to connect and realise their research and innovation ideas:

- Gaining experience in the academic/ non-academic sector
- Building sustained international partnerships
- Ideas converted into products, processes and services
- Attracting top researchers in Europe and beyond
- Transfer of knowledge
- Innovating across disciplines
- Access to specialised research infrastructures





## LASTING COLLABORATION

- While some of the partners have worked together on previous EU funded projects, the proposal does not sufficiently consider **efficient mechanisms for developing new and lasting research collaborations** between consortium participants
- Although the proposal states to improve collaborations between participating organisations, it is not fully clear **what measures will be implemented** to ensure long lasting collaborations.



## LASTING COLLABORATION (1/2)

- The proposal does not adequately address the specific aspects concerning developing and sustaining **new and lasting research collaborations**. It does not indicate **how new research endeavors could be developed and sustained over the longer term**, starting from the current proposal and existing partnership.
- The proposal builds on existing collaborations, and it is expected to contribute to the development and sustainability of new and lasting research collaborations. However, there is **no concrete plan for post-proposal continuation**.
- The development of new and lasting research collaborations, knowledge transfer, and innovation potential is not **convincingly demonstrated** due to insufficient clarity regarding **concrete new joint initiatives**, and the **role of industrial partners** in this regard.
- However, the description outlines **only generic information** relating to the potential for these collaborations; it is unclear **how new proposal-specific collaborations will be maintained**.



## LASTING COLLABORATION (2/2)

- While the proposal is based on existing collaborations and partnerships, suggesting that the project's activities are likely to result in the development and sustainability of lasting research collaborations, it does not sufficiently articulate **how the established consortium ensures its sustainability beyond the project end**.
- The network of partners offers significant **potential for research collaborations**. However the **description of the activities is insufficient** and fails to convince that the collaborations will develop and last.
- The proposal does not provide a clear **description** of new and lasting research collaborations; the explanation is **rather generic** and not specific to the proposed project. It is unclear as to **how the project findings will drive scientific research to develop** 'ad hoc' laboratory methodologies beyond the proposed project.



## KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

- The proposal's potential for **knowledge transfer** is not sufficiently **substantiated** by **clearly identified**, concrete **opportunities for effecting such transfer**.
- The proposal does not provide sufficient information **to demonstrate the contribution** of the secondments and networking events to the **knowledge transfer** for the benefit of the participating organizations.
- It also aims to generate knowledge transfer that will **benefit the participating organizations**. However, **its description is largely general** in terms of the potential outcomes in research, development, or innovation.



## KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER (1/2)

- However, a clear plan for the secondment and specific details on how the secondment will support and implement knowledge transfer and on which topics it is lacking.
- Although knowledge generated will be transferred between the partners, the mutual benefit between partners with overlapping competencies are insufficiently addressed.
- Scientific knowledge transfer among some of the participants is very well presented, with clear benefits, especially in the acquisition of new methods. However, transfer of other types of knowledge or expertise, such as industrial application or communication with industrial partners, is insufficiently documented.
- The proposal has the potential to facilitate knowledge transfer in xy best practices and innovations; however, it does not explicitly address potential knowledge transfer instruments. Moreover, it is unclear between which partners knowledge transfer will occur and what kinds of knowledge will be shared.



## KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER (2/2)

- However, the proposal does not sufficiently describe how expertise in xy and xy will be integrated and shared across sectors.
- However, the knowledge transfer mechanism relies primarily on the passive experience of the secondments, with insufficient attention to structured learning activities such as workshops or formal training sessions that would maximise the benefits of these professional interactions.
- The description of scientific knowledge transfer remains generic and is not sufficiently adapted to the proposal and its distinguishing characteristics.
- Knowledge transfer mechanisms are not clearly detailed.



## RESEARCHERS SKILLS

- However, it is not sufficiently explained how the proposed activities can enhance researchers' complementary skills.
- However, the reliance on numerous and very short secondments raises concerns about the credibility and effectiveness of acquiring all the proposed skills.
- The way the overall action will contribute to the EU's New Skills Agenda document is outlined.



## RESEARCHERS SKILLS (1/2)

- The proposal lists the activities that could benefit the researchers involved; however, the new knowledge and skills (including transferable ones) to be acquired are not specified. The proposal does not include a career development plan for measuring the effects of the planned actions.
- The anticipated contribution to enhancing staff members' knowledge and career perspectives is not fully convincing, as the skills development potential of the proposed actions is not sufficiently addressed.
- The researcher's knowledge and skills developed during the proposal are insufficiently specified, and potential areas where the employability of individuals can be improved are not properly identified.
- The proposal's contribution to realizing the professional potential of individuals is not entirely clear. The proposal fails to provide convincing evidence on how staff will acquire new skills and enhance their career perspectives.



## RESEARCHERS SKILLS (2/2)

- However, the proposal does not convincingly **explain** how the project contributes to enhancing the career **perspectives** of individuals.
- The breadth of research fields in the network will clearly expand the scientific knowledge of participants at all stages of their careers. Yet the **too vague description** of training and research activities leaves as **unclear** how the proposal can **empower career prospects** for the participants.
- Key competency development for **early stage researchers** is mentioned but **how this will be deployed** is also unclear.
- The proposal does not show **what particular knowledge** and skills will be acquired by the participating staff members. In addition, it does not present **plausible evidence** of enhancing their professional expertise and career perspectives.

## Link your proposal to the policy context

- Show the **importance of research in addressing a challenge/priority at a European/Global level:**

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Green Deal
- Horizon Europe Missions

Consider the following questions:

- ❖ What are the objectives of your project?
- ❖ Why and how they can be important in view of work programme?
- ❖ What target audience (user communities? Parts of the society?) would benefit?
- ❖ Is it clear how the effects of your project can contribute to the outcomes or wider impact?

Check out the MSCA-NET policy briefs on the [Green Deal](#) and [Missions](#) to help you understand the policy background of this topic relevant to the MSCA.





## EU/GLOBAL CONTRIBUTION

- The proposal's potential contribution to the research and innovation potential within Europe and/or worldwide is limited. The proposal provides some general statements regarding developing high-performance and sustainable materials without highlighting the specific contributions in the context of the European/world research and innovation ecosystem and alignment with the current state of the art.
- The proposal's potential to enhance research and innovation within Europe is not sufficiently elaborated. Although it establishes an institutionalised framework for ongoing international cooperation, its specific innovation potential is unclear.
- The proposal lacks concrete measure to leverage the geographical diversity of the network to strengthen Europe's research and innovation potential.

## 2.3 SUITABILITY AND QUALITY OF THE MEASURES TO MAXIMISE EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS, AS SET OUT IN THE **DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION PLAN, INCLUDING COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

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- **Plan for the dissemination and exploitation activities, including communication activities:**
- Describe the planned **measures** to maximise the impact of your project by providing a first version of your '**Plan for the dissemination and exploitation including communication activities**'.
- Regarding communication measures and public engagement strategy, the aim is to **inform and reach out to society** and **show the activities performed**, and the use and the benefits the project will have for citizens.
- **Activities must be strategically planned**, with clear objectives, start at the outset and continue through the lifetime of the project.
- The description of the communication activities **needs to state the main messages as well as the tools and channels** that will be used to reach out to each of the chosen target groups.

## COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION

### WHY THEY ALL MATTER AND WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

#### Communication: Promote your action and results

Inform, promote and communicate  
your activities and results

 **Reaching multiple audiences**  
Citizens, the media, stakeholders

 **How?**

- Having a well-designed strategy
- Conveying clear messages
- Using the right media channels

 **When?**  
From the start of the action until the end

 **Why?**

- Engage with stakeholders
- Attract the best experts to your team
- Generate market demand
- Raise awareness of how public money is spent
- Show the success of European collaboration

**Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement**

#### Dissemination: Make your results public

Open Science: knowledge and results (free of charge)  
for others to use

 **Only to scientists?**

Not only but also to others that can learn from the results:  
authorities, industry, policymakers, sectors of interest, civil  
society

 **How?**  
Publishing your results on:

- Scientific magazines
- Scientific and/or targeted conferences
- Databases

 **When?**  
At any time, and as soon as the action has results

 **Why?**

- Maximise results' impact
- Allow other researchers to go a step forward
- Contribute to the advancement of the state of the art
- Make scientific results a common good

**Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement**

#### Exploitation: Make concrete use of results

Commercial, Societal, Political Purposes

 **Only by researchers?**

Not only, but also:

- Industry including SMEs
- Those that can make good use of them:  
authorities, industrial authorities, policymakers, sectors of  
interest, civil society

 **How?**

- Creating roadmaps, prototypes, softwares
- Sharing knowledge, skills, data

 **When?**  
Towards the end and beyond, as soon as the action has exploitable results

 **Why?**

- Lead to new legislation or recommendations
- For the benefit of innovation, the economy and the society
- Help to tackle a problem and respond to an existing demand

**Legal obligation of your Grant Agreement**

What else?



Acknowledge the EU funding!



## DISSEMINATION & COMMUNICATION

- The proposal includes a set of dissemination and communication activities that are adequately aligned with objectives. The outlined metrics are also well-defined, but the corresponding **target values** are relatively low (e.g. number of conference and journal publications, number of participants in the organized dissemination events)

## DISSEMINATION, EXPLOITATION & COMMUNICATION (1/2)

- The dissemination and exploitation plan is adequate and will maximise the impact of the results. However, the **identified target groups** (academy and industry) for the communication and dissemination activities are not sufficiently detailed.
- The dissemination and exploitation strategy are underpinned by a rationally structured plan, including communication, timing, specific channels, targeted journals, and a summer school. However, the **specific outcomes** of these activities are not clearly defined.
- The communication and dissemination plans, together with exploitation, are sufficiently reported, with well-chosen channels suggested for effective outreach. However, their respective **performance indicators** are insufficiently presented.
- However, there is a lack of clarity as to **how some elements of the dissemination plan will be implemented**.

## DISSEMINATION, EXPLOITATION & COMMUNICATION (2/2)

- The proposal outlines several dissemination and communication activities, but they are not sufficiently detailed. For instance, while it includes the organization of workshops, it lacks crucial information such as the content, location, duration, expected attendance and organizational details. Moreover, performance indicators to measure the impact of dissemination and communication activities are not sufficiently described.
- The plan for dissemination and exploitation lacks sufficient details, in terms of the means in regards of the targets, to be fully credible.



## EXPLOITATION

- The exploitation plan includes individual strategies for each partner, but the joint exploitation strategy is not clearly addressed. The intellectual property management approach and the protection measures that should be followed are outlined, but other related aspects (e.g., record keeping and monitoring of IP issues) are not clearly explained.
- The exploitation plan is sound. The proposal credibly describes a strategy for the management of Intellectual Property (IP) knowledge. However, the measures for IP protection are insufficiently outlined.



## EXPLOITATION

- However, the exploitation targets appear unrealistic, as obtaining functional prototypes, licensing, and generating eight start-up initiatives are not convincingly achievable, given the planned research activities and the project's time frame.
- The management of intellectual property (IP) is not sufficiently addressed. It does not provide an IP protection plan for the generated results, and the open source strategy is not clearly defined.
- The proposal includes a strategy for IP management, including a Consortium Agreement to formalize the management of intellectual property. However, it remains unclear who will resolve IP related disputes and how decisions regarding commercial potential will be made.
- However, the plan for commercial exploitation is insufficiently described. A generic strategy for the management of intellectual property is described, however it is not specifically tailored to the proposal's objectives.



## MONITORING THE IMPACT

- However, the proposal provides insufficient metrics for monitoring the impact of the dissemination activities, for example limited details about target journals and conferences are provided
- The dissemination plan is well structured and has clear aims. The actions to meet these aims are clear, specific and detailed, and are designed to reach a wide target audience that includes industry, other researchers and the public. However, the approach to measure these actions is not sufficiently described.

## 2.4 THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE **EXPECTED SCIENTIFIC, SOCIETAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS** (PROJECT'S PATHWAYS TOWARDS IMPACT)

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- Provide a narrative explaining **how the project's results are expected to make a difference in terms of impact**, beyond the immediate scope and duration of the project.
- Be **specific**, referring to the effects of your project, and not R&I in general in this field. State the target groups that would benefit.
  - Expected **scientific impact(s)**, e.g. contributing to specific scientific advances, across and within disciplines, creating new knowledge, reinforcing scientific equipment and instruments, computing systems (i.e. research infrastructures);
  - Expected **economic/technological impact(s)**, e.g. bringing new products, services, business processes to the market, increasing efficiency, decreasing costs, increasing profits, contributing to standards' setting, etc.
  - Expected **societal impact(s)**, e.g. decreasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, decreasing avoidable mortality, improving policies and decision-making, raising consumer awareness.

# How to enhance the description of economic and social impacts?

A successful MSCA Staff Exchanges proposal should:

- Foster long-lasting research collaborations
- Promote knowledge exchange among participants
- Enhance European and global research potential
- Empower individuals for career growth
- Maximize impact through a strategic dissemination plan
- Manage intellectual property effectively
- Demonstrate lasting scientific, economic, technological, and societal impacts



## SCIENTIFIC IMPACT

- The proposed activities and objectives have a minimal scientific impact, considering the lack of acknowledgment of the current state-of-the- art and the moderate level of ambition demonstrated in the objectives
- The scientific impact of the proposal is modest, as its technical innovations do not significantly advance the state of the art. The proposal does not outline how it extends beyond its immediate duration, lacking a clear roadmap for future research.
- However, the scientific impact beyond this area is not convincingly demonstrated.
- Therefore, it is unclear if the proposal will make a lasting scientific impact beyond the project scope.
- The ambitions of the proposal are insufficiently focused to have a discernible scientific impact.



## ECONOMIC / TECHNOLOGICAL IMPACT

- The research and innovation results are envisaged to allow the construction of a new generation of xy and low-cost, high-performance xy. However, the consortium **does not provide adequate evidence** to prove these achievements. The proposal does not demonstrate **real economic or technological impact**.
- The proposal **insufficiently details** the economic and technological impact beyond the scope and duration of the proposed project. It **does not clearly provide any** market research information to sustain this claim, for instance, market demand, trend, and pricing strategy.
- The proposed actions **lack sufficient support to justify** the exposed economic and technological outputs.
- However, the proposal does not adequately address **how these developments will translate into concrete opportunities** or **enhance the participating organizations in the long term**.



## SOCIETAL IMPACT

- While impacts such as „XY and „XY" are expected, the consortium fails to provide tangible elements to explain how these results will be obtained. Overall, the proposal does not highlight relevant societal impact beyond the scope and duration of the project.
- The societal impact is largely described as the ability to reduce XY. However, the relevance of such XY to society in general is not described in sufficient detail. Moreover, the proposal inadequately addresses revisions in existing EU gas legislation, and the potential implications of the proposal on EU-wide certification
- The proposal has the potential to foster sustainable urban mobility and reduce emissions. However, it is unclear if the proposal will make a lasting societal impact beyond its scope.
- The proposal has great potential for societal impact by improving XY and public XY interventions. However, no clear strategies are defined to engage with policymakers, XY systems and local communities.
- Despite its potential, the proposal does not present an appropriate set of measures for making a significant societal impact.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION

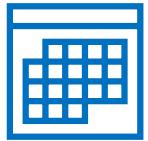
- 3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan, assessment of risks** and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
- 3.2 Quality, capacity and **role of each participant**, including **hosting arrangements** and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the **necessary expertise**

**MSCA**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

*Developing talents,  
advancing research*

### 3. Elements of IMPLEMENTATION criteria



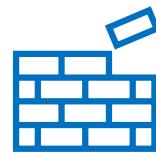
Work plan



Hosting arrangements



Risks



Complementarity

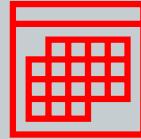


Timing



Environment

- ✓ Work Packages description (table)
- ✓ List of major deliverables (table)
- ✓ **Consistency and adequacy of the work plan and the activities proposed to reach the action objectives (research/innovation activities, training, transfer of knowledge, etc.).**
  - ✓ Show that the level of **effort** for each WP is in line with the amount of work involved and the overall needs of the project. For each WP, make sure **objectives** are clearly presented.
  - ✓ Have an adequate number of significant **deliverables** and **milestones** not only for the scientific aspects but also for the management, training and dissemination activities.
  - ✓ Have in mind the rational distribution of responsibilities and tasks **amongst the partners**, with work package leaders' roles being equally distributed among the consortium. For the allocation of tasks and resources make sure it is adequate to the capacities of participating institutions (including relevant knowledge and expertise).
- ✓ **Credibility and feasibility of the secondments proposed.** Describe how the proposed secondments are necessary, their duration is appropriate, and the staff profiles are suitable to implement the activities described.
  - ✓ Make sure your project **is clearly structured**, **secondments are feasible** and the **link between work packages** (and the associated research objectives) is well addressed. **The duration** of secondments, **the link between them**, how they support tasks and deliverables, and the availability of staff for secondments must be clear.
  - ✓ Make sure that the distribution of **the secondments is balanced throughout the years** of project implementation and justified and linked to the scientific activities/appropriate staff profiles. **Each partner needs** to have a specific role and they need to complement each other.
  - ✓ Secondments needs to be aligned with **participants' capacity** e.g., partners with small capacity should not have a high proportion of the total secondments.



## WORK PLAN

- However, there are a few areas that lack clarity, such as the absence of timelines for tasks in the work plan structure.
- However, the work package associated with the laboratory and field studies lacks sufficient detail.
- The work plan is outlined and includes detailed information on the work packages, tasks, and deliverables. However, it is unclear if the plan is appropriate for fulfilling the proposal objectives.
- However, the work plan does not coherently and precisely describe some of the key activities required to achieve the objectives.
- There are meaningful contributions towards the objectives in the work packages. Yet the links between the work packages are not well explained and the proposal fails to demonstrate the coherence of the work plan as a whole.



## DELIVERABLES

- Deliverables scheduled for management, training and dissemination are relevantly feasible. However, some tasks are planned to start too early within the proposal's timeframe



## DELIVERABLES

- While the list of deliverables is comprehensive and includes **numerous reports**, which could lead to a considerable administrative burden detrimental to project management, **several key deliverables are not specified**, including the **data management plan, dissemination plan, exploitation plan, and communication plan**, despite the explicit commitment to them.
- However, the proposed deliverables **insufficiently cover the planned work**.
- However, the deliverables **insufficiently describe the outputs and breakthroughs** of the research for some of the tasks.
- The schedule for some of the scientific deliverables seems overly **ambitious** and poses a **challenge** to the successful completion of the work plan. The integration of **training activities** into the work plan is also insufficiently detailed.
- The **tasks** within each of the work packages are often not specific. The deliverables are often not adequate or **realistic**.



## SECONDMENTS (1/2)

- The proposed secondments are well justified, in line with the proposed activities, and they will allow the proper implementation of the research plan. **The number of secondments** to the non-academic partners and the hosting arrangements **are not justified appropriately**.
- **The duration of the secondments** and their scope are not **sufficiently detailed and justified** in the proposal.
- The interdisciplinary expertise of the researchers involved in the proposal is highly appropriate for implementing the proposed activities envisaged for the different secondments. However, **details on the profiles of other involved staff**, particularly Early Stage Researchers, are not provided.
- However, while some of the proposed tasks and activities can be credibly implemented through the planned secondments, some **objectives and tasks**, particularly those related to scientific and technological developments, are not **convincingly demonstrated to be achievable** within the **proposed individual and total person-months** proposed.
- It plans a large number of secondments, **whose duration and distribution among the various tasks is not convincing** to achieve the planned goals.



## SECONDMENTS (2/2)

- However, the duration and specific tasks to be performed during some of the secondments are not sufficiently detailed



## SECONDMENTS (1/3)

- The necessity and duration of the proposed secondments are not sufficiently detailed.
- The proposal inadequately describes the necessary secondments to implement the planned activities. Some proposed secondments are not necessary for the implementation of the project tasks. The proposal includes qualified researchers and professionals; however, the profiles of the involved staff, especially juniors, are not presented in sufficient detail.
- However, the content of the activities to be carried out during the proposed secondments is not sufficiently documented.
- Some secondments lack consistency with the proposed activities and expected results. While certain tasks involve a large number of secondments and person-months (e.g. sampling and xy), others have very few, which compromises the adequacy of the secondments for the various activities.
- Some secondments are not allocated appropriately, and consideration of how secondments will be implemented is insufficiently justified. For example, the substantial secondments proposed for project management are not properly justified.



## SECONDMENTS (2/3)

- However, it lacks detailed information regarding the distribution of secondments and person months for specific tasks, as well as the type of personnel involved in each task. Consequently, the proposal does not fully demonstrate the adequacy of the secondment distribution.
- However, the proposal inadequately explains the specific objectives and expected outcomes of some of the secondments.
- Major problems have been identified with the proposed implementation of the secondments and the operational capacity of some of the participants. Although the secondments related to research and innovation work packages are generally well-planned and coherent with the objectives, not all planned secondments are justified. A particularly concerning aspect is the implementation of secondments comprising a large number of person-months allocated not to research and innovation activities but instead to management and dissemination activities. This strategy poorly aligns, if at all, with the purpose of the Staff Exchanges action.



## SECONDMENTS (3/3)

- The purpose and hosting institutions of the secondments are insufficiently described to justify their necessity. Insufficient information is provided on the appropriateness of the profiles of the staff, in particular in participating organization xy, to implement the activities foreseen for the secondments.
- There is no adequate presentation of the time schedule or justification for the secondments; therefore, the overall planning is not clear. The proposal does not describe whether the duration of each secondment would be sufficient to implement the activities and for efficient transfer of knowledge. There is little information in the proposal about support for secondments.
- However, it is not disclosed thoroughly who is going to be participating in which secondment.

# What are the expectations of evaluators regarding risk assessment?

- Effective risk assessment is critical in project proposals, showcasing understanding of challenges.
- Clear identification of risks and well-defined mitigation plans are imperative.
- Specific examples: mitigating funding risks for third-country partners and addressing participant withdrawal.
- Enhancements like Partnership Agreements and knowledge transfer secure projects and mitigate risks effectively.



## RISKS (1/2)

- In general, the potential scientific/technical and organizational/management risks are well identified, and the proposed contingency measures are effective. However, some **environmental risks**, for example related to possible effects of leaching of the nanoparticle-based materials into soil **are not sufficiently considered**.
- A detailed risk mitigation plan includes a clear identification of different risk levels, implying realistic assessment and mitigation measures. However, **risks related to the transport** of samples between organisations (especially xy active samples) are not considered.
- In addition, while the proposal identifies some risks and includes a contingency plan, it does not sufficiently address some specific implementation risks **considering the large size of the consortium** and the **high number of split secondments**.
- However, **management and technological risks** are not appropriately considered.



## RISKS (2/2)

- The proposed mitigation measures are generally appropriate. However, the risks associated with AI (e.g., dataset availability or bias, missing or mislabelled data, model generalization issues, etc) are insufficiently evaluated.



## RISKS

- While some risks to proposal management and coordination of staff exchange are properly explained and the mitigation measures are clearly defined, risks related to the scientific work are only generically presented with insufficient mitigation measures.
- The risks are identified, and mitigation measures are adequately outlined. However, the likelihood and severity of each risk are not sufficiently specified.
- However, technical risks on data collection that could hinder the proposal from achieving its objectives have not been clearly addressed.
- Although some relevant risks are identified and mitigation measures proposed, the likelihood and severity of risks have not been assessed in sufficient detail to ensure the success of the proposed research.
- The proposal also offers only limited mitigations that are not comprehensive enough to guarantee the achievement of research objectives if risks arise.

3.2. QUALITY, CAPACITY AND ROLE OF EACH PARTICIPANT,  
INCLUDING HOSTING ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTENT TO WHICH THE  
CONSORTIUM AS A WHOLE BRINGS TOGETHER THE NECESSARY  
EXPERTISE

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- **Appropriateness of the infrastructure and capacity of each participating organisation**, as outlined in Section 4 (Participating Organisations), in light of the tasks allocated to them in the action;
- Consortium composition and exploitation of **participating organisations' complementarities**: explain the compatibility and coherence between the tasks attributed to each beneficiary/associated partner in the action, including in light of their experience;
- **Commitment** of beneficiaries and associated partners to the programme.
  - The role of associated partners and their active contribution to the research and training activities should be described.



## HOSTING

- The hosting details for the secondments are not sufficiently described.



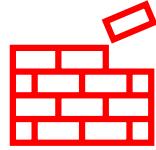
## INFRASTRUCTURE

- The facilities and infrastructure of the participants are, overall, of good quality and will provide **appropriate research environments to conduct the proposed research activities**. However, the infrastructure and operational capacity of **some of the participating organisations** are not **convincingly demonstrated**.



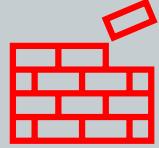
## INFRASTRUCTURE

- The infrastructure and capacity of some partners **are not sufficiently detailed** in terms of involvement in proposed tasks.
- However, it is insufficiently explained **whether the applicants have the necessary data storage infrastructure** for AI modeling and development.
- The infrastructure and capacity to perform planned research activities is **not sufficiently described**.



## COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE PARTNERS

- The partners are all compatible and complement each other well, especially the industrial partners that enhance the effectiveness of the consortium. Some academic partners have a proven track record in open science achievements, however this is not clearly presented for all partners from academia.
- The consortium brings together the necessary expertise, but some task allocations are not fully aligned with the participants' respective backgrounds and competencies, and experience in certain fields (e.g., medical/ healthcare) are not adequately represented.
- However, the complementarity between participants is not sufficiently clear, particularly in terms of human factors and ergonomics.



## COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE PARTNERS

- The participant organisations lack **basic operational resources and/or capacity** to implement the action because of **inadequate number of R&I staff** compared to the **activities** planned, and **technical and hosting capacity** to implement the planned R&I activities mentioned in the proposal.
- However, **academic institutions** dominate the research and innovation activities, while **industry partners** are relegated primarily to hosting roles with **limited substantive engagement**, and it is not made clear what specific value and benefits non-academic collaborators will gain from their involvement.



## OPEN SCIENCE PRACTICES

- The academic partners demonstrate a **good track record in open-access publications**. However, there is no specific description of other open-science achievements, like software and data sharing.



## OPEN SCIENCE PRACTICES

- Information on previous achievements of the consortium members in Open Science practices is not provided.
- However, the expertise in open science achievements is not sufficiently demonstrated for all participants.
- The participants' expertise and track record in open science achievements are not sufficiently demonstrated in the proposal.
- Insufficient information is provided on the expertise and track record in open science of the participants.

- **Environmental aspects** in light of the MSCA Green Charter

- The MSCA Green Charter promotes the sustainable implementation of research activities - in line with the goals of the European Green Deal
- The sustainable implementation of your research project starts at the planning stage and continues throughout the lifetime of the project.
- The goal of the MSCA Green Charter is to encourage sustainable thinking in research management.
- The MSCA Green Charter is a code of good practice for individuals and institutions who are in receipt of MSCA funding.
- All participants are expected to adhere to the Green Charter on a "best effort" basis and to commit to as many of its provisions as possible during the implementation of their projects.

**Some measures individuals and institutions are invited to consider are to:**

- reduce, reuse and recycle
- promote green purchasing for project-related materials
- ensure the sustainability of project events
- use low-emission forms of transport
- promote teleconferencing whenever possible
- use sustainable and renewable forms of energy
- develop awareness on environmental sustainability
- share ideas and examples of best practice

torek, 28. oktober 2025

## Posodobljena Zelena listina - MSCA Green Charter

Evropska komisija je pravkar objavila posodobljeni  **MSCA Green Charter – Zeleno listino MSCA** s spremljajočimi smernicami za njihovo uporabo na različnih ravneh raziskovanja.



# Tips and tricks

## Closely follow the call requirements

Be in line with the action's objectives and expected outcomes

## Follow available guidelines

Use the structure provided in the template and address all the evaluation criteria

## Highlight the EU dimension

Show that your proposal addresses EU policy priorities and/or societal challenges

## Get a second opinion

Have your proposal proof-read by a colleague and pre-screened by your NCP

## Sustainability of collaboration

Describe the benefits of cooperation and how they can go beyond this project

## Contact your National Contact Point (NCP)





REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO,  
ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE

**HVALA**

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