

2024 – 2025



EVROPSKA NOČ RAZISKOVALCEV



»Financira Evropska unija. Za izražena stališča in mnenja odgovarja samo avtor (ali avtorji) in ne odražajo nujno stališč Evropske unije ali Evropske izvajalske agencije za raziskave. Niti Evropska unija niti Evropska izvajalska agencija za raziskave ne moreta biti odgovorna zanje.«



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
**MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO,
ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE**

Uvod v razpisa MSCA PF 2026

Stojan Sorčan, MVZI, NKT za MSCA

Maribor, 17/4/2026

Postdoctoral Fellowships CALL 2026

Opening:

09 • 04 • 2026

Closing:

09 • 09 • 2026

Budget:

€399.05 million

MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie **Actions**
Developing talents, advancing research



Uvod v MSCA

1. Priprava na prijavo
2. Značilnosti MSCA PF 2026
3. Struktura prijave predloga projekta
4. Evalvacijski **kriteriji**
5. **Dokumenti** in viri

*Marie
Skłodowska-Curie
Actions*



*Curiosity that changes
the world*





- **MSCA has supported over 150 000 researchers**, boosting Europe's research excellence and competitiveness.
- **MSCA attracts, develops and retains research talent in Europe.**
- **MSCA fosters researchers' curiosity through bottom-up excellence**, turning ideas into cutting-edge innovation.
- MSCA is built on openness and excellence — **connecting researchers across borders, disciplines and sectors.**
- MSCA equips researchers to **drive innovation and collaboration between research and industry** in Europe.
- **MSCA delivers on EU priorities** by generating the research and evidence needed to address today's challenges.

The MSCA under Horizon Europe



Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research
Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions

Research Infrastructures



Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European Innovation
Ecosystems

European Institute of
Innovation & Technology

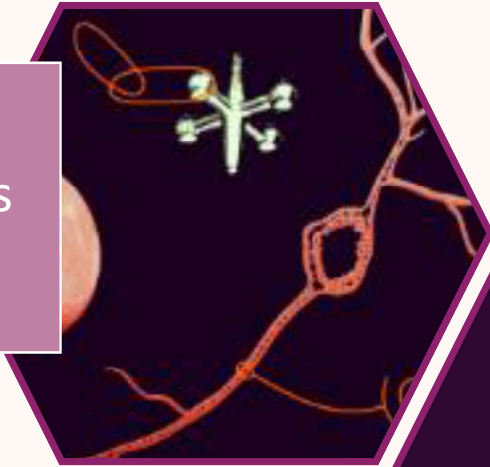
WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading
excellence

Reforming & enhancing the European R&I
system

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

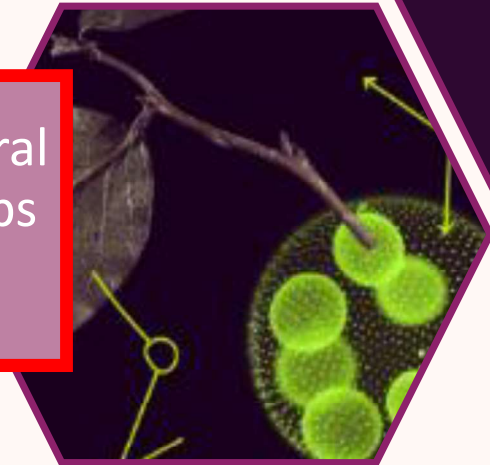
Doctoral
Networks
(DN)



COFUND



Postdoctoral
Fellowships
(PF)



Staff
Exchanges
(SE)



MSCA and
Citizens



The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions



Since 1996

Researcher Training
and Mobility



International and Inter-
Sectoral



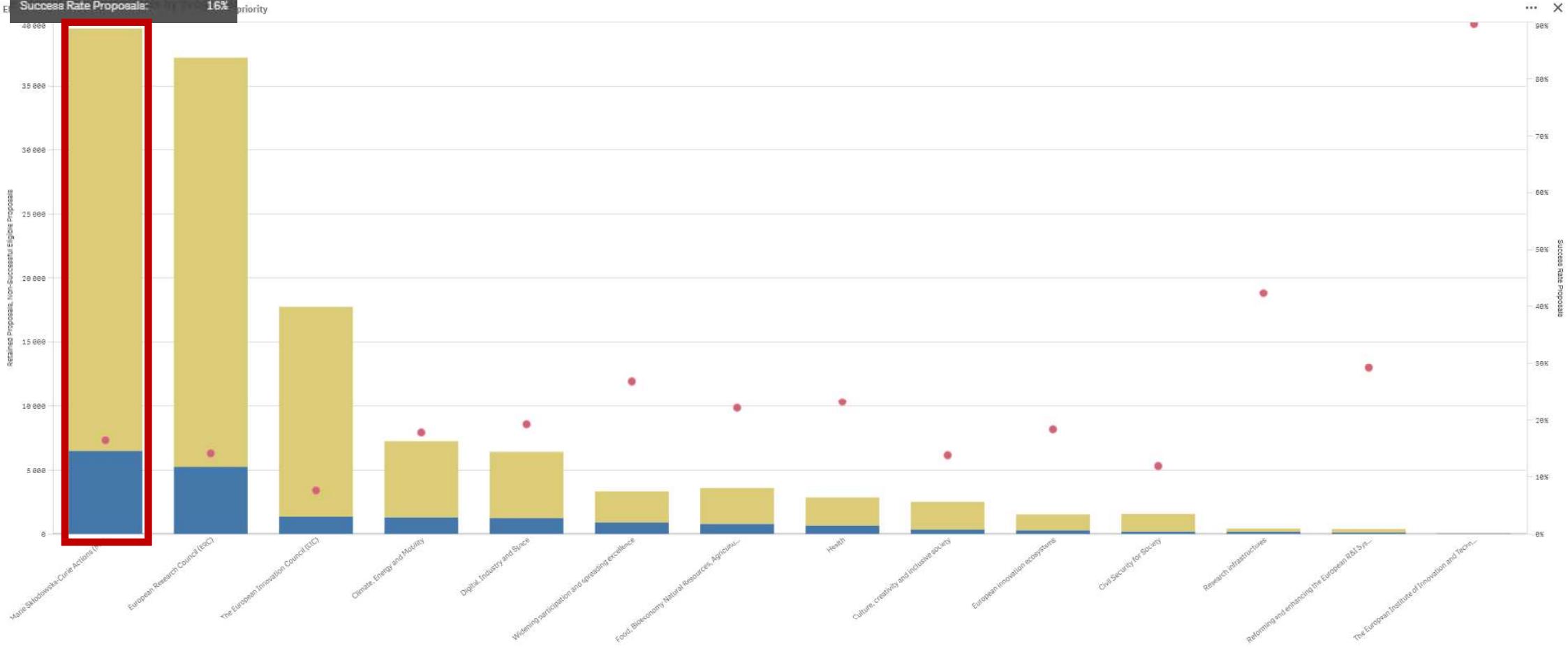
150,000 +

Bottom-Up Approach

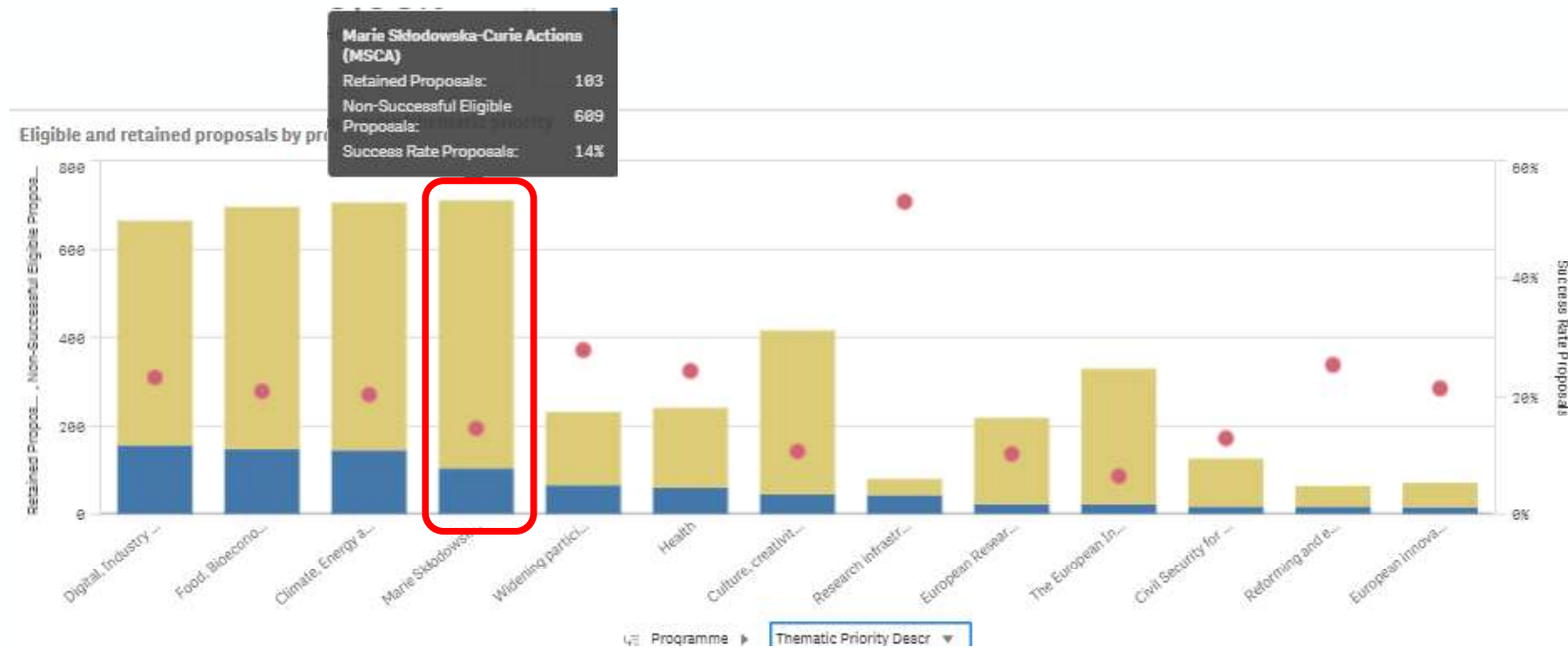


Prijave, odobreni projekti in stopnja uspeha

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)	
Retained Proposals:	6 461
Non-Successful Eligible Proposals:	33 073
Success Rate Proposals:	16%



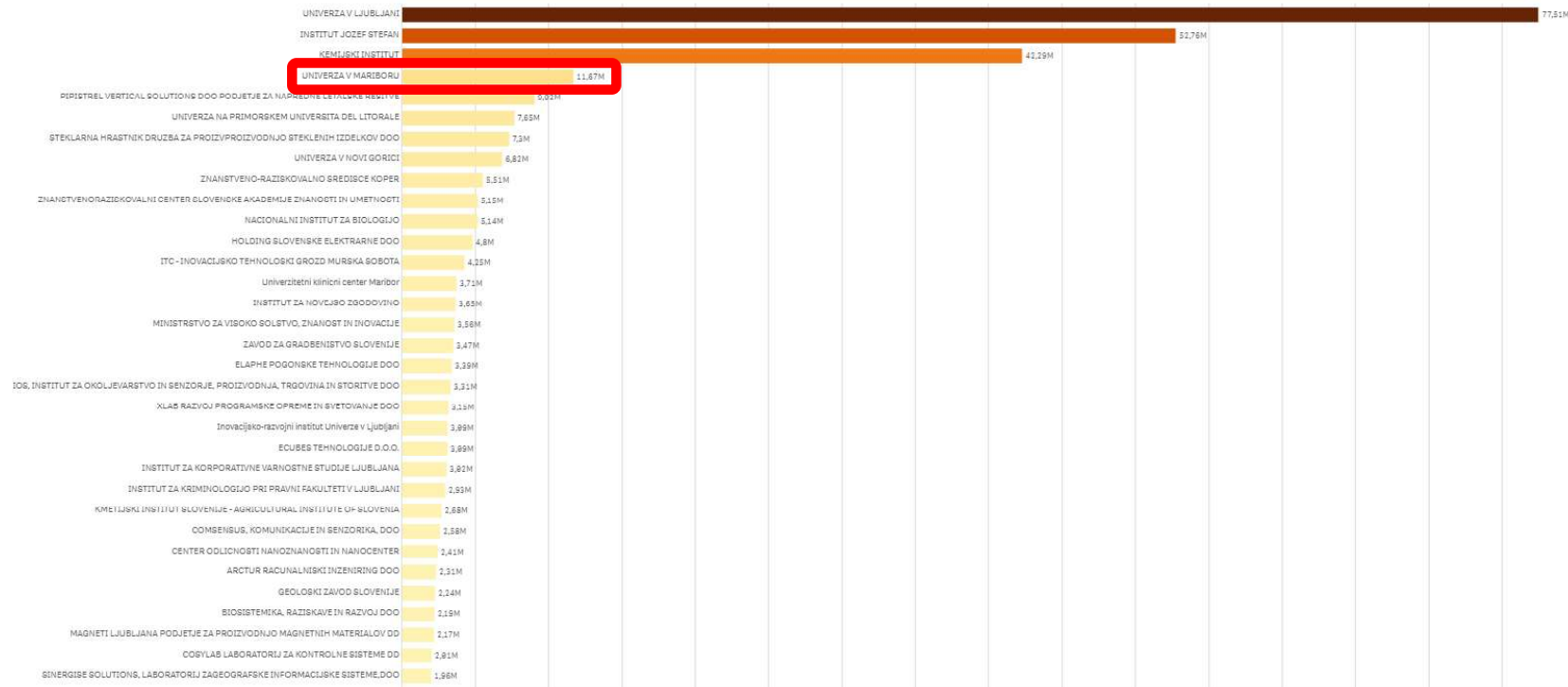
Slovenija – prijave, odobreni projekti in sotpnja uspeha



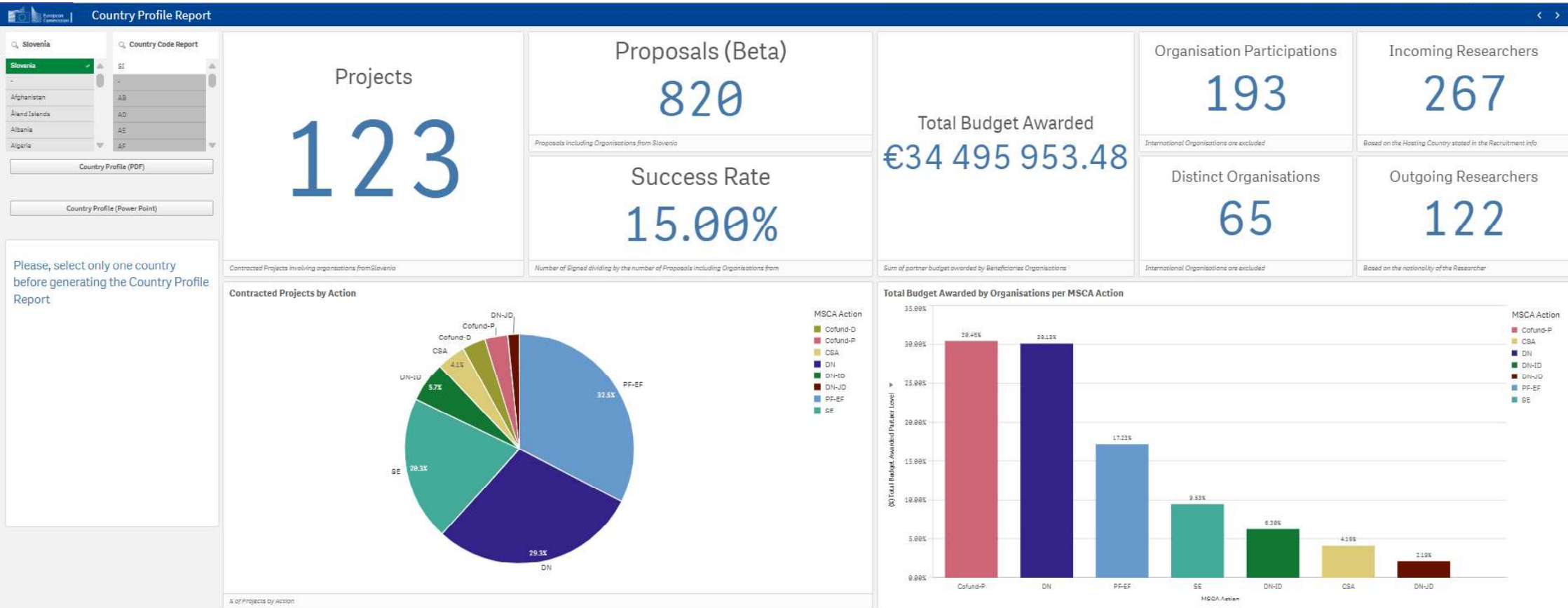
Obseg sredstev iz HE za Slovenijo po RO

Key Figures -

Top organisations

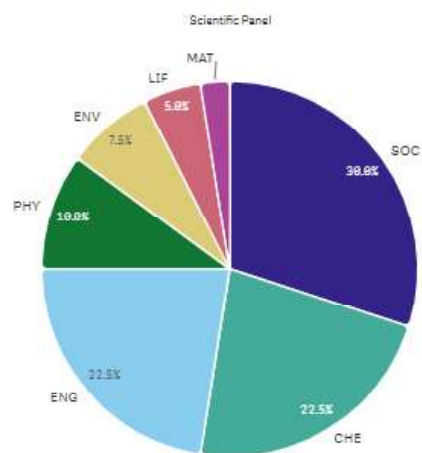


Slovenija in MSCA v Obzorju Evropa

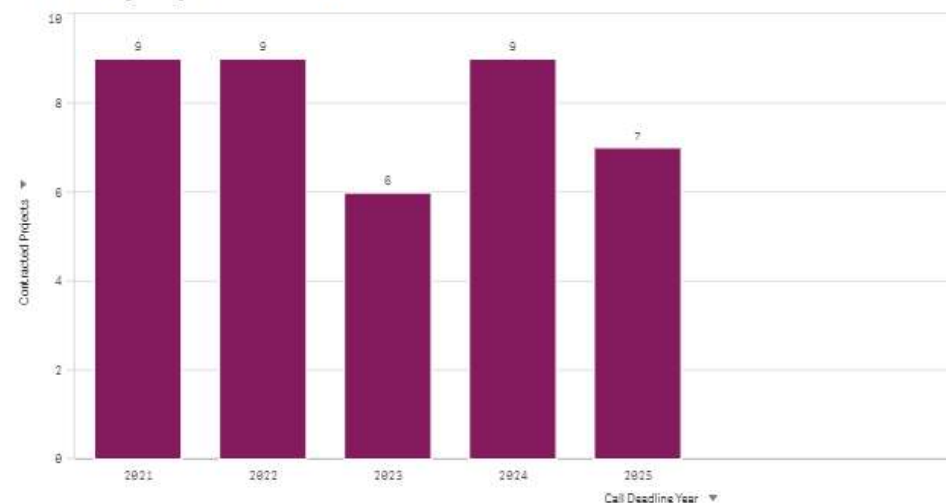


Slovenija in MSCA PF v Obzorju Evropa

Contracted Projects by Scientific Panel

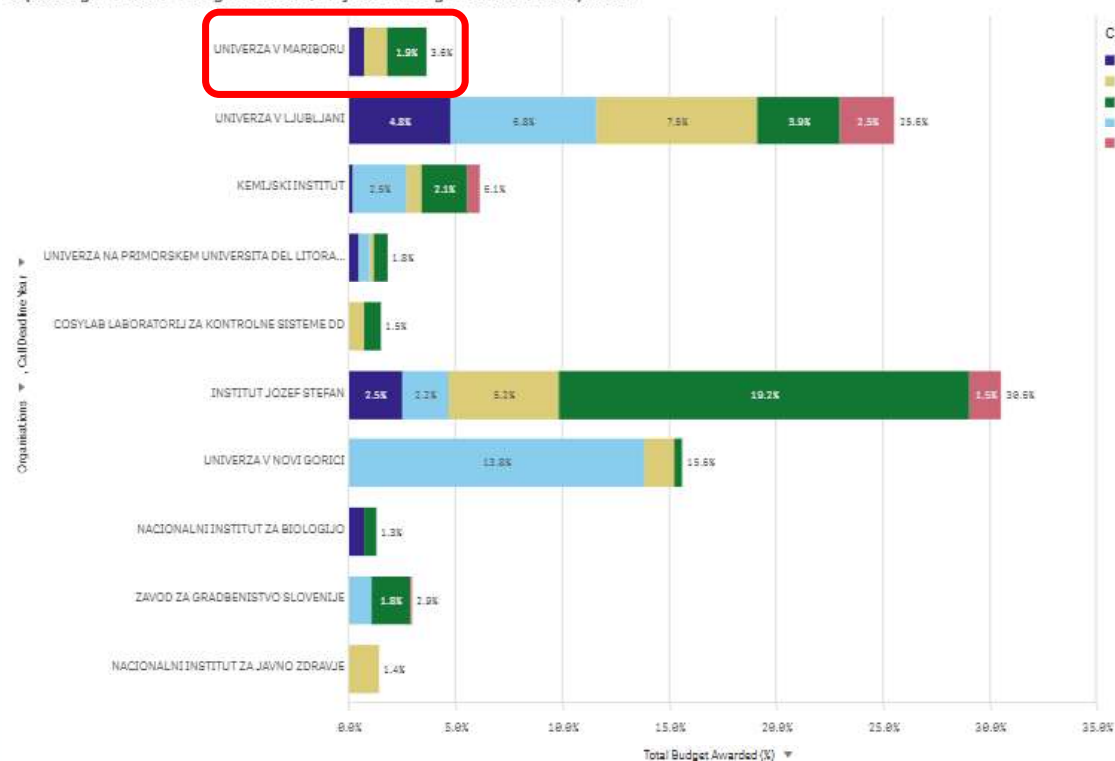


Contracted Projects by Call Year or MSCA Action



UNIVERZA V MARIBORU IN MSCA v HE

Top 10 Organisations - Budget Awarded, Projects and Organisations Participations

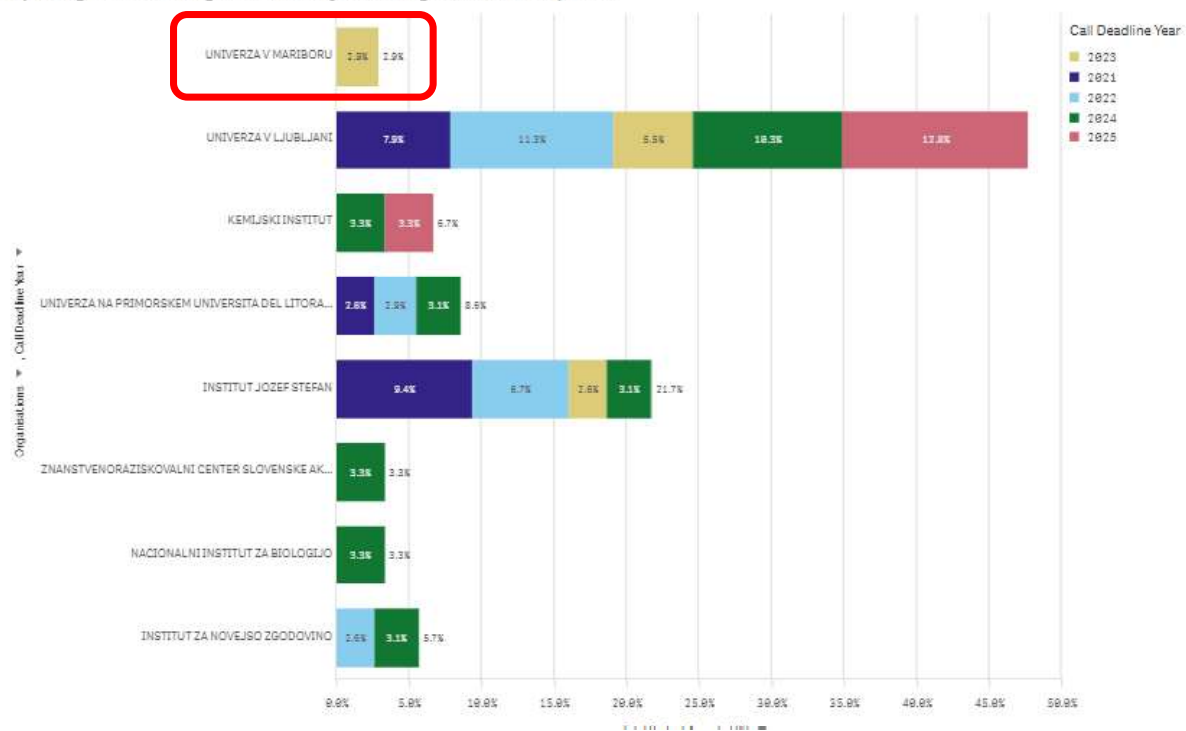


10 MSCA projektov = 1,25 mio EUR

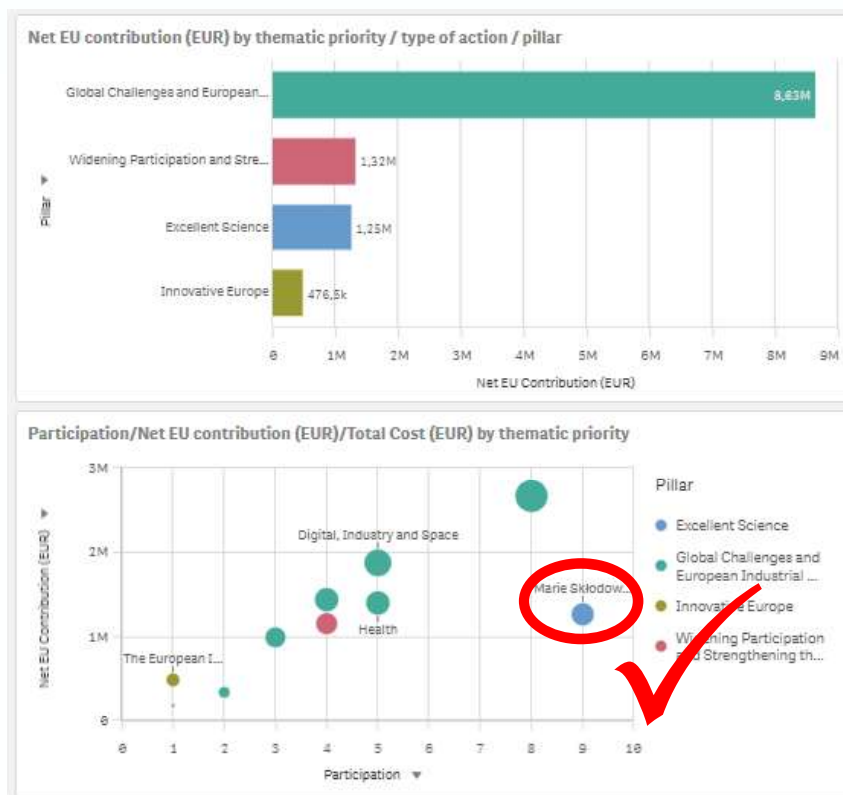
DN = 4
 SE = 1 + 2
 PF = 1
 COFUND = 1
 ENR = 1

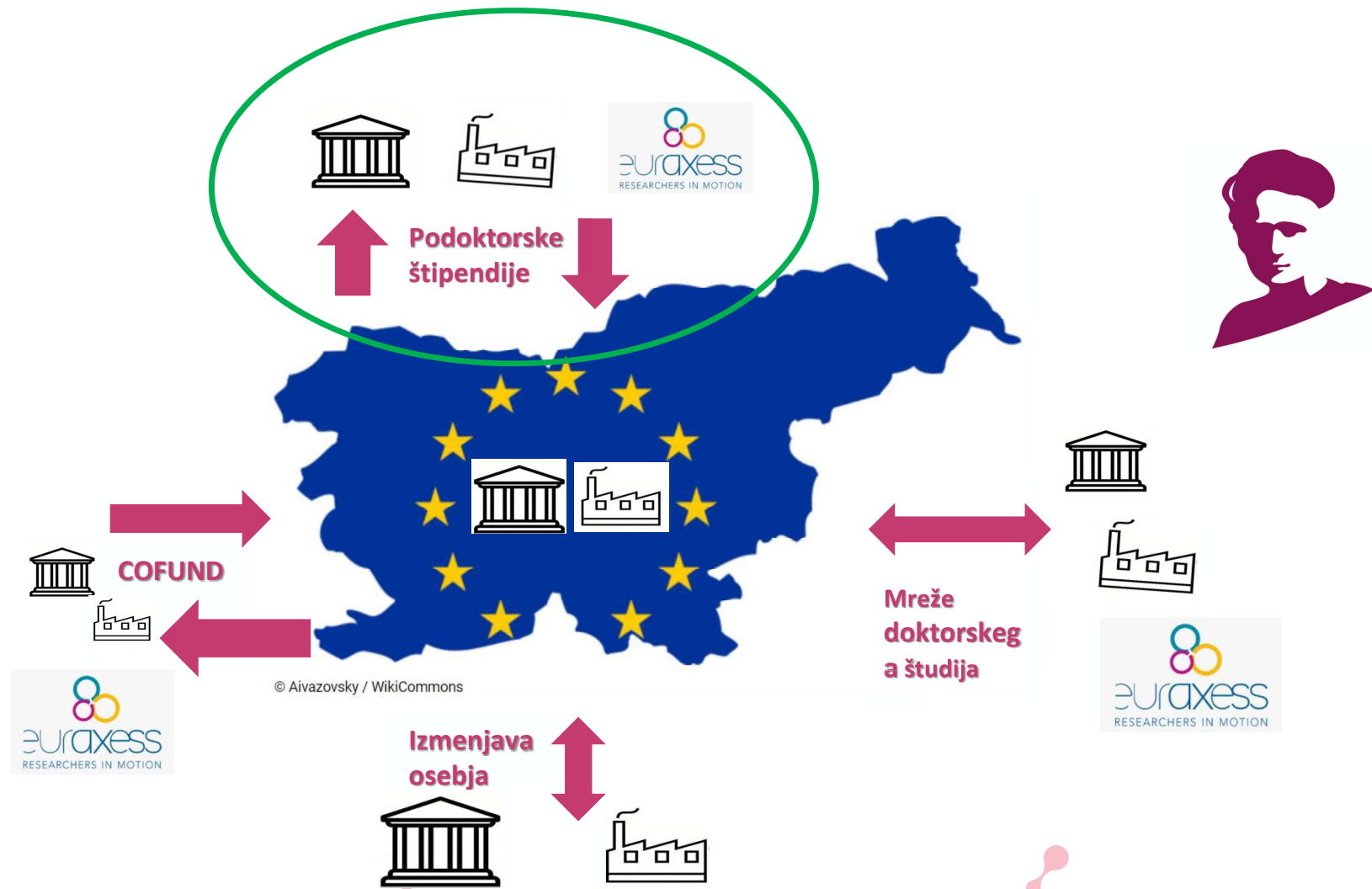
UNIVERZA V MARIBORU IN MSCA PF

Top 10 Organisations - Budget Awarded, Projects and Organisations Participations



UNIVERZA V MARIBORU V HE po STEBRIH in PROGRAMIH





MSCA CALL CALENDAR 2026

16 Dec MSCA COFUND 2026 08 Apr

16 Dec **MSCA SE 2026** 16 Apr



09 Apr **MSCA PF 2026** 09 Sep

28 May MSCA DN 2026 24 Nov



2026



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026

HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01-01

Topic Call for proposal

- General information
- Topic description
- Destination
- Conditions and documents
- Budget overview
- Partner search announcements
- Start submission
- Topic Q&As
- Get support

General information		
Programme Horizon Europe (HORIZON)		
Call MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026 (HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01)		
Type of action HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-EF HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships	Type of MGA HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]	Forthcoming
Deadline model single-stage	Planned opening date 09 April 2026	Deadline date 09 September 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time
Type of action HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-GF HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships	Type of MGA HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]	Forthcoming
Deadline model single-stage	Planned opening date 09 April 2026	Deadline date 09 September 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

For supported postdoctoral fellows...

National Contact Points for Horizon Europe

The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe. NCPs are also established in many non-EU and non-associated countries ("third countries").


Filters

62 results found

Country



Austria, Belgium, Bul... 

Marie Skłodowska-C... 

Stojan SORCAN

 Slovenia

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Updated on **18-Feb-25**

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation

Masarykova 16 - 1000

Ljubljana - Slovenia

Tel +38614784727

 Contact NCP

NCP Services

In general, the following basic services are available in accordance with the [NCP Guiding Principles](#) agreed by all countries:

1. Guidance on choosing relevant Horizon Europe topics and types of action
2. Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
3. Training and assistance on proposal writing
4. Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
5. Assistance in partner search



1. PRIPRAVE NA PRIJAVO PROJEKTA MSCA PF 2026

20. 04. 2026

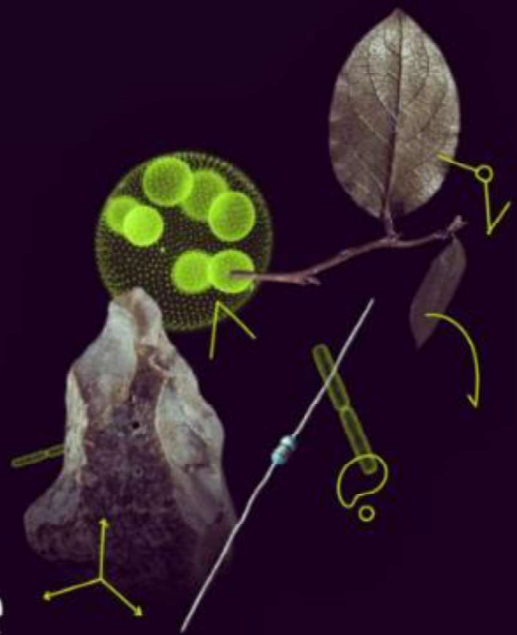
20



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Source: iStockphoto.com

Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 CALL

6 STEPS to prepare your application



MSCA

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Developing talents, advancing research



20. 04. 2026

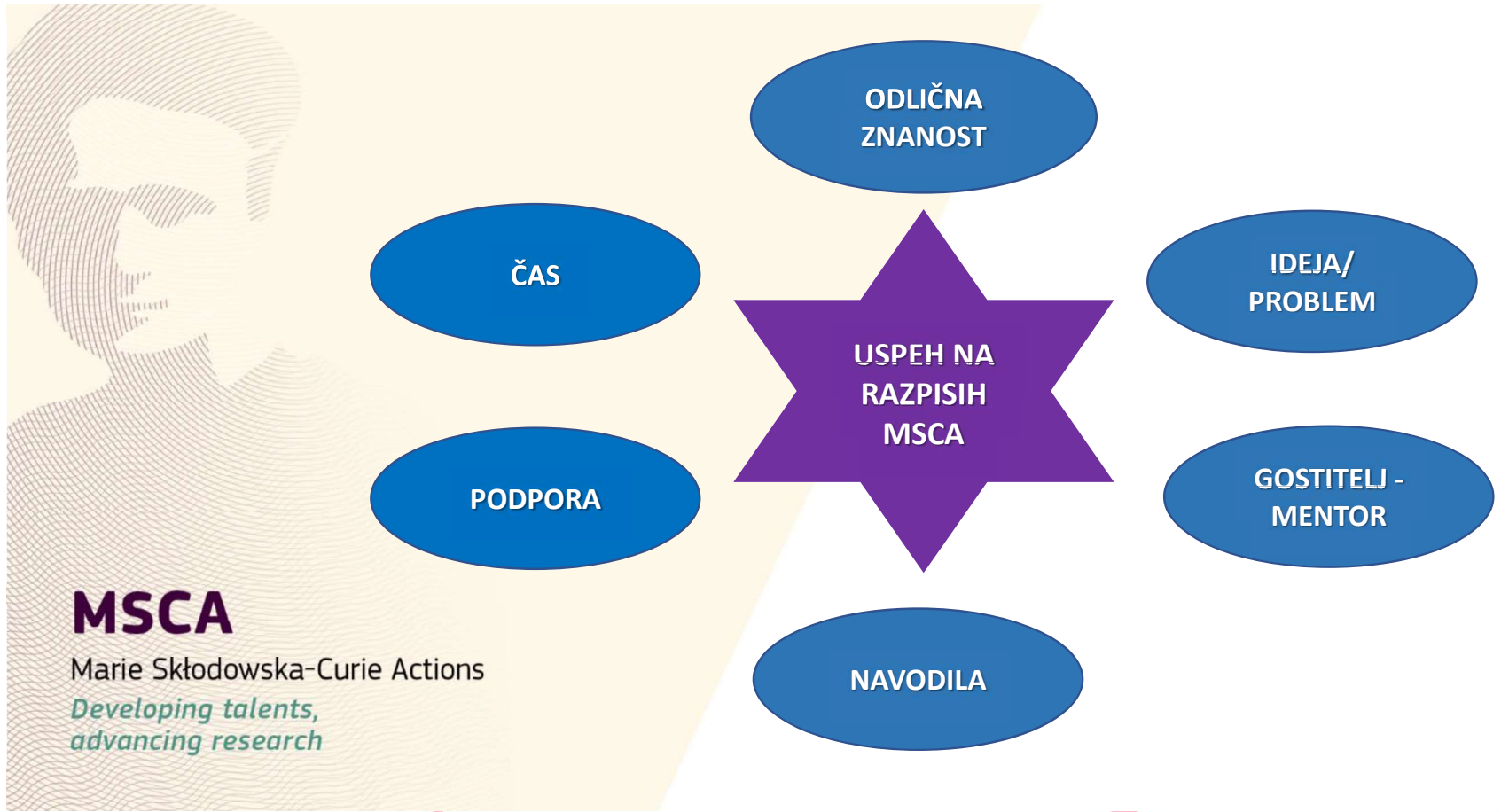
[\(20\) Post | LinkedIn](#)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

6 steps to prepare your application

1. [Get familiar with how funding works](#)
2. [Make sure you can apply](#)
3. [Find a host organisation and supervisor](#)
4. [Start drafting your application](#)
5. [Check your application with the experts](#)
6. [Send your application](#)

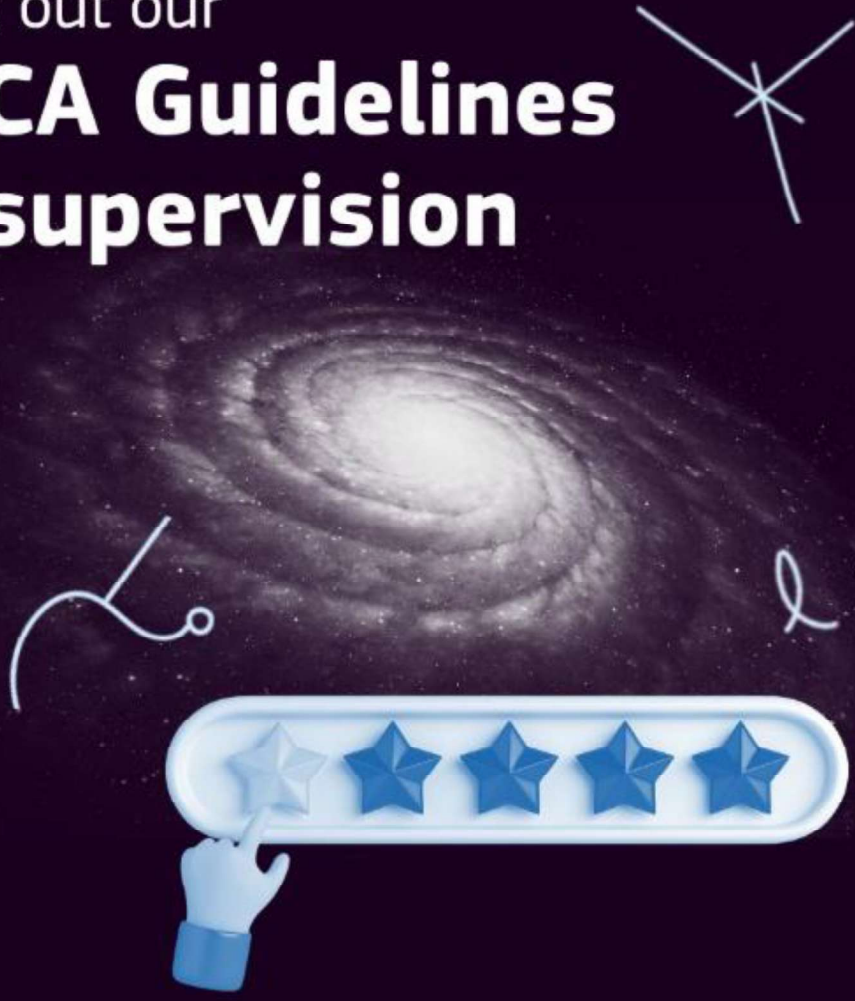


MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

*Developing talents,
advancing research*

Check out our **MSCA Guidelines on supervision**



[Guidelines on supervision - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Developing talents, advancing research



MSCA Supervision Guidelines

- ❖ The guidelines constitute a set of recommendations to be adopted on a best-effort basis by participants in the programme in order to promote effective and enriching supervision throughout the duration of MSCA research projects.
- ❖ The annex to the guidelines contains a collection of best practices to support individuals and institutions in implementing the MSCA Guidelines on Supervision.
- ❖ The MSCA Supervision guidelines were revised in a collaborative process and launched at the MCAA 2025 annual conference in Krakow

Link to supervision on the MSCA website



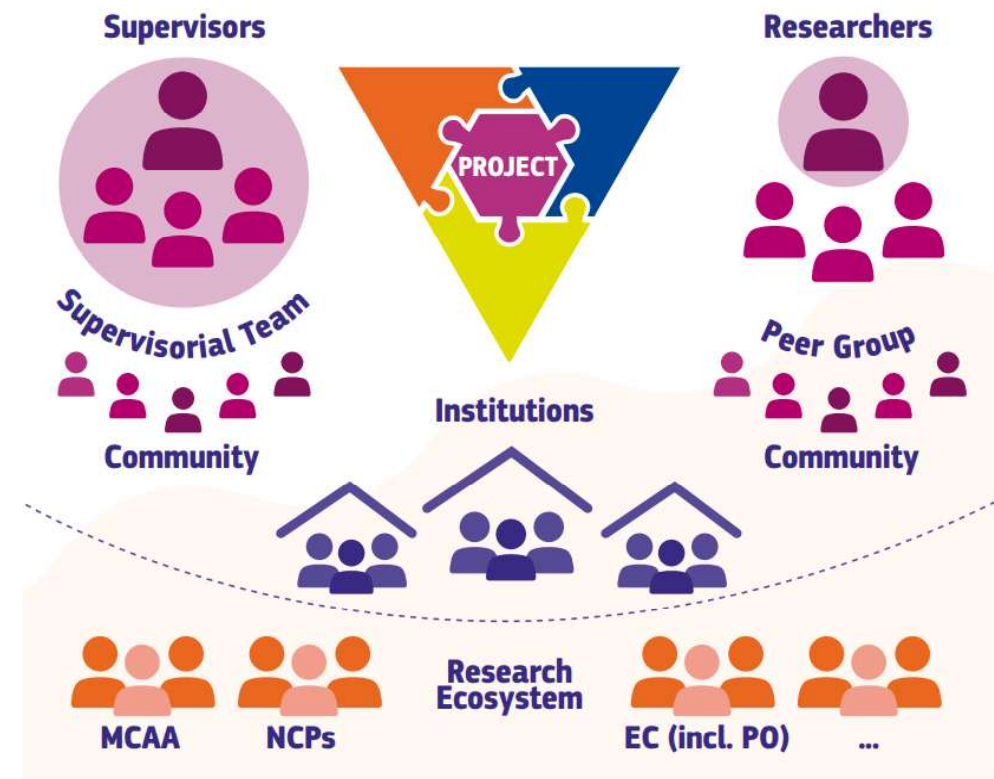
MSCA Supervision Guidelines

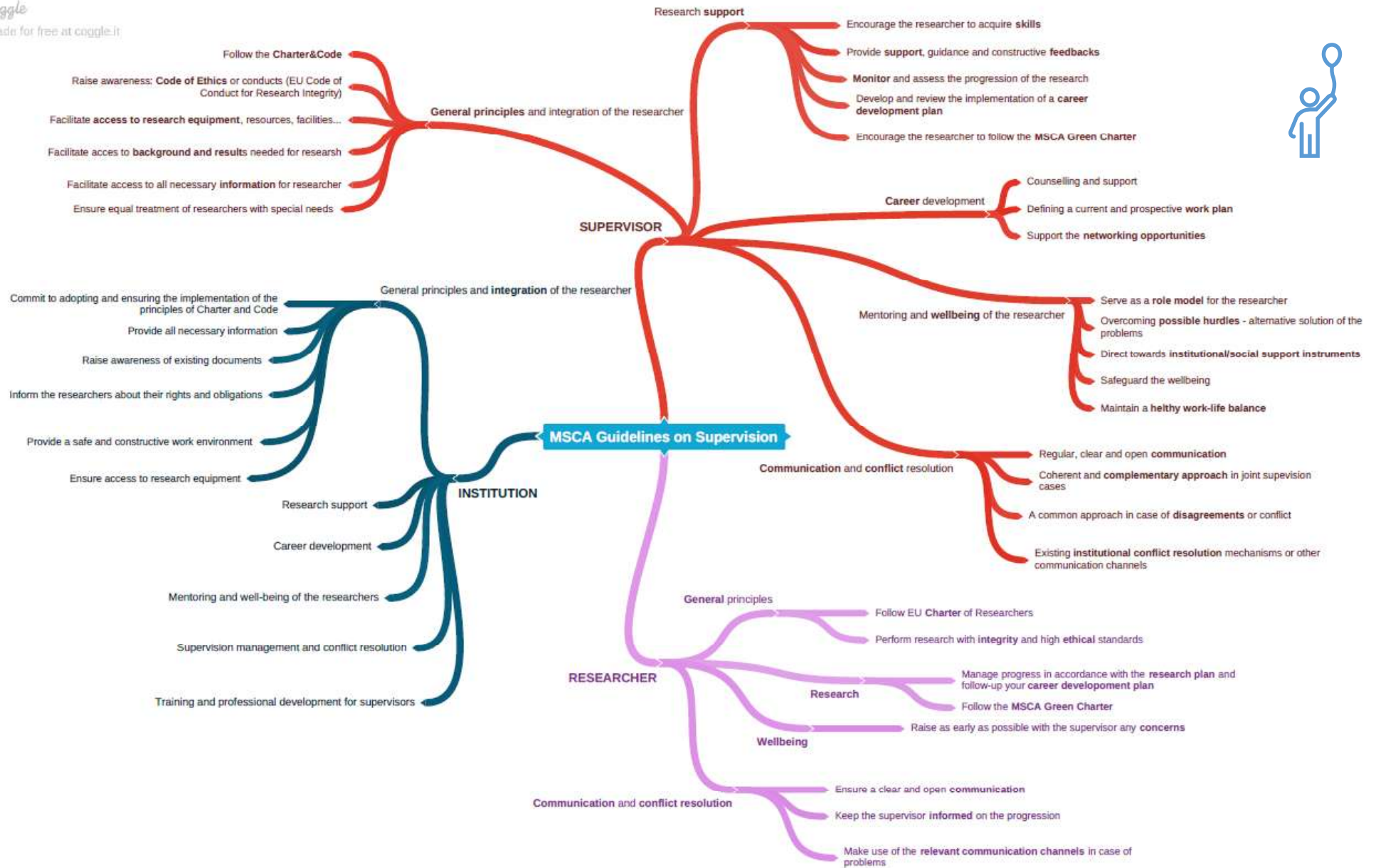
☐ Quality and effective supervision is key for MSCA vision of excellence

- Expand on the MSCA Guidelines on Supervision (2021)
- European Charter for Researchers (2023)

☐ Major novelties

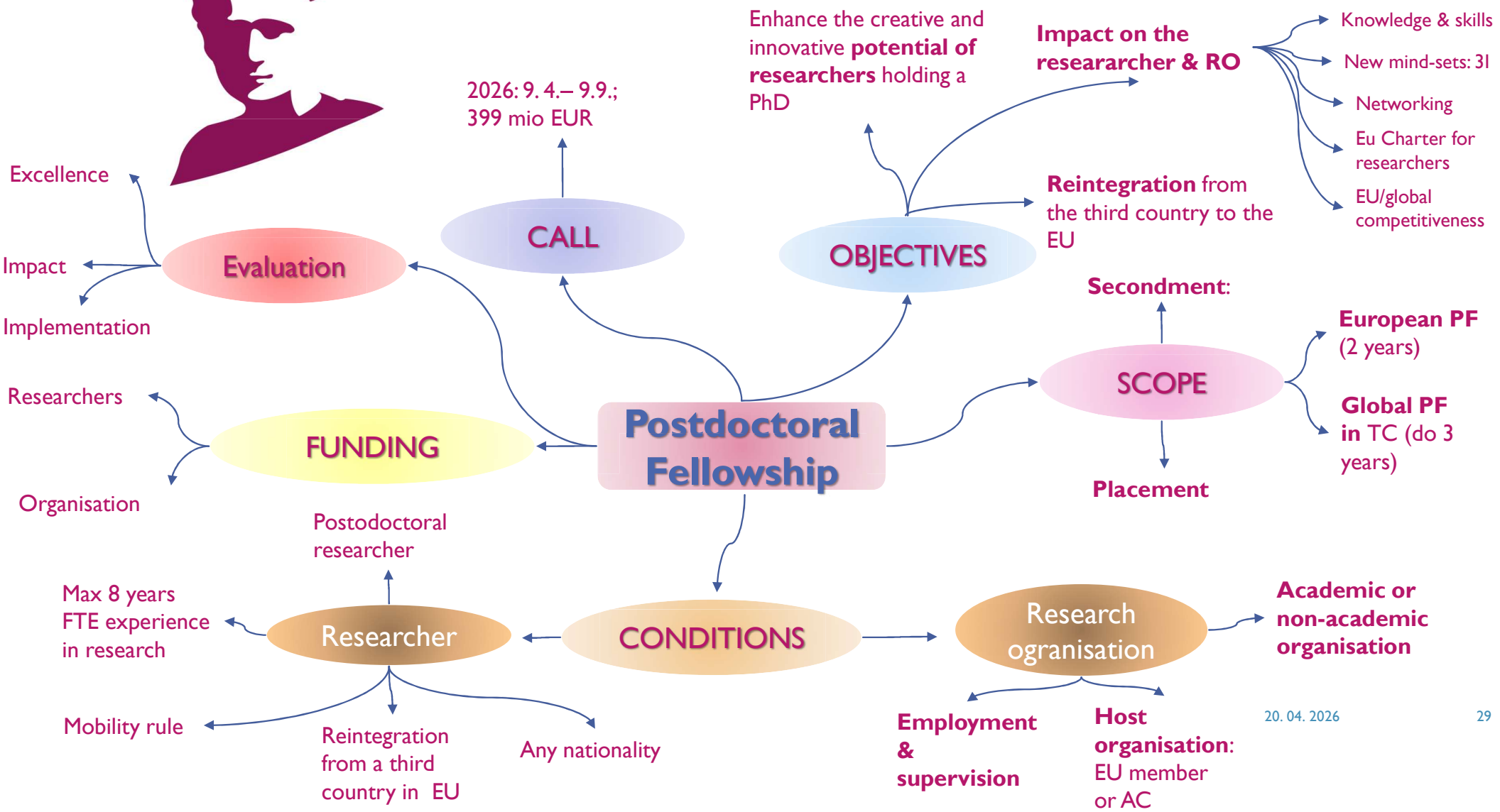
- Supervision ecosystem as a dynamic triangle
- Collaborative nature of supervision
- Institutional resources and support structures
- Recognition
- Supervisory relationships
- Training in supervision







2. ZNAČILNOSTI MSCA PF



MSCA PF

- **Mono-beneficiary**
 - Host organization in EU Member State (MS) or Horizon Europe Associated Country (HE AC)
- **For one excellent researcher**
 - of any nationality (with restrictions for GF and Euratom)
- **Open to all research domains**



MSCA PF - Types

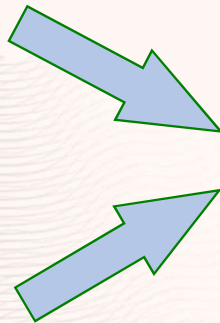
European Fellowships



EU MS/AC



Third Country



EU MS/AC

Duration: 12-24m

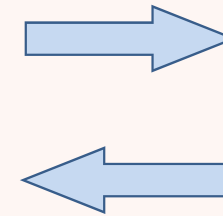
+ Non-Academic Placement
Max. 6m

Global Fellowships

Outgoing phase: 12-24m



EU MS/AC



Third Country

Return phase: 12m

Duration: 24-36m



Eligible Researchers

EF

GF

any nationality

**nationals or long-term
residents of MS or HE AC**

with a doctoral degree prior to call deadline

max 8 years FTE research experience after PhD

compliant with MSCA mobility rule



Subject: Guidelines on the calculation of 8-years research experience in Postdoctoral Fellowships under Horizon Europe

1. BACKGROUND

In the framework of the Horizon Europe Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2025 call, applicants, at the date of the call deadline, must:

- be in possession of a doctoral degree
- have a maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent (FTE) experience in research, measured from the date of award of the first doctoral degree. All applicants that have received their PhD after 10/09/2017 are automatically eligible to apply provided the remaining eligibility criteria are met.

The rule of the 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research after the PhD can be extended (in days) for the following reasons:

- **Maternity leave** (18 months – i.e. 548 days for each child born after the PhD award date unless the applicant can document a longer parental leave prior to the call deadline;
- **Paternity leave** (the documented time of parental leave taken until the call deadline for each child born after the PhD award date);
- **Research in a non-associated Third Country** (only for nationals or long-term residents of Member States or Associated Countries, wishing to reintegrate in Europe) – **only for European Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- **Career break;**
- **Compulsory national service;**
- **Time spent not working in research (career breaks are not included in this section).** The period spent in a non-research position should be completely deducted from the FTE experience in research. However, for a period spent in a research position, the time spent outside of your main research activity (including teaching) could be deducted as a percentage of FTE provided that it can be documented by e.g. work contract/job description and quantified based on documentation/proof which the host organisation (beneficiary) needs to keep for their records (not to be included in the proposal).

Please use the embedded calculator in the wizard for each of your employment contract(s) for a calculation of the FTE to be deducted from the

Mobility rule: temporary protection Directive

- Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays, time spent by the researcher as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention⁷⁸ and time spent for obtaining EU temporary protection⁷⁹ are not taken into account.
- Researchers who, at the date of their recruitment date have **refugee status** under the Geneva Convention, or benefit from **the EU temporary protection** are exempt from the mobility rule.



⁷⁸ 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol.

⁷⁹ Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof; OJ L 212, 7.8.2001

Secondments and NAPs

Secondments

EF

GF

Within the project duration

Within the outgoing phase

max 1/2 of project

max 1/2 of outg. phase

Any Country worldwide

Any sector

Non-Academic Placements

After the project (additional budget)

max 6 months, after the project

EU MS or HE AC

Non-academic sector

When?

How long?

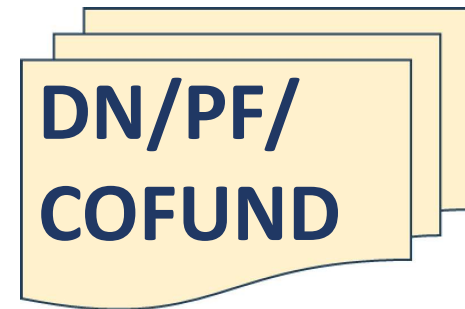
Where?

Sector

More flexibility for secondments

- Secondments are eligible for up to half of the actual months spent implementing the research training activities under the action. This limitation does not apply in the case of Industrial Doctorates and Joint Doctorates.

For European Postdoctoral Fellowships, secondments cannot exceed half of the requested duration of the action (excluding from the duration of the action any additional period for a non-academic placement) and should be in line with the project objectives, adding significant value and impact to the fellowship.



MSCA PF Project Budget –Unit (Month) Contributions

Contributions for the recruited researcher					Institutional unit contributions	
Living Allowance	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking (RTN)	Mgmt and indirect
€5,990* EUR 6.350	€710	€660	€6700 x % covered by beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	€1,000	€650

*Living Allowance is a **gross amount** corrected by a **country correction coefficient (CCC)**

Table 1: Country correction coefficients (CCC) for Doctoral Networks and Postdoctoral Fellowships living allowances

For countries where the correction coefficient is not indicated, the Commission will decide on a case-by-case basis.

Country Code ¹³³	CCC
EU Member States	
AT	109,4%
BE	100%
BG	70%
CY	81,2%
CZ	97,4%
DE	101,5%
DK	131,3%
EE	95,2%
EL	87,7%
ES	94,2%

¹³³ ISO 3166 alpha-2, except for Greece and the United Kingdom (EL and UK used respectively instead of GR and GB).

FI	116,4%
FR	116,6%
HR	82,2%
HU	78,7%
IE	135,8%
IT	93,8%
LT	89,8%
LU	100%
LV	85,6%
MT	91,8%
NL	111,8%
PL	77,5%
PT	94,6%
RO	72,6%
SE	119,3%
SI	88%
SK	82,9%

Third Countries	
AE	106,6%
AL	70%
AM	120,7%
AO	145%
AR	86,9%
AU	102,8%
AZ	104,7%

BA	70%
BB	123,8%
BD	85%
BF	90,8%
BI	87,9%
BJ	97,3%
BO	79,1%
BR	101,7%
BQ	111,8%
BW	70,3%
BZ	79,9%
CA	105,9%
CD	142,2%
CF	102,2%
CG	137,3%
CH	163,7%
CI	87,3%
CL	77,5%
CM	91,4%
CN	88,3%
CO	78,9%
CR	91,4%
CU	160,7%
CV	70%
DJ	107,3%
DO	76,8%
DZ	70%

EC	85,9%
EG	70%
ER	110,8%
ET	93,7%
FJ	79,2%
FO	131,3%
GA	109,1%
GE	84%
GH	76,6%
GL	131,3%
GM	94,2%
GN	129,4%
GT	101%
GW	87,6%
GY	97,5%
HK	117,7%
HN	89,7%
HT	130,3%
ID	70%
IL	109,8%
IM	143,5%
IN	95,2%
IS	137,4%
JM	117,5%
JO	93,7%
JP	146,6%
KE	93,8%

ERA Fellowships

This action builds on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships action. The target group are host organisations located in Widening Countries. Fellowships are open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to the EU from any country in the world or moving within the EU to a Widening Country.

2026 call



Horizon Europe 2026 call for proposals

Next call for proposals opens on 09
April 2026

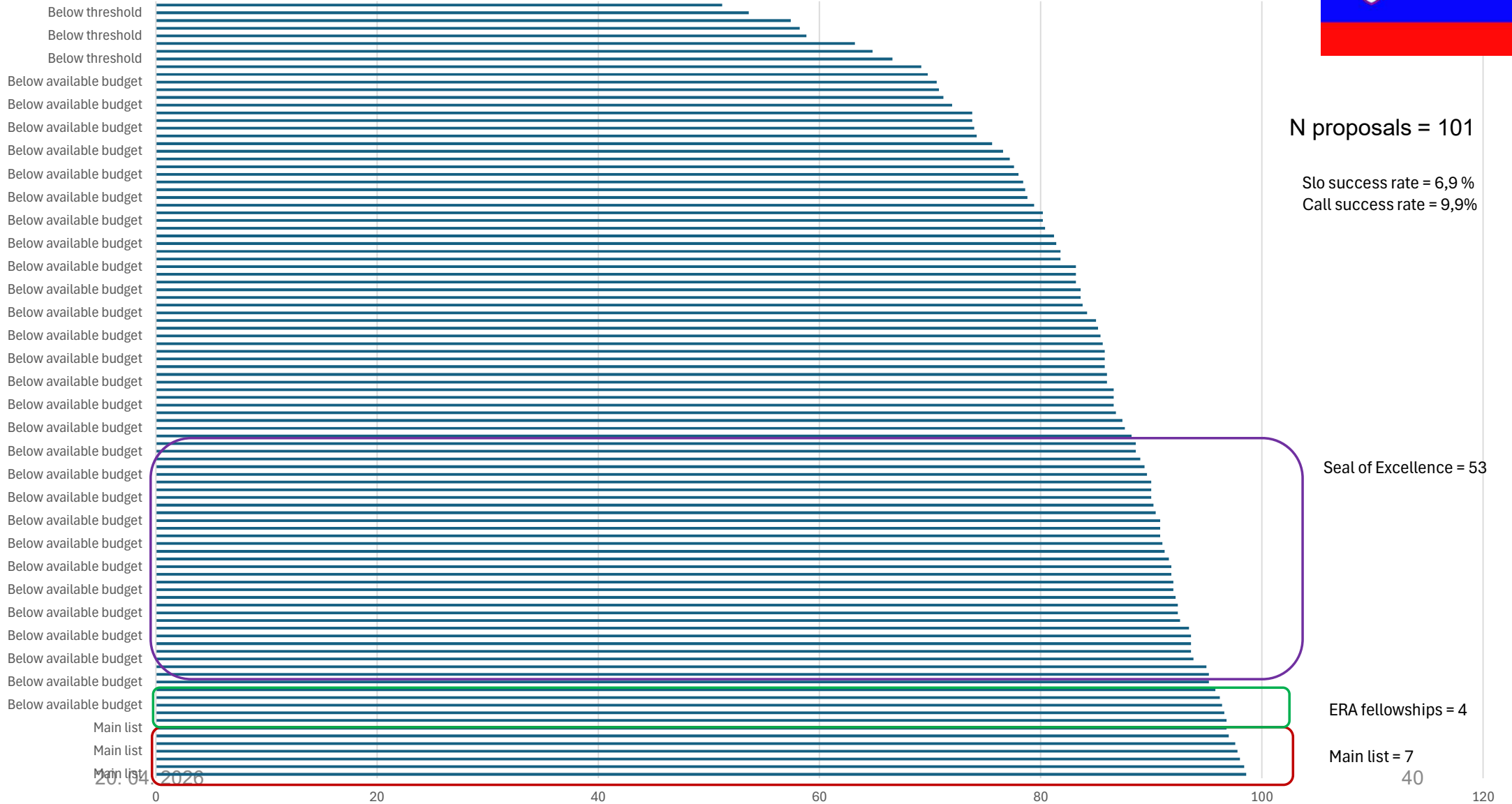


1 topic
ERA fellowships



8 million
Overall indicative budget

Evaluation scores of Slovenian MSCA PF 2025 proposals



Slovenske raziskovalke in raziskovalci s tujimi gostujočimi organizacijami (stopnja uspeha = 29 %)

Call Identifier	Organisation Country	Main	No money	Below threshold	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Austria		2	1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Belgium		1		
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Croatia			2	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Germany		2	3	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Ireland			1	1
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Italy			3	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Netherlands			1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Poland			1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Slovenia		1	6	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Spain		1	1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Sweden			1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	Switzerland			1	
HORIZON-MSCA-2025-PF	United Kingdom			2	
Totals			7	23	1

PF 2025 call - Call Closure Results

17 066 proposals received

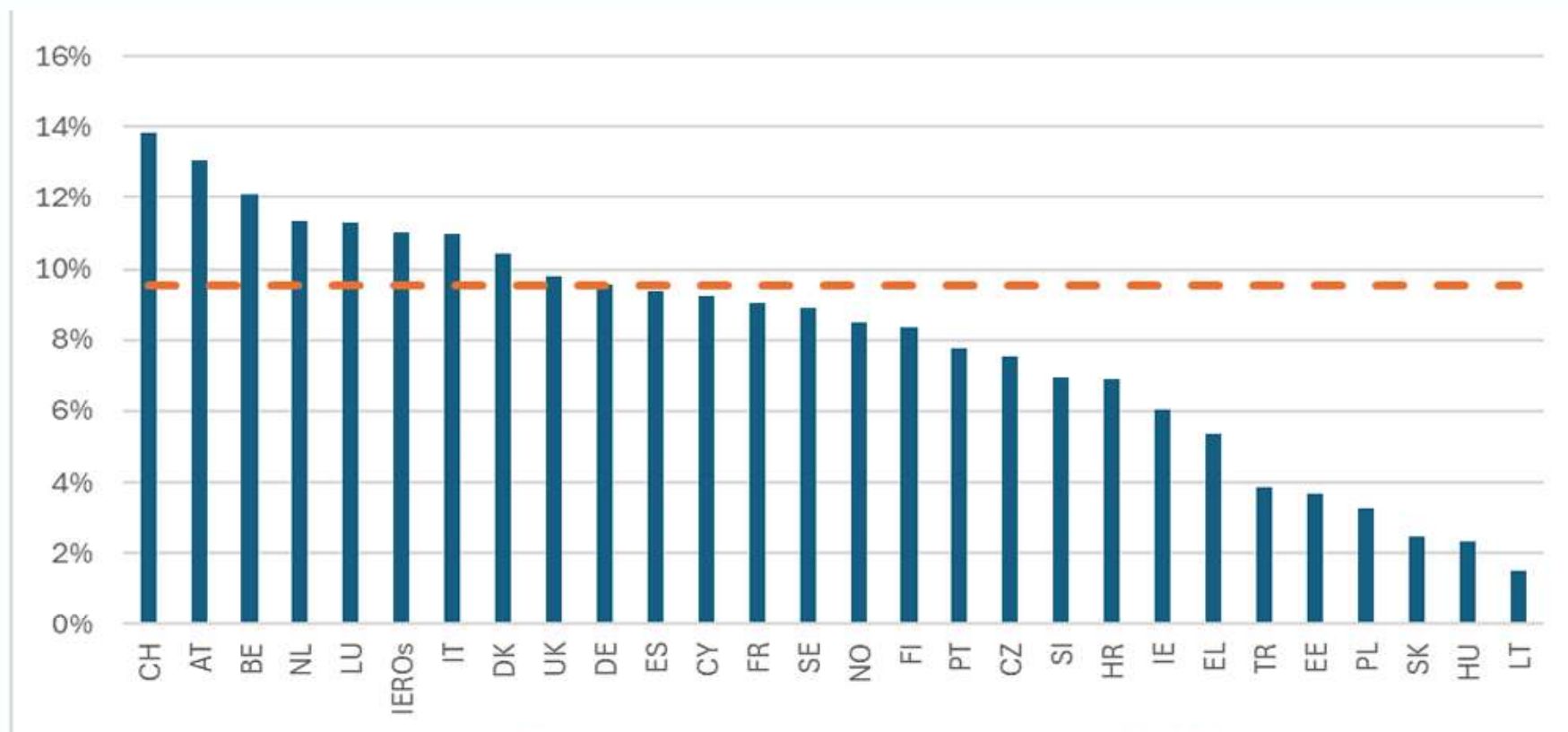
15 851 European Fellowships

1 215 Global Fellowships

Comparison to 2024 call:

Call	European	Global
PF-2024	9 323	1 037
PF-2025	15 851	1 215
Difference	+70.02%	+17.16%

PF 2025 success rate by host country



PF 2025 call

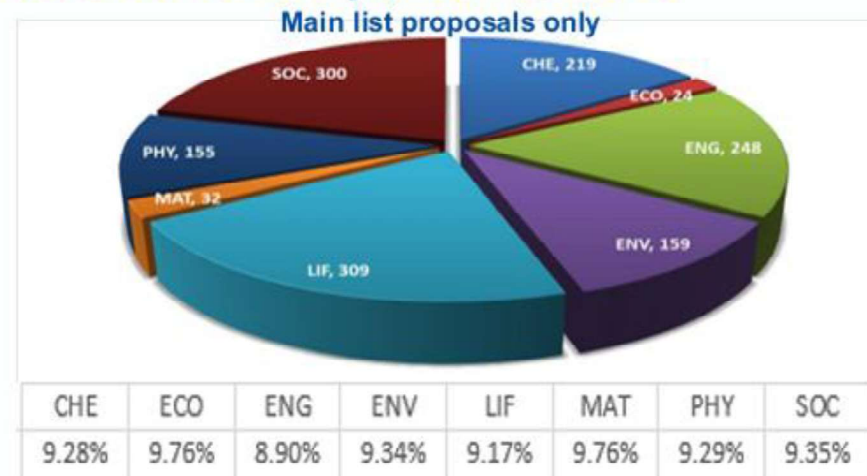
GAP launched
9 February 2026

1610 Main List
261 Reserve List

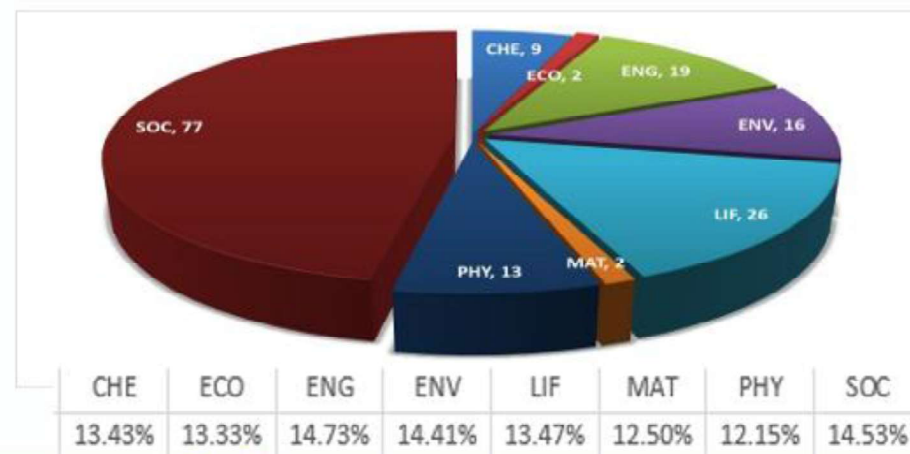
Overall success rate: 9.6%
EF success rate: 9.2%
GF success rate: 14.0%

Success rates panel & ToA

EF



GF



MSCA-PF-2025: Cumulative percentage of proposals above threshold, with a given score or higher (funding range marked in green)

Number of eligible proposals	2360 proposals	246 proposals	2786 proposals	1703 proposals	3368 proposals	328 proposals	1669 proposals	3208 proposals	67 proposals	15 proposals	129 proposals	111 proposals	193 proposals	16 proposals	107 proposals	530 proposals
Cut off score for funding*	96.4	95.0	96.8	96.8	96.8	97.0	97.0	96.4	97.6	93.4	96.4	97.0	95.8	97.4	97.2	96.0
Score equal to or above	EF-CHE	EF-ECO	EF-ENG	EF-ENV	EF-LIF	EF-MAT	EF-PHY	EF-SOC	GF-CHE	GF-ECO	GF-ENG	GF-ENV	GF-LIF	GF-MAT	GF-PHY	GF-SOC
100	0.21%	0.00%	0.11%	0.35%	0.45%	1.22%	0.06%	0.25%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.75%
99	0.81%	0.81%	1.08%	1.00%	1.75%	3.35%	1.62%	1.00%	5.97%	0.00%	0.78%	0.90%	1.04%	0.00%	2.80%	2.08%
98	2.80%	2.03%	3.84%	3.88%	4.16%	5.18%	4.61%	2.68%	10.45%	6.67%	2.33%	5.41%	3.11%	0.00%	6.54%	5.66%
97	7.20%	4.47%	8.47%	8.57%	8.52%	10.98%	9.65%	6.86%	14.93%	6.67%	11.63%	16.22%	7.25%	12.50%	13.08%	9.43%
96	12.03%	6.10%	13.60%	13.80%	13.39%	16.16%	14.86%	11.19%	23.88%	6.67%	17.83%	26.13%	12.95%	18.75%	22.43%	14.72%
95	17.25%	9.76%	20.53%	19.91%	19.57%	21.65%	21.63%	15.74%	26.87%	6.67%	24.03%	30.63%	20.73%	25.00%	32.71%	20.00%
94	22.33%	11.79%	26.85%	26.01%	25.59%	28.05%	27.62%	19.92%	34.33%	6.67%	32.56%	35.14%	27.98%	25.00%	40.19%	24.34%
93	28.09%	13.01%	33.17%	31.88%	31.15%	33.23%	33.91%	24.50%	43.28%	13.33%	37.21%	44.14%	33.68%	37.50%	47.66%	30.38%
92	33.05%	16.26%	39.45%	39.28%	37.38%	38.72%	40.14%	29.36%	47.76%	20.00%	42.64%	48.65%	37.31%	50.00%	55.14%	37.17%
91	39.03%	19.11%	44.47%	43.98%	43.20%	45.12%	45.42%	33.48%	50.75%	20.00%	44.96%	51.35%	44.56%	62.50%	61.68%	42.08%
90	44.45%	22.76%	50.39%	49.15%	48.84%	48.78%	51.47%	38.00%	56.72%	20.00%	51.94%	54.05%	49.22%	62.50%	66.36%	48.49%
89	50.42%	26.42%	55.78%	54.43%	54.01%	53.66%	57.88%	42.05%	59.70%	26.67%	57.36%	61.26%	57.51%	68.75%	71.03%	52.08%
88	54.58%	31.30%	61.06%	58.84%	59.09%	57.01%	61.83%	46.57%	67.16%	26.67%	63.57%	66.67%	61.66%	68.75%	73.83%	56.42%
87	58.81%	34.96%	65.04%	63.12%	63.57%	59.76%	65.79%	50.47%	68.66%	26.67%	73.64%	71.17%	64.25%	75.00%	77.57%	59.62%
86	63.47%	41.06%	68.23%	67.35%	67.22%	66.16%	69.80%	54.40%	73.13%	46.67%	75.97%	74.77%	67.36%	75.00%	80.37%	63.40%
85	67.20%	47.15%	72.04%	70.11%	71.17%	69.82%	72.86%	58.10%	73.13%	60.00%	81.40%	78.38%	72.54%	81.25%	84.11%	67.17%



★ SEAL OF ★
EXCELLENCE

≥ 85 %

What is the Seal of Excellence?

The Seal of Excellence is a quality label awarded to project proposals submitted to Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation funding programme, to help these proposals find alternative funding.

Projects which were judged to deserve funding but did not get it due to budget limits receive the Seal of Excellence.

It recognises the value of the proposal and helps other funding bodies take advantage of the Horizon 2020 evaluation process.

It is awarded to proposals which applied under

- [SME Instrument](#)
- [Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions \(MSCA\) individual fellowships](#)
- [Teaming](#)

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Source: iStockphoto.com

MSCA SEAL OF EXCELLENCE

9,847
certificates awarded

38
countries



MSCA
Marie Skłodowska-Curie **Actions**
Developing talents, advancing research



Funding opportunities under Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

List of national and regional support programmes for Seal of Excellence holders under Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland



3. STRUKTURA PREDLOGA PROJEKTA

Proposal structure



Part A – administrative forms
are filled *on-line Funding&Tenders*

General Information about the Proposal including Abstract (max. 2 000 characters), Administrative data on participating organisations, Budget, Ethics issues table, Call specific questions



Part B1 – the proposal (max 10 pages PDF uploaded)

#Excellence
#Impact
#Implementation, incl. Gantt Chart

- 10 pages total
- No section page limit
- excess pages will automatically be disregarded



Part B2 – no page limit, PDF uploaded

#CV of the Researcher
#Capacities of the Participating Organisations
#Letter of Commitment of Partner Organisations → GF
#Ethical aspects

No overall page limit applied



4. EVALVACIJSKI KRITERIJI



Horizon Europe

Evaluation Form (HE MSCA)

Version 2.0
28 February 2025

20. 04. 2026

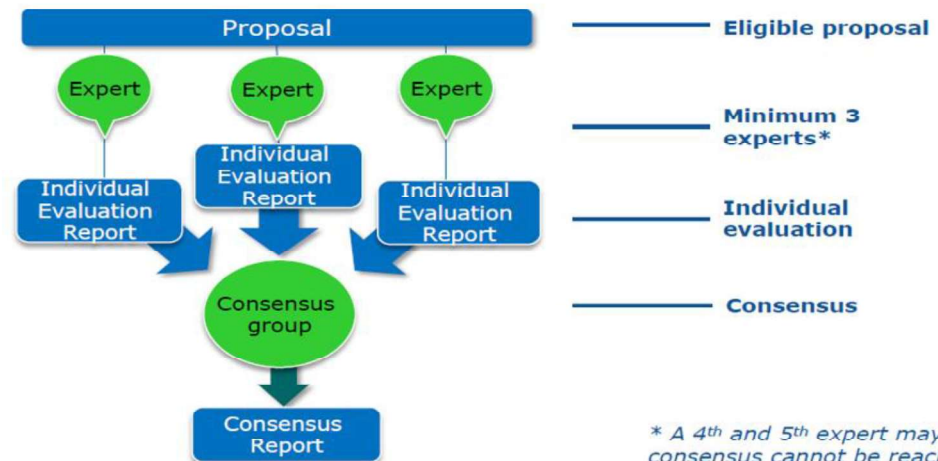
The following aspects will be taken into account, to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the description in the work programme:

Evaluation Process



20

Overview of Evaluation Process



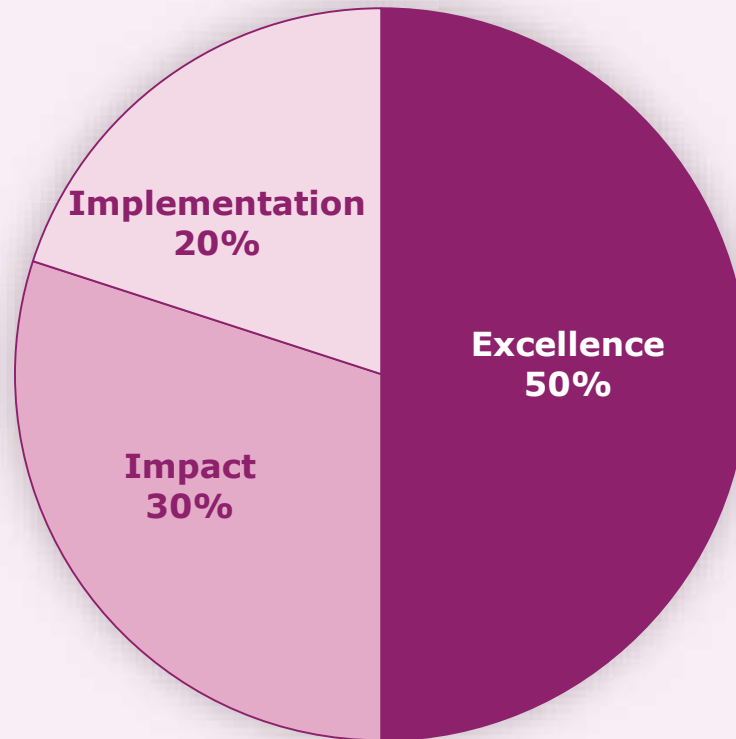
52

MSCA PF Evaluation criteria

WEIGHTING

- **Workplan**
- Quality of **host institutions** and APs

- **Career** perspectives and skills development
- **Dissemination** and **exploitation**
- Scientific, societal and economic **impact**



- Research and innovation **objectives**
- **Methodology**
- **Supervision, training** programme and knowledge **transfer**
- **Researcher's** experience and skills

Key principles



Your proposed work must be within the scope of a **work programme** topic



You need to demonstrate that your idea **is ambitious** and goes beyond the state of the art



Your **scientific methodology** must take into account interdisciplinary, gender dimension and open science practices. It must not significantly harm the environment



You should show how your project could contribute to the **outcomes and impacts** described in the work programme (the pathway to impact)



You should describe the planned measures to **maximise the impact** of your project ('plan for the dissemination and exploitation including communication activities')



You should demonstrate the **quality of your work plan**, resources and participants



5. DOKUMENTI IN VIRI MSCA PF 2025

20. 04. 2026



EN

Horizon Europe
Work Programme 2026-2027

2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

(European Commission Decision C(2025) 8493 of 11 December 2025)



Horizon Europe Programme

Guide for Applicants

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Version 1.0 - 2025

09/04/2025

Disclaimer

This guide aims to support potential applicants to the PF 2025 call. It is provided for information purposes only and is not intended to replace consultation of any applicable legal sources. Neither the European Commission nor the European Research Executive Agency (or any person acting on their behalf) can be held responsible for the use made of this guidance document. Note that the guidance provided in the Annotated Model Grant Agreement shall prevail in case of discrepancies.

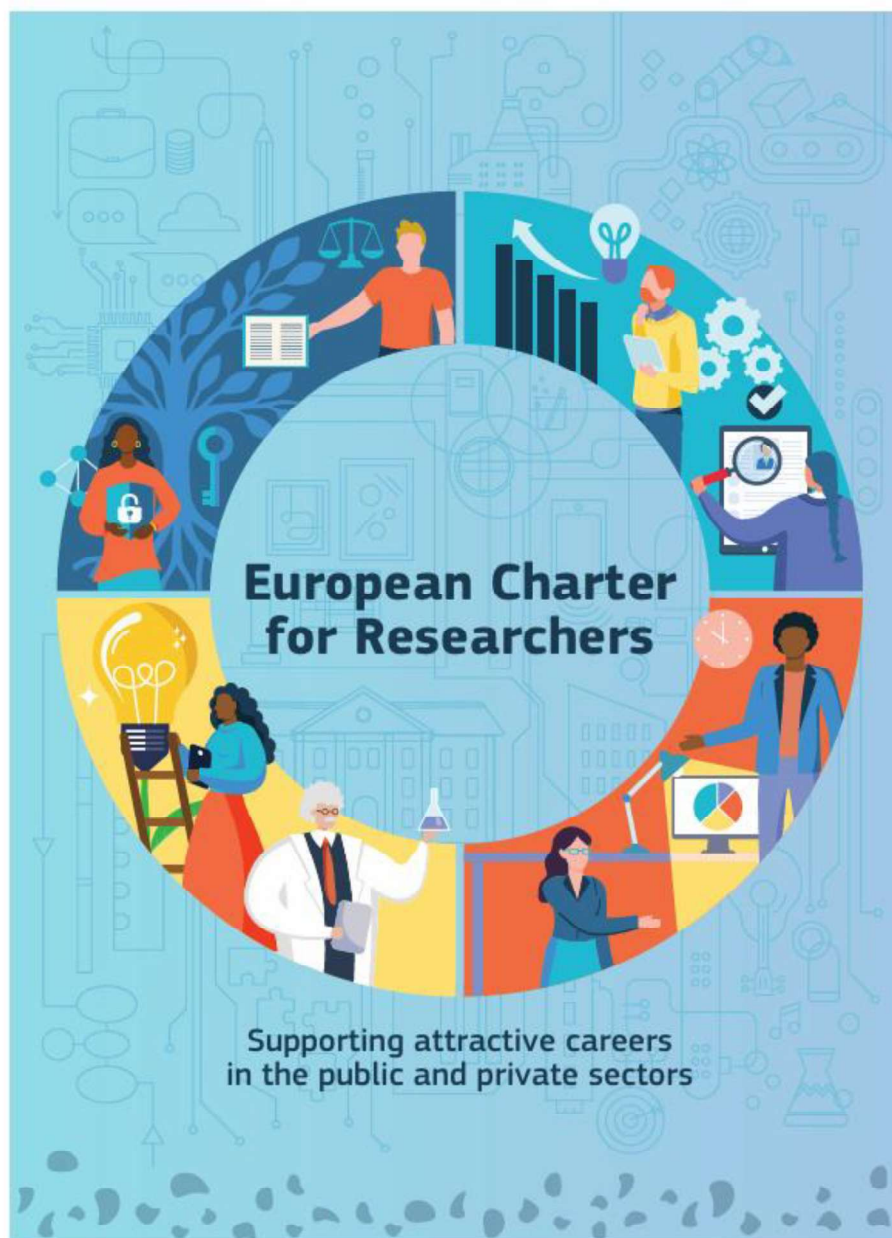


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Horizon Europe Programme

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships (HE MSCA PF)

Application form (Part A)
Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)

Version 7.0
9 April 2025

----- Start of page count (max 10 pages) -----

[This document is tagged (see instructions). Do not delete the tags; they are needed for processing.] #APP-FORM-HEMSCAPF#

Part B-1

1. Excellence #REL-EVA-RE#

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) #QUA-IT-CI#

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- Describe the quality and pertinence of the R&I objectives; are the objectives measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?
- Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious.

1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- **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. If you consider that an inter-disciplinary² approach is unnecessary in the context of the proposed work, please provide a justification.
- **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. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a justification.
 - ⚠ Remember that this question relates to the **content** of the planned research and innovation activities, and not to gender balance in the teams in charge of carrying out the project.
 - ⚠ Sex, gender and diversity analysis refers to biological characteristics and social/cultural factors respectively. For guidance on methods of sex / gender analysis and the issues to be taken into account, please refer to this [link](#)
- **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 is adapted to the nature of your work in a way that will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives [1/2 page]. If

² Interdisciplinarity means the integration of information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts or theories from two or more scientific disciplines.

Horizon Europe MSCA - How to apply

Page contents

- Introduction
- Doctoral Networks – call 2025
- Postdoctoral Fellowships – call 2025
- Staff Exchanges – call 2026
- COFUND – call 2026
- MSCA and Citizens – call 2025
- Choose Europe for Science - call 2025
- MSCA4Ukraine
- What happens next

Introduction

Below you will find specific information on the application process for MSCA under Horizon Europe.

Please note that for different MSCA calls for proposals, specific eligibility criteria may apply regarding the participation of organisations and countries. For details, please consult the MSCA Work Programme and the Guide for Applicants in the section below related to the specific MSCA.

To apply, you must **create a profile** on the [Funding & tenders portal](#). Then, select the call for proposals you wish to apply for and use the **proposal online form** on the page below to submit your proposal **before the deadline**.

To help you with the specificities of the MSCA calls, the [MSCA National Contact Points](#) organise specific Information Days in different Members States and Associated Countries. During these events they present the calls for proposals and help applicants to prepare successful proposals. Please contact your respective National Contact Point for MSCA related events in your country.

Below you will find a range of resources to help you prepare your proposal for each MSCA.

- [Doctoral Networks](#)
- [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#)
- [Staff Exchanges](#)
- [COFUND](#)
- [MSCA and Citizens](#) (European Researchers' Night)
- [MSCA Choose Europe for Science](#)



Welcome

This site is dedicated to researchers, research managers and MSCA National Contact Points involved in the preparation and support of proposals under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.

This page provides practical guidance, supporting documents, and additional resources to strengthen your MSCA application. The materials complement the official call documents and the information available on the European Commission's official MSCA webpages, offering clear and structured support throughout the proposal preparation process for both applicants and MSCA NCPs.



**MSCA
COFUND**



**MSCA
STAFF
EXCHANGES**



**MSCA
POSTDOCTORAL
FELLOWSHIPS**



**MSCA
DOCTORAL
NETWORKS**



Handbooks

Our handbooks deliver guidance on proposal writing, with explanations for each section.



Policy Briefs

Summary of key policies for MSCA applications and projects.



**Inspirational
Stories**

Find here inspiring stories of successful applicants from Widening Countries.



**MSCA &
Non-
Academic
Sector**

Discover how non-academic partners can be integrated into your proposal.



**Frequently
Asked
Questions**

Click here to find answers to common questions across all MSCA actions.




**Matchmaking
Platform**

Looking for MSCA project partners? Click here to connect.



QUIZ

Assess your knowledge on MSCA in a playful way with our Quiz!



**Cross-Cutting
Topics**

Access here Cross-Cutting Topics (brought to you by the NCP Portal managers).

[MSCA | Horizon Europe NCP Portal](#)



Postdoctoral Fellowship Handbook Call 2025

NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR THE MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Task 3.1 Handbooks and Submission Guides
Issued by: DLR (DE)
Issued date: 26 June 2025
Work Package Leader: RANNIS (IS)



[This document is tagged (see instructions). Do not delete the tags; they are needed for processing.] #APP-FORM-HDM-SCAPP#

Part B-1

1. Excellence #REL-EVA-RE#

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) #QUAL-LIT-QLB#

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- Describe the quality and pertinence of the R&I objectives; are the objectives measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?
- Explain the research context of your project and introduce your project's subject.
- Explain the importance of the research being carried out and how it addresses a challenge/priority at a global/European level.
- Describe the specific research objectives (ROs) of the project. These should give the evaluators an insight into the research to be carried out during the project. Moreover, it is important that the research objectives are feasible.
- Each research objective ideally should correspond to the research work packages. For example, research objective 1 is the objective for research WP 1. Number the objectives O1, O2, O3 etc. and include the corresponding work package in brackets at the end of each objective (e.g. WP1).
- Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious.
- Break the state-of-the-art (SOA) into separate short paragraphs, each focussing on a specific research objective of the project.
- For each paragraph, briefly outline the current level of knowledge in the research area and highlight how the project will progress the research 'beyond the current state-of-the-art'. Use up-to-date references and ask your supervisor for assistance.
- If there is SOA work being carried out by your supervisor, or by you, then mention this here (as it demonstrates your excellence and adequacy to carry out the research).
- You could finish each paragraph with a bold /text-box statement of how the project is progressing the area beyond the current state-of-the-art.

STRENGTHS – EXAMPLES FROM PREVIOUS EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORTS

- The proposal clearly states the current state of the art, its limitations and how the proposed research extends beyond this to address an unmet need in the field. The proposal might contribute to the state of the art during and beyond the proposal's scope with the development of advanced, reliable models for in vitro testing of new therapeutic approaches for melanoma and potentially other diseases
- The research objectives are highly relevant, pertinent and well-aligned with contemporary economic challenges, particularly from a European perspective, given the importance of SMEs in Europe.
- The proposal clearly formulates three specific and distinct research and innovation objectives, which are relevant and highly innovative, and will use cutting-edge techniques, the inter-relationships between the objectives are also convincingly described.

Policy Briefs related to MSCA

These policy briefs will provide you with a comprehensive overview of the EU policy priorities with a focus on the MSCA.



Documents

 The European Research Area Policy Agenda 2025-2027	192.83KB	09/02/2026	
 The Green Transition	292.57KB	09/02/2026	
 Missions in HE	281.95KB	09/02/2026	
 Policy Brief on AI	332.22KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Widening	288.17KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Supervision	261.35KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Charter for Researcher	395.8KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Synergies	278.06KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Open Science	317.18KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Gender	295.84KB	30/04/2025	
 Policy Brief on Ethics	231.05KB	13/08/2025	

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

[Home](#)[About MSCA](#) ▼[Actions](#) ▼[Funding](#) ▼[Jobs](#)[Resources](#) ▼[What's new](#) ▼[Science is Wonderful!](#)[30 years of MSCA](#)

You are here: [Home](#) / [Resources](#)

Document library

Search documents, publications and other resources

Filter the results

Found **62** results

10 per page

Order by

Date (latest first) ▼

Topic

- COFUND (1)
- Choose Europe for Science (2)
- Doctoral Networks (1)
- European Researchers' Night (1)
- Feedback to Policy (1)
- Green Charter (3)
- Horizon 2020 (1)
- ITN (2)
- Individual Fellowships (2)
- MSCA and Citizens (2)
- Nobel Prize (1)

Factsheet: intellectual property (IP) management in Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

This factsheet outlines the main IP-related issues that participants in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions should consider at different stages of their projects. It also explains the specific IP rules of the model grant agreements, along with the content of other agreements commonly used in MSCA.

 [File hosted on Publications Office of the European Union](#)

[Go to website](#) 



Marie
Skłodowska-Curie
Actions



30
years

Curiosity that changes
the world



Najnovjše informacije o vsebini, razpisih in dogodkih o programu MSCA v Obzorju Evropa, dr. Stojan Sorčan, nacionalna kontaktna točka (MVZI)

30-letnica MSCA	Alumni Association	Analize	COFUND	Dogodki	Dokumenti	Evropska noč raziskovalcev
Izmenjava osebja	Mrežic doktorskega študija	Newsletter	Podoktorske štipendije	Poročila	Razpisi	Splošno
Tutors	Vsi razpisi					

sobota, 4. april 2026

Kje smo z MSCA projekti v Obzorju Evropa?

Po zadnjih podatkih Evropske komisije je MSCA profil Slovenije naslednji:

- ✓ 120 projektov v vrednosti skoraj 34 mio EUR
- ✓ največ projektov smo pridobili pri podoktorskih štipendijah (37) in skoraj toliko tudi pri mrežah doktorskega študija (36) ter pri izmanjavah osebja (25)
- ✓ največ projektov imamo na področju tehnike (31) in kemije (20)
- ✓ finančno sta najbogatejša dva projekta MSCA COFUND (Univerza v Novi Gorici in Institut "Jožef Stefan")
- ✓ v Slovenijo je prišlo 264 tujih raziskovalk in raziskovalcev iz tujine



Arhiv spletnega dnevnika

- ▼ 2026 (58)
 - ▼ april (3)
 - Kje smo z MSCA projekti v Obzorju Evropa?
 - Nacionalna informativna predstavitev razpisa MSCA ...
 - Letošnja MCAA konferenca: Research careers beyond ...
 - marec (21)
 - februar (19)
 - januar (15)
- 2025 (151)

NETWORK OF THE
MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS
NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS



SOME GENERAL TIPS

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

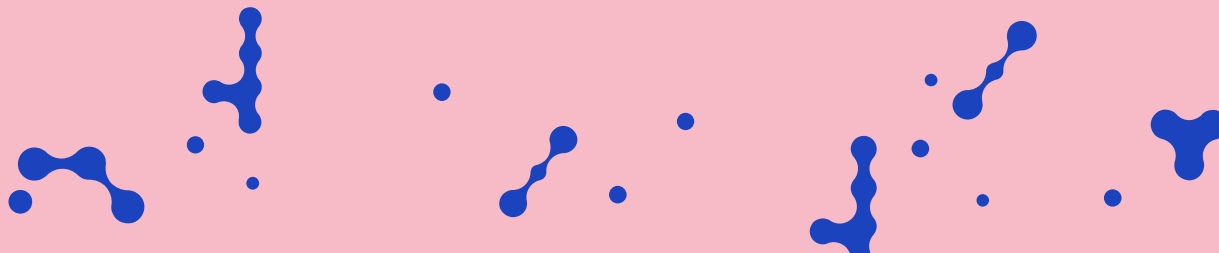
Practical tips

- Start writing **early enough** - you will rewrite your proposal over and over
 - several months before the deadline
- Ensure cooperation with the **supervisor/host institution**
 - you will need a lot of information
- Make a **checklist** with all evaluation criteria
 - respond all of them dilligently
- Use the call-specific Standard application form - available in the Submission System
- Let others (non-experts as well) **read your proposal**
 - they must at least get a clue what your proposal is all about
 - test your proposal with different audiences – colleagues, collaborators, your future supervisor and perhaps some of his colleagues, project office at your host institute
- See if you can get a **proofreading help** from MSCA NCP



Kaj lahko NKT za MSCA naredi za vas?

- **Odgovori** na e-mail vprašanja
- **Seminar** za uspešno pripravo MSCA PF projektov
- Individualni Zoom **sestanki** – *rezervirajte* čas po e-mailu
- **Pred-pregled** vašega predloga projekta MSCA PF – *rezervirajte* čas po e-mailu





Modelling plating morphology in lithium-ion batteries for enhanced safety

Fact Sheet

Reporting

Results

Project description

DE EN ES FR IT PL

Paving the way for a guaranteed safe operation of lithium-ion batteries

The EU aims to have at least 30 million zero-emission vehicles, primarily powered by lithium-ion batteries, on the roads by 2030. However, several fundamental scientific issues related to the safety of these batteries need to be addressed. There is currently a lack of control-oriented models for predicting the internal phenomena that can trigger thermal runaway. The EU-funded MoreSafe project will develop a comprehensive physics-based approach that will adequately incorporate a highly accurate description of battery electrochemistry and the accompanying subtle lithium plating phenomenon. The method will allow fast and accurate battery safety state prediction and analysis as well as seamless integration into a safety-guaranteed battery management system.

Show the project objective



Fields of science (EuroSciVoc) ⓘ

natural sciences > chemical sciences > electrochemistry

natural sciences > chemical sciences > inorganic chemistry > alkali metals

Suggest new fields of science



Project Information

MoreSafe

Grant agreement ID 101068764

DOI ⓘ

10.3030/101068764

Project closed

EC signature date

18 May 2022

Start date

7 July 2022

End date

6 July 2024

Funded under

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Total cost ⓘ

No data

EU contribution ⓘ

€ 206 887,68

Investment in EU policy priorities ⓘ

Spletni seminar za pripravo vaših predlogov MSCA PF 26

6. maj – Excellence

od 13. do 16.00

- Opis kriterijev
- Pregled pozitivnih in negativnih evalvacijskih komentarjev
- Razprava

7. maj – Impact

od 13. do 16.00

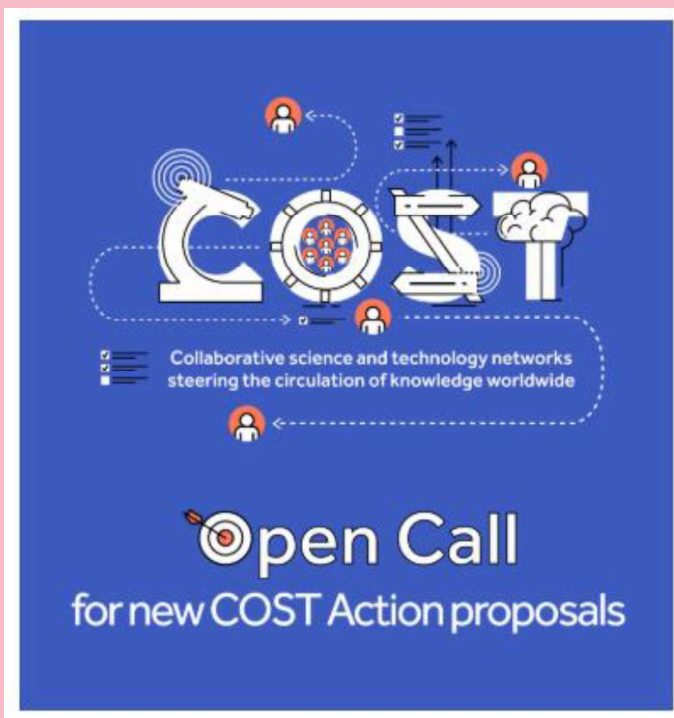
- Opis kriterijev
- Pregled pozitivnih in negativnih evalvacijskih komentarjev
- Razprava

8. maj – Implementation

od 13. do 16.00

- Opis kriterijev
- Pregled pozitivnih in negativnih evalvacijskih komentarjev
- Razprava

MSCA sinergije – COST



Livija Marko / 23. januar 2026 /
kategorije: Dogodek

COST v praksi: od ideje do uspešne prijave

Nacionalni dogodek, 20. januar 2026

20. januarja 2026 je Inštitut za narodnostna vprašanja vabil v Narodni muzej Slovenije na nacionalni informativni dogodek »COST v praksi: od ideje do uspešne prijave«, ki ga je organiziral v sodelovanju z Javno agencijo za znanstvenoraziskovalno in inovacijsko dejavnost Republike Slovenije in Ministrstvom za visoko šolstvo, znanost in inovacije.

Po uvodnem pozdravu direktorice Inštituta za narodnostna vprašanja, **prof. dr. Sonje Novak Lukanovič**, v katerem je

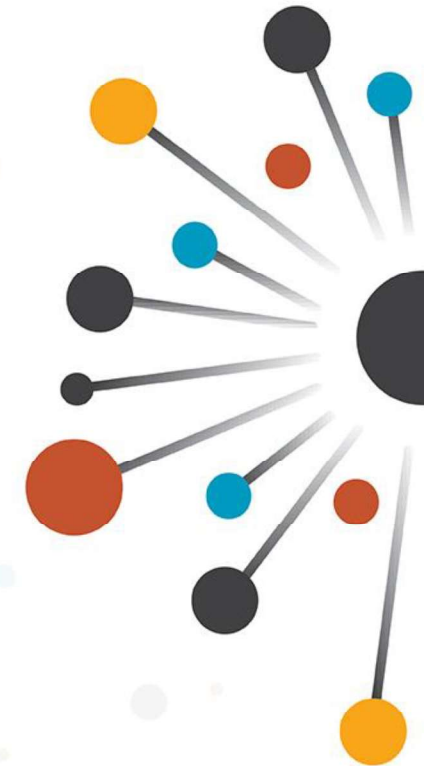


HVALA ZA VAŠO POZORNOST!

[Home - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

[Najnovejše informacije za javnost, NCP MSCA v Obzorju Evropa](#)

stojan.sorcan@gov.si



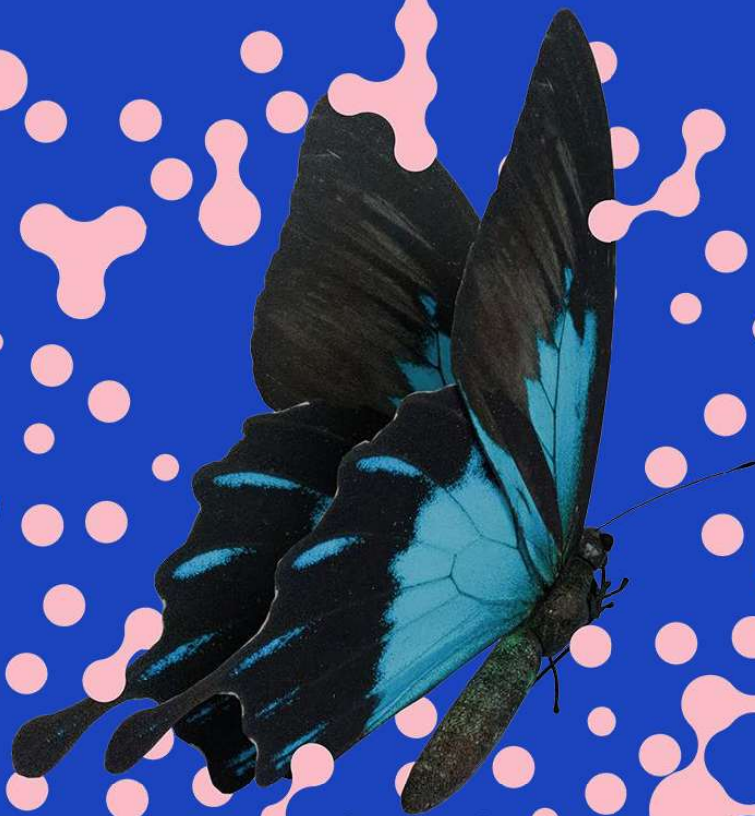
**MREŽA
NACIONALNIH
KONTAKTNIH TOČK**
Obzorje Evropa




REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO,
ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE



Marie
Skłodowska-Curie
Actions
30 years
*Curiosity that changes
the world*



2024 – 2025



EVROPSKA NOČ RAZISKOVALCEV



TRANSFORM
EUROPE

FACTUMEVENT



Financira
Evropska unija

»Financira Evropska unija. Za izražena stališča in mnenja odgovarja samo avtor (ali avtorji) in ne odražajo nujno stališč Evropske unije ali Evropske izvajalske agencije za raziskave. Niti Evropska unija niti Evropska izvajalska agencija za raziskave ne moreta biti odgovorna zanje.«



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO,
ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE

Evalvacijski kriteriji MSCA PF 2026

Stojan Sorčan, MVZI, NKT za MSCA

Maribor, 17/4/2026



Horizon Europe Programme

Standard Application Form

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions -
Postdoctoral Fellowships (HE MSCA PF)

Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)

Version 5.0
27 March 2026



Horizon Europe

Evaluation Form (HE MSCA)

Version 2.2
17 December 2025





“

EXCELLENCE

”

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
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)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience, competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

Part B-1

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)

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- Describe the **quality** and **pertinence** of the R&I objectives; are the objectives **measurable** and **verifiable**? Are they realistically achievable?
- Describe how your project goes **beyond the state-of-the-art**, and the extent to which the proposed work is **ambitious**.

1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- **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. If you consider that an inter-disciplinary² approach is unnecessary in the context of the proposed work, please provide a justification.
- **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. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a justification.
 - ⚠ Remember that this question relates to the **content** of the planned research and innovation activities, and not to gender balance in the teams in charge of carrying out the project.
 - ⚠ Sex, gender and diversity analysis refers to biological characteristics and social/cultural factors respectively. For guidance on methods of sex / gender analysis and the issues to be taken into account, please refer to this [link](#)
- **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 is adapted to the nature of your work in a way that will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives. If you believe that none of these practices are appropriate for your project, please provide a justification here.

Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Open science practices include early and open sharing of research (for example through pre-registration, registered

² Interdisciplinarity means the integration of information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts or theories from two or more scientific disciplines.

[This document is tagged (see instructions) with the tags; they are needed for processing.] #@APP-FORM-HEM-SCAFF@#

Part B-1

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)

At a minimum, address the following aspects:

- Describe the quality and pertinence of the R&I objectives; are the objectives measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?
- Explain the research context of your project and introduce your project's subject.
- Explain the importance of the research being carried out and how it addresses a challenge/priority at a global/European level.
- Describe the specific research objectives (ROs) of the project. These should give the evaluators an insight into the research to be carried out during the project. Moreover, it is important that the research objectives are feasible.
- Each research objective ideally should correspond to the research work packages. For example, research objective 1 is the objective for research WP 1. Number the objectives O1, O2, O3 etc. and include the corresponding work package in brackets at the end of each objective (e.g. WP1).
- Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious.
- Break the state-of-the-art (SOA) into separate short paragraphs, each focussing on a specific research objective of the project.
- For each paragraph, briefly outline the current level of knowledge in the research area and highlight how the project will progress the research 'beyond the current state-of-the-art'. Use up-to-date references and ask your supervisor for assistance.
- If there is SOA work being carried out by your supervisor, or by you, then mention this here (as it demonstrates your excellence and adequacy to carry out the research).
- You could finish each paragraph with a bold /text-box statement of how the project is progressing the area beyond the current state-of-the-art.

STRENGTHS – EXAMPLES FROM PREVIOUS EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORTS

- The proposal clearly states the current state of the art, its limitations and how the proposed research extends beyond this to address an unmet need in the field. The proposal might contribute to the state of the art during and beyond the proposal's scope with the development of advanced, reliable models for in vitro testing of new therapeutic approaches for melanoma and potentially other diseases
- The research objectives are highly relevant, pertinent and well-aligned with contemporary economic challenges, particularly from a European perspective, given the importance of SMEs in Europe.
- The proposal clearly formulates three specific and distinct research and innovation objectives, which are relevant and highly innovative, and will use cutting-edge techniques, the inter-relationships between the objectives are also convincingly described.

EXCELLENCE – WHAT? WHY? HOW?

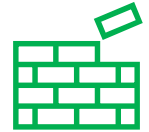


INTRODUCTION

- **Impress** the evaluators!
- What is the **challenge** to be solved by the project?
- What is the **idea** of the project?
- What **aim** will be achieved?
- What will you **do**?
- What **partners** you have?
- **Why** is this project **important** to your science field and institution?



INTRODUCTION



- Start with **the overall aim** of the project so that evaluator knows exactly what it will entail. This should include **introduction to the** fellow, supervisor, host institution and secondment organisation.
- Educate the evaluator on **the importance** of the research being carried out.
- Explain how it addresses a **challenge/priority** at the global/EU level.
- The proposal convincingly **outlines the context** of the research and provides a good **basis for understanding** its main idea.
- A **clear overview** is presented with a good description of **the main issues and challenges** to be addressed and reference to **relevant EU policies**. (ENV_Slo)

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)

- Briefly **describe** the objectives of your proposed work and give an **overview** of the action
- Specific research objectives (ROs) of the project
 - **Number** the objectives O1, O2, O3 etc.
 - Are they **measurable** and **verifiable**?
 - Are they **realistically** achievable?

Tip:
Use the
introduction to
capture attention
of the reader,
convince that the
rest is pertinent
and worth reading



OBJECTIVES

- The project is **operationalised** by **clear and integrated objectives.**
- The overarching aim is highly **relevant and original**, SO are **clearly defined and relevant.**
- The objectives are **in relation to the SOA.**
- The theoretical basis is supported by a sufficient number of **bibliographical references.**
- The concepts are supported by pertinent **citations.**
- Project objectives are **clear, concise and achievable.**
- Clearly defined objectives, both in terms of **specific outcomes, learning goals and training objectives.**
- The objectives are **ambitious.**
- RO's should **correspond** to the **research work package** (O1 is the objective for WP1)

Evaluator: Whether research and innovation objectives are realistically achievable, measurable and verifiable?

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.

- 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)

OBJECTIVES – strenghts



- The research objectives are of **good quality**, clearly explained and realistically **achievable**. The objectives are also **measurable**
- The **specific research and innovation objectives** are **focused**, realistic and achievable.
- The quality of the proposed **research activities** is very high. The goals are highly **ambitious**.
- The **research question** and innovation objectives are very well **presented** and highly **relevant** since it is clear **from the state-of-the-art** that the impact of xy has **not been thoroughly explored**.
- The research objectives are very **relevant** for the understanding of xy, which is very innovative.

SMART OBJECTIVES - strenghts



- All the research and innovation objectives mentioned in the proposal are **realistically achievable, measurable, and verifiable**.
- The **specific objectives** are of very **high quality**, well **articulated**, **clearly** achievable, measurable and verifiable, and their contribution **to the main goal** is very **convincing**.
- The research objectives are persuasively described and **well articulated**. They are achievable, measurable, and verifiable.
- The research and innovation objectives **are relevant**, addressing significant **societal challenges** through the lens of transdisciplinary practices, which are crucial for developing educational frameworks that foster lifelong learning competencies.





STATE OF THE ART



- Outline the current **level of knowledge**
- Break the SOA into separate short paragraphs focused to a **specific objective**
- References to the **theoretical framework** and previous related research
- A comprehensive **literature review** related to the field of study is included.
- Mention your **supervisor** and **your references** in the current SOA
- Describe existing **knowledge gaps**
- The **open questions** in the SOA are well summarized.
- The research offers **original inputs** that will enrich the SOA
- Progress **„beyond“** the current SOA“

STATE OF THE ART- strenghts



- The proposed research topic is **very timely** and concerns some **difficult problems with strong connections to the state of the art**. The proposal includes some **promising new directions** that deserve to be investigated.
- The proposal introduces **novel** techniques that improve existing models, **pushing beyond the current state-of-the-art**.
- The research has **well-identified objectives** concerning the xy understanding of long-standing xy problems.
- It is pertinent and ambitious, **potentially providing a significant advance in the state of the art**.



AMBITIOUSNESS



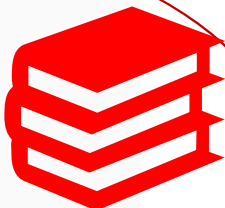
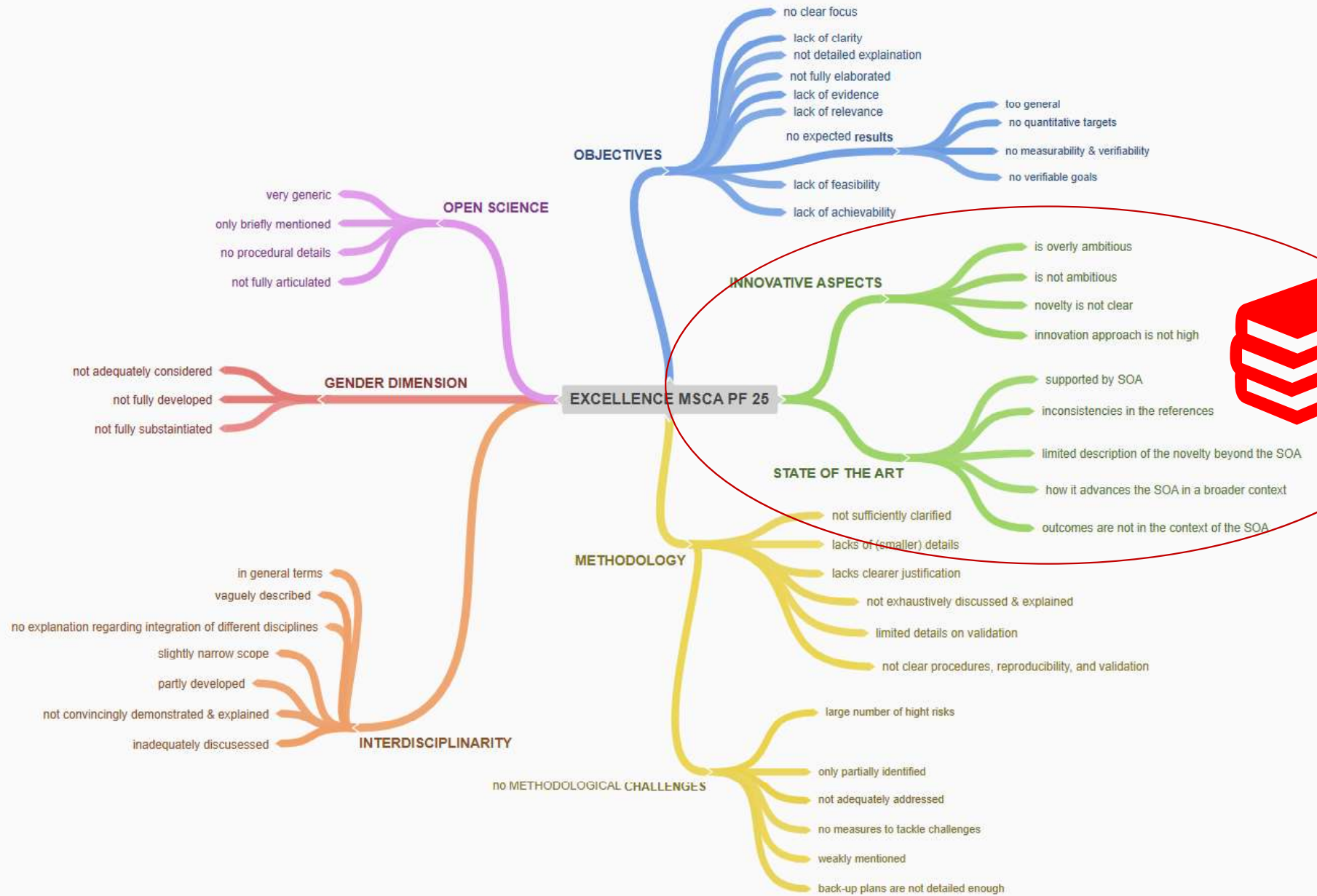
(novelty, originality, innovativeness)

- **Innovative potential** in terms of objectives and methodologies applied to a topic.
- Use of equipment, technique, method, knowledge in novel way.
- **New analysis, concept** method that will be implemented.
- The combination of **several approaches**.
- It will contribute to **advance the SOA**.
- The outcome of the project is **truly novel**.
- Clear contribution to a range of **inter-related fields**.
- Ambitious to create new knowledge that have **potential to impact** applied areas.

NOVELTY / INNOVATION - strenghts



- The proposed research is **ambitious** and has a **clear degree** of **novelty** with respect to **the current state-of-the-art**.
- The proposed research outlines **an innovative approach** providing XYs, advancing **beyond the current state of the art** related to XY for improved XY.
- The novelty of the objectives is **clearly stated**, in relation with the existing questions or problems yet unclarified/under debate in the field of the project.



no METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology

(incl. interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science)

- Describe **how the research will be carried out**
 - your overall methodology, incl. the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work
 - how this will enable you to deliver your project's **objectives**
- Break this section up into short paragraphs/bullet points
 - describe **the steps/methods** you will take to achieve the research objectives proposed (put in brackets the research objective and work package it relates to)
 - highlight the **experiments, techniques and equipment** that will be used (especially in a novel way)
 - if there will be **new** analysis, concept, methods implemented – mention and highlight it (bold)



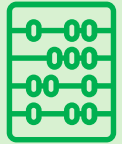
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY



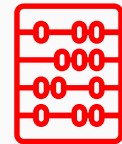
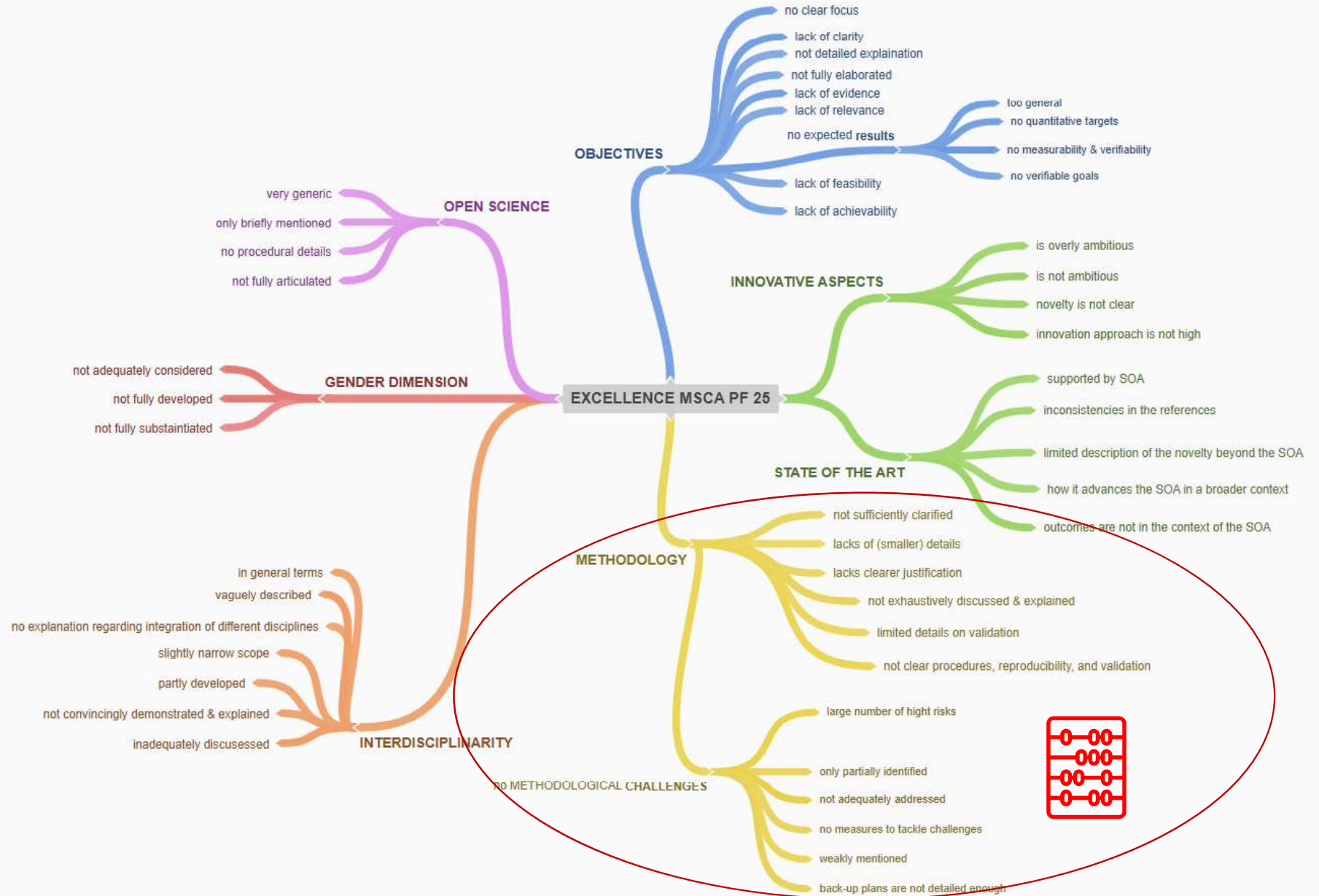
- The RM is explained **for each objective** and justified in relation to the overall project objectives.
- The RM and the proposed approach are very well summarized and **detailed**, with concrete plans on **how to tackle** the proposed problems and identified **methodological challenges**.
- The RM is very well formulated, is **up-to-date** and innovative.
- The RM explain **why** the approach has been chosen.
- For each method/steps described put in brackets the **research work package/objective**.



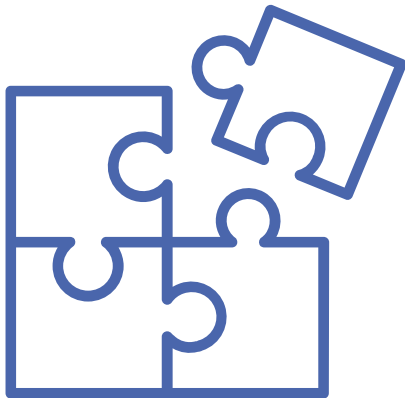
METHODOLOGY – strenghts



- The proposed methodology is **carefully** thought out, has a **clear structure**, and is **appropriate to** the research **objectives**.
- The methodology is clearly and precisely described, with **considerable details**. It is sound and of excellent quality, well-conceived in **terms of the objectives**. It makes full use of technological advances that open new fields of exploration.
- The research methodology is plausible and consistent **with the expected goals**. **Critical risks** are well identified, and suitable measures are proposed to tackle them.
- **Methodological challenges** have been correctly identified, and appropriate measures have been proposed to **tackle them**.
- The methodological approach is thoroughly proposed, and it is appropriate **for each particular objective**. The **preliminary results** (proof-of-concept) validate the feasibility of the newly developed methodologies making the project sound.
- The proposed research methodologies and approaches are sound, and credible, while **the concepts, models and assumptions** that underpin the project are very **clearly articulated**. Key methodological **challenges** are well identified with **convincing measures** to tackle them proposed.



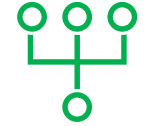
EXCELLENCE - INTERDISCIPLINARITY



- Describe how the elements and expertise from different disciplines will be used in the project in a **complementary and comprehensive** way.
- Do not provide „list of disciplines“
- Provide illustrated and **integrated approach** as to why these combined disciplines and the collaboration between them are **fitting** and necessary for **achieving the objectives** that have to be demonstrated.



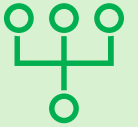
INTERDISCIPLINARITY



- Interdisciplinarity means the **integration** of information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts or theories **from two or more scientific disciplines**.
- State if you are working with mix of disciplines and demonstrate how the research being carried out goes beyond the discipline that is strictly yours – **explain the synergy between disciplines** and do not just list them!



INTERDISCIPLINARITY – strenghts



- Interdisciplinary aspects of the project, in particular, involving model theory and group theory, are **carefully outlined**.
- The proposal is interdisciplinary, and expertise from the different disciplines involved **is well integrated into the project**.
- The proposal **thoughtfully takes an interdisciplinary approach** by leveraging intuition **from theoretical physics to develop new mathematical frameworks, demonstrating innovation**.
- Given the career stage, the researcher has a remarkable CV, with an extensive publication record, a strong international network and well above-average **experience in interdisciplinary research**.



EXCELLENCE – OPEN SCIENCE & DMP



- Integration of Open Science practices in your methodology:
 - **early access** to research results,
 - open access to **scientific publications and data**, and
 - **co-creation of R&I** content with stakeholders and the general public.
- If not, a proper justification should be provided.
- Mandatory: open access to scientific publications





Open Science across the programme

Open Science

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. Including active engagement of society

Mandatory immediate Open Access to publications: beneficiaries must retain sufficient IPRs to comply with open access requirements;

Data sharing as ‘open as possible, as closed as necessary’: mandatory Data Management Plan for FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) research data

- Work Programmes may incentivize or oblige to adhere to **open science practices** such as involvement of citizens, or to use the **European Open Science Cloud**
- Assessment of open science practices through the **excellence award criteria** for proposal evaluation. Under **quality of participants** previous experience on open sciences practices will be evaluated positively.
- **28** Dedicated support to **open science policy actions**
- **Open Research Europe** publishing platform

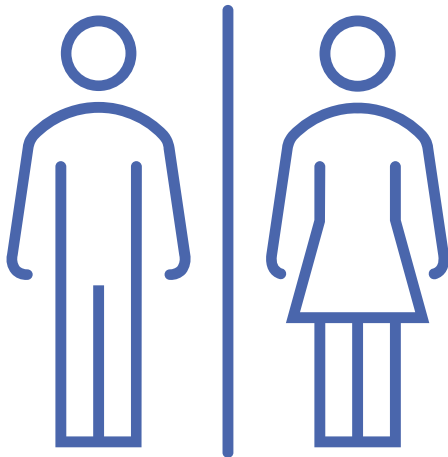
OPEN SCIENCE - strenghts



- The open science practices, implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology, are described in sufficient detail, effective and appropriate. The data management and open science practices proposed are **appropriate**.
- Open science practices and research data management and management of other research outputs, including the implementation of a data management plan, are **correct** and **well-integrated**.
- Open science practices are well identified, **including** a pre-print strategy, the deposition of obtained sequences and developed scripts at dedicated repositories. Also, a dedicated **support service** has been identified at the **host institution**.



EXCELLENCE – GENDER DIMENSION



- You need to assess whether concepts, methods and approaches **need to be designed differently when thinking of sex and gender difference.**
- It is not place to discuss the gender balance in the consortium, only refer to **sex and gender aspects of the content** of the project's activities.



Gender dimension in R&I content

Gender Dimension

Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process.

The **integration of the gender dimension** into R&I content is **mandatory**, unless it is explicitly mentioned in the topic description

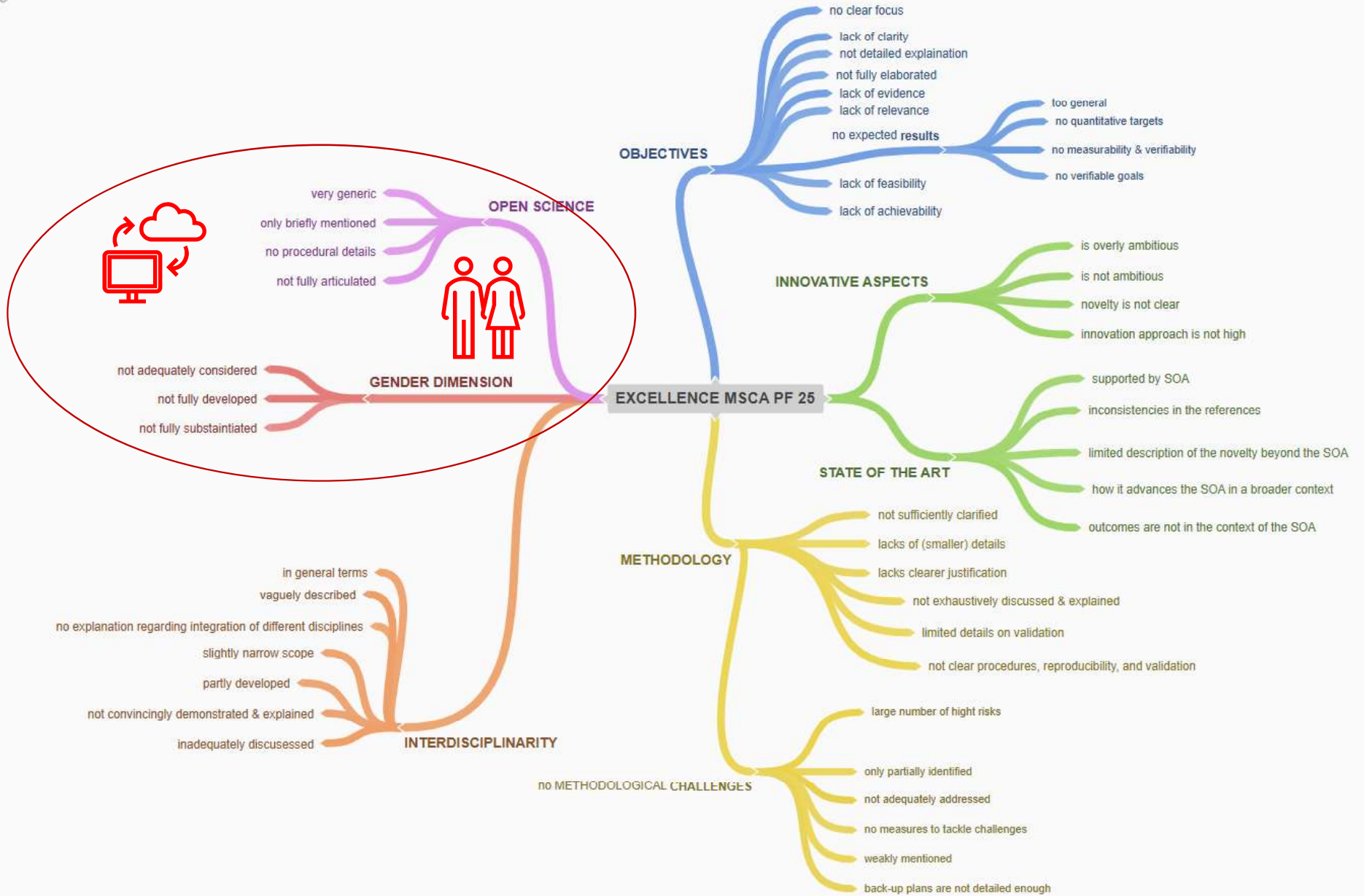
Why is gender dimension important?

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



The Gender Dimensions – strenghts

- The proposal **sufficiently addresses** the gender dimension related to women's rights and gender equality.
- The gender dimension is **well covered** in the proposal, not only with the inclusion of the female rogue in the corpus, but also with the application of a queer and post-colonial perspective that includes the analysis of issues of ethnic and gender.
- The proposal very well identifies **gender differences...**
- The researcher demonstrates a strong commitment **to integrating gender and diversity perspectives** into the research assessment



1.3
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge
 (researcher / host)

Be very brief with all relevant information – you can provide more information in **capacity table (B2.5 section)**

Global fellowships: describe also the transfer with the host of the outgoing phase

For non-academic placement: describe how transfer of knowledge will happen there

- Describe the qualifications and experience of the supervisor(s)
 - **experience** on the research topic and **their track record** of work, main international collaborations,
 - experience **in supervising/training** especially at advanced level (PhD, postdoctoral researchers)
 - **participation** in projects, publications, patents and any other relevant results
 - mention if impressive: years of experience in the field, h-index,
 - **if you are having a co-supervisor shortly explain his/her added values**
- Outline how a two-way transfer of knowledge will occur between the researcher and the host institution(s)
 - explain what new knowledge you will gain during the fellowship at the hosting organisation(s) and how it will be acquired
 - outline your previously acquired knowledge and skills that you will transfer to the host organisation(s)

Scientific skills	Transferable skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Which new techniques and methods? ✓ How - through research or through specific courses ✓ Training on "research integrity", "big data/open science", digital techniques, tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teaching, tutoring/mentoring of students (leadership/communication skills) ✓ Project/Financial/Organisational Management (project planning, organisation of a conference) ✓ Development of follow-up projects (fundraising, proposal writing) ✓ Abilities in working in an international environment (communication, building networks) ✓ Business thinking (through your own project) ✓ Handling IPR, training in patent law, course in gender awareness





TRAINING



Describe that the researcher will receive training in the following types of skills:

- **Research Skills:** These are core skills relating to your project.
- **Additional Research Skills:** These are research skills that will advance your competencies in the research areas.
- **Transferable & Complementary Skills:** Transferable skills are the skills you acquire and transfer to future employment settings.

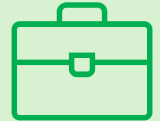
Examples of transferable skills

- Entrepreneurship & innovation
- Grant writing
- Patent applications
- IPR Management and Patenting
- Leadership/Influencing courses
- Project management
- Gender training (gender issues/gendered innovations)
- Presentation skills

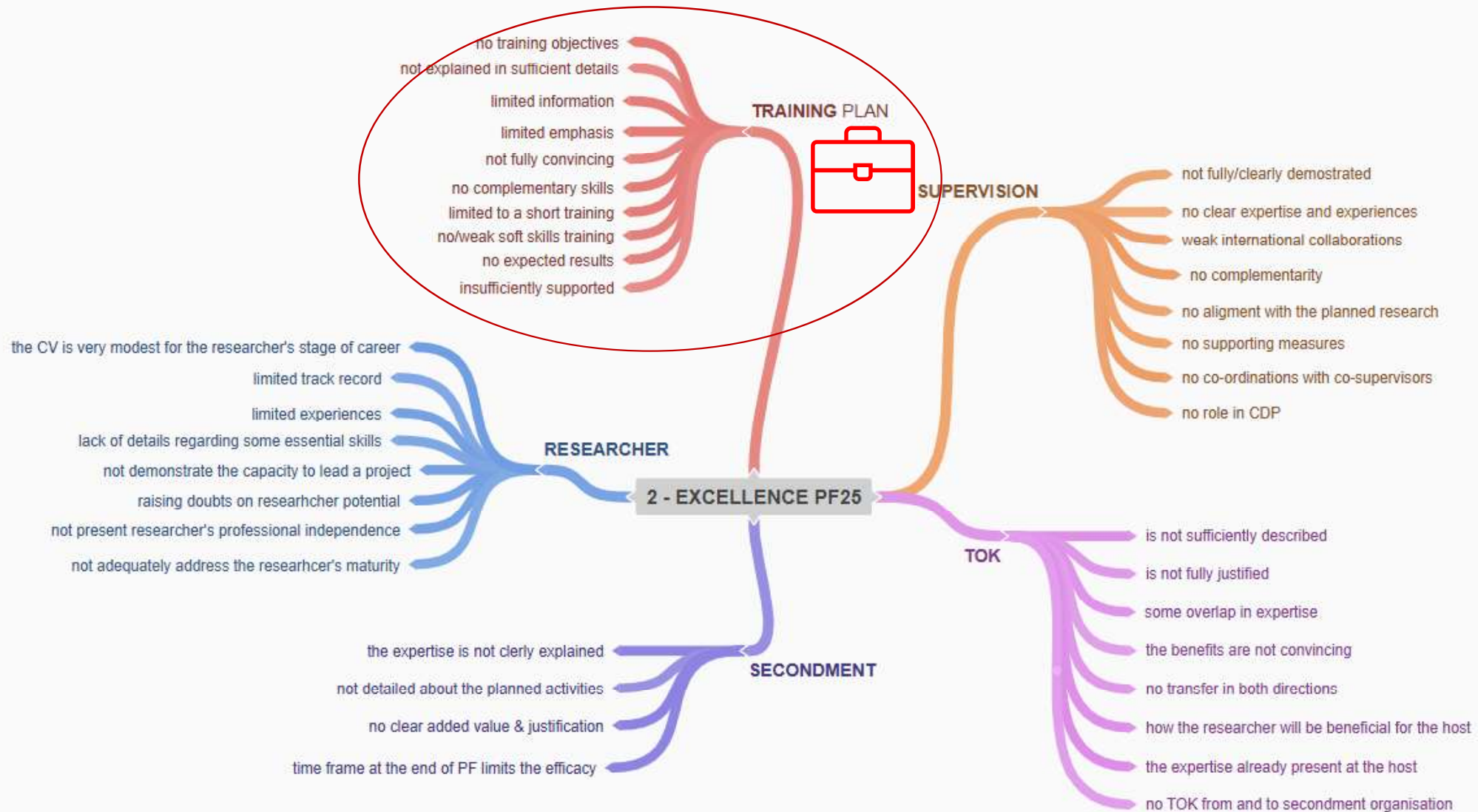
Examples of advanced research skills

- Training in new techniques, instruments, equipment
- Open science
- Big data
- Scientific writing
- Experimental design
- Qualitative & quantitative

TRAINING - strenghts



- The training **activities** are adequately detailed, and **plans** for training the researcher in scientific, technical, and key transferrable skills are **well outlined**.
- The training plan is very well developed, with clear and well described **training objectives**.
- The good quality **training program** is proposed for the development of **scientific** and **transferrable** skills. The described training program is well **complementary** and suited for the **researcher 's development**.
- The planned training activities are of good quality and comprise appropriate **practices day-to-day tutoring, supervising responsibilities, attendance of courses for career development, and professional competencies**.
- **The quality** of the training that will be given to the researcher in the host institution is very high and **well-tailored to the project and its context**. The training process is described in very **good details**.





TWO-WAY TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE (researcher ↔ host)

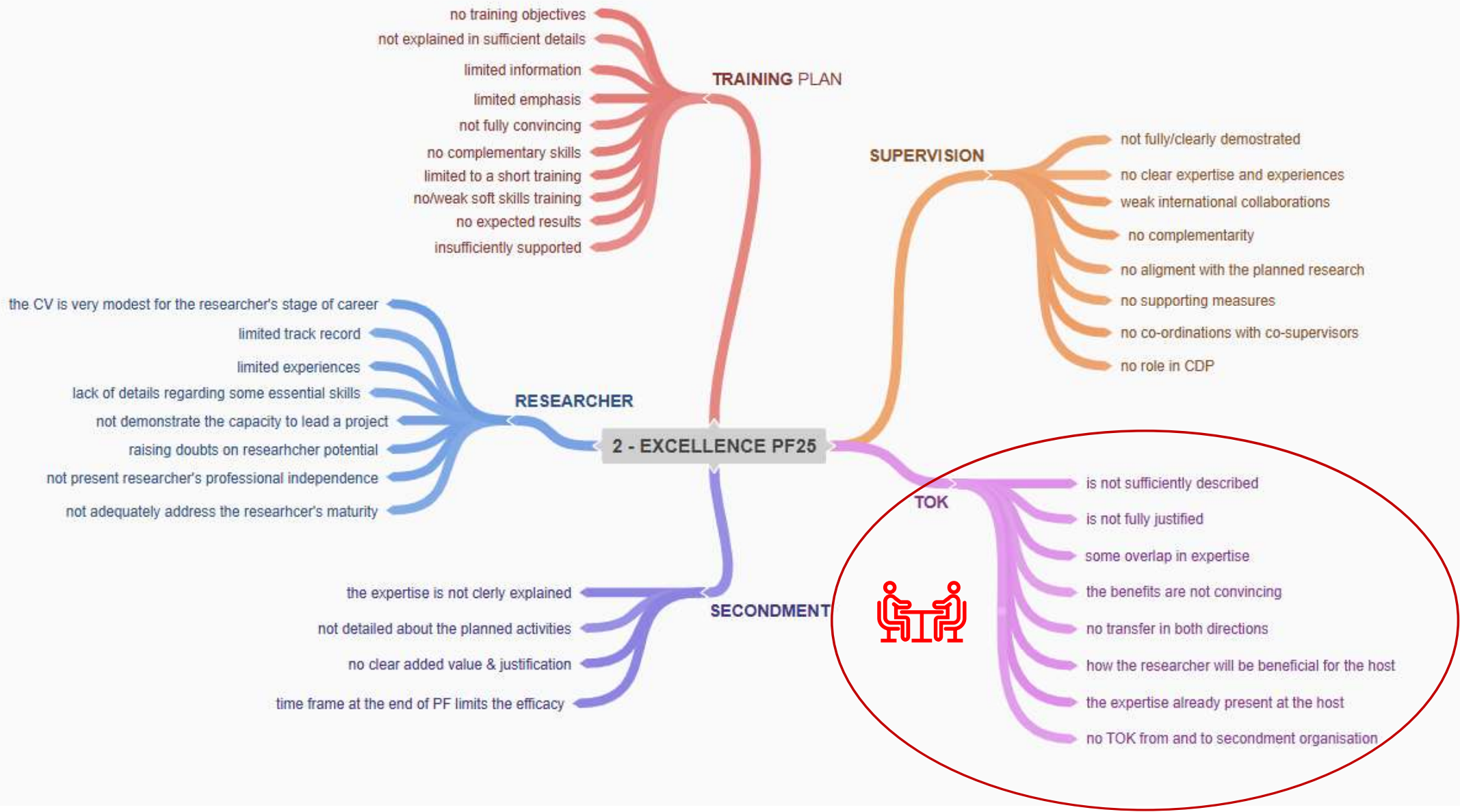


- Concrete and specific methods for transfer should be specified with benefits for both **the researcher and the host.**
- Explain **the level of the knowledge** transferred and if it is required at the host institution.
- Explain **how the knowledge is transferred** to the host institution.
- The two-way transfer of knowledge is convincing as the host organization and the researcher possess **complementary skills.**

2-WAY TOK – strenghts



- The two-way transfer of knowledge is **convincingly articulated** ensuring a **mutually beneficial collaboration** between the researcher and the host organisations.
- The two-way transfer of knowledge **is well demonstrated**. **The host provides** the researcher with high-quality knowledge transfer and training opportunities, while **the researcher brings to the host** techniques that are not currently available there.
- The two-way transfer of knowledge is very well structured. **The researcher will transfer their knowledge** by working in the team, holding seminars, mentoring and co-supervising MSc and PhD students. **The researcher will benefit** from both formal and informal training, both related to specific technical aspects, as well as general skills (e.g. project management).
- The two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host is clearly described and well-justified, with **clear benefits** from host to researcher in terms of new skills acquisition and researcher to host in terms of ecology.





SUPERVISION

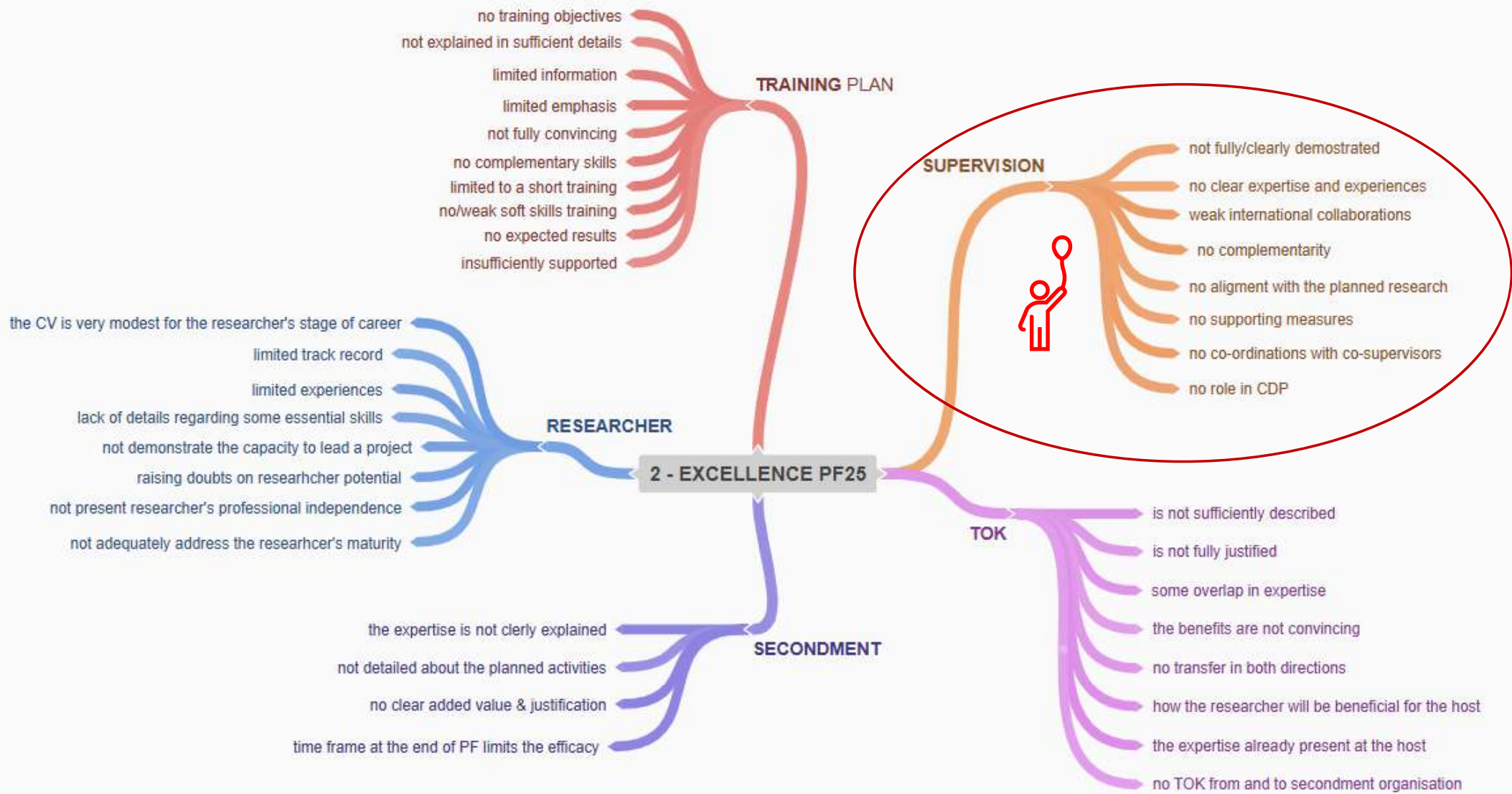


- The qualifications and experience of the supervisor are **clearly described.**
- The supervisor **is highly qualified** excellent project and publication track record in the topic and good hosting experience is evident.
- Supervisor within the host institution are **leading experts** in their respective fields.
- The supervisory team has **experience** of previous MSCA researchers.
- **GF** - There is adequate supervision from experienced scholars, during outgoing phase as well as incoming phase.
- The proposal adequately **lists the staff** who will provide support in specific activities.

SUPERVISOR - strenghts



- The quality of supervision **is excellent**, considering the outstanding supervisor's **qualifications**, level of **experience** on the topic proposed, **track record** of work, **international** collaborations, and the level of **experience in supervising/training** at advanced level.
- **The supervisors** have very good qualifications, many international collaborations and extensive supervising experience. The proposal clearly presents **for each supervisor** the way their **expertise is related** to **specific parts of the project**.



1.4
Quality and
appropriateness of
the **researcher's**
professional
experience,
competences and
skills

- Describe your **existing professional experience** in relation to the proposed research project
 - **why you are the best person to do this fellowship**
 - tell your story & try to get the evaluator to relate/understand you
 - choose the key highlights from your CV to show the evaluator your abilities
 - E.g. research achievements, fellowships and awards received, key conferences, publications, experience in project management, experience in supervision, non-academic sector
- How your existing professional experience, talents and the proposed research **will contribute to your development** as independent/mature researcher?

Your CV
(in Part B2)
- **will be reviewed to confirm information given in section 1.4**



RESEARCHER

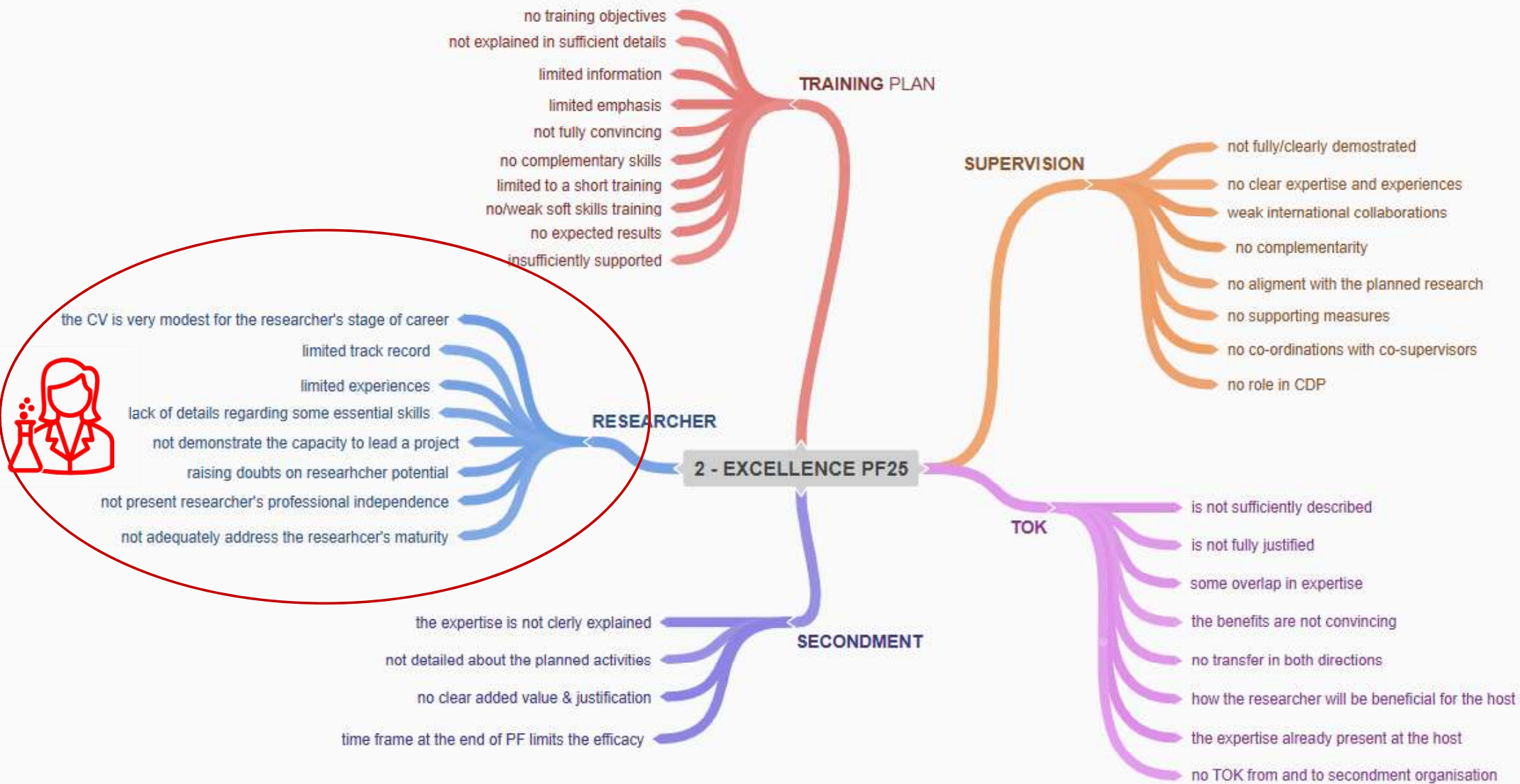


- How your existing professional experience, talents and the proposed research will **contribute to your development** as independent researcher during the fellowship?
- Clearly outlines the researcher's **background and potential** for acquiring new skills and knowledge
- ...has published a good number of **paperes**
- The reseracher has a **high motivation** and **promising profile**
- The researcher has a **very good CV** for such stage of career **development**.... These numbers are outstanding. .

RESEARCHER - strenghts



- The researcher has an **excellent CV** for their career-stage, considering **the number of publications** in high quality journals, presentations at relevant **symposia** and outstanding professional **international experience**, competences and skills in XY research.
- The researcher's existing professional **experience in relation to the research proposal** is excellent, such as in XY. These skills in experimental techniques are all essential to the success of the proposal to develop and validate XY.
- The researcher has an **excellent track record** for their career stage, as evidenced by the listed publications, invited talks, and academic awards. The researcher's existing professional experience is an **excellent fit for the proposed research**, and the acquired technical competencies on various experimental techniques so far are **very relevant** to the topic.



Comments:

The scientific objectives are insufficiently justified and not fully achievable. The approach and methodology do not go beyond the state-of-the-art and do not show enough interdisciplinarity.

Methodological challenges and measures to overcome them are insufficiently addressed.

The gender/diversity aspects are poorly considered.

Supervision, training, two-way transfer of knowledge and open science practices are treated in overly generic terms.

The researcher's scientific record is relatively weak, and their scientific experience is not fully convincing as a prerequisite for the proposal.

Comments:

The objectives are superficial and do not adequately address the overall goals and knowledge gaps identified. The proposal lacks measurable metrics. The methodology is lacking in details, and the open science practices are not sufficiently developed or thought out. The training of soft skills is also not designed properly. Two-way transfer of knowledge from the researcher to the Host Institution is only generally presented. The researcher's CV lacks necessary details, which undermines its credibility.

Comments:

The proposal lacks clarity on how robustness, performance, and clinical utility will be assessed. Methodological details on outcome proportions and data imbalance are insufficient. The intervention study design is underpowered for its complexity. The research is insufficiently ambitious, as ML for glycome analysis is already established. The quality of the objectives is moderate due to the limited evidence base for CVD-glycome associations. The secondment rationale and two-way knowledge transfer are inadequately described, and ML training lacks formal structure.

Comments:

The relation between models, optimization, and AI models, and their orchestration, appears to be unclear. The objectives lack clearly measurable metrics. The methodology and validation are insufficiently described. Formal training, knowledge transfer, and realism of simulations are also unconvincing. The knowledge transfer structure from the researcher to the host organisation lacks clarity.

Comments:

The project poorly addresses aspects of migration studies. The objectives and the definitions are insufficiently developed. It hardly provides a convincing explanation on how it will advance beyond the state of the art. The methodology is insufficiently developed. The proposal insufficiently describes the challenges related to the recruitment of participants. It poorly specifies the supervisor's experience in postdoctoral research. The training and transfer of knowledge is insufficiently developed. The secondment mentioned in the abstract is hardly discussed in the proposal.

Comments:

The objectives are broad, partly repetitive of the researcher's PhD work, show limited advancement beyond the state of the art and lack measurable indicators to verification. The methodology is insufficiently robust, relying on a small snowball sample and a self-devised manual coding approach without adequate justification or mitigation of selection and recall biases. Interdisciplinarity is inadequate, gender dimension and open-science practices are broad. Training and knowledge transfer are outlined in generic terms, with limited evidence of structured mutual benefit. Track record is limited.



“

IMPACT

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IMPACT

Main goal of the **Horizon Europe**: Maximise its impact and deliver on the EU strategic priorities, such as the recovery, green and digital transitions, and tackles global challenges to improve the quality of our daily lives.“



- *Horizon Europe is **an impact driven** framework programme!*
- What **short-medium-long term impact/value** will the project generate and how it will be achieved?
- How **widespread** will the value be?
- How **significant** will the benefits be?



Impact Section

Increased **set of skills** - research-related and transferable ones - leading to improved employability and career prospects both in and outside academia

Researcher



Enhanced **cooperation and stronger networks** – better transfer of knowledge between sector and disciplines – boosting of R&I capacities among participating organisations

Organisation



Increase in 'triple i' mobility of researchers in **Europe** – strengthening of Europe's human capital base in R&I with more entrepreneurial and better trained researchers – better communication of R&I results to society – Increase in Europe's attractiveness as a leading destination for R&I – better quality research and innovation contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth

System



Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
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)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the <u>career perspectives</u> and <u>employability</u> of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected <u>outcomes</u> and <u>impacts</u> , as set out in the <u>dissemination</u> and <u>exploitation</u> plan, including <u>communication</u> activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected <u>scientific, societal</u> and <u>economic impacts</u>	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience, competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

2.1 Credibility of the measures to enhance the **career perspectives** and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her **skills development**

Expected skill development of the researcher.
Expected impact of the proposed research and training activities on the researcher's career perspectives inside and/or outside academia.

- **How** will this project **improve** your **career**?
- **What** are your **career goals**?
 - E.g. tenure-track position, initiating a new laboratory, becoming a pioneer researcher, a new position in the industry, ERC or other grant application...
 - Give specific examples of your career opportunities in the academic & non-academic sectors after the fellowship.
- Focus on **how** the **new competences and skills** can make you **more successful**
 - in achieving those career goals
 - in long-term inside/outside of academia
- Describe & highlight the **impact of the collaborations** made during the fellowship
 - especially those intersectoral and interdisciplinary
 - ...you will have a higher impact R&I output on your future work, thus more knowledge and ideas converted into products and services

Career Development Plan

WP Expected Impact:

„Strengthen Europe's human capital base in R&I with better trained, innovative and entrepreneurial researchers“



- WP MSCA : „In order to equip MSCA postdoctoral fellows with skills that enhance and expand their **career opportunities** inside and outside academia, a *Career Development Plan* should be established **jointly** by the supervisor(s) and the researcher. In addition to **research objectives**, this plan should comprise the researcher's **training and career needs**, including training on transferable skills, teaching, planning for publications and participation in conferences and events aiming at opening science and research to citizens. The Plan will have to be submitted as a **project deliverable** at the beginning of the action and can be **updated** when needed.“



Which competences will fellow develop in the frame of the PF?

In what way are these competences relevant to your future career development (“employability”)?

Consider your potential career paths other than working in a university.

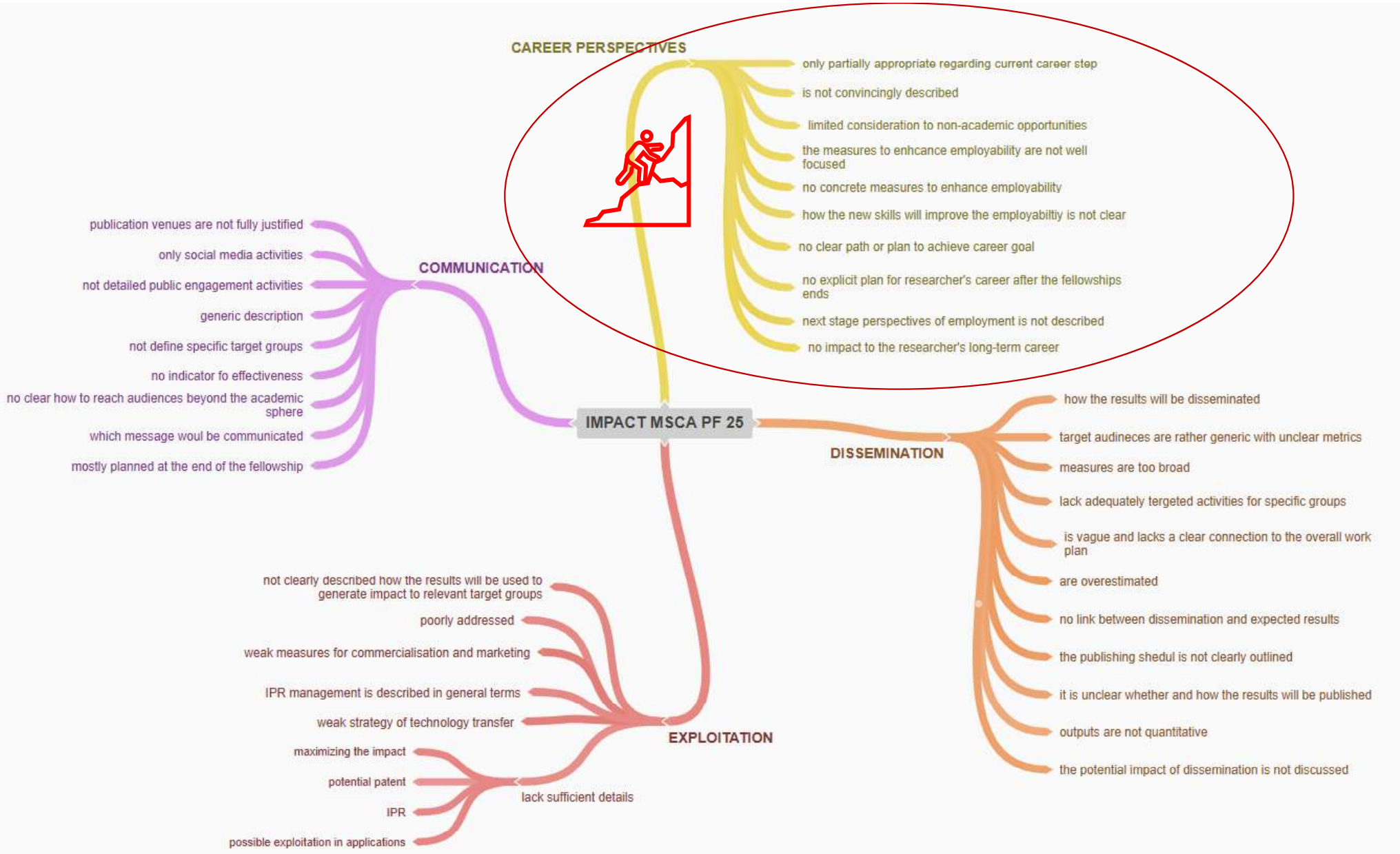


Keep in mind: scientific & transferable skills -> Connection with Section 1.3

CAREER PERSPECTIVES - strenghts



- The measures for enhancing the researcher's career development are **sound** and **credible**
- The measures to improve the **researcher's employability** and **international exposure** within academia are very plausible
- The proposal effectively outlines its potential impact on the researcher's **medium- and long-term career** perspectives, clearly demonstrating **how it will enhance** and broaden their professional profile within academia.
- The planned **skill development** activities are credible and thus, it is convincing that they will positively contribute to enhancing the researcher's skill set.
- The researcher will enhance their **technical, research, communication and supervision skills** during the proposed research and training through clearly explained and highly **credible measures**, which will significantly **enhance the career perspectives**, particularly within academia. The researcher will also **expand their network** within science and with stakeholders, greatly enhancing future career prospects.



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

- **How will research results be transferred** to potential users, scientists, society?
- Describe **how the new knowledge** generated by the action will be **disseminated and exploited**, and what the **potential impact** is expected to be.
 - Summary of each dissemination activity with specific & realistic details, using tables: Conferences, industry events, journal publications, workshops, social media, tradeshows, book chapter etc.
- **Who are the target audiences** and who will be **interested in the results** described and why?
 - Industry examples, research fields, expert users regulators, policy makers, associations
- **What is the benefit of exploiting results? How will the results of the project be exploited?**
 - Describe the potential exploitation methods of your project results that will be used and the impact of the method on the target user/society/industry
- **Strategy for the management of intellectual property**, foreseen protection measures
 - IPR must always be respected, refer to how intellectual property rights will be handled (e.g. with the help of IPR office or technology transfer office at the host institute)

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

What are the audiences we are addressing our messages to?

- Scientific Community
- Stakeholders
- Policy makers
- Final Users
- Industry...

DISSEMINATION
EXPLOITATION

(papers at conferences, publications in journals, open data...)

- General Public / Society

COMMUNICATION
OUTREACH

(press articles, researchers' night, blogs and videos...)

Communication and public engagement	Dissemination and exploitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About the project and results • Starts at the beginning of the project • Multiple audiences • Inform and reach out to society, show the benefits of research • General media, social media, different type of events, popular science publications. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About results only • When results are available and after the end of the project • Potential professionals that may use the results in their own work • Enable use and uptake of results • Publications, conference presentations

DISSEMINATION



WP Expected Impact: „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.“

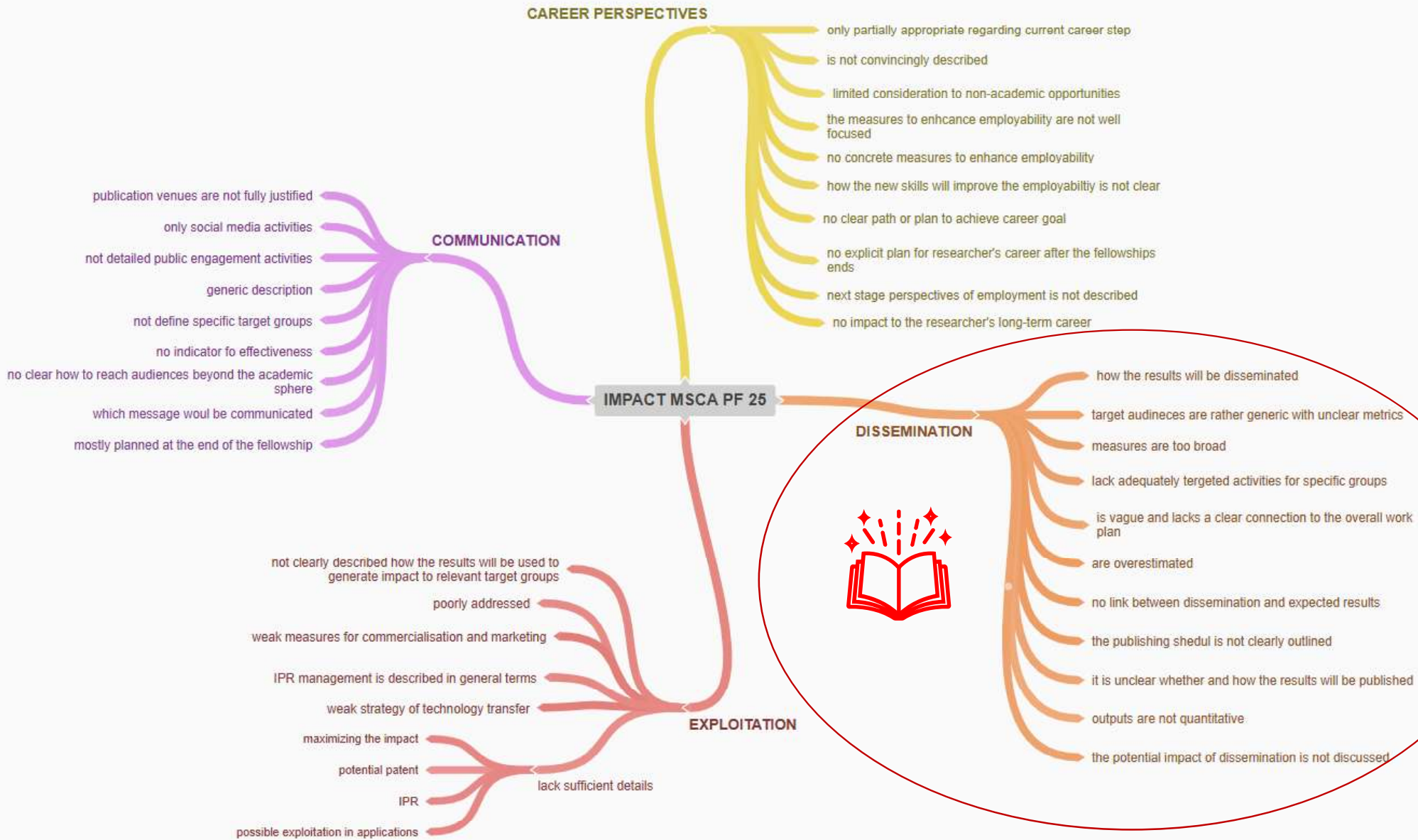


- ... is ambitious, with **well-defined outputs** and measures **clearly targeted at different groups**, Including articles in practice magazines, practice manuals and guides, a workshop as well as journal papers to reach academic audiences.
- The **scientific publication** plans are detailed and ambitious, ensuring optimal scientific impact.
- The number and range of **dissemination activities** are comprehensively planned.
- The dissemination strategy is **convincingly described/detailed**.
- ...and to **relevant policy makers**.
- ... including **active collaborations**..
- to establish a **strong network with the Eu scientific community**.
- ... activities are included in **the Gantt chart**.

DISSEMINATION – strenghts



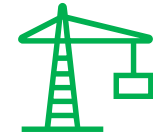
- - The plan for the dissemination of results **at conferences** and through **peer reviewed publications** is **sound**.
- - The dissemination plan is **convincingly described** by considering **publications in high-impact journals**, presentations at international **conferences**, and through **professional social media**.
- - The dissemination plan will **effectively reach** scientific organizations and the scientific community through **suitable channels** (international and laboratory meetings, publications, **open science platforms**).
- - The planned dissemination measures are explained in a **clear and precise manner** and are **well-suited** for the respective target-groups. The suggested **volume of outputs** is **ambitious**, yet **highly feasible**.





EXPLOITATION

WP Expected impact: „Enhance the quality of R&I contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth;

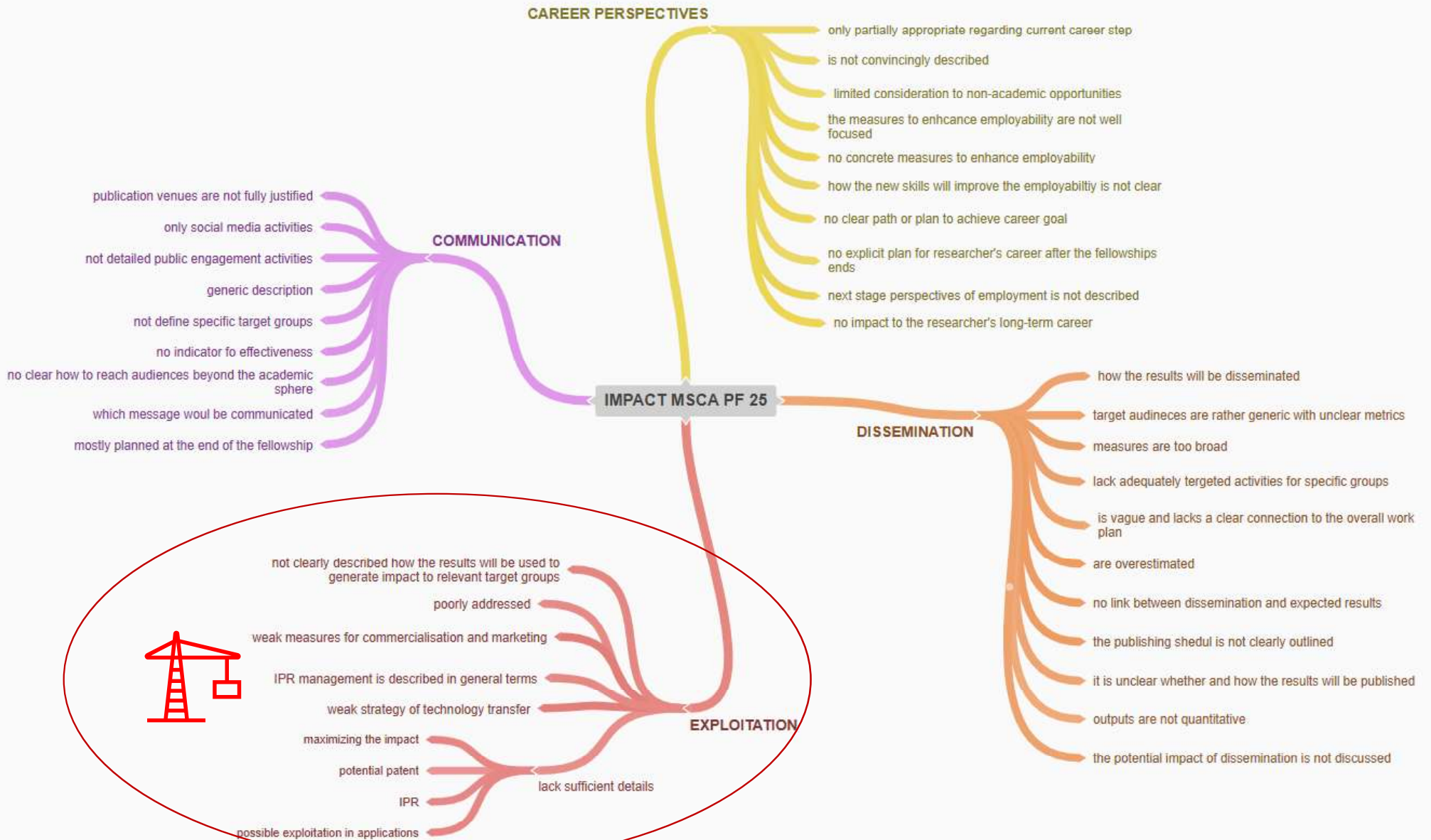


- Describe the potential **exploitation methods** of your project results that will be used and the impact of the method on the target user/society/industry
- The strategy for **targeting end-user associations and other stakeholders** is appropriate.
- **Intellectual property rights** and **commercialization** aspects will be thoroughly considered for protection by **patent** before publication.
- The possibility of registering **patents** is considered
- The potential **business exploitation** is foreseen and clearly described.
- ...interaction with the **Technology transfer office**
- ... describes well the potential **commercialisation** and patent application.
- Some of the results will be disseminated through an **open source** computation.

EXPLOITATION – strenghts



- The planned **dissemination and exploitation** measures are credible - although focusing **on the research community**, the findings will be available **open-access** to enable their educational use outside academia.
- The planned **dissemination and exploitation** measures are very suitable as they effectively target a **diverse range of stakeholders**, including researchers, educators, and policymakers, ensuring **broad engagement** with the project's outcomes.
- Apart from the scientific community, **other target groups** such as local authorities and industry are only broadly mentioned in the dissemination strategy. There is a **lack of specific and detailed information**.





COMMUNICATION

- Demonstrate how both the research and results will **be made known to the public** in a such way they can be **understood by non-specialist**.
- Demonstrated how the planned **public engagement activities** contribute to **creating awarness** of the performed research.
- The communication strategy would adequately be **distributed throughout the duration** of the fellowship thus ensuring a constant interest about the research.
- The **communication strategy** to address different **target audiences** is **detailed** and convincing with **clear goals**.
- It includes appropriate and **varied measures** for **public engagement** and for creating **awareness** of the research.
- It will use a **wide range of standard communication measures**.
- The use of **social media** networks is appropriate.



COMMUNICATION – strenghts

- The proposal outlines a **well-defined** communication plan **targeting**, industry, academy and general audiences, including a good number of communication **channels** and modalities.
- The plan to communicate the results among the general public is **clearly articulated** and **convincing**, with several different **activities** proposed.
- The researcher plans numerous **outreach activities** for communicating obtained results **to lay audiences**; the **tools** and **channels** for public engagement are well known to the researcher and their use is **carefully planned**.

CAREER PERSPECTIVES

- only partially appropriate regarding current career step
- is not convincingly described
- limited consideration to non-academic opportunities
- the measures to enhance employability are not well focused
- no concrete measures to enhance employability
- how the new skills will improve the employability is not clear
- no clear path or plan to achieve career goal
- no explicit plan for researcher's career after the fellowships ends
- next stage perspectives of employment is not described
- no impact to the researcher's long-term career

COMMUNICATION

- publication venues are not fully justified
- only social media activities
- not detailed public engagement activities
- generic description
- not define specific target groups
- no indicator to effectiveness
- no clear how to reach audiences beyond the academic sphere
- which message would be communicated
- mostly planned at the end of the fellowship



IMPACT MSCA PF 25

DISSEMINATION

- how the results will be disseminated
- target audiences are rather generic with unclear metrics
- measures are too broad
- lack adequately targeted activities for specific groups
- is vague and lacks a clear connection to the overall work plan
- are overestimated
- no link between dissemination and expected results
- the publishing schedule is not clearly outlined
- it is unclear whether and how the results will be published
- outputs are not quantitative
- the potential impact of dissemination is not discussed

EXPLOITATION

- not clearly described how the results will be used to generate impact to relevant target groups
- poorly addressed
- weak measures for commercialisation and marketing
- IPR management is described in general terms
- weak strategy of technology transfer
- maximizing the impact
- potential patent
- IPR
- possible exploitation in applications
- lack sufficient details

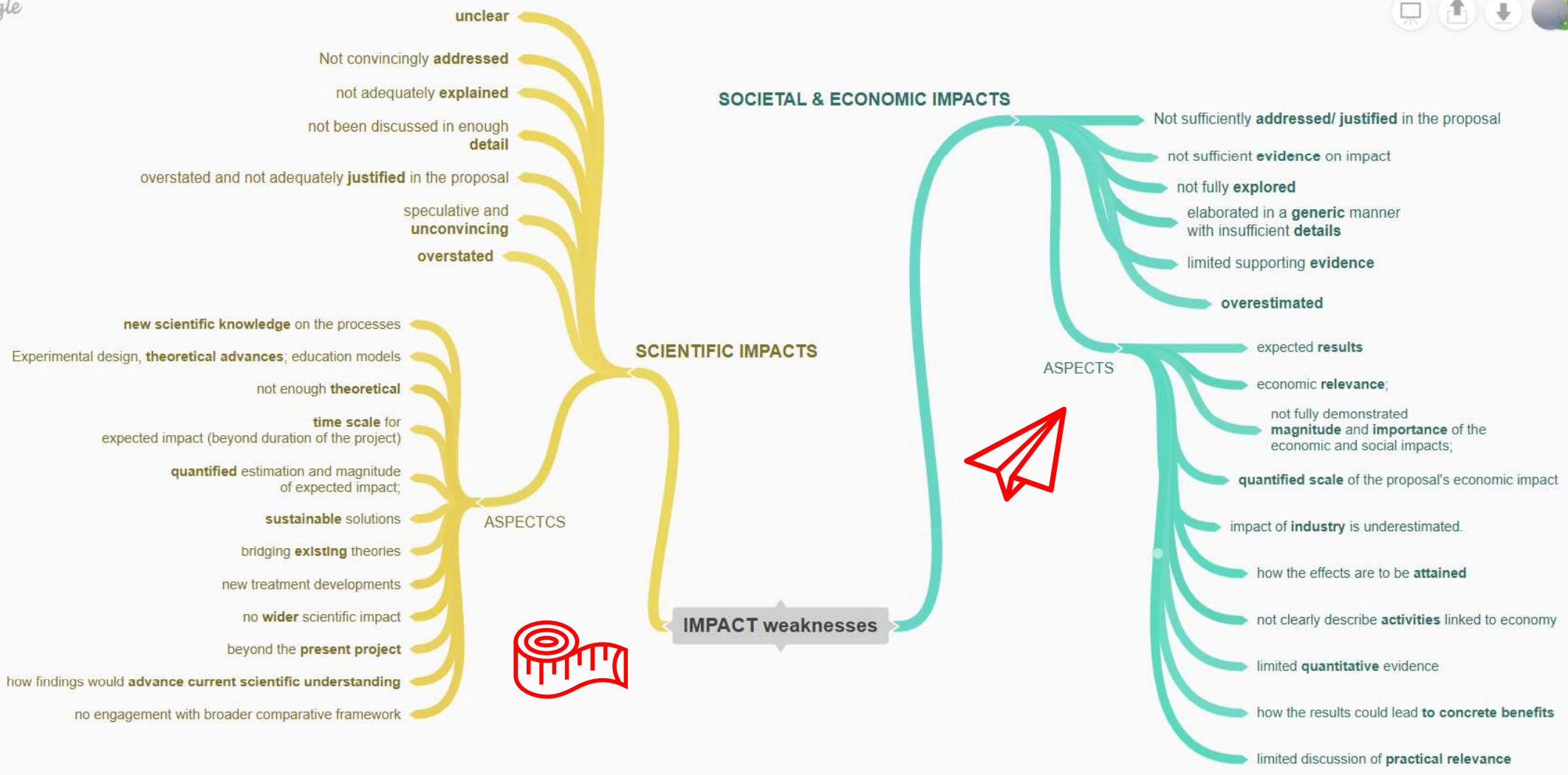
2.3 The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the **expected scientific, societal and economic impacts**

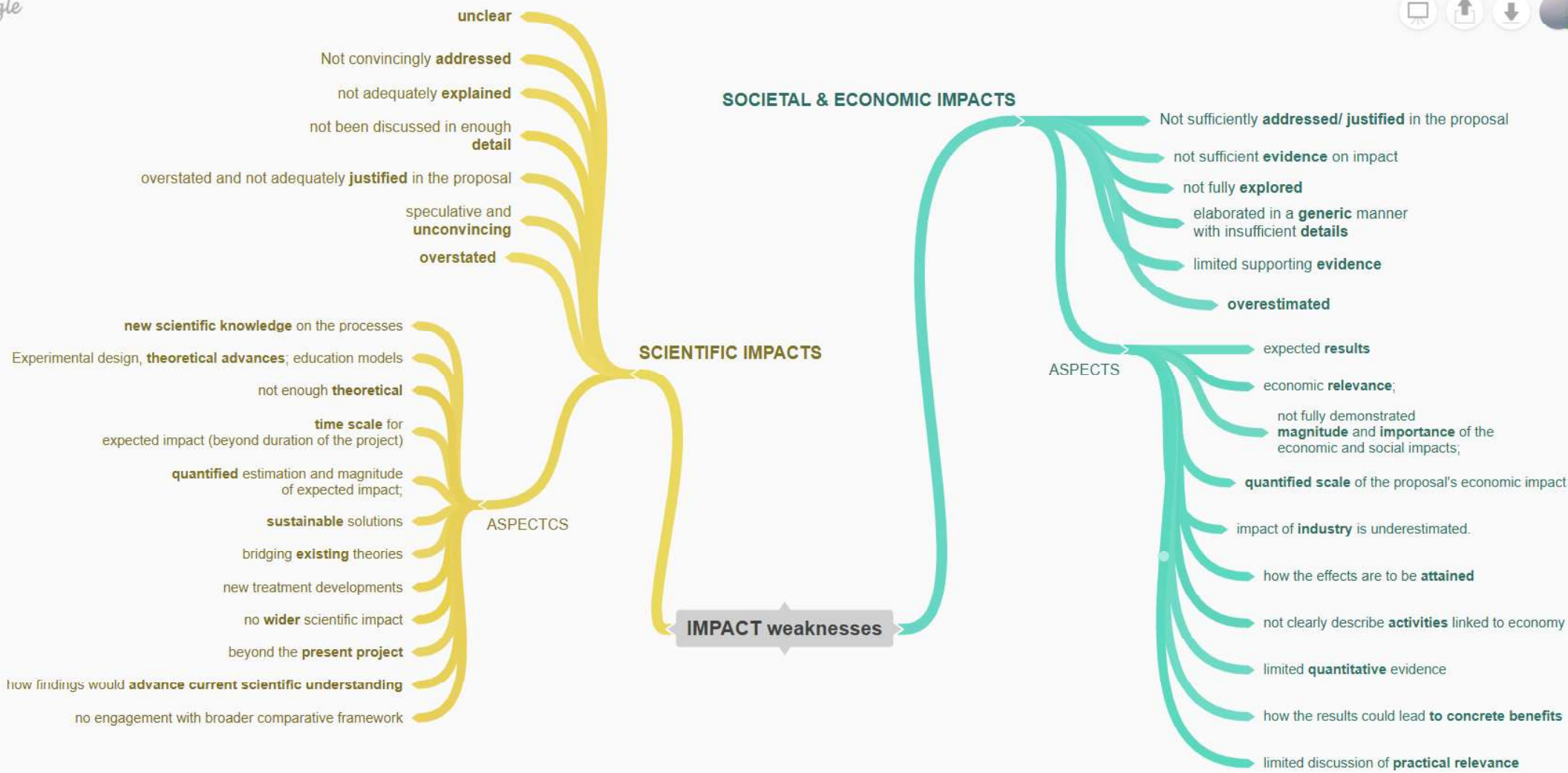
- **Impact on the wider scientific field, broader societal and economic implications**
 - how will our knowledge be **advanced** by this project
 - how can it be **relevant** to the diverse stakeholder communities, policy-making, industry etc.
- **Expected scientific impact(s)**: e.g. contributing to 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 CO2 emissions, decreasing avoidable mortality, improving policies and decision-making, raising consumer awareness

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



- Only include such outcomes and impacts where your project would make **a significant and direct contribution**.
- Avoid describing very tenuous links to **wider impacts**.
- Give an **indication of the magnitude** and importance of the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impact.
- Provide **quantified estimates** where possible and meaningful.
- **'Magnitude'** refers to how widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be. For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time
- **'Importance'** refers to the value of those benefits. For example, number of additional healthy life years; efficiency savings in energy supply





Comments:

The measures to enhance the researcher's career perspectives are insufficiently analysed. Specific measures to target migrant workers are insufficiently elaborated in the dissemination and communication activities. The tables for the dissemination and impact plans lack clarity. The proposal does not convincingly argue for the scientific impact beyond the project's geographical, historical and cultural focus. The expected societal impacts are mainly for host societies and not so much for migrant workers.

Comments:

The measures to enhance the researcher's career perspectives are not convincing. The IP management and ownership are insufficiently addressed. The scale and significance of the scientific impact are not adequately sustained.

Comments:

Measures to foster the researcher's career perspectives are not outlined in sufficient detail, especially with regard to transferable skills. Plans for career development and building an international research profile, both inside and outside academia, are insufficiently described. The proposal does not adequately describe plans to disseminate and communicate the results to different audiences and stakeholders. Measures to ensure intellectual property protection are poorly considered. The potential scientific, societal and economic impact of the project is only vaguely addressed.

Comments:

The measures to enhance the researcher's career perspectives are too generic and unfocused, which undermines their credibility. The project management plan and IPR strategy are superficial and not well-developed. Dissemination and exploitation activities, along with their effectiveness in reaching the target audience, are not thoroughly detailed.

Comments:

The expected societal, and economic impacts are described in general terms and lack measurable indicators. The proposed benefits are overestimated, as no convincing evidence or modelling supports the cost-efficiency or scalability of glycan analyses for clinical use. Data dissemination and IP management plans lack detail, and communication relies too heavily on social media. The scientific impact is not convincingly demonstrated, as the proposal does not clearly show how the anticipated findings would advance current scientific understanding or influence future research directions.

Comments:

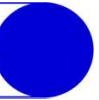
The measures to enhance career and training plans are generic, with limited attention to transferable skills and international networking. Dissemination and communication activities are described in broad terms, lacking clear strategies, indicators, or exploitation pathways. The expected scientific, societal, and economic impacts are modest, as the outputs, dissemination routes, and broader benefits are not sufficiently substantiated with evidence-based detail.



“

IMPLEMENTATION

”



Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
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)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan , assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience, competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of **risks** and appropriateness of the **effort** assigned to work packages

- Describe how the **work planning** (including deliverables and milestones) and the **resources mobilized** will ensure that the research and training objectives will be reached
- This section has three parts which will be assessed:
 - 3.1.1 Work packages tables
 - 3.1.2 Appropriateness of tasks
 - 3.1.3 Gantt chart

Tip:
Work packages should be consistent with your plans (Excellence section)

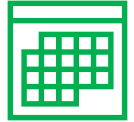
3.1 QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE **WORK PLAN, MANAGEMENT, STRUCTURES, ASSESSMENT OF RISKS AND APPROPRIATENESS OF THE EFFORT** ASSIGNED TO WORK PACKAGES: TIPS

- ✓ Timeline or Gantt chart, should be **visual and clear** and should **show all** the concepts established in the template.
- ✓ Make sure there is a **contingency plan** for **each risk** identified, that includes quantitative and credible measures
- ✓ Ensure the **number of deliverables and milestones** is manageable from an implementation point of view
- ✓ Recognise **the effort** of all participating actors to the different work packages





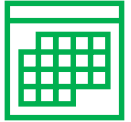
WORK PLAN



- **Work packages** reflect the outlined activities (scientific and training) very well.
- **Tasks and resources** are in line with objectives and work plan.
- **Milestones and deliverables** are well and concretely chosen to allow effective **monitoring of the progress** of the proposal
- The overall work plan and **duration of the work packages** are **described** in good detail and **properly** and **clearly** formulated.
- **The Gantt Chart is consistent** with the whole work plan, work packages, milestones, and deliverables
- **Tasks, specific milestones** and the expected **results** are correctly and timely organized in the Gantt chart.



WORK PLAN

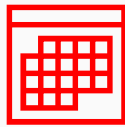
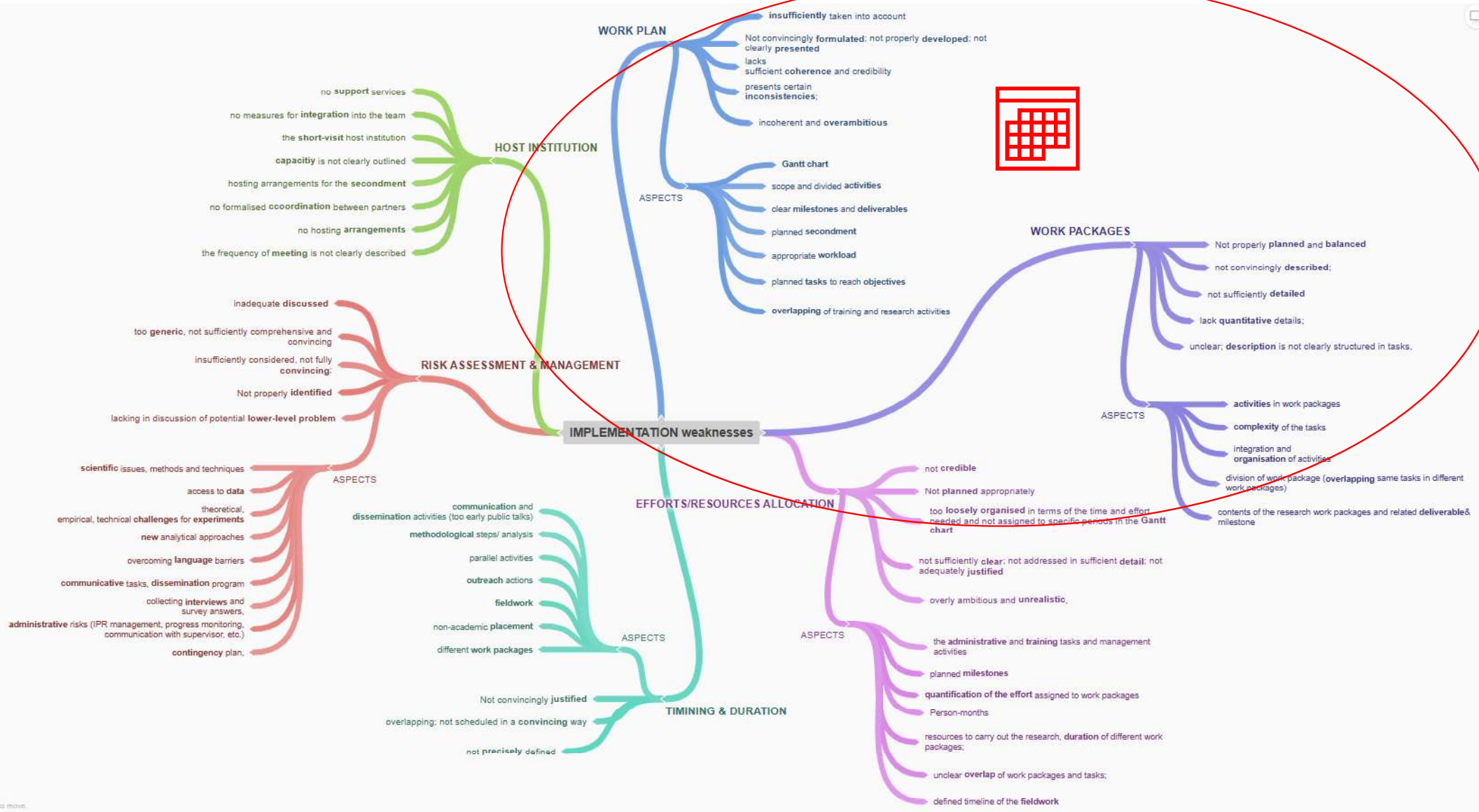


The proposed work plan **includes** tasks, deliverables and milestones properly assigned to **work packages**, and covers efficiently the **research objectives** to achieve the main goal of the proposal, as well as **training** and transfer of knowledge, communication and dissemination, and project management. The **workflow** is carefully planned, logically *structured*, the sub-tasks are well **connected**.

WORK PLAN – strenghts



- The proposal includes a **detailed**, high-quality work plan for scientific, management and communication **activities**. The work **packages** are divided into meaningful **tasks**, and have **milestones** and **deliverables** that are suitable to **monitor** progress.
- **The effort** assigned to each work package is appropriate.
- **The Gantt chart** is **consistent** with the proposed **work plan**.





TIMING

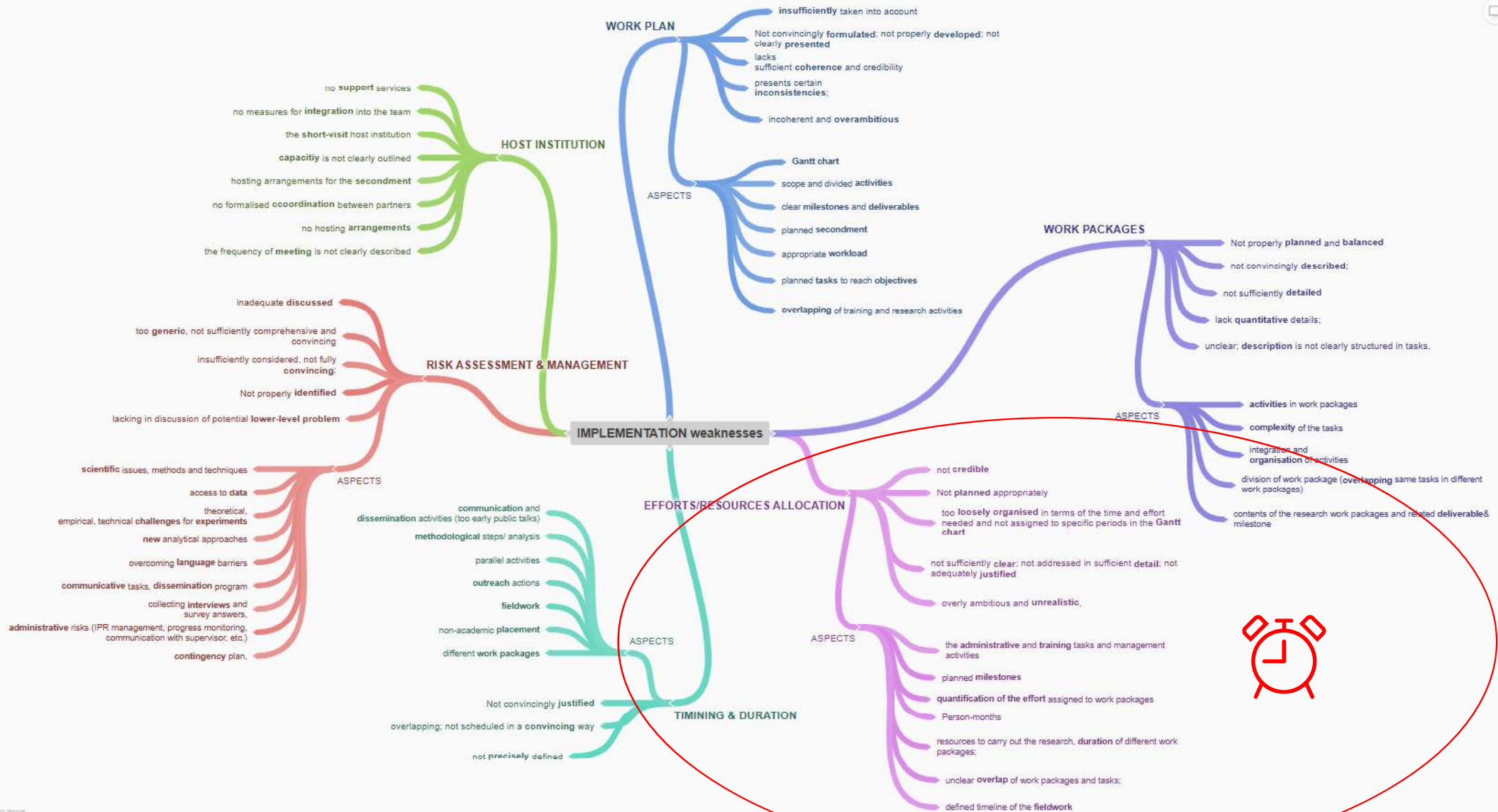


- The **effort** and **time** assigned to each of the WP are very **appropriate** and **realistic** to reach the expected goals.
- The allocation of resources and person-months towards the **implementation of the tasks** are very well balanced and thoughtful in achieving the proposed activities.
- The time and duration of the different work packages is carefully considered and appropriate for the **achievement** of the research and training objectives.
- The Gantt chart is consistent and complete in relation to the whole work plan with clear timescales, defined milestones and deliverables

TIMING – strenghts



- **The efforts for each work package are well-balanced** and appropriate for the proposed **tasks**.
- The timing and duration of each work package is **appropriate**.
- Efforts assigned to work packages are well outlined and are **appropriate**, and **it is clear** from the design when the three planned research articles are expected.



3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, **assessment of risks** and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

- The overview should clearly justify why the number of person-months planned and requested for the researcher (and corresponding to the project duration) is appropriate in relation to the proposed activities
- Show that you are aware of risks and outline your specific mitigation plans and measures to handle or minimize risks

Tip:
Ask your host institute for support and cooperate with their project office.



RISK ASSESSMENT

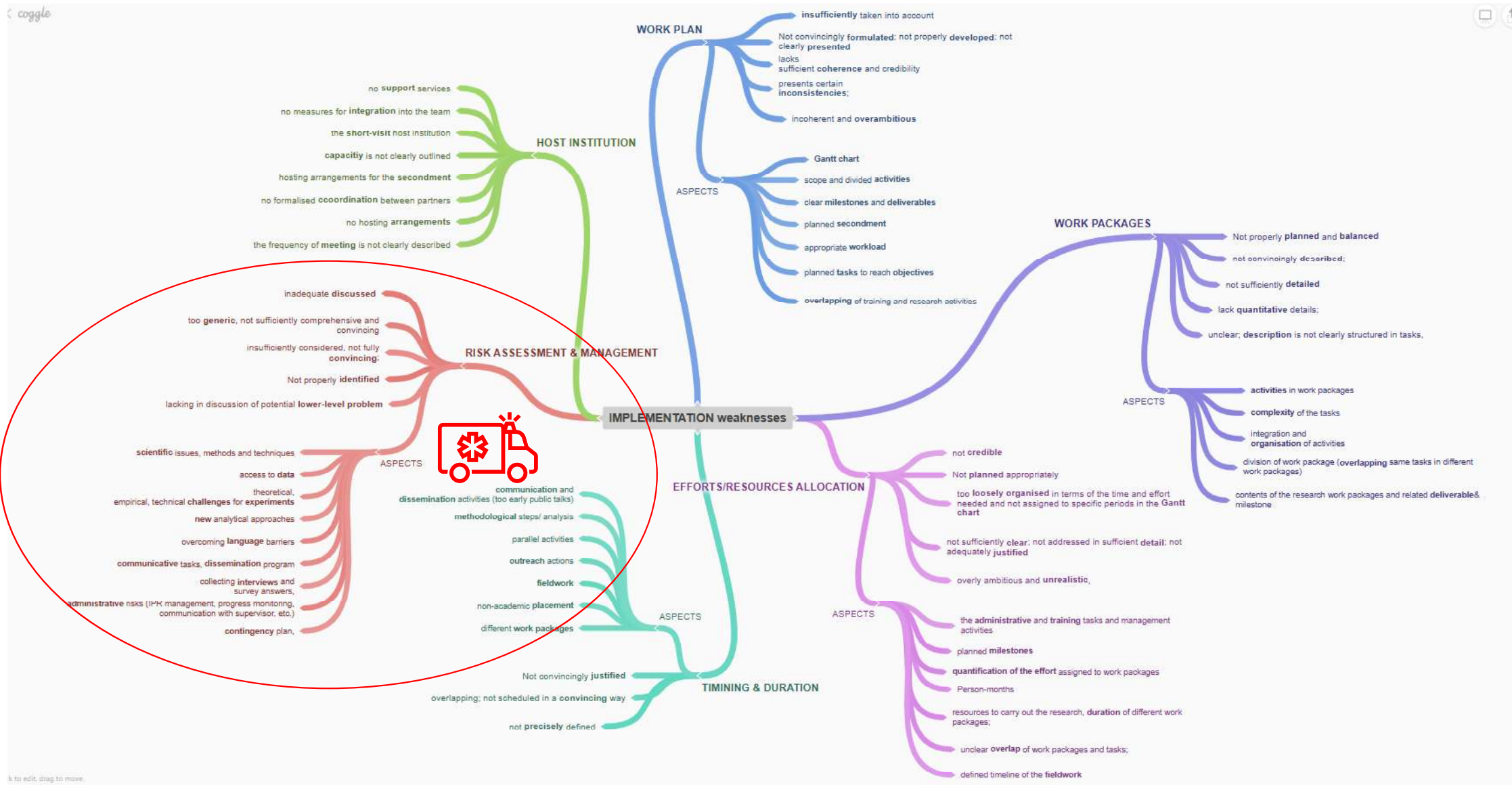


- **Proper risks and challenges** are considered with carefully planned mitigation activities, such as the back-up for not approved beamtime proposals.
- Risk management and **contingency plans** are comprehensively planned and realistic, including information on each potential risk, likelihood, **risk level**, and an appropriate mitigation strategy.
- The risk assessment very **well identifies** a **wide range of possible problems** and proposes appropriate contingency plans. (LIF)
- In addition to **scientific risks**, **most administrative risks** are well identified, appraised, and addressed with appropriate contingency measures.

RISK ASSESSMENT - strenghts



- **Proper risks and challenges** are considered with carefully planned mitigation activities, such as the back-up for not approved beamtime proposals.
- Risk management and **contingency plans** are comprehensively planned and realistic, including information on each potential risk, likelihood, **risk level**, and an appropriate mitigation strategy.
- The risk assessment very **well identifies** a **wide range of possible problems** and proposes appropriate contingency plans. (LIF)
- In addition to **scientific risks**, **most administrative risks** are well identified, appraised, and addressed with appropriate contingency measures.



3.2 Quality and capacity of the **host institutions** and *participating organisations*, including **hosting arrangements**

- The main tasks and commitments of the beneficiary and the partner organisation in the framework of the project
 - For the GF also the role of partner organisations in third countries
- Infrastructure, logistics, facilities provided for the implementation of your project at the host institution ...
 - if the latter has signed the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, mention this
- Explain how will you be integrated in the hosting organisation, lab, research team
 - be specific, show clear plans

HOST ORGANISATION - strenghts



- The **facilities** at the **host institution** are of quality. The researcher will have access to all necessary **infrastructure** and **instrumentation** needed for execution of the proposal.
- The **quality** and **capacity** of the host institutions are suitable and the necessary **support services** are available.
- The **supervisor's** time commitment, including frequent face-to-face **meetings with the researcher**, will ensure proper monitoring of the proposal's progress.
- The hosting and **secondment** institutions offer all the required scientific and technical **facilities** needed to perform the proposed activities.

HOST ORGANISATION – strenghts

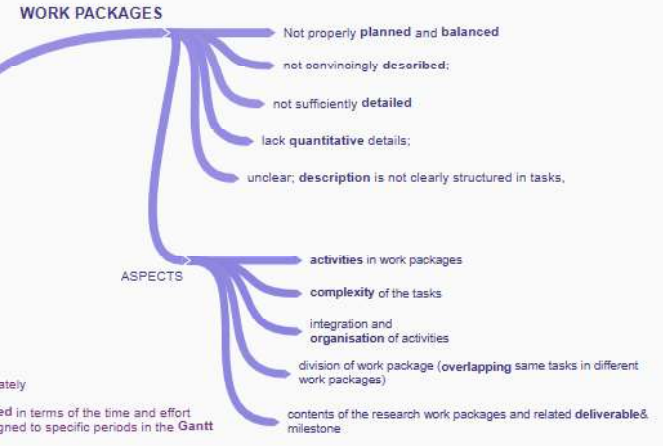
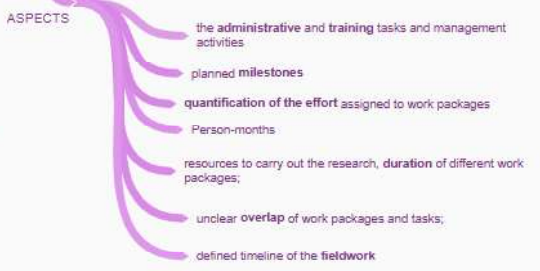
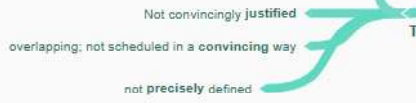
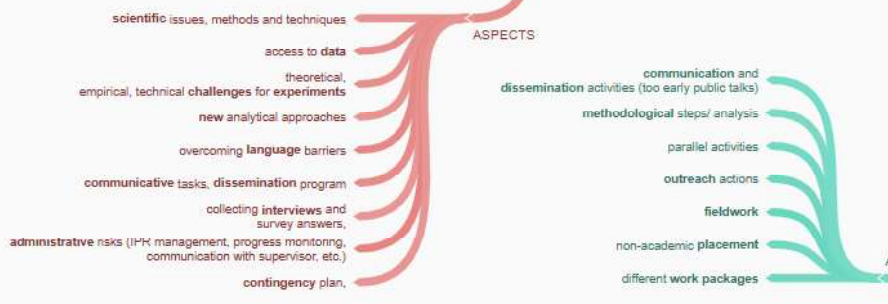
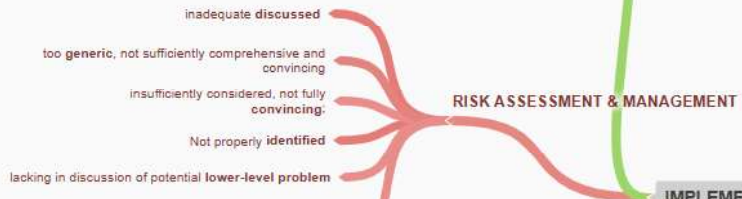
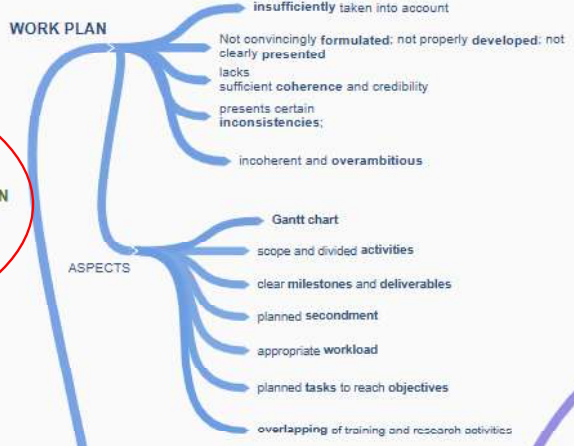


- **Hosting arrangements** are well suitable for guaranteeing the researcher's full **academic integration** within the team and the host institution.
- The host and the host institution **support** adequately the proposed work of the project. The researcher will be **credible integrated** to the host team.
- **Integration of the researcher** into the **academic groups** of the host and secondment laboratories, including administrative **management**, is well assessed.
- The overall **management structure** for this project is solid. The host and the secondment institutions provide a very good institutional environments and excellent **hosting arrangements**.

HOSTING – strenghts



- Very good **hosting arrangements** are in place. **The integration of the researcher** in the team is thoughtful and well formulated. High-quality **support services** are available to the researcher.
- The host and the host institution **support** adequately the proposed work of the project. The researcher will be **credible integrated** to the host team.
- The **plan for initial integration** of the researcher in the host institution is good and there are good means for **everyday integration** through meetings, seminars and networking.



Comments:

Research and administrative risks are insufficiently addressed, and mitigation measures, including those for robustness and reproducibility of machine learning and synthetic data generation, are unconvincing. The inclusion of a literature review in the project plan is inappropriate, and milestones and deliverables are not presented with sufficient clarity. Capacity and infrastructure at the secondment institution is not described in sufficient detail.

Comments:

There is a considerable overlap between WP1 and WP2, which complicates the assessment of the overall timeframe compared to the work plan. As a result, the Gantt chart is not very informative. Administration risks are not sufficiently discussed. The integration with the research team, as well as the quality and capacity of the hosting arrangement, is described generically and not sufficiently detailed.

Comments:

Plasmid sequencing and bioinformatic analysis timelines, as well as parallelisation of laboratory tasks, are not considered in sufficient depth in either the work plan or the Gantt chart. Neither scientific nor administrative risks are adequately considered, and appropriate contingency measures are not included in the proposal. Scientific and administrative support provided by the host and participating institutions is described in a manner that is too generic and superficial.

Comments:

Scientific publications that are mentioned earlier in the proposal are hardly reflected in the work plan. The effort and timing assigned to each WP is rather ambitious and relatively little time is allocated to fieldwork and to the scientific analysis of results in relevant WPs. The proposal does not provide sufficient details on the hosting arrangements especially regarding the support services for research. The description of the infrastructures and logistics of the host institution in the proposal lacks detail.

Comments:

The effectiveness and appropriateness of effort and timing assigned to each work package is not convincing (e.g. WP3 and WP10 details are not clear enough; it is not fully clear what “models” are referred to in WPs 3–5; and only WP6 specifies an optimization model, leaving earlier references to a “model” undefined). The risk discussions appear to be inconsistent and not sound enough. The numerous minor deliverables may delay implementation.

Comments:

The work plan provides limited detail on tasks, deliverables, and monitoring mechanisms, with some imbalance in workload across phases. The Gantt chart is broadly consistent yet lacks clear sequencing and measurable milestones. Risk assessment focuses mainly on logistical aspects, overlooking methodological and contextual risks, including the potential mismatch between the proposed methods and the research setting. Integration into the research environment is described without a full detail.

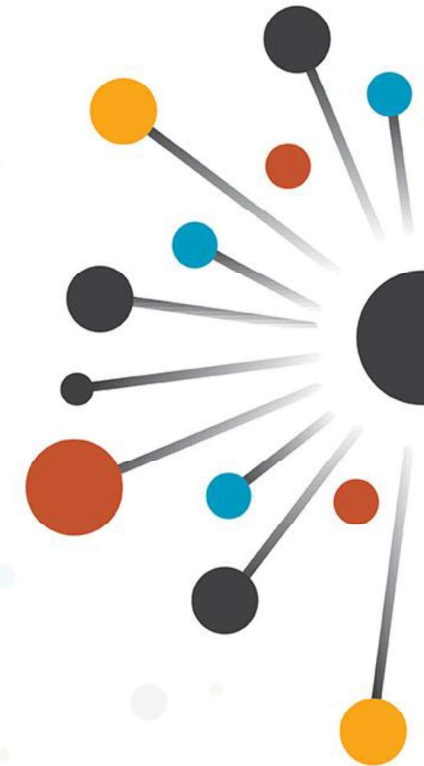


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