MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS
STAFF EXCHANGES (SE)

Horizont Evropa 2021-2027
Nacionalni online info dan Marija Sklodovska Kiri akcije
Otvoreni MSCA poziv za razmjenu osoblja
30. novembar 2021

Crna Gora - Ministarstvo prosvjete, nauke, kulture i sporta

Gordana Vlahović

Head of International Relations & Project Office
Serbian Horizon Europe NCP for ERC & MSCA
University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences, Novi Sad, Serbia

• 2007 – Head of International Relations/Project Office & NCP ERC & MSCA

Internationalization of higher education and research;
Identifying funding opportunities (for research, fellowships, PhDs);
Research Development & Support
Consultancy on research compliance with policies;
Contracts and agreements, Grant negotiation (GAP in Horizon);
Researcher Development & Visibility;
Institutional capacity building & Partnership Development;
Coordination and implementation of educational and research programmes and projects;
Training and assistance in proposal writing;
Expertise in EU Framework Programs (FP7, EU H2020), IPA CBC, Adriatic, SEE;
Implementation of academic mobility programmes → Erasmus Plus, etc.

• Fulbright - Hubert H. Humphrey Program Alumna
  2018-2019 Pennsylvania State University, USA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Staff Exchanges (SE)

Overview of today's presentation

- Objectives
- Key features
- Focus on the Proposal
- Recommendations
- Success stories
- Useful resources
- Next call
- Napomena: linkovi sakriveni iza naslova u prezentaciji su aktivni u opciji FULL VIEW

MSCA STAFF EXCHANGES PROJECT IN A NUTSHELL

➢ **WHAT is a Staff Exchanges Project?**

A Staff Exchanges project is a **high quality and credible Research & Innovation project** with an **original idea** demonstrating a **clear added-value to the *state-of-the-art*** in its scientific field.

➢ **WHO implements the project?**
The project **Consortium** (partnership of **Beneficiaries** and **Associated Partners**)
lead by the Coordinator (contact point towards REA) → R&I staff and R&I supporting staff

➢ **HOW is it implemented?**

Through **well-planned and targeted knowledge sharing activities and proposed interactions** between the participating organisations (legal entities).

Via the secondment of staff to other beneficiaries and associated partners from the academic and/or non-academic sectors.

Additional activities, such as **joint workshops and conferences**, also contribute to the successful implementation of the project.

WHY SHOULD YOU APPLY?

*The **most international, most flexible, the most entrepreneurial** MSCA scheme!*
*To **get a grant** for your joint **research and innovation (R&I) project** through the **exchange of staff** within **partnerships** in Europe and beyond, thus strengthening **inter-sectoral and international collaboration**!*

NEW!

Short-term **international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary** mobility of R&I staff through **secondments**

Knowledge transfer between participating organisations to build **sustainable collaborative projects** between **different organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors** (**in particular SMEs**), based in Europe and beyond.

Exchanged staff **benefit from new knowledge, skills and career development perspectives**, while participating organisations **increase their research and innovation capacities.**

Cooperation across the globe!

MSCA SE KEY FEATURES

HE Pillar 1 → EXCELLENT SCIENCE
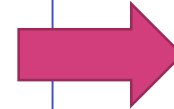
BOTTOM UP - covers all fields of science
8 "main" Scientific Panels for evaluation (CHE, SOC, ECO, LIF, ENG, ENV, MAT, PHY)
→ interdisciplinarity!

STAFF SECONDMENTS
- 1-12 months per staff
- *Interdisciplinary* secondments: <u>same sector</u>, within Europe for max 1/3 PM

Mobility of researchers
- Any career stage (ESRs, ER)
- Any nationality
- 3 dimensions (**i3**: intersectoral, international, interdisciplinary)

- Researchers
- Administrative
- Managerial
- Technical staff
Employed at the Beneficiary
min. 1 month before *the secondment!*

Consortium of min 3 legal entities
- From 3 different countries
- 2 from MS or AC
- If same sector → min 1 from Third Country

Max. project duration
- 4 years
- 360 PM per project

Overall call budget
EU funding average
75,5 Mio€/calls in 2021-2022
→ 1,65 mil per project

UNIT COST / per PM = 4600 EUR
- 2300€ - Staff allowance (top-up)
- 2300€ - organisation (1300 RTN; 1000 MNG)

Focus on the Proposal

All Horizon Europe calls are published on the **Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal:**
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/

• **Make sure that your organisation is duly registered in the F&T portal (ECAS account) and that you have a valid PIC number!**

• Find your call : MSCA Staff Exchanges 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-2021-SE-01)

The call is open!

- **Deadline:** **09 March 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time**

MSCA Staff Exchanges 2021

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MSCA-2021-SE-01-01

Grant

General information

Topic description

Destination

Conditions and documents

Partner search

Submission service

Topic related FAQ

Get support

Call updates

General information

Programme
Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call
MSCA Staff Exchanges 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-2021-SE-01)

See budget overview

Type of action
HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-SE HORIZON TMA MSCA Staff Exchanges

Type of MGA
HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]

Open for submission

Deadline model
single-stage

Opening date
07 October 2021

Deadline date
09 March 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

F&T Call page: ONE STOP SHOP

Topic description

ExpectedOutcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

For staff members

- Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects within and outside academia;
- More knowledge and innovative ideas converted into products, processes and services;
- More entrepreneurial mind-sets, testing new and innovative ideas;

show more...

Destination

MSCA Staff Exchanges

MSCA Staff Exchanges promote innovative international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff and sharing knowledge and ideas at all stages of the innovation chain. The scheme fosters a shared culture of research and innovation that welcomes and rewards creativity and entrepreneurship and helps turn ideas into innovative products, services or processes. It is open to research, technical, administrative and managerial staff supporting R&I activities.

Expected impact

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

show more...

Exactly the same info as in the MSCA
WP 2021-22 and MSCA SE Guide for Applicants

Topic conditions and documents

General conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in Annex A and Annex E of the Horizon Europe Work Programme General Annexes

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. Eligible countries: described in Annex B of the Work Programme General Annexes

A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the Horizon

show more...

Partner search

Start submission

To access the Electronic Submission Service, please click on the submission-button next to the **type of action** and the **type of model grant agreement** that corresponds to your proposal. You will then be asked to confirm your choice, as it cannot be changed in the submission system. Upon confirmation, you will be linked to the correct entry point.

39

Organisations are looking for collaborating partners for this topic

View / Edit

To access existing draft proposals for this topic, please login to the Funding & Tenders Portal and select the My Proposals page of the My Area section.

Please select the type of your submission:

○ HORIZON TMA MSCA Staff Exchanges [HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-SE], HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]

LEARs, Account Administrators or self-registrants can publish partner requests for open and forthcoming topics after logging into this Portal.

Start submission

Reference Documents (Funding & tenders portal → Call Page)

- MSCA WP and Annexes
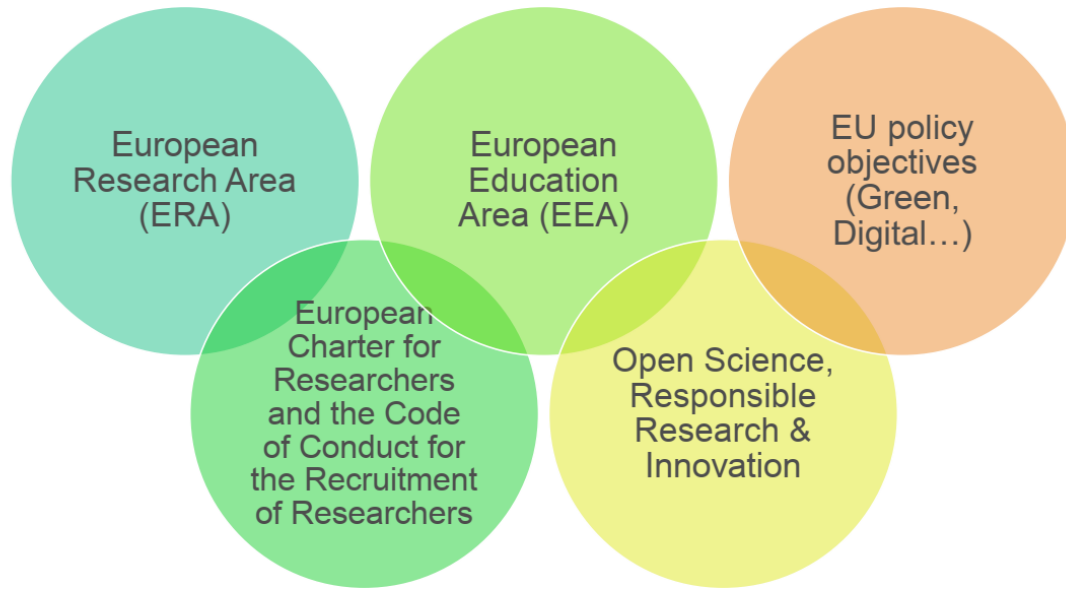- Guide for Applicants
- Proposal Templates
- (Annotated) Model Grant Agreement
- HE online manual on how to submit a proposal
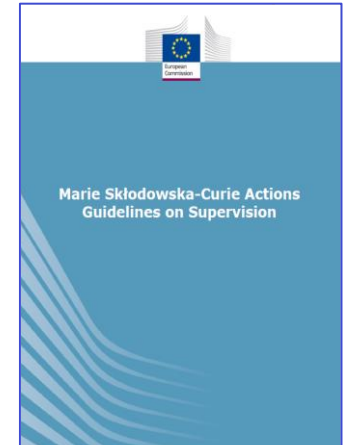- Support: REA FAQs/NCPs/Helpdesk

Mandatory reading – HE MSCA contribution to policy priorities

All MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to follow the recommendations outlined in the HE Work Programme:

Guidelines for MSCA supervision

Green Charter *promotes the sustainable implementation of research activities. This is in line with the goals of the* *European Green Deal*

Charter and Code: The European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for their Recruitment

New **publishing platform** and **open peer review**: https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/
Underlying Principles: **Open Science**, **Responsible Research & Innovation (RRI)**
Contribution to the **Climate Action target of Horizon Europe** (35% of budget)
Contribution to the **European Research Area (ERA)** and **European Education Area (EEA)**
Missions in Horizon Europe | European Commission

UN Sustainable Development Goals

KEY ISSUES TO CLARIFY BEFORE YOU START WRITING YOUR PROPOSAL

Topic of your research project: Quality and pertinence of research objectives

Innovative enough to be competitive? Ambitious? Beyond the SoA? Are you excellent enough?

Proposed methodology: concepts, models and assumptions; Challenges to overcome? **How?**

Complementarity Integration of methods and disciplines **Partners?** Sectors? Countries?

Ideas converted into products, processes & services

Transfer of Knowledge

Skills to advance: Research? Transferable?

Sustainable collaborative networks

Boosting R & I potential on EU and global level

THE guiding question is: **What do I want to achieve?** What is my **GOAL** and **HOW** to achieve the expected outcomes of the topic? **NOT**: **What do I want to do**?

1) Question your project idea: What is my vision? What do I want to achieve concretely? What approach do I choose to achieve the expected impact in the long term?
2) Think the project from back to front: Start from the expected impact.
Which target groups must be addressed in order to realize this impact? What results do you need to deliver in the project?
3) Set goals according to the SMART principle!

SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound

Evaluation criteria - good start

Recommendation: F&T portal/reference documents: Standard evaluation form (HE MSCA)

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)	Developing new and lasting **research collaborations**, achieving **transfer of knowledge** between participating organisations and contributing to improving **research and innovation potential** at the European and global level	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 i3 approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the **career perspectives** of staff members and contribution to their **skills development**	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including **hosting arrangements** and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Quality of the proposed **interaction between the participating organisations** in light of the research and innovation objectives	Suitability and quality of the measures to **maximise expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected **scientific, societal and economic impacts**	
50%	**30%**	**20%**

Proposals scoring **equal to or above 70%** will be considered for funding — within the limits of the available call budget.

Other proposals will be rejected.

Novelties in comparison to MSCA RISE

UNDERSTANDING THE CALL - read carefully and many times!

Topic Description → <mark>Expected Outcomes</mark>
(which become your → PROJECT GOALS implemented through → WORK PACKAGES)

For staff members

➤ **Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects within and outside academia;**

What advanced research skills need to be increased in your project to improve individuals?
What are *TRANSFERABLE SKILLS*? How do they complement research skills in your project?
How will you exploit complementary competences of the participants, as well as other synergies through international and intersectoral collaboration?
How will you measure the increase? → Make sure you have clear, realistic and measurable KPIs.

➤ **More knowledge and innovative ideas converted into products, processes and services;**
➤ **More entrepreneurial mind-sets, testing new and innovative ideas;**

Universities must become more effective in supporting entrepreneurial activity* → Through secondments and cross sector networking activities, organisation of workshops and conferences to facilitate sharing of knowledge and testing of innovative approaches for specific R&I topics.
Your transferable skills must include entrepreneurial skills (management, IPR, technology transfer, etc.).
* EC Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan

➢ **Increased international exposure leading to extended networks and opportunities;**

→ **i3** secondments to implement your joint project!

➢ **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.**

Explain in detail how developed new and sustainable research collaborations resulting from i3 secondments boost the impact.
Explain how the generated knowledge transfer will benefit the participating organisations and other stakeholders.

➢ Explain how you will communicate the project results to your stakeholders and raise awareness of the importance?

→ Work out your dissemination, communication, and exploitation activities, along with measures and tools.

How will you measure this?

→ *Make sure you have clear, realistic and measurable KPIs.*

Expected Outcomes

For participating organisations:

➢ **Innovative ways of cooperation and transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines;**

➢ **Strengthened and broader international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaborative networks;**

➢ **Boosted R&I capacity.**

Destination → Expected Impact

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

➤ Increase international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility of research staff **within Europe and beyond** through collaborative research networks and activities;

➤ **Strengthen the R&I human capital base** in Europe and beyond;

➤ Increase **Europe's attractiveness** as a leading destination for R&I;

➤ Contribute to **Europe's competitiveness and growth** through high-quality R&I;

➤ Foster the culture of **open science, innovation and entrepreneurship**.

Remember **9 Key Impact Pathways (KIPs) in Horizon Europe** and cover as many as possible
3 impact areas, with 3 KIPs each:
Scientific impact: (1) Creating high-quality new knowledge; (2) Strengthening human capital in R&I;
(3) Fostering diffusion of knowledge and Open Science
Societal Impact: (4) Addressing EU policy priorities & global challenges through R&I;
(5) Delivering benefits and impact via R&I missions; (6) Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society;
Economic / Technological Impact: (7) Generating innovation-based growth; (8) Creating more and
better jobs; and (9) Leveraging investments in R&I

➤ **Use quantified targets and indicators!**

Relevant, effective, efficient, providing enough EU added-value, coherent with other EU policies

MSCA SE Proposal Template

For the 2021 call, applicants must submit Part B of their proposal as two separate documents.
Applicants will not be able to submit their proposals in the submission system
*unless both documents 1 and 2 are provided → **uploaded!***

Horizon Europe Programme

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Staff Exchanges (HE MSCA SE)

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

Version 1.0
28 October 2021

Application form (Part A)

Online – directly in the system
PIC number generates some data

Table of Contents

Section	Title		Action
1	General information	**Abstract (max 2000 characters)**	
2	Participants	**Organisations, researcher, roles, publications, GEP**	
3	Budget		
4	Ethics and security		

Under section 2:
→ Gender Equality Plan
Under section 4:
→ Ethics Self-Assessment
→ Security issues table

**SAVE
&
VALIDATE!!!**

Project proposal – Part B
Technical description (Part B) - downloadable

Document 1 (part B1: sections 1-3): max. 30 pages
➢ Excellence
➢ Impact
➢ Quality and Efficiency of Implementation

Document 2 (part B2: sections 4-5): no page limit
Participating Organisations
➢ Letters of Commitment (template available at the end of the MSCA SE proposal part B template)

Part B1 → 1. Excellence - RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1. Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)
1.2. Soundness of the proposed methodology (including international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)
1.3. Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations in light of the research and innovation objectives

Who are you writing the proposal for? - EVALUATORS!!!

1.1. Start with a short paragraph summarising the overall SE programme
Outline the key specific Research Objectives of the programme (emphasising their novelty and multidisciplinarity)
Describe how the objectives relate to the "**scope of the call**":
- Why do you need to work together on this research?
- How will the project "foster a shared culture of research and innovation"?
- Refer openly to the **innovative** elements of this project (topic, consortium, synergies...)
Describe the State-of-the-Art and how the objectives relate to it. Why is your planned research an advancement compared to SoA?
Outline the key specific knoweldge sharing objectives
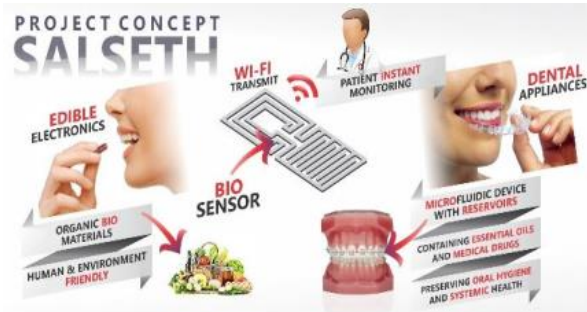**1.2. Provide sufficient level of details on:**
- Overall methodology: concepts, models, assumptions. HOW this will anable you to deliver project objectives?
- HOW will you integrate different disciplines and sector-specific skills to deliver your objectives?
- Break down the research programme into Work Packages (WP) that relate to the Research Objectives/Knowledge sharing objectives;
-    Describe in detail how the objectives in the research programme will be explored - equipment, techniques, assays, types of research etc.
-    Show what is novel/interesting about your particular approach, and how it can be achieved through secondment of staff (and subsequent reintegration in their own organisation)
-    Describe the gender dimension/diversity aspects in detail
-    Describe open science practices
1.3. Clearly specify
- i3 aspects both in the **consortium** and in the **type of research** to be performed
Evaluators are instructed to highly value inter/multidisciplinarity (i.e. this element should be included in all proposals)

DEVELOP Project concept and objectives (SMART)

PROJECT CONCEPT SALSETH

The SALSETH consortium should develop:
- biosensors for detection of important biomarkers from saliva, on a non-invasive way;
- microfluidic device as a fixed or removable intraoral appliances using biocompatible materials;
- new combinations of essential oils for oral hygiene maintenance and improving systemic health.

Specific research objective 1:
To develop sensors from edible materials for monitoring of important biomarkers from saliva

Specific research objective 2:
To manufacture and test microfluidic chips and intraoral/orthodontic appliances for theranostics

Specific research objective 3:
To make new essential oils and to apply them in oral cavity using microfluidic-based intraoral appliances

Knowledge-sharing objective 1:
To facilitate the exchange, flow and co-creation of knowledge within the consortium

Knowledge-sharing objective 2:
To develop transferable skills and to stimulate entrepreneurship, boosting career prospects of involved staff members

Knowledge-sharing objective 3:
To increase excellence of R&I activities contributing to higher Europe's competitiveness and growth

Success Story

SALSETH project (MSCA-RISE-2019)
GA no: 872370
Coordinator: Prof. Goran Stojanović, UNS

No.	Institution	Short name	City, Country	Type	Sector	Scientist-in-charge
1.	University of Novi Sad	UNS	Novi Sad, Serbia	AC	Academic	Goran Stojanović
2.	Wroclaw University of Science and Technology	WUST	Wroclaw, Poland	MS	Academic	Jan Felba
3.	Materials Research Centre Ltd.	MRC	Kiev, Ukraine	AC	Industrial	Oleksiy Gogotsi
4.	WEST Aquila S.r.l.	WEST	L'Aquila, Italy	MS	Industrial	Stefano Tennina
5.	Naturality Research and Development SLU	NAT	Terrassa, Spain	MS	Industrial	Raphaël G. Duval
6.	AYUS GmbH	AYUS	Bühl, Germany	MS	Industrial	David Nayan
7.	University of Malaya	UOM	K.Lumpur, Malaysia	TC	Academic	Fatimah Ibrahim
8.	Curtin University	CUU	Perth, Australia	TC	Academic	Hani-Al Salami

Work out credible i3 Secondments Scheme

Define:
WHAT are the goals of secondments – relation to project objectives?
HOW MANY implemented person-months (PM) of secondments during the project?
HOW MANY staff members will be involved in secondments?
HOW MANY PM on average is the duration of secondment per researcher?
HOW MANY PM of secondments for ESRs, ER, TECH staff?
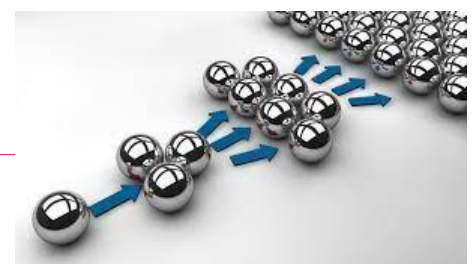
Nice,
illustrated
example:

source: **SALSETH** project (MSCA-RISE-2019);
GA no: 872370
coordinator: Prof. Goran Stojanović, UNS

MSCA SE project application template:
Table 2 – Interdisciplinary secondments between beneficiaries (p.8/19)

N.	(from) Sending beneficiary	Sector Keyword/ Discipline	(to) Receiving beneficiary	Sector Keyword/ Discipline	Work Package no.	Total n. of secondments (Total Person months per beneficiary*

Part B2 → 2. Impact - RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. Developing new and lasting research collaborations, achieving transfer of knowledge between participating organisations and contribution to improving research and innovation potential at the European and global level
2.2.Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives of staff members and contribution to their skills development
2.3.Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities
2.4.The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts

Explain in detail how the secondments and networking activities and the knowledge-transfer achieved via those mechanisms will help develop a lasting collaboration between the participants
- ✓ Outline your plans for building the collaboration and continuing it after the RISE project has ended
- ✓ Relate this to EU policies on international and inter-sectoral collaboration in Research & Innovation
- ✓ Explain how the research programme and the Staff's activities (including dissemination/exploitation/communication/outreach activities) will contribute to Europe's economy and/or society
- ✓ Could your research contribute to the development of a new European Standard? If yes, describe this briefly and explain the details in Section 2.3 under 'Exploitation'
- ✓ Articulate any realistic contribution to 9 Key Impact Pathways, all EU reserach policy goals, UN SDGs, etc.

Describe the potential impact of disseminating to various stakeholders - uptake of results
- ✓ **Dissemination, Communication, Exploitation**
- ✓ Include **quantifiable targets for measuring the impact** of your outreach activities (e.g. number of attendees at an event)
- ✓ Define your stakeholders and know their needs well!
- ✓ Be open to share your project data unless there are IP issues/patentable products/services
Open Research Europe | Open Access Publishing Platform
- ✓ *Targeted at multiple audiences, beyond the project's own community (including the media and the public)*
- ✓ *From the beginning of the project, show the benefits of research to inform and reach out to society as VIP end-users!*
Communication Strategy is a must! – impact through quantifiable targets

1. Excellence
evaluators' comments in previous H2020 MSCA RISE calls

Strengths

- The introduction and the overview of the research programme are **well articulated**. This gives the research proposal **credibility**.

- Credibility of the network is good since the proposal involves some **well-known institutions** with a **good knowledge on the topic** of the Research Programme.

- The **state of the art is very well addressed**. The **innovative aspects** of the proposed research in relation to materials and processing techniques are **clearly pointed out**.

- The **interdisciplinary, intersectoral and multidisciplinary nature of the proposal is adequately demonstrated** and necessary for achieving the scientific objectives.

- The **gender aspects are well considered**/adequately addressed/addressed well/addressed appropriately in the various project activities/sufficiently taken into account.

1. Excellence

Strengths

- A **proper** approach ensuring **adequate knowledge sharing** is **well explained, pertinent**, and in line with the objectives, including a description of the knowledge and expertise delivered by the participating organisations.

- The **knowledge sharing approach and methodology** are **well explained** and **appropriate**. Proposed activities and instruments in knowledge sharing are adequate.

- The contribution of knowledge sharing between participating organisations to the objectives of the project is **well thought-out and explained**.

- The proposal includes a **convincing approach for knowledge sharing** among the organisations involved in the project.

1. Excellence

Strengths

- The **interactions between the partners** in the project are clearly detailed in the proposal/are **well described**; a **good synergy is shown** between them.

- The interactions between the participants are **very detailed, relevant and necessary** to achieve the objectives of the project.

- Main networking activities are well described.

- The **contribution of all participants** to the research activities, descriptions of areas of expertise, and justification of network wide activities is **clearly described**.

- The **interaction described is of good quality** (good amount of detail).

1. Excellence

<u>**Weaknesses**</u>

- The **innovative aspects** of the proposed research are **insufficiently articulated**.

- The **innovative nature** of the project **has not been explained thoroughly enough** as the **proposed research has not been fully linked to the state of art** in the field.

- The **level of novelty** of the proposed methodology is **relatively limited**.

- The **research method does not provide a clear explanation of the interaction between the different work packages**, lacking focus due to the large number of heterogeneous tasks and the significant dispersion of resources.

- **Considering the wide scope of the activities to be carried out, the final objectives and outcomes of the project are not clearly specified**.
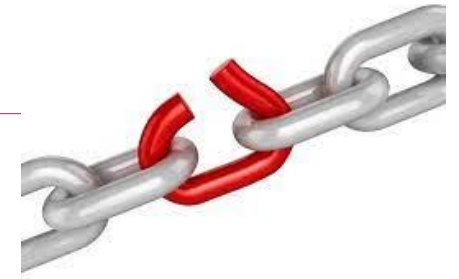
1. Excellence

<u>Weaknesses</u>

- The **knowledge sharing strategy is not fully convincing**.

- The participants' **interactions are not sufficiently emphasized** in terms of content and expertise provided to reach the project's objectives.

- The **inter-sectoral dimension** of the proposed networking activities **is limited**.

- The **contribution of each participant** in the planned activities is **not properly outlined**.

- There is an over-emphasis on exchanged ERs giving lectures, and on research tasks as opposed to transfer of knowledge objectives.

- The **knowledge sharing** among the participants is **not sufficiently described**, and **does not provide enough detail** regarding the specific activities to be developed by each secondment.

- The **goals** of the annual workshops are **not sufficiently described** in terms of networking and knowledge transfer.

- **Limited information** is provided on how the knowledge will be spread between the partners, since it **does not explain the methodology used for knowledge sharing** and the presentation of **interactions is confusing and not sufficiently consistent**.

- Knowledge sharing is not described sufficiently. It is stated in general terms only and is not linked to the research and innovation objectives.

1. Excellence

<u>Weaknesses</u>

- The justification of the **networking activities lacks detail** including specific actions and planning.

- The **quality of interaction** between the participating organizations is **poorly addressed**; (for instance: the justification of networking activities and the contributions in terms of content and expertise are not convincing).

- **The quality of the interaction between the partners is not well presented in light of the scope of the project. Also, considering that the research programme involves several EU and one TC and both academic and industrial partners, the contribution for each participant is not sufficiently presented.**

- The quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations is not convincing in the light of the overall scientific objectives.

Strengths

- The proposal **precisely specifies how the planned activities will improve the career of the staff members**. The skills to be obtained by the ESRs and the ERs during the project are clearly articulated and the presented **training plan covers both professional and soft skills**.

- Enhancement of the skills of individual staff members closely related to the project aims is **very well documented**.

- The opportunities for the staff involved to gain new skills and knowledge are very good / detailed and relevant.

- A **concrete list of skills** that will improve the career perspectives of the staff members involved is **appropriately described**.

- The proposal presents a **very good description of scientific, soft and communication skills that will be acquired** by seconded staff during the project.

- The skills and knowledge to be obtained by the individuals seconded are appropriately described and it is **outlined how they will positively contribute to the improvement of career perspectives for staff involved**.

Strengths

- The proposal presents in a **very credible way how the proposed knowledge transfer actions contribute to enhancing the impact of the research and innovation results**.

- The proposal **clearly shows the short-term and long-term collaboration perspectives of the participants**. The measures taken to sustain the long-term collaboration between participants through a **sound sustainability plan are exceptionally well presented**.

- The **commitment of the consortium to achieving sustainable cooperation** after the project's closure is **vivid and very well detailed in the proposal**.

- The **project field is strategic for enhancing the European innovation potential** and will positively impact the global knowledge.

- **The proposal has great potential to impact the research and innovation capacity at the European and global level.**

Strengths

- **Targets for dissemination / exploitation of the project results are identified well**, and the proposal **convincingly and thoroughly addresses dissemination and outreach activities** to the majority of potential target audiences.

- The **dissemination strategy** proposed is **clear, professionally prepared and coherent with a number of appropriate measures**.

- The proposal gives some indication on how research outputs are to be geared towards highly-rated scientific publications.

- The impact of the project's results on the society is well demonstrated.

- The proposal **positively considers the importance to manage the IPR aspects** within the project.
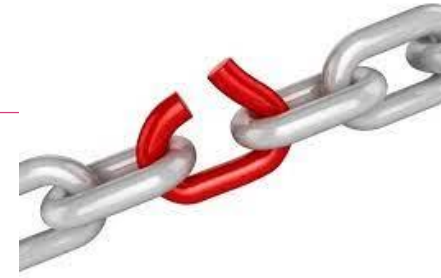
Strengths

- The **communication strategy is very clearly elaborated**. A **list of good measures** to communicate the project activities to **different target audiences** is included.

- The proposed **communication strategy is well formulated** and includes different activities necessary for effective communication with different target groups.

- The proposal envisions **significant and effective measures to communicate the project activities to different audiences**.

- The **communication channels** that would be used during the whole project lifetime to **communicate results and their benefit to society are sufficiently defined**.

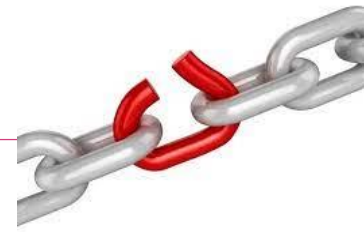- Expected impact of dissemination and communication activities are clearly explained.

2. Impact - evaluators' comments in previous H2020 MSCA RISE calls

Weaknesses

- The **human resources development potential is described generically**, **without clear planning.**

- **1 month long ESR secondments** are deemed **too short to create an impact** in terms of providing new skills and career perspectives.

- It has not been convincingly described how the project will contribute to realising the potential of practitioners with new skills and career perspectives.

- The **new career perspectives are not appropriately addressed**, **without a clear indication of what new opportunities in the job market will be result from this work**.

- The **proposal does not include adequate training for seconded early stage researchers to help them develop soft skills.**

2. Impact - evaluators' comments in previous H2020 MSCA RISE calls
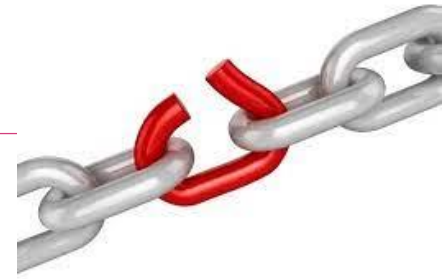
<u>Weaknesses</u>

- ESR **secondments are deemed short** to create an impact in terms of knowledge transfer (<4 months in duration).

- The **lack of an industrial partner limits the potential impact on innovation** in the academic environment.

- <mark>**It is evident that some partners have been made to fit into the project but with a weak connection.**</mark>

- As most of the partners have already participated in previous collaborations, the added value of the research, in the sense of the knowledge sharing, is not clearly articulated.

- The proposal **does not demonstrate the potential for the extension of long-term collaborations** beyond the existing ones.

- **The establishment of new and additional collaborations beyond the already existing one is unclear, and is not supported by a comprehensive strategy that can adequately support the organisations to achieve it.**

- **The impact of the project on improving research and innovation potential at the European and global levels is weakly justified in the proposal, or is limited by too narrow a focus and lacks a more translational focus.**

- The future/ sustainability of the new collaborations is weakly convincing, since it is described in a rather generic way.
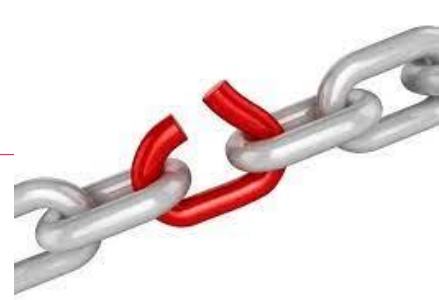
2. Impact - evaluators' comments in previous H2020 MSCA RISE calls

<u>Weaknesses</u>

- The proposed measures for dissemination are not described in a sufficient manner.

- Dissemination activities are listed but the proposal lacks a clear dissemination strategy.

- The proposal does **not** include **enough details on the stakeholder groups** to be targeted through the dissemination strategy.

- The plan for participation in conferences and publications in scientific journals is not sufficiently detailed.

2. Impact - evaluators' comments in previous H2020 MSCA RISE calls

<u>Weaknesses</u>

- The communication strategy and the planned outreach activities envisaged to engage the public and enhance the impact of the proposed measures have not been elaborated in sufficient detail.

- The communication within scientific society and general public including school students is **not quantitatively described and not supported by verifiable metrics**.

- The plans for public engagement are not specific to the research project and the feasibility of accessing local and national media is not explained in enough detail.

- The proposal does **not sufficiently detail its plans to engage the public to communicate** on the project and its results, or to assess the impact of the proposed communication activities.

- There is an **absence of clarity regarding the extent** to which the project's activities are to be made available to minority language-users.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Closely follow the call requirements

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

Follow available guidelines

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

Highlight the EU dimension

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

Get a second opinion

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

Sustainability of collaboration

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

Contact your National Contact Point (NCP)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Reliable network** - **worse than not getting a project is getting one and then fail!**
Make sure your partners understand the common goals and stay on track & fully committed - especially
in non-academic sectors. People in your participating organisations may change but that must not influence the
quality of the implementation. ***Build the trust further!***

- **MSCA SE are about improving science, but to improve science and innovation, you must improve individuals**!
This is why the carefully planned knowledge sharing and mutual learning, improving skills ad competences and
career prospects is critical! Plan your secondments well to serve the goal of your project.

- **Your summary should not focus on research only:** Discuss the core of the proposal first - knowledge
exchange across borders and sectors to build greater cross disciplinary expertise.

- **Be very detailed about how this will be done!**
Make a **comprehensive table** to include the expertise of participants, the planned secondments and their
supervision (academy → industry and vice versa), workshops, seminars, etc.

Example of a good project statement:
*XXX project delivers a comprehensive secondment and research programme that seeks to fill key research gaps in
YYY. It develops a next generation of effective interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral workers in YYY.*

Start writing your grant when you can "sell it" on one page! ("elevator pitch")

- **Allow time** to build your consortium well and understand the drivers and challenges to each for participation.
- Work on expanding your non-academic partners - that's the engine behind this programme.

- Plan the work packages and secondments carefully with each other.
  Build in knowledge sharing and training events.
  WHO goes **WHERE**, **WHY**, and **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?**
  Is the supervision adequate?

- Collaborate to strengthen he interdisciplinary aspects of your research.

- Collaborate on the grant writing and write a full rough draft.

- **Allow time** to get feedback on your idea/draft proposal and act on it!
  (NCPs, peers, team members, independent reviewers, whom you trust).

**Integration of PAper-based Nucleic acid testing mEthods
into Microfluidic devices for improved biosensing Applications**

Coordinator: **BioSense Institute**
Dr. Ivana Gadjanski (email: igadjanski@biosense.rs)
University of Novi Sad, Serbia

https://www.ipanema2020.com

H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019

Success
Story

CONSORTIUM

IPANEMA

Type	Short name	Institution	Country
Academic	**BIOS**	BioSense Institute	Serbia
	INRAE	National Research Institute for Agriculture, food, and the Environment	France
	WU	Wageningen University and Research	The Netherlands
	INESC	INESC Microsistemas e Nanotecnologias	Portugal
	BGU	Ben Gurion University of the Negev	Israel
	UNSPMF	Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad	Serbia
Third country	**CU**	Columbia University	USA
	GPIR	A.M. Prokhorov General Physics Inst., Russian Academy of Sciences, Natural Science Center	Russia
	XIAN	Xi'an Jiaotong University, Bioinspired Engineering and Biomechanics Center	China
	DIA	Diagenetix	USA
Industry	**ANV**	Anova-Plus	France
	EDEN	Eden Microfluidics	France
	EFU	Ekofungi doo	Serbia
	POT	Photonicsys Ltd.	Israel

IPANEMA will:

1. **Create a knowledge/experience sharing network** of scientists, entrepreneurs and end-users in the multidisciplinary field of biosensors for **POCT (point-of care testing) use**

2. **Develop innovative bottom-up approaches** for **fabrication of low-cost POCT devices**, implementing **paper-based isothermal nucleic acid testing (ISONAT)** methods

3. **Pursue applications** in 3 important industry sectors – **healthcare, agrifood** and **environmental monitoring**
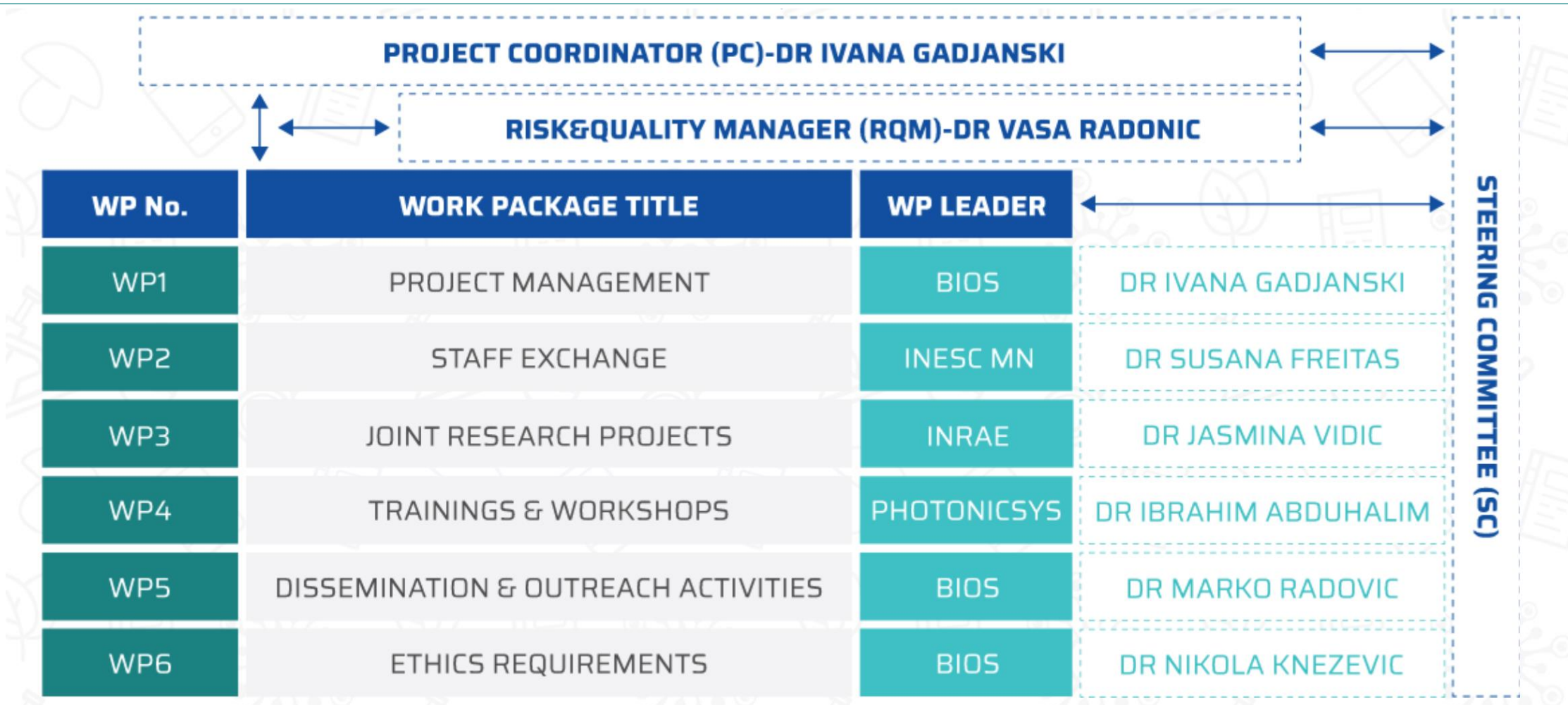
Objectives

IPANEMA

O1 Science	To advance **high-impact multidisciplinary scientific knowledge through international and intersectoral collaboration** on **three predefined research topics, under one unifying umbrella theme**
O2 Innovations	To facilitate **creation of innovations and concrete products that can meet ASSURED** (Affordable, Specific, Sensitive, User-friendly, Rapid & robust, Equipment free, Delivered to the end users) **criteria** for biosensing applications
O3 Soft skills	To **foster acquisition of new soft skills by participating researchers**, supporting their career development and enabling them to actively play a role in Europe's developing science ecosystem
O4 Dissemination	To **disseminate IPANEMA results and conclusions to the general public as well as specific society segments** achieving maximal impact of the project

WORK PACKAGES

IPANEMA

PROJECT COORDINATOR (PC)-DR IVANA GADJANSKI				
RISK&QUALITY MANAGER (RQM)-DR VASA RADONIC				
WP No.	**WORK PACKAGE TITLE**	**WP LEADER**		
WP1	PROJECT MANAGEMENT	BIOS	DR IVANA GADJANSKI	
WP2	STAFF EXCHANGE	INESC MN	DR SUSANA FREITAS	
WP3	JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS	INRAE	DR JASMINA VIDIC	
WP4	TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS	PHOTONICSYS	DR IBRAHIM ABDUHALIM	
WP5	DISSEMINATION & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	BIOS	DR MARKO RADOVIC	
WP6	ETHICS REQUIREMENTS	BIOS	DR NIKOLA KNEZEVIC	

STEERING COMMITTEE (SC)

BioSense · WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH · INRAE · INESC MN Microsystems and Nanotechnologies · Anova-Plus · EKOFUNGI · PhotonicSys · eden · GPI · Columbia University · DSA · Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

IPANEMA

Umbrella theme	Integration of PAper-based Nucleic acid testing mEthods into Microfluidic devices for improved biosensing Applications		
Research topics (RT)	**Healthcare**	**Agrifood**	**Environmental**
Specific research focus	Tissue engineering applications	Poultry/plant/fungal pathogens	Freshwater quality: assessment for toxigenic cyanobacteria
Lead partners per RT	**Columbia University**	**INRAE**	**BIOS, UNSPMF**
Partners for paper-based DNA/RNA extraction & amplification	**ANOVA-PLUS, XIAN, DIA**		
Partners for sensing methods and microfluidics	**PHOTONICSYS, INESC, EDEN, GPIR, BGU + BIOS**		
Partners with specific domain expertise	**WU, EKOFUNGI**		

Winning combination

- Quality of the consortium
- Research topics with potential for application in several industry sectors
- Balanced secondment i.e. staff exchange plan
- Good dissemination, exploitation and communication plan
- Well written proposal ☺
- Perseverance!

Useful resources + Next Call

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/calls/msca-staff-exchanges-2021-0

STREAMING SERVICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION:

HORIZON-MSCA-SE-2021 info session (2021-11-19)

MSCA Ireland Staff Exchange Promotional Event held (24.11.2021)

MSCA-RISE Handbook 2020 - Net4Mobility+

https://www.net4mobilityplus.eu/scientific-community/ MSCA NCPs's BLOG: Find the blog here.

European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)

Call	2022	
	Opening Closing	Budget (M€)
Staff Exchanges	06/10/2022 08/03/2023	77,5

Thank you for your attention
and good luck!

Gordana Vlahović

Email: gordanav@uns.ac.rs