



Horizon 2020

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

INFORMATION DAY

Action: MSCA and Citizens

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01-01

Topic: European Researchers' Night 2022-2023



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European Commission

SCOPE



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- The European Researchers' Night takes place every year, on the last Friday of September. It supports events that can last up to two days: they can start on Friday and continue the following day.
- Pre-events, prior to the main event, and **related post-events, such as wrap-up meetings or small-scale follow-up events, can also be organised.**
- It is the occasion for a Europe-wide public and media event for the promotion of research careers, in particular focused on young people and their families.
- The European Researchers' Night targets the general public, addressing and attracting people regardless of the level of their scientific background, with a special focus on families, pupils and students, and notably those who do not have easy access to, and thus are less inclined to engage in STEAM fields or research activities.
- **The European Researchers' Night will also bring researchers to schools to interact with pupils at any time during the project duration.** The Researchers at Schools activities will allow researchers and pupils to interact on societal challenges and on the key role of research to address them. Pupils will thus also learn directly about research projects and initiatives related to EU main priorities.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES



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- Activities can combine education with entertainment, especially when addressing young audiences.
- They can take various forms, such as exhibitions, hands-on experiments, science shows, simulations, debates, games, competitions, quizzes, etc.
- Where appropriate, **engagement with educational institutions should be sought** in order to encourage formal and informal science education with the aim of improving the scientific knowledge base.
- **This will be particularly relevant for Researchers at Schools activities, which will allow researchers to showcase their work and interact with pupils.**
- **Researchers will engage with teachers and pupils on challenges related to climate change, sustainable development, health and other issues related to the European Commission priorities and main orientations, such as the European Green Deal or the EU Research and Innovation Missions.**
- **The Researchers at Schools activities should take place throughout the year and should be subject to a dedicated promotion, particularly towards schools.**

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES



Applicants are encouraged to focus on, and include activities relating to, one or more of the Missions in their events.

These Missions are an integral part of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme:

[Conquering Cancer: Mission Possible](#)

[Accelerating the transition to a climate prepared and resilient Europe](#)

[Regenerating our Ocean and Waters](#)

[100 Climate-Neutral Cities by 2030 - by and for the citizens](#)

[Caring for Soil is Caring for Life](#)

OTHER FEATURES (1)



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- The European Researchers' Night should be highlighted as a European (and Europe-wide) event, and each proposal should promote the European Union and its impact on citizens' daily life in the most appropriate way, according to the set-up and the configuration of the event, its location and its activities. **No obligation to organise an "EU corner" it is up to each applicant to decide how to give the event an European perspective.**
- Involvement of researchers funded by Horizon Europe or previous Framework Programmes, notably by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, is highly encouraged.
- The European Researchers' Night promotes gender balance, diversity and inclusiveness in science in terms of planned activities and researchers involved.
- The European Commission has defined priorities, notably through the Horizon Europe Missions, which aim to tackle challenges faced by our societies.
- For the 2022 call, applicants are encouraged to focus on, and include activities relating to, priorities identified by the Missions in their events.

OTHER FEATURES (2)



- Partnerships and coordination at regional, national or cross-border levels will be strongly encouraged aiming at a good geographical spread and avoiding overlaps.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals covering two successive editions (2022 and 2023) of the European Researcher's Night.
- High-quality applications not retained due to lack of funding may be granted the status of associated events.
- Partnerships and coordination at regional, national or cross-border levels will be strongly encouraged aiming at a good geographical spread and avoiding overlaps. Activities carried-out in non-associated third countries are not eligible for funding.



Legal entities eligible for EU funding (i.e. for being beneficiaries) are those established in an EU Member State or Horizon 2020 Associated Country, or created under Union law, and International European Interest Organisations. The minimum condition is the participation of **one legal** entity.

Activities carried-out in non-associated third countries are not eligible for funding.

PROJECT DURATION



The maximum duration of the project will be **24 months** from the starting date specified in the Grant Agreement Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals covering two successive editions (2022 and 2023) of the European Researcher's Night.



Typically the activities are structured around 5 Work Packages (i.e. Awareness campaign, Activities during the NIGHT, Researchers at Schools activities, Impact assessment, and Management).

FINANCIAL REGIME



Eligible costs will take the form of **lump sum** contributions as defined in the Decision of 11 March 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions and unit contributions for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions under the Horizon Europe Programme.

The expected EU contribution per project is between EUR 0.05 and 0.15 million **per annual edition** of the European Researchers' Night, this amount should allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

For example: The expected EU contribution requested for a proposal covering two successive editions (2022 and 2023) will be between EUR 0.10 and 0.30 million.

Applicants propose a lump sum based on a detailed estimation of costs. Following evaluation of the proposal and taking into account expert advice, an individual lump sum is fixed in each grant agreement.



Proposals must contain a detailed budget that resolves the direct costs of each beneficiary in the following categories:

- Personnel costs
- Subcontracting costs
- Purchase costs (travel and subsistence + equipment + other goods and services)
- Other cost categories

Indirect costs are added by applying the 25% flat rate to the direct costs that qualify for indirect costs. The lump sum is calculated by applying the applicable reimbursement rate, 100% in this case, to the sum of direct and indirect costs.

In addition, applicants must provide a split of the lump sum per beneficiary and per work package.

Payment of the lump sum shares is indeed linked to the completion of work packages (and not on a successful outcome). Therefore, it is recommended to design work packages in a way that enables to clearly identify whether the action has been completed.

BUDGET TABLE



- Budget in the Part A (administrative Forms) : Only the Total EC contribution requested per partner.

- Budget in the part B:

Personnel costs/€	Subcontracting costs/€	Purchase costs/€ (Travel and subsistence + Equipment + Other goods and services)	Other cost categories/€ (please specify)	Indirect costs/€ (25 % of personnel costs + other direct costs)	Requested EU contribution/€	Total Cost (including Own Funds)

- As well, separate tables to detail the Subcontracting, Purchase costs and other categories if relevant.

AWARD CRITERIA:

Excellence

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

- Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives.**
- Quality of the proposed coordination and/or support measures including soundness of methodology.**

AWARD CRITERIA:

Impact

- **Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.**
- Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

AWARD CRITERIA:

Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
- Capacity and role of each participant, and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the 3 criteria just mentioned, and not for the different sub-criteria in each criteria.

Each criterion will be scored out of 5. The **threshold for individual criteria will be 3**. The total score will be subject to an **overall threshold of 10**.

The scoring table is the following:

- 0 – **The proposal fails** to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
- 1 – **Poor**. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2 – **Fair**. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
- 3 – **Good**. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
- 4 – **Very good**. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- 5 – **Excellent**. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

What kind of cost type categories (personnel costs, direct costs of subcontracting, other direct costs...) will applicants have to present in their application (the presentation of budget distribution among partners and specification of costs, their categories, groups, items)? **Already commented**

Do indirect costs remain? If yes, how are they calculated and presented? **Yes, same as H2020**

What is the % of EU contribution, how it should be calculated? **100%**

When can beneficiaries expect the EU contribution (during project implementation and/or after the final report is submitted or something else)? **Prefinancing (60%) intermediate payment and final payment**

What about reporting stage: how and what type of cost categories (in the context of the first question above) will they have to report? **You report on the work done in the work packages**

What does the lump sum mean for auditors (or perhaps there are no changes in this area)? **If there is an audit they will not be asking for invoices but about the work carried out. The beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred, for lump sum costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove proper implementation of the work as described in Annex 1.**

Maybe a short clarification why this change from standard UNIT COST in MSCA towards LUMP SUM

Is LUMP SUM introduced as a simplification? **Yes, at the time of application there is not much difference, but it should be much easier at the time of reporting.**

What about the beneficiaries who have the accounting system based on actual cost? **Because of what was explained before I do not think that the way the accounting is done make any difference.**

Example: business trip to Brussels. Lump sum refund for the business trip is 200 eur / day. Instead of staying in a hotel (where a night can be a maximum of 130 euros/night according to rules), the employee sleeps with a classmate from high school. The cost has not incurred, the employee overslept and according to the lump sum system, he is entitled to 200 eur / day.

**I THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!**