



Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions -COFUND-

*10th UNICA EU Research Liaison
Officers meeting*



Julie SAINZ
DG Education and Culture
Praha, 19 November 2015

HORIZON 2020

COFUND Objective

Co-fund new or existing regional, national or international programmes

which foster excellence in researchers' training and career development,

by promoting international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility while providing open recruitment and attractive working conditions



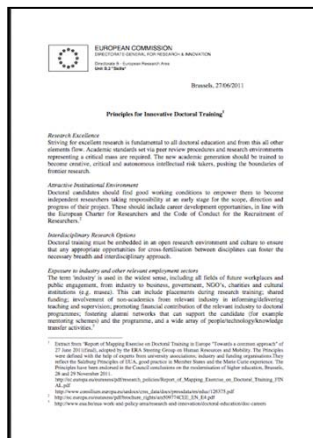
Exploit synergies between EU actions and regional, national and international programmes
⇒ **leverage funding** and **combat fragmentation**

COFUND Objective

By supporting regional, national, international programmes COFUND aims to increase the transnational, inter-sectoral and inter-disciplinary mobility of researchers, in line with:



the Principles set out in
the **European Charter for Researchers**
& the **Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers**

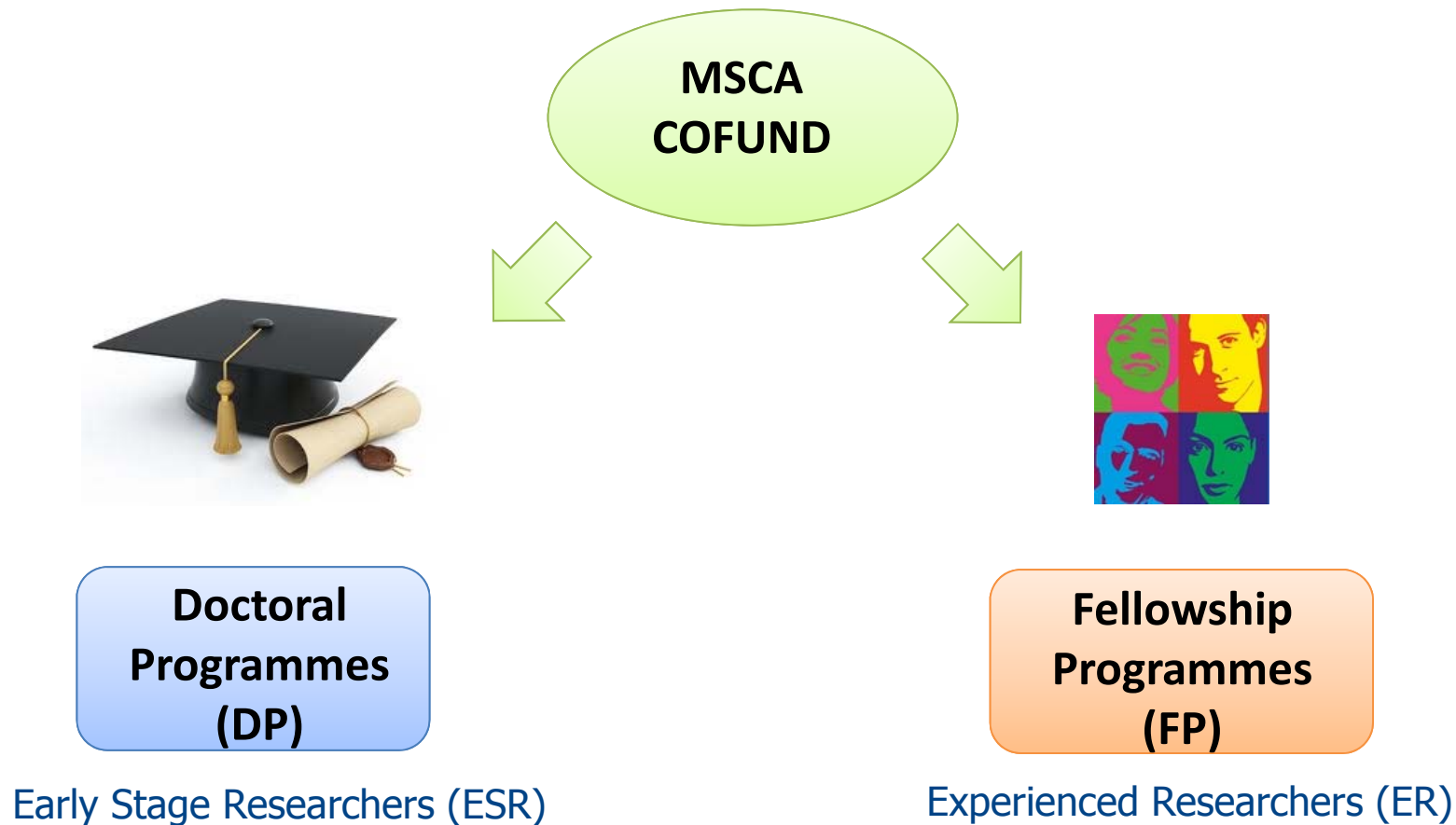


the **EU Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training** (when appropriate):

- Research excellence
- Attractive Institutional Environment
- Interdisciplinary Research Options
- Exposure to industry and other relevant employment sectors
- International networking
- Transferable skills training
- Quality Assurance



COFUND – General Main Features



COFUND – General Main Features

- **Mono-beneficiary** action
- Maximum **€ 10 Million per single applicant** per call
- Possible beneficiaries = **Legal entities established in MS or AC** and **international European interest organisations** that fund or manage DP or FP for researchers (e.g. research funding agencies, ministries, universities, research organisations, private companies or other organisations from the non-academic sector)
- Duration of projects: **3 to 5 years**
- Fellowships: min.3 months, but specificities of the programmes to be taken into account.
- EU contribution to **living allowances for researchers** and **management costs**
- **Selection process** based on openness, transparency, merit, impartiality and equality for the researchers who are applying
- Researchers to comply with the **mobility rules of the MSCA**

COFUND – General Main Features

- **Avoid limitations as to origins and destinations** of researchers
 - > If host organisation is in a TC, researchers have to be nationals or long-term residents of a MS or AC.
 - > Support cannot be awarded to researchers who are already permanently employed at the host organisation, unless moving to another organisation (and complying with the mobility rule) during, for instance, a sabbatical leave.
- Programmes encouraged to **cover all research disciplines ("bottom-up")**
They can **also focus on specific disciplines, especially for the DP or in the context of RIS3 strategies**, but then are to demonstrate sufficient **impact** in the **specific research field(s)** or **geographical area**.
- Strategy to involve supported researchers in **public engagement activities**
- **COFUND beneficiaries from previous calls** to explain **impact** of new EU funding on **increasing the quantity of participating researchers** and/or **enhancing their working conditions**, compared to what was implemented before.

COFUND - Doctoral Programmes

- Training follows the **EU Principles on Innovative Doctoral Training**
- Each ESR must be **enrolled in a DP**
- Qualitative and quantitative **supervision, mentoring arrangements and career guidance.**
Joint or double/multiple degrees and mutual recognition of training activities encouraged.
- ESR should be **able to choose** to a certain extent **the topic of their PhD project**
- Must **provide for a call** with a **selection procedure** to be open, transparent, merit-based, impartial and equitable, with **vacancies internationally advertised** and published (incl. on EURAXESS website)
- Measures to ensure **gender balance** among the recruited researchers.
- **Collaboration with a wide set of partners, including from the non-academic sector**, which may provide recruitment, hosting or secondment opportunities or training in research or transferable skills, as well as innovative elements of the proposed programme

COFUND - Fellowship Programmes

- Regular selection rounds, **fixed deadlines or regular cut-off dates (4 max. per year)**
Calls to be **advertised at international level** (incl. on EURAXESS website)
- **Selection procedure** to be open, transparent, merit-based, impartial and equitable, **based on independent international peer review.**
Selection committees to have appropriate expertise, gender balance and relevant experience.
- ER should be **able to choose research topic and host organisation** fitting their needs.
- **Mobility** types may be **similar to** the ones under **MSCA Individual Fellowships.**
Cross-sectoral mobility strongly encouraged
- If main part of a fellowship led in a TC is followed by a return phase to an EU MS or AC, then the return phase $\leq 50\%$ total duration of the fellowship

COFUND – Award Criteria

Excellence	Impact	Implementation
<p>Quality of the selection / recruitment process for the researchers (transparency, composition and organisation of selection committees, evaluation criteria, equal opportunity)</p>	<p>Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives</p>	<p>Overall coherence, effectiveness and appropriateness of the work plan</p>
<p>Quality of the research options offered by the programme in terms of science, interdisciplinarity, intersectorality and level of transnational mobility</p>	<p>Impact of the programme on aligning practices at participating organisations with principles set out by the EU for the human resources development in research and innovation</p>	<p>Appointment conditions of researchers</p>
<p>Quality of career guidance and training, including supervision arrangements, training in transferable skills</p>	<p>Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination of the programmes</p>	<p>Competence of the participant to implement the programme</p>

COFUND – EU Contribution

- EU contribution to living allowance for contracts with full social security:
 - Early-stage researchers (**ESR**): **€1885** per person-month
 - Experienced researcher (**ER**): **€ 2625** per person-month
- EU contribution to management costs: **€ 325** per person-month

- *Minimum amounts* for [living + mobility allowances]:
 - ESR: € 2597
 - ER: € 3675

- Other cost items may be funded through other resources (**incl. ESIF**)

Example – FP for ER

Cost item	Total cost [€ per person-month]	EU contribution [€ per person-month]
Living allowance	4800	2625
Mobility allowance	500	
Research costs	500	
Management costs	600	325
Indirect costs	600	
Total	7000	2950

> € 3675

Synergies with ESIF

(European Structural and Investment Funds)

- ✓ Support regional policies by **internationalisation of human resources in research**
- ✓ Programmes that prioritise specific scientific disciplines based on **smart specialisation strategies (RIS3)** may also be supported
- ✓ In **COFUND** projects, cost items other than living allowance and management may be funded through EU programmes other than Horizon 2020 (e.g. ESIF)
-> i.a. research costs, travel and mobility allowances, overheads

Synergies with ESIF

(European Structural and Investment Funds)

✓ Example 1 :

The University wants to run a fellowship programme open to both mobile and non-mobile researchers.

MSCA COFUND fellowships can be used to fund the living allowance and management costs relating to the mobile researchers.

ESIF can be used to fund the non-mobile researchers.

Synergies with ESIF

(European Structural and Investment Funds)

✓ Example 2 :

ESIF funds are used to build a new large research infrastructure on the university campus.

MSCA COFUND fellowships are used to attract researchers to work within the new infrastructure.

Synergies with ESIF

(European Structural and Investment Funds)

✓ Example 3 :

A university doctoral school in a MS/AC applies for MSCA COFUND and is successful. It recruits doctoral candidates for whom MSCA pays the agreed standard-unit cost per researcher-month (for living allowance and management cost).

The university can apply for ESIF for research, travel and training costs related to their doctoral programme (but not covered by the MSCA action) if all ESIF rules are respected.

Synergies with ESIF

(European Structural and Investment Funds)



□ Guide on synergies

ESIF/H2020/other R&I EU programmes

(e.g. **ESIF** <->MSCA-COFUND)

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf

□ Operational Programmes prepared by each Member State and/or region:

-financed under the **ERDF** or the **Cohesion Fund**

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index.cfm/en/atlas/programmes/

-financed under the **ESF**

<http://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=576&langId=en>



REGIONAL POLICY InfoRegio

European Commission > Regional Policy > In your Country > Programmes

- Home
- Policy
- Funding
- What's new
- In your country

Programmes

Summaries of the Operational Programmes adopted by the European Commission at the beginning of a programming period can be found below. The programmes are prepared by each Member State and/or region, and financed under the European Regional Development Fund or the Cohesion Fund. For European Social Fund (ESF) programmes, please visit the [ESF site](#).



Keywords:

Period: 2014-2020

Country: [all countries / all regions]

Region: [all regions]

Type: [all types]

Theme: [all themes]

Thematic Objective: T01 - Research and innovation



REGIONAL POLICY InfoRegio

European Commission > Regional Policy > In your Country > Programmes > United Kingdom - ERDF West Wales and The Valleys

- Home
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- Information sources

United Kingdom - ERDF West Wales and The Valleys

Search the InfoRegio website

United Kingdom



Programme description

Main objectives

The Programme aims to add value to wider investment programmes so that together they can support sustainable jobs and growth in the West Wales and the Valleys region of Wales and contribute to the delivery of the Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The programme aims to focus on specific structural weaknesses as well as targeting specific growth opportunities. There is particular focus on providing the right conditions for the private sector to invest across Wales, building on the area's specific strengths.

Funding priorities

The Programme will focus on four main priorities:

- Research and Innovation
- SME competitiveness
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Connectivity and Urban Development

Some of the expected results

- Increased research funding (including business expenditure) coming into Wales and increased commercialisation of research by Welsh SMEs
- Increased birth rate of SMEs, increased employment growth in SMEs, increased take-up of NGA broadband by SMEs, and reduced gaps in access to finance for SMEs
- Increased installed capacity of marine energy in Wales, increased numbers of small renewable energy schemes, and improved energy efficiency of households facing severe fuel poverty
- Improved travel times, improved public transport connections to employment centres, near-completed ICT networks, and increased local employment in urban areas

Regions

- > West Wales & The Valleys

Funds

- > ERDF: 1,203,510,449.00 €

Thematic priorities

- > T0 - Technical assistance
- > **T01 - Research and innovation**
- > T02 - Information and communication technologies
- > T03 - SMEs competitiveness
- > T04 - Low-carbon economy
- > T07 - Transport and energy networks

Programmes

United Kingdom

Search

Managing authorities

Welsh European Funding Office

Welsh Government, Rhydycer,
CF48 1UZ Merthyr Tydfil
+44 845 010 3355
enquiries-wefo@wales.gsi.gov.uk
<http://wefo.wales.gov.uk>

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

- **101 proposals Received (DP=49 ; FP=52)**
- **90 proposals Evaluated (DP=43; FP=47)**
- **66 proposals Above Threshold (DP=31; FP=35)**
- **23 proposals on Main List (DP=11; FP=12)**

Number of projects to be financed:

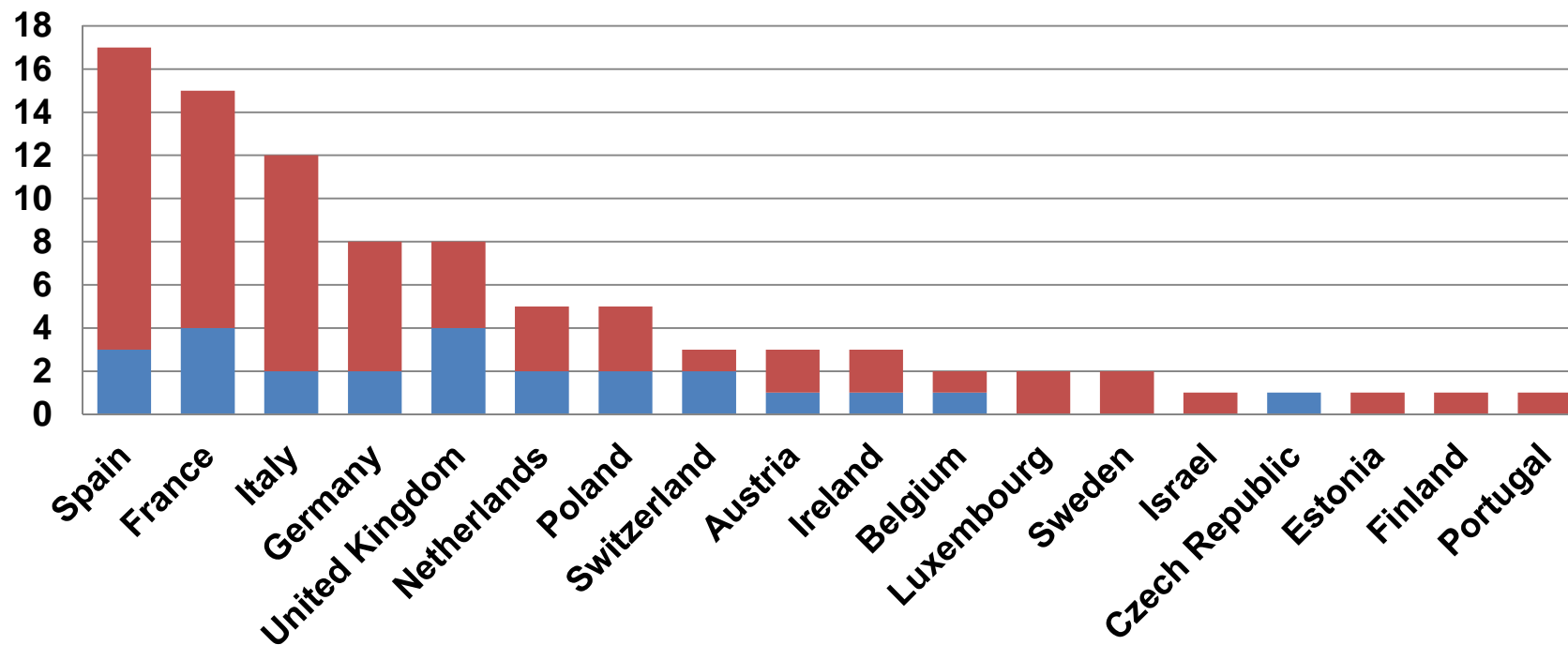
22 projects from Main List (1 Withdrawal)
+ 3 projects from Reserve List

25 projects (DP=12; FP=13)

Success
Rate
≈ 27%

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

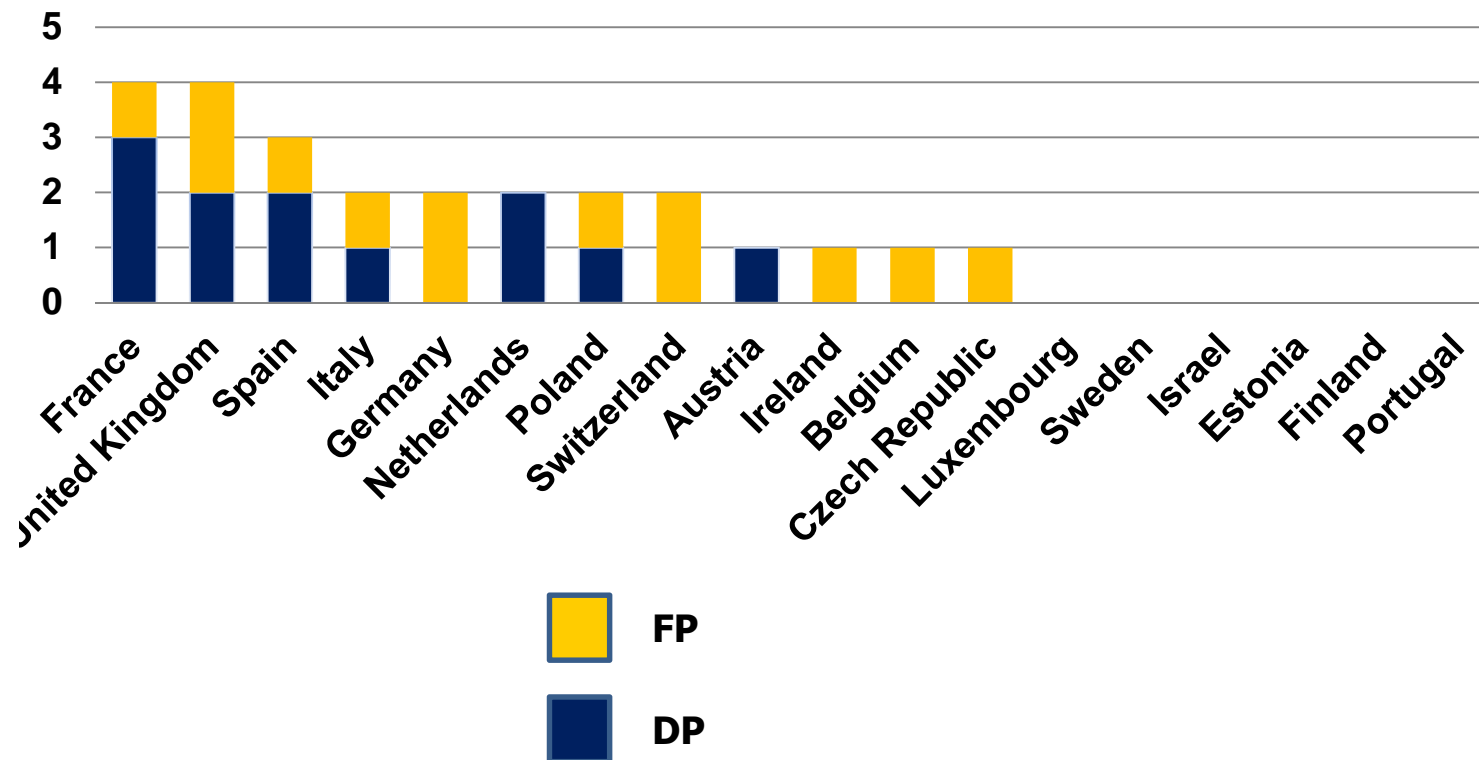
Total number of COFUND proposals evaluated per country
DP & FP



 Not Funded
 Funded

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

Number of COFUND proposals retained for Funding
Distribution between DP and FP per country



COFUND – 2014 Call : Univ. Beneficiaries



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

DE UNIVERSITAT ERFURT
IE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, DUBLIN
ES UNIVERSITAT AUTONOMA DE BARCELONA

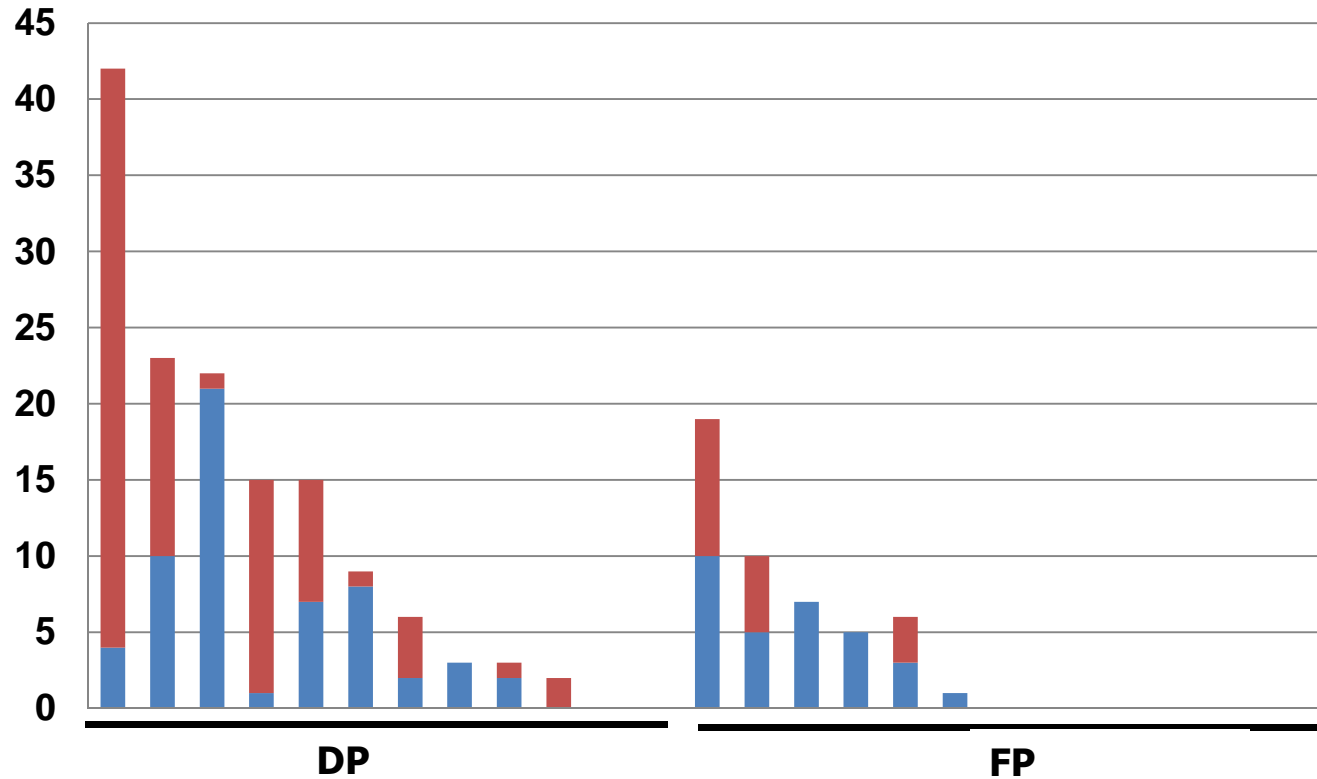


DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

ES UNIVERSIDAD DE LA IGLESIA DE DEUSTO
FR UNIVERSITE PARIS DIDEROT - PARIS 7
UK THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
UK UNIVERSITY OF BATH
NL ACADEMISCH ZIEKENHUIS GRONINGEN

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

Number of Partner Organisations and their sector for DP and FP projects

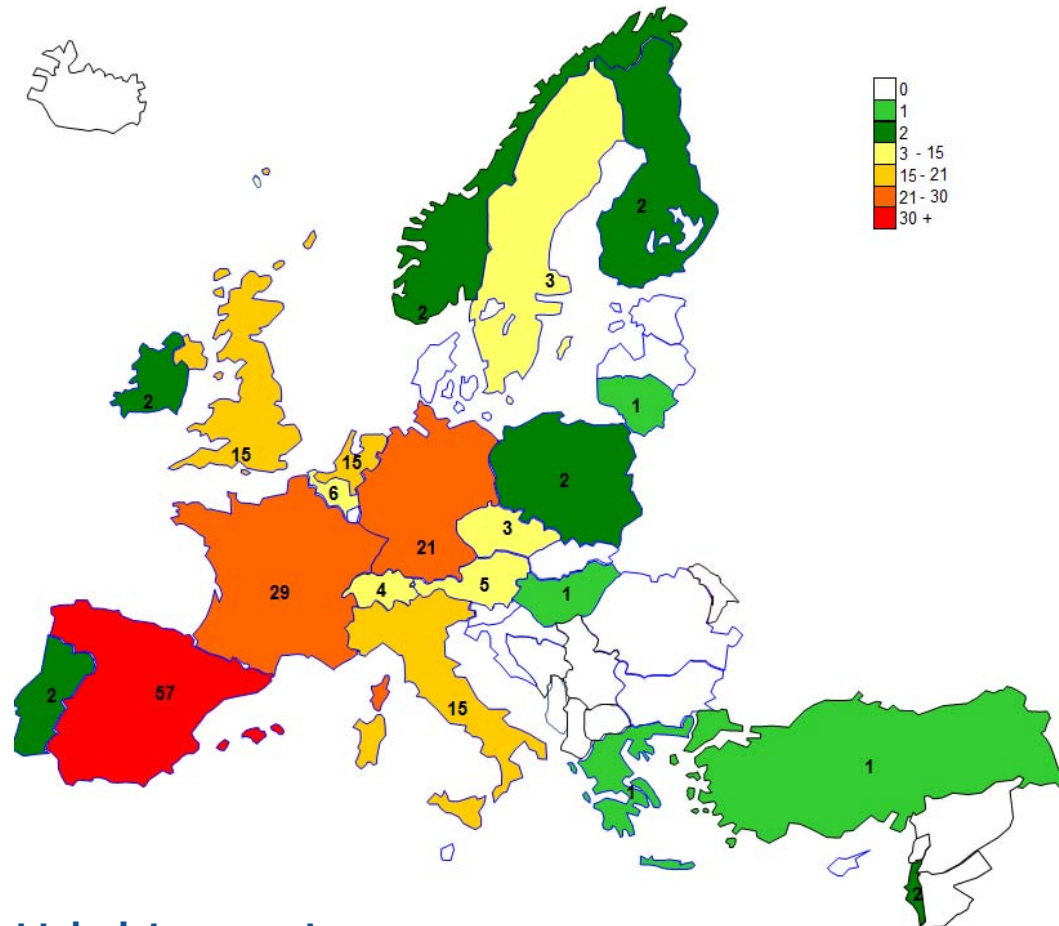


 **Non-Academic Sector**

 **Academic Sector**

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

Total number of **Partner Organisations** per MS and AC
listed in proposals from the Main List



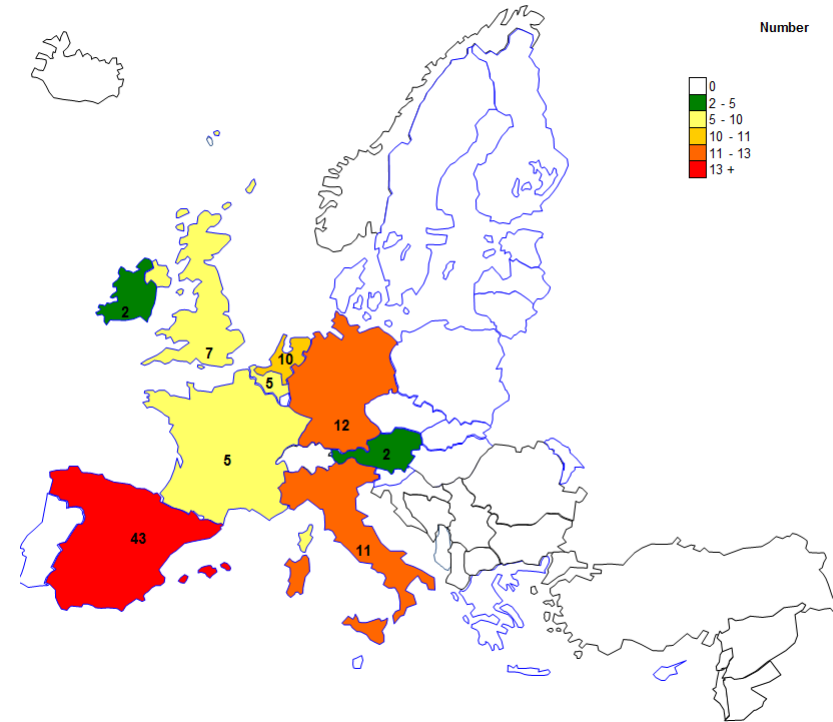
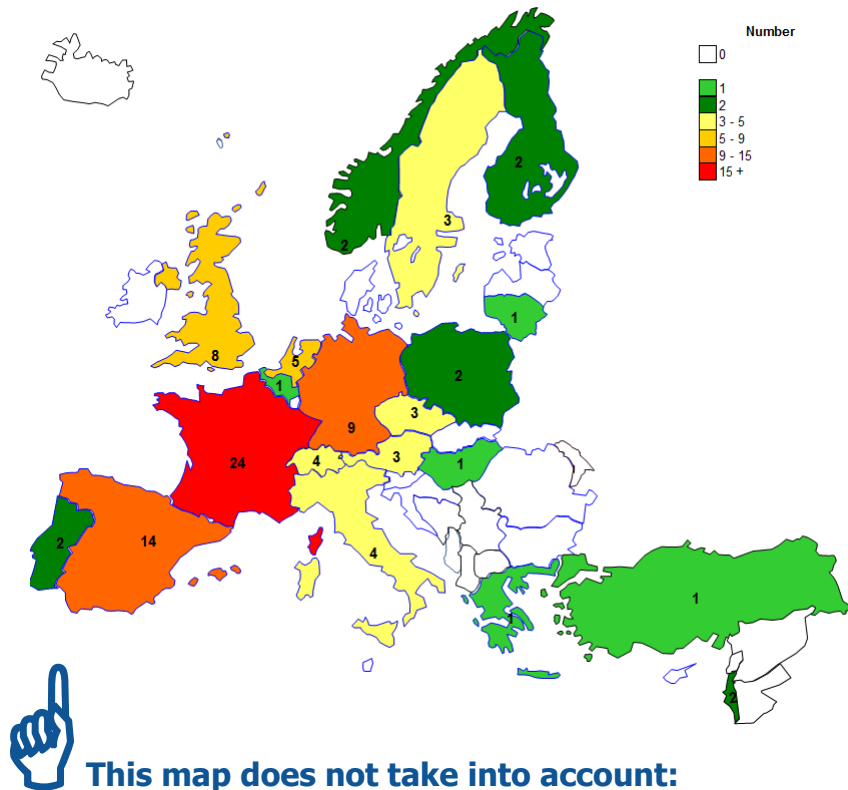
This map does not take into account:

- the withdrawal of 1 proposal from the main list
- the addition of 3 proposals from the reserve list

COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

Total number of **ACADEMIC**
Partner Organisations
per MS and AC
in proposals from the Main List

Total number of **NON-ACADEMIC**
Partner Organisations
per MS and AC
in proposals from the Main List



This map does not take into account:

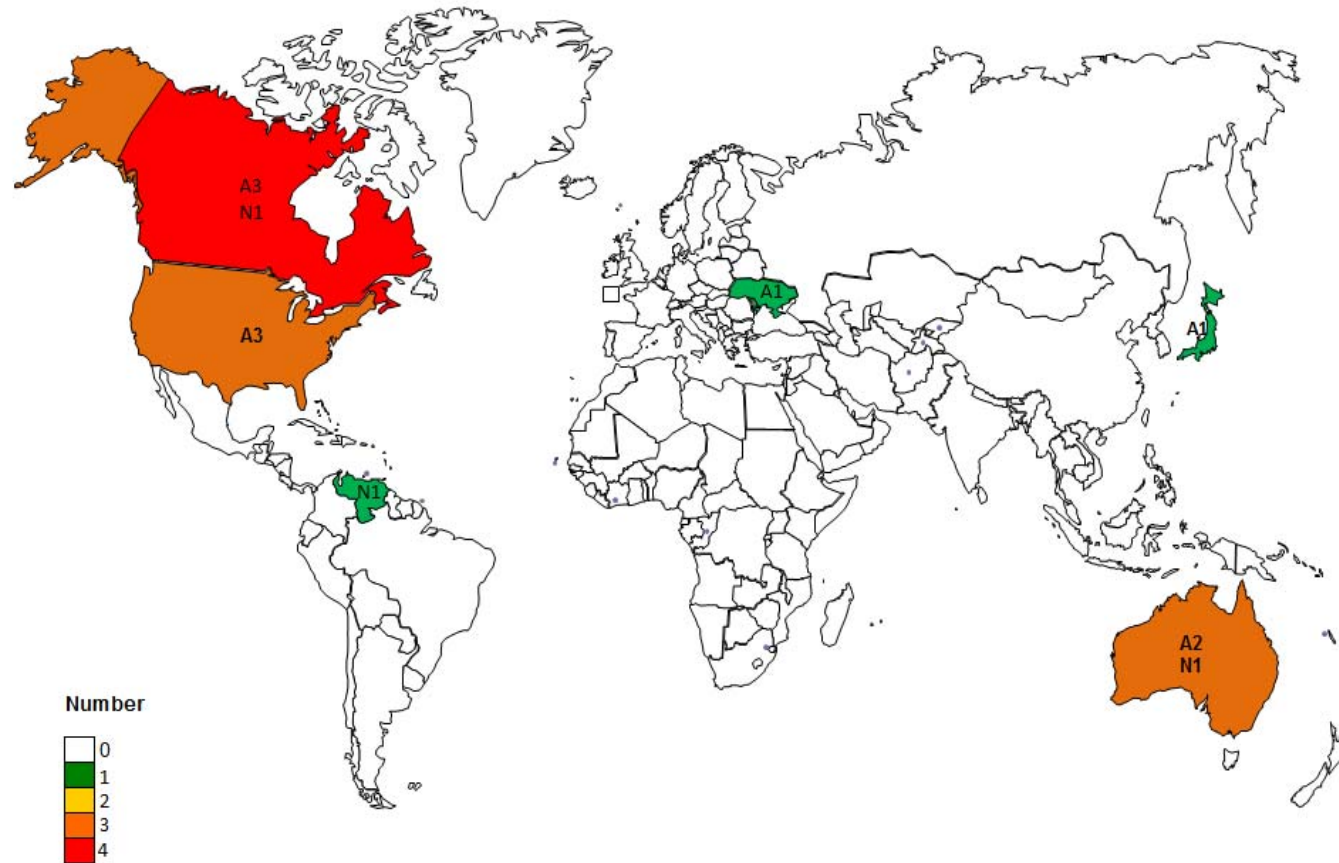
- the withdrawal of 1 proposal from the main list
- the addition of 3 proposals from the reserve list



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COFUND – 2014 Call : a few numbers

Total number of **Partner Organisations** in TC
divided into academic (A) and non-academic (N)
listed in proposals from the Main List



This map does not take into account:

- the withdrawal of 1 proposal from the main list
- the addition of 3 proposals from the reserve list



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Partner Organisations in COFUND

CAN BE:

- from the Academic Sector
- from the Non-Academic Sector

CAN BE:

- From any country of the world
- PO that implement a DP or FP must be established in a MS, AC, TC in Annex A of the WP
- Other PO can be established anywhere

- If the PO recruits is from a TC in Annex A, it must recruit researchers that are nationals or long term residents of EU MS or AC

Partner Organisations in COFUND

CAN PARTICIPATE FOR EXAMPLE BY:

- by implementing the programmes (recruiting the fellows)
- by contributing to the training of the fellows (hosting, providing secondment opportunities, participating in programme training courses)

IF CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUNDING OF THE PROGRAMME

- MUST provide a letter of commitment describing the details of their contribution

IF NOT CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUNDING OF THE PROGRAMME

- MAY provide a letter of commitment describing their contribution

DO NOT SIGN THE GRANT AGREEMENT

Best practice: beneficiary should establish internal arrangements with PO (e.g. Via partnership agreements)

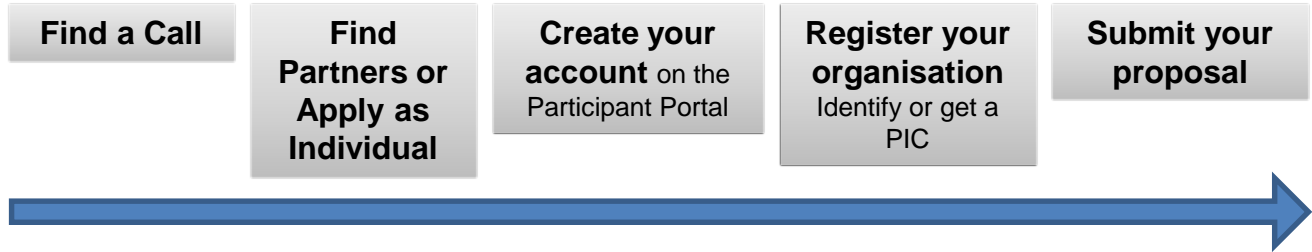
COFUND 2016 CALL

14/04/2016 – 29/09/2016

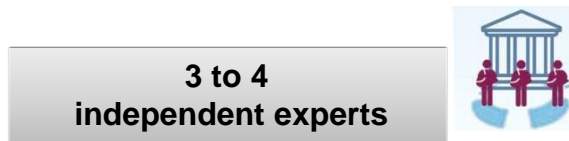
Budget: EUR 80 million

MSCA Workflow

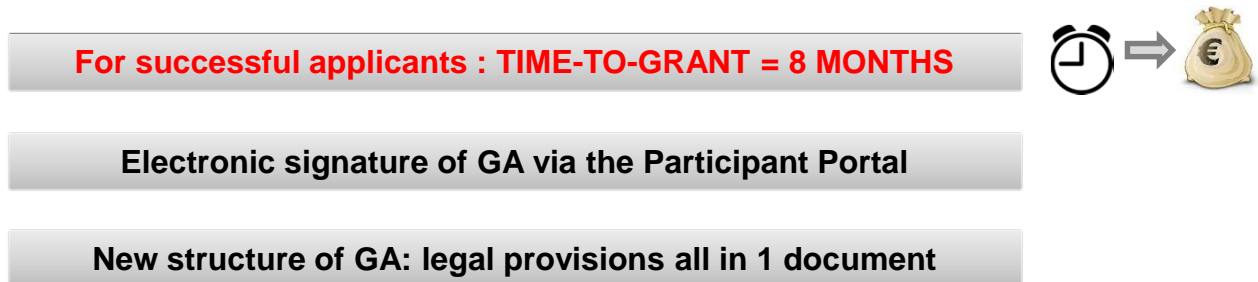
Application



Evaluation



Grant Agreement



Electronic signature of GA via the Participant Portal

New structure of GA: legal provisions all in 1 document

Reporting

and/or

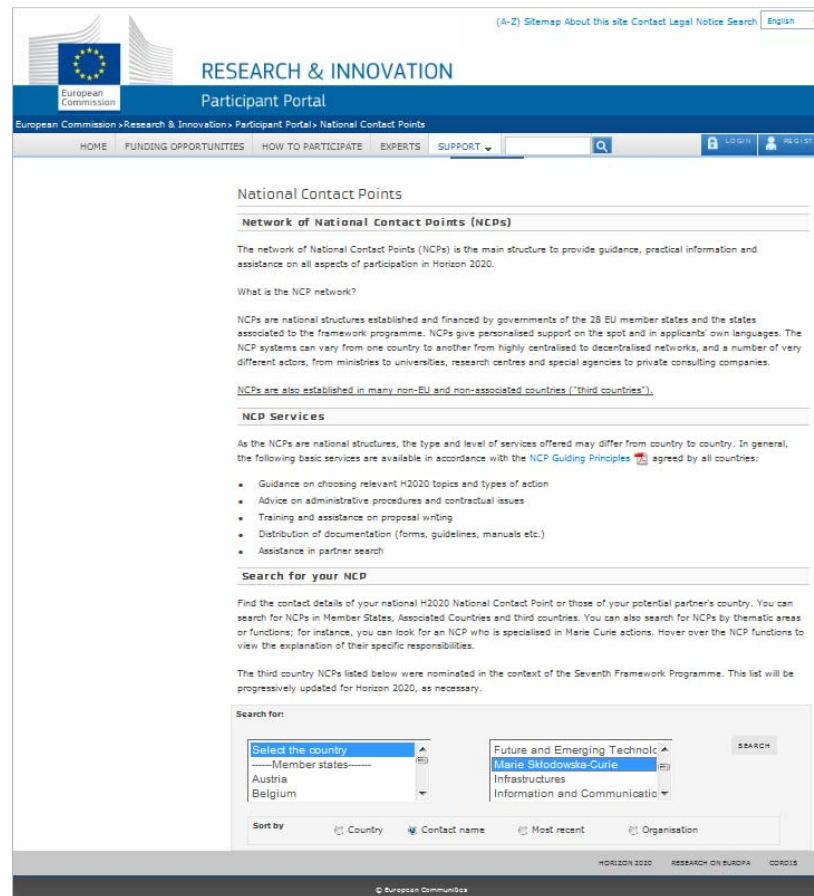
Periodic Report:
technical and financial

Final Report:
technical and financial



The MSCA NCPs can help you

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html/



The screenshot displays the 'National Contact Points' page on the European Commission's Participant Portal. The page is titled 'National Contact Points' and includes a sub-section 'Network of National Contact Points (NCPs)'. It provides information about the NCP network, its purpose, and the services it offers. A search box is visible at the bottom of the page, allowing users to find NCPs by country or thematic area.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION
Participant Portal

HOME FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES HOW TO PARTICIPATE EXPERTS SUPPORT

National Contact Points

Network of National Contact Points (NCPs)

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 2020.

What is the NCP network?

NCPs are national structures established and financed by governments of the 28 EU member states and the states associated to the framework programme. NCPs give personalised support on the spot and in applicants' own languages. The NCP systems can vary from one country to another from highly centralised to decentralised networks, and a number of very different actors, from ministries to universities, research centres and special agencies to private consulting companies.

NCPs are also established in many non-EU and non-associated countries ("third countries").

NCP Services

As the NCPs are national structures, the type and level of services offered may differ from country to country. In general, the following basic services are available in accordance with the [NCP Guiding Principles](#) agreed by all countries:

- Guidance on choosing relevant H2020 topics and types of action
- Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- Training and assistance on proposal writing
- Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
- Assistance in partner search

Search for your NCP

Find the contact details of your national H2020 National Contact Point or those of your potential partner's country. You can search for NCPs in Member States, Associated Countries and third countries. You can also search for NCPs by thematic areas or functions; for instance, you can look for an NCP who is specialised in Marie Curie actions. Hover over the NCP functions to view the explanation of their specific responsibilities.

The third country NCPs listed below were nominated in the context of the Seventh Framework Programme. This list will be progressively updated for Horizon 2020, as necessary.

Search for:

Select the country
— Member states —
Austria
Belgium

Future and Emerging Technol
Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Infrastructures
Information and Communicatio

SEARCH

Sort by
Country
Contact name
Most recent
Organisation

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The IPR Helpdesk can help you for IPR-related issues

<https://www.iprhelphdesk.eu/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the European IPR Helpdesk. At the top, there is a header with the European Commission logo and the text "EUROPEAN IPR HELPDESK" and "Get your ticket to innovation!". Below this is a navigation bar with a "quick search" box and several colored buttons for "services", "news", "events", "library", "training", "ambassador", and "helpline". The main content area is titled "library" and features a grid of nine categories: "fact sheets", "newsletters", "bulletins", "frequently asked questions", "case studies", "IP matters of high interest", "useful documents", "links", and "glossary". To the right of the grid, there are sections for "follow us" (with RSS, LinkedIn, and Twitter icons), "newsletter sign up here", "upcoming" events (listing seminars and webinars), and "other helpdesks" (listing regional helpdesks like Assen, China, and Mercosur). At the bottom, there is a list of bullet points explaining each category, a "Feedback on Newsletter and Publications" section, and a footer with navigation links, copyright information, and the date "Last update: 22/10/2014".

The EEN can help you including to find partners

<http://een.ec.europa.eu/>



The screenshot shows the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) website. At the top, there is the European Commission logo and the text 'ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK'. Below this is a navigation menu with options: Home, About, Services (highlighted), Events, Success stories, and News & Media. The main content area features a large 'services' banner with a background image of a group of people. On the left, there is a section for 'Share Success Stories' with a 'Success Stories Feed' and an 'Embed Success Stories' option. Below this is a 'Services' section with a link for 'Going international Technology'. In the center, there is a section titled 'Our services' with the heading 'Learn more about what we can do for your company in the following areas:' and a list of services: Going international, Technology transfer, Access to finance, Research funding, Advice on EU law and standards, Intellectual property and patents, and Speak up on EU law. On the right, there is a search bar with a 'Search' button and the EEN logo with the tagline 'Business Support on Your Doorstep'.

European Commission

ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

European Commission > Enterprise Europe Network > Services > Our services

Home About Services Events Success stories News & Media

services

Share Success Stories

Success Stories Feed

Embed Success Stories

Services

Going international Technology

Our services

Learn more about what we can do for your company in the following areas:

- Going international
- Technology transfer
- Access to finance
- Research funding
- Advice on EU law and standards
- Intellectual property and patents
- Speak up on EU law

Search

enterprise europe network

Business Support on Your Doorstep

Useful Links to help you

Where to get more information?

- ⇒ MSCA website: ec.europa.eu/msca
- ⇒ Horizon 2020 website: ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020

How to apply for MSCA?

- ⇒ Participant Portal: ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal

**Thank you for your attention
&
Best of luck!**



« Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. »

Visit our Facebook page!

 facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions

