



MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

**Researchers' training,
mobility and career
development opportunities
under the Marie
Skłodowska-Curie Actions**

Anouk Lafortune, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture Unit C2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions



Horizon Europe Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

European Research Council

Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams

€16 billion

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)

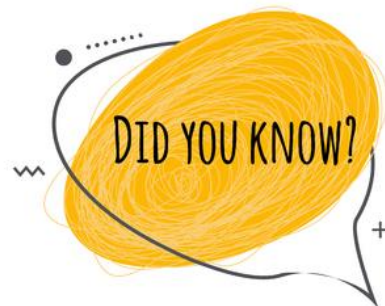
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training

€6.6 billion

Research Infrastructures

Integrated and inter-connected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion



18 Nobel Prize winners either backed by or involved in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions between 2013 and 2023



MSCA Core Objectives



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with non-academic partners

MSCA under Horizon Europe: key figures

Aim to support
~65,000
researchers

~50% of
international
participation in
HE so far

Budget
6.6 billion €

>1000
Doctoral
programmes

So far, >2800
non-academic
organisations

Gender balance
(42% women
under H2020)

The MSCA have **5** main actions

Doctoral Networks

implement doctoral programmes (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) **by international partnerships** of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research and innovation. Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

Staff Exchanges

encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

MSCA and Citizens

brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large through the European Researchers' Night - the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

COFUND

co-finances regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers' training and career development. The COFUND action spreads MSCA's best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.

MSCA in Horizon Europe

[Home](#) | [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(europa.eu\)](#)

CLICK HERE 

Who can participate ?

Organisations and individuals



Organisation

- Legal entity
- From academic or non-academic sector
- Beneficiary should be from EU MS or HE Associated Country*
- Third country organisations participate as associated partners*

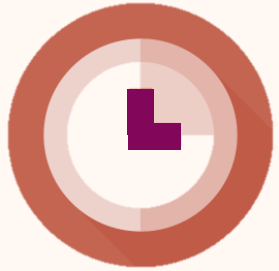


Individual researcher

- Any nationality
- Mobility rule
- Other **action-specific conditions** (i.e. PhD to be obtained for actions targeting doctoral candidates; PhD obtained for actions targeting postdocs)

** Some exceptions for the participation of third country organisations as beneficiaries in MSCA Doctoral Network*

MSCA Doctoral Networks



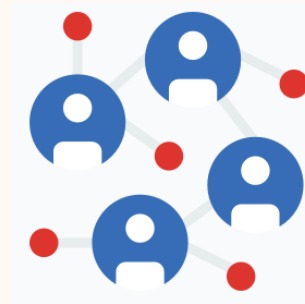
DURATION

Max 4 years
(max 5 years for Joint
Doctorates only)



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in
3 different EU MS or
HE AC (at least 1 MS)



FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36
months
(up to 48 months for Joint
Doctorates only)



BUDGET

540 PM



Current call: 29 May 2024 – 27 Nov 2024 ; 608.6 M€

MSCA Project example

H2020 MSCA Doctoral Training Programme

Stardust-Reloaded – Training young researchers in cutting-edge technologies for a safer space

*“Funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme, the Stardust-R project will **train a new generation of scientists and engineers** in enabling technologies and effective solutions to critical problems in planetary safety, minor body exploration and the sustainable use of space. Fifteen early-stage researchers will receive **interdisciplinary training**, which will cover mathematics, physics, computer science and aerospace engineering.”*

Budget: 3.9M€

Project Duration: January 2019- June 2023

Participating organisations:

- Coordinator: University of Strathclyde (UK)
- 23 organisations from 11 different countries, including the European Space Agency and industry partners

Project Results in Brief:

- Follow-up project from the FP7 Marie Curie [Stardust](#) project (2013-2017), with a budget of 4M€
- **15 doctoral researchers** trained
- **67 peer reviewed articles**
- Other outputs, include **key tools** for the analysis of the evolution of the space environment, **under further development through ESA and national space agencies**

Project page: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/813644>

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships



One postdoctoral
researcher



Host Institution



Supervisor

For **European Fellowships**:

Beneficiary from EU MS or HE AC

For **Global Fellowships**:

Beneficiary + 1 Third Country Associated
Partner



Current call: 23 Apr 2024 – 11 Sep 2024 ; 417.2 M€

MSCA Project example

H2020 MSCA Global Individual Fellowship

NAVSCIN – High Accuracy Navigation under Scintillation Conditions

*“The MSCA-funded NAVSCIN project aims to devise a strategy to alleviate the issue of radio interference caused by scintillation. It will first systematically analyse the incidence of scintillation to identify the processes that trigger it. The project will then **quantify the impact of scintillation on space-based GNSS systems** and design appropriate **algorithms that can detect, correct or mitigate disruptions in GNSS transmissions.**”*

Budget: 185 000€

Project Duration: July 2018- July 2021

Participating organisations:

- Coordinator: Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya (Spain)
- Global partner: Hanoi University of Science and Technology
- Secondment at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) (European Commission)

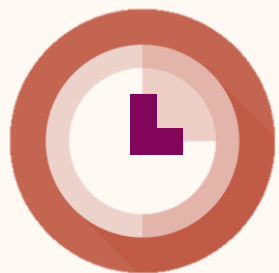
Project Results in Brief:

- Postdoctoral researcher **gaining experiences** abroad (Vietnam) and with a policymaking body (JRC)
- And **acquiring teaching and supervision experience** (at BA, MSC, PhD levels)
- **10 peer reviewed articles**, stemming from the project
- And other research outputs, including **algorithms** to mitigate disruptions

Project page: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/797461>



MSCA Staff Exchanges



DURATION

4 years



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in 3 different countries (min. 2 EU MS or HE AC)



SECONDMENTS

1-12 months per staff



BUDGET

Max EUR 1.6 million (360 PM per project)



Next Call: 19 Sept 2024 – 5 Feb 2025; 99.47M€

MSCA Project example

H2020 MSCA R&I Staff Exchange

DUSTBUSTERS – Dust and gas in planet forming discs

*“Funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme, the DUSTBUSTERS project aims to **strengthen collaboration between researchers in the field based in the United States, Europe, Chile and Australia.**”*

Budget: 639 000€

Project Duration: January 2019 – September 2024

Participating organisations:

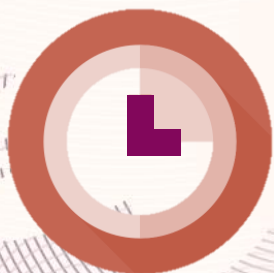
- Coordinator: Università Degli Studi di Milano (Italy)
- 13 organisations from 7 different countries

Project Results in Brief:

- **27 researchers** benefiting from a secondment abroad
- **Summer School** for ~50 students
- Interview with Dustbusters **early career researcher** Teresa Paneque Carreño: <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/cs/node/1156>
- **175 peer reviewed articles** published by participating researchers
- Nearly **30 open datasets**

Project page: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/823823>

MSCA COFUND



DURATION

Max 5 years



COMPOSITION

1 beneficiary from EU MS
or HE AC



FELLOWSHIP

For doctoral and
postdoctoral researchers for
minimum 3 months



BUDGET

Co-funding
Max EUR 10 million per
beneficiary per call

Current Call: 23 Apr – 26 Sep 2024; 104.8M€

What is funded?

1 unit
=
1 person/month

Doctoral Networks

Participating entity	
Research, networking, training contributions	1600 €
Management and indirect contributions	1200 €

MSCA fellow***	
Living allowance*	4010 €
Mobility allowance	710 €
Family allowance	660 €
Long-term leave allowance**	4720 €

Postdoctoral Fellowship

Research, networking, training contributions	1000 €
Management and indirect contributions	650 €

Living allowance*	5990 €
Mobility allowance	710 €
Family allowance	660 €
Long-term leave allowance**	6700 €

Staff Exchanges

Research, networking, training contributions	1300 €
Management and indirect contributions	1000 €

Top-up allowance	2710 €
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COFUND

COFUND allowance, DP****	3300 €
COFUND allowance, PP****	4700 €
Long-term leave allowance**, DP	3300 €
Long-term leave allowance**, PP	4700 €

(*) The living allowance is multiplied by a country correction coefficient (e.g. 103,3% Japan, 125,4% Sweden)

(**) Long-term leave allowance, if applicable.

(***) Special needs allowance allowance, if applicable (3 000 - 60 000 €).

(****) Minimum remuneration applies in COFUND:

2 800 € for Doctoral researcher, 3 980 € for Postdoctoral researcher

Call calendar 2024 – 2025

Year	Action	Opening	Deadline
2024	Postdoctoral Fellowships	23 April	11 September
	COFUND	23 April	26 September
	Doctoral Networks	29 May	27 November
	Staff Exchanges	19 September	5 February 2025
2025	COFUND	23 January	24 June
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 April	10 September
	Staff Exchanges	27 March	8 October
	Doctoral Networks	28 May	25 November
	MSCA and Citizens	17 June	22 October



Some key references and links

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en

MSCA Work Programme 2023-2025 https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2023-2024/wp-2-msca-actions_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf

Funding and Tenders Portal (applications, documents, partner search)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon>

Horizon Europe MSCA: How to apply https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions/horizon-europe-msca-how-apply_en

MSCA National Contact Points <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp;sortQuery=country;countryGroups=MS,AC,PAC,3C;countries=;functions=5>

Marie Curie Alumni Association <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/>

Research Enquiry Service https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/contact-us/research-enquiry-service_en

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie



Thank you!

#MSCA #HorizonEU

@MSCActions

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>



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