Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships

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July 20, 2022



Netiquet



- Keep your mic muted and camera off during presentations
- You can ask questions:
 - Using the chatbox
 - In the Q&A sessions using the hand raise button. Then please turn your camera on and introduce yourself.

Content



- Short introduction to MSCA PF
- Part A followed by a Q&A
- Part B followed by a Q&A

MSCA PF

Opening date: May 12, 2022

Deadline: September 14, 2022

budget: **257 million €**



Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Career development, training and knowledge/competence diversification of postdocs through international/interdisciplinary/intersectoral mobility
- Carry out an innovative research project in the EU or beyond
- Postdocs with a PhD

HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01: MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 202

European Fellowships

- 12-24 months
- European host
- European
 Fellowships: any
 nationalities
- Mobility rule: not more than 12 months in the past 3 years in the country of the host

Global Fellowships

- 12-24 months outgoing+ 12 months return phase
- 2 hosts: a European and a third country host

MSCA PF general rules

Bottom-up

Secondment:

- To another organisation, max. 1/3 of the fellowship
- No Letter of Commitment
- C
 - country and work outside research do not

Max. 8 yrs (FTE) after

PhD (Research in a 3rd

- count)
- EURATOM: dedicated budget: 1 M€

Non-academic placement:

- To a non-academic org.
- Additional 6 months fellowship (in EU MS/AC)
- Letter of Commitment
- In part A –associated partner

Resubmission rule as of 2022: Under 70% no resubmission for a year.



MSCA	Researcher uni	it costs	Institutional unit costs				
	Living Allowance*	Mobility Allowance	Family allowanc e	Long term leave allowance	Special needs allowance Requested unit x (1/number of months)	Research, training and networking costs	Managemen t and indirect costs
PF	5080 – in HU: 3657.6 € (supergross) NET: ~2750 €	600	660	5680 x % covered by the beneficiary		1000	650

nkfih

^{*}Country correction coefficient

ERA Fellowships



- This action builds on the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships action. The target group are host organisations located in Widening Countries.
- The application to the Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022
 will be automatically resubmitted to this call in case
 the host is in a Widening Country and the proposal
 fails to reach an adequate place in the ranking to
 be funded.
- Expected number of projects to be funded: 50

Horizontal issues:

Gender Equality Plan

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/democracy-and-citizens-rights/gender-equality-research-andinnovation_en#gender-equality-plans-as-an-eligibility-criterion-in-horizon-europe

Open Science:

Horizon Europe Programme Guide: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-program guide_horizon_en.pdf

General Model Grant Agreement (Art.17): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/generalmga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

MSCA Green Charter

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/green-charter

Guidance to identify and address ethical issues: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-vour-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf

Security Appraisal Procedure :

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-handle-security-sensitive-projects_en.pdf https://www.dzs.cz/sites/default/files/2021-05/HE_Security%20Appraisal_EE_LT_Webinar_21.5.21.pdf

Useful links:

MSCA Work programme: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2021-2022/wp-2-msca-actions_horizon-2021-2022_en.pdf

MSCA PF Call: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-msca-2022-pf-01-01
MSCA PF 2022 Guide for applicants: https://rea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-05/Guide%20for%20applicants%20-%20MSCA%20PF%202022.pdf

Guidelines 8-year-rule: https://rea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-05/Guidelines_8%20year%20rule_2022.pdf
Self-assessment tool for calculating 8 years research experience: https://rea.ec.europa.eu/document/download/131355ba-a0a4-45db-b033-3e8da6f4a157_en?filename=EXT_eligibility_support%20tool%20for%208%20years_2022_final.xlsx

MSCA Guidelines on supervision: https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/bb02d56e-9b3c-11eb-b85c-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-search

MSCA Key words: https://rea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-10/MSCA%20Keywords.pdf

Transferable skills: http://eurodoc.net/skills-report-2018.pdf

Updates on the association of third countries to Horizon Europe: https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/updates-association-third-countries-

horizon-europe_en#:~:text=As%20per%2022%20September%202021,%2C%20Georgia%2C%20Moldova%20and%20Ukraine

HANDBOOK!

https://msca-net.eu/2022/07/08/the-pf-handbook-is-ready



Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

Customs Programme (CUST)	Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)	Europe Direct (ED)	European Defence Fund (EDF)	European Parliament (EP)	EU Anti-fraud Programme (EUAF)
European Solidarity Corps (ESC)	Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS)	EU4Health Programme (EU4H)	European Social Fund + (ESF)	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)	Euratom Research and Training Programme (EURATOM)
Fiscalis Programme (FISC)	Innovation Fund (INNOVFUND)	Internal Security Fund (ISF)	Horizon Europe (HORIZON)	Single Market Programme (SMP)	Social Prerogative and Specific Competencies Lines (SOCPL)

Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal

Programme

Type of action

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

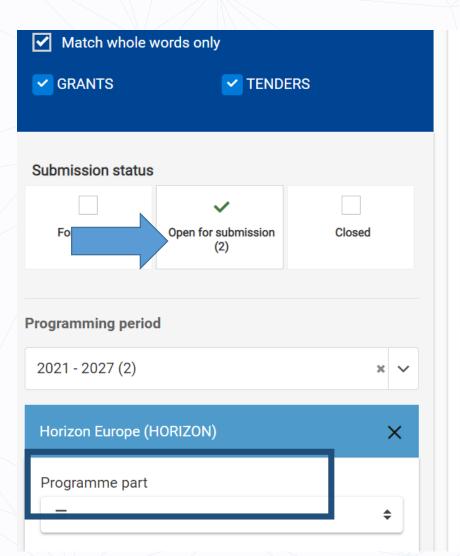
Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

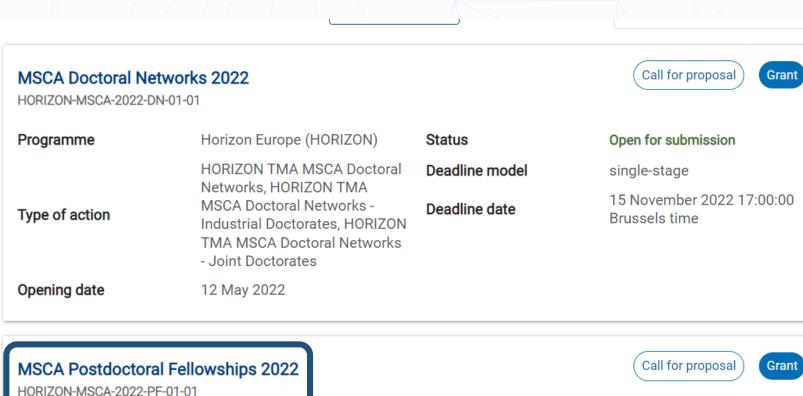
Postdoctoral Fellowships -

HORIZON TMA MSCA

European Fellowships,

HORIZON TMA MSCA
Postdoctoral Fellowships -





Status

Deadline model

Deadline date

Open for submission

14 September 2022 17:00:00

single-stage

Brussels time

EU Login



Funding & tender opportunities

Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)





SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▼

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

PROJECTS & RESULTS

WORK AS AN EXPERT

SUPPOR

A

- Legal Entity and Bank Account validations tasks will experience issues in the Grant Management Services on Tuesday, 17.05.2022 between 20:00 and midnight CET, and Wednesday X 18.05.2022 between 20:00 and 22:00 CET.
- The Identity, Bank Account, Contracts & Payments functionalities in the Experts Area of the F&T Portal will be unavailable on Tuesday 17.05.2022, between 20:00 and midnight CET, and Wednesday 18.05.2022 between 20:00 and 22:00 CET.



• Grant & Audit Management Services will be unavailable on Wednesday, 18.05.2022, between 07:30 and 08:30 CET.

Find calls for proposals and tenders









Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal

Topic description

Destination

Conditions and documents

Partner search announcements

Submission service

Topic related FAQ

Get support

Call updates

Start submission

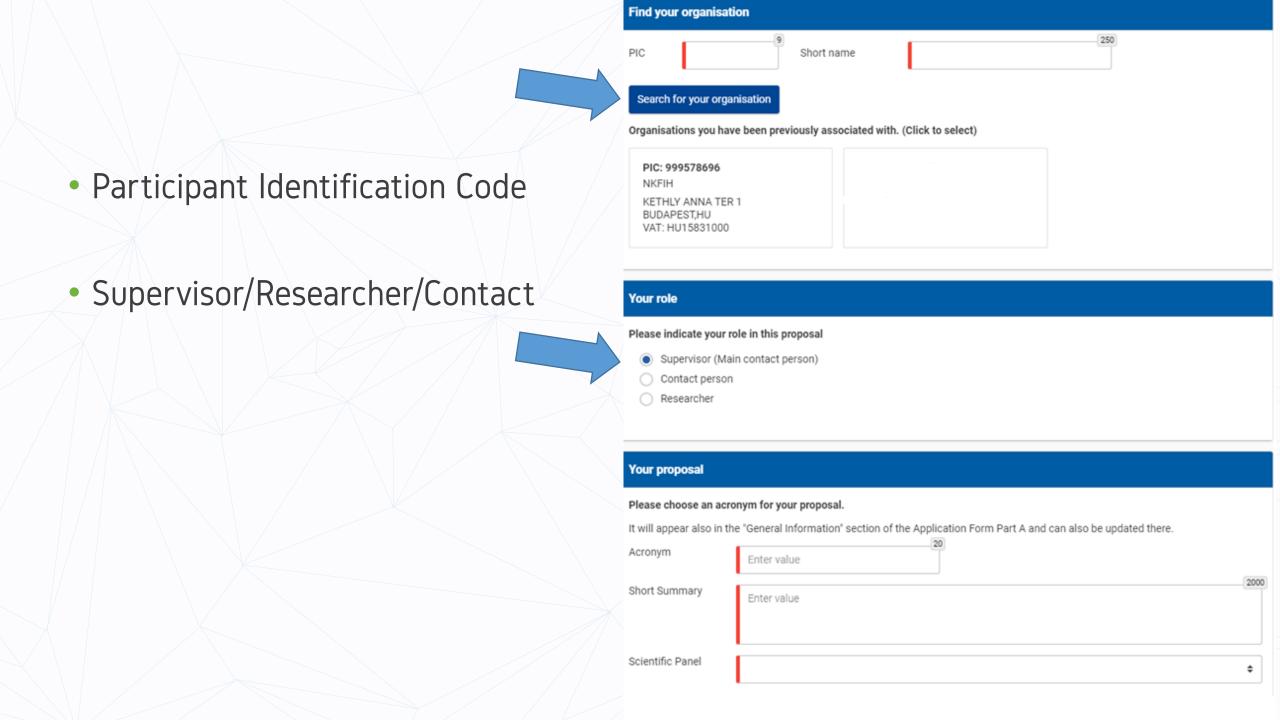
To access the Electronic Submission Service, please click on the submission-button next to the **type of action** and the **type of model grant agreement** that corresponds to your proposal. You will then be asked to confirm your choice, as it cannot be changed in the submission system. Upon confirmation,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

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:

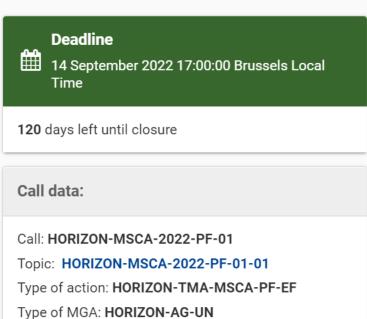
- HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships European Fellowships [HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-EF], HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]
- HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships Global Fellowships [HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-GF], HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]

Start submission



Login Topic selection Create proposal Participants Proposal forms Submit

Proposal forms



Topic and type of action can only be changed by creating a new proposal.



Acronym: Test

Draft ID: SEP-210867473

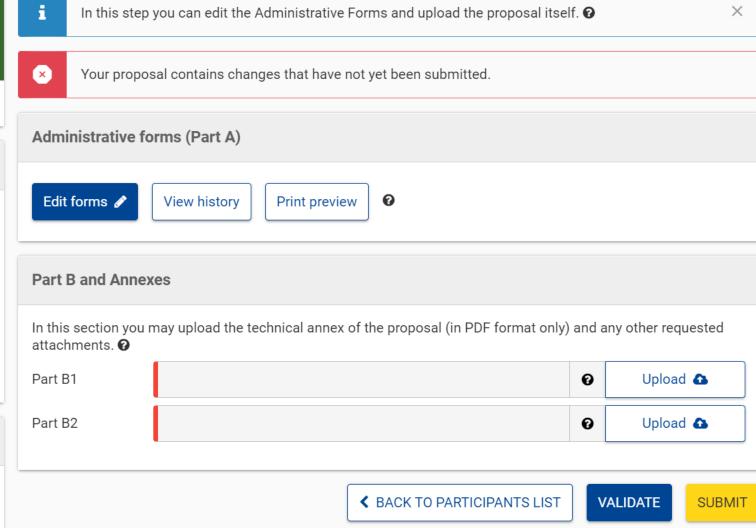


Table of contents Validate form Save form Save & exit form

Type of Model Grant Agreement: HORIZON Unit Grant

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	Show
2	Participants	Show
3	Budget	Show
4	Ethics and security	Show
5	Other questions	Show



Parts of the Proposal

Part A - administrative forms

General information, participants, researcher & contacts, budget, ethics and security table, other questions

→ including an abstract of 2000 characters



- 1 Excellence
- 2 Impact
- 3 Implementation, incl. Gantt Chart

Part B-1

Part B-2

Max. 10 pages

- 4 CV of the Researcher (indicative 5 pages)
- 5 Capacities of the Participating Organisations (max. 1 oldal / beneficiary, ,1/2/ associated p.
- 6 Additional ethics information,
- 7 Additional information on security sharing
- 8 Letters of Commitment from A.P. (ougoing host+ non-academic placement)

No limit

Evaluation



3 evaluation criteria:

- Excellence 50%
- Impact 30%
- Implementation 20%
 - Max. 5 scores each
 - Threshold: 70 %
- 8 scientific panels
- Evaluation is done by 3 evaluators

Excellence



Excellence

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)

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

Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host

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

Excellence 1.1

TIP: original, ambitious goals, cross-references to WPs.

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)

- Introduce your project's subject!
- Explain the context of the research, the stateof-the-art and how your project goes beyond it.
- Describe the specific research objectives of the project – are they measurable, justified and achievable?

Excellence 1.2

TIP: If secondment/nonacademic placement is relevant in terms of a new method or interdisciplinarity – explain it! Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)

- Explain the methodology describe the steps/methods you will take to achieve the research objectives proposed in 1.1. Identify potential challenges.
- Explanation of interdisciplinarity (first level of MSCA keywords)
- Gender dimension and other diversity aspects:
 - If there are no gender aspects explain why!
 - Open science Describe OS practices FAIR principles
 - Research data management how you generate or reuse data (OS + RDM max. ½ page)

Excellence 1-2. Strengths

The proposed research is **ambitious** in scope.

It clearly aims at advances **beyond the state of the art** in human
microbiome research.

The research and innovation objectives are realistically achievable and verifiable.

The research methodology is excellent and the proposed mixed methods approach is convincing and well-justified. The qualitative and quantitative methodology that is intended to be carried out is well in line with the objectives of the proposal.

All outputs are very clearly aimed for the public domain using standard approved channels such as code repositories, raw data submissions (using FAIR principles) and early access pre-print submissions. Various open-science practices such as open-source software, open-access journals and deposition of data processing algorithms.

Excellence 1-2. Weaknesses

Objectives are not clearly separated from the methodology and are rather presented as a task than a measurable goal.

The proposal does not contain sufficient details about measurability and verifiability of the research's goals.

The scope of the proposal is too broad and, therefore, the outlined objectives are not realistically achievable.

The intended research mirrors existing similar studies and it is not sufficiently explained how it goes beyond the state-of-the-art.

The proposal does not appropriately describe the **level of novelty** of the proposed research.

The gender aspects discussed in the proposal are not relevant, as the discussion is mainly based on gender-balance within the team, rather than being related to the research.

Excellence 1.3

TIP:

- Role of supervisor reference to the Career Development Plan!
- Complementarity!
- Guidelines on Supervision!

Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host

- Show that the supervisor is an expert in the field (international collaborations, number of PhDs and post-docs; teaching experience, H2020/Horizon Europe or other prooject participations, publications, awards, etc.)
- Training planned- training through research, scientific/horizontal/transferable skills training detailed description. Role of secondment/nonacedemic placement!
- 2-3-way of transfer of knowledge



Excellence 1.4

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

- Describe how your professional experience makes you the most suitable to implement the project.
- Choose key highlights from your CV!
- Sell yourself, show that your are the BEST!

Excellence 3-4. Strengths

The supervisor's level of experience: the proven record of **high impact** publications, patents, and grants, along with very good international collaborations.

The two-way transfer of knowledge is sufficiently addressed. It includes an original element as the researcher will bring to the host also their know-how on transferring ideas from the lab bench to possible practical applications.

The technical training plan is of very good quality and also involves two supervisors (academic and SME).

The two proposed secondments are relevant and in line with the proposal objectives.

The training plan includes career development courses focusing on transferable skills, intellectual property development, commercialisation, grant writing, negotiation and leadership.

The supervisor has a very strong research profile in the field, very good experience as a group leader training students and postdocs, and with very relevant international collaboration, including ERC starting grant realisation.

Excellence 3-4. Weaknesses

The researcher has a narrow publication profile and a limited experience in the presentation of research in international contexts in relation to the age. Previous management experience and skills are not clearly specified.

The expertise of the supervisor in supervising and training post-doc researchers is not sufficiently presented.

The researcher's expertise does not go far beyond the host's, thus the transfer is not convincing.

There is no clear training plan to help the researcher achieve full professional independence.

The soft skills training measures are not described in sufficient detail.



Impact



Impact

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

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

Impact 2.1

TIP: Very specific goals – e.g. independent group leader, new lab, tenure track position, found a spin-off, etc.

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

- How will the researcher's knowledge, expertise, skills improve as a result of the fellowship? How will the researcher benefit from the fellowship? What are the expectations?
- What will be the impact of the fellowship on the researcher's career within and outside academia?
 - Career goals
 - Future oppportunities opening up?
 - New EU/international cooperation
 - Industry connections



Impact 2.2

TIP:

- During and after the project!
- Create a table!

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

- Dissemination and exploitation plan (including communication) – obligatory deliverable
- Target groups, activities, messages, dates.
- Outreach public audience. Various communication channels (social media, blogs, etc.)
- Exploitation, IP management issues, if relevant, contact TT office!



Impact 2.3

TIPs:

- Long-term impact!
- Green Deal, Missions,
 Sustainable Development
 Goals!
- Not general ideas!

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

- Horizon Europe programme- impact oriented approach!
- Project's impacts direct contributions
 - Scientific impact
 - Economic/technological impact: new product, services, new market opportunities, etc.
 - Societal impact: decreasing mortality, decreasing CO2 emmissions, etc.
 - Be as specific as possible! Give an indication of magnetude (in figures) + target group.

Impact - Strengths

Several aspects that may foster the career perspectives of the researcher include a thorough training plan, the wide existing network of collaborations of the host group, the planned secondments, a continuously updated career development plan, the broadening of the skillset.

Researcher would be supported by the host's communication and social media team.

The proposed activities and measures such as networked collaborations, teaching duties, conference attendance and courses on funding and people management are very clearly aimed at increasing the career perspective of the researcher.

The communication activities to the wider public are based on **both traditional and web-based instruments** and very well planned.

The host institute has a technology transfer and commercialisation department that can further advise the researcher on IP protection and exploitation of the technology.

The publication opportunities, the additional teaching experience, the training in novel teaching techniques, and the acquisition of transferable skills would strongly foster the researcher's competitiveness on the academic job market

Impact - Weaknesses

Although the researcher acquires new knowledge and techniques, it is insufficiently specified how the proposal advances their career prospects, since the researcher already has in-depth experience in MS and complement.

The researcher has already been a visiting scholar at the hosting institute, and this may limit exposure to new research insights

The ability of outreach activities to attain a wider audience beyond a scientific one is not convincingly explained.

Target groups are mentioned but concrete strategies to reach out to them are not provided.

The proposal does not make sufficiently clear how results might have an impact beyond the duration of the project.

Quantified estimates on how the proposed research contributes to those impacts are not clearly indicate

The proposal does not appropriately identify several stakeholders that could potentially be impacted, e.g. including civil society organisations. Expected contributions to scientific, social and economic impacts are discussed only generically, without properly identifying tangible meansh for their realisation

Implementation



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

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

Implementation 3.1

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

- Workplan, work packages, deliverables, milestones
- Gantt chart deliverables, milestones, secondments, placements
- Risk management contingency plan, mitigation measures. Consider scientific and administrative risks.

TIP:

- Max. 6 WPs
- Use a table for risk management

Implementation 3.2

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

- Hosting arrangements: how the researcher is integrated in the research team.
 - Networking opportunities
 - Support services in the host (HR)
 - Charter and Code / HR Logo, etc.
 https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/euraxess/charter-code-researchers
- Global Fellowship both hosts!
- Infrastructure, office equipment references to B2.5!
- Non-academic placement hosting arrangements!



Implementation - Strengths

Hosting arrangements are clearly accounted for and range from office space, library and laboratory access, to impressive support of the postdoctoral community by the research team and host institution.

The Gantt chart is very clear and carefully prepared, and includes all elements relevant to the research, namely work packages, deliverables, milestones and secondment.

The effort assigned to different work packages is properly set and distributed alongside the project duration.



Implementation - Weaknesses

Critical risks such as experimental risks, supply chain failure and administrative risks are not identified. The discussion of risks is limited to safety related issues.

Some work packages
overlap with each other (e.g.
WP3 Fieldwork contains
elements of WP5
Dissemination).

The description of the work packages is general, thus timing and duration not convincing.

Some of the time allocated to certain tasks may put at risk the success of the implementation of the fellowship. For instance, academic publications are planned just the last four months of the

fellowship, fieldwork is planned to be in just a month in each country.





Concluding remarks



Thank you for your attention!

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