



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)

*Synergies  
with European Structural & Investment Funds  
(ESIF)*



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DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture  
Zagreb, 6 February 2018

# HORIZON 2020

## Excellent Science

European Research Council

Future and Emerging Technologies

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**

Research Infrastructures

## Industrial Leadership

Leadership in Enabling & Industrial Technologies

- > Information and communication technologies
- > Nanotechnologies
- > Advanced materials
- > Biotechnology
- > Advanced manufacturing and processing
- > Space

Access to Risk Finance

Innovation in SME

## Societal Challenges

- > Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing
- > Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio- economy
- > Secure, clean and efficient Energy
- > Smart, Green and Integrated Transport
- > Climate Action, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials
- > Europe in a changing world: Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies
- > Secure Societies - Protecting Freedom and Security of Europe and its Citizens

**Widening Participation**

**Science with & for Society**

**European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT)**

**Euratom**

**Joint Research Centre (JRC)**

EUR 6.2 Billion



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



European Commission

Education and Culture

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

**Innovative Training Networks - ITN**

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**Individual Fellowships - IF**

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**Research and Innovation Staff Exchange - RISE**

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**Cofunding of regional, national, and international  
Doctoral/ Fellowship Programmes - COFUND**

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**European Researchers' Night - NIGHT**

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# Horizon 2020

## Synergies with ESIF

in theory...

- **Guide on synergies ESIF/H2020/other R&I EU programmes**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf)



**BUT in practice** some issues arose...

- **Conference on synergies H2020 – ESIF in March 2017**

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/synergies-between-european-structural-and-investment-funds-esif-research-and-innovation-funding-the-stairway-to-excellence-s2e->



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

### Innovative Training Networks - ITN

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**Individual Fellowships - IF** ⇒ *IF Seal of Excellence*

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### Research and Innovation Staff Exchange - RISE

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**Cofunding of regional, national, and international  
Doctoral/ Fellowship Programmes** ⇒ *COFUND*

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### European Researchers' Night - NIGHT

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# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

# COFUND

# MSCA COFUND OBJECTIVE



# MSCA COFUND – Financial Construction

(EUR 10 M max per beneficiary and per call)

FOR EACH RESEARCHER EVERY MONTH



## LIVING ALLOWANCE

Employment contract  
(or contract with equivalent benefits)



MSCA EU  
Contribution

€ 1935

Doctoral

€ 2740

Postdoctoral



Beneficiary  
Contribution

min. € 774\*

min. € 1096\*



## MANAGEMENT COSTS

€ 325



## OTHER COSTS

€ 0



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and Culture

\* More precisely: [Total Living allowance + mobility allowance] should reach at minimum in total:  
1935+774= € 2709 for DP and 2740+1096= € 3836 for FP.



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

Co-funding of regional, national, and international R&I doctoral or fellowship programmes - COFUND

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## Why Synergies with ESIF?

- ✓ Support regional policies by **internationalisation of HR in research**;
- ✓ Programmes that prioritise specific scientific disciplines based on **R&I smart specialisation strategies (RIS3)** may also be supported;

# MSCA COFUND – Financial Construction

## Synergies with ESIF

FOR EACH RESEARCHER EVERY MONTH



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### MANAGEMENT COSTS

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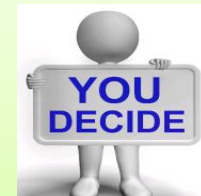
### OTHER COSTS



Non-H2020 EU  
Contribution

Synergies with ESIF

€ TBD



\* More precisely: [Total Living allowance + mobility allowance] should reach at minimum in total:  
1935+774= € 2709 for DP and 2740+1096= € 3836 for FP.



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

Co-funding of regional, national, and international R&I doctoral or fellowship programmes - COFUND

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### What can synergies with ESIF be used for?

To (co-)fund cost items of your DP or FP which are not covered by the MSCA, provided that these are in alignment with ESIF objectives and rules.

Examples:

- **Cover research costs (e.g for heavy equipment) and training/ networking costs** related to your COFUND programme
- **Support non-mobile researchers** in your programme
- **Build a new large research infrastructure** to host COFUND researchers

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

Co-funding of regional, national, and international R&I doctoral or fellowship programmes - COFUND

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## Examples of synergies between COFUND and ESIF (1)

- **Welsh Assembly Government (UK): SIRCIW COFUND project**  
<http://www.ewrcp.eu/odays/presentation/354>
- **South Moravian Region (CZ): SoMoPro COFUND projects (1->3)**  
<http://www.ewrcp.eu/odays/presentation/355>
- **Others?**

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## Synergies with ESIF

Co-funding of regional, national, and international R&I doctoral or fellowship programmes - COFUND

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## Examples of synergies between COFUND and ESIF (2)

- ✓ These are examples of **sequential or parallel synergies/complementarities**
- ✓ **Cumulative synergies of MSCA-COFUND funds with ESIF are also possible within individuals COFUND projects** (see p.66-68 of the Guide on Synergies<sup>‡</sup>).
- ✓ **Regions/Countries setting up a COFUND project could enlarge the scope and increase the impact of their programme with additional (not substitutive!) co-funding from ESIF.** This could be of particular interest to **regions/countries that have foreseen such kind of objectives and priorities in their ESIF Operational Programmes** (incl. widening countries).

<sup>‡</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf)



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# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

# Seal Of Excellence

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

Individual Fellowships - IF ⇒ *IF Seal of Excellence (SoE)*

- **Oversubscription** / very good proposals not being funded – budget limitations
- **In addition to IF grants, award of SoE to non-IF grantees that scored high but could not receive funding :**

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/soe/index.cfm?pg=opportunities\\_msca](https://ec.europa.eu/research/soe/index.cfm?pg=opportunities_msca)



2331 SoE awarded - IF 2016 call

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## Synergies with ESIF

**Individual Fellowships - IF** ⇒ *Seal of Excellence (SoE)*

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### ➤ Why the IF SoE?

- **Interesting for researchers & their host institutions:**

⇒ provide researchers with recognition of quality and help their career

⇒ support researchers and host institutions to find alternative funding

- **Interesting for regional/national funders:**

⇒ identify excellent researchers, without the need to carry out new evaluations (already high-quality assessment performed by EU)



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

**Individual Fellowships - IF**    ⇒ *Seal of Excellence (SoE)*

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- **Entirely up to national funders to use the SoE or not**
- **EC encourages use of regional, national and international funding sources, including Structural Funds (ESIF) to fund recipients of the IF SoE**
- **Early signs are promising with initiatives in place:**
  - **National measures using ERDF in CY and ESF in CZ**
  - National funding measure in SE
  - Measure at university level (University of Padova) in IT
  - Initiatives in pipeline from SI, PL, HR, EL, LT,
  - Interest from other universities/univ. bodies in some countries

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

### What was RECENTLY on the MSCA agenda?



- @ EWRC 2017, 11 October 2017, Workshop 'ATTRACT AND RETAIN TALENTED RESEARCHERS THROUGH H2020 MARIE CURIE CO-FUNDING!';  
⇒ showcasing COFUND impact and synergies with ESIF

<http://cor.europa.eu/EURegionsWeek2017/Pages/11B80-636445263185940710.aspx>

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Synergies with ESIF

### What is NOW on the MSCA agenda?

- **FOSTERING COLLABORATIONS** with:
  - **DG EMPL (ESF)** and **DG REGIO (ERDF)** to **provide further guidance on some of the co-funding modalities at the operational level** between MSCA-COFUND/ESIF/other sources of funding.

This will ensure that EU policy objectives linked to the respective funding sources are met, while multiplying their impact through **synergies occurring within individual COFUND projects**.
  - **DG JRC** (Synergies with ESIF in **COFUND programmes set-up in the context of a RIS3**)
  - **DG RTD.B5** that has the lead on **spreading excellence and fostering synergies in H2020**.
  - **Regions/Members States**
    - to **collect feedback on implementation of synergies between ESIF and MSCA-COFUND**
    - to **raise awareness on possibility of funding IF-SoE recipients (incl. through ESIF)**

- **MUTUAL LEARNING EXERCISE** on:  
"National practices in widening participation and strengthening synergies"

29 May 2017 – 30 April 2018

- **DG RTD.B5** and **DG.RTD A4**



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# Thank you for your attention!



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

For more information:  
[ec.europa.eu/msca](https://ec.europa.eu/msca)



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