

FUNDING OPTIONS IN EUROPE AND GERMANY

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QUICK PERSONAL BACKGROUND

- Studied biochemistry in Frankfurt (Germany) and Bath (UK)
- PhD in molecular and cell biology at EMBL in Heidelberg (Germany)
- Postdoc in virology at NIH (US)
- Scientific project coordinator in university clinic in Heidelberg (2009-2014)
- Head of research office at Geisenheim university (since 2014)

→ **Individual fellowship:** designed to support the individual person to in order to develop both research skills and, eventually, their own research program

→ **Project based:** designed to fund a specific piece/ question of work. Varies in size (project associated with one person or collaborative project with many people involved, e.g. EU projects)

Do your background work: Funding bodies, eligibility and guidelines

Ask yourself:

- is this the right funding body to apply to, for your proposed research?
- What details are included in the funding opportunity announcement?
- What recent grants have they approved in a similar field to yours?
- Download and study the submission guidelines
- What are their other calls to funding?
- Does your research match their priorities?
- Do I know someone who has/had a grant from that funder?

- **Get help and support:** most universities have a research office open for everyone, students and staff alike
- Plan generous amounts of time to prepare the proposal. Check with your universities' requirements, not just proposal deadline

Defining the research question

- It will evolve as a result of reflection following a thorough literature review, discussions with other members of the research team or colleagues and input from collaborators
- area that has to be perceived as important within your specific discipline *and* beyond (but do not exaggerate)
- Will be modified in the light of practical considerations such as numbers of potential study participants and costs
- Be concise and clear and get feedback in advance
- **Remember that not all reviewers will be specialists:** ask colleagues, who are not experts in the field, to read it and provide input
- Check funding criteria again

Detail the project, sticking to the guidelines: **TELL A GOOD STORY**

Usually

- Summary/ abstract
- Introduction/ Background
- Statement of problem, objective of project
- Materials and methods
- Milestones/ Deliverables
- Financial planning
- Impact
- Dissemination

Sometimes:

- Data management
- Effects on own career
- Ethics review (not just in medicine → data)

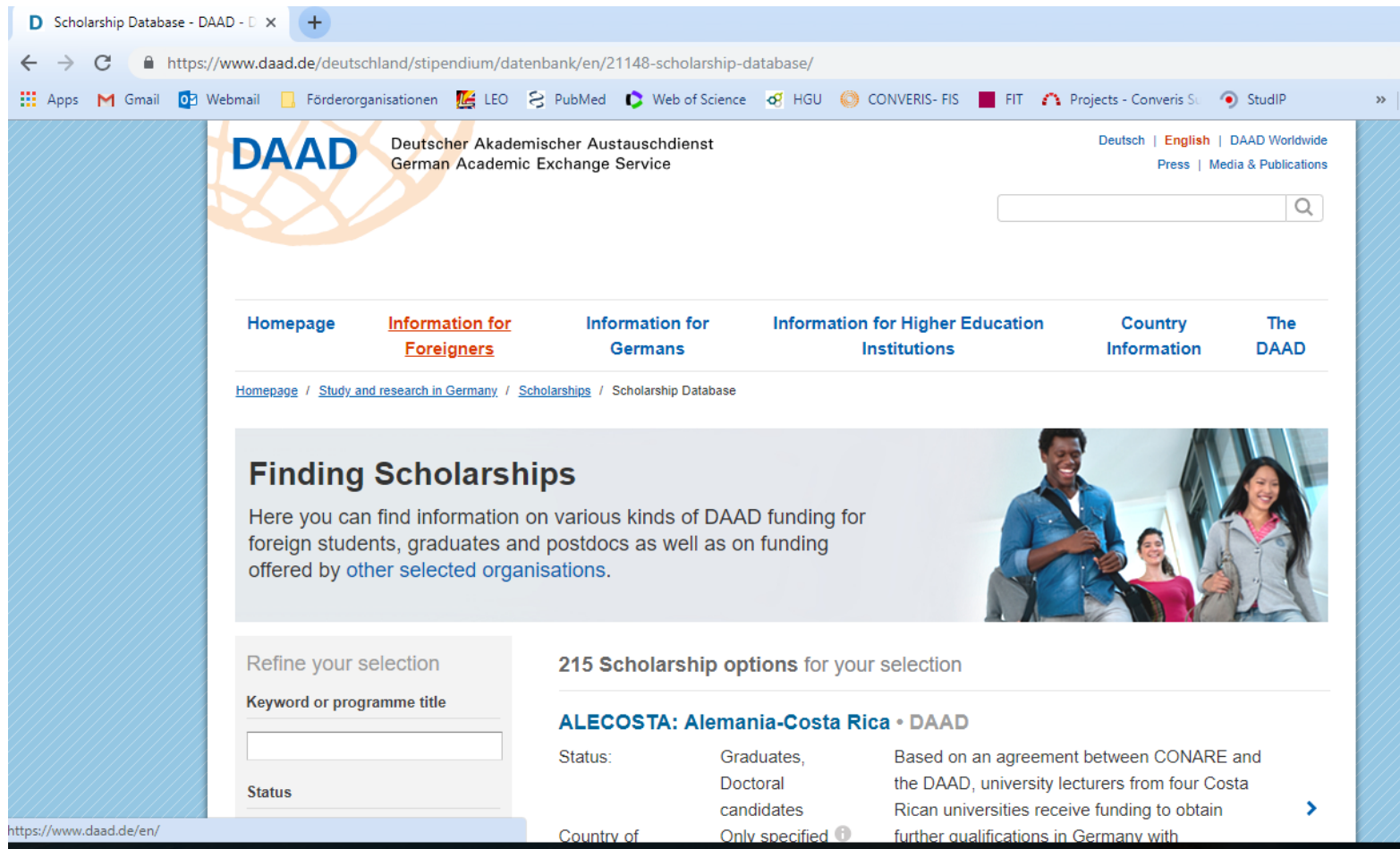
Avoid common pitfalls:

- Writing only for specialists in your field
- Proposing a project that does not meet the funding call criteria
- Not allowing yourself enough time
- Over-costing or poor budgeting
- Neglecting the impact plan
- Not clarifying your role or contribution in the project
- Unclear methodology
- Repetition
- Don't waste anyone's time (not yours, not the reviewers)

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR THESIS

GENERAL DATABASE FOR RESEARCH STAY IN GERMANY

<https://www.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/>



The screenshot shows the DAAD Scholarship Database website. The header includes the DAAD logo and the text "Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst German Academic Exchange Service". There are navigation links for "Deutsch", "English", and "DAAD Worldwide", along with "Press" and "Media & Publications". A search bar is present. The main navigation menu includes "Homepage", "Information for Foreigners", "Information for Germans", "Information for Higher Education Institutions", "Country Information", and "The DAAD". The breadcrumb trail reads "Homepage / Study and research in Germany / Scholarships / Scholarship Database". The main content area features a section titled "Finding Scholarships" with the text: "Here you can find information on various kinds of DAAD funding for foreign students, graduates and postdocs as well as on funding offered by other selected organisations." Below this, there is a "Refine your selection" section with a "Keyword or programme title" search box and a "Status" dropdown menu. The results section shows "215 Scholarship options for your selection" and lists "ALECOSTA: Alemania-Costa Rica • DAAD". The details for ALECOSTA include: "Status: Graduates, Doctoral candidates" and "Country of: Only specified". A description states: "Based on an agreement between CONARE and the DAAD, university lecturers from four Costa Rican universities receive funding to obtain further qualifications in Germany with".

GENERAL DATABASE FOR RESEARCH STAY IN GERMANY

Refine your selection

Keyword or programme title

Status

Graduates ✕ ▼

Country of Origin i

-- No restriction -- ▼

Subject

Veterinary Medicine/Agricul... ✕ ▼

DAAD funding programmes only

[Refine your selection »](#)

Refine your selection

Keyword or programme title

Status

Graduates ✕ ▼

Country of Origin i

Greece ✕ ▼

Subject

Veterinary Medicine/Agricul... ✕ ▼

DAAD funding programmes only

[Refine your selection »](#)

Disclaimer: The information on types of funding offered by other organisations has been compiled by the DAAD with the greatest possible care. Nevertheless, the

25 Scholarship options for your selection

Practical Traineeships for Foreign Students of Natural and Technical Sciences, Agriculture and Forestry (IAESTE) • DAAD

Status: Undergraduates, Graduates
Country of Origin: Only specified i
Subject: Only specified i
IAESTE arranges internships for international students of the natural sciences, engineering and agriculture and forestry...

Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders • DAAD

Status: Graduates, Postdoctoral researchers, Faculty
Country of Origin: Only specified i
Subject: Only specified i
DAAD scholarships for former scholarship holders wishing to carry out research or work projects and maintain their academic contacts in Germany...

Research Grants – Cotutelle Doctoral Programmes • DAAD

Status: Graduates, Doctoral
DAAD grants for doctoral candidates and young scientists and academics wishing to complete a

DBU PHD SCHOLARSHIP: GERMAN SKILLS REQUIRED!

The DBU provides support in the following 13 funding topics:

- 1. Instruments and competencies of sustainability assessment, and reinforcement of sustainability consciousness and practice
- 2. Sustainable nutrition and sustainable management of foods
- 3. Development, design and acceptance of environmentally-friendly movable consumer goods
- 4. Renewable energies – accelerating a revolution in decentralized heating, optimizing existing facilities and reducing negative environmental impacts
- 5. Climate- and resource-saving construction
- 6. Energy- and resource-saving neighborhood development and renewal.
- 7. Reduction of CO₂ emissions in energy-intensive industries
- 8. Resource efficiency through innovative materials technology
- 9. Flow management and efficient use of phosphorus and environmentally critical metals
- **10. Reduction of nitrogen use in agriculture**
- **11. Integrated concepts and measures for the protection and management of groundwater and surface waters**
- **12. Nature protection and sustainable use of nature in human-modified environments and protected areas**
- 13. Preservation and securing of valuable national cultural assets against harmful environmental influences.
- **14. Open topic**

What we expect from you

- you aim at innovative and sustainable solutions for current environmental issues within your PhD thesis
- above-average university degree
- your PhD project covers current environmental topics in Germany or global issues with relevance for Germany
- sufficient skills of German; application and interview are in German; your PhD thesis has to be undertaken at a German university
- you have not started your PhD thesis yet; if you have been working scientifically on your topic since more than one year after obtaining your university degree, we consider that you have started your PhD thesis
- please check our guidelines in German for further information: [Förderleitlinien](#)

Funding

- up to 60 PhD scholars are funded per year; you can check our [database](#) for project examples
- funding period: 36 months
- monthly grant: 1.500 €
- monthly material expenses: 210€
- further material expenses if applicable

Mentoring

- mentoring by DBU staff
- one week seminar per year for presenting your results, excursions and interdisciplinary networking
- support to organize own scientific workshops
- invitation to events of the DBU
- networking between scholars and alumni via the web-based platform Stipnet

What we expect from you

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Application procedure (**only in German**)

- First of all, please check the requirements detailed in our guidelines in German: [Förderleitlinien](#). You can save a lot of time and work!
- [register online](#)
- complete all required fields and upload a detailed description of your intended research work in German (check our [Förderleitlinien](#) for the outline)
- submit all needed documents (check our [Förderleitlinien](#) for the details) by regular mail indicating your reference number until 15th of January/ 15th of June respectively (date stamp)

PROJECT GRANTS

- **German Federal Ministry of food and agriculture (BMEL)**
 - https://www.bmel.de/DE/Ministerium/StellenangeboteAusschreibungen/_Funcions/Ausschreibung_table.html
- **German Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF):**
 - Calls tend to be with deadlines within a few months
 - Mostly mobility for international projects with the ultimate goal of applying for EU funding
 - Research projects often on a national scale
 - <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/>
 - Get the newsletter!
- **ZIM**
 - Projects with SMEs
 - <https://www.zim.de/ZIM/Navigation/DE/Foerderangebote/Kooperationsprojekte/kooperationsprojekte.html>

EU FUNDING

PRIMA - PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

→ build **research and innovation** capacities and **to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for agro-food systems** to make them sustainable, and for integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area, to make those systems and that provision and management more **climate resilient, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally and socially sustainable**, and to **contribute to solving water scarcity, food security, nutrition, health, well-being and migration** problems upstream

- 15 countries are formal participants of the initiative. 11 EU member states (**Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain**), **Israel, Tunisia and Turkey, Algeria**
- <http://prima-med.org/>

New Calls for Proposals expected at the beginning of 2019

Part I – Excellent Science

1. European Research Council
(ERC)

2. Future and Emerging
Technologies (FET)

3. Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions (MSCA)

4. European Research
Infrastructures, including
e-infrastructures

Part II – Industrial Leadership

1. Leadership in Enabling &
Industrial Technologies (LEIT)
– Information and
Communication Technologies
– Nanotechnologies, Advanced
Materials, Advanced
Manufacturing and Processing
and Biotechnology
– Space

2. Access to Risk Finance

3. Innovation in SMEs

Part III – Societal Challenges

1. Health, demographic change
and wellbeing
2. **Food security, sustainable
agriculture, marine, maritime
and inland water research
and the bioeconomy**
3. Secure, clean and efficient
energy
4. Smart, green and integrated
transport
5. Climate action, environment,
resource efficiency and raw
materials
6. Inclusive, innovative and
reflective societies
7. Protecting freedom and security

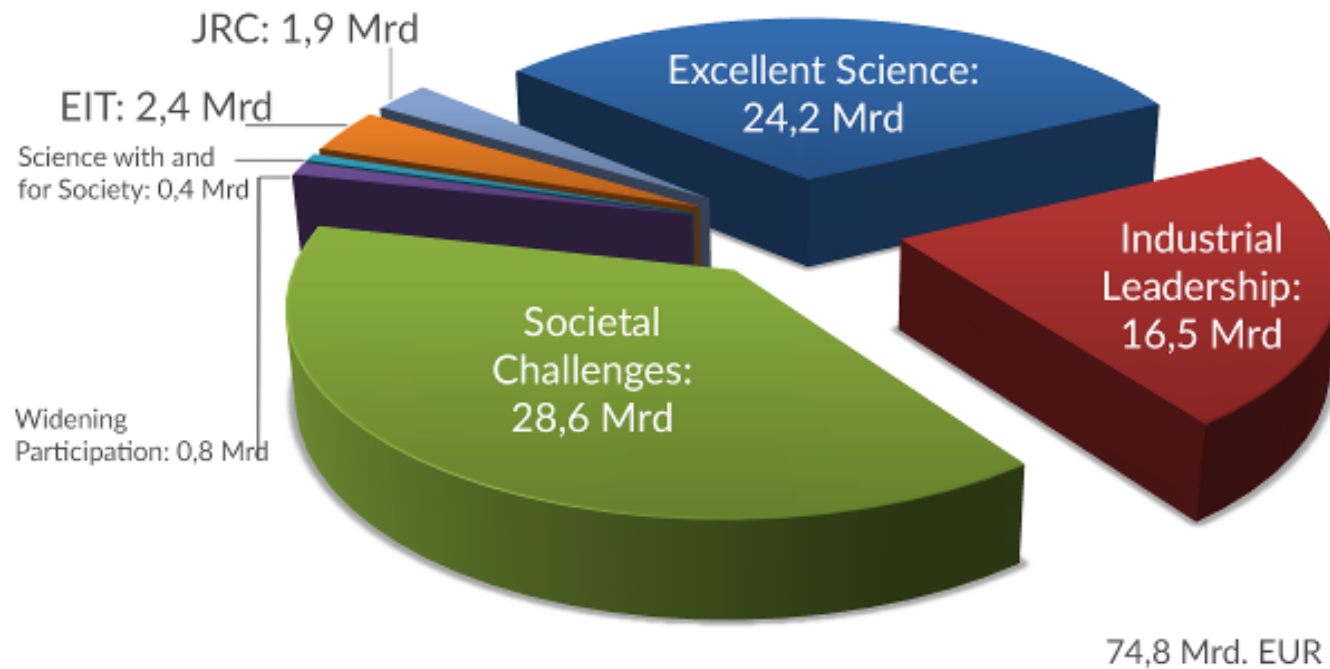
Part IV
Spreading excellence &
widening participation

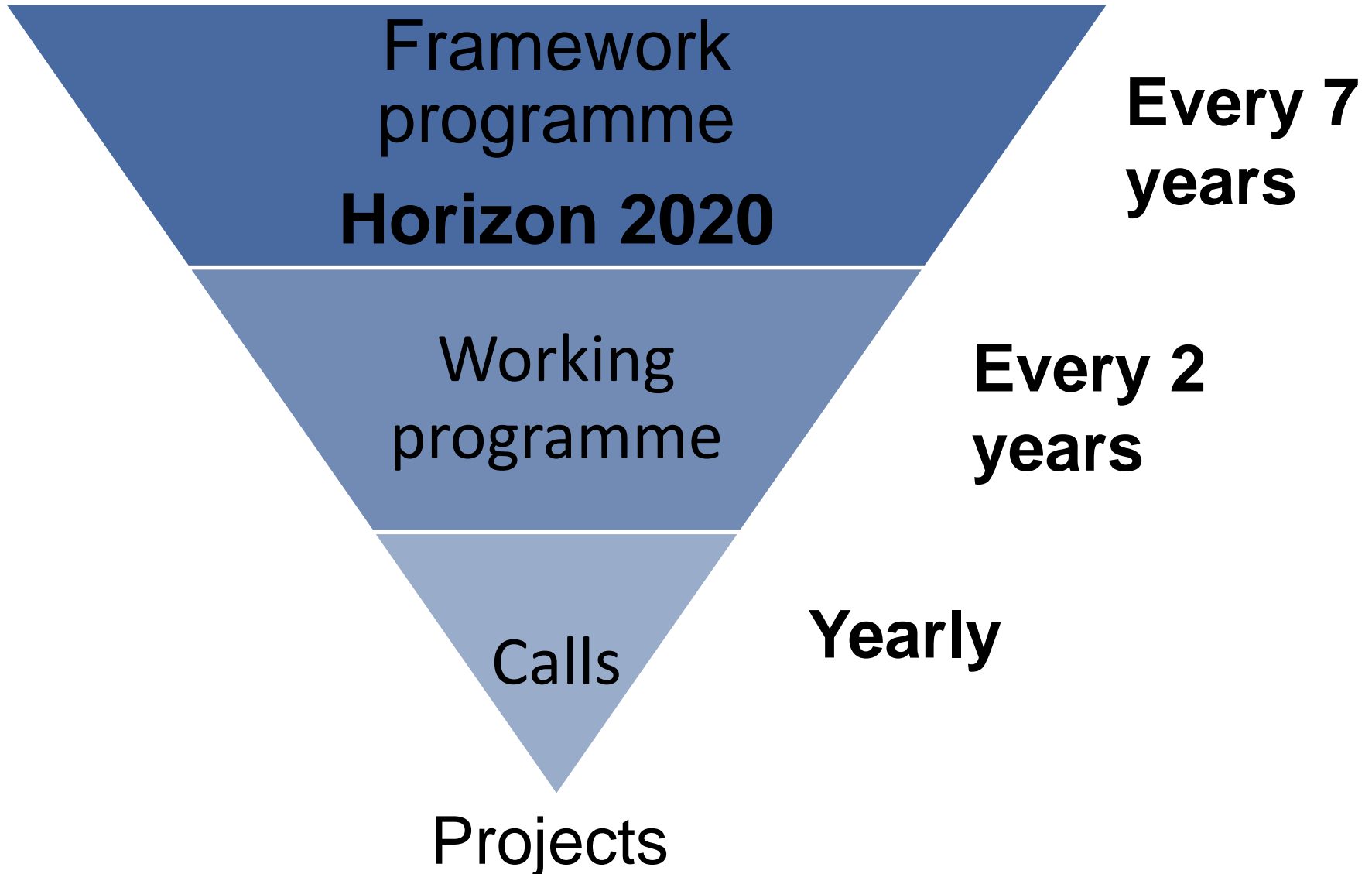
Part V
Science with &
for Society

Non-nuclear direct
actions of the Joint
Research Centre (JRC)

The European
Institute of Innovation
and Technology (EIT)

Horizon 2020 Budget





Horizon 2020

Work Programme 2018-2020

9. Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy

Important notice on the Horizon 2020 Work Programme

This Work Programme covers 2018, 2019 and 2020. The parts that relate to 2019 and 2020 are provided at this stage on an indicative basis. Such Work Programme parts will be decided during 2018 and/or 2019.

- **Call - Sustainable Food Security**
- **Call - Rural Renaissance**

Searched WP for keywords:

- greenhouse (only in GHG)
- Protected (only protected areas/ landscapes)
- Glass (0 hits)

LC-SFS-15-2018: Future proofing our plants

Specific Challenge: It is well established that current food systems are under pressure due to the compounded effects of population growth, urbanisation, migration, resource scarcity, increasing demand for animal protein, land use change, climate change. Under certain circumstances, higher temperatures and CO₂ concentration are leading to enhanced plant growth but often lower quality, with subsequent impact on food value chains. Also, food production systems strongly rely on plant resources for food or feed but also often depend on chemical inputs that could have negative impacts on both the environment and on human and animal health, resulting in lower system resilience and increased societal concerns. A plausible way to tackle the challenges is future proofing those plants' qualities that could serve as a path to increased nutrition security and sustainable food systems. Now the time has come to capitalise on the results of decades of extensive plant research, while strategically moving towards a system approach to food chains.

Scope: Proposals shall map, assess and prioritise the technologies and methodologies for plant (both terrestrial and aquatic) improvement with a focus on enhancing plant nutrition efficiency and yield, enhancing nutrition and sensory quality, and ensuring environmental protection. Existing and new approaches and technologies should be assessed to best encompass future research and innovation aiming at plant improvement, while developing a holistic approach to exploit the potential of plant research. Following the RRI principles, proposals should ensure that societal actors (researchers, citizens/CSOs, policy makers, businesses, etc.) are brought together to align the forthcoming research programmes with the values, needs, and expectations of society. Gender aspects should also be considered.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of the order of EUR 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Action primarily consisting of activities aiming to establish **new knowledge and/or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution**. For this purpose they may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment. Projects may contain closely connected but limited demonstration or pilot activities aiming to show technical feasibility in a near to operational environment.

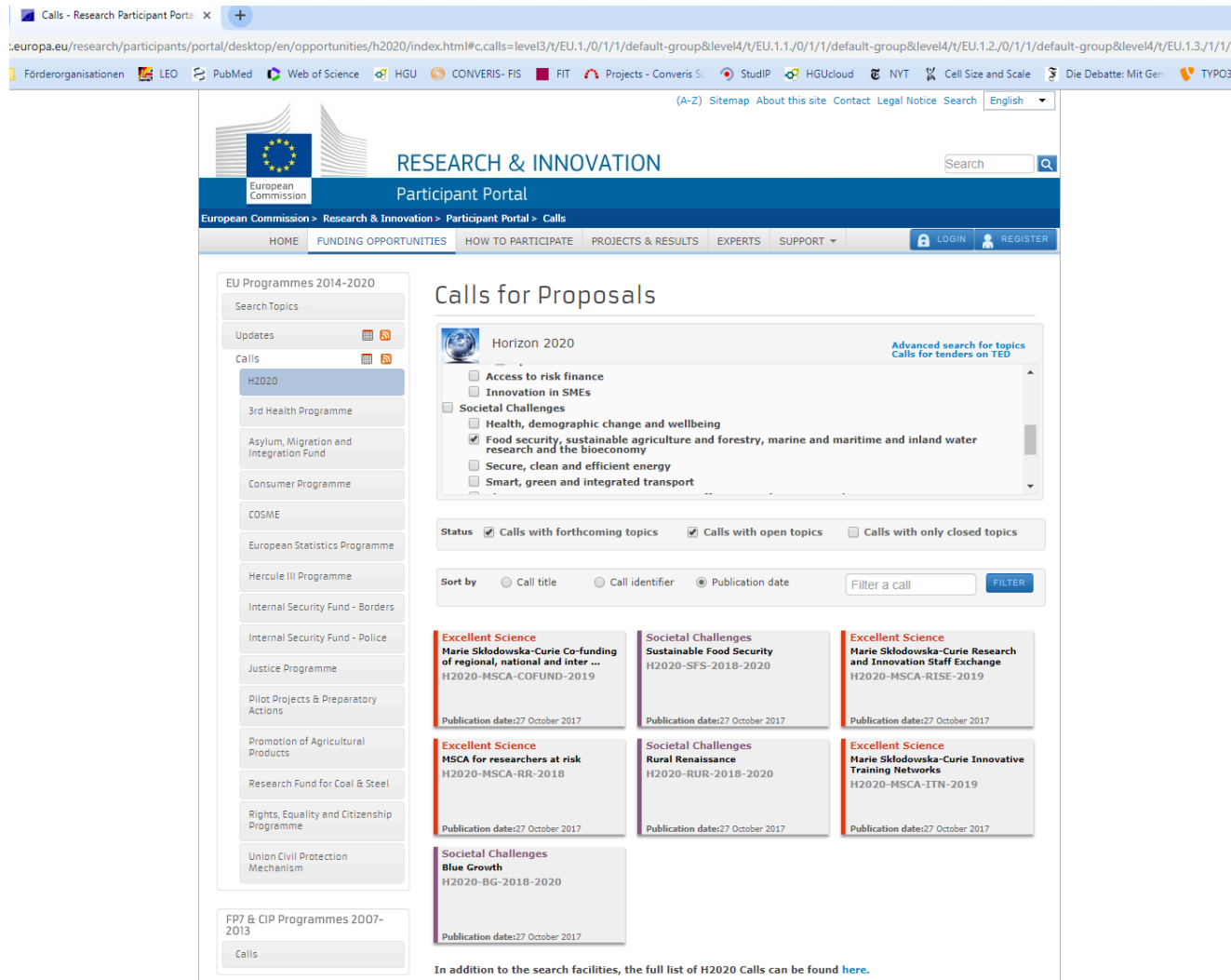
NEW FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME: HORIZON EUROPE

- On 7 June 2018: EC published its proposal for **Horizon Europe**, the next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027).
- proposed budget allocation includes **€94.1 billion**
- three pillars: Open Science, Global Challenges & Industrial Competiveness, and Open Innovation, complemented by an additional fourth programme area “Strengthening the European Research and Innovation Area”.
- The **Open Science** pillar (€25.8 billion) will support frontier research through the European Research Council (€16.6 billion), funds fellowships and exchanges for researchers through Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (€6.8 billion), and invests in research infrastructures (€2.4 billion)

- **Global Challenges and Industrial Competiveness** pillar (€52.7 billion) will support research relating to societal challenges, technological and industrial capacities, and sets the basis for EU-wide missions aiming to tackle bold and ambitious goals with a high societal relevance.
 - Health: €7.7 billion
 - Inclusive & Secure Society: €2,8 billion
 - Digital & Industry: €15 Mrd. billion
 - Climate, Energy & Mobility: €15 billion
 - Food & Natural Resources: €10 billion
- The **Open Innovation** pillar (€13.5 billion) aims to support market-creating innovation via the European Innovation Council (€10 billion). In addition, this pillar also covers the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT, €3 billion).
- The main components of the “**Strengthening the European Research Area**” part (€2.1 billion) are “sharing excellence” (€1.7 billion); and “reforming and enhancing the European R&I system” (€400 million), also covering the next generation Policy Support Facility.

Let's look at the participant portal!

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/>



The screenshot shows the 'Calls for Proposals' page on the European Commission's Research & Innovation Participant Portal. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'HOME', 'FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES', and 'HOW TO PARTICIPATE'. A sidebar on the left lists various EU programmes from 2014-2020, with 'H2020' selected. The main content area displays a list of calls for proposals, including 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Co-funding of regional, national and inter...' and 'MSCA for researchers at risk'. A search filter is set to 'Publication date'.

EU Programmes 2014-2020

- Search Topics
- Updates
- Calls
 - H2020**
 - 3rd Health Programme
 - Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
 - Consumer Programme
 - COSME
 - European Statistics Programme
 - Hercule III Programme
 - Internal Security Fund - Borders
 - Internal Security Fund - Police
 - Justice Programme
 - Pilot Projects & Preparatory Actions
 - Promotion of Agricultural Products
 - Research Fund for Coal & Steel
 - Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme
 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism
- FP7 & CIP Programmes 2007-2013
 - Calls

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Calls

HOME FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES HOW TO PARTICIPATE PROJECTS & RESULTS EXPERTS SUPPORT LOGIN REGISTER

Calls for Proposals

Horizon 2020

Advanced search for topics
Calls for tenders on TED

- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs
- Societal Challenges
 - Health, demographic change and wellbeing
 - Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
 - Secure, clean and efficient energy
 - Smart, green and integrated transport

Status Calls with forthcoming topics Calls with open topics Calls with only closed topics

Sort by Call title Call identifier Publication date Filter a call FILTER

<p>Excellent Science</p> <p>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Co-funding of regional, national and inter ...</p> <p>H2020-MSCA-COFUND-2019</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>	<p>Societal Challenges</p> <p>Sustainable Food Security</p> <p>H2020-SFS-2018-2020</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>	<p>Excellent Science</p> <p>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange</p> <p>H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>
<p>Excellent Science</p> <p>MSCA for researchers at risk</p> <p>H2020-MSCA-RR-2018</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>	<p>Societal Challenges</p> <p>Rural Renaissance</p> <p>H2020-RUR-2018-2020</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>	<p>Excellent Science</p> <p>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks</p> <p>H2020-MSCA-ITN-2019</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>
<p>Societal Challenges</p> <p>Blue Growth</p> <p>H2020-BG-2018-2020</p> <p>Publication date:27 October 2017</p>		

In addition to the search facilities, the full list of H2020 Calls can be found [here](#).

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STAFF EXCHANGE (RISE)

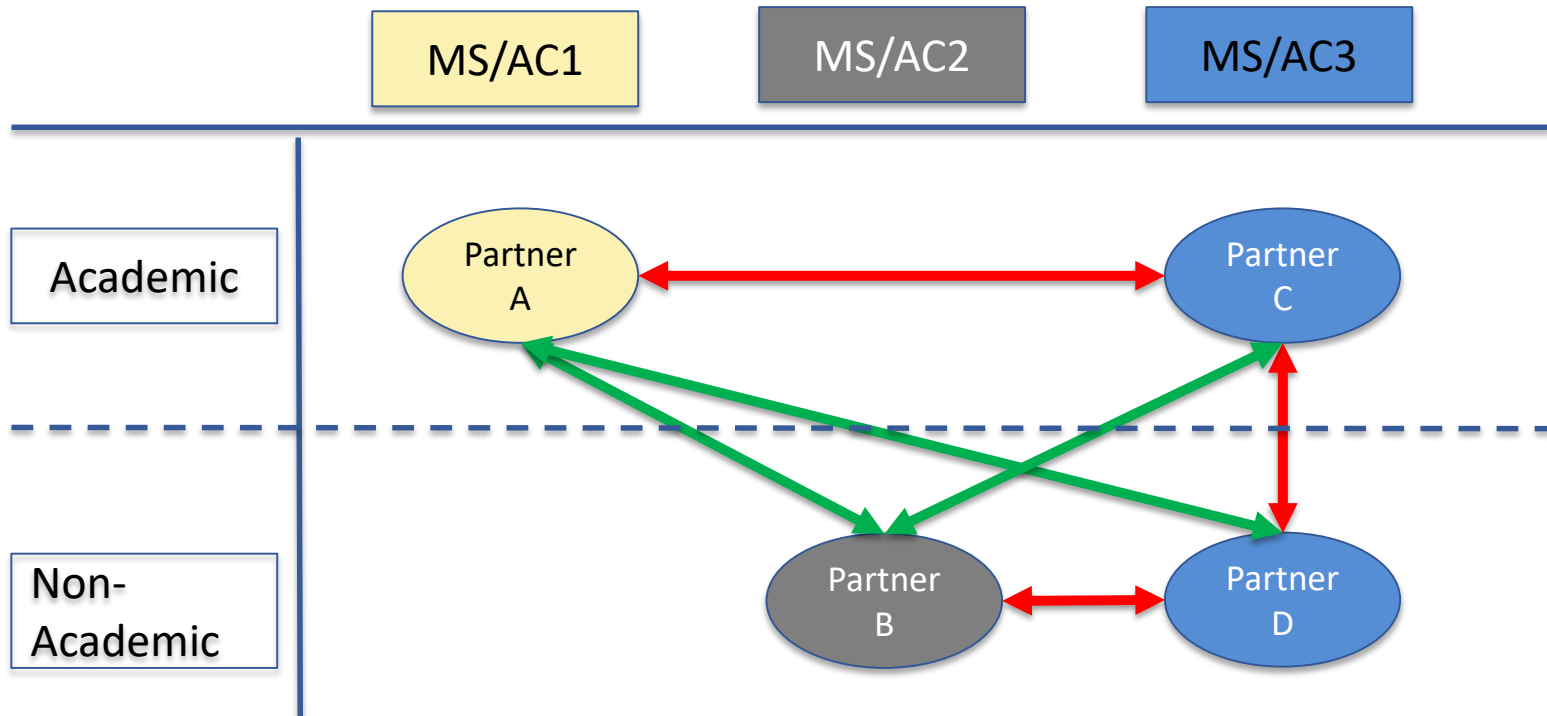
- Objective: The RISE scheme will **promote international and inter-sector collaboration** through research and innovation staff exchanges
- Scope: Support is provided for the development of partnerships in the form of a joint research and innovation project. This is aimed at **knowledge sharing via international as well as intersectoral mobility, based on secondments of research and innovation staff (exchanges)** with an in-built return mechanism.
- RISE should exploit **complementary competences** of the participating organisations, as well as other synergies, and **enable networking activities**, organisation of workshops and conferences to facilitate sharing of knowledge, new skills acquisition and career development for research and innovation staff members.

- Consortium has to consist of at least **3 partners**:
 - International exchange: 2 different MC/AC and 1 TC
 - Intersectoral: can be 3 MC/AC but one partner has to be non-academic
- Duration: up to 48 months for total projects
- Budget: maximum of 540 person-months

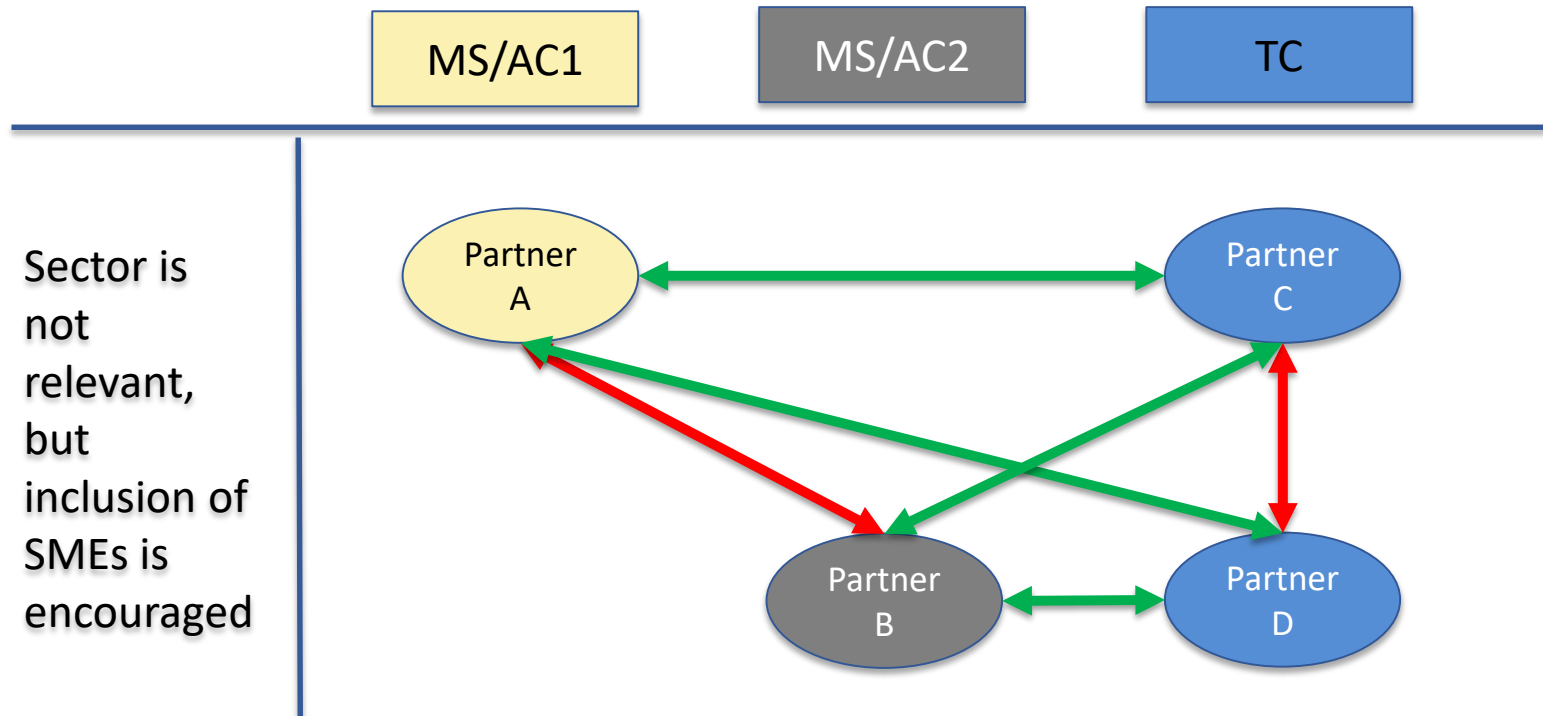
Institutional unit cost/ person-month secondment		
Staff member unit costs/ person-month secondment	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
€ 2.000	€ 1.800	€ 700

- Cost cover travel expenses, stay etc. but **NOT salary**
- Duration of secondment/ researcher: 1-12 months, can be split in several single stays
- Applicable for all staff (contract with home institute for at least 6 months prior to secondment), staff has to return to home institution

Example Intra-European Exchange



Example Europe-Third Country Exchange



- **High-income countries** (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States) can be Partner organisations, but part of their participation must be funded from their own budget and they need to contribute unique skill set
- SMEs should be part of networks
- Funds training networks, conferences, network activities etc.
- Success rate in 2016: 23%
- Deadline for 2018: March 21st, 2017

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORKS (ITN)

→ Improvement of career opportunities of Early Stage Researchers within a structured training network

→ Structuring already existing training capacities for researchers at the beginning of their career

→ **European Training Networks (ETN)**: at least 3 partners from 3 different EU Member States (MS) and/or Framework Programme Associated Countries (AC); recommended participation of partners from the non-academic sector; training shall comply with the “EU Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training”

→ **European Industrial Doctorates (EID)**: at least 2 partners from different MS/AC; at least one of the partners must be able to award a doctoral degree, at least one institution must come from the non-academic sector

→ **European Joint Doctorates (EJD)**: at least 3 institutions from 3 different MS/AS, which must be entitled to award doctoral degrees; at least 2 institutions from different MS/AC must award a joint, double or multiple doctoral degree

- Funding of networks for up to 4 years
- A maximum of 540 person months (not more than 180 for the European Industrial Doctorates with only 2 partners)
- funding for research costs, training, networking activities and coordination, as well as for management and overheads
- For a duration of 3 - 36 months
- only Early Stage Researchers can be funded
- Deadline 2017: Jan 17th, 2017 (usually beginning/mid January)

Success rates in 2015:

Overall 7,4%,

European Training Networks (ETN) → 6,8%

European Industrial Doctorates (EID) → 10,5%

European Joint Doctorates (EJD) → 10,5%