



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

## Staff Exchanges

**MSCA SE Infoday Croatia, 12 October 2021**

**Amir Spahić**

**European Research Executive Agency**



@REA\_research, @MSCAactions

# Overview



## 1. Policy background

Horizon Europe & MSCA



## 2. MSCA Staff Exchanges

- Objectives
- Added value
- Eligibility rules
- Budget
- Key features
- Proposal submission
- Evaluation criteria
- Next calls
- Additional Information

## 3. Questions and answers



# 1. Policy background

# HORIZON EUROPE

# EURATOM

## SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on  
defence research  
& development*

Research  
actions

Development  
actions

## SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT\*

*Exclusive focus on civil applications*



### Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



### Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



### Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation  
Council

European Innovation  
Ecosystems

European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology\*

## WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint  
Research  
Center

\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

# Five Missions Areas



Adaptation to  
climate change,  
including societal  
transformation



Cancer



Healthy oceans,  
seas, coastal &  
inland waters

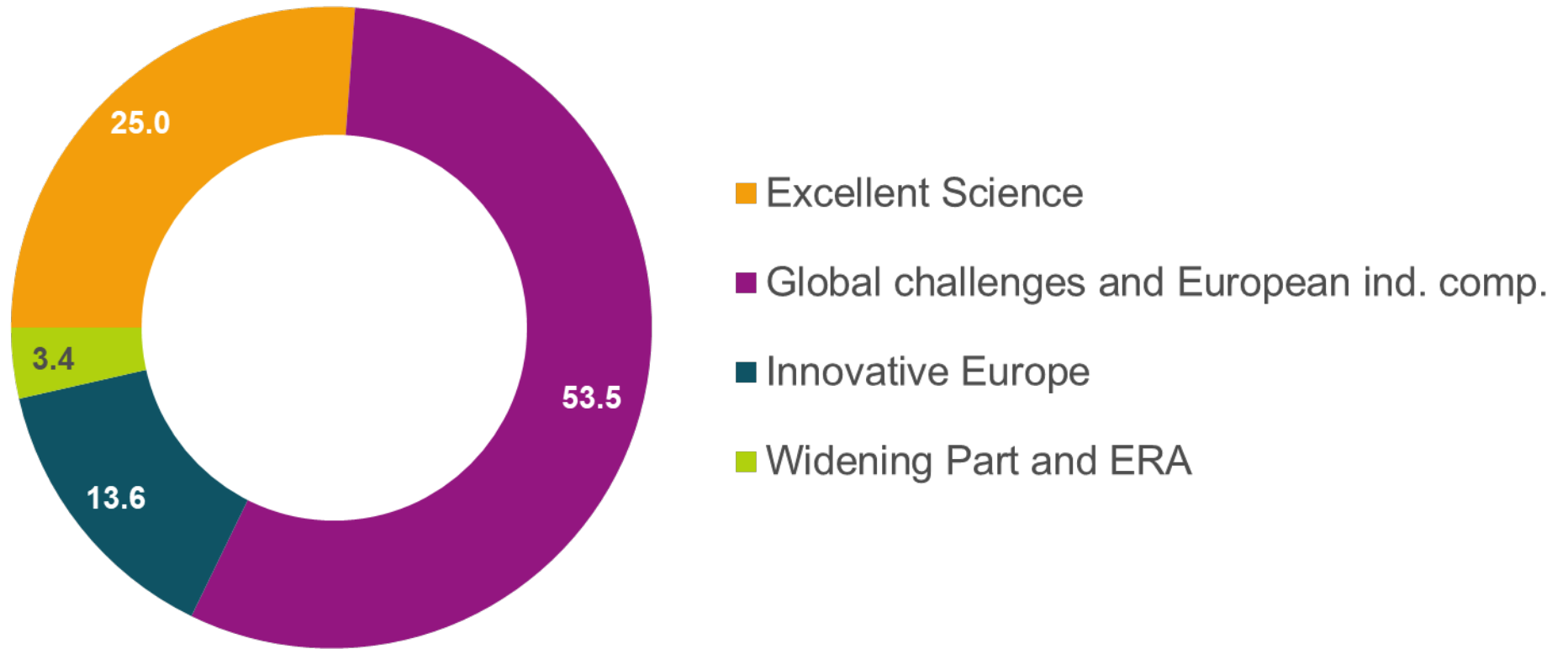


Climate-neutral  
& smart cities



Soil health &  
food

# Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)



# 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

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**



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

## 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

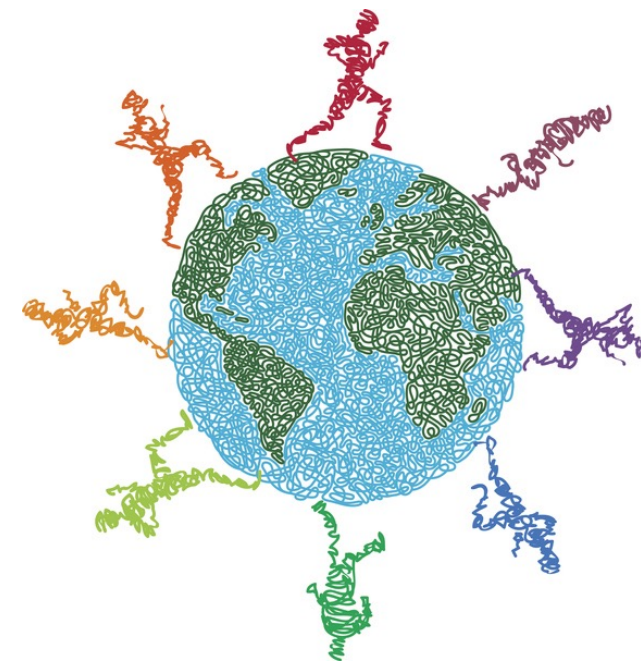
**encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff** through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

### 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: Key figures 2014-2020

**+65,000**

Researchers,  
including  
25,000 PhD  
candidates

**37%**

Researchers  
from outside  
EU

**6.2 billion €**

Under  
Horizon 2020

**+1,000**

Doctoral  
programmes

**+4,500**

Companies  
supported

**42%**

Female  
researchers

# MSCA: Key policies



**Researchers' training, skills & career development (all career stages)**



**Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)**



**International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility**



**Attractive working & employment conditions**



**Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes**



**Strong collaboration with industry & SMEs**

## 2. Staff Exchanges

### Main features

# Objectives



International, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility of R&I staff (“secondments”)

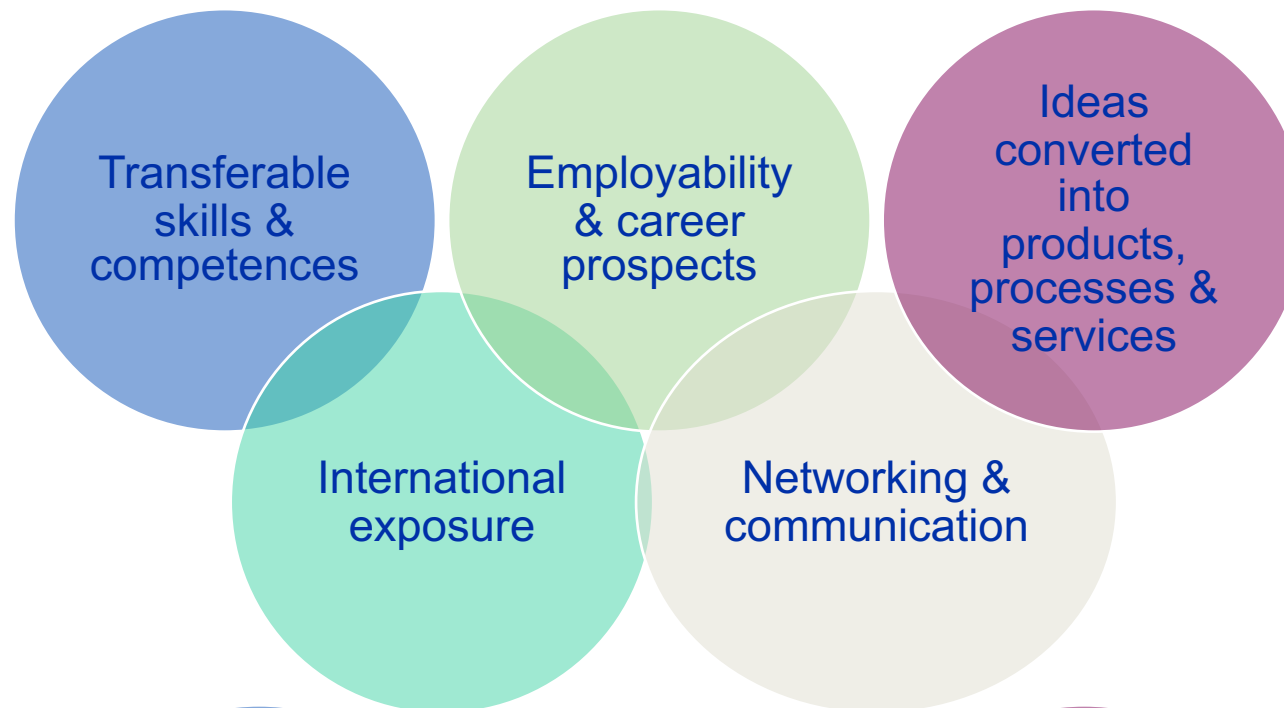
Knowledge transfer between participating organisations

Collaboration between the academic and non-academic sectors (including SMEs)

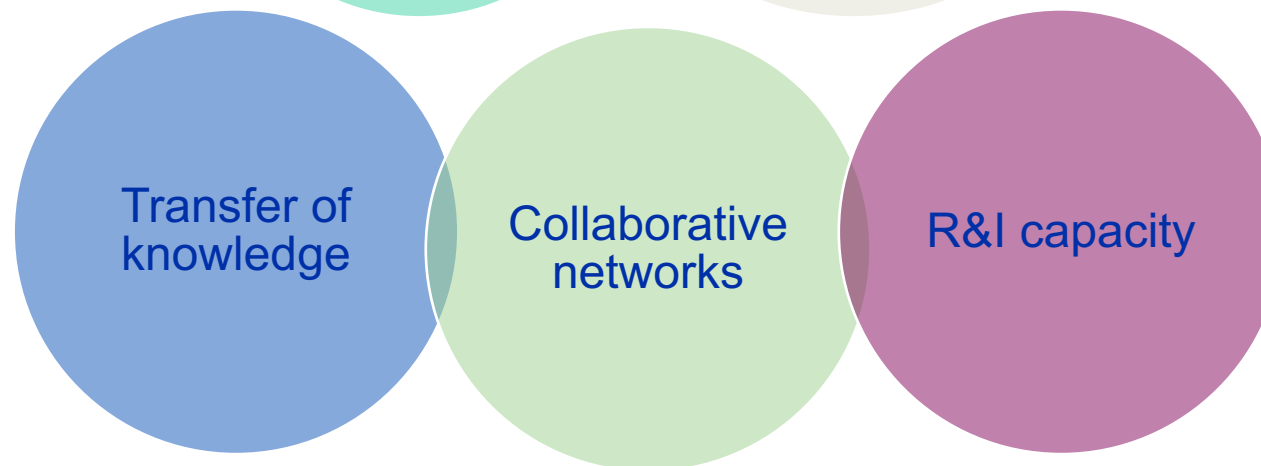
Cooperation across the globe

# Added value

## Staff members



## Organisations

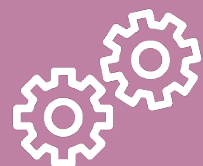


# Eligible participants

## Academic sector



Consortium of min. **3 legal entities in 3 different countries**, 2 of which in a different EU Member State or HE Associated Country



## Non-academic sector

If organisations from the **same sector**, there must be at least 1 organisation from a non-associated Third Country\*

\* Secondments within EU MS or HE AC must be between different sectors (between academic and non-academic), except for interdisciplinary secondments, which must be limited to a maximum of 1/3 of the total implemented months.



# Eligible staff



## Seconded staff members



Any type of staff involved in R&I activities (researchers, administrative staff, managerial staff, technical staff)

Researchers at any career stage (from doctoral candidates to postdoctoral researchers)

Actively engaged in research and/or innovation activities for at least **1 month** prior at the sending institution

Each staff member is seconded for a period of **1 to 12 months** (may be split into several stays)

Staff needs to be devoted **full-time** to the action during the secondment

After the secondment, staff should **return to their sending institution**

# Eligible exchanges

		"HOSTING" (receiving seconded staff members)		
		Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	Organisation in TC*
"SENDING" (seconding staff members from organisation)	Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	1/3	✓	✓
	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	✓	1/3	✓
	Organisation in TC*	✓	✓	✗

**1/3** This symbol refers to same sector secondments up to 1/3 of the total implemented secondments funded by the EU as long as they are demonstrated to be interdisciplinary.

\* denotes TC partners that are eligible for automatic funding

# Same-sector secondments in Europe (MS/AC)

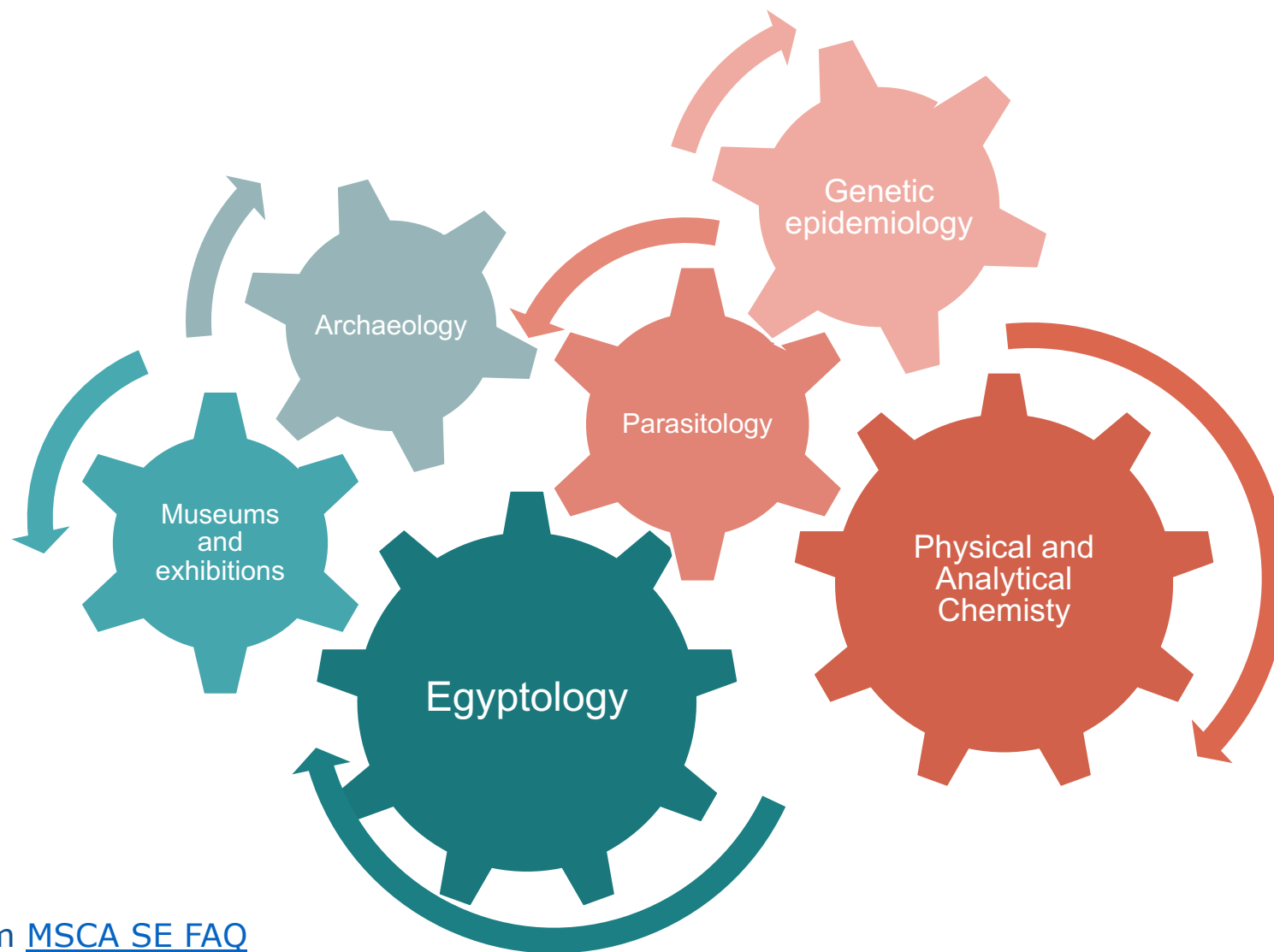


$\leq 1/3$  of the total secondments funded by the EU,  
if considered ***Interdisciplinary***

**Interdisciplinary secondments** integrate aspects  
from two or more different scientific disciplines.

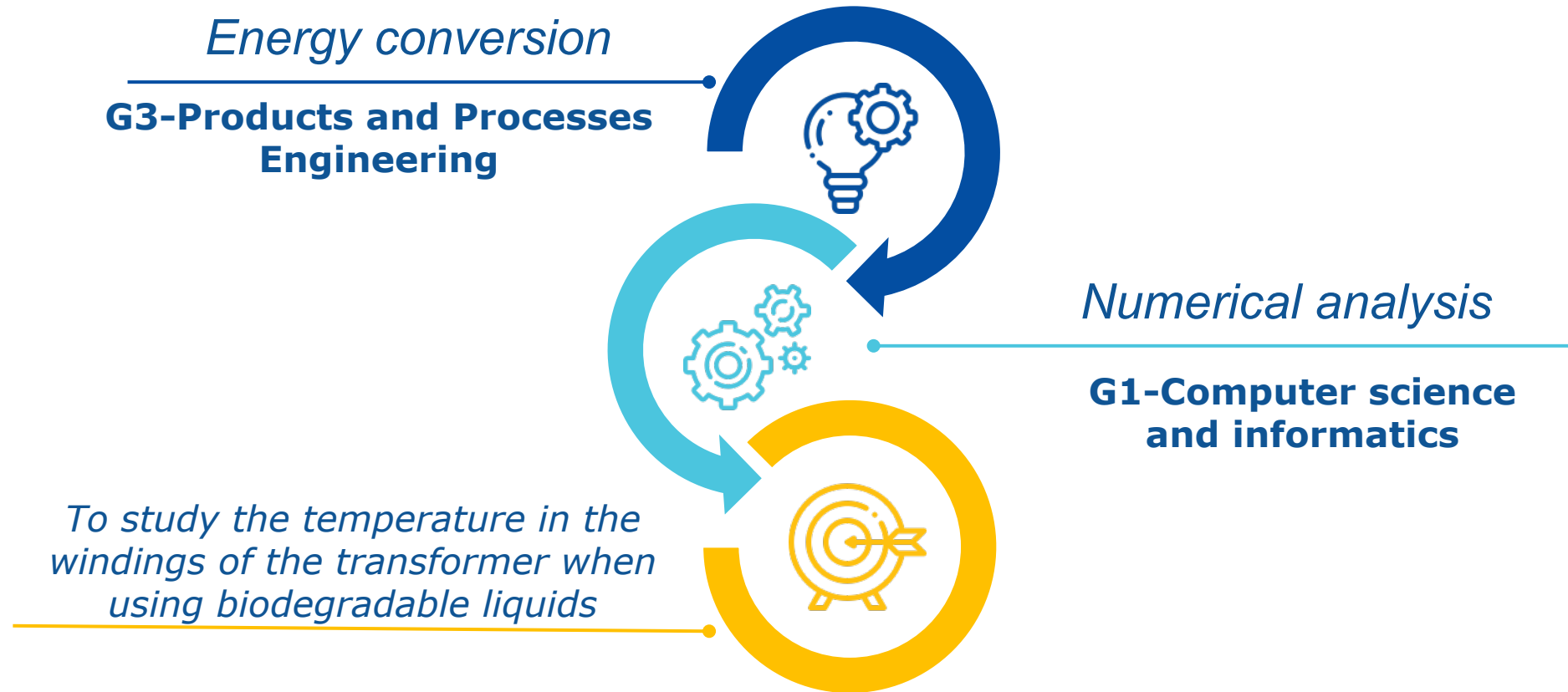
Important: **scientific panels + descriptors/first level  
MSCA keywords** from proposal form part A  
(see [REA Website](#))

# Interdisciplinary mobility explained (1)

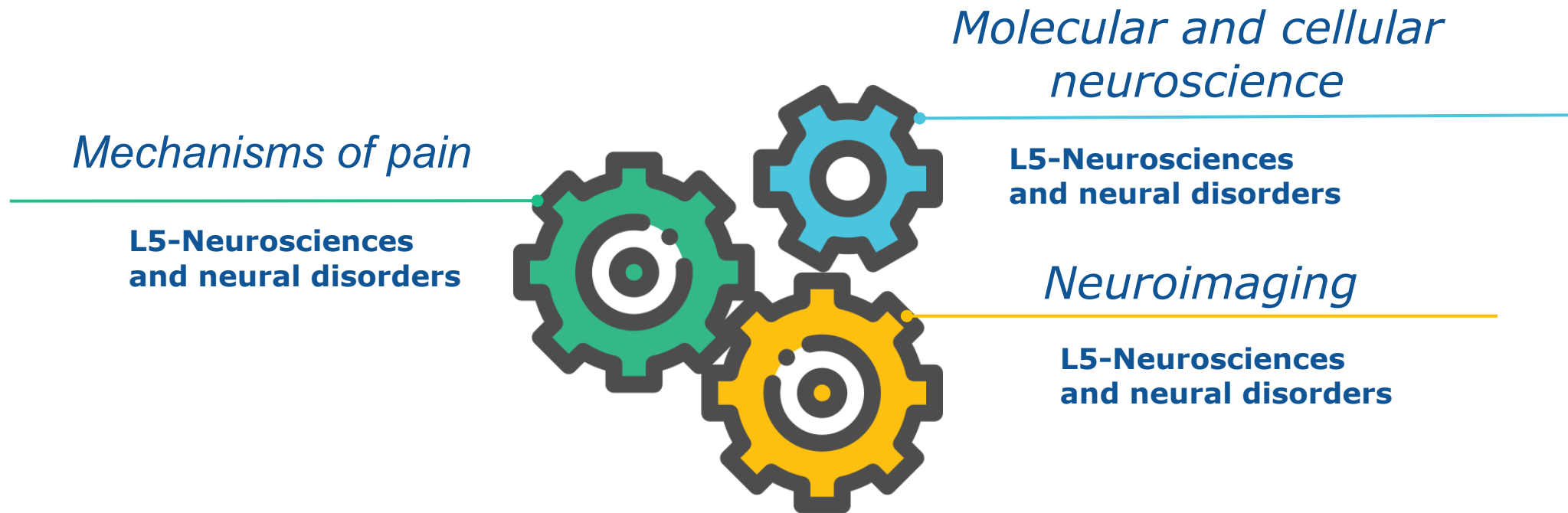


Examples taken from [MSCA SE FAQ](#)

# Interdisciplinary mobility explained (2)



# Interdisciplinary mobility explained (3)

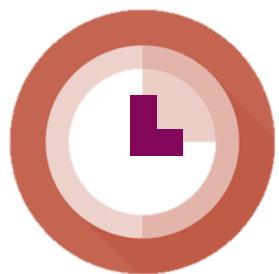




# What does Staff Exchanges fund?



# Key features – summary



## DURATION

4 years  
360 PM per project



## SECONDMENTS

1-12 months per staff  
*Interdisciplinary*  
secondments: same  
sector, within Europe  
for max 1/3 PM



## UNIT COST

4600€  
2300€ - Staff  
allowance  
2300€ -  
organisation



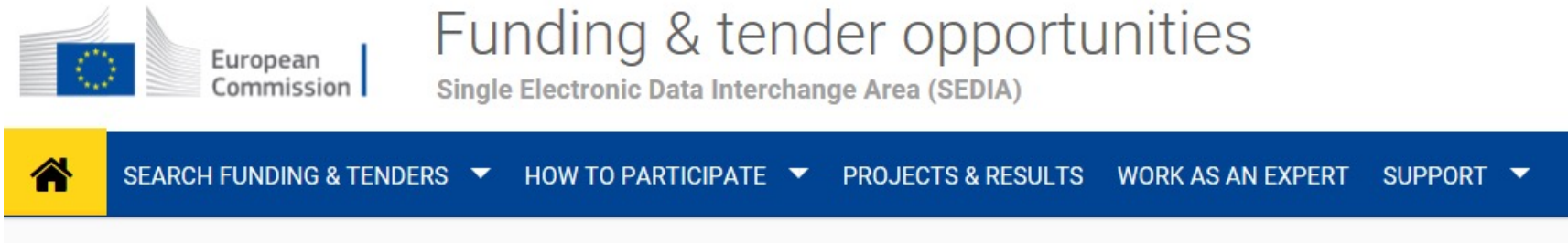
## BUDGET

EU funding  
average  
75,5 Mio€/call

## 2. Staff Exchanges

### Proposal submission & evaluation

# Proposal Submission

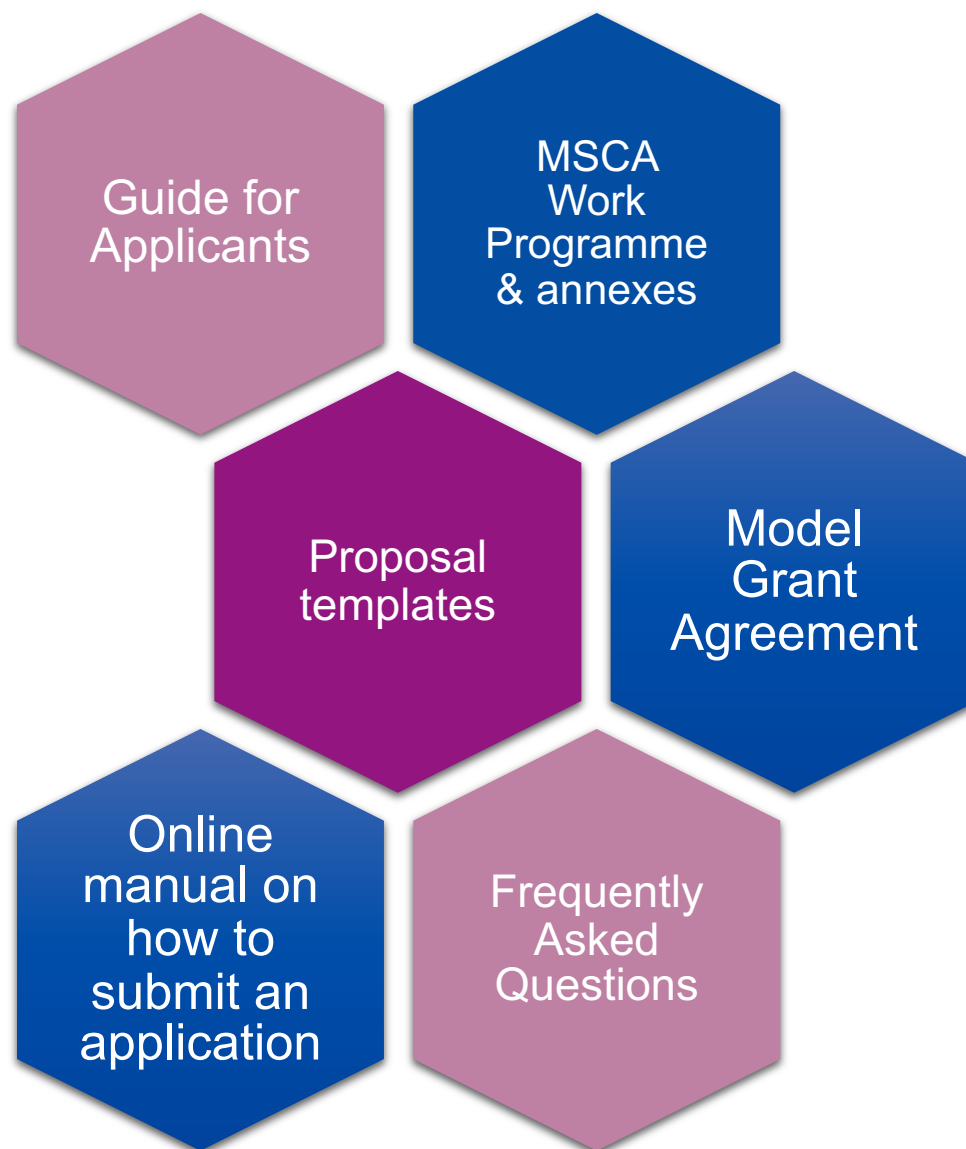


All calls are published on the **Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal**. Applications are submitted through the portal:

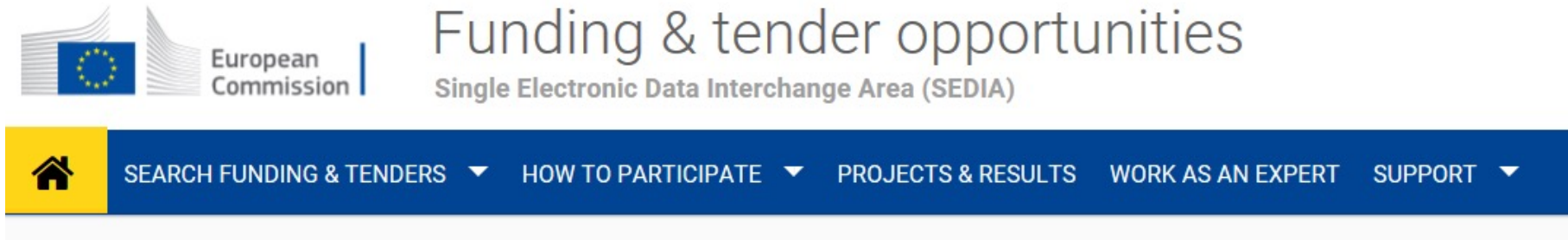
- Find your call
- Sign in to the portal and register your organisation (get a PIC number)
- Find partners
- Apply!

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

# Reference Documents

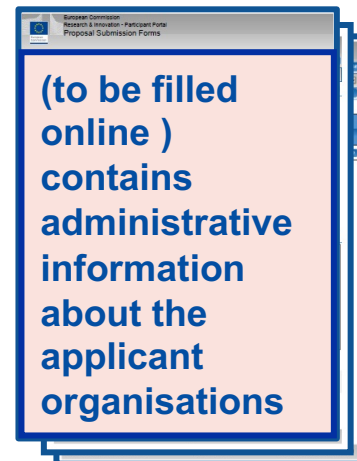


# Proposal documents

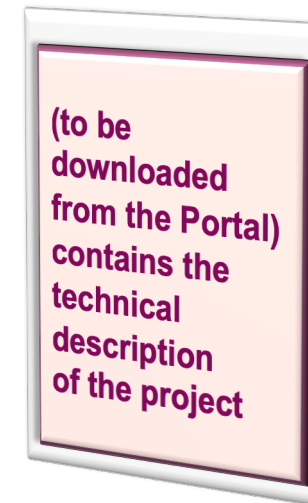


**Apply here!**

**Part A**  
**(structured data)**



**Part B**  
**(description of action)**





# SE – evaluation

## Overview of the process



# Evaluation criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's <b>research and innovation objectives</b> (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Developing new and lasting <b>research collaborations</b> , achieving <b>transfer of knowledge</b> between participating organisations and contributing to improving <b>research and innovation potential</b> at the European and global level	Quality and effectiveness of the <b>work plan</b> , assessment of <b>risks</b> , and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the <b>proposed methodology</b> (including <b>i3</b> approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the <b>career perspectives</b> of staff members and contribution to their <b>skills development</b>	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including <b>hosting arrangements</b> and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Quality of the proposed <b>interaction between the participating organisations</b> in light of the research and innovation objectives	Suitability and quality of the measures to <b>maximise expected outcomes and impacts</b> , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected <b>scientific, societal and economic impacts</b>	
50%	30%	20%



# Next MSCA SE calls

Call	2021		Call	2022	
	Opening Closing	Budget (M€)		Opening Closing	Budget (M€)
Staff Exchanges	07/10/2021 09/03/2022	72,5	Staff Exchanges	06/10/2022 08/03/2023	77,5

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

<https://cordis.europa.eu/en>

# 3. Questions & Answers

# Thank you



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# Q&A

