

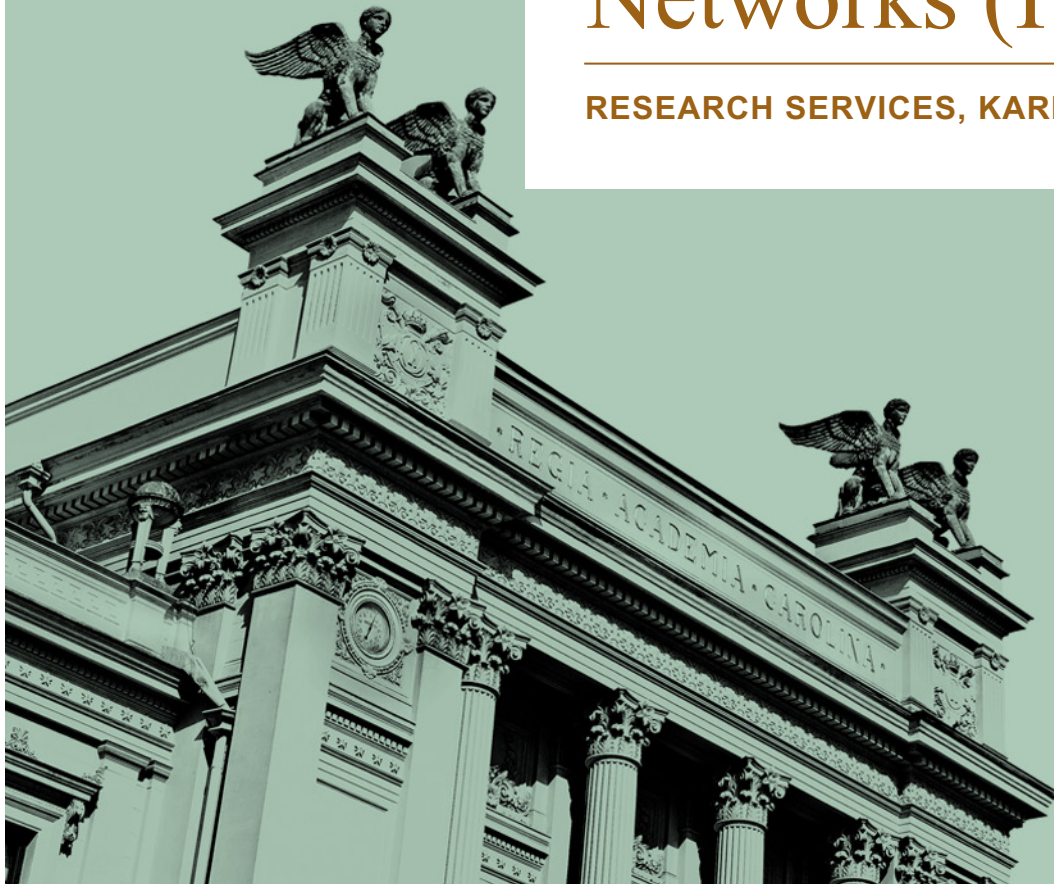


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MSCA Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

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ITN – quality of research training



- Objective: to train a new generation of **creative**, **entrepreneurial** and **innovative** researchers
- A Research Training Programme for Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs), i.e. less than 4 years' research experience after undergraduate studies
- **Mobility Rule:** To be eligible to join a MSCA ITN, a researcher cannot have resided in the country of host organisation for more than **12 months in the last 3 years** prior to recruitment
- Duration of appointment: **3 - 36** months
- No nationality/citizenship requirements
- Not a research programme as such but a training programme



Two types of sectors

Academic <-> Non-Academic

- **Academic:** Public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research, and international European interest organisations
- **Non-Academic:** Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector and fulfilling the requirements of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation. e.g. industry (incl. SMEs), charities, NGOs, public bodies, libraries etc.



Participants – two types

1. Beneficiaries: Recruit and train researchers, sign the Grant Agreement, receive funds directly from the EC, participate in supervisory board

2. Partner Organisations: Host short secondments and/or contribute to training activities, do not sign the Grant Agreement, no direct EC funds, participate in supervisory board



A typical ITN project

- Consortium of organisations from different countries and sectors
- Propose a joint research training programme
- 48 months project (ESR funded max 36 months)
- Recruit researchers across the consortium– each researcher has an Individual Research Project and a host institution
- Advanced **research** skills and **transferable** skills training – local and network-wide
- Networking events
- Secondments for each researcher **to another sector** (academic to non-academic, or vice-versa)

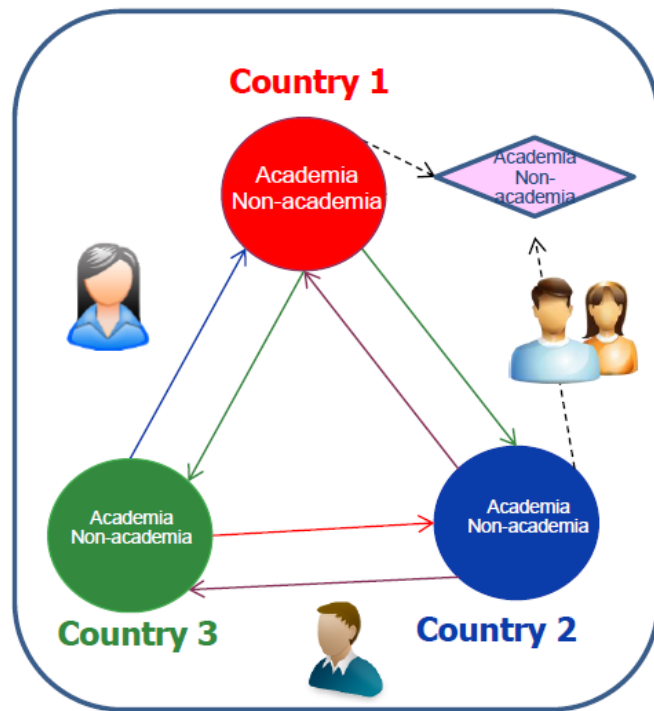


Three ITN modes

- European Training Networks (**ETN**)
- European Joint Doctorates (**EJD**)
- European Industrial Doctorates (**EID**)



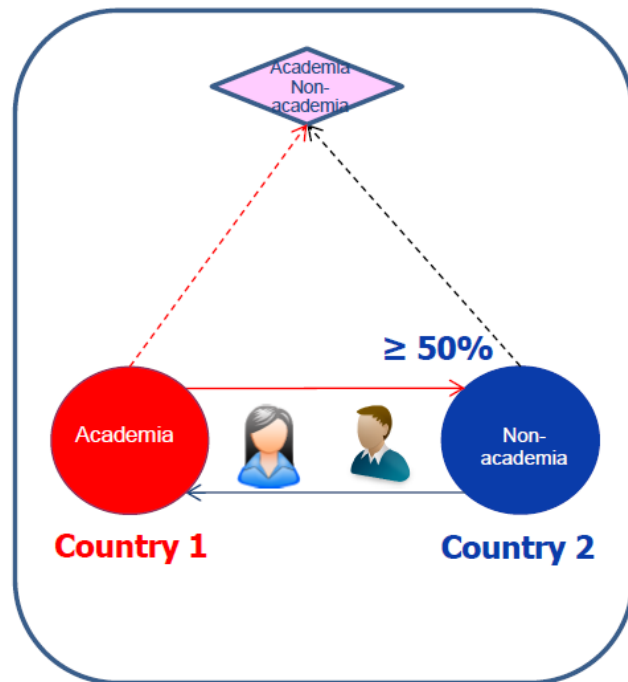
ETN – European Training Networks



- Minimum 3 beneficiaries from 3 countries (MS/AC)
- Recommended size: 6-10 participants
- Each beneficiary must recruit and host at least one researcher
- Participation of non-academic sector considered essential
- Max. 540 researcher months for the network= 15 ESR
- Secondments up to 30% of the researcher recruitment period
- Joint supervision encouraged
- Consortium Agreement compulsory
- Max. 40% of total budget to one country



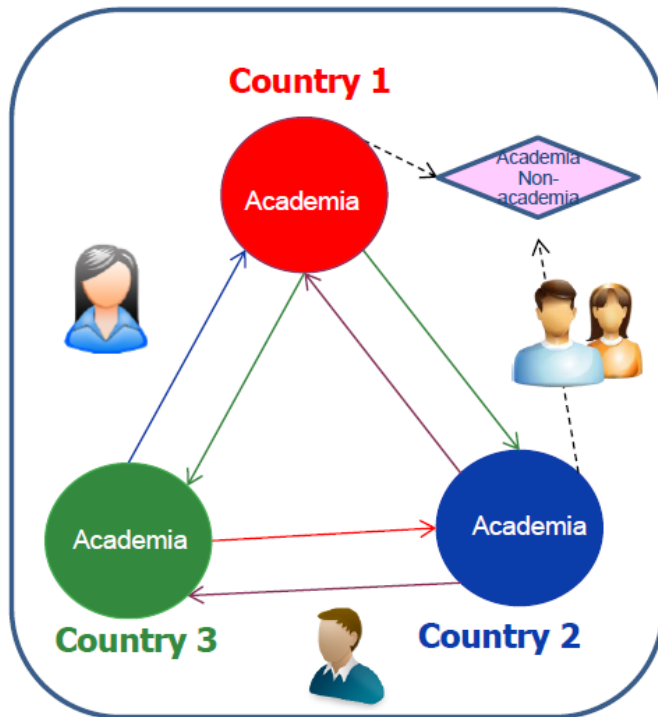
EID – European Industrial Doctorates



- Min. 2 beneficiaries: 1 academic and 1 non-academic from 2 countries (MS/AC)
- > 50% of time at non-academic sector
- Max. 180 researchers months = 5 ESR – more if more beneficiaries (max 540)
- PhD enrolment mandatory
- Joint supervision (from each sector)
- Joint supervision & Consortium Agreement



EJD – European Joint Doctorates



- Min. 3 beneficiaries 3 MS/AC, all entitled to award doctoral degrees
- Additional beneficiaries or partner organisations from any country, sector and discipline; Participation of non-academic sector encouraged
- Mandatory enrolment of ESRs in doctoral programme
- Mandatory provision of joint, double or multiple degrees
- Letters of institutional commitment signed by a legal representative needed in the proposal
- Max. 540 ESR/Mo (15 ESR)
- Joint governance structure, Consortium Agreement
- Max. 40% of total budget to one country



Three ITN modes: characteristics

	ETN	EJD	EID
Consortium	min. 3 beneficiaries (academic/non-academic) from 3 different MS/AC	Min. 3 academic beneficiaries from 3 different MS/AC	Min. 2 beneficiaries from 2 different MS/AC and sectors (enterprise)
	→ Additional beneficiaries or partner organisations possible, regardless whether MS, AC, TC		
Funding (max. nr. of units)	540 ! max. 40% of the budget for one country	540 ! max. 40% of the budget for one country	! 180 if 2 beneficiaries; if more than 2: 540 ! max. 40% of the budget for one country
Enrollment	not mandatory, but typically enrolled	enrollment in doctoral programme mandatory	
Joint supervision	not obligatory, but advised	Mandatory	
Recruitment	3 – 36 months	typically 36 months	typically 36 months ! min 50% must be spend in the non-academic sector
Secondments (optinal)	up to 30% of recruitment period	above requirements of doctoral programme: secondments up to 30% of overall recruitment period	above 50% in non-academic sector: secondments up to 30% of overall recruitment period



Consortium characteristics

- No maximum consortium size – typical number of beneficiaries: ETN 6 to 10 ; EJD 4 to 8; EID 2 to 10 (40% were 2-beneficiary in 2015)
- Must have non-academic sector participating as **beneficiaries**
- OK to have more than one participant from same country **but** no more than **40%** of the budget can go to one country
- ESRs must be recruited by a named beneficiary
- OK to include non-European countries as **Partner organisations**
- Consortium agreement mandatory



Funding model

MSCA Unit costs: 36 months/ PhD student	Researcher unit cost** person/month			Institutional unit cost** person/month	
	Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
Innovative Training Networks	3 110 * 1,117 = 3 473,87 (SE)	600	500	1 800	1 200



ITN evaluation criteria

Criterion	Weigthing	Priority
Excellence	50	1
Impact	30	2
Implementation	20	3

Overall threshold of 70%
No individual thresholds



How to apply

- Deadline 18 January 2018
- 33 pages main proposal (excellence, impact, implementation) + Gantt chart, capacity of the participating organisations, ethics, letters of commitment.
- Submission by the coordinator online via Participant Portal:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/msca-if-2017.html>
- Evaluation process: independent experts, within 8 disciplinary panels. Results and feedback within 8 months.
- Support from Research Services.



Evaluation panels

- Chemistry (CHE)
- Physics (PHY)
- Mathematics (MAT)
- Life Sciences (LIF)
- Economic Sciences (ECO)
- ICT and Engineering (ENG)
- Social Sciences & Humanities (SOC)
- Earth & Environmental Sciences (ENV)
- Interdisciplinary panels for EID and EJD

Proposals are read by at least 3 disciplinary experts
Distribution of awards across panels is proportional to number of proposals received



Preliminary call time table

Activity	Date
Publication of call	September-October 2017
Deadline	January 2018
Evaluation of proposal	March 2018
Evaluation outcome	June 2018
Signature of GA	September 2018
Earliest start of programme	December 2018

Success rates 2015

- ETN: 6,3%
- EID: 9,6%
- EJD: 9,2%



Support

Participant Portal: Work Programme, Guide for Applicants, submission service etc.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/msca-itn-2017.html>

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