MUNI

MSCA-RISE

Marie-Skłodowska Curie Actions

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

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MUNI

WHY

SHOULD WE APPLY…?

HIGH SUCCESS RATES

A single shallow reason to apply for MSCA-RISE

PANELS	CHE	ECO	ENG	ENV	LIF	MAT	PHY	SOC	TOTAL
N. of proposals per Panel	31	12	90	44	44	8	28	48	305
N. of Above threshold Proposals per Panel	27	7	68	22	24	7	22	37	214
Number of successful proposals	9	3	27	9	7	2	7	9	73
Success rate in panels and overall	29%	25%	30%	20%	16%	25%	25%	19%	24%
% of above threshold projects	87%	58%	76%	50%	58%	88%	79%	77%	

- The overal success rate in **2018** was **26.5%**;
- The SR in some panels tend to decrase, e.g. **Life Science** panel: 2016 – 33%, in 2017 – 25%; 2018 – 21%)

Panels: Chemistry (CHE); Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG); Environment and Geosciences (ENV); Life Sciences (LIF); Mathematics (MAT), Physics (PHY) and Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC).

(ENTRY) EXPERIENCE & DIVERSE BENEFITS

- „Mild" introduction to the **Coordinator's role** – (probably) the easiest type of international H2020 **consortium** project

- Strengthening of your **international network** and **visibility**

- Potential to establish/boost **novel lines** of your research

- Participation in international grants = an important aspect of **evaluation** and „**institutional" budgets/funding**

SUPPORT OF **MU** *RESEARCH OFFICE*

- We have supported preparation of **7** proposals (2 Neuroscience, 2 Structural Biology, 1 Molecular Medicine, 2 Environment)
- **5** proposals succeeded in the competition, i.e. **SR = 71%**

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- CEITEC was a partner in the first RISE obtained, and **coordinates** other **3**
- RECETOX as a partner – **2** proposals submitted (Environmental and Geo-Sciences), **1** funded

MSCA-RISE projects at MU
CEITEC

MICROBRADAM

2015

- **Martin Bareš** – as a **partner**

Coordinator Dr. Federico Giove – **Centro Fermi**, Italy

US partner – CMRR - **Center for Magnetic Resonance**, Minneapolis

Budget

- **MU**: **87K EUR**

- **FNUSA**: **87K EUR**

MSCA-RISE projects at **MU**
FI

Terpsichore

2015

- **Assoc. prof. Liarokapis Fotios – as a partner**

Non-academic partners: **7 Reasons Medien GmbH**; **MeltisBaltis R&D Innovation Management**

Budget:

- MU: 130K EUR

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MSCA-RISE projects at **MU**
RECETOX

INTERWASTE

2016

- **Jana Klánová** – as a **partner**

Coordinator Prof. Stuart Harrad – **University of Birmingham**, UK

Consortium consisting of 10 beneficiaries and 17 partner organisations

Budget

- **MU**: 90K EUR

8

MSCA-RISE projects at **MU**
CEITEC

CoBeN

2016

- **Irena Rektorová – coordinator**

US partner: **University of Arizona**

The **first coordinated research H2020-RISE** in the Czech Republic

Rector's Award (2017) – Extraordinary International Grant Competition Results

Budget

- **MU**: **306K EUR**

MSCA-RISE projects at **MU** *CEITEC*

RNADIAGON

2018

- **Ondřej Slabý – coordinator**

US partner: MD Anderson Cancer Center, **University of Texas**

Industrial partner: **BioVendor**

Budget

- **MU: 166K EUR**

MSCA-RISE projects at **MU**
CEITEC

InterTAU

(in negotiation!)

2019

- ### **Jozef Hritz** – **coordinator**

Non-European partners: **University of Pittsburgh** (USA), **Oregon State University** (USA),
University Health Network (Canada), **Universidad Nacional De Cuyo** (Argentina)
Industrial partner: **AXON Neuroscience** (Slovakia)

Budget

- ## **MU**: **396K EUR**

WHAT
IS
IT…?

Types of **MSCA**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

ITN
Innovative Training Networks

What does it offer?
High-quality research training delivered through international and interdisciplinary networks, industrial doctorates or joint doctorates

Who applies?
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

Who is funded?
Researchers at doctoral level (less than four years of full-time research experience and no doctoral degree)

IF
Individual Fellowships

What does it offer?
Opportunities to work on personal research projects by moving between countries and possibly sectors to acquire new skills

Who applies?
Individual researchers together with the host organisation

Who is funded?
Postdoctoral researchers

RISE
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

What does it offer?
The exchange of staff members involved in research and innovation to develop sustainable collaborative projects and the transfer of knowledge

Who applies?
International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

Who is funded?
Researchers, technical, administrative and managerial staff of any nationality and at all career levels

COFUND
Co-Funding of Regional, National and International Programmes

What does it offer?
Regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development

Who applies?
Organisations funding or managing doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes

Who is funded?
Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level

Objectives of **MSCA-RISE**

- **Partnership**
  - Academic and non-academic organisations
  - Europe and the rest of the world

- **Staff exchanges**
  - R&I Projects implemented through staff exchange
  - Support of both academic/non-academic staff exchanges (see also eligibility)

- **Transfer of knowledge**
  - International and inter-sector transfer of knowledge
  - Sharing of ideas and of R&I culture

Other main features of **MSCA-RISE**

- **Bottom-up research topics!**
- Built on **joint research** and innovation activities
- **Mobility** is the key requirement
- Implemented through **secondments** (1-12 months long)
- Project max size: **540 person month** of seconded staff
- Project max duration: **48 months**
- All research areas, 8 evaluation panels
- **Annual calls** – if not successful, you can re-apply next year

Expected impacts of MSCA-RISE

- **At staff member level**
  - Increased set of skills, both research-related and transferable ones, leading to improved employability and career prospects both in and outside academia
  - Increase in higher impact R&I output, more knowledge and ideas converted into products and services
  - Greater contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society

- **At organisation level**
  - Enhanced cooperation and transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines
  - Strengthening of international and inter-sectoral collaborative networks
  - Boosting of R&I capacity among participating organisations

- **At system level**
  - Increase in international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility of researchers in Europe
  - Strengthening of Europe's human capital base in R&I
  - Increase in Europe's attractiveness as a leading destination for R&I
  - Better quality R&I contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth

A typical **RISE** project

RISE Consortium
6-8 partners
(min. 3 partners)

RISE Project
48 months **(max 540
person-months)**

**Research
&
Staff Secondments**

Eligible **exchanges** of staff

	SENDING (Seconding Staff from Organisation)		
HOSTING (Receiving seconded staff)	Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	Organisation in TC
Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	❌	✅	✅
Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	✅	❌	✅
Organisation in TC	✅	✅	❌

Eligible **organisations**

Academic sector
- ✓ public /private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees
- ✓ public /private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research
- ✓ international European interest organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL)

Non-academic sector
- ✓ any entity not included in the academic sector:
- ✓ e.g. large companies, SMEs, NGOs, museums, hospitals
- ✓ international organisations (e.g. UN, WHO)

Standardised legal validation of entities is applied to determine the category of each beneficiary
- Practically – that means looking up organisation's PIC (Participant Identification Code) and see the status in the basic ID information of the organisation
- *Research Office* can check it up for you!

Countries **eligible** for funding

- All **EU member states** (EU MS)

- **Associated countries** (AC), e.g. Norway, Israel, Bosnia and Hercegovina… etc: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf

- Some of the Third countries (TC), generally the **developing TCs**, e.g. Mali, Sudan, Burkina Faso…Argentina… etc.: https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2016-2017/annexes/h2020-wp1617-annex-ga_en.pdf

- **TCs ineligible for funding**, but **eligible for participation** include specifically: *Australia, Brazil, Canada , China, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States*

Eligible **staff**

- Basically – all are eligible
- Specifically:
  - ESR (Early stage researchers) = PhD students
  - ER (experienced researchers) = postdocs or four-years in research (and more advanced researchers)
  - Technicians
  - Administrative staff
  - Managerial staff

- Minimum duration of activity in research at **least one month** (full-time equivalent)
- Full-time employment not relevant in case of PhD students

Eligible **costs** - Staff member unit costs

Staff member unit cost
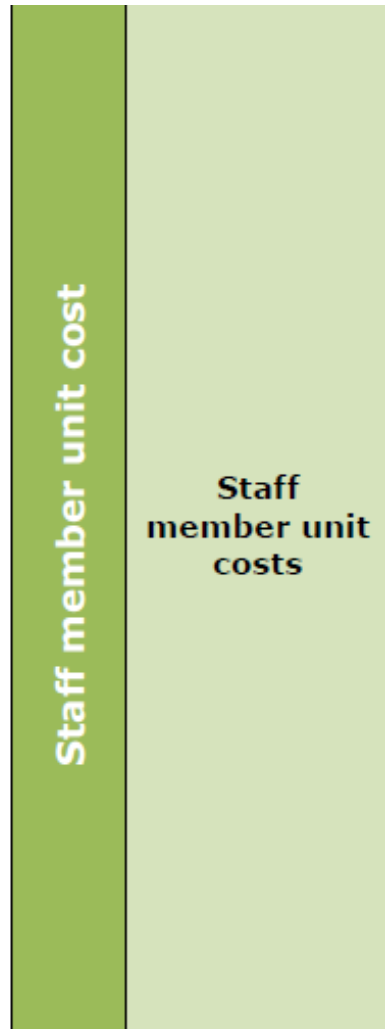
Staff member unit costs	2,100

- Is a top-up allowance to be fully used to support travel, accommodation and subsistence costs for the staff member during the secondment.

- The Staff member unit cost contribution can be managed centrally to pay for the costs linked to the individual staff member on secondment (e.g. moving costs, accommodation, etc.) or paid directly to the staff member or a combination of the two approaches.

- On request, the Beneficiaries must be able to show that the total amount (2,100 EUR) was fully used for the direct benefit of the seconded staff member.

⚠ **Important!** The salary of the seconded staff members or any other type of remuneration is not covered by the EU contribution. Therefore, the Beneficiaries and TC Partner organisations are expected to continue paying the staff member's salary (or any other type of remuneration) during their stay abroad.

Eligible **costs** – Institutional unit costs
(RTN costs + Management and indirect costs)

Institutional unit cost			
	Research, training and networking costs	1,800	• Cover the costs of R&I related activities of the action such as purchasing of consumables, laboratory costs, participation to conferences, workshops, coordination and review meetings and networking activities.
	Management and indirect costs	700	• Cover all general costs connected with the organisation and implementation of the secondments (administrative and financial management, logistics, ethics, human resources, legal advice, documentation, etc.).
			⚠ **Important!** Note that <u>**any secondments**</u> planned to do "purely management activities" (e.g. project coordination meetings, report drafting, etc.) will <u>not be eligible</u> for funding under WP dedicated to these types of tasks.

Eligible costs - EXAMPLE

- Consider you have planned 5 secondments, in toltal 36 seconded person-months
- The automatically calculated budget goes like this: 36 * (2,100 + 1,800 + 700) = EUR 165,600

Table A3.3 – Summary of secondments per EU Beneficiary

Participant Number	Organisation Short Name	Country	Academic	Number of secondments	Person-months	Estimated budget support (whole duration of the project)				Requested EU contribution/€
						Staff member costs	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs	Total	
1	MU	CZ	yes	5	36	75600,00	64800,00	25200,00	165600,00	165600,00
2	BIOVENDOR	CZ	no	8	24	50400,00	43200,00	16800,00	110400,00	110400,00
3	MUG	AT	yes	3	21	44100,00	37800,00	14700,00	96600,00	96600,00
4	UMF Cluj	RO	yes	3	21	44100,00	37800,00	14700,00	96600,00	96600,00
5	UNIFE	IT	yes	3	21	44100,00	37800,00	14700,00	96600,00	96600,00
6	UKE	DE	yes	4	21	44100,00	37800,00	14700,00	96600,00	96600,00
Total				26	144	302400,00	259200,00	100800,00	662400,00	662400,00

Structure of the **RISE** proposal template

DOCUMENT 1 *(MAX 32 PAGES)*

      START PAGE (*MAX 1 page*)

1   **TABLE of CONTENT** (*MAX 1 page*)

                    START PAGE COUNT (MAX 30 PAGES SECTIONS 2-4)

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2.   **EXCELLENCE** (*starting page 3*)

3.   **IMPACT**

4.   **QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION**

                STOP PAGE COUNT (MAX 30 PAGES SECTIONS 2-4)

DOCUMENT 2 *(NO OVERALL PAGE LIMIT APPLIED)*

5.   **REFERENCES**

6.   **CAPACITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS**

7.   **ETHICS ASPECTS**

8.   **LETTERS OF COMMITMENT OF TC PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

      END PAGE (*1 page*)

Please note that:

- Applicants must ensure that document 1 does not exceed the total page limit of maximum 32 pages (1 start page + 1 table of content page + 30 pages for Sections 2-4).

- *No reference to the outcome of previous evaluations of this or any similar proposal should be included in the text. The expert evaluators will be strictly instructed to disregard any such references*

RISE evaluation criteria

RISE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange		
Excellence	**Impact**	**Quality and efficiency of the implementation**
Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project; level of novelty and appropriate consideration of inter/multidisciplinary, intersectoral and gender aspects	**Enhancing the potential and future career prospects of the staff members**	**Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan,** including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Quality and appropriateness of knowledge sharing among the participating organisations in light of the research and innovation objectives.	**Developing new and lasting research collaborations, achieving transfer of knowledge** between participating organisations and contribution to improving research and innovation potential at the European and global levels	**Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures,** including quality management and risk management
Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations	Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and **disseminate** the project results	**Appropriateness of the institutional environment** (hosting arrangements, infrastructure)
	Quality of the proposed measures to **communicate** the project activities to different target audiences	**Competences, experience and complementarity** of the participating organisations **and their commitment to the project**
50%	**30%**	**20%**
Weighting		
1	**2**	**3**
Priority in case of *ex aequo*		

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RISE Consortium – formal roles

	Beneficiary (MS/AC)	Unfunded partner Organisation (TCs)
Signs Grant Agreement (GA)	✔	✖
Responsible for the execution & implementation of the project	✔	✖
Claims costs to the EU	✔	✖
Trains/hosts seconded researchers	✔	✔
Signs Letter of Commitment for GA	✖	✔
Signs Partnership (Consortium) Agreement	✔	✔

MSCA-RISE – **pros & cons**

- Pros – all of the asset mentioned above, such as:
  - International funding and related knowledge and experience
  - Development of international networks
  - Transfer of knowledge and potential to attract and „try out" talents from abroad
  - Development of your staff and their career perspectives
  - Boosting your research output, and perhaps prepare follow-up research projects

- Cons
  - Not much money to cover RTN (research) costs – you should have some other complementary grant(s)
  - Your staff will be gone for some months, which will have an impact on the operation of your lab
  - There is no specific budget to cover **Open Access** publication fees (must be cover from RTN cost)
  - The seconded employee has to work **full-time** at the hosting institution

Support of **Research Office**

What we offer

- Primary consultation of your consortium and **expected project benefits** and **knowledge transfer**
- A half-day / full-day workshop on the **overall aim** and **specific objectives** as well as overall **structure of the proposal**
- Ideas and approaches regarding the **dissemination plan**
- Expert project management **advice on preparing the implementation** part
- Consultation of your texts, **editorial revisions & tips**
- A detailed and **agreed preparation plan** to avoid stress
- Major part of **communication with the partners**, including all of the „formal" and technical stuff (ID information, tables, numbers, forms, …)

Useful documents & links

MSCA website on RISE: https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/actions/staff-exchange_en

MSCA-RISE „Guide for Applicant" – https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/guides_for_applicants/h2020-guide-appl-msca-rise_en.pdf

MSCA Work Programme: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-msca_en.pdf

Overview of the MSCA-RISE proposals selected in **2018**: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/msca-rise-2019

MSCA-RISE Handbook 2019: https://www.net4mobilityplus.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/N4M_MSCA-RISE_Handbook_2019.pdf

Contacts

Grant support team at your department or faculty

RMU Research Office: **grants@rect.muni.cz**; **improve@muni.cz**

Jakub Zeman: zeman@rect.muni.cz

Other contacts: **List here! You are welcome to form a sharing MSCA community!**

MSCA-RISE/ITN Implementation
Collecting & sharing experience

*Financial Management of Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) in Horizon 2020 – **The practitioner's perspective** (November 2017)*

- The document is a result of collaborative effort of a number of administrators with comprehensive experience with MSCA
- It can provide some basic answers on regular and frequent issues
- We should try to collect more of the existing experience and information – suggestions?
- NCPs, international partners (Utrecht Network, EU-Life, Alliance4Life, running consortia…)

MSCA-RISE/ITN Implementation
Collecting & sharing experience

Initiative of the RMU's Research Office

- Setting up a **group of research support staff** sharing information and best practice

- Categorisation of specific areas and issues

- Format of FAQ or brief „case studies" (in dedicated folders)

- Accessible via a *OneDrive* file shared by MSCA-involved researchers and administrators

- More „invasive" methods - a mailing list; or just setting notification upon *OneDrive* folder updates

- Open to broader national research community (as one of the IMPROVE project's instruments)

MSCA-RISE/ITN Implementation
Collecting & sharing experience

Examples of categories / issues

Some suggestions on „RISE/ITN-related" topics/issues:

- Continuous reporting in the F&TO Portal

- Budget re-allocations and money transfers

- Non-EU Beneficiaries and Partners without funding

- Documents to be kept (for audit) related to transfers, secondments, …

- Secondments implementation (visa, insurance, living costs, evidence of working (full)-time, …)

- Agreements – GA, CA, PA

- Meetings and events management – tips and processes

- Dissemination and public outreach – good practice, cases studies, tips and effect/"gains"

- „Encountered issues that could have been prevented/anticipated" = Lessons in risks planning & management

- … … …