

PREDSTAVITEV AKTUALNIH RAZPISOV

Razpisi, ki štejejo kot pogoj za pridobitev stabilnega financiranja (iz ZZrID) so navedeni v Programu HORIZON EUROPE.

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Slovenski regionalno razvojni sklad

Javni razpis za sofinanciranje izvajanja neformalnih izobraževanj za odrasle, stare 55 let ali več na področju digitalnih kompetenc za leto 2022

NAMEN JAVNEGA RAZPISA

Namen javnega razpisa je sofinanciranje izvedbe programov neformalnega izobraževanja za pridobivanje osnovnih digitalnih kompetenc državljanov, ki so bili 12. 3. 2022 stari 55 let ali več in so imeli na ta dan stalno prebivališče v Republiki Sloveniji. Z udeležbo na izobraževanjih, udeleženci krepijo zavesti o prednostih uporabe digitalnih orodij za življenje posameznika in družbo kot celoto ter krepijo zaupanje v digitalne tehnologije, razumevanje digitalnih tehnologij ter njihove odgovorne in varne uporabe.

Ravni osnovnih digitalnih spretnosti in znanj v Sloveniji so nižje kot bi si želeli. So pod povprečjem EU saj podatki glede na DESI1 indeks za leto 2021 kažejo, da ima 55 % prebivalcev v starosti od 16 do 74 vsaj osnovne digitalne spretnosti in znanj. Podatki Statističnega urada² razkrivajo, da ima vsaj osnovne digitalne spretnosti le polovica prebivalstva. S starostjo delež drastično pada, pri čemer je v skupini med 55 – 64 let preko 20 % oseb brez digitalnih spretnosti in skoraj 60 % oseb z manj kot osnovnimi digitalnimi spretnostmi, v skupini 65 – 74 pa je ta odstotek oseb brez digitalnih spretnosti že 45 %, delež oseb z manj kot osnovnimi digitalnimi spretnostmi pa preko 80 %. DESI 2021 ne spremlja več podatkov o uporabi interneta, iz podatkov DESI 2020 pa izhaja, da živi v Sloveniji višji delež ljudi od evropskega povprečja, ki niso še nikoli uporabljali interneta. Delež uporabnikov interneta ter delež uporabnikov spletnih tečajev, spletnega bančništva in spletnega nakupovanja pa je nižji od evropskega povprečja.

Na podlagi podatkov SURS3, je imelo v prvem četrtletju leta 2021 dostop do interneta 93 % državljanov, uporabljalo pa ga je redno 89 % državljanov. Najmanjši delež uporabnikov interneta je v starostni skupini od 65 do 74 let, in sicer 62 % v letu 2021. V tej skupini je tudi največji delež takih, ki interneta do zdaj še nikoli niso uporabljali, in sicer 31 % v letu 2021. Tudi pri podatku o redni (večkrat dnevni) uporabi interneta delež z starostjo pada in je v skupini 55-64 (74 %) let 65-74 (46 %) najnižji med vsemi starostnimi kategorijami, pri čemer gre predvsem za branje novic in uporabo el. pošte.

OECD4 ugotavlja, da so digitalne spretnosti odraslih v Sloveniji nizke, ob tem pa ugotavlja še, da so nizke tudi investicije v izobraževanje odraslih. Podobno ugotavlja tudi UMAR5 pri razvoju človeških virov v obdobju 2012-2019, pri čemer je Slovenija povečevala zaostanek za vodilnimi državami članicami EU. Neugodna gibanja so povezana z manjšo vključenostjo odraslih v vseživljenjsko učenje in zmanjšanjem števila novih doktorjev znanosti s področij naravoslovja in tehnike.

PREDMET JAVNEGA RAZPISA

Predmet javnega razpisa je financiranje izvajanja brezplačnih izobraževalnih programov za odrasle (v nadaljnjem besedilu: programi) za pridobitev osnovnih digitalnih kompetenc. Izvajanje programov vključuje tudi svetovanje v procesu izobraževanja.

Spletni tečaji, ki so posneti vnaprej in se ne odvijajo v živo, niso predmet tega javnega razpisa.

CILJI JAVNEGA RAZPISA

Cilji javnega razpisa so:

- - pridobivanje in krepitev osnovnih digitalnih kompetenc,
- - spodbujanje in razvijanje splošne digitalne pismenosti,
- - krepitev zavesti o prednostih uporabe digitalnih orodij za življenje posameznika in družbo kot celoto ter krepitev zaupanja v digitalne tehnologije,
- - krepitev razumevanja digitalnih tehnologij ter njihove odgovorne in varne uporabe.

Opolnomočenje ciljne skupine na področju digitalne pismenosti bo prispevalo k višji stopnji znanja za uporabo digitalne tehnologije in omogočilo višjo stopnjo uporabe digitalnih naprav, interneta in storitev, kot so e-pošta, e-uprava, e-zdravje, e-nakupovanje ipd. To bo pripomoglo k boljši informiranosti in lažjemu komuniciranju v družbi in hkrati k zmanjševanju razkoraka v digitalni pismenosti med generacijami.

UPRAVIČENI VLAGATELJI TER CILJNE SKUPINE JAVNEGA RAZPISA

Na javni razpis lahko kandidirajo podjetnik posameznik, pravne osebe, vključno z javnimi in zasebni zavodi, društvi, zvezami društev, ustanovami, zadrugami in reprezentativnimi socialnimi partnerji na ravni države (sindikati).

Organizacije iz prejšnjega odstavka se lahko na predmetni javni razpis prijavijo, če so registrirane za izvajanje dejavnosti izobraževanja odraslih ali imajo to opredeljeno v svojem ustanovitvenem aktu.

Vlagatelj mora ob oddaji vloge zagotoviti tudi:

- strokovno usposobljenost kadra za izvedbo izobraževanj,
- prostorske pogoje za izvajanje izobraževanj,
- računalniško opremo za izvajanje izobraževanj.

Ciljna skupina neformalnih izobraževanj po javnem razpisu so odrasli, ki so bili na dan 12. 3. 2022 stari 55 let ali več in so imeli na ta dan (12. 3. 2022) stalno prebivališče v Republiki Sloveniji in se udeležijo izobraževanja iz predmeta tega javnega razpisa.

SPLOŠNI POGOJI ZA VLAGATELJE IN PRIJAVO NA JAVNI RAZPIS

Splošni pogoji za prijavo

Vloga vlagatelja mora izpolnjevati vse razpisne pogoje, ki so vezani na vlagatelja in prijavljeni projekt. Izpolnjevanje pogojev mora biti razvidno iz vsebine celotne vloge. Vlagatelj s podpisom Izjave vlagatelja glede oddaje vloge pod kazensko in materialno odgovornostjo potrdi oddajo vloge na javni razpis preko Aplikacije e-Rsklad in z njo povezanim izpolnjevanjem razpisnih pogojev.

V primeru, da se neizpolnjevanje pogojev ugotovi po izdaji odločbe o dodelitvi sredstev, se pogodba o sofinanciranju ne bo podpisala, odločba o dodelitvi sredstev pa se odpravi.

V primeru, da se neizpolnjevanje pogojev ugotovi po podpisu pogodbe o sofinanciranju, bo Sklad odstopil od pogodbe, pri čemer bo upravičenec dolžan vrniti vsa dodeljena sredstva v skladu z določili pogodbe o sofinanciranju.

Splošni pogoji za vlagatelje

1. Vloga mora biti napisana v slovenskem jeziku, vrednosti izražene v EUR.

2. 2. Vsa dokazila se morajo glasiti na vlagatelja in prijavljeni projekt.
3. 3. Vlagatelj lahko na javnem razpisu kandidira z eno vlogo za izvedbo izobraževanj v posamezni statistični regiji. Če bo vlagatelj na javnem razpisu kandidiral z več vlogami na eno regijo, bo upoštevana tista vloga, ki bo oddana kot zadnja (datum in ura oddaje), vse predhodno oddane vloge pa bodo zavržene.
4. 4. Vlagatelj mora za projekt izkazati zaprto finančno konstrukcijo. V ta namen mora vlagatelj priložiti ustrezna dokazila, skladno z opredelitvijo drugih virov v finančni konstrukciji.
5. 5. V kolikor je vlagatelj že prejemnik sredstev Sklada, na dan odpiranja vloge ne sme imeti neporavnanih zapadlih obveznosti z zamudo nad 30 dni.
6. 6. Vlagatelj, ki je že prejemnik sredstev Sklada, vendar je Sklad zaradi nepravilnosti porabe javnih sredstev in izpolnjevanju pogodbenih obveznosti, odstopil od pogodbe, od odstopa pa še ni preteklo pet let, ni upravičen do spodbude.
7. 7. Skupna višina zadolženosti vlagatelja do Sklada ne sme presežati 10 % vrednosti namenskega premoženja Sklada, ki znaša 121.877.167,10 EUR na dan 31.12. 2021.
8. 8. Vlagatelj ne sme biti dolžnik iz naslova evropskih in slovenskih javnih sredstev.
9. 9. Vlagatelj ne sme biti v postopku prisilne poravnave, poenostavljene prisilne poravnave, postopku finančnega prestrukturiranja, stečajnem postopku, postopku likvidacije ali prisilnega prenehanja, z njihovimi posli iz drugih razlogov ne upravlja sodišče, niso opustili poslovne dejavnosti in na dan oddaje vloge ni bil v stanju insolventnosti, v skladu z določbami Zakona o finančnem poslovanju, postopkih zaradi insolventnosti in prisilnem prenehanju (Ur. l. RS, št. 13/14 - uradno prečiščeno besedilo in 10/15 - popr., 27/16, 31/16-odl. US, 63/16 – ZD-C, 54/18 – odl. US, 69/19 – odl. US, 74/20 – odl. US in 85/20 – odl. US).
10. 10. Vlagatelj ne sme biti domnevno insolventen glede na 14. člen veljavnega Zakona o finančnem poslovanju, postopkih zaradi insolventnosti in prisilnem prenehanju.
11. 11. Vlagatelj ne sme biti (1) v težavah, kot jih opredeljuje Zakon o pomoči za reševanje in prestrukturiranje gospodarskih družb in zadrug v težavah (Ur. l. RS, št. 5/17) ter Uredbe Komisije (EU) št. 651/2014 z dne 17. junija 2014 o razglasitvi nekaterih vrst pomoči za združljive z notranjim trgom pri uporabi členov 107 in 108 Pogodbe (UL L št. 187 z dne 26. 6. 2014 str. 1), s spr. in dop. (2) v postopku pridobivanja državnih pomoči za reševanje in prestrukturiranje gospodarskih subjektov v težavah oziroma je to pomoč prejel ali je v postopku prestrukturiranja oziroma je prestrukturiranje neuspešno zaključil. O izpolnjevanju navedenega pogoja, se mora vlagatelj izreči v izjavi.
12. 12. Vlagatelj mora biti vpisan v sodni oz. poslovni register pred 01.01.2020.
13. 13. Vlagatelj mora imeti v Republiki Sloveniji odprt transakcijski račun, ki je razviden iz registra transakcijskih računov pri Agenciji Republike Slovenije za javnopravne evidence in storitve (AJPES).
14. 14. Vlagatelj ne sme imeti neporavnanih zapadlih finančnih obveznosti iz naslova obveznih dajatev in drugih denarnih nedavčnih obveznosti, v skladu z zakonom, ki ureja finančno upravo, ki jih pobira davčni organ (v višini 50,00 EUR ali več). V kolikor je vlagatelj pravni subjekt in je zavezanec mora imeti predložene vse obračune davčnih odtegljajev za dohodke iz delovnega razmerja za obdobje zadnjih pet let do dneva preverjanja. V ta namen Sklad po uradni dolžnosti s strani Finančne uprave RS pridobi ustrezno potrdilo, na osnovi pooblastila vlagatelja, ki je opredeljeno v okviru Izjave vlagatelja.
15. 15. Upravičeni stroški, za katere bodo upravičencu na podlagi sklenjene pogodbe izplačana sredstva po tem javnem razpisu, ne smejo biti sofinancirani iz drugega javnega vira, tj. sredstev evropskega ali državnega proračuna (dvojno financiranje).
16. 16. Vlagatelj ni bil pravnomočno obsojen zaradi kaznivih dejanj v zvezi s poslovanjem, ki so opredeljena v Kazenskem zakoniku Republike Slovenije (Ur. l. RS, št. 50/12-UPB2, 6/16 – popr., 54/15, 38/16 in 27/17; v nadaljnjem besedilu: KZ-1), za kar predloži ustrezno izjavo.

17. 17. Vlagatelj mora izkazati reference na področju formalnega ali neformalnega izobraževanja odraslih ali formalnega ali neformalnega izobraževanja o digitalnih spretnostih pridobljenih od vključno 1. 1. 2019 naprej (vsaj eno dokazilo).

18. 18. Vlagatelj mora imeti ob oddaji vloge zaposlenega ali z drugim pogodbenim razmerjem zagotavljenega najmanj enega predavatelja, z referencami na področju formalnega ali neformalnega izobraževanja odraslih o osnovnih digitalnih spretnostih, pridobljenih od vključno 1. 1. 2019 naprej (vsaj eno dokazilo).

19. 19. Vlagatelj mora za izvedbo izobraževanj predložiti seznam predavateljev oz. strokovnega kadra z referencami s področja formalnega ali neformalnega izobraževanja odraslih o osnovnih digitalnih spretnostih, pridobljenih od vključno 1. 1. 2019 naprej (vsaj eno dokazilo po predavatelju oz. strokovnemu kadru).

20. 20. Vlagatelj mora na vsaj eni izmed lokacij izvajanja izobraževanj upravičencem omogočiti dostop za invalide.

21. 21. Vlagatelj je seznanjen in se strinja z vsemi pogoji, ki so navedeni v tem javnem razpisu in razpisni dokumentaciji.

POSEBNI POGOJI ZA VLAGATELJE IN PRIJAVO NA JAVNI RAZPIS

Vlagatelj ob prijavi na predmetni javni razpis odda na zato predvidenem obrazcu Opis projekta, ki vsebuje najmanj:

- - Opis organizacijske strukture za vodenje in izvajanje projekta, ki vključuje poimenski seznam oseb, ki bodo delale na projektu in opis njihovih referenc s področja formalnega ali neformalnega izobraževanja odraslih o digitalnih spretnostih (pridobljenih od vključno 1. 1. 2019 naprej), pri čemer morajo biti iz tega opisa jasno razvidne aktivnosti, ki jih bodo te osebe izvajale v okviru projekta. Terminski načrt izvedbe projekta s fazami, mejniki, aktivnostmi in nosilci posameznih aktivnosti.
- - Popis računalniške in tehnične opreme za izvajanje izobraževanj.
- - Opis prostorskih pogojev (z naslovom lokacij) za izvajanje izobraževanj.
- - Opredelitev tveganj v povezavi s pandemijo Covid-19 in opis ukrepov za njihovo obvladovanje, vključno s konkretnimi rešitvami za izvajanje izobraževanj.
- - Načrt oglaševanja izobraževanj, prilagojenega ciljni skupini.

Vlagatelj mora izvesti program, predpisan s strani SDP, ki je sestavni del razpisne dokumentacije.

Vlagatelj mora na vseh lokacijah, kjer bo izvajal izobraževanja, izvajati osnovni del izobraževanja po programu in ponuditi vsaj tri dodatne dele izobraževanj po programu.

Vlagatelj mora imeti za izvedbo izobraževanj zagotovljen prostor, opremljen z mizami in stoli, tabličnim, namiznim ali prenosnim računalnikom z dostopom do spleta za predavatelja in vsakega udeleženca ter projektorjem in platnom (ali drugo primerno projekcijsko opremo), k čemur se zaveže s popisom razpoložljive računalniške in tehnične opreme v okviru priloge - opis projekta.

Zaradi zagotavljanja kakovosti izvedbe programov tega javnega razpisa se zahteva tudi izvajanje naslednje aktivnosti: uvodni pogovor z udeleženci in priprava izvedbenega načrta za skupino, svetovanje in pomoč udeležencem tekom izvajanjem izobraževanja, spremljanje napredka pri udeležencih z evalvacijo. Izbrani izvajalec mora zagotavljati podporo udeležencem prek elektronske pošte in telefona oz. kontaktne točke za pomoč uporabnikom po javno objavljenem urniku, in sicer po vsaj 10 ur na teden.

Kontaktna točka za pomoč uporabnikom mora delovati za čas trajanja pogodbe, na način, da se določi in med udeleženci izobraževanj promovira kontaktni naslov (telefon in elektronski naslov), na katerem je izvajalec izobraževanj dosegljiv za pomoč udeležencem v procesu digitalnega vključevanja (pomoč pri uporabi storitev eUprave, pomoč pri delu z elektronsko pošto in drugih vsebinah, ki so bile obravnavane v okviru izobraževanj).

Posamezna skupina izobraževanja šteje največ petnajst (15) udeležencev.

Za vsako izobraževanje izvajalec zagotovi poleg enega predavatelja v okviru strokovnega kadra tudi enega pomočnika za skupine, večje od deset (10) ljudi.

Izbrani izvajalec mora pripraviti in zagotoviti učno gradivo v tiskani obliki za udeležence o vsebini izobraževanja, ki ga udeleženci lahko odnesejo domov.

Zaradi zagotavljanja zadostne informiranosti potencialnih udeležencev izobraževalnih programov, izbrani izvajalec objavi informacijo o načrtovanem izobraževanju vsaj dva tedna pred njegovo izvedbo na svoji spletni strani, na družabnih omrežjih ter v lokalnem, regijskem ali ciljni skupini usmerjenem mediju (časopis ali radio ali televizija ipd.), dodatno pa izobesi plakate (min. velikosti A3) z informacijo o načrtovanem izobraževanju na vsaj treh (3) mestih v občini načrtovanega izobraževanja (npr. v občinski knjižnici, zdravstvenem domu ipd.). Izbrani izvajalec mora pri informiranju javnosti o izvajanju izobraževanj vedno navesti, da so sredstva za izvedbo izobraževanj zagotovljena s strani SDP oz. organa, pristojnega za področje digitalne preobrazbe. Vlagatelj bo točna navodila o navedbi in uporabi morebitnega logotipa pristojnega organa, prejel najkasneje do podpisa pogodbe.

Ko vlagatelj oz. izvajalec zapolni mesta za posamezno izobraževanje zasedena, mora o tem nemudoma obvestiti Sklad in potencialne udeležence.

Vlagatelj oz. izvajalec mora ob koncu programa izobraževanja poskrbeti, da udeleženci izpolnijo spletno anketo SDP-ja. Vlagatelj bo prejel povezavo do vprašalnika ob začetku izvajanja izobraževanj.

Udeleženec izobraževanja pridobi pravico do digitalnega bona, ko izpolni enega od naslednjih pogojev:

- - opravljenih 9 ur osnovnega izobraževanja,
- - opravljenih skupno 9 ur v okviru dveh dodatnih izobraževanj.

Udeleženca, ki izpolni enega od navedenih pogojev, vlagatelj uvrsti na seznam, ki ga enkrat tedensko (praviloma ob ponedeljkih do 12.00 ure) posreduje SDP-ju, za namen vpisa med upravičence do digitalnega bona 2022 pri FURS na način in s podatki, določenimi v uredbi iz 3. odstavka 27. člena ZSDV. Vlagatelj je hkrati dolžan voditi listo prisotnosti in mesečno evidenco izvedenih izobraževanj ter poimenski seznam njihovih udeležencev, vključno s podatkom o številu ur udeležbe po posameznemu udeležencu in programu izobraževanja.

Sklad ali SDP lahko kadar koli nenapovedano opravita preverjanje izvajanja programa na kraju samem.

FINANCIRANJE

VIŠINA SREDSTEV JAVNEGA RAZPISA

Višina sredstev, ki so na razpolago za izvedbo predmetnega javnega razpisa je 750.000,00 EUR iz proračunske postavke (221015 Digitalna povezljivost) za leto 2022.

Predvidena razporeditev sredstev po posameznih statističnih regijah je sledeča:

Statistična regija	Sredstva za leto 2022 v EUR
Gorenjska	84.253,06
Goriška	52.996,80
Jugovzhodna	55.330,61
Koroška	31.631,58
Obalno-kraška	39.416,72
Osrednjeslovenska	124.704,29
Podravska	102.264,97

Pomurska	59.100,51
Posavska	42.950,18
Primorsko-notranjska	30.677,58
Savinjska	93.861,57
Zasavska	32.812,13
SKUPAJ	750.000,00

Sklad bo po prvem odpiranju vlog na svoji spletni strani objavil predviden obseg preostalih sredstev po posameznih statističnih regijah za vloge, ki bodo prispele na 2. rok oddaje vlog.

V kolikor bo Sklad po 2. odpiranju ugotovil, da v kateri od 12 statističnih regij ni izbranih vlagateljev ali da so sredstva v posameznih regijah ostala nerazporejena, bo ponudil sredstva za izvajanje izobraževanj za te regije sprva že izbranim vlagateljem v sosednjih statističnih regijah, razvrščene glede na število doseženih točk pri ocenitvi vlog in ob pogoju, da bo vlagatelj izkazal zmožnost izvedbe dodatnih izobraževanj. V kolikor bo Sklad tudi po tem ugotovil preostanek sredstev, bo ponudil sredstva za izvajanje izobraževanj neizbranim vlagateljem z doseženim pragom točk iz sosednjih statističnih regij, razvrščene glede na doseženo število točk.

V primeru, da se sredstva javnega razpisa ne razdelijo v celoti, ostanejo sredstva nerazporejena.

VIŠINA ZAPROŠENIH SREDSTEV

Najnižja zaprošena vrednost sredstev je 8.000,00 EUR, najvišja višina zaprošenih sredstev za posamezno statistično regijo je 50 % predvidenih sredstev za posamezno statistično regijo.

UPRAVIČENI STROŠKI

V okviru tega javnega razpisa so upravičeni naslednji stroški:

- - Stroški izvedbe izobraževalnega programa na udeleženca v višini 124,80 EUR.
- - Na vsakih 8.000 EUR upravičenih stroškov za izvedbo izobraževanj, vlagatelju pripada pavšal v višini 1.750 EUR za delovanje kontaktne točke za pomoč uporabnikom, udeležencem izobraževanj, oz. do porabe sredstev na posamezni regiji.

Vlagatelji lahko zaprosijo za sofinanciranje do 100 % upravičenih stroškov projekta.

Neupravičene stroške krije upravičenec sam.

V kolikor vlagatelj ne izvede skupnega pogodbenega dogovorjenega števila izobraževanj, se sredstva vlagatelju sorazmerno znižajo, vsekakor pa delež izvedenih izobraževanj ne sme biti nižji od 80 % skupno dogovorjenega programa.

ODDAJA VLOGE

1. 1. Vlogo lahko odda vlagatelj ali po njem pooblaščen oseba, katera mora k vlogi predložiti podpisano pooblastilo. Pooblastilo se poda na predlogi, ki je sestavni del elektronskega prijavnega obrazca.
2. 2. Vloga se odda preko spletne Aplikacije "e-Rsklad", na naslovu www.r-sklad.si, in sicer skladno z razpisnim rokom za oddajo vloge.

3. 3. Zainteresirani lahko informacije pridobijo v času uradnih ur v Sektorju za finančne spodbude, na tel. št. 01 836 19 53 ali na podlagi pisnega zaprosila, posredovanega na elektronski naslov info@srrs.si s pripisom zadeve »Vprašanje – razpis 55+«.

ROK ZA ODDAJO VLOGE

Vlagatelj lahko vlogo odda od objave javnega razpisa do razpisnega roka, in sicer do 08.07.2022. Vloge ni možno oddati po zadnjem razpisnem roku oziroma po zaprtju javnega razpisa.

Javni razpis objavljen na: <https://www.r-sklad.si/SRRS-AZ-WP-91-85/viewsuser/razpis.xhtml>

PROGRAM HORIZON EUROPE:

1. Implementing digital services to empower neuroscience research for health and brain inspired technology via EBRAINS

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2022-SERV-01-01

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[Research infrastructure services to support health research and accelerate the digital transformation \(2022\) \(HORIZON-INFRA-2022-SERV-01\)](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

01 June 2022

Deadline date

21 September 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all the following outcomes:

- integrated multi-disciplinary collaborative tools and services widely serving the European neuroscientific community, providing them with FAIR data indexing and archival, multilevel data mining and modelling/simulation of brain functions, and empowering workflows for reproducible research;
- a rich collection of multilevel human brain models, atlases and workflows, directly supporting the research and development for personalised brain medical treatments e.g. target binding drugs, precise neuro-stimulation positioning and guided surgery, regarding brain diseases such as epilepsy, Parkinson, consciousness disorders, or rare or multi-factor diseases;
- a comprehensive set of cognitive brain model scaffolds and associated modular / large-size neuromorphic and neurorobotic facilities for assisting the design and validation of applicative cognitive technologies benefitting from neurosciences latest knowledge, as enablers for autonomous and adaptive robotics approaches that use fast sensory processing and decision-making capabilities;
- supplementary population of EBRAINS facilities with multidisciplinary services/applications that answer well-identified new neuroscience related S&T needs, in correlation with national and European research priorities for neuroscience, brain medicine and cognitive-technologies;
- integration of EBRAINS with EOSC and linkage with common European data spaces in the life science and health sector;
- better-aligned national investments in neuroscience across Europe, building on the Member States' and Associated Countries' specialised competence centres, which in turn will help creating additional synergies and enabling further research activities around the EBRAINS services.

Scope:

Building on the EBRAINS architecture and base facilities developed under Horizon 2020, the scope of this action is to:

1. To implement a user-friendly service infrastructure along the principles of Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Platform as a Service (PaaS) to widely serve the research communities in neurosciences, brain medicine and brain-inspired cognitive technologies. This includes the following dimensions:

- Enabling the EBRAINS research infrastructure digital facilities supporting neuroscience dedicated tools and services, with a high quality of service including robustness, security, scalability, flexibility, usability and user-centricity. This includes a sustainable system for allocation and management of data capacities and of simulation and computing service resources.
- Establishing in-depth collaboration with teams from other European research and testing infrastructures and of EOSC, in order to ensure efficiency and harmonisation, e.g. regarding Authorisation, Authentication and Identification (AAI), Persistent Identifiers (PID), discovery ontologies and API for both services and data.
- Directly interfacing with the European HPC capacities towards exascale, deployed in EuroHPC and capitalising on the FENIX[1] developments for big-data integration and interactive use.
- Delivering an efficient Europe-wide service to researchers, based on promoting excellence and innovation, and supporting users' digital experiments with the assistance of high-level

support teams and feedback mechanisms, and guiding communities in developing novel software solutions that build on the EBRAINS base offering.

- Deploying an open metrics framework to assess the EBRAINS performances reached, the efficiency of the facilities offered in particular regarding the human-based services, and the uptake especially regarding the enabled science excellence and related results and the medical and technological innovation empowerment.

2. To develop, integrate in EBRAINS, and operate:

- Constantly improving open science services/applications that respond to up-to-date and upcoming identified needs of the neuroscientific community, with a co-design approach and in-depth engagement with scientific, medical and industrial stakeholders and the establishment of an appropriate and transparent prioritisation mechanism. This includes ensuring openness to other research groups and new applications; reaching out to scientific and industrial communities, including with tailored training and skills development programmes.
- The deployment of complementary S&T services from regional or national competence nodes, supporting and enriching the cloud-based deliveries and facilitating the sharing of produced data and use of national resources.

In addition to the above, EBRAINS should open its approaches to other communities, going beyond neuroscience, for example by supporting compute-intensive simulation to identify candidate drugs addressing new disease targets in other explicit medical domains where this approach is justified.

The financial support to third parties mechanism (see specific call conditions) can be used to design and develop new services (under item 2) and/or to facilitate the co-design approaches and/or the targeted involvement of broader stakeholders, user communities and competence nodes.

2. Better understanding of citizens' behavioural and psychological reactions in the event of a disaster or crisis situation

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-CL3-2022-DRS-01-04

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[Disaster-Resilient Society 2022 \(HORIZON-CL3-2022-DRS-01\)](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

30 June 2022

Deadline date

23 November 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to some of the following expected outcomes:

- Qualitative and quantitative analyses on the behaviour of diverse society groups affected by a natural and man-made disaster or crisis situation, during and after an event occurs, based on real cases and testimonies, lessons learned from past disasters or crisis and recommendations from citizens and local authorities. Examine how this analysis could be integrated into preparedness plans and processes to include cultural, historical, and ethical perspectives on what defines disasters and how they are responded to.
- Analyses of human behaviour as triggering or cascading factors of disasters or crisis situations, and transformation of qualitative data into quantitative information to improve vulnerability and exposure analyses.
- Development of community-centred (*vis-à-vis* victim- or patient-centred) approaches and corresponding preparedness plans: in view of limited emergency response capacities and threat of systems collapses (e.g. health system, food distribution, supply chains) in large-scale disaster scenarios, analyse what community practices and communication strategies can help mitigate the latter and enable the public to be a capable partner in emergency planning and response.
- Specific measures to better address the needs and requirements of most vulnerable groups (chronic sufferers, persons with disabilities, children, elderly persons, economically and social deprived persons, refugees and irregular migrants in emergency planning and recovery measures.
- Analyses of the nature and scope of mental health issues of the affected populations and of first-responders arising during and following natural or man-made disasters or crisis situations and their implications for response and recovery, and options to address these issues, including through social and health services such as emergency psycho-social support.
- Analyses of mechanisms and factors that can lead to false alarms and misdirected actions, and of the direct consequences on both population and decision-makers.

Scope:

Human actions and behaviour may strongly influence the effects and dynamics of a disaster or crisis situation and on the response, potentially modifying the vulnerability of the population. For example, inadequate design of technological systems may favour cascading consequences due to limited consideration of human performance, and insufficient planning. Linked to this, due to extreme time pressure, crisis managers are often forced to make decisions on the basis of inadequate information. The behaviour of the general public, mostly influenced by demographic factors (e.g. gender, age, income, education, risk-tolerance, social connectivity etc.) and the perception of risks, depends on the availability, form and access to information about the crisis and management of trade-offs (e.g. efficiency and thoroughness trade-offs). Social media play an important role here being a means of disinformation and misinformation.

Recent disasters related either to natural causes (including climate-related and geological hazards), man-made causes (including industrial accidents or terrorist attacks) or the COVID-19 pandemic crisis have shown the lack of sufficient knowledge in the way citizens react in case of disasters or crisis situations, with implications on policy design and implementation for example in the form of preparedness plans. In this respect, taking into account the knowledge gathered by projects funded in Horizon 2020 and ensuring complementarity, behavioural and psychological research on how citizens behave in the event of a disaster or crisis situation is needed to better understand how to best raise awareness in the population and develop tools to facilitate this.

It is hence necessary to better investigate how historical, cultural and emotional factors (e.g. anxiety, panic etc.) during a disaster or a crisis influence rational actions, evaluations of options and information seeking. In addition, the impact of disasters on health also requires looking into the short and long-term consequences of exposure to high stress/threat levels bears, in particular for mental health.

3. AI for human empowerment (AI, Data and Robotics Partnership) (RIA)

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-CL4-2022-HUMAN-02-01

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[**A HUMAN-CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES
2022 \(HORIZON-CL4-2022-HUMAN-02\)**](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

16 June 2022

Deadline date

16 November 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Proposal results are expected to contribute to at least one of the following expected outcomes:

- Truly mixed human-AI initiatives for human empowerment
- Trustworthy hybrid decision-support systems

Scope:

Build the next level of **perception, visualisation, interaction and collaboration** between humans and AI systems working together as partners to achieve common goals, sharing mutual understanding and learning of each other's abilities and respective roles.

Innovative and promising approaches are encouraged, including human-in the loop approaches for truly mixed human-AI initiatives combining the best of human and machine knowledge and capabilities, tacit knowledge extraction (to design the next generation AI-driven co-creation and collaboration tools embodied e.g. in industrial/working spaces environments).

Each proposal will focus on one of the two following research objectives, and clearly identify it:

1. Reach truly mixed human-AI initiatives for human empowerment. The approaches should combine the best of human and machine knowledge and capabilities including shared and sliding autonomy in interaction, addressing reactivity, and fluidity of interaction and making systems transparent, fair and intuitive to use, which will play a key role in acceptance. The systems should adapt to the user rather than the opposite, based on analysis, understanding and anticipation about human behaviour and expectations.
2. Trustworthy hybrid decision-support, including approaches for mixed and sliding decision-making, for context interpretation, for dealing with uncertainty, transparent anticipation, reliability, human-centric planning and decision-making, interdependencies, and augmented decision-making. Transparency, fairness, technical accuracy and robustness will be the key, together with validation strategies assessing also the quality of the decision of the AI supported socio-technical system.

All proposals should adopt a human-centred development of trustworthy AI and investigate and optimise ways of human-AI interaction, key for acceptance and democratisation of AI, to allow any user to take full advantage of the huge benefits such technology can offer, regardless of their age, race, gender or capabilities. This includes development of methods to improve transparency, in particular for human users, in terms of explainability, expected levels of performance which are

guaranteed/verifiable and corresponding confidence levels, accountability and responsibility, as well as perceived trust and fairness. AI could also be used to empower humans in supporting them to improve responsible behaviours, where appropriate, but this should be done in full respect of the requirements ensuring trustworthy AI, including human autonomy.

Innovative scientific approach towards human-centric approaches will require multidisciplinary and trans-disciplinary approaches paying particular attention to intersectional factors (gender, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status, disability) including SSH^[1] and other disciplines relevant to stimulate novel research avenues, and eventually improve user-acceptance. Collaborative design and evaluation with users involvement should also be considered.

As a pilot activity, proposals in this topic will dedicate part of their activities on investigating novel ways of engagement by citizens or citizen representatives with AI development, with a view of optimising experience towards improving usability and experience for citizens (both at professional or daily life environment).

All proposals should contribute to build the next level of perception, visualisation, interaction and collaboration, and understanding between humans and AI systems working together as partners to achieve common goals, sharing mutual understanding of each other's abilities and respective roles.

All proposals are expected to embed mechanisms to assess and demonstrate progress (with qualitative and quantitative KPIs, benchmarking and progress monitoring, as well as illustrative application use-cases demonstrating concrete potential added value), and share results with the European R&D community, through the AI-on-demand platform^[2], a public community resource, to maximise re-use of results, either by developers, or for uptake, and optimise efficiency of funding. Activities are expected to achieve TRL 4-5 by the end of the project.

This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on AI, Data and Robotics.

All proposals are expected to allocate tasks to cohesion activities with the PPP on AI, Data and Robotics and funded actions related to this partnership, including the CSA HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01-02.

Specific Topic Conditions:

Activities are expected to start at TRL 2-3 and achieve TRL 4-5 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.

Cross-cutting Priorities:

[Co-programmed European Partnerships](#)

Artificial Intelligence

Digital Agenda

Social sciences and humanities

4. Implementing digital services to empower neuroscience research for health and brain inspired technology via EBRAINS

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2022-SERV-01-01

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[Research infrastructure services to support health research and accelerate the digital transformation \(2022\) \(HORIZON-INFRA-2022-SERV-01\)](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

01 June 2022

Deadline date

21 September 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all the following outcomes:

- integrated multi-disciplinary collaborative tools and services widely serving the European neuroscientific community, providing them with FAIR data indexing and archival, multilevel data mining and modelling/simulation of brain functions, and empowering workflows for reproducible research;
- a rich collection of multilevel human brain models, atlases and workflows, directly supporting the research and development for personalised brain medical treatments e.g. target binding drugs, precise neuro-stimulation positioning and guided surgery, regarding brain diseases such as epilepsy, Parkinson, consciousness disorders, or rare or multi-factor diseases;
- a comprehensive set of cognitive brain model scaffolds and associated modular / large-size neuromorphic and neurorobotic facilities for assisting the design and validation of applicative cognitive technologies benefitting from neurosciences latest knowledge, as enablers for autonomous and adaptive robotics approaches that use fast sensory processing and decision-making capabilities;

- supplementary population of EBRAINS facilities with multidisciplinary services/applications that answer well-identified new neuroscience related S&T needs, in correlation with national and European research priorities for neuroscience, brain medicine and cognitive-technologies;
- integration of EBRAINS with EOSC and linkage with common European data spaces in the life science and health sector;
- better-aligned national investments in neuroscience across Europe, building on the Member States' and Associated Countries' specialised competence centres, which in turn will help creating additional synergies and enabling further research activities around the EBRAINS services.

Scope:

Building on the EBRAINS architecture and base facilities developed under Horizon 2020, the scope of this action is to:

1. To implement a user-friendly service infrastructure along the principles of Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Platform as a Service (PaaS) to widely serve the research communities in neurosciences, brain medicine and brain-inspired cognitive technologies. This includes the following dimensions:
 - Enabling the EBRAINS research infrastructure digital facilities supporting neuroscience dedicated tools and services, with a high quality of service including robustness, security, scalability, flexibility, usability and user-centricity. This includes a sustainable system for allocation and management of data capacities and of simulation and computing service resources.
 - Establishing in-depth collaboration with teams from other European research and testing infrastructures and of EOSC, in order to ensure efficiency and harmonisation, e.g. regarding Authorisation, Authentication and Identification (AAI), Persistent Identifiers (PID), discovery ontologies and API for both services and data.
 - Directly interfacing with the European HPC capacities towards exascale, deployed in EuroHPC and capitalising on the FENIX[1] developments for big-data integration and interactive use.
 - Delivering an efficient Europe-wide service to researchers, based on promoting excellence and innovation, and supporting users' digital experiments with the assistance of high-level support teams and feedback mechanisms, and guiding communities in developing novel software solutions that build on the EBRAINS base offering.
 - Deploying an open metrics framework to assess the EBRAINS performances reached, the efficiency of the facilities offered in particular regarding the human-based services, and the uptake especially regarding the enabled science excellence and related results and the medical and technological innovation empowerment.
2. To develop, integrate in EBRAINS, and operate:
 - Constantly improving open science services/applications that respond to up-to-date and upcoming identified needs of the neuroscientific community, with a co-design approach and in-depth engagement with scientific, medical and industrial stakeholders and the establishment of an appropriate and transparent prioritisation mechanism. This includes ensuring openness to other research groups and new applications; reaching out to scientific and industrial communities, including with tailored training and skills development programmes.

- The deployment of complementary S&T services from regional or national competence nodes, supporting and enriching the cloud-based deliveries and facilitating the sharing of produced data and use of national resources.

In addition to the above, EBRAINS should open its approaches to other communities, going beyond neuroscience, for example by supporting compute-intensive simulation to identify candidate drugs addressing new disease targets in other explicit medical domains where this approach is justified.

The financial support to third parties mechanism (see specific call conditions) can be used to design and develop new services (under item 2) and/or to facilitate the co-design approaches and/or the targeted involvement of broader stakeholders, user communities and competence nodes.

5. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions:

5.1 MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01-01

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022 \(HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01\)](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-EF HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships

Type of MGA

HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

13 April 2022

Deadline date

14 September 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

For supported postdoctoral fellows

- Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects of MSCA postdoctoral fellows within academia and beyond;
- New mind-sets and approaches to R&I work forged through interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and international experience;
- Enhanced networking and communication capacities with scientific peers, as well as with the general public that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact.

For participating organisations

- Increased alignment of working conditions for researchers in accordance with the principles set out in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers;
- Enhanced quality and sustainability of research training and supervision;
- Increased global attractiveness, visibility and reputation of the participating organisation(s);
- Stronger R&I capacity and output among participating organisations; better transfer of knowledge;
- Regular feedback of research results into teaching and education at participating organisations.

Scope:

Fellowships will be provided to excellent researchers, undertaking international mobility either to or between EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries, as well as to non-associated Third Countries. Applications will be made jointly by the researcher and a beneficiary in the academic or non-academic sector.

Postdoctoral Fellowships either can take place in Europe (i.e. in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country) or in a Third Country not associated to Horizon Europe:

- European Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe. The standard duration of these fellowships must be between 12 and 24 months.
- Global Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to European nationals or long-term residents^[1] who wish to engage in R&I projects with organisations outside EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries. These fellowships require an outgoing phase of minimum 12 and maximum 24 months in a non-associated Third Country, and a mandatory 12-month return phase to a host organisation based in an EU Member State or a Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Specific eligibility conditions apply to MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships in the research areas covered by the Euratom Research and Training Programme 2021-2025^[1].

Secondments

Researchers receiving a Postdoctoral Fellowship may opt to include a secondment phase, within the overall duration of their fellowship in any country worldwide. The secondment phase can be a single period or be divided into shorter mobility periods.

For European Postdoctoral Fellowships, secondments cannot exceed one third of the standard fellowship duration and should be in line with the project objectives, adding significant value and impact to the fellowship.

For Global Postdoctoral Fellowships, optional secondments are permitted for up to one third of the outgoing phase. A maximum of three months can be spent at the start of the project at the beneficiary (or any other organisation mentioned in the description of the action), allowing the researcher to spend time there before going to the associated partner in the Third Country. Secondments cannot take place during the mandatory twelve-month return period to the host organisation in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Placements in the non-academic sector

Postdoctoral Fellowships can provide an additional period of up to six months to support researchers seeking a placement at the end of the project to work on R&I projects in an organisation from the non-academic sector established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country^[3]. While this possibility is also available to fellows recruited in the non-academic sector, such a placement must be implemented at a different non-academic host organisation established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country^[4]. The request for such a placement must be an integral part of the proposal, explaining the added-value for the project and for the career development of the researcher, and will be subject to evaluation. It must be substantiated by a letter of commitment from the European non-academic organisation where the placement takes place^[5]. This incentive aims at promoting career moves between sectors and organisations and thereby stimulate innovation and knowledge transfer while expanding career opportunities for researchers.

Training activities

The training activities implemented under the Postdoctoral Fellowships should include training for key transferable skills^[6], foster innovation and entrepreneurship, (e.g. commercialisation of results, Intellectual Property Rights, communication, public engagement and citizen science) and promote Open Science practices (open access to publications and to research data, FAIR data management, etc.).

Career Development Plan

In order to equip MSCA postdoctoral fellows with skills that enhance and expand their career opportunities inside and outside academia, a Career Development Plan should be established jointly by the supervisor(s) and the researcher. In addition to research objectives, this plan should comprise the researcher's training and career needs, including training on transferable skills, teaching, planning for publications and participation in conferences and events aiming at opening science and research to citizens. The Plan will have to be submitted as a project deliverable at the beginning of the action and can be updated when needed.

Euratom

Aiming to enhance nuclear expertise and excellence as well as synergies between Programmes, organisations active in nuclear research established in one of EU Member States or countries associated to the Euratom Research and Training programme 2021-2025^[7], are eligible to participate. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships in this area of research will be supported by the Euratom Research and Training Programme 2021-2025 through an indicative annual financial contribution of EUR 1 million to the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call^[8].

ERA Fellowships

The ERA Fellowships implemented through Work Programme Annex 11, Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area, provide specific support to researchers to undertake

their fellowship in a widening country^[9]. This will help spread excellence and contribute to fostering balanced brain circulation in widening countries.

[1] See eligibility conditions at the end of this Work Programme part.

[2] See eligibility conditions at the end of this Work Programme part.

[3] For proposals in the research areas covered by the Euratom Research and Training Programme, the organisation from the non-academic sector must be established in an EU Member State or a country associated to the Euratom Research and Training Programme 2021-2025

[4] idem

[5] In the grant agreement, these non-academic organisations must be identified as associated partners.

[6] As an illustration, Eurodoc published a list of such transferable skills at: <http://eurodoc.net/skills-report-2018.pdf>

[7] See eligibility conditions at the end of this Work Programme part

[8] As indicated in the Euratom Work Programme

[9] These countries are aligned with Work Programme part 11, Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Destination

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

The goal of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships will be open to excellent researchers of any nationality. The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the non-academic sector and is open to researchers wishing to reintegrate in Europe, to those who are displaced by conflict, as well as to researchers with high potential who are seeking to restart their careers in research.

Through the implementation of an original and personalised research project, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships aim to foster excellence through training and mobility and to equip researchers with new skills and competences in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges. Postdoctoral researchers are encouraged to reach out to society at large to make the results of their research visible to citizens.

Expected impact

Proposals under this Action should contribute to the following expected impacts:

- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and wishing to diversify their individual competences and skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility while implementing excellent research projects across all sectors of research;
- Strengthen Europe's human capital base in R&I with better trained, innovative and entrepreneurial researchers;
- Enhance the quality of R&I contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth;
- Contribute to Europe's attractiveness as a leading destination for R&I and for good working conditions of researchers;
- Facilitate knowledge transfer and brain circulation across the ERA;
- Foster the culture of open science, innovation and entrepreneurship.

5.2 MSCA Doctoral Networks 2022

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-DN-01-01

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[MSCA Doctoral Networks 2022 \(HORIZON-MSCA-2022-DN-01\)](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-DN HORIZON TMA MSCA Doctoral Networks

Type of MGA

HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

03 May 2022

Deadline date

15 November 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

For supported doctoral candidates

- New research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects within and outside academia;
- New knowledge allowing the conversion of ideas into products and services, where relevant;
- Enhanced networking and communication capacities with scientific peers, as well as with the general public that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact.

For participating organisations

- Improved quality, relevance and sustainability of doctoral training programmes and supervision arrangements;
- Enhanced cooperation and transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines;
- Increased integration of training and research activities between participating organisations;
- Boosted R&I capacity;
- Increased internationalisation and attractiveness;
- Regular feedback of research results into teaching and education at participating organisations.

Scope:

MSCA Doctoral Networks will implement doctoral programmes, by partnerships of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-

economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond. MSCA Doctoral Networks are indeed open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers.

These doctoral programmes will respond to well-identified needs in various R&I areas, expose the researchers to the academic and non-academic sectors, and offer training in research-related, as well as transferable skills^[1] and competences relevant for innovation and long-term employability (e.g. entrepreneurship, commercialisation of results, Intellectual Property Rights, communication). Proposals for doctoral networks can reflect existing or planned research partnerships among the participating organisations.

The selection procedure for doctoral candidates must be open, transparent and merit-based, in line with the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. The vacancy notice (to be widely advertised internationally, including on the EURAXESS^[2] website) must include the gross salary (not including employer's social contributions) offered to the researcher.

MSCA Doctoral Networks are encouraged to lead to Industrial or Joint Doctorates.

Industrial Doctorates

Through Industrial Doctorates, doctoral candidates will step outside academia and develop skills in industry and business by being jointly supervised by academic and non-academic organisations, both of which can be established in the same EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Joint Doctorates

Joint Doctorates represent a highly integrated type of international, inter-sectoral and multi/interdisciplinary collaboration in doctoral training. They lead to the delivery of joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees^[3] recognised in at least two EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

Steering Board

Each MSCA Doctoral Network should have a clearly identified steering board co-ordinating network-wide training and research activities and establishing continuous communication and exchange of best practice among the participating organisations to maximise the benefits of the partnership.

Training activities

MSCA Doctoral Networks should exploit complementarities between participating organisations and foster sharing of knowledge and networking activities for example through the organisation of workshops and conferences. Proposed training activities should respond to well identified needs in various R&I areas, with appropriate references to inter- and multidisciplinary fields and follow the EU Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training^[4]. They should be primarily focused on developing new scientific knowledge through original research on personalised projects.

Inter-sectoral secondments of researchers to other participating organisations, including in third countries, are encouraged when relevant, feasible and beneficial for the researchers and in line with the project objectives. This will increase the employability of the researchers outside academia. Doctoral Networks should develop substantial training modules, including digital ones, addressing key transferable skills and competences common to all fields and fostering the culture of Open Science, innovation and entrepreneurship. In particular, Doctoral Networks should adequately prepare doctoral candidates for increased research collaboration and information-sharing made possible by new (digital) technologies (e.g. collaborative tools, opening access to publications and to research data, FAIR data management, public engagement and citizen science, etc.).

Supervision

Particular attention is paid to the quality of supervision and mentoring arrangements as well as career guidance. Joint supervision of the researchers is mandatory for Industrial and Joint Doctorates.

Career Development Plan

A Career Development Plan must be established jointly by the supervisor and each recruited doctoral candidate. In case of joint supervision, such a plan should be established involving all supervisors. In addition to research objectives, this plan comprises the researcher's training and career needs, including training on transferable skills, teaching, planning for publications and participation in conferences and events aiming at opening science and research to citizens. The plan, established at the beginning of the recruitment, should be revised (and updated where needed) within 18 months.

[1]As an illustration, Eurodoc published a list of such transferable skills at: <http://eurodoc.net/skills-report-2018.pdf>

[2]<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

[3]Every time this Work Programme part refers to doctoral degrees, this means that the degrees have to be recognised as such by the relevant authorities of the country or countries concerned.

[4]https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/policy_library/principles_for_innovative_doctoral_training.pdf

Destination

MSCA Doctoral Networks

The MSCA Doctoral Networks aim to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit.

The MSCA Doctoral Networks will raise the attractiveness and excellence of doctoral training in Europe. They will equip researchers with the right combination of research-related and transferable competences and provide them with enhanced career perspectives in both the academic and non-academic sectors through international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility combined with an innovation-oriented mind-set.

Expected impact

Proposals under this Action should contribute to the following expected impacts:

- Strengthen Europe's human capital base in R&I by training highly-skilled doctoral candidates,
- Improve the attractiveness of researchers' careers notably through better working and employment conditions of doctoral candidates in Europe
- Enhance talent and knowledge circulation across the R&I landscape, through inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary and international mobility
- Increase Europe's attractiveness as a leading research destination
- Enhance the quality of R&I contributing to Europe's sustainable competitiveness
- Establish sustainable collaboration between academic and non-academic organisations
- Foster the culture of open science, innovation and entrepreneurship.