

Information Day on MSCA Staff Exchanges

(CZ, LT, LV, PL)

24 October 2024

Q&A:

- **Budget encoding in Part A: Switzerland: Do we have to encode the number of staff-member participating and indicating the person-month? Will the Swiss budget be based on the number of researchers or the person-months codified? Or the number should be mentioned in Annex B only, so not in the budget?**

Switzerland is not eligible for funding, unless it is an exceptional funding request for a Swiss participant. In such cases, please follow the standard funding rules. If it is not the case, in the budget table in part A, you may encode the number of seconded researchers. However, for the Switzerland-based entity, you should encode 0 in the number of person-months. Nevertheless, you can mention the Swiss entity contribution in the description of the Action.

- **Budget encoding in Part A: South Africa (low-middle income country): Do we encode the researcher and person-month quantity as part of the South African institution? Or do we encode it as part of the European beneficiaries?**

South Africa is considered low – to middle-income country. It is automatically eligible for funding, therefore the applicant should encode the number of researchers and the person-months of the South African partner in the budget table, part A, as for any other beneficiary. Participants from Member States/Associated Countries and from low to middle income countries (automatically eligible for funding included in the [List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe](#)) must encode the “number of seconded researchers” and “number of person months”. For more information, you may consult the [Guide for Applicants of the call MSCA SE 2024](#).

- **What about the Gulf countries? Are they considered high-income countries, or do they have a special agreement with the EU? The UK is considered a third country; does this mean that three research institutes, including one from the UK, can apply for the grant.**

Please carefully review from the following link which countries are eligible for funding: [List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe](#). For each country concerned you may search the different options for funding in dedicated pages for each of them. UK is considered third country associated to the Horizon Europe, which means UK is eligible for funding.

- **Encoding Part A. Section 2. Participants: Researchers involved in the proposal': Do we have to include one of the researchers listed in the Technical Annex B? Or do we have to include all seconded researchers on the project? And if so, are secondments limited to this list of researchers?**

The planning of secondments is indicative as it may change along the lifecycle of the project. Nevertheless, it can be included all the researchers considered to be seconded on the project

proposal. However, during project implementation, it is possible to change of researchers to be seconded.

- **Can we have running Excellence Hubs project covering full-time personal costs of secondees and through MSCA-SE send secondees to business partner and cover their travel+subsistence from MSCA-SE? The scientific content is similar in both projects**

Yes, it is possible to create synergies with MSCA SE and other grants, however the participants should not incur in double funding between the different actions simultaneously managed. - F&Q link to the question: Can members of the consortium apply and participate in different MSCA or other HE projects simultaneously? [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/eu-funding-tenders-portal/) .

- **Question about References: Is it possible collecting them at the end of part B1? Maybe in the form of a single footnote at the end of part B1.**

In part A, neither the beneficiaries nor the associated partners need to fill in the list of up to five publications, relevant previous projects, or significant infrastructure. This information however will need to be described in the relevant sections of part B2. Please carefully review the [Guide for Applicants of the call MSCA SE 2024](#) and you may have a look standard application form from the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/eu-funding-tenders-portal/).

- **Letters of Commitment – how will it work this year? Will there be some Letters of Commitment at the Grant Agreement stage? If Yes, will there be some template for Letter of Commitment with some required wording?**

For the MSCA SE 2024 call, there is no need for letter of commitment during the proposal stage or afterwards. Please carefully review the [Guide for Applicants of the call MSCA SE 2024](#).

- **Could this be considered a TRL1-3 project, and how well would such a proposal be received?**

MSCA SE has a bottom-up approach, any kind of project from every scientific area is very welcome. Please carefully review the [Guide for Applicants of the call MSCA SE 2024](#).

- **Could you explain the situation with PhD candidates in Poland? They are formally not employed as PhD students, so their secondments are not eligible. Am I right?**

F&Q link to question: Which type of researchers can be seconded in a Horizon Europe MSCA Staff Exchange (SE)? [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/eu-funding-tenders-portal/).

Secondments are open to researchers at any career stage (from doctoral candidates to postdoctoral researchers), as well as administrative, managerial and technical staff supporting R&I activities under the action.

Academic researchers at other career stages (e.g. lecturer, professor) are also eligible to participate in secondments.

Supported staff members must be actively engaged in or linked to R&I activities for at least one month (full-time equivalent) at the sending institution before the first period of secondment.

PhD candidates can be seconded if they are considered staff members of the sending organisation and fulfil all other eligibility criteria mentioned in the **work programme**.

For the country specific questions, it is beneficial to get in contact with your NCP.