



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)



MSCA Doctoral Networks: Opportunities for Organisations and Researchers in Japan

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Horizon Europe

EURATOM



Budget: EUR 95.5 billion

Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

European Research Council

Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams

€16 billion

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions

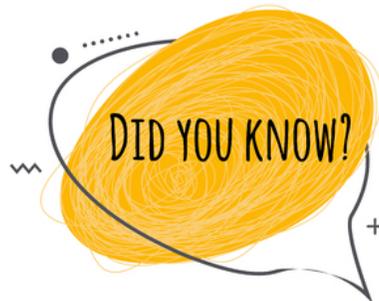
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training

€6.6 billion

Research Infrastructures

Integrated and inter-connected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion



23 Nobel Prize winners either backed by or involved in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions between 2012 and 2025



Key features



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration beyond academia

The Actions

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral
programmes in and
outside academia

Postdoctoral Fellowships

*Support to excellent
postdoctoral
researchers*

Staff Exchanges

*Support for research
and innovation staff
exchanges*

COFUND

*Co-funding doctoral
and postdoctoral
programmes*

MSCA and Citizens

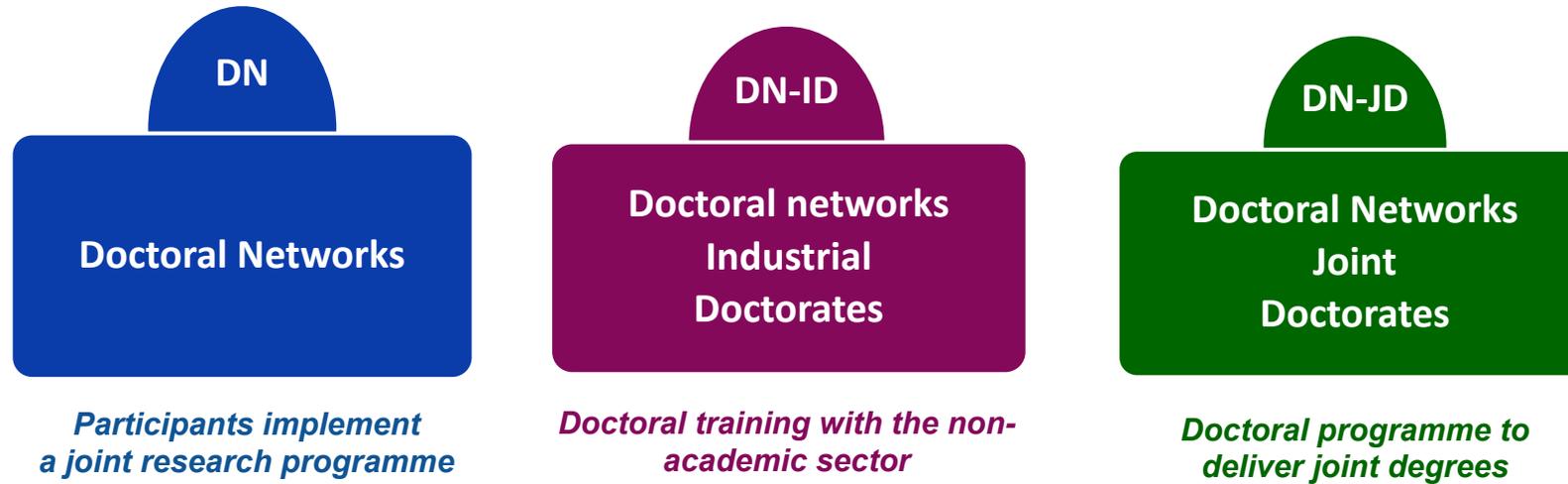
*Public outreach
events (Night)*

What is a Doctoral Network (DN) ?



- ✓ One consortium
- ✓ Proposing a research project
- ✓ With interlinked individual PhD research projects
- ✓ For doctoral candidates

Implementation modes



 *All 3 modes compete within the same scientific panels*

Eligible participants

Who can apply?

- ✓ Any Legal Entity worldwide
- ✓ But not all applicants are eligible for funding



Min. 3 entities from 3 ≈ MS/AC
of which 1 from a MS
as **beneficiary**

Consortia

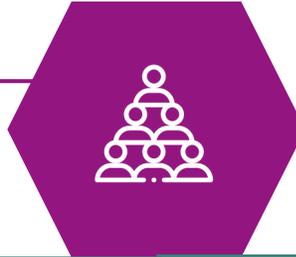
- ✓ Universities, research institutions and research infrastructures
- ✓ Businesses including SMEs
- ✓ Other socio-economic actors

*No minimum / maximum number of **Associated Partners***

Eligible size and duration

Size

- ✓ Up to **540 person-months** for all type of actions



Duration

- ✓ **Project**: max. 48 months for DN and DN-ID
- *incentive for DN-JD **60 months***
- ✓ **Fellowship**: 3 to 36 months for DN and DN-ID
- *incentive for DN-JD **48 months***
- ✓ **Secondments**: worldwide, any sectors, up to 1/2 of the fellowship duration for Standard DN
- Incentive for DN-ID and DN-JD **no secondment limitation**
- ✓ **For DN-ID min 50% in non-academic sector**

Other eligibility conditions

All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate, host and supervise in own premises, or use associated partners linked to them to do so

Max. 40% of budget allocated to the same country or to a single international organisation.

Re-submission restrictions for proposals scoring below 80% in the previous year's call

Specific eligibility conditions for Industrial and Joint Doctorates

Eligible researchers



Doctoral candidates

- ✓ **No doctoral degree** at the date of recruitment
- ✓ **Open, merit-based and transparent recruitment** procedure
- ✓ **Enrolled in a PhD** from min 1 EU MS/AC or a 3rd country beneficiary
- ✓ Any nationality
- ✓ fulfill the **MSCA mobility condition:**

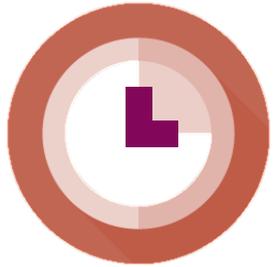
DCs must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Cost categories

A. Contributions for recruited researchers					B. Institutional contributions	
A1. Living allowance (€)	A2. Mobility allowance (€)	A3. Family allowance (if applicable) (€)	A4. Long term leave (if applicable) (€)	A5. Special needs (if applicable) (€)	B1. Research training and networking contribution (€)	B2. Management and indirect contribution (€)
4250*	710	660	4960 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x 1/ number of PM	1600	1200

**gross amount multiplied by country correction coefficient*

MSCA Doctoral Networks



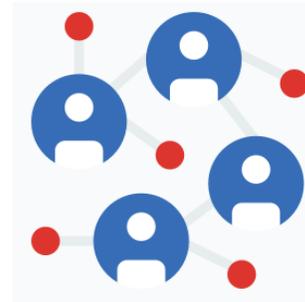
DURATION

4 years (5 years for Joint Doctorates)



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in 3 different EU MS or HE AC (at least 1 MS)



FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36 months (3-48 months for Joint Doctorates)



BUDGET

540 Person/Month

Benefits for doctoral candidates



**Recruitment
of EU funded
excellent DCs**

TALENT

**Cooperation &
knowledge
transfer between
sectors/
disciplines**

NETWORK

**Strengthening
Research &
Innovation
capacity**

CAPACITY

**Improved quality,
relevance, and
sustainability of
PhD programmes**

**ENHANCED
TRAINING
PROGRAMME**

Japan's Participation in MSCA-DN: 2021-2024 Calls

- 19 successful projects :
 - 17 Standard Doctoral Networks
 - 1 Industrial Doctoral Network
 - 1 Joint Doctoral Network
- 24 successful participations by **21** distinct organisations
- Top fields: Engineering, Social Sciences, Physics

Year	Action	Opening*	Deadline*
2025	Doctoral Networks	28 May 2025	25 November 2025
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 April 2025	10 September 2025
	Staff Exchanges	27 March 2025	8 October 2025
	COFUND	23 January 2025	24 June 2025
	COFUND-Choose Europe	1 October 2025	3 December 2025
2026	Doctoral Networks	28 May 2026	24 November 2026
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 April 2026	9 September 2026
	Staff Exchanges	16 December 2025	16 April 2026
	Staff Exchanges	15 December 2026	15 April 2027
	COFUND	16 December 2025	8 April 2026
COFUND	8 December 2026	6 April 2027	
COFUND: Choose Europe	8 December 2026	6 April 2027	

Looking for a partner?

Some useful resources and links

- Vacancies under MSCA Doctoral Networks and COFUND programmes are published on the [Euraxess](#) portal (as well as some offers from host institutions for Postdoctoral Fellowships)
- [MSCA Matchmaking platform](#) for researchers and organisation to find relevant partners and host institutions
- “[Partner search](#)” tool on Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal
- [Enterprise Europe Networks](#) (for non-academic partners)

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Website



LinkedIn



Thank you!



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