MSCA - IF EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS - WEAKNESSES in EXCELLENCE

- The methodology lacks detail. For example, there is little information about the design of the device.
- The concrete activities related to transfer of knowledge from the researcher to the host and training of the researcher are insufficiently described.
- The management and leadership-related capacities of the researcher are not sufficiently outlined in the proposal.
- The innovative content is limited, as the proposed work is incremental to previous research.
- The specific methodologies are not sufficiently described. The information about the modeling approaches is mostly generic and it is not clear where the statistical data will come from; no contacts with the industry are mentioned.
- The benefits of this project for the host organization are not evident.
- The host group and the interactions of the researcher with this community are not sufficiently envisaged.
- The past and current positions of the researcher are not mentioned in the CV. The previous projects and publications show disparate professional interests with no clear focus.
- The proposal is not clear about the skills and experience of the researcher in teaching, which would be important in view of the declared offer to teach/supervise students at the host.
- The proposal fails to present bibliographic references to support the state-of-the-art.
- The originality and innovative aspects against the state-of-the-art are not clearly identified.
- The supervision and hosting arrangements are insufficiently explained. The proposal fails to present a clear plan on how the researcher is integrated into the supervisor's lab.
- The innovative aspects of the proposed research are not convincingly described; the proposed high temperature and pressure processing routes are not convincingly demonstrated as cost-competitive methods.
- The proposed transfer of knowledge/training from the researcher to the host is insufficiently described.
- How the project and training will increase the capacity to reach a position of professional maturity is not adequately reflected upon; especially taking into consideration the level of expertise of the researcher.
- The track record of the researcher in peer reviewed international journals is moderate given the career stage.
- The research methodology is not fully addressed;
- Training objectives are not convincingly addressed;
- The transfer of knowledge from the researcher to the host institution is not clearly outlined; Hosting arrangements are insufficiently detailed.
- The track record of the researcher is limited to 5 articles in about 8 years of research.
- The scope and content of the secondment lacks sufficient justification, specifically clarification is needed on the expertise of the supervisor on information and communication technology-related research topics.
- The description on the hosting arrangements is not completely appropriate for an experienced researcher.
- The proposal does not provide evidence of the researcher's project management experience.
- Research methodology is described in insufficient detail in the proposal.
- The strategy how the proposed project will contribute to researcher's professional development is not clearly explained.
- Previous projects carried out by the principal supervisor are not clear from the proposal.
- The added value of the MCS action to the researcher who is already employed by the host organisation, and vice versa, are not totally evident.
- The technical innovative aspects of the project for the host are somewhat limited since the vast majority of techniques and material analysis are already performed routinely at the host institution
- Information on the training during the secondment and on its importance in the project is not sufficiently detailed.

WEAKNESSES in IMPACT

- The impact of results, which could be generated during the two year project, for risk managers and for the industry appears to be overstated.
- The strategy for communication and public engagement is limited, not clearly described and appears
 to be not very effective. The dissemination of results from this publicly-funded population study by
 Open Access is inadequately addressed.
- The impact of the project on the researcher and possible new career perspectives is not sufficiently described in the proposal.
- Personal involvement of the researcher in communication to the public is not described in sufficient detail. Measurable outputs are not identified.
- The approach to deal with intellectual property rights is not sufficiently addressed.
- Insufficient information is provided about the scale of the proposed symposium.
- The potential industrial applications of the project are not mentioned in the proposal.
- Target groups for dissemination measures are not identified in sufficient detail.
- The potential for the exploitation of the results is not described in sufficient detail.
- Some European priorities, which are considered relevant in the framework of the proposal, are not sufficiently highlighted (e.g. the recent invasive species directive).
- Issues regarding intellectual property have not been sufficiently addressed. Publication strategy is not sufficiently elaborated: anticipated number of submitted manuscripts, their subject and the names of the planned journals for submission have not been clearly identified.
- The Career Development Plan although mentioned is not described in detail. Concrete measures for the advancement of the researcher's future career have not been clearly outlined.
- The personal involvement of the researcher in the dissemination activities is insufficiently described.
- The scientific publication targets are only generally addressed (no quantitative targets are provided).
- The potential for communicating the results to the general public is not fully utilized (e.g. no website or blog, no press releases or magazine articles, no school visits are currently planned).
- Exploitation of project results or Intellectual Property Rights are not appropriately tackled.
- An appropriate training of the researcher on communication or dissemination is not sufficiently planned.
- The intellectual property rights issues are not described in detail
- The communication and public engagement strategy of the project is not adequately addressed and it is rather broadly described.
- The new competences that will be developed by the researcher during the fellowship are not clearly described; there is too little focus on specific skills, both in terms of the scientific and research skills gained by undertaking the work and general career training.
- The expected scientific and policy benefits of the research are not clearly identified and described.
- The exploitation of project results to stakeholders is insufficiently discussed.
- Results dissemination in scientific journals is addressed only in general terms.
- The contribution of the project to career development is not convincingly demonstrated; details within the career development plan are lacking.
- The dissemination strategy of the research results by scientific publications and presentations on scientific conferences is not sufficiently addressed.
- The IPR issues are not explored in sufficient detail.
- It is not sufficiently clear from the proposal how the fellowship would contribute to enhance the researcher's technical and complimentary skills to provide new career perspectives.
- Proposed measures for dissemination of scientific results are not described in sufficient detail.
- The exploitation of technical innovations together with industry and corresponding IPR aspects are insufficiently described.
- Management and leadership development for the researcher would be relatively limited through this project, which is mainly focused on technological development.
- The dissemination and communication activities are too generically described.
- The strategy for exploitation of results and IPR management are not convincingly developed.

WEAKNESSES in IMPLEMENTATION

- The Gantt chart and the different work packages are insufficiently described.
- The presentation of the management structure is not sufficiently specific.
- The risk management and contingency plan is insufficiently developed.
- Availability of infrastructure and equipment is too superficially described.
- Some details about the secondment (infrastructure and duration) are not sufficiently detailed. Tasks
 related to the secondment are not clearly specified.
- The duration of task 1.1 is underestimated.
- There is no specific milestone presented in the Gant chart for WP3.
- The training activities in the host institute are performed only through the MSc and PhD programs.
- The role of the supervisor in scientific leadership of the research project is insufficiently defined, and information on competence and experience related to the research topic (XXXXXXXX) is not sufficiently substantiated.
- The resources needed for a successful implementation are not sufficiently identified.
- Clarification is needed on the commitment of the institution hosting the secondment to the proposed research.
- Although management progress reports are given in the Gantt chart, no management activities are included in the work plan. The involvement of the supervisor in the management is not sufficiently clear.
- Quality management is insufficiently addressed.
- The proposal does not describe sufficiently the infrastructure in terms of hardware and software needed for the execution of the project.
- The timings relevant to the secondment are not sufficiently detailed.
- The proposal does not describe sufficiently the outcomes of the work packages.
- The proposal does not clearly describe the competences, experience and complementarity of the participating organisations.
- The Gantt Chart does not visualize some important deliverables regarding scientific communication (submitted manuscripts).
- Management procedures for tracking the scientific quality, progress and achievements of the project have not been adequately described.
- Risk assessment and contingency plan are not convincingly addressed. Significant risks exist
 regarding the dependency of the project on the results and actions (timing) of other projects. Also,
 there will be considerable practical consequences if daphnia breeding or resurrection fails.
- Some practical hosting arrangements (homing, contract, insurance, language) have not been sufficiently addressed.
- The allocation of resources is insufficiently presented.
- Risks and related mitigation strategies are inadequately described.
- The main tasks of the secondment host are not clearly specified.
- The infrastructure of the secondment host is not sufficiently described.
- The work plan is not sufficiently detailed about the acquisition of additional skills (i.e. leadership, management).
- The work package two is too briefly described.
- Financial management of the project is not clearly addressed.
- Insufficient information is provided on the monitoring of the fellow's work progress.
- The work plan lacks details. The deliverables and milestones are not sufficiently described. The contaminants and the respective analytical methods are not clearly identified.
- The tasks to be performed during the secondment are not clearly outlined.
- Project management and risk containment are not appropriately adressed. A risk contingency plan is not presented.
- It is unclear how IP issues will be handled.

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MSCA-ITN STRENGTHS IN EXCELENCE

- Relevant training and transfer of knowledge objectives are identified for both the researcher and the host organisation.
- The host supervisor has very good expertise in scientific areas related to this project, with relevant publications, projects and strong national and international collaborations.
- The hosting and supervision arrangements are appropriate. The applicant is already well integrated in the host institution.
- The researcher has distinguished qualities that are also very well reflected in the scientific output. The research background of the researcher is very good
- The scientific quality of the project and the state-of-art of the research area are fully addressed with up-to-date references.
- The objectives covered by the project are well highlighted and explained.
- The proposed research is innovative. The timeliness of the project has been very well addressed.
- The proposal describes in a concise way the transfer of knowledge and is of very good quality and complementary to each other.
- Collaborations with industries are reported in the proposal, which is important for the commercial viability of the research.
- The proposal demonstrates the high quality of the expertise of the host scientific team.
- Track record of publications of the researcher clearly demonstrates very strong scientific motivation.
- The state-of-the-art is clearly described and provides a good overview of the future directions in the field of research.
- The project is multidisciplinary and combines ecotoxicology and transcriptomics.
- The very high quality of the proposed research is clearly demonstrated, along with the use of state-ofthe-art techniques in its approach.
- Innovative aspects in ecotoxicology research are clearly presented and refer to the selection of organisms and the use of emerging technologies in exposure scenarios
- The proposal suggests an innovative and credible research program that will go beyond the state-ofthe-art.
- The project is interdisciplinary because it connects chemistry, material technology, physiology of skin, and biomeasurements.
- The researcher will acquire new knowledge and new techniques at the host institute which will help to build upon the previously gained experience making it possible to implement the proposed research.
- The supervisor at the host institute is very highly qualified with the necessary competence and experience to support the researcher in reaching the set objectives.
- Hosting arrangements at the lab and the practical administrative and accommodation arrangements are well taken care of.
- The capacity of the researcher to reach a position of professional maturity in research is well described.
- Both the host institution and the partner organization have strong experience in the field needed for the project with collaborations with national and foreign laboratories in the field.
- There is good expertise in Marie Curie fellow mentorship in the host institution.
- The training/knowledge transfer is clearly described. The transfer of knowledge plan will lead to complementary expertise in laboratory techniques.
- The quality of the supervision is good and well defined. The scientific advisor has an outstanding career and the supervisors on both host and partner organizations are very experienced.
- The hosting arrangements, both at the beneficiary and at the partner organizations, are fully in place for the execution of the research project.
- The project will allow the applicant to further advance and complement their scientific competences.
- The applicant will attend several courses to promote career development in key scientific as well as relevant transferable skills.

STRENGTHS in IMPACT

- The proposal demonstrates that the researcher will acquire multidisciplinary skills and develop leadership and teaching abilities.
- The communication strategy and public engagement plans and education of younger students are very well-articulated and of very good quality. The dissemination of the scientific results is very ambitious and clearly addressed in the proposal.

• Intellectual property right issues are sufficiently considered in the proposal. The project can contribute to promote research on natural bioactive compounds in Europe.

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- An interdisciplinary profile in atmospheric sciences, remote sensing and ecology is not common in Europe, and is a fertile field for ideas and applications in view of the increasing importance of climatic effects.
- The storm database will be made freely available to the scientific community.
- The project would increase the competences and knowledge of the researcher on several subjects, providing an interdisciplinary profile that will enhance career prospects.
- The results would be highly exploitable, both in terms of ecological and weather aspects.
- There is a very strong commitment to disseminate the project results to the academic audience using high impact journal publications. This is ambitious, but feasible.
- A symposium organized at the end of this project with researchers from the atmospheric sciences and ecological fields would provide a good opportunity to disseminate the results.
- The communication strategy with general public is very good, with several very high impact communication opportunities associated with initiatives at the host institutions.
- The expected impact of the research and training and new competences acquired during the fellowship on the capacity to increase career prospects for the researcher is adequately addressed in the proposal.
- The project will allow the researcher to expand the professional network and establish contacts with experts in geosciences.
- Some valuable outreach activities are proposed (participation in annual science festival, contribution to research communication events at a nearby museum.
- Scientific communication is adequately planned, with potential journals and conferences already identified.
- The impact of the proposed research on the researcher's career is satisfactorily demonstrated.
- The impact on society is well described, particularly concerning the reduction of animal use for testing new materials.
- The outreach activities are well addressed. Formal partnerships and agreements with local schools already exist and work experiences and placements to local young people are envisaged.
- The hosts have a significant track record of interaction with the media to communicate science to the general public. The actions to communicate and interact with the general public are well detailed, including the creation of a website.
- Exploitation of results and intellectual property rights are properly addressed. The models described
 are likely to generate IP and the host will assist in identification of patentable inventions. In addition,
 the host would contribute funding possibilities to further develop patent applications.
- The research offers an opportunity for the researcher to improve skills in data analyses and processing. There may be a possibility to reach a unique position in the respective international scientific research community
- The researcher would supervise students and would be trained in administrative and supervisory work which would pave the way for future research.
- The international collaborations are likely to have a positive impact on the career potential of the researcher both in research and in the industrial sector.
- The researcher would gain experience in planning and organizing a big conference.
- The results would be transferred to an instrument manufacturer.
- Results dissemination to the scientific community is very appropriate.
- Popular science presentations are envisaged within an established framework of the host institution.
- The grant will help the researcher to expand even more the network of contacts and to create a community around the research topic.
- The scientific dissemination plan is concrete, targeting specific reputable conferences and journals.
- The exploitation and intellectual property protection plans are promising.

STRENGTHS in IMPLEMENTATION

- The structure of the work plan is detailed and convincing; a clear timeline, adequate milestones and deliverables are provided to assist progress monitoring of the project. A comprehensive Gantt Chart is also provided.
- The allocation of tasks and resources is correctly described.
- The track record of the host leader is excellent. The host also has links to laboratories to contribute to

critical parts of the work, such as modeling and microscopy. The host is a leading group in the topics addressed by the proposal, with state-of-the-art know-how and infrastructure that can provide a solid basis for the realization of the project.

- The institutional environment of the host institution is appropriate for a proper implementation of the project.
- Project risks are carefully analyzed. Main risks are identified and a reasonable contingency plan is proposed.
- The complementarity of the partners is adequately justified, and the institutions are committed with this project.
- The quality management is generic, but convincingly presented.
- Adequate measures are proposed for progress monitoring such as regular meetings, reports and assisted financial accountancy.
- Practical and administrative arrangements, and support for the hosting of the applicant are well addressed.
- An additional partner is involved in the project, bringing skills in the field of microscopic analysis.
- The project is a good basis for starting a collaboration between two scientific institutes.
- The work plan presented is coherent with the research objectives, composed of seven work packages
 and with activities, tasks, deliverables and milestones precisely specified and allocated. Its
 effectiveness is fully demonstrated.
- Management, training, dissemination and public engagement are considered in independent work packages and would help enhance the researcher's capacity and professional maturity.
- The practical arrangements are adequate and cover various needs of the proposed research. Support of the technical staff is well demonstrated.
- The secondment to the partner institute is well justified. The partner has a broad experience in the related field and the necessary equipment to carry out the relevant part of the research. This secondment period is coherently introduced into the Gantt chart.
- The management structure is well composed, with quality management carried out by periodic meetings.
- The potential risks are realistically identified.
- The tasks and commitment of the host and partners are appropriate to achieve the research
 objectives. The infrastructure and equipment are in line with the project needs, including a pioneering
 outdoor lab for wastewater treatment experiments. The host covers additional needs related with the
 project and career development, as well as transfer of results and IPR protection.
- Competences and experience are convincingly described.
- The host has demonstrated competence in receiving Marie Curie Fellows and is fully committed to advanced training.
- The complementarity of host, secondment institutes and researcher is good.
- The work plan, composed from 5 work packages, is coherent and well-organised; milestones and deliverables are appropriate as is time allocation (illustrated by Gantt diagram).
- The management procedures are good and clearly stipulate that the research project will be carried
 out monitored by the supervisor and supported by the host's offices, which will provide ideal scientific,
 financial and environment conditions.
- An excellent and credible risk management and contingency plan is presented for a project of such complexity; quality management is put into place.
- The host institute and associated facilities are well-known for the quality of their infrastructure with state-of-the-art equipment.
- The complementarity between the group of the supervisor and the experience of the researcher are described and afford a solid base to the development of the proposed research project.
- The work plan is well-structured, the tasks are well-defined, and the implementation plan clearly outlines the different steps.
- The host institute has valuable scientific connections in the remote sensing field. The host institute already has MSCA management experience, and shows high interest in the proposed research.
- The risks have been adequately assessed and alternative solutions provided in case data quality becomes an issue.
- The key facilities, infrastructure and equipment at the host institute are appropriate to carry out the
 research tasks. The host organization has the administrative capacity and experience to deliver
 adequate project management.
- The participating institutes and collaborators from different geographical locations creates a suitable network to underpin the proposed project.