



EUROPEAN RESEARCH EXECUTIVE AGENCY (REA)

REA.A – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions & Support to Experts
A.4 – MSCA and citizens, COFUND, Global Postdoctoral Fellowships

GRANT AGREEMENT

Project 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT

PREAMBLE

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

on the one part,

the **European Research Executive Agency (REA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and

on the other part,

1. 'the coordinator':

FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD), PIC 999544067, established in PASEO DE RECOLETOS, NUM. 14, MADRID 28014, Spain,

and the following other beneficiaries, if they sign their 'accession form' (see Annex 3 and Article 40):

2. **FUNDACION SECTOR PUBLICO ESTATAL CENTRO NACIONAL INVESTIGACIONES ONCOLOGICAS CARLOS III (FSP CNIO)**, PIC 999547850, established in C MELCHOR FERNANDEZ ALMAGRO 3, MADRID 28029, Spain,

3. **UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID (UCM)**, PIC 999874546, established in AVENIDA DE SENECA 2, MADRID 28040, Spain,

4. **FUNDACION IMDEA ALIMENTACION (IMDEA ALIMENTACION)**, PIC 972732491, established in PABELLON CENTRAL DEL ANTIGUO HOSPITAL DE CANTOBLAN EDIFICIO NUMERO 7- CARRETERA MADRID- COLMENAR VIEJO--KILOMETRO 14, MADRID 28049, Spain,

5. **UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID (UAM)**, PIC 999861354, established in CALLE EINSTEIN 3 CIUDAD UNIV CANTOBLANCO RECTORADO, MADRID 28049, Spain,

6. **UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID (UC3M)**, PIC 999899572, established in CALLE MADRID 126, GETAFE (MADRID) 28903, Spain,

7. **Fundacion IMDEA Energia (IMDEA Energy)**, PIC 998683192, established in AVENIDA RAMON DE LA SAGRA 3, MOSTOLES MADRID 28935, Spain,

8. **AGENCIA ESTATAL CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS (CSIC)**, PIC 999991722, established in CALLE SERRANO 117, MADRID 28006, Spain,

9. **UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA (UAH)**, PIC 999835746, established in PLAZA DE SAN DIEGO, ALCALA DE HENARES/MADRID 28801, Spain,

10. **FUNDACION IMDEA AGUA (IMDEA AGUA)**, PIC 992925951, established in AVENIDA PUNTO COM N2, ALCALA DE HENARES MADRID 28805, Spain,

11. **UNIVERSIDAD POLITECNICA DE MADRID (UPM)**, PIC 999974844, established in CALLE RAMIRO DE MAEZTU 7 EDIFICIO RECTORADO, MADRID 28040, Spain,

12. **FUNDACION IMDEA SOFTWARE (IMDEA SOFT)**, PIC 998520426, established in CAMPUS DE MONTEGANCEDO SN, POZUELO DE ALARCON 28223, Spain,

13. **UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS (URJC)**, PIC 999886283, established in CALLE TULIPAN, MOSTOLES 28933, Spain,

Unless otherwise specified, references to ‘beneficiary’ or ‘beneficiaries’ include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement (‘mono-beneficiary grant’), all provisions referring to the ‘coordinator’ or the ‘beneficiaries’ will be considered — mutatis mutandis — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1 Description of the action¹

Annex 2 Estimated budget for the action

Annex 3 Accession forms (if applicable)²

Annex 3a Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable)³

Annex 4 Model for the financial statements

Annex 5 Specific rules (if applicable)

¹ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

² Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

³ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

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DATA SHEET

1. General data

Project summary:

Project summary
The European Researchers' Night in Madrid will bring together researchers to the general public and will increase awareness of the importance and benefits of research and innovation, creating an understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life, and raising young people's interest in science and research careers. The project will achieve these objectives by means of festive activities to be carried out in the Region of Madrid in the morning and evening of the last Friday and Saturday of September 2022-2023. Pre events and post events will be also organized. The Madrid Night project also includes Researchers at Schools activities throughout the year. In these activities, researchers will be visiting schools, allowing teachers and pupils to engage with them on important topics faced by our societies, such as those included in the missions in Horizon Europe: cancer, adaptation to climate change, healthy oceans, seas coastal and inland waters, climate-neutral and smart cities and soil health and food. Students and teachers will also visit the researchers' workplaces. The MADRIDNIGHT activities will be addressed to public at large, science-addicts and science-reluctant, children, families, teachers, elderly, people regardless their scientific background with a special focus on families, pupils, and students, with the main purpose of encouraging STEM subjects and science careers, university students and also vocational education and training students. Different activities will be offered focused on the missions in Horizon Europe. The project will involve researchers, benefited by EU funds, especially the MSCA. The activities will point out the transnational and diversity aspects of research, showing the attractiveness of their jobs that can be done everywhere in Europe. Universities, research centres, museums, hospitals, NGOs, foundations and Industry (Spin offs, SME or Large Companies) in the Region of Madrid will be at the core of the project.

Keywords: not defined

Project number: 101061343

Project name: Researchers and citizens: facing together the European challenges

Project acronym: MADRIDNIGHT

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01

Topic: HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01-01

Type of action: HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions

Granting authority: European Research Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: fixed date: 1 May 2022

Project end date: 30 April 2024

Project duration: 24 months

Consortium agreement: Yes

2. Participants

List of participants:

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Max grant amount
1	COO	MADRIMASD	FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD	ES	999544067	143 706.97
2	BEN	FSP CNIO	FUNDACION SECTOR PUBLICO ESTATAL CENTRO NACIONAL INVESTIGACIONES ONCOLOGICAS CARLOS III	ES	999547850	5 000.00
3	BEN	UCM	UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID	ES	999874546	10 625.00
4	BEN	IMDEA ALIMENTACION	FUNDACION IMDEA ALIMENTACION	ES	972732491	3 000.00
5	BEN	UAM	UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID	ES	999861354	18 800.00

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Max grant amount
6	BEN	UC3M	UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID	ES	999899572	24 768.03
7	BEN	IMDEA Energy	Fundacion IMDEA Energia	ES	998683192	10 000.00
8	BEN	CSIC	AGENCIA ESTATAL CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS	ES	999991722	40 000.00
9	BEN	UAH	UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA	ES	999835746	8 800.00
10	BEN	IMDEA AGUA	FUNDACION IMDEA AGUA	ES	992925951	13 500.00
11	BEN	UPM	UNIVERSIDAD POLITECNICA DE MADRID	ES	999974844	11 000.00
12	BEN	IMDEA SOFT	FUNDACION IMDEA SOFTWARE	ES	998520426	5 400.00
13	BEN	URJC	UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS	ES	999886283	5 400.00
14	AP (IO)	OEI	ORGANIZACION DE ESTADOS IBEROAMERICANOS PARA LA EDUCACION LA CIENCIA Y LA CULTURA	ES	927868924	0.00
Total						300 000.00

Coordinator:

- FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD)

3. Grant**Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

Maximum grant amount (Annex 2)	Maximum grant amount (award decision)
300 000.00	300 000.00

Grant form: Lump Sum**Grant mode:** Action grant**Budget categories/activity types:** Lump sum contributions**Cost eligibility options:** n/a**Budget flexibility:** No**4. Reporting, payments and recoveries****4.1 Continuous reporting** (art 21)**Deliverables:** see Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool**4.2 Periodic reporting and payments****Reporting and payment schedule** (art 21, 22):

Reporting					Payments	
Reporting periods			Type	Deadline	Type	Deadline (time to pay)
RP No	Month from	Month to				
					Initial prefinancing	30 days from entry into force/10 days before starting date – whichever is the latest
					1	1
2	13	24	Periodic report	60 days after end of reporting period	Final payment	90 days from receiving periodic report

Prefinancing payments and guarantees:

Prefinancing payment	
Type	Amount
Prefinancing 1 (initial)	150 000.00

Reporting and payment modalities (art 21, 22):

Mutual Insurance Mechanism (MIM): Yes

MIM contribution: 5% of the maximum grant amount (15 000.00), retained from the initial prefinancing

Restrictions on distribution of initial prefinancing: The prefinancing may be distributed only if the minimum number of beneficiaries set out in the call conditions (if any) have acceded to the Agreement and only to beneficiaries that have acceded.

Interim payment ceiling (if any): 100% of the maximum grant amount

No-profit rule: n/a

Late payment interest: ECB + 3.5%

Bank account for payments:

ES3121034833030033455642

Conversion into euros: n/a

Reporting language: Language of the Agreement

4.3 Certificates (art 24): n/a**4.4 Recoveries** (art 22)**First-line liability for recoveries:**

Beneficiary termination: Beneficiary concerned

Final payment: Each beneficiary for their own debt

After final payment: Beneficiary concerned

Joint and several liability for enforced recoveries (in case of non-payment):

Individual financial responsibility: Each beneficiary is liable only for its own debts (and those of its affiliated entities, if any)

5. Consequences of non-compliance, applicable law & dispute settlement forum

Suspension and termination:

Additional suspension grounds (art 31)

Additional termination grounds (art 32)

Applicable law (art 43):

Standard applicable law regime: EU law + law of Belgium

Dispute settlement forum (art 43):

Standard dispute settlement forum:

EU beneficiaries: EU General Court + EU Court of Justice (on appeal)

Non-EU beneficiaries: Courts of Brussels, Belgium (unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements)

6. Other

Specific rules (Annex 5): Yes

Standard time-limits after project end:

Confidentiality (for X years after final payment): 5

Record-keeping (for X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Reviews (up to X years after final payment): 2

Audits (up to X years after final payment): 2

Extension of findings from other grants to this grant (no later than X years after final payment): 2

Impact evaluation (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL

ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement sets out the rights and obligations and terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded for the implementation of the action set out in Chapter 2.

ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions apply:

Actions — The project which is being funded in the context of this Agreement.

Grant — The grant awarded in the context of this Agreement.

EU grants — Grants awarded by EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies (including EU executive agencies, EU regulatory agencies, EDA, joint undertakings, etc.).

Participants — Entities participating in the action as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties.

Beneficiaries (BEN) — The signatories of this Agreement (either directly or through an accession form).

Affiliated entities (AE) — Entities affiliated to a beneficiary within the meaning of Article 187 of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046⁴ which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries (obligation to implement action tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).

Associated partners (AP) — Entities which participate in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.

Purchases — Contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

Subcontracting — Contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

In-kind contributions — In-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(36) of EU Financial

⁴ For the definition, see Article 187 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1): "**affiliated entities** [are]:

- (a) entities that form a sole beneficiary [(i.e. where an entity is formed of several entities that satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant, including where the entity is specifically established for the purpose of implementing an action to be financed by a grant)];
- (b) entities that satisfy the eligibility criteria and that do not fall within one of the situations referred to in Article 136(1) and 141(1) and that have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation".

Regulation 2018/1046, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties.

Fraud — Fraud within the meaning of Article 3 of EU Directive 2017/1371⁵ and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995⁶, as well as any other wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Irregularities — Any type of breach (regulatory or contractual) which could impact the EU financial interests, including irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of EU Regulation 2988/95⁷.

Grave professional misconduct — Any type of unacceptable or improper behaviour in exercising one's profession, especially by employees, including grave professional misconduct within the meaning of Article 136(1)(c) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

Applicable EU, international and national law — Any legal acts or other (binding or non-binding) rules and guidance in the area concerned.

Portal — EU Funding & Tenders Portal; electronic portal and exchange system managed by the European Commission and used by itself and other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for the management of their funding programmes (grants, procurements, prizes, etc.).

CHAPTER 2 ACTION

ARTICLE 3 — ACTION

The grant is awarded for the action **101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT** ('action'), as described in Annex 1.

ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE

The duration and the starting date of the action are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 1).

CHAPTER 3 GRANT

ARTICLE 5 — GRANT

5.1 Form of grant

⁵ Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

⁶ OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

⁷ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

The grant is an action grant⁸ which takes the form of a lump sum grant for the completion of work packages.

5.2 Maximum grant amount

The maximum grant amount is set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) and in the estimated budget (Annex 2).

5.3 Funding rate

Not applicable

5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding

The estimated budget for the action (lump sum breakdown) is set out in Annex 2.

It contains the estimated eligible contributions for the action (lump sum contributions), broken down by participant and work package.

Annex 2 also shows the types of contributions (forms of funding)⁹ to be used for each work package.

5.5 Budget flexibility

Budget flexibility does not apply; changes to the estimated budget (lump sum breakdown) always require an amendment (see Article 39).

Amendments for transfers between *work packages* are moreover possible only if:

- the work packages concerned are not already completed (and declared in a financial statement) and
- the transfers are justified by the technical implementation of the action.

ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

6.1 and 6.2 General and specific eligibility conditions

Lump sum contributions are eligible ('eligible contributions'), if:

- (a) they are set out in Annex 2 and
- (b) the work packages are completed and the work is properly implemented by the beneficiaries and/or the results are achieved, in accordance with Annex 1 and during in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of work/results relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be achieved afterwards; see Article 21)

They will be calculated on the basis of the amounts set out in Annex 2.

⁸ For the definition, see Article 180(2)(a) EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046: '**action grant**' means an EU grant to finance "an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective".

⁹ See Article 125 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

6.3 Ineligible contributions

‘Ineligible contributions’ are:

- (a) lump sum contributions that do not comply with the conditions set out above (see Article 6.1 and 6.2)
- (b) lump sum contributions for activities already funded under other EU grants (or grants awarded by an EU Member State, non-EU country or other body implementing the EU budget), except for the following case:
 - (i) Synergy actions: not applicable
- (c) other:
 - (i) country restrictions for eligible costs: not applicable.

6.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary declares lump sum contributions that are ineligible, they will be rejected (see Article 27).

This may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION

SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS

ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries, as signatories of the Agreement, are fully responsible towards the granting authority for implementing it and for complying with all its obligations.

They must implement the Agreement to their best abilities, in good faith and in accordance with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

They must have the appropriate resources to implement the action and implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with Article 11. If they rely on affiliated entities or other participants (see Articles 8 and 9), they retain sole responsibility towards the granting authority and the other beneficiaries.

They are jointly responsible for the *technical* implementation of the action. If one of the beneficiaries fails to implement their part of the action, the other beneficiaries must ensure that this part is implemented by someone else (without being entitled to an increase of the maximum grant amount and subject to an amendment; see Article 39). The *financial* responsibility of each beneficiary in case of recoveries is governed by Article 22.

The beneficiaries (and their action) must remain eligible under the EU programme funding the grant

for the entire duration of the action. Lump sum contributions will be eligible only as long as the beneficiary and the action are eligible.

The **internal roles and responsibilities** of the beneficiaries are divided as follows:

(a) Each beneficiary must:

- (i) keep information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date (see Article 19)
- (ii) inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) immediately of any events or circumstances likely to affect significantly or delay the implementation of the action (see Article 19)
- (iii) submit to the coordinator in good time:
 - the prefinancing guarantees (if required; see Article 23)
 - the financial statements and certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable
 - the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports (see Article 21)
 - any other documents or information required by the granting authority under the Agreement
- (iv) submit via the Portal data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities.

(b) The coordinator must:

- (i) monitor that the action is implemented properly (see Article 11)
- (ii) act as the intermediary for all communications between the consortium and the granting authority, unless the Agreement or granting authority specifies otherwise, and in particular:
 - submit the prefinancing guarantees to the granting authority (if any)
 - request and review any documents or information required and verify their quality and completeness before passing them on to the granting authority
 - submit the deliverables and reports to the granting authority
 - inform the granting authority about the payments made to the other beneficiaries (report on the distribution of payments; if required, see Articles 22 and 32)
- (iii) distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay (see Article 22).

The coordinator may not delegate or subcontract the above-mentioned tasks to any other beneficiary or third party (including affiliated entities).

However, coordinators which are public bodies may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(ii) last

indent and (iii) above to entities with ‘authorisation to administer’ which they have created or which are controlled by or affiliated to them. In this case, the coordinator retains sole responsibility for the payments and for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Moreover, coordinators which are ‘sole beneficiaries’¹⁰ (or similar, such as European research infrastructure consortia (ERICs)) may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(i) to (iii) above to one of their members. The coordinator retains sole responsibility for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must have **internal arrangements** regarding their operation and co-ordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly.

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 1), these arrangements must be set out in a written **consortium agreement** between the beneficiaries, covering for instance:

- the internal organisation of the consortium
- the management of access to the Portal
- different distribution keys for the payments and financial responsibilities in case of recoveries (if any)
- additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results (see Article 16)
- settlement of internal disputes
- liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries.

The internal arrangements must not contain any provision contrary to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION

9.1 Associated partners

The following entities which cooperate with a beneficiary will participate in the action as ‘associated partners’:

- **ORGANIZACION DE ESTADOS IBEROAMERICANOS PARA LA EDUCACION LA CIENCIA Y LA CULTURA (OEI), PIC 927868924**

Associated partners must implement the action tasks attributed to them in Annex 1 in accordance with Article 11. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and the costs for their tasks are not eligible (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2).

¹⁰ For the definition, see Article 187(2) EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046: “Where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form one entity, that entity may be treated as the **sole beneficiary**, including where it is specifically established for the purpose of implementing the action financed by the grant.”

The tasks must be set out in Annex 1.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interests), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the associated partners.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the associated partners.

9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action

Other third parties may give in-kind contributions to the action (i.e. personnel, equipment, other goods, works and services, etc. which are free-of-charge) if necessary for the implementation.

Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks. They may not charge contributions to the action (no lump sum contributions) and their costs are considered entirely covered by the lump sum contributions paid to the beneficiaries.

The third parties and their in-kind contributions should be set out in Annex 1.

9.3 Subcontractors

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The beneficiaries' costs for subcontracting are considered entirely covered by the lump sum contributions for implementing the work packages (irrespective of the actual subcontracting costs incurred, if any).

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties

If the action includes providing financial support to third parties (e.g. grants, prizes or similar forms of support), the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS

10.1 Non-EU participants

Participants which are established in a non-EU country (if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: use qualified external auditors which are independent and comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC¹¹
- for the controls under Article 25: allow for checks, reviews, audits and investigations (including on-the-spot checks, visits and inspections) by the bodies mentioned in that Article (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.).

Special rules on dispute settlement apply (see Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.2 Participants which are international organisations

Participants which are international organisations (IOs; if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use either independent public officers or external auditors which comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for the checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the bodies mentioned in that Article, taking into account the specific agreements concluded by them and the EU (if any).

For such participants, nothing in the Agreement will be interpreted as a waiver of their privileges or immunities, as accorded by their constituent documents or international law.

Special rules on applicable law and dispute settlement apply (see Article 43 and Data Sheet, Point 5).

10.3 Pillar-assessed participants

Pillar-assessed participants (if any) may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in so far as they have been positively assessed and do not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries.

‘Pillar-assessment’ means a review by the European Commission on the systems, rules and procedures which participants use for managing EU grants (in particular internal control system, accounting system, external audits, financing of third parties, rules on recovery and exclusion, information on recipients and protection of personal data; see Article 154 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046).

¹¹ Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts or similar national regulations (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

Participants with a positive pillar assessment may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in particular for:

- record-keeping (Article 20): may be done in accordance with internal standards, rules and procedures
- currency conversion for financial statements (Article 21): may be done in accordance with usual accounting practices
- guarantees (Article 23): for public law bodies, prefinancing guarantees are not needed
- certificates (Article 24):
 - certificates on the financial statements (CFS): may be provided by their regular internal or external auditors and in accordance with their internal financial regulations and procedures
 - certificates on usual accounting practices (CoMUC): are not needed if those practices are covered by an ex-ante assessment

and use the following specific rules, for:

- recoveries (Article 22): in case of financial support to third parties, there will be no recovery if the participant has done everything possible to retrieve the undue amounts from the third party receiving the support (including legal proceedings) and non-recovery is not due to an error or negligence on its part
- checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the EU (Article 25): will be conducted taking into account the rules and procedures specifically agreed between them and the framework agreement (if any)
- impact evaluation (Article 26): will be conducted in accordance with the participant's internal rules and procedures and the framework agreement (if any)
- grant agreement suspension (Article 31): certain costs incurred during grant suspension are eligible (notably, minimum costs necessary for a possible resumption of the action and costs relating to contracts which were entered into before the pre-information letter was received and which could not reasonably be suspended, reallocated or terminated on legal grounds)
- grant agreement termination (Article 32): the final grant amount and final payment will be calculated taking into account also costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination takes effect, if the contract was entered into before the pre-information letter was received and could not reasonably be terminated on legal grounds
- liability for damages (Article 33.2): the granting authority must be compensated for damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement only if the damage is due to an infringement of the participant's internal rules and procedures or due to a violation of third parties' rights by the participant or one of its employees or individual for whom the employees are responsible.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers procurement and granting procedures may also do

purchases, subcontracting and financial support to third parties (Article 6.2) in accordance with their internal rules and procedures for purchases, subcontracting and financial support.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers data protection rules may rely on their internal standards, rules and procedures for data protection (Article 15).

The participants may however not rely on provisions which would breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries or call into question the decision awarding the grant, such as in particular:

- eligibility (Article 6)
- consortium roles and set-up (Articles 7-9)
- security and ethics (Articles 13, 14)
- IPR (including background and results, access rights and rights of use), communication, dissemination and visibility (Articles 16 and 17)
- information obligation (Article 19)
- payment, reporting and amendments (Articles 21, 22 and 39)
- rejections, reductions, suspensions and terminations (Articles 27, 28, 29-32)

If the pillar assessment was subject to remedial measures, reliance on the internal systems, rules and procedures is subject to compliance with those remedial measures.

Participants whose assessment has not yet been updated to cover (the new rules on) data protection may rely on their internal systems, rules and procedures, provided that they ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data.

Participants must inform the coordinator without delay of any changes to the systems, rules and procedures that were part of the pillar assessment. The coordinator must immediately inform the granting authority.

Pillar-assessed participants that have also concluded a framework agreement with the EU, may moreover — under the same conditions as those above (i.e. not call into question the decision awarding

the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries) — rely on provisions set out in that framework agreement.

SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action

The beneficiaries must implement the action as described in Annex 1 and in compliance with the provisions of the Agreement, the call conditions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

11.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

12.1 Conflict of interests

The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests').

They must formally notify the granting authority without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The granting authority may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

12.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the beneficiary may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

13.1 Sensitive information

The parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') — during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

If a beneficiary requests, the granting authority may agree to keep such information confidential for a longer period.

Unless otherwise agreed between the parties, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement.

The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they:

- (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and
- (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The granting authority may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies.

It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if:

- (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and
- (b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if:

- (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party
- (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation
- (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law.

Specific confidentiality rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.2 Classified information

The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/444¹² and its implementing rules).

Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

Specific security rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

13.3 Consequences of non-compliance

¹² Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES

14.1 Ethics

The action must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles.

Specific ethics rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.2 Values

The beneficiaries must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

Specific rules on values (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

14.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION

15.1 Data processing by the granting authority

Any personal data under the Agreement will be processed under the responsibility of the data controller of the granting authority in accordance with and for the purposes set out in the Portal Privacy Statement.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission, an EU regulatory or executive agency, joint undertaking or other EU body, the processing will be subject to Regulation 2018/1725¹³.

15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the applicable EU, international and national law on data protection (in particular, Regulation 2016/679¹⁴).

¹³ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

¹⁴ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ('GDPR') (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

They must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the data.

The beneficiaries may grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is strictly necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement. The beneficiaries must ensure that the personnel is under a confidentiality obligation.

The beneficiaries must inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement.

15.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE

16.1 Background and access rights to background

The beneficiaries must give each other and the other participants access to the background identified as needed for implementing the action, subject to any specific rules in Annex 5.

‘Background’ means any data, know-how or information — whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights — that is:

- (a) held by the beneficiaries before they acceded to the Agreement and
- (b) needed to implement the action or exploit the results.

If background is subject to rights of a third party, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that it is able to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

16.2 Ownership of results

The granting authority does not obtain ownership of the results produced under the action.

‘Results’ means any tangible or intangible effect of the action, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.

16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action and materials and documents received from the beneficiaries (notably summaries for publication, deliverables, as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) for policy information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the action or afterwards.

The right to use the beneficiaries’ materials, documents and information is granted in the form of a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable licence, which includes the following rights:

- (a) **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- (b) **distribution to the public** (in particular, publication as hard copies and in electronic or digital format, publication on the internet, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file, broadcasting by any channel, public display or presentation, communicating through press information services, or inclusion in widely accessible databases or indexes)
- (c) **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, inserting other elements (e.g. meta-data, legends, other graphic, visual, audio or text elements), extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts, use in a compilation)
- (d) **translation**
- (e) **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- (f) **archiving**, in line with applicable document-management rules
- (g) the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties the modes of use set out in Points (b), (c), (d) and (f), if needed for the information, communication and publicity activity of the granting authority and
- (h) **processing**, analysing, aggregating the materials, documents and information received and **producing derivative works**.

The rights of use are granted for the whole duration of the industrial or intellectual property rights concerned.

If materials or documents are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Where applicable, the granting authority will insert the following information:

“© – [year] – [name of the copyright owner]. All rights reserved. Licensed to the [name of granting authority] under conditions.”

16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background

Specific rules regarding intellectual property rights, results and background (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

16.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY

17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge the EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union



Funded by the
European Union



Co-funded by the
European Union

The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.

Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support.

When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”

17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules

Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

17.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

18.1 Specific rules for carrying out the action

Specific rules for implementing the action (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

18.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS

19.1 Information requests

The beneficiaries must provide — during the action or afterwards and in accordance with Article 7 — any information requested in order to verify eligibility of the lump sum contributions declared, proper implementation of the action and compliance with the other obligations under the Agreement.

The information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

19.2 Participant Register data updates

The beneficiaries must keep — at all times, during the action or afterwards — their information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date, in particular, their name, address, legal representatives, legal form and organisation type.

19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action

The beneficiaries must immediately inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) of any of the following:

- (a) **events** which are likely to affect or delay the implementation of the action or affect the EU's financial interests, in particular:
 - (i) changes in their legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour signed before grant signature)
 - (ii) linked action information: not applicable
- (b) **circumstances** affecting:
 - (i) the decision to award the grant or
 - (ii) compliance with requirements under the Agreement.

19.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING

20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents

The beneficiaries must — at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action (proper implementation of the work and/or achievement of the results as described in Annex 1) in line with the accepted standards in the respective field (if any); beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred.

The records and supporting documents must be made available upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the Agreement (including the extension of findings; see Article 25), the beneficiaries must keep these records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The beneficiaries must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. The granting authority may accept non-original documents if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

20.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING

21.1 Continuous reporting

The beneficiaries must continuously report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones, outputs/outcomes, critical risks, indicators**, etc; if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions it sets out (as agreed with the granting authority).

Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments, reports on cumulative expenditure, special reports, etc; if any) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements

In addition, the beneficiaries must provide reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2):

- for additional prefinancings (if any): **an additional prefinancing report**
- for interim payments (if any) and the final payment: a **periodic report**

The prefinancing and periodic reports include a technical and financial part.

The technical part includes an overview of the action implementation. It must be prepared using the template available in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool.

The financial part of the additional prefinancing report includes a statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment.

The financial part of the periodic report includes:

- the financial statement (consolidated statement for the consortium)
- the explanation on the use of resources (or detailed cost reporting table): not applicable
- the certificates on the financial statements (CFS): not applicable.

The **financial statement** must contain the lump sum contributions indicated in Annex 2, for the work packages that were completed during the reporting period.

For the last reporting period, the beneficiaries may exceptionally also declare partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to force majeure or technical impossibility).

Lump sum contributions which are not declared in a financial statement will not be taken into account by the granting authority.

By signing the financial statement (directly in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool), the coordinator confirms (on behalf of the consortium) that:

- the information provided is complete, reliable and true
- the lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed, that the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved in accordance with Annex 1; see Article 6)
- the proper implementation and/or achievement can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documents (see Article 20) that will be produced upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Article 25).

In case of recoveries (see Article 22), beneficiaries will be held responsible also for the lump sum contributions declared for their affiliated entities (if any).

21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros

The financial statements must be drafted in euro.

21.4 Reporting language

The reporting must be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

21.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a report submitted does not comply with this Article, the granting authority may suspend the payment deadline (see Article 29) and apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

If the coordinator breaches its reporting obligations, the granting authority may terminate the grant or the coordinator's participation (see Article 32) or apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE

22.1 Payments and payment arrangements

Payments will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

They will be made in euro to the bank account indicated by the coordinator (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) and must be distributed without unjustified delay (restrictions may apply to distribution of the initial prefinancing payment; see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

Payments to this bank account will discharge the granting authority from its payment obligation.

The cost of payment transfers will be borne as follows:

- the granting authority bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the beneficiary bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the party causing a repetition of a transfer bears all costs of the repeated transfer.

Payments by the granting authority will be considered to have been carried out on the date when they are debited to its account.

22.2 Recoveries

Recoveries will be made, if — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — it turns out that the granting authority has paid too much and needs to recover the amounts undue.

Each beneficiary's financial responsibility in case of recovery is in principle limited to their own debt and undue amounts of their affiliated entities.

In case of enforced recoveries (see Article 22.4), affiliated entities will be held liable for repaying debts of their beneficiaries, if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4).

22.3 Amounts due

22.3.1 Prefinancing payments

The aim of the prefinancing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float.

It remains the property of the EU until the final payment.

For **initial prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

For **additional prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are also set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2). However, if the statement on the use of the previous prefinancing

payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.

The contribution to the Mutual Insurance Mechanism will be retained from the prefinancing payments (at the rate and in accordance with the modalities set out in the Data Sheet, see Point 4.2) and transferred to the Mechanism.

Prefinancing payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.2 Amount due at beneficiary termination — Recovery

In case of beneficiary termination, the granting authority will determine the provisional amount due for the beneficiary concerned.

This will be done on the basis of work packages already completed in previous interim payments. Payments for ongoing/not yet completed work packages which the beneficiary was working on before termination (if any) will therefore be made only later on, with the next interim or final payments when those work packages have been completed.

The **amount due** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary, on the basis of the beneficiary's lump sum contributions for the work packages which were approved in previous interim payments.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary.

The **balance** is then calculated by deducting the payments received (if any; see report on the distribution of payments in Article 32), from the total accepted EU contribution:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \{\text{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ \text{minus} \\ \{\text{prefinancing and interim payments received (if any)}\} \end{array} \right\}$$

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount due, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered and ask this amount to be paid to the coordinator (**confirmation letter**).

If payment is not made to the coordinator by the date specified in the confirmation letter, the granting authority may call on the Mutual Insurance Mechanism to intervene, if continuation of the action is guaranteed and the conditions set out in the rules governing the Mechanism are met.

In this case, it will send a **beneficiary recovery letter**, together with a **debit note** with the terms and date for payment.

The debit note for the beneficiary will include the amount calculated for the affiliated entities which also had to end their participation (if any).

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.3.3 Interim payments

Interim payments reimburse the eligible lump sum contributions claimed for work packages implemented during the reporting periods (if any).

Interim payments (if any) will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the periodic report and the work packages declared. Their approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Incomplete work packages and work packages that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **interim payment** will be calculated by the granting authority in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for the reporting period, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions from beneficiary termination (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

The resulting amount is then capped to ensure that the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments (if any) does not exceed the interim payment ceiling set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Interim payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

22.3.4 Final payment — Final grant amount — Revenues and Profit — Recovery

The final payment (payment of the balance) reimburses the remaining eligible lump sum contributions claimed for the implemented work packages (if any).

The final payment will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the final periodic report and the work packages declared. Their approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of their content.

Work packages (or parts of them) that have not been delivered or cannot be approved will be rejected (see Article 27).

The **final grant amount for the action** will be calculated in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the action for all reporting periods, by calculating the lump sum contributions for the approved work packages.

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution'.

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Not applicable

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Not applicable

The **balance** (final payment) is then calculated by deducting the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments already made (if any), from the final grant amount:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{final grant amount} \\ & \text{minus} \\ & \{\text{prefinancing and interim payments made (if any)}\} \}. \end{aligned}$$

If the balance is **positive**, it will be **paid** to the coordinator.

The amount retained for the Mutual Insurance Mechanism (see above) will be released and **paid** to the coordinator (in accordance with the rules governing the Mechanism).

The final payment (or part of it) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

If — despite the release of the Mutual Insurance Mechanism contribution — the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the final grant amount, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why
- requesting a report on the distribution of payments to the beneficiaries within 30 days of receiving notification and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received) and the coordinator has submitted the report on the distribution of payments, it will calculate the **share of the debt per beneficiary**, by:

(a) identifying the beneficiaries for which the amount calculated as follows is negative:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{ \text{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ & \text{divided by} \\ & \text{total accepted EU contribution for the action} \} \\ & \text{multiplied by} \\ & \text{final grant amount for the action} \}, \\ & \text{minus} \\ & \{ \text{prefinancing and interim payments received by the beneficiary (if any)} \} \} \end{aligned}$$

and

(b) dividing the debt:

{amount calculated according to point (a) for the beneficiary concerned
divided by
the sum of the amounts calculated according to point (a) for all the beneficiaries identified according to
point (a)}
multiplied by
the amount to be recovered}.

and confirm the amount to be recovered from each beneficiary concerned (**confirmation letter**), together with **debit notes** with the terms and date for payment.

The debit notes for beneficiaries will include the amounts calculated for their affiliated entities (if any).

If the coordinator has not submitted the report on the distribution of payments, the granting authority will **recover** the full amount from the coordinator (**confirmation letter** and **debit note** with the terms and date for payment).

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.3.5 Audit implementation after final payment — Revised final grant amount — Recovery

If — after the final payment (in particular, after checks, reviews, audits or investigations; see Article 25) — the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions (see Article 27) or reduces the grant (see Article 28), it will calculate the **revised final grant amount** for the beneficiary concerned.

The **beneficiary revised final grant amount** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘revised accepted EU contribution’ for the beneficiary, by calculating the ‘revised accepted contributions’.

After that, it will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting ‘revised total accepted EU contribution’ is the beneficiary revised final grant amount.

If the revised final grant amount is lower than the beneficiary’s final grant amount (i.e. its share in the final grant amount for the action), it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The **beneficiary final grant amount** (i.e. share in the final grant amount for the action) is calculated as follows:

{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary
divided by
total accepted EU contribution for the action}

multiplied by
final grant amount for the action}.

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and the date for payment.

Recoveries against affiliated entities (if any) will be handled through their beneficiaries.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

22.4 Enforced recovery

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the amount due will be recovered:

- (a) by offsetting the amount — without the coordinator or beneficiary's consent — against any amounts owed to the coordinator or beneficiary by the granting authority.

In exceptional circumstances, to safeguard the EU financial interests, the amount may be offset before the payment date specified in the debit note.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, debts may also be offset against amounts owed by other Commission services or executive agencies.

- (b) financial guarantee(s): not applicable
- (c) joint and several liability of beneficiaries: not applicable
- (d) by holding affiliated entities jointly and severally liable (if any, see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (e) by taking legal action (see Article 43) or, provided that the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, by adopting an enforceable decision under Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 100(2) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

If the Mutual Insurance Mechanism was called on by the granting authority to intervene, recovery will be continued in the name of the Mutual Insurance Mechanism. If two debit notes were sent, the second one (in the name of the Mutual Insurance Mechanism) will be considered to replace the first one (in the name of the granting authority). Where the MIM intervened, offsetting, enforceable decisions or any other of the above-mentioned forms of enforced recovery may be used mutatis mutandis.

The amount to be recovered will be increased by **late-payment interest** at the rate set out in Article 23.5, from the day following the payment date in the debit note, up to and including the date the full payment is received.

Partial payments will be first credited against expenses, charges and late-payment interest and then against the principal.

Bank charges incurred in the recovery process will be borne by the beneficiary, unless Directive 2015/2366¹⁵ applies.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency, enforced recovery by offsetting or enforceable decision will be done by the services of the European Commission (see also Article 43).

22.5 Consequences of non-compliance

22.5.1 If the granting authority does not pay within the payment deadlines (see above), the beneficiaries are entitled to **late-payment interest** at the reference rate applied by the European Central Bank (ECB) for its main refinancing operations in euros, plus the percentage specified in the Data Sheet (Point 4.2). The ECB reference rate to be used is the rate in force on the first day of the month in which the payment deadline expires, as published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

If the late-payment interest is lower than or equal to EUR 200, it will be paid to the coordinator only on request submitted within two months of receiving the late payment.

Late-payment interest is not due if all beneficiaries are EU Member States (including regional and local government authorities or other public bodies acting on behalf of a Member State for the purpose of this Agreement).

If payments or the payment deadline are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30), payment will not be considered as late.

Late-payment interest covers the period running from the day following the due date for payment (see above), up to and including the date of payment.

Late-payment interest is not considered for the purposes of calculating the final grant amount.

22.5.2 If the coordinator breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 29) and the grant or the coordinator may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES

Not applicable

ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES

Not applicable

¹⁵ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS

25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits

25.1.1 Internal checks

The granting authority may — during the action or afterwards — check the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement, including assessing lump sum contributions, deliverables and reports.

25.1.2 Project reviews

The granting authority may carry out reviews on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement (general project reviews or specific issues reviews).

Such project reviews may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent, outside experts. If it uses outside experts, the coordinator or beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information and data in addition to deliverables and reports already submitted. The granting authority may request beneficiaries to provide such information to it directly. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may be requested to participate in meetings, including with the outside experts.

For **on-the-spot visits**, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including to the outside experts) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the review findings, a **project review report** will be drawn up.

The granting authority will formally notify the project review report to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations.

Project reviews (including project review reports) will be in the language of the Agreement.

25.1.3 Audits

The granting authority may carry out audits on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Such audits may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in

the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

The granting authority may use its own audit service, delegate audits to a centralised service or use external audit firms. If it uses an external firm, the beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data) to verify compliance with the Agreement. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

For **on-the-spot** visits, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including for the external audit firm) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the audit findings, a **draft audit report** will be drawn up.

The auditors will formally notify the draft audit report to the beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations (contradictory audit procedure).

The **final audit report** will take into account observations by the beneficiary concerned and will be formally notified to them.

Audits (including audit reports) will be in the language of the Agreement.

25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities

Where the granting authority is not the European Commission, the latter has the same rights of checks, reviews and audits as the granting authority.

25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding

The beneficiaries must give the European Commission access to their statutory records for the periodic assessment of simplified forms of funding which are used in EU programmes.

25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations

The following bodies may also carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations — during the action or afterwards:

- the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) under Regulations No 883/2013¹⁶ and No 2185/96¹⁷

¹⁶ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1).

¹⁷ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/1996 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2).

- the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) under Regulation 2017/1939
- the European Court of Auditors (ECA) under Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 257 of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

If requested by these bodies, the beneficiary concerned must provide full, accurate and complete information in the format requested (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data, including in electronic format) and allow access to sites and premises for on-the-spot visits or inspections — as provided for under these Regulations.

To this end, the beneficiary concerned must keep all relevant information relating to the action, at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (Point 6) and, in any case, until any ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims have been concluded.

25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of findings

25.5.1 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations in this grant

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations carried out in the context of this grant may lead to rejections (see Article 27), grant reduction (see Article 28) or other measures described in Chapter 5.

Rejections or grant reductions after the final payment will lead to a revised final grant amount (see Article 22).

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations during the action implementation may lead to a request for amendment (see Article 39), to change the description of the action set out in Annex 1.

Checks, reviews, audits or investigations that find systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations in any EU grant may also lead to consequences in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions (‘extension to other grants’).

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF or EPPO investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

25.5.2 Extension from other grants

Findings of checks, reviews, audits or investigations in other grants may be extended to this grant, if:

- (a) the beneficiary concerned is found, in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions, to have committed systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant and
- (b) those findings are formally notified to the beneficiary concerned — together with the list of grants affected by the findings — within the time-limit for audits set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned of the intention to extend the findings and the list of grants affected.

If the extension concerns **rejections of lump sum contributions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings

- (b) the request to submit revised financial statements for all grants affected
- (c) the correction rate for extrapolation, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors, to calculate the amounts to be rejected, if the beneficiary concerned:
 - (i) considers that the submission of revised financial statements is not possible or practicable or
 - (ii) does not submit revised financial statements.

If the extension concerns **grant reductions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings and
- (b) the **correction rate for extrapolation**, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors and the principle of proportionality.

The beneficiary concerned has **60 days** from receiving notification to submit observations, revised financial statements or to propose a duly substantiated **alternative correction method/rate**.

On the basis of this, the granting authority will analyse the impact and decide on the implementation (i.e. start rejection or grant reduction procedures, either on the basis of the revised financial statements or the announced/alternative method/rate or a mix of those; see Articles 27 and 28).

25.6 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, lump sum contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS

26.1 Impact evaluation

The granting authority may carry out impact evaluations of the action, measured against the objectives and indicators of the EU programme funding the grant.

Such evaluations may be started during implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiaries and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent outside experts.

The coordinator or beneficiaries must provide any information relevant to evaluate the impact of the action, including information in electronic format.

26.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION

ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

27.1 Conditions

The granting authority will — at interim payment, final payment or afterwards — reject any lump sum contributions which are ineligible (see Article 6), in particular following checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

The rejection may also be based on the extension of findings from other grants to this grant (see Article 25).

Ineligible lump sum contributions will be rejected.

27.2 Procedure

If the rejection does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the rejection, the amounts and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the rejection (payment review procedure).

If the rejection leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

27.3 Effects

If the granting authority rejects lump sum contributions, it will deduct them from the lump sum contributions declared and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION

28.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — reduce the grant for a beneficiary, if:

- (a) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or
- (b) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or

person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

The amount of the reduction will be calculated for each beneficiary concerned and proportionate to the seriousness and the duration of the errors, irregularities or fraud or breach of obligations, by applying an individual reduction rate to their accepted EU contribution.

28.2 Procedure

If the grant reduction does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the reduction, the amount to be reduced and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the reduction (payment review procedure).

If the grant reduction leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

28.3 Effects

If the granting authority reduces the grant, it will deduct the reduction and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION

29.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend the payment deadline if a payment cannot be processed because:

- (a) the required report (see Article 21) has not been submitted or is not complete or additional information is needed
- (b) there are doubts about the amount to be paid (e.g. ongoing extension procedure, queries about eligibility, need for a grant reduction, etc.) and additional checks, reviews, audits or investigations are necessary, or
- (c) there are other issues affecting the EU financial interests.

29.2 Procedure

The granting authority will formally notify the coordinator of the suspension and the reasons why.

The suspension will **take effect** the day the notification is sent.

If the conditions for suspending the payment deadline are no longer met, the suspension will be **lifted** — and the remaining time to pay (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the coordinator may request the granting authority to confirm if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the report and the revised report is not submitted (or was submitted but is also rejected), the granting authority may also terminate the grant or the participation of the coordinator (see Article 32).

ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION

30.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend payments, in whole or in part for one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
 - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5).

If payments are suspended for one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will make partial payment(s) for the part(s) not suspended. If suspension concerns the final payment, the payment (or recovery) of the remaining amount after suspension is lifted will be considered to be the payment that closes the action.

30.2 Procedure

Before suspending payments, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend payments and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

At the end of the suspension procedure, the granting authority will also inform the coordinator.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent.

If the conditions for resuming payments are met, the suspension will be **lifted**. The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned (and the coordinator) and set the suspension end date.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid to the beneficiaries concerned. For interim payments, the periodic reports for all reporting periods except the last one (see Article 21) must not contain any financial statements from the beneficiary concerned (or its affiliated entities). The coordinator must include them in the next periodic report after the suspension is lifted or — if suspension is not lifted before the end of the action — in the last periodic report.

ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION

31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension

31.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the suspension of the grant or any part of it, if exceptional circumstances — in particular *force majeure* (see Article 35) — make implementation impossible or excessively difficult.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the suspension takes effect; this date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request and
- the expected date of resumption.

The suspension will **take effect** on the day specified in the amendment.

Once circumstances allow for implementation to resume, the coordinator must immediately request another **amendment** of the Agreement to set the suspension end date, the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the amendment. This date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension

31.2.1 Conditions

The granting authority may suspend the grant or any part of it, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

- (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (c) other:
 - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) the action has lost its scientific or technological relevance, for EIC Accelerator actions: the action has lost its economic relevance, for challenge-based EIC Pathfinder actions and Horizon Europe Missions: the action has lost its relevance as part of the Portfolio for which it has been initially selected

31.2.2 Procedure

Before suspending the grant, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend the grant and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification).

Once the conditions for resuming implementation of the action are met, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator a **lifting of suspension letter**, in which it will set the suspension end date and invite the coordinator to request an amendment of the Agreement to set the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the lifting of suspension letter. This date may be before the date on which the letter is sent.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Moreover, no work may be done. Ongoing work packages must be interrupted and no new work packages may be started.

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to suspension by the granting authority (see Article 33).

Grant suspension does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant or a beneficiary (see Article 32) or reduce the grant (see Article 28).

ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION

32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination

32.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the termination of the grant.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the consortium ends work on the action ('end of work date') and
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no reasons are given or if the granting authority considers the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the grant terminated improperly.

32.1.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Improper termination may lead to a grant reduction (see Article 28).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 41 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination

32.2.1 Conditions and procedure

The coordinator may request the termination of the participation of one or more beneficiaries, on request of the beneficiary concerned or on behalf of the other beneficiaries.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why

- the opinion of the beneficiary concerned (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing)
- the date the beneficiary ends work on the action ('end of work date')
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

If the termination concerns the coordinator and is done without its agreement, the amendment request must be submitted by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the consortium).

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no information is given or if the granting authority considers that the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the beneficiary to have been terminated improperly.

32.2.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a second **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with other amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the second request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the second request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

Improper termination may lead to a reduction of the grant (see Article 31) or grant termination (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 41 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination

32.3.1 Conditions

The granting authority may terminate the grant or the participation of one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) one or more beneficiaries do not accede to the Agreement (see Article 40)
- (b) a change to the action or the legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation of a beneficiary is likely to substantially affect the implementation of the action or calls into question the decision to award the grant (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour)
- (c) following termination of one or more beneficiaries, the necessary changes to the Agreement (and their impact on the action) would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (d) implementation of the action has become impossible or the changes necessary for its continuation would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (e) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or similar (including insolvency, winding-up, administration by a liquidator or court, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, etc.)
- (f) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is in breach of social security or tax obligations
- (g) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct
- (h) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed fraud, corruption, or is involved in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking
- (i) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) was created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (or created another entity with this purpose)
- (j) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
 - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

- (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.)
- (k) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings; see Article 25.5)
- (l) despite a specific request by the granting authority, a beneficiary does not request — through the coordinator — an amendment to the Agreement to end the participation of one of its affiliated entities or associated partners that is in one of the situations under points (d), (f), (e), (g), (h), (i) or (j) and to reallocate its tasks, or
- (m) other:
 - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
 - (ii) the action has lost its scientific or technological relevance, for EIC Accelerator actions: the action has lost its economic relevance, for challenge-based EIC Pathfinder actions and Horizon Europe Missions: the action has lost its relevance as part of the Portfolio for which it has been initially selected

32.3.2 Procedure

Before terminating the grant or participation of one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to terminate and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the termination and the date it will take effect (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

For beneficiary terminations, the granting authority will — at the end of the procedure — also inform the coordinator.

The termination will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification; ‘termination date’).

32.3.3 Effects

- (a) for **GA termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the last open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis

of the report submitted and taking into account the lump sum contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Partial lump sum contributions for work packages that were not completed (e.g. due to technical reasons) may exceptionally be taken into account.

If the grant is terminated for breach of the obligation to submit reports, the coordinator may not submit any report after termination.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only lump sum contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Termination does not affect the granting authority's right to reduce the grant (see Article 28) or to impose administrative sanctions (see Article 34).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to termination by the granting authority (see Article 33).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 41 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

(b) for **beneficiary termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work
- (iii) a **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with any amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the reports submitted in previous interim payments (i.e. beneficiary's lump sum contributions for completed and approved work packages).

Lump sum contributions for ongoing/not yet completed work packages will have to be included in the periodic report for the next reporting periods when those work packages have been completed.

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 41 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES

33.1 Liability of the granting authority

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the beneficiaries or to third parties as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement, including for gross negligence.

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the beneficiaries or other participants involved in the action, as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement.

33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must compensate the granting authority for any damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement, provided that it was caused by gross negligence or wilful act.

The liability does not extend to indirect or consequential losses or similar damage (such as loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts), provided such damage was not caused by wilful act or by a breach of confidentiality.

ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as preventing the adoption of administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion from EU award procedures and/or financial penalties) or other public law measures, in addition or as an alternative to the contractual measures provided under this Agreement (see, for instance, Articles 135 to 145 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046 and Articles 4 and 7 of Regulation 2988/95¹⁸).

SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE

¹⁸ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE

A party prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement cannot be considered in breach of them.

‘Force majeure’ means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Agreement,
- was unforeseeable, exceptional situation and beyond the parties’ control,
- was not due to error or negligence on their part (or on the part of other participants involved in the action), and
- proves to be inevitable in spite of exercising all due diligence.

Any situation constituting force majeure must be formally notified to the other party without delay, stating the nature, likely duration and foreseeable effects.

The parties must immediately take all the necessary steps to limit any damage due to force majeure and do their best to resume implementation of the action as soon as possible.

CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES

36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management

EU grants are managed fully electronically through the EU Funding & Tenders Portal (‘Portal’).

All communications must be made electronically through the Portal in accordance with the Portal Terms and Conditions and using the forms and templates provided there (except if explicitly instructed otherwise by the granting authority).

Communications must be made in writing and clearly identify the grant agreement (project number and acronym).

Communications must be made by persons authorised according to the Portal Terms and Conditions. For naming the authorised persons, each beneficiary must have designated — before the signature of this Agreement — a ‘legal entity appointed representative (LEAR)’. The role and tasks of the LEAR are stipulated in their appointment letter (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, instructions will be given on the Portal.

36.2 Date of communication

The sending date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time of sending, as indicated by the time logs.

The receiving date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time the communication is accessed, as indicated by the time logs. Formal notifications that have not been

accessed within 10 days after sending, will be considered to have been accessed (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If a communication is exceptionally made on paper (by e-mail or postal service), general principles apply (i.e. date of sending/receipt). Formal notifications by registered post with proof of delivery will be considered to have been received either on the delivery date registered by the postal service or the deadline for collection at the post office.

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, the sending party cannot be considered in breach of its obligation to send a communication within a specified deadline.

36.3 Addresses for communication

The Portal can be accessed via the Europa website.

The address for paper communications to the granting authority (if exceptionally allowed) is the official mailing address indicated on its website.

For beneficiaries, it is the legal address specified in the Portal Participant Register.

ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The provisions in the Data Sheet take precedence over the rest of the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement.

Annex 5 takes precedence over the Terms and Conditions.

The Terms and Conditions take precedence over the Annexes other than Annex 5.

Annex 2 takes precedence over Annex 1.

ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES

In accordance with Regulation No 1182/71¹⁹, periods expressed in days, months or years are calculated from the moment the triggering event occurs.

The day during which that event occurs is not considered as falling within the period.

‘Days’ means calendar days, not working days.

ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS

39.1 Conditions

The Agreement may be amended, unless the amendment entails changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

Amendments may be requested by any of the parties.

¹⁹ Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1182/71 of the Council of 3 June 1971 determining the rules applicable to periods, dates and time-limits (OJ L 124, 8/6/1971, p. 1).

39.2 Procedure

The party requesting an amendment must submit a request for amendment signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

The coordinator submits and receives requests for amendment on behalf of the beneficiaries (see Annex 3). If a change of coordinator is requested without its agreement, the submission must be done by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the other beneficiaries).

The request for amendment must include:

- the reasons why
- the appropriate supporting documents and
- for a change of coordinator without its agreement: the opinion of the coordinator (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing).

The granting authority may request additional information.

If the party receiving the request agrees, it must sign the amendment in the tool within 45 days of receiving notification (or any additional information the granting authority has requested). If it does not agree, it must formally notify its disagreement within the same deadline. The deadline may be extended, if necessary for the assessment of the request. If no notification is received within the deadline, the request is considered to have been rejected.

An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party.

An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.

ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES

40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble

The beneficiaries which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by signing the accession form (see Annex 3) directly in the Portal Grant Preparation tool, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement (see Article 44).

They will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of its entry into force (see Article 44).

If a beneficiary does not accede to the grant within the above deadline, the coordinator must — within 30 days — request an amendment (see Article 39) to terminate the beneficiary and make any changes necessary to ensure proper implementation of the action. This does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant (see Article 32).

40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries

In justified cases, the beneficiaries may request the addition of a new beneficiary.

For this purpose, the coordinator must submit a request for amendment in accordance with Article 39.

It must include an accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

New beneficiaries will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of their accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

Additions are also possible in mono-beneficiary grants.

ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT

In justified cases, the beneficiary of a mono-beneficiary grant may request the transfer of the grant to a new beneficiary, provided that this would not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

The beneficiary must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with

- the reasons why
- the accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool and
- additional supporting documents (if required by the granting authority).

The new beneficiary will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY

The beneficiaries may not assign any of their claims for payment against the granting authority to any third party, except if expressly approved in writing by the granting authority on the basis of a reasoned, written request by the coordinator (on behalf of the beneficiary concerned).

If the granting authority has not accepted the assignment or if the terms of it are not observed, the assignment will have no effect on it.

In no circumstances will an assignment release the beneficiaries from their obligations towards the granting authority.

ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

43.1 Applicable law

The Agreement is governed by the applicable EU law, supplemented if necessary by the law of Belgium.

Special rules may apply for beneficiaries which are international organisations (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5).

43.2 Dispute settlement

If a dispute concerns the interpretation, application or validity of the Agreement, the parties must bring

action before the EU General Court — or, on appeal, the EU Court of Justice — under Article 272 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

For non-EU beneficiaries (if any), such disputes must be brought before the courts of Brussels, Belgium — unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements.

For beneficiaries with arbitration as special dispute settlement forum (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5), the dispute will — in the absence of an amicable settlement — be settled in accordance with the Rules for Arbitration published on the Portal.

If a dispute concerns administrative sanctions, offsetting or an enforceable decision under Article 299 TFEU (see Articles 22 and 34), the beneficiaries must bring action before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice — under Article 263 TFEU.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency (see Preamble), actions against offsetting and enforceable decisions must be brought against the European Commission (not against the granting authority; see also Article 22).

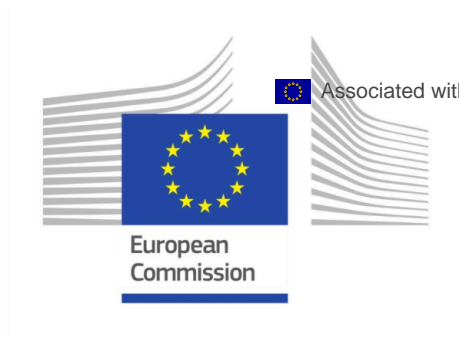
ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement will enter into force on the day of signature by the granting authority or the coordinator, depending on which is later.

SIGNATURES

For the coordinator

For the granting authority



ANNEX 1



Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Description of the action (DoA)

Part A

Part B

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART A)

COVER PAGE

Part A of the Description of the Action (DoA) must be completed directly on the Portal Grant Preparation screens.

PROJECT	
<i>Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Enter the info.</i>	
Project number:	101061343
Project name:	Researchers and citizens: facing together the European challenges
Project acronym:	MADRIDNIGHT
Call:	HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01
Topic:	HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01-01
Type of action:	HORIZON-CSA
Service:	REA/A/04
Project starting date:	fixed date: 1 May 2022
Project duration:	24 months

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Staff effort	21
List of deliverables	22
List of milestones (outputs/outcomes)	26
List of critical risks	26

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary

Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Provide an overall description of your project (including context and overall objectives, planned activities and main achievements, and expected results and impacts (on target groups, change procedures, capacities, innovation etc)). This summary should give readers a clear idea of what your project is about.

Use the project summary from your proposal.

The European Researchers' Night in Madrid will bring together researchers to the general public and will increase awareness of the importance and benefits of research and innovation, creating an understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life, and raising young people's interest in science and research careers.

The project will achieve these objectives by means of festive activities to be carried out in the Region of Madrid in the morning and evening of the last Friday and Saturday of September 2022-2023. Pre events and post events will be also organized. The Madrid Night project also includes Researchers at Schools activities throughout the year. In these activities, researchers will be visiting schools, allowing teachers and pupils to engage with them on important topics faced by our societies, such as those included in the missions in Horizon Europe: cancer, adaptation to climate change, healthy oceans, seas coastal and inland waters, climate-neutral and smart cities and soil health and food. Students and teachers will also visit the researchers' workplaces.

The MADRIDNIGHT activities will be addressed to public at large, science-addicts and science-reluctant, children, families, teachers, elderly, people regardless their scientific background with a special focus on families, pupils, and students, with the main purpose of encouraging STEM subjects and science careers, university students and also vocational education and training students. Different activities will be offered focused on the missions in Horizon Europe. The project will involve researchers, benefited by EU funds, especially the MSCA. The activities will point out the transnational and diversity aspects of research, showing the attractiveness of their jobs that can be done everywhere in Europe.

Universities, research centres, museums, hospitals, NGOs, foundations and Industry (Spin offs, SME or Large Companies) in the Region of Madrid will be at the core of the project.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS

Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
1	COO	MADRIMASD	FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD	ES	999544067
2	BEN	FSP CNIO	FUNDACION SECTOR PUBLICO ESTATAL CENTRO NACIONAL INVESTIGACIONES ONCOLOGICAS CARLOS III	ES	999547850
3	BEN	UCM	UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID	ES	999874546
4	BEN	IMDEA ALIMENTACION	FUNDACION IMDEA ALIMENTACION	ES	972732491
5	BEN	UAM	UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID	ES	999861354
6	BEN	UC3M	UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID	ES	999899572
7	BEN	IMDEA Energy	Fundacion IMDEA Energia	ES	998683192
8	BEN	CSIC	AGENCIA ESTATAL CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS	ES	999991722
9	BEN	UAH	UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA	ES	999835746

PARTICIPANTS*Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.*

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
10	BEN	IMDEA AGUA	FUNDACION IMDEA AGUA	ES	992925951
11	BEN	UPM	UNIVERSIDAD POLITECNICA DE MADRID	ES	999974844
12	BEN	IMDEA SOFT	FUNDACION IMDEA SOFTWARE	ES	998520426
13	BEN	URJC	UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS	ES	999886283
14	AP	OEI	ORGANIZACION DE ESTADOS IBEROAMERICANOS PARA LA EDUCACION LA CIENCIA Y LA CULTURA	ES	927868924

LIST OF WORK PACKAGES

Work packages						
<i>Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.</i>						
Work Package No	Work Package name	Lead Beneficiary	Effort (Person-Months)	Start Month	End Month	Deliverable No(s)
WP1	Awareness campaign 1	1 - MADRIMASD	6.50	1	7	D1.1
WP2	Activities during the NIGHT 1	1 - MADRIMASD	13.00	1	7	D2.1
WP3	Researchers at Schools activities 1	8 - CSIC	7.25	1	12	D3.1
WP4	Impact Assessment 1	6 - UC3M	5.85	1	12	D4.1
WP5	Management 1	1 - MADRIMASD	5.00	1	12	D5.1
WP6	Awareness campaign 2	1 - MADRIMASD	6.50	8	19	D6.1
WP7	Activities during the NIGHT 2	1 - MADRIMASD	13.00	8	19	D7.1
WP8	Researchers at Schools activities 2	8 - CSIC	7.25	13	24	D8.1
WP9	Impact Assessment 2	6 - UC3M	5.95	13	24	D9.1
WP10	Management 2	1 - MADRIMASD	5.00	13	24	D10.1

Work package WP1 – Awareness campaign 1

Work Package Number	WP1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Work Package Name	Awareness campaign 1		
Start Month	1	End Month	7

Objectives

Make as many people as possible aware of the European Researchers' Night and its objectives
 Make 3.500.000 people aware of the Madrid Night project
 Attract as large as possible a number of organisations and attendees to the events organised

Description

A common awareness campaign will be designed to promote all the activities to be held in the Region of Madrid during the Night Madrid project 2022-2023. Specific communication actions will be also implemented in the different locations and institutions involved. Pre events will be organized to amplify the prospects of the event. The European dimension of the event will be at the core of the messages. Synergies with European Researchers' Night founded in Spain, Europe and overseas, especially in Ibero-America, will be sought.

Task 1.1. Communication activities – Awareness Campaign

Main target of the awareness campaign

- Public at large regardless of age and scientific background;

An ample and sound awareness campaign will be launched addressed to all components of public at large, science-addicts and science-reluctant, with and without scientific backgrounds. People of all age, social background or intellectual or physical disabled people. Everyone has to be reached in an inclusive and diverse Science.

- Special attention to be paid to children and young people, especially about making a career choice.

Special attention to be paid to children and young people, university students, vocational education and training students, secondary and primary school students faced with a career choice or with the option of studying STEAM subjects specially girls less willing to choose these subjects. Students, as a special target of the campaign will be informed of the event before summer breaks although it will be reminded at the beginning of September (when schools and universities start). Pre-events will help to that extent especially online encounters between young researchers and students to take place in spring. New targets are included in the project: people from other countries and also disabled people to underline the internationalization of the Night and its inclusive character.

- Teachers and educators of all kind or education organization

They will be also attracted to the Night they must know about the support Europe gives to research and researchers to transmit the message to their pupils: Europe is deeply involved in Education and Research to train responsible and committed European citizens.

Task 1.2. Communication Campaign – Awareness Campaign

Communication tools

The awareness campaign will include a combination of traditional communication vectors with the ones based on line, digital tools.

• Off line: such as written press, radio, TV, mailings, direct visits, meetings...

Promotion of the events will be carried out through special pre-events and public meetings about current affairs of the Fundación in its different programmes. Press releases will be mailed to different media (press, radio, TV national and international channels) two weeks before the event. At the same time outdoors direct publicity such as adverts in urban furniture, billboards and posters in metro stations will be installed. Outdoor publicity allows people in the streets, commuters, workers of all kind to be aware of the Night.

• On line: project website, blogs, social networks, e-mailing, video teasers....

In this edition the communication tools will be mainly online, avoiding paper when possible, keeping a sustainable and eco-friendly communication campaign. A project website will be launched at the beginning of the project. This website is hosted on the Fundación madri+d website that had more than 30M of hits last year. Information of the event will be published on science and cultural blogs and relevant national and regional websites. The use of social networks (Twitter, Tiktok, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram) will be at the core of the project specially to attract young people as well as the use of teasers in video formats that will help hugely to communicate the project. In case of multiple Spanish Nights, a special website will be run with information of every Night as in previous editions. Each of the partners of the project will also include all the information on special sections on their institutional websites following the instructions and

recommendations of the coordinator. Since the beginning of the project an image of the Madrid Night will appear on the mails sent by the people in charge of the project.

Messages to be conveyed

Since 2006, Researchers are amongst us remains one of the messages of the European Researchers' Nights. The European Researchers' Night in Madrid, as a communication action, has to transmit the main messages of the event in an effective and clear way using the tools detailed above. Researchers are women and men, ordinary people with an extraordinary work, what they do helps to improve our life and therefore the welfare of nations. At the same time researchers as ordinary people, have families, children, they go to the park, they have hobbies, go to movies, and do sports... like the rest of the people.

Other more specific messages all related with the main objective of the action as described in the Work Programme, namely "The European Researchers' Night aims to bring researchers closer to the general public and to increase awareness of research and innovation activities, with a view to supporting the public recognition of researchers, creating an understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life, and encouraging young people to embark on research careers". The new scenario created by the pandemic has shown the importance of scientific research to face not only public health problems but also those related to the emerging new world order where researchers are having a key role.

More specific messages will be launched to attract young people and to promote the scientific careers among boys and girls equally by showing that research is fun, fascinating, creative, and innovative. It opens new fields and opportunities of work either in academic word or in the industry.

The motto chosen for MADRIDNIGHT is Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges, showing that citizens and researchers can work together towards achieving the goals of the five EU missions. The new world scenario created by the pandemic has underlined that just now more than ever the work that science and society as a whole have ahead in the defence of a world ecological order. The Green Deal along with the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) have a lot to do with researchers' work to reach a better and more sustainable future for all. The project is inclusive and open so it invites all kind of people to meet them, to talk to them, to know first-hand their work and their personalities, showing the translational aspects of research. It also gives you the opportunity of being a researcher for a day and if you like, be a researcher in a future.

In order to increase the impact of the awareness campaign and to identity the Action, the image will keep the main characteristic of previous editions. Should there be more than one funded project in Spain, a common national awareness campaign will be developed with references to the other Nights.

Crossed-borders institutions in Ibero-American countries will take part in the common awareness campaign showing the European support to some of their researchers funded by EU Programmes.

Promotional material

All announcements and promotional material will bear the compulsory mention "European Researchers' Night", complying with the following editing guidelines:

- Off line material: Posters will be place in Metro stations. Urban adverts will be present in the streets. All announcements and promotional material will bear the compulsory mention "European Researchers' Night", complying with the mandatory guidelines.

- o On line materials: Appealing on-line adverts will be launched to attract public attention, giving information about the activities of the Night. Banners, ads, websites, link to relevant EU websites and social networks, WhatsApp campaigns, teasers in a video format.... Electronic banners will be shown on the website of the projects and others websites related to science and education as well as on electronic newspapers. Links to other relevant websites will be available. The e-mails of the coordinator staff will also show the banner of the project on their foot signature. Besides banners on the main social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube...) will announce the Night. The use of video teasers will be also a new way to promote the event especially among young people.

Task 1.3. Pre-events and Post Events Organization

Before and after the Night, some events will be organized in order to promote the project, the missions of the EU and the research done in the scope of EU-funded projects. Some of these events will be the Madrid Science and Innovation Week, the Madrid Science Fair and the Research Summit 2022 at the Universidad Europea de Madrid.

Work package WP2 – Activities during the NIGHT 1

Work Package Number	WP2	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Work Package Name	Activities during the NIGHT 1		
Start Month	1	End Month	7

Objectives
<p>Offering all the categories of the public, regardless of age and scientific background, a range of activities as broad as possible:</p> <p>Directly and actively involving both researchers and audience;</p> <p>Combining in a balanced way entertainment and "education to science through researchers";</p> <p>Contributing to enhancing the public recognition and appraisal of researchers and their work.</p>
Description
<p>Locations</p> <p>The activities will be held in two kinds of scenarios: in the centre of Madrid city and in cities outside Madrid with University Campuses. Madrid city has a population of 3.200.000 inhabitants, in the centre and in its university area. Many activities will be held in Alcalá de Henares, an historical and lively city with a population of around 200.000 inhabitants, also in Alcorcón, Móstoles and Leganés, three lively and young university cities in the south of Madrid with 206.000 inhabitants on the other hand, in the northwest of Madrid the cities of Pozuelo de Alarcón and Villaviciosa de Odón, two young locations with an overall population of 100.000 inhabitants will be also the venues of more activities. Therefore, the event will have a big impact in the whole Region.</p> <p>Venues</p> <p>There are planned different venues corresponding to cultural and innovative institutions, universities campus, research centres, botanic gardens and museums but also popular libraries and goods of cultural interest in the middle of the city of Madrid including the Círculo de Bellas Artes (Fine Arts Centre), a multidisciplinary centre where arts, literatures, theatre, cinema, science and philosophy activities take place, The Residencia de Estudiantes, an institution awarded by the European Heritage Label will be supporting the event hosting activities combining science with other issues such as art or history and La Casa Encendida.</p> <p>All the activities will take place on Friday (morning to midnight) and on Saturday, activities will be celebrated during the morning. This ample schedule will allow people attend various activities. The venues of the activities in Madrid city are close among each other and with good connections by public transport. In the other cities, activities are concentrated in big areas, permitting people an easy mobility.</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>The 5 missions of the EU will be the head bone of the activities that will be organized. Workshops, hands-on experiments, escape rooms, gymkhanas, quizzes, contests, informal talks with researchers, theatre, videogames, science camping, etc. Interactive and ludic activities will be designed by researchers and managers in order to engage public from the very beginning of the project. A special training for the researchers will be planned to improve their communication skills.</p> <p>Organization of activities during the European Researchers' Night 2022</p> <p>Over 80 activities will be implemented. Some examples of the activities that will be organized are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adaptation to Climate Change: Scientific Gymkhana (Demonstrations, experiments and games- CSIC-National Museum of Natural History (MNCN); Camping at the Museum (Camp, demonstrations, experiments and games- CSIC-MNCN); Experimenting the climate change (Hands-on experiments and workshops- CSIC-MNCN); My friend the wolf (Hands-on experiments and workshops- CSIC-MNCN); Meet our scientists (Colloquium- CSIC-Royal Botanical Garden (RJB)) It's Earth Hour, are you on time? (Hands-on experiments, workshops, quizzes, demonstrations and performances- UAM); Research and Innovation in Communication, Design and Image: Creativity and climate change applying the SCAMPER method (Workshop- CEU*); SDGs detector (Game- CEU*); Satellites & climate change (Hands-on experiments, exhibitions, workshops and demonstrations- INTA*); Sustainable digital manufacturing workshop (Workshop- UFV*); R + D + i: the food of the future (Workshop- UFV*); Videogames, beyond leisure: sustainability and environmental awareness (Workshop- UFV*). 2. Conquering Cancer: Mission Possible: Meet the scientist, be a scientist! (Hands-on experiments- CNIO); Unlocking the Personalized Nutrition Code against CANCER (Workshop- IMDEA Alimentación); Taking cancer: a possible mission (Workshops, experiments, demonstrations, talks and educational itinerary- UAH); Towards a future without cancer (Hands-on experiments, workshops and demonstrations-URJC); What does "well-being" mean in 2022? (Demonstrations, workshops and theater show- UC3M); Chemiluminescent experiment: useful tool for cancer detection and criminalistics (Hands-on experiments and demonstrations- CEU*); Is it possible to accept cancer in the family? navigate between values and emotions (Workshop- CEU*); Can rehabilitation be funny? Robotic assistive technologies based on videogames for oncopediatric patients (Hands-on experiments and games- CEU*); Discover, protect and take care of your organs against cancer (Workshops and role-play- CEU*); Come and see how the Clinic Hospital researchers work at Health Research Institute of the Hospital Clínico San Carlos in Madrid (Hands-on experiments, demonstrations and performances- IdISClínico*); From intestinal microhealth to psychonutritional macrohealth for cancer prevention (Workshop- UEM*); Doctors for one night (Workshop- UFV*).

3. Restore Ocean and Waters: Underwater cultural heritage within everyone's reach (Exhibition and workshop-CSIC-Centre for Human and Social Sciences (CCHS); Electroactive bacteria to purify wastewater (Demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Antibiotic resistance: from environment to laboratory (Demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Hidden in the water 1.0 (Demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Recycling keepers: seawater operation (Demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Defining coastline: an ancient and modern challenge (Workshop- CEU*).

4. Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities: CSIC Glowing Night (Demonstrations, workshops and quizzes- CSIC-Cantoblanco Headquarters (CNB, ICMM, ICP, ICV, ICMAT, CIAL and IFT)); On the road to a circular economy (Workshop- IMDEA Energía); Technology in action for sustainability (Workshops, hands-on experiments and dialogues-UPM); Universal design and digital fabrication to create inclusive university campus (Hands-on experiments and workshops- CEU*); Wind Dynamic effects on Buildings. Mechanical Resonance (Experiments and demonstrations-CEU*); Urban Green Infrastructure: landscape, ecology and wellbeing (Workshops- CEU*); Smart Cities and virtual agents: Learn to live with our new reality. Great challenges, opportunities, and risks (Workshop- CEU*); Railway safety in virtual reality (Demonstration- FFE*); Travel around the world from the palm of your hand (Demonstrations- FFE*); Changing the step for railway safety (Interactive presentation and workshop- FFE*); Designing and building the "Mega Eurasian Diagonal City": a climate-sustainable supercity on a planetary scale for 2030 (Workshop- UEM*); Preventing violent radicalization (Contest, seminar- UNED*).

5. A Soil Deal for Europe: Pollutants Tour: Transport, Analysis and Detection in IMDEA Water Laboratories (Workshops and demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Are we polluting beyond our means? (Demonstrations- IMDEA Agua); Come to Science, European Researcher's Night in UCM (Hands-on experiments, workshops, performances and seminar-UCM); Nutritional status of patients with celiac disease. Gluten-free foods and diet (Workshop- CEU*); The hidden power of plant molecules (Hands-on experiments and workshop- SEBBM*); Moral dilemma: commitment to nature and the soil (Workshop- UEM*); Sustainable agriculture (Workshop- UFV*).

6. Five Missions activities: Researchers, citizens and enterprises for a sustainable future (Workshops, informal talks, hands-on experiments, quizzes, performances...- FMID); The 5 EU missions as seen by IMDEA researchers I (Round table and performance- IMDEA Software)

*subcontractor institutions

In each venue, there will be also information about EU policies and programmes, information on the EU and how the EU funds promotes Science and education cooperation within Europe and beyond in each venue. There will be a big European spot in a frequented area of the activity that will be organized by the Fundación madri+d, Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges at Fine Arts Centre. Besides, there will be permanent presence of personnel to answer public questions about EU policies and programs, and promoting the European dimension and gender balance in research and innovation. Some testimonials conducted by Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows and by researchers funded by Horizon 2020/ Horizon Europe will take part in the activities organized in the EU corner. There will be also European spots in all activities and venues with information about the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and EU funded projects with the presence of European researchers. MADRI+D will be in touch with EU info points such as Europe Direct Point in Madrid and with EU representation in Spain (located in Madrid). Fundación madri+d holds one of the National Contact Point for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Spain being an important source of information.

Work package WP3 – Researchers at Schools activities 1

Work Package Number	WP3	Lead Beneficiary	8. CSIC
Work Package Name	Researchers at Schools activities 1		
Start Month	1	End Month	12

Objectives

Bringing the researchers' work closer to the students of the Region of Madrid, including the most socially disadvantaged
Promoting scientific studies among the young people, especially young girls
Increasing the awareness about EU and their research programmes

Description

Through “Researchers at Schools activities”, a set of activities will be organized to bring the researchers’ work closer to Primary, Secondary, High School and Vocational Training students of the Region of Madrid.

Researchers will explain their work at schools and will also invite students to visit the research centres and universities where they work to learn how scientists carry out their job. To design these activities, previous experiences, that have been carried out to involve students in the scientific activity, have been analysed. Innovation and promotion of an entrepreneurial spirit are also elements on which the activities will be focused, so suitable themes that favour interest among students in these aspects will be chosen.

One of the main objectives of the project is bringing science closer to the most socially disadvantaged groups, as well as those students who have a disability, whether physical or intellectual. For example, the International Day of LGBTQIA + People in STEM (November 18th) and activity on Diversity Science will be carried out by CSIC.

Task 3.1: Organize Researchers at Schools activities related to the 5 missions of EU

123 Researchers at Schools activities will be organized, focused on research related to the 5 missions of the European Union: Adaptation to Climate Change including Societal Transformation; Cancer; Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and inland Waters; Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities and Soil health and Food, as with the SDGs set by the UN and the Green Deal of the European Union. Several international days, such as World Oceans Day, International Earth Day, World Soil Day, or World Environment Day, will also serve as an aggregator and will have their respective activity agenda

Task 3.2: Organize Researchers at Schools activities during the International Day of Women and Girls in Science

To promote gender equality and scientific vocations in STEM subjects among the young girls, activities organized during February 11th, the International Day of Women and Girls in Science will be at the core of this WP. Women researchers will be the leader of these activities. Over 20 activities will be organized both in 2023 and 2024.

Task 3.3: Organize Researchers at Schools activities during the Europe Day

May 9, Europe’s Day, will be another important date in which numerous activities will be carried out to bring the research carried out by researchers working on projects funded by the European Union, mainly MSCA Fellows to schools to highlight the European dimension of the event and to show EU support for researchers. Over 10 activities will be organized in this date.

Task 3.4: Create the Network of Ambassadors of the European Researchers Night in Madrid

One of the actions that will be carried out will be the creation of the figure of the "Ambassador of the European Researchers Night in Madrid" at the schools that participate in the activities that take place within this WP. It can be both a teacher and a student and will be part of the "Network of Ambassadors of the European Researchers Night in Madrid" who will exchange their experiences about the activities carried out and propose new activities and/or formats. In addition, he/she will be in charge of facilitating the dissemination in his respective centre of the information related to the initiatives organized within the framework of the project. Likewise, he/she will be the person who will have access to the Marie Curie Fellows and/or who participate in other European projects, which has been mentioned above.

Along with the students and teachers, to whom all the activities included in this WP are directed, the Marie Curie Fellows and researchers funded by EU projects are equally protagonists. It is intended that Researchers not only explain their research work but also encourage young people to undertake a scientific career, based on their experience. To do this, all participating institutions will include on the project website a personal biography of these researchers, in which they will share their hobbies along with the disciplines in which they work, so students and teachers can contact them directly to resolve any scientific concern that comes their way and at the same time knowing their most human side.

Synergies with the activities carried out during the European Researchers' Night will be a priority in the execution of this WP. The contents and formats will be similar, and all activities will complement each other. Likewise, an attempt will be made to inform about the celebration of the European Researchers' Night and its importance during the development of each Researchers at Schools Activities.

Citizen participation will be another fundamental aspect in the design of the activity formats. Researchers will try to detect the concerns of the participants and will seek to promote dialogue, the exchange of experiences and interaction.

The information received will serve to improve all aspects of the project: Awareness campaigning (WP1), Activities during the Night (WP2), Impact Assessment (WP4) and of course the WP3 work package itself.

To disseminate the activities, there will be communication channels (social networks, press releases, blogs, website of the project and of the institutions participating in the project), which represent a large part of the organizations dedicated to research within the Region of Madrid.

The evaluation of the results will be carried out through WP4 in order to assess the impact, the improvement and implementation of new initiatives. Both quantitative and qualitative aspects will be evaluated, and all the actors involved in the organization of the activities will be consulted: students, teachers, researchers, and stakeholders and partners of the projects.

Work package WP4 – Impact Assessment 1

Work Package Number	WP4	Lead Beneficiary	6. UC3M
Work Package Name	Impact Assessment 1		
Start Month	1	End Month	12

Objectives

Assessing the effectiveness of the awareness campaigns.
 Assessing the impact of the activities organised during the European Researcher’s Night (WP2) and the Researchers at Schools activities (WP3)
 Analysing the opinions of participants regarding the specific activities

Description

State of the art

In the last few years, public engagement with science has become an objective for a growing part of the scientific community. Weingart, Joubert and Connaway (2021) show that the number of papers whose titles combine the terms ‘public engagement’ and ‘science’ have grown strikingly in the past years. The analysis of the papers found in the search also shows that the major motivation of social engagement in academic research is the democratization of science and society. In other words, empower citizens to participate both in science and society. The 2020-2021 EUA Science Survey also shows that ‘science outreach and communication’ is the most important Open Science area for researchers and early-stage researchers –Open Science areas are defined as citizen science, open education, co-creation platforms, open peer review, and science outreach and communication. In this sense, the Science Europe Strategy Plan 2021-2016 highlights the importance of strengthening ‘the role and contribution of science in tackling societal challenges’ and highlights the relevance of an effective engagement between researchers, policy makers and society.

However, the Plan also acknowledges the increasing mistrust of one part of society in science and technology. This tendency is reflected in the 10th Survey on the Social Perception of Science and Technology (FECYT, 2020). Since the last survey in 2018, the number of participants that believe that ‘the benefits of science and technology are greater than its disadvantages’ has fallen from 60.9% to 45.9%. Consequently, the percentage of participants that believe that ‘the disadvantages of science and technology are greater than its benefits’ has risen from 5.7% to 12.9%. The interest in science also decreased in the last year –from 16.3% in 2018 to 14.2% in 2020 of the participants chose ‘science and technology’ as one of the three topics they are most interested in–, especially among women –13.9% in 2018 to 9.9% in 2020. Interest in science also shows differences between ages, being young respondents those who manifest the highest interest. Overall, the Special Eurobarometer 516, released in January of 2021, is more optimistic regarding citizen’s perspective towards science. For instance, 90% of the Spanish participants believe that the ‘overall influence of science and technology’ is either very positive or fairly positive.

When asking about public perceptions of scientists, most of the respondents do not believe that scientists spend sufficient time meeting people like them to explain their work –44% percent including both ‘strongly disagree’ and ‘tend to disagree’ answers. The activities organised during the European Researcher’s Night (WP2) and the Researchers at Schools activities (such as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Day of Europe, and any other European and International celebration Days related to the five Mission of the European Union) are a valuable opportunity to bring scientists and citizens together and try to narrow this gap. This Work Package aims to measure the impact of the events and the opinions of participants regarding the specific activities.

Impact assessment strategy: tasks, data and methods

Task 4.1: Impact assessment Night 1

Science communication is becoming more and more important for public institutions and, therefore, for scientists (European Commission, 2002). In the past years, the Night has had a good satisfaction rate –85% of the surveyed public and 96% of the scientists stated that their satisfaction with the activities was high or fairly high. According to the Impact Assessment Report of the 2020 event, the public is particularly interested in workshops and experiments, and the majority of the participants in the survey think that the Night should be longer. The goal of this package is to assure that the impact and satisfaction with the night continues its successful trajectory. Common questions to the rest of the Spanish Nights and to past years’ questionnaires will be included in order to get a national overview of the Night and allow longitudinal analysis.

Task 4.2: Impact of Researchers at Schools Activities 1

Questionnaires will measure the impact of the visits of the Researchers to primary and secondary schools and the impact of the visits of students and teachers of the researchers’ workplaces at Universities, Researcher Centre, Hospitals and

Museum during the school year. Special attention will be paid to the activities organized during these two emblematic dates:

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (11th February)

Interest in science and technology tends to be lower among women (FECYT, 2020). Although new generations of girls show higher interest than older females, the difference between men and women is still significant –53.1% of young men and 40% of girls respond they are very or fairly interested in science and technology. This phenomenon and its causes have been largely studied in academic literature. In particular, cultural and social factors have been related with the low interest of girls for science. In Spain, the draft of the new education law tries to mitigate these difficulties by, for instance, including gender perspective in maths' pre-universitarian subjects. Other independent projects –like the Girls4STEM (Benavent et al., 2020)– pursue the same goal through actions with students, families and teachers. The Day of Girls and Women in Science is a valuable opportunity to spread the importance of including women in science and technology and introduce girls to role models that might inspire them. Impact measures of the event will show the acceptance and attractiveness of the activities and the interest of new generations in science, but also their views on the role of women and gender perspective on science and technology.

Europe Day (9th May)

During the last survey of the European Researchers' Night in Madrid (2020) 55,7% of attendees expressed that European Union support very slightly the dissemination of science. The opinion about the support in Spain is even lower (73,2% very slight support). In this WP the opinion of the students about Europe, and its support for science and the dissemination of science will be tracked.

Prior to the event the online and social media campaign's effectiveness will be measured. Hashtags and selected users –for instance, participant researchers and scientists– will be followed on twitter and the posts' engagement will be analysed. Apart from the number and type of interactions, other variables will be considered. For instance: the type of user of the interactions –public organism, research community, citizen, etc.–, the type of publications and activities that have a higher impact, and, if relevant, the content of the tweets (Didegah, Mejlgaard and Sorensen, 2018; Stella, 2020 for gender-oriented analysis). Other platforms like Instagram and other social media will be considered if relevant.

The impact in traditional media will be also measured prior, during and after the events. News regarding the event will be collected and analysed.

During the event the online questionnaire will be launched and face to face surveys will be held. The questionnaires will be designed taking into account the different target groups –i.e: researchers, attendees and young attendees– and the particular event. The questionnaires will be distributed in the event's website, in the participant's institutions' websites, through social media, by mail and in the locations of the event. The questionnaires will include questions about the event itself but also about perception of scientists and women in science, demographics, and career prospects for children and young adults. Questionnaires will be distributed to a random sample of the attendees.

There will be a consent form at the beginning of the questionnaire along with a note informing participants about how their data will be used, and assuring the anonymity of the answers. In order to reduce the paper waste and fulfil the recommendations in the European Green Deal, questionnaires will be online when possible. Also, there will be incentives to increase attendees' participation in the survey –for instance, a raffle among participants.

After the event questionnaires will be sent to the institutions in charge of the activities to collect information on participation numbers and satisfaction with the activities.

All data collected in all three phases will be analysed at this step.

Data and methods

Quantitative data will comprise the majority of the information gathered with the campaign analysis and the surveys. Data from the campaign –collected through the event's website, social media platforms and online media– will be analysed in order to measure the efficacy of promotion actions and channels. Traditional indicators –for instance, number of visits, number of shares, number of likes, etc.– will be complemented with data related with the content of publications, the type of users who share it or the activities that get better feedback.

Questions in the survey will be mostly quantitative in order to improve the quality of the analysis and make it easier for respondents to answer. Thus, most of the questions will be close ended. Close ended questions are faster to answer and easier to understand by respondents which might improve response rate.

Qualitative data will be converted to quantitative when possible. Most of the textual data from online sites, publications and social media will be converted to quantitative data for its analysis. Descriptive and sentiment analysis will be used. Regarding the survey, when answers need to be qualitative –for instance, in children's questionnaires–, answers will be coded in categories if possible and treated as categorical data.

If relevant, results from qualitative analysis will complement quantitative findings.

Work package WP5 – Management 1

Work Package Number	WP5	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Work Package Name	Management 1		
Start Month	1	End Month	12

Objectives

Ensure the correct execution of the project's work plan including its adaptation to necessities that may occur during the project

Assure the overall coordination of all activities among the project partners

Lead project steering with the objective to implement the project in a smooth and consolidated way

Enabled timely reporting to the REA the administrative and financial management of the project

Description

Task 5.1 Coordination and financial management

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

Fundación madri+d is the coordinator of this proposal and will be in charge of the administrative, legal, financial and accounting management, being assistant by a team, the staff of the Fundación in charge of the implementation of the project

A simple, flexible effective and transparent management structure is established for the project. The structure will be collaborative and participative. The management structure, techniques and procedures to be applied in the project will guarantee that the project is carried out according to the time schedule and budget established. All the participant institutions of the project: coordinator and cooperating bodies will play a role in the management structure of the project. The management structures will be formed for three bodies: Coordinator, Steering Committee and the Advisory Committee. MADRIDNIGHT meets all requirements for Gender Balance in staff teams and different committees. The coordinator will encourage to all cooperating bodies to meet this gender balance commitment.

The Consortium Agreement will include: the internal organisation of the consortium, its governance structure, decision-making processes, and management arrangements; the provisions for the settlement of disputes within the partnership; the specific arrangements concerning Intellectual Property Rights to be applied among network partners, in compliance with the Grant Agreement, as well as confidentiality and privacy of collected data; and any other provision necessary to ensure a sound management of the project.

The coordinator and its team have a recognized expertise in scientific dissemination and communication activities and UE projects implementation. The coordinator has coordinated 12 European Researches Night editions and more than 40 EU projects as partner and coordinator. The management of so many events is an ambitious task implemented successfully thanks to the expertise and full cooperation of the institutions involved. The flow communication among people in charge of the activities and the coordinator's team makes the task easier. It will be in charge of reporting on the follow-up of the project to the Steering Committee and of the preparation of the meetings. There will be a fluent and effective interfacing with EU services via e-mail, Skype, Zoom or any other platform or phone.

Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will be formed by representatives of each beneficiary, associated partner and subcontractor institutions involved in the project and chaired by de Coordinator. These representatives will be elected by majority voting. The members will be the project managers of the institutions in charge of the implementation of the activities. Two meeting are planned during the project, at the beginning and at the end of the project.

The Steering Committee will be responsible for strategic decision concerning the project and for its assessment. It will be the highest decision-making body. Its debates will be prepared in advance by the coordinator that will keep informed of the development of the project and requested to meet or take any necessary decision during the course of the project.

Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be composed of senior's researchers appointed by the cooperating bodies and the coordinator. All of them researchers in different areas acknowledge and recognized expertise in dissemination of science and technology matters. It will be the consulting body on scientific matters that may arise during the implementation of the project and also it will be consulted for the designed and development of the activities performed during the Night.

Work Package Leaders. There are three work-package leaders that will be responsible of the correct implementation of each WP. The coordinator will be in charge of WP1, 2 and 5 (Awareness Campaign, Activities and Project Management), UC3M will lead WP4 (Impact Assessment) and CSIC will coordinate WP3 (Researchers at Schools) in collaboration with all partners and collaborators.

Decision making process. Decisions will be based on consensus and when it is not possible, the simple majority will decide.

Task 5.2 Project Meetings

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

The main role of the Coordination team will be to plan and prepare project meetings, mainly the Kick off meeting (M1), the mid-term meeting (M12) and the final meeting (M24), to follow up the project implementation and the project financial management and to ensure the active participation of the partners, associated partners and subcontractors in the implementation of the activities as well as in the decision-making process.

In order to reinforce the role of all partners involved in the proposal a consortium agreement will be signed at the beginning of the project (M1). The Consortium Agreement will play a primary role in order to ensure that EC regulations on projects' management are properly implemented, by establishing workable internal rules regarding the execution of the project.

Task 5.3 Internal Communication and collaboration with other NIGHTs

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

Internal communication flows. The internal communication flows will be based on day-to-day contact via phone, e-mails or via Zoom, Skype or other platforms to facilitate the interchange of ideas, questions, or any incidence that may occur. There will be three main meetings, at the beginning of the project, the Kick-off meeting, the mid-term project meeting, and the final meeting at the end of the project. Three meetings are planned of the Steering Committee in the same periods. There will also two meetings or a video conference among the representatives of the Spanish Nights to coordinate the events at a national level. The coordinator could propose meetings or video conferences when the development of the project requires.

Work package WP6 – Awareness campaign 2

Work Package Number	WP6	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Work Package Name	Awareness campaign 2		
Start Month	8	End Month	19

Objectives

Make as many people as possible aware of the European Researchers' Night and its objectives
 Make 3.500.000 people aware of the Madrid Night project
 Attract as large as possible a number of organisations and attendees to the events organised

Description

A common awareness campaign will be designed to promote all the activities to be held in the Region of Madrid during the Night Madrid project 2022-2023. Specific communication actions will be also implemented in the different locations and institutions involved. Pre events will be organized to amplify the prospects of the event. The European dimension of the event will be at the core of the messages. Synergies with European Researchers' Night founded in Spain, Europe and overseas, especially in Ibero-America, will be sought.

Task 1.1. Communication activities – Awareness Campaign

Main target of the awareness campaign

- Public at large regardless of age and scientific background;

An ample and sound awareness campaign will be launched addressed to all components of public at large, science-addicts and science-reluctant, with and without scientific backgrounds. People of all age, social background or intellectual or physical disabled people. Everyone has to be reached in an inclusive and diverse Science.

- Special attention to be paid to children and young people, especially about making a career choice.

Special attention to be paid to children and young people, university students, vocational education and training students, secondary and primary school students faced with a career choice or with the option of studying STEAM subjects specially girls less willing to choose these subjects. Students, as a special target of the campaign will be informed of the event before summer breaks although it will be reminded at the beginning of September (when schools and universities start). Pre-events will help to that extent especially online encounters between young researchers and students to take place in spring. New targets are included in the project: people from other countries and also disabled people to underline the internationalization of the Night and its inclusive character.

- Teachers and educators of all kind or education organization

They will be also attracted to the Night they must know about the support Europe gives to research and researchers to transmit the message to their pupils: Europe is deeply involved in Education and Research to train responsible and committed European citizens.

Task 1.2. Communication Campaign – Awareness Campaign

Communication tools

The awareness campaign will include a combination of traditional communication vectors with the ones based on line, digital tools.

- Off line: such as written press, radio, TV, mailings, direct visits, meetings...

Promotion of the events will be carried out through special pre-events and public meetings about current affairs of the Fundación in its different programmes. Press releases will be mailed to different media (press, radio, TV national and international channels) two weeks before the event. At the same time outdoors direct publicity such as adverts in urban furniture, billboards and posters in metro stations will be installed. Outdoor publicity allows people in the streets, commuters, workers of all kind to be aware of the Night.

- On line: project website, blogs, social networks, e-mailing, video teasers....

In this edition the communication tools will be mainly online, avoiding paper when possible, keeping a sustainable and eco-friendly communication campaign. A project website will be launched at the beginning of the project. This website is hosted on the Fundación madri+d website that had more than 30M of hits last year. Information of the event will be published on science and cultural blogs and relevant national and regional websites. The use of social networks (Twitter, Tiktok, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram) will be at the core of the project specially to attract young people as well as the use of teasers in video formats that will help hugely to communicate the project. In case of multiple Spanish Nights, a special website will be run with information of every Night as in previous editions. Each of the partners of the project will also include all the information on special sections on their institutional websites following the instructions and recommendations of the coordinator. Since the beginning of the project an image of the Madrid Night will appear on the mails sent by the people in charge of the project.

Messages to be conveyed

Since 2006, Researchers are amongst us remains one of the messages of the European Researchers' Nights. The European Researchers' Night in Madrid, as a communication action, has to transmit the main messages of the event in an effective and clear way using the tools detailed above. Researchers are women and men, ordinary people with an extraordinary work, what they do helps to improve our life and therefore the welfare of nations. At the same time researchers as ordinary people, have families, children, they go to the park, they have hobbies, go to movies, and do sports... like the rest of the people.

Other more specific messages all related with the main objective of the action as described in the Work Programme, namely "The European Researchers' Night aims to bring researchers closer to the general public and to increase awareness of research and innovation activities, with a view to supporting the public recognition of researchers, creating an understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life, and encouraging young people to embark on research careers". The new scenario created by the pandemic has shown the importance of scientific research to face not only public health problems but also those related to the emerging new world order where researchers are having a key role.

More specific messages will be launched to attract young people and to promote the scientific careers among boys and girls equally by showing that research is fun, fascinating, creative, and innovative. It opens new fields and opportunities of work either in academic word or in the industry.

The motto chosen for MADRIDNIGHT is Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges, showing that citizens and researchers can work together towards achieving the goals of the five EU missions. The new world scenario created by the pandemic has underlined that just now more than ever the work that science and society as a whole have ahead in the defence of a world ecological order. The Green Deal along with the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) have a lot to do with researchers' work to reach a better and more sustainable future for all. The project is inclusive and open so it invites all kind of people to meet them, to talk to them, to know first-hand their work and their personalities, showing the translational aspects of research. It also gives you the opportunity of being a researcher for a day and if you like, be a researcher in a future.

In order to increase the impact of the awareness campaign and to identity the Action, the image will keep the main characteristic of previous editions. Should there be more than one funded project in Spain, a common national awareness campaign will be developed with references to the other Nights.

Crossed-borders institutions in Ibero-American countries will take part in the common awareness campaign showing the European support to some of their researchers funded by EU Programmes.

Promotional material

All announcements and promotional material will bear the compulsory mention "European Researchers' Night", complying with the following editing guidelines:

- Off line material: Posters will be place in Metro stations. Urban adverts will be present in the streets. All announcements

and promotional material will bear the compulsory mention "European Researchers' Night", complying with the mandatory guidelines.

o On line materials: Appealing on-line adverts will be launched to attract public attention, giving information about the activities of the Night. Banners, ads, websites, link to relevant EU websites and social networks, WhatsApp campaigns, teasers in a video format.... Electronic banners will be shown on the website of the projects and others websites related to science and education as well as on electronic newspapers. Links to other relevant websites will be available. The e-mails of the coordinator staff will also show the banner of the project on their foot signature. Besides banners on the main social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube...) will announce the Night. The use of video teasers will be also a new way to promote the event especially among young people.

Task 1.3. Pre-events and Post Events Organization

Before and after the Night, some events will be organized in order to promote the project, the missions of the EU and the research done in the scope of EU-funded projects. Some of these events will be the Madrid Science and Innovation Week, the Madrid Science Fair and the Research Summit 2022 at the Universidad Europea de Madrid.

Work package WP7 – Activities during the NIGHT 2

Work Package Number	WP7	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Work Package Name	Activities during the NIGHT 2		
Start Month	8	End Month	19

Objectives

Offering all the categories of the public, regardless of age and scientific background, a range of activities as broad as possible:

Directly and actively involving both researchers and audience;

Combining in a balanced way entertainment and "education to science through researchers";

Contributing to enhancing the public recognition and appraisal of researchers and their work

Description

Locations

The activities will be held in two kinds of scenarios: in the centre of Madrid city and in cities outside Madrid with University Campuses. Madrid city has a population of 3.200.000 inhabitants, in the centre and in its university area. Many activities will be held in Alcalá de Henares, an historical and lively city with a population of around 200.000 inhabitants, also in Alcorcón, Móstoles and Leganés, three lively and young university cities in the south of Madrid with 206.000 inhabitants on the other hand, in the northwest of Madrid the cities of Pozuelo de Alarcón and Villaviciosa de Odón, two young locations with an overall population of 100.000 inhabitants will be also the venues of more activities. Therefore, the event will have a big impact in the whole Region.

Venues

There are planned different venues corresponding to cultural and innovative institutions, universities campus, research centres, botanic gardens and museums but also popular libraries and goods of cultural interest in the middle of the city of Madrid including the Círculo de Bellas Artes (Fine Arts Centre), a multidisciplinary centre where arts, literatures, theatre, cinema, science and philosophy activities take place, The Residencia de Estudiantes, an institution awarded by the European Heritage Label will be supporting the event hosting activities combining science with other issues such as art or history and La Casa Encendida.

All the activities will take place on Friday (morning to midnight) and on Saturday, activities will be celebrated during the morning. This ample schedule will allow people attend various activities. The venues of the activities in Madrid city are close among each other and with good connections by public transport. In the other cities, activities are concentrated in big areas, permitting people an easy mobility.

Activities

The 5 missions of the EU will be the head bone of the activities that will be organized. Workshops, hands-on experiments, escape rooms, gymkhanas, quizzes, contests, informal talks with researchers, theatre, videogames, science camping, etc. Interactive and ludic activities will be designed by researchers and managers in order to engage public from the very beginning of the project. A special training for the researchers will be planned to improve their communication skills.

Organization of activities during the European Researchers' Night 2023

About 80 activities will be organized around the 5 EU Missions. Some examples of the activities that will be organized are:

1. Adaptation to Climate Change: secondary students will have the opportunity to meet the scientists of the Royal Botanical Garden and talk about their main problems and research topics.
2. Conquering Cancer: Mission Possible: attendees will have the opportunity to visit the Hospital Clínico to learn how the researchers work at the Hospital and IMDEA Alimentación researchers will explain how precision nutrition would be the secret weapon to conquer cancer.
3. Restore Ocean and Waters: children and families will live a marine adventure with the INTA researchers.
4. Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities: Researchers of Universidad of Alcalá will show how robotics technology gives support for disabilities and children will learn about renewable energy and energy efficiency through workshops and interactive experiments with IMDEA Energía researchers.
5. A Soil Deal for Europe: researchers of the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos will show how to take care of our soils for food security and climate change.
6. Five Missions activities: IMDEA Software and Fundación madri+d will organize activities with researchers that are working in the 5 EU Missions

Some of the proposed activities will be split into sub-activities during the events reaching a total of 170 activities.

In each venue, there will be also information about EU policies and programmes, information on the EU and how the EU funds promotes Science and education cooperation within Europe and beyond in each venue. There will be a big European spot in a frequented area of the activity that will be organized by the Fundación madri+d, Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges at Fine Arts Centre. Besides, there will be permanent presence of personnel to answer public questions about EU policies and programs, and promoting the European dimension and gender balance in research and innovation. Some testimonials conducted by Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows and by researchers funded by Horizon 2020/ Horizon Europe will take part in the activities organized in the EU corner. There will be also European spots in all activities and venues with information about the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and EU funded projects with the presence of European researchers. MADRI+D will be in touch with EU info points such as Europe Direct Point in Madrid and with EU representation in Spain (located in Madrid). Fundación madri+d holds one of the National Contact Point for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Spain being an important source of information.

Work package WP8 – Researchers at Schools activities 2

Work Package Number	WP8	Lead Beneficiary	8. CSIC
Work Package Name	Researchers at Schools activities 2		
Start Month	13	End Month	24

Objectives

Bringing the researchers' work closer to the students of the Region of Madrid, including the most socially disadvantaged
Promoting scientific studies among the young people, especially young girls
Increasing the awareness about EU and their research programmes

Description

Impact assessment strategy: tasks, data and methods.

Task 4.3: Impact assessment Night 2

Similar questionnaires as in 2022 Night will be launched to track the evolution of the project, but taking into the account the previous results and the comments of all the agents involved in order to improve the impact assessment.

Task 4.4: Impact of Researchers at Schools Activities 2

As it has been said in task 4.3, the impact assessment of Researchers at Schools Activities will be done and improved, if necessary, based on the results observed in 2022.

Prior to the event the online and social media campaign's effectiveness will be measured. Hashtags and selected users –for instance, participant researchers and scientists– will be followed on twitter and the posts' engagement will be analysed. Apart from the number and type of interactions, other variables will be considered. For instance: the type of user of the interactions –public organism, research community, citizen, etc.–, the type of publications and activities that have a higher impact, and, if relevant, the content of the tweets (Didegah, Mejlgard and Sorensen, 2018; Stella, 2020 for gender-oriented analysis). Other platforms like Instagram and other social media will be considered if relevant.

The impact in traditional media will be also measured prior, during and after the events. News regarding the event will be collected and analysed.

During the event the online questionnaire will be launched and face to face surveys will be held. The questionnaires will be designed taking into account the different target groups –i.e: researchers, attendees and young attendees– and the particular event. The questionnaires will be distributed in the event’s website, in the participant’s institutions’ websites, through social media, by mail and in the locations of the event. The questionnaires will include questions about the event itself but also about perception of scientists and women in science, demographics, and career prospects for children and young adults. Questionnaires will be distributed to a random sample of the attendees.

There will be a consent form at the beginning of the questionnaire along with a note informing participants about how their data will be used, and assuring the anonymity of the answers. In order to reduce the paper waste and fulfil the recommendations in the European Green Deal, questionnaires will be online when possible. Also, there will be incentives to increase attendees’ participation in the survey –for instance, a raffle among participants.

After the event questionnaires will be sent to the institutions in charge of the activities to collect information on participation numbers and satisfaction with the activities.

All data collected in all three phases will be analysed at this step.

Data and methods

Quantitative data will comprise the majority of the information gathered with the campaign analysis and the surveys. Data from the campaign –collected through the event’s website, social media platforms and online media– will be analysed in order to measure the efficacy of promotion actions and channels. Traditional indicators –for instance, number of visits, number of shares, number of likes, etc.– will be complemented with data related with the content of publications, the type of users who share it or the activities that get better feedback.

Questions in the survey will be mostly quantitative in order to improve the quality of the analysis and make it easier for respondents to answer. Thus, most of the questions will be close ended. Close ended questions are faster to answer and easier to understand by respondents which might improve response rate.

Qualitative data will be converted to quantitative when possible. Most of the textual data from online sites, publications and social media will be converted to quantitative data for its analysis. Descriptive and sentiment analysis will be used. Regarding the survey, when answers need to be qualitative –for instance, in children’s questionnaires–, answers will be coded in categories if possible and treated as categorical data.

If relevant, results from qualitative analysis will complement quantitative findings.

Work package WP9 – Impact Assessment 2

Work Package Number	WP9	Lead Beneficiary	6. UC3M
Work Package Name	Impact Assessment 2		
Start Month	13	End Month	24

Objectives

Assessing the effectiveness of the awareness campaigns.

Assessing the impact of the activities organised during the European Researcher’s Night (WP2) and the Researchers at Schools activities (WP3)

Analysing the opinions of participants regarding the specific activities

Description

The activities organised during the European Researcher’s Night (WP2) and the Researchers at Schools activities (such as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Day of Europe, and any other European and International celebration Days related to the five Mission of the European Union) are a valuable opportunity to bring scientists and citizens together and try to narrow this gap. This Work Package aims to measure the impact of the events and the opinions of participants regarding the specific activities.

Work package WP10 – Management 2

Work Package Number	WP10	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
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Work Package Name	Management 2		
Start Month	13	End Month	24

Objectives

Ensure the correct execution of the project's work plan including its adaptation to necessities that may occur during the project

Assure the overall coordination of all activities among the project partners

Lead project steering with the objective to implement the project in a smooth and consolidated way

Enabled timely reporting to the REA the administrative and financial management of the project

Description

Task 5.1 Coordination and financial management

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

Fundación madri+d is the coordinator of this proposal and will be in charge of the administrative, legal, financial and accounting management, being assistant by a team, the staff of the Fundación in charge of the implementation of the project

A simple, flexible effective and transparent management structure is established for the project. The structure will be collaborative and participative. The management structure, techniques and procedures to be applied in the project will guarantee that the project is carried out according to the time schedule and budget established. All the participant institutions of the project: coordinator and cooperating bodies will play a role in the management structure of the project. The management structures will be formed for three bodies: Coordinator, Steering Committee and the Advisory Committee. MADRIDNIGHT meets all requirements for Gender Balance in staff teams and different committees. The coordinator will encourage to all cooperating bodies to meet this gender balance commitment.

The Consortium Agreement will include: the internal organisation of the consortium, its governance structure, decision-making processes, and management arrangements; the provisions for the settlement of disputes within the partnership; the specific arrangements concerning Intellectual Property Rights to be applied among network partners, in compliance with the Grant Agreement, as well as confidentiality and privacy of collected data; and any other provision necessary to ensure a sound management of the project.

The coordinator and its team have a recognized expertise in scientific dissemination and communication activities and UE projects implementation. The coordinator has coordinated 12 European Researches Night editions and more than 40 EU projects as partner and coordinator. The management of so many events is an ambitious task implemented successfully thanks to the expertise and full cooperation of the institutions involved. The flow communication among people in charge of the activities and the coordinator's team makes the task easier. It will be in charge of reporting on the follow-up of the project to the Steering Committee and of the preparation of the meetings. There will be a fluent an effective interfacing with EU services via e-mail, Skype, Zoom or any other platform or phone.

Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will be formed by representatives of each beneficiary, associated partner and subcontractor institutions involved in the project and chaired by de Coordinator. These representatives will be elected by majority voting. The members will be the project managers of the institutions in charge of the implementation of the activities. Two meeting are planned during the project, at the beginning and at the end of the project.

The Steering Committee will be responsible for strategic decision concerning the project and for its assessment. It will be the highest decision-making body. Its debates will be prepared in advance by the coordinator that will keep informed of the development of the project and requested to meet or take any necessary decision during the course of the project.

Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be composed of senior's researchers appointed by the cooperating bodies and the coordinator. All of them researchers in different areas acknowledge and recognized expertise in dissemination of science and technology matters. It will be the consulting body on scientific matters that may arise during the implementation of the project and also it will be consulted for the designed and development of the activities performed during the Night.

Work Package Leaders. There are three work-package leaders that will be responsible of the correct implementation of each WP. The coordinator will be in charge of WP1, 2 and 5 (Awareness Campaign, Activities and Project Management), UC3M will lead WP4 (Impact Assessment) and CSIC will coordinate WP3 (Researchers at Schools) in collaboration with all partners and collaborators.

Decision making process. Decisions will be based on consensus and when it is not possible, the simple majority will decide.

Task 5.2 Project Meetings

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

The main role of the Coordination team will be to plan and prepare project meetings, mainly the Kick off meeting (M1), the mid-term meeting (M12) and the final meeting (M24), to follow up the project implementation and the project financial management and to ensure the active participation of the partners, associated partners and subcontractors in the implementation of the activities as well as in the decision-making process.

In order to reinforce the role of all partners involved in the proposal a consortium agreement will be signed at the beginning of the project (M1). The Consortium Agreement will play a primary role in order to ensure that EC regulations on projects' management are properly implemented, by establishing workable internal rules regarding the execution of the project.

Task 5.3 Internal Communication and collaboration with other NIGHTS

Task Leader: FMID Beneficiaries: All beneficiaries and associated partners

Internal communication flows. The internal communication flows will be based on day-to-day contact via phone, e-mails or via Zoom, Skype or other platforms to facilitate the interchange of ideas, questions, or any incidence that may occur.


There will be three main meetings, at the beginning of the project, the Kick-off meeting, the mid-term project meeting, and the final meeting at the end of the project. Three meetings are planned of the Steering Committee in the same periods.

There will also two meetings or a video conference among the representatives of the Spanish Nights to coordinate the events at a national level. The coordinator could propose meetings or video conferences when the development of the project requires.

STAFF EFFORT

Staff effort per participant												
<i>Grant Preparation (Work packages - Effort screen) — Enter the info.</i>												
Participant	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WP5	WP6	WP7	WP8	WP9	WP10	Total Person-Months	
1 - MADRIMASD	2.00	2.50	1.00	0.75	1.50	2.00	2.50	1.00	0.75	1.50	15.50	
2 - FSP CNIO	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	3.50	
3 - UCM	0.25	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	4.00	
4 - IMDEA ALIMENTACION	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	2.50	
5 - UAM	0.50	1.00	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.50	1.00	0.75	0.25	0.25	5.50	
6 - UC3M	1.00	1.50	0.50	2.10	0.50	1.00	1.50	0.50	2.20	0.50	11.30	
7 - IMDEA Energy	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	3.50	
8 - CSIC	0.50	1.50	2.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.50	2.00	0.50	0.50	10.00	
9 - UAH	0.25	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	3.00	
10 - IMDEA AGUA	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.25	0.25	5.00	
11 - UPM	0.25	0.75	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.50	0.25	0.25	4.00	
12 - IMDEA SOFT	0.25	0.75	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.50	0.25	0.25	4.00	
13 - URJC	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.25	3.50	
Total Person-Months	6.50	13.00	7.25	5.85	5.00	6.50	13.00	7.25	5.95	5.00	75.30	

LIST OF DELIVERABLES

Deliverables						
<i>Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.</i>						
<i>The labels used mean:</i>						
<i>Public — fully open ( automatically posted online)</i>						
<i>Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement</i>						
<i>EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444</i>						
Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month)
D1.1	Report on the Awareness campaign 1	WP1	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	7
D2.1	Report on the activities of the NIGHT 1	WP2	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	7
D3.1	Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 1	WP3	8 - CSIC	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	12
D4.1	Report on the Impact Assessment 1	WP4	6 - UC3M	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	12
D5.1	Report on Management 1	WP5	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	12
D6.1	Report on the awareness campaign 2	WP6	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	19
D7.1	Report on the activities of the NIGHT 2	WP7	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	19
D8.1	Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 2	WP8	8 - CSIC	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	24
D9.1	Report on the Impact Assessment	WP9	6 - UC3M	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	24
D10.1	Report on Management 2	WP10	1 - MADRIMASD	R — Document, report	C-UE/EU-C -	24

Deliverable – Report on the Awareness campaign 1

Deliverable Number	D1.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on the Awareness campaign 1		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	7	Work Package No	WP1

Description
Report on the awareness campaign (actions, media feedback, activities on Internet such as hits on website, blogs, social networks ...), accompanied by samples of promotional material (posters, leaflets, programmes, gadgets...).

Deliverable – Report on the activities of the NIGHT 1

Deliverable Number	D2.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on the activities of the NIGHT 1		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	7	Work Package No	WP2

Description
Report on the activities of the NIGHT 2022 (list, participation, most successful activities possible lessons learnt...), including a complete list of the researchers funded under Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe, with a specific focus on the Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows, involved in the event with name, surname and project's grant agreement number; Promotional/audio-visual material such as: conferences, leaflets, posters, videos, photos and videos to be potentially used by the UE for promotional/communication purposes.

Deliverable – Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 1

Deliverable Number	D3.1	Lead Beneficiary	8. CSIC
Deliverable Name	Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 1		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	12	Work Package No	WP3

Description
Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities

Deliverable – Report on the Impact Assessment 1

Deliverable Number	D4.1	Lead Beneficiary	6. UC3M
Deliverable Name	Report on the Impact Assessment 1		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	12	Work Package No	WP4

Description

Report on the impact assessment of Night Activities 1 and of Researchers at Schools Activities 1
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Deliverable – Report on Management 1

Deliverable Number	D5.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on Management 1		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	12	Work Package No	WP5

Description

Report on Management

Deliverable – Report on the awareness campaign 2

Deliverable Number	D6.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on the awareness campaign 2		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	19	Work Package No	WP6

Description

. Report on the awareness campaign 2023 (actions, media feedback, activities on Internet such as hits on website, blogs, social networks ...), accompanied by samples of promotional material (posters, leaflets, programmes, gadgets...)

Deliverable – Report on the activities of the NIGHT 2

Deliverable Number	D7.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on the activities of the NIGHT 2		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	19	Work Package No	WP7

Description

Report on the activities of the NIGHT 2023 (list, participation, most successful activities possible lessons learnt...), including a complete list of the researchers funded under Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe, with a specific focus on the Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows, involved in the event with name, surname and project's grant agreement number; Promotional/audio-visual material such as: conferences, leaflets, posters, videos, photos and videos to be potentially used by the EC for promotional/communication purposes

Deliverable – Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 2

Deliverable Number	D8.1	Lead Beneficiary	8. CSIC
Deliverable Name	Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 2		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -

Due Date (month)	24	Work Package No	WP8
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Description
Report on the Researchers at Schools Activities 2

Deliverable – Report on the Impact Assessment

Deliverable Number	D9.1	Lead Beneficiary	6. UC3M
Deliverable Name	Report on the Impact Assessment		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	24	Work Package No	WP9

Description
Report on the Impact Assessment Night 2 and on the impact of Researchers at Schools Activities 2

Deliverable – Report on Management 2

Deliverable Number	D10.1	Lead Beneficiary	1. MADRIMASD
Deliverable Name	Report on Management 2		
Type	R — Document, report	Dissemination Level	C-UE/EU-C -
Due Date (month)	24	Work Package No	WP10

Description
Report on Management 2

LIST OF MILESTONES

Milestones					
<i>Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.</i>					
Milestone No	Milestone Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Means of Verification	Due Date (month)
1	Consortium Agreement	WP5	1-MADRIDMASD	Signature of the Consortium Agreement	1
2	Awareness campaign	WP6, WP1	1-MADRIDMASD	Photos and promotional material Delivery Date: 5 and 17	5
3	European Researchers' Night	WP2, WP7	1-MADRIDMASD	Photos, videos and monitoring visits. Date: 5 and 17	5
4	Researchers at Schools activities	WP8, WP3	8-CSIC	Photos, videos and monitoring visits. Date: 12 and 24	12
5	Impact Assessment	WP4, WP9	6-UC3M	Reports and questionnaires Date: 12 and 24	12

LIST OF CRITICAL RISKS

Critical risks & risk management strategy			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
Risk number	Description	Work Package No(s)	Proposed Mitigation Measures
1	A new outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.	WP2, WP6, WP4, WP5, WP8, WP9, WP1, WP10, WP3, WP7	Although it seems that coming vaccines will reduce the effect of COVID-19, there is still a risk of avoiding a great number of people attending the activities. In that case the coordinator with the consensus of the Committees will take the necessary measure to assure the fulfilment of the project. Online activities will be planned along with mixed ones with full respect to the hygienic measures and limited capacity of the venues. The flow of information will be

Critical risks & risk management strategy			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
Risk number	Description	Work Package No(s)	Proposed Mitigation Measures
			improved to allow informed decision-making and an effective communication to citizens will be implemented.
2	Insufficient response from research community	WP2, WP8, WP3, WP7	This contingency is a very unlikely to happen since the researchers and the participant institutions have been mobilized in advanced and their consent to participate has been given previously. In case it occurs, a special plan will be implemented involving universities and research centres with additional communication actions.
3	Insufficient response from target audience	WP6, WP1	Follow up of the audience by pre-registration in some of the activities will measure the response. Should it occur, the activities will be made more visible in the participants' website and other relevant websites. An effort to attract the public in the institutions and venues chosen will be done before the events through the awareness campaign and other measures sufficiently explained in the proposal.
4	Beneficiary leaves the project	WP2, WP5, WP8, WP10, WP3, WP7	If a beneficiary institution decides to leave the project, its activities will be implemented by another partner and the coordinator in order to reach the proposed activities, attendees and impact.
5	Political changes at regional and local level	WP5, WP10	Regional and local elections are expected for 2023. Meetings will be planned with new authorities
6	Bad weather conditions.	WP2, WP8	Although there is a low risk level of having bad weather conditions in Madrid in September, previsions must be taken to assure the success of the activities, so, planned outdoors activities will have indoors activities as an alternative. It happened only once four years ago; the bad weather conditions (rain) did not influence the satisfactory fulfilment of the activities.

History of changes

Date	Page	Description
26 th Feb	4	Title of 1.1 has been shortened to “Objectives”
26 th Feb	13	Gantt chart. MADRIDERN2022 Project: WP1.2, WP2.2, WP3.2, WP4.2 and WP5.2 have been included
26 th Feb	20	MADRIDNIGHT personnel efforts are distributed according the WP as follows: WP2- Activities during the Night-has the biggest number of staff effort, 26 person months, being the second the new WP, WP3-Researchers at Schools Activities- with 14,5 person months. WP1- Awareness campaign has 13 person months (instead of 12,5; IMDEA AGUA has 1 person months instead of 0,5) and WP4- Impact assessment- has 11,8 person months. Finally, the Management (WP5) has the lowest number of staff effort, 10 person months. The total staff effort of the project sums 75,3 person months (instead of 74,8)
26 th Feb	20	Ethics self-assessment has been included

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1. Excellence

1.1 Objectives

The European Researchers' Night in Madrid 2022-23 (MADRIDNIGHT) main objective consists of **bringing closer research and researchers to the general public and increasing awareness of research and innovation activities**, with a view to **supporting the public recognition of researchers**, creating an **understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life** but also in **society and in the European economy**, and **encouraging young people** to embark on **scientific careers**.

MADRIDNIGHT will implement it by means of a set of **170 festive activities in 27 venues** to be carried out in the Region of Madrid on the morning, evening and night of the 23rd and 24th of September 2022 and 22nd and 23rd of September 2023. Over **31 Pre-events** will be also organized, mainly in spring and summer 2022 and 2023, and **16 post-events** will be organized after each Night event. The activities planned will be onsite and when possible, they will be transmitted via streaming to amplify the impact and attract new public.

The activities will be **addressed to public at large, science-addicts and science-reluctant, children, families, teachers, elderly, disabled people, people regardless their scientific background with a special focus on young people: secondary and primary school students** with the main purpose of encouraging STEAM subjects and science careers, university students and also vocational education and training students. Special attentions will be paid in girls to attract them to scientific maters. The event will involve researchers, other researchers benefited by EU funds (H2020, Horizon Europe), especially the Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows, Regional and Academic authorities, stakeholders and managers from universities, research centres, museums, hospitals, foundations, and industry (Spin-offs, Start-ups, SMEs and Large Companies) in the Region of Madrid.

MADRIDNIGHT will focus on the **following specific and measurable objectives**:

- **O1. Bringing researchers and research closer to the public** by putting them in direct contact in a favourable scenario of recreational and fun activities where researchers will show their 'human and ordinary face' while public at large can play the role of a scientific just for a night. Addressing to the **general public with a special focus on pupils, students and families, reconnecting research with the broad Public**
- **O2. Increasing awareness of research and innovation activities and researchers' role for the society and economy** with a view to supporting the public recognition of researchers, creating an understanding of the impact or researchers' work on citizens' daily life and economy, showing how knowledge can be turned into innovation. A wide range of activities will **show the utility of their work to achieve a more comfortable and sustainable life**, better healthcare, transports, environment, artificial intelligence, new materials and all the 'simple' things around our life that remain nearly unnoticeable.
- **O3. Attaining a wide participation of the public in all of its components**, with a **specific focus on pupils, students and families**. From kids to elderly, including families, teachers, and students at different levels (university, secondary schools, vocational training and primary schools) but also science reluctant people and people with disabilities. An open and inclusive science will be in the core of the event. Offering attractive and original activities in cities with large population and making an effective and wide awareness campaign.
- **O4. Encouraging young people, boys and girls, to embark on scientific careers** by creating a suitable atmosphere appealing to young people **without gender barriers**, making them an important part of the activities. Researchers at the Schools will facilitate encounters between researchers and students allowing the dialogue. Speed-dating sessions will be organized where researchers will show the fascinating and rewarding aspects of their noble profession and how they reconcile it with their private life.
- **O5. Highlighting the European dimension of the event and also the European Union as a whole**, by involving researchers benefited by EU funds, especially Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) fellows and ERC Grantees (European Research Council). Their presence in the activities will point out the transnational and **diversity** aspects of Research, showing the attractiveness of their jobs that can be done everywhere in Europe. Information on the EU its history, initiatives, policies, especially related with the European Commission priorities like the **EU Missions** (Cancer, Climate Change, Oceans, Smart Cities and Soils & Food) or the **EU Green Deal**.

The achievement of the above-described objectives will be measured by specific actions and indicators to be developed throughout the project.

1.2. Quality of the proposed coordination and/or support measures including soundness of methodology

Under the motto **Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges**, the European Researchers' Night in Madrid aims to highlight that working together is the way to overcome the challenges that the world and the

European society is facing. MADRIDNIGHT will align its activities to the **EU Green Deal and the new EU missions** that are committed to solve some of these challenges like fighting cancer, adapting to climate change, protecting our oceans, living in greener cities, and ensuring soil health and food. The global challenges we have faced, and we are still facing by the special circumstances imposed by **COVID-19 pandemic have revealed the importance of scientific research to give response to most of the problems arisen**. Not only health problems but also environmental issues, degradation of biodiversity, decline of species and destruction of habitats, use of efficient and clean energy, inequality, poverty, lack of resources, digital gap and so. It is necessary to explore new ways in our relationship with the planet, appealing to collective responsibility in maintaining the necessary balance of nature. Defend the whole system to preserve and improve life and individual health. Together with the arduous laboratory work, its enormous social, cultural, psychological, legal, economic, and technological connotations that affect the whole of our system are becoming more obvious every day. We are all actors and only together can we find solutions. The actions to be implemented in the **MADRIDNIGHT will be oriented to prioritize the EU Missions** but also other fields of science that benefit society and economy. Topics such as the preservation of natural ecosystems, climate change, control of the trade in wild animals, but also plant health, forms of food production, mobility, sustainable cities, health, new sources of energy, new socio-economic relationships, underwater archaeology and onco-psychology and many other issues will be on the MADRIDNIGHT Agenda. The **MADRIDNIGHT** project as a **communication and public engagement action** is addressed to citizens of the Region of Madrid that aims to **bring researchers and their work closer to the public at large and to promote research careers among young people** without gender barriers from very early ages. To foster STEAM careers is a key factor to face the new jobs in this new post-pandemic area where the digital transformation is a real fact.


With the achievement of these goals in mind a wide and **strong awareness campaign** with a sound communication plan will be launched **combining the traditional communication vectors** (written press, radio, TV public advertising or street adverts) **with the digital ones** (websites, social networks like YouTube Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, LinkedIn, Twitter and other formats as teaser videos with the purpose of making known the event and if possible to become “trending topic” for a while and always in an eco-friendly way).

The events aim to **attract as much people as possible** by transmitting the main messages of the Night, i.e.: Science is Fun; Science is for all of us; Europe is Research; The diversity of Researchers, Researchers are amongst us; Researchers are ordinary people with an extraordinary job; Being researcher is exciting; Researchers improve your everyday life; Play researcher for a night; Discover what researchers do and can do for the welfare of Europe by means of a sustainable growth.

MADRIDNIGHT will focus besides on public at large regardless the scientific background, on the young sector of society keeping in mind gender equality from the early stages of the learning process: pupils and students faced with a career choice, whose work will become the future in Europe. Contemporary, other collectives will be reached as **parents and teachers, disabled people or science reluctant people. Special kids’ programmes will be organized**. In that sense the awareness campaign will be reinforced in places related to these targets; universities, secondary schools, primary schools and places with a large affluence of people like streets in the city centre, metro, buses, etc. (Metro advertising or transport, hubs in the Region of Madrid are seen by daily commuters reaching students, businesspeople, teachers and general public). A wide distribution of digital information will be launched to schools and universities, cultural centres, hospitals, museums... Digital platforms will be at the core of the awareness campaign to promote sustainable and eco-friendly behaviours. A banners campaign will be launched in the main digital newspapers in Spain as well as on the websites of all the institutions involved.

A wide range of activities covering various disciplines will be offered. They will combine **science with entertainment**, science with other disciplines such as history, photography, food and nutrition, theatre, or art and design. The organization of the activities will require the involvement of researchers (at any stage), managers, entrepreneurs, teachers, technical staff, and also political representatives and staff in charge of the institutions involved. The National Contact Points of MSCA will also be involved in the event highlighting its European dimension.

This proposal, based on the experience and good results achieved, the impact of the NIGHT in Madrid will be expanded with the implementation of activities to carry out in Ibero-America. The **Organization of Ibero-American States**, an associated partner, will join the project again in this edition. These activities will be organized in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay and there will be implemented with their own funds involving researchers benefited by European project specially MSCA fellows. These events will be considered as parallel activities of the Night in Madrid. This collaboration is set in the framework of several EU initiatives that the coordinator has been involved during the last years with CELAC countries. Besides, the Night in Madrid will collaborate with other Spanish projects and European countries, mainly in the Awareness Campaign by highlighting

each other's events in social media, websites or articles. The  Spanish Embassy in Madrid is also willing to be involved in the project to highlight the European dimension of the event.

The implementation of **pre-events** will also contribute to the impact of the Night. It is planned that each partner as well as the coordinator will organize over **30 pre-events** in order to create the awareness of the main NIGHT event. Encounters between researchers funded by EU and students will be in the agenda of the Night. Various encounters will be planned in spring before summer holidays. A workshop for families at the Royal Botanical Garden, Science monologues at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, informal meetings with researchers at the Madrid Science and Innovation Week and at the Madrid Science Fair will contribute to make visible the Night and its objectives.

Following the successful experiences and the lessons learned in previous editions since 2010 and even in the last edition, the new proposal will follow a similar outline in the design and implementation of all the work packages of the event having into account any possible contingencies. The fact that **the number of young visitors is increasing significantly**, according to recent studies, evidences that the goal of attracting young people to the activities as a way of fostering their enthusiasm about researchers' work and encouraging them to follow scientific careers is being achieved. **Special attention will be paid in attracting young girls to science.** To eliminate gender barriers should be in the core of our future European researchers, in this line, the celebration of the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science** within the Researchers at Schools activities (WP3) will be an occasion to highlight the important role of women in science. The European dimension of the event is specially underlined by the increasingly presence of researchers benefited by European funds specially MSC fellows and ERC Grantees. The participation of the Spanish National Contact Points during in the project will contribute clearly to that extent. There will be several Researchers at Schools activities (WP3) the 9th of May, to celebrate the **Europe Day** with the participation of researchers funded by EU that will visit various Primary and Secondary Schools of the Region of Madrid to highlight the support that the European Union brings to the researchers.

In these two editions the **European dimension of the events** will be reinforced by giving information on the European Union as a whole highlighting its history, initiatives, policies and achievements. Although European Corners are not compulsory in this edition, there will be information about EU and its research programmes in each venue and on the project website. Special attention and effort will be dedicated to promote and explain the EU Missions and the EU Green Deal among society and researchers, and to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).


MADRIDNIGHT project will last **24 months**. The **Fundación madri+d (FMID)** will be the **coordinator** of the action and will be assisted by **12 institutions as beneficiaries** of the consortium and **8 "subcontractor institutions"**, that will organize 72 activities during the Night. All of the institutions involved have a proven experience in bringing closer science to society, fostering citizens' participation in the whole research process, more specifically in organizing activities in the Night in Madrid during the last decade.

A wide range of topics are presented in MADRIDNIGHT most of them regarding the topics gathered the EU Missions and the EU Green Deal as well as the achievements of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) both strategic axes will be in the core of the activities implemented along with topics regarding STEAM careers and new jobs. Topics will be varied and diverse such as, robotic assistive technologies, digital manufacturing, criminalistics, cancer, wastewater treatment, underwater archaeology, inclusive science, climate change, sustainable mobility, soil care, healthy food habits, sustainable cities and communities...

The MADRIDNIGHT will cover **all scientific disciplines** most of them addressed to give answers to the challenges Europe and the rest of the world are facing: Health and Medicine Social Sciences, Humanities, Archaeology, Physics, Chemistry, Nanotechnology, Soil Science, Biotechnology, Emerging Technologies, Palaeontology, Zoology, Ecology Sea Sciences, Food and Nutrition, Electronics, Maths, Robotics, Natural Sciences, Neuroscience, Botanic, Architecture, etc. New disciplines, Virtual reality or Artificial Intelligent, will be present in MADRIDNIGHT activities since they are called to lead the new jobs of the New Digital Era.

The interdisciplinary research is a real fact and all disciplines are connected. Lessons learned by the pandemic situation show that not only is needed health research to fight the virus but also to explore new ways of relationship, a new economy respectful with nature and environment, new materials to produce new devices, new ways to organize cities to mention just a few.

Stakeholders Engagement. There will be a great deal of **stakeholders** supporting the project. The city hall of Madrid as well as the ones of the rest of cities of the Region will be involved in the organization of the activities. The public enterprise Metro Madrid also collaborates by setting publicity in its main stations, several cultural centres, public libraries, hospitals and museums are also involved. **Academic and Regional authorities (Regional Ministry of Education, Universities and Science and Innovation, Regional Department of Transport, General Directorate**

of Education and Youth, Madrid Town Hall) will also  involved taking part of activities and in press conferences. Cultural and innovative institutions like Círculo de Bellas Artes (Fine Arts Centre) that has been named Europe House, Madrid Railway Museum, Residencia de Estudiantes an institution awarded by the European Heritage Label, the Swedish Embassy in Spain, La Casa Encendida (a multicultural and innovative center in Madrid) and America Museum, crowded and lively places that will be supporting the event hosting activities combining science with other issues.

Non-Academic Sector - Enterprises will also be involved in the MADRIDNIGHT since they play an important role either as actors in some of the activities or providing support to others. The involvement of Entrepreneurial Agencies in Spain will strengthen the potential employability of science and innovation, connecting science careers with better opportunities of employment. Fundación madri+d has a long experience in the involvement of the private sector since it has been since 2008 the coordinator of the **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)** in the Region of Madrid and the national representative, the management of the various sector-wide programmes such as ESA BIC Madrid (European Space Agency Business Incubation Centre) or HealthStart that will involve these very innovative enterprises in the events. There will be a representation of big companies such as GlaxoSmithKlein, Airbus or Merck that took part in previous editions to name just a few and also small and medium enterprises most of them benefited the EIC funds. The involvement of all the **societal actors and stakeholders** in the events is a guarantee of public engagement who will work together to achieve the aims of the action.

Methodology

MADRIDNIGHT will incorporate some novelties to reinforce and update the new sensitivities society is facing:

- **The support to the EU Missions, the EU Green Deal, Sustainable Development Goals along with the Promotion of sustainable mobility** will be present in the design of inclusive and sustainable research and innovation. **Gender and Equality** will be present in the Night in Madrid. Attracting **girls** to science will be one of the goals to achieve. The election of **STEAM subjects** at school should mind both girls and boys the gender barriers must be eliminate from the early stages of the educational process. Women Scientists must be known for the students being a model to follow by girls.
- **Diversity in Science, Inclusive Science, leaving no one behind.** The Night in Madrid will foster the participation in science affairs of very special sectors of society by means of activities designed for disabled people, people at risk of social exclusion and reluctant people. There will also be activities focused on inclusive Science to make visible the LGTBTQIA+ people in STEM
- **Strength the Internationalization,** in order to expand MADRIDNIGHT overseas impact, some activities will be performed in Ibero-America being considered as parallel activities. Besides, the Night in Madrid will collaborate with other countries such as Armenia in the Awareness Campaign by highlighting each other's' events in social media, websites or articles. Fundación madri+d, as member of EUSEA (European Science Engagement Association) will be in contact with other EUSEA beneficiaries to share good practices in dissemination and communication training for researchers. Besides, the Swedish Embassy in Madrid will collaborate with the project organizing together activities to foster the presence of women in Wikipedia. These synergies remark the presence of Europe promoting research and innovation through the support to researchers all over the world.
- **Organization of pre-events,** to amplify the impact previously to the Night. The consortium will work in collaboration with the subcontractor institutions and the National Contact Points of MSCActions organizing encounters between MSCA Fellows. The Madrid Science Fair will be one of the main pre-events with a foreseen attendance of 20.000 people, mainly primary and secondary school students. 31 pre-events involving students and general public will take place including an informal talk in the National Museum of Natural History, with the researchers that will participate in the Night; a Scientific Coffee in a public library at the Retiro Park in collaboration with the NGO Cáritas or the Welcome Day for the new students of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.
- **Training researchers to communicate.** During the duration of the project there will be special workshops and seminars that will be organized by the coordinator and beneficiaries addressed to researchers participating in the MADRIDNIGHT to improve their communication skills (From how to speak in public, how to prepare attractive and funny experiments to how to organize activities for different audiences as kids, teenagers, families, elder people, etc). In addition, researchers will be invited to attend other seminars about gender balance and inclusiveness in science, Open Science and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) organized during the project duration by the coordinator.

Scientific dissemination training workshops will take place in spring and summer. CSIC will organize two training courses named "Scientific culture: dissemination and communication of Science" and "The Scientist with the media" in collaboration with Dr Antoni Esteve Foundation and the National Broadcasting Corporation. Universidad Politécnica de Madrid will prepare a training day as part of Soft Skills PhD Programme "Communication and science outreach in the university" in April-May 2022 and 2023. Universidad Complutense de Madrid will organize a

workshop entitled “UCM scientific journalism course” in 2022 and 2023. In addition, the MSCA-NCP will deliver infodays and training to researchers. Sustainability Training Actions will be organized in synergy with some of our project specially the Erasmus + project Urban GoodCamp.

- **Researchers at Schools.** Over 100 activities will be implemented involving 10.000 students of the Region of Madrid. Over 230 researchers will participate in these activities that will be focused on the 5 EU missions. Emblematic dates will be chosen for these activities, such as Europe Day, to highlight the European dimension of the project, the International Day of Women and Girl in Science, to promote Science among girls and gender balance. Besides, the International Days related to the 5 EU mission will be in the agenda World Oceans Day, World Cancer Day, World Soil Day...etc.). Researchers will give support to school teachers in developing scientific materials for the classroom.

- **Activities during the Night. New kids’ programmes will be implemented** to attract this target that declares in a very high percentage (according to the analysis of the results on past editions) be willing to be a researcher. New activities combining science, technology with other cultural and artistic issues will be performed in the areas of biodiversity, zoology, new materials for trains and ships or green energy. Quizzes, scape rooms, gymkhanas and a camping during the Night at the National Museum of Natural History will be addressed to the kids. These activities will be directly connected with the Researchers at School ones, with a special emphasis on primary school students.

2. Impact

2.1 Project’s pathways towards impact

The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute to each of the expected impacts mentioned in the work programme:

I1. Enhance engagement with citizens

It is absolutely necessary to show how researchers of all disciplines are carrying out **multidisciplinary research** and studies to face the paradigm shift that has occurred globally, providing sustainable initiatives and proposals in the new post-covid-19 era. Topics such as the preservation of natural ecosystems and climate change, cancer, health food and soil care, smart and climate-neutral cities, new sources of energy, new socio-economic relationships, cleaning marine and fresh waters and many other issues will be on the Night ‘s agenda. Society is much concern about the near future and a great deal of citizen trust in science to give response to its concerns and worries.

According to the last survey carried out by FECYT, Foundation belonging to the Spanish Science and Innovation Ministry, in 2020 about **Social Perception of Science in Spain**, doctors, teachers and scientists are the professional groups most trusted in Spain (averages of 4.74, 4.49 and 4.45 over 5 respectively). 83,6% of the people believe that climate change is a very serious problem and 45,9% think that technological innovation might help to mitigate this problem. Actions to show the importance of research and innovation for the welfare of Europe and beyond will be carried out, enterprises will show how recent research could reach the market improving our lives and how that needs to be funded. Public funds need the consensus of society. The Night will contribute to generate that consensus through its activities played by researchers showing the importance of researchers’ work for the improvement of our lives. The engagement of the researchers with citizens will be measure through the questionnaires that will be implemented in WP4.

I2. Increase awareness among the general public of the importance and benefits of R&I; a wide range of activities, workshops, hands-on experiments, demonstrations, scape rooms, interactive games, gymkhanas, encounters, informal talks, above all, will be held during the Night to achieve a better understanding of the benefits research brings to society and furthermore how researchers’ work contribute to achieve the objectives of EU Missions and the EU the Green Deal and to build a better future for all.

The activities planned will contribute to that aims: a **colloquium between secondary students and the researchers of the Royal Botanical Garden**, will show them what kind of work researchers do and why plants are so important to keep the balance in nature. Workshops to know how to produce and consume fruits and vegetables will contribute a sustainable agriculture and **healthy nutrition as a tool in the fight against cancer**. Learn how certain **microorganisms can purify wastewater** by converting waste into electricity will show visitors the importance of water research to alleviate the shortage of water in underdeveloped areas and how to reduce plastic consumption to create smart cities. There will be also workshops and games for children about the **use of clean energy** will aware them of the necessity of being sustainable in the transition to a circular economy, how being responsible with the planet or how healthy food helps to prevent illness and keep the balance in nature. A role play about sustainable transport like the railway also helps to know the benefits for the environment. **Families will camp at the National Museum of Natural History** and carry out experiments about climate change.

The activity **Researchers, citizens and enterprises for a sustainable future, organized by FMID** is a good example to show the benefits research bring to society, the exhibition of achievements reached by researchers in

some enterprises like, GlaxoSmithKline playing labs with children to get some medicines explaining how they improve their health or enterprises that will show the applicability of space technologies to civil uses such as a blind explorer, an accurate and reliable personal navigation solution to guide people with visual impairments or a heavy-duty drone designed to provide aerial support for wildfires firefighting. Encounters with fellows MSCA will show the benefits of being funded by this programme in different disciplines and also the benefits of living and working in another country. These researchers will talk about their experiences in a friendly and relaxed way.

During the project implementation researchers funded by the EU Green Deal projects in Spain will be invited to take part in the event.

There is already a great acceptance about the benefits researchers bring to society, the survey of the Night carried out in 2020 (the results for the 2021 edition are not available yet) showed that 92,5% of the interviewers consider that researchers' work contributes to the welfare of society, 92,8% that research improves greatly the competitiveness of a country and 83,1% of visitors think that researchers also contribute to solve social problems. As a result, it can be said that researchers' work plays an essential role in helping to achieve most of the problems facing the European society.

I3. Diffusion and promotion of excellence research project.

The MADRIDNIGHT Project will involve more than **1.300 researchers** will participate, being **274 of them excellence projects funded by the EU and 142 MSCA fellows**. These researchers cover from basic science to cutting edge technologies. The project will promote and disseminate the work of these researchers and projects by different means: social networks, project website, workshops, quizzes, etc. and to different target audiences. The expected impact will be the better knowledge of EU funds and excellence research projects with European and international dimension. Activities during the project and dissemination actions will reach different target audience; General Public by Activities from Researchers at Schools, Pre-events, social media and activities during the night; Researchers and Professionals by Newsletters, social media, professional networks (LinkedIn) Infodays and project website section and NCP Blog and Regional and National Stakeholders by Newsletters, social media, professional networks (LinkedIn) and the project website.

I4. Raise Interest of young people in science and research careers

The Night in Madrid will promote the attendance of young people to the activities in order to **achieve in the long term, the growth of the interest and the taking up of research careers**. It has been observed a very significant increment of their presence in previous years, and this tendency keeps growing. It is observed that 42% of the attendees were aged under 25 years old in 2020, 4 points more than in 2019. In 2020, 46,5% of the attendees were students of primary and secondary school and vocational training education, an increase compared to the 41% in 2019. The average age of minors attending the Night in 2020 is between ten and eleven years (10,8) in a very similar way to what was observed in previous years (10,4 and 10,7). Regarding the trend to develop scientific studies, 42,1% over 16 years old, declare they would like very much to follow scientific studies while a 33,3% declare the strong intention to work as a scientific researcher in the future. These good results of the 2020 edition (the results of 2021 Night are still processing) confirm the success of the project at attracting young people, teenagers and children to the event. This favourable tendency will be reinforced by performing appealing activities to reach this target audience.

I.5 Better understanding of the European Union policies and programmes among the general public

The Night in Madrid will allow a **better understanding of the European Union policies and programmes** among the general public. During these two editions it will be reinforced the information on the EU not only as a research and innovation funder but also highlighting the European identity but giving notice of its history, initiatives, policies, and achievements as a unique economic and political association. The **EU Missions** and the **priorities of the EU Green Deal** will be shown and explained to the attendees as well as other policies to provide a better understanding of them. This will speed up the transition to climate neutrality and digital leadership, support its recovery from the social and economic impact of the coronavirus crisis, and strengthen its resilience in the face of future crises.

This proposal will substitute the previous EU corners with the **inclusion of programmes, projects and other actions from Horizon 2020, LIFE+, Erasmus+, Horizon Europe, especially of MSCA and ERC**. The presence in the activities of researchers benefited by Europeans funds and MSCA fellows is on the basis of a better understanding of EU among the general public. Visitors will meet researchers from different countries and will be able to understand the EU and International dimension of Research. During the last editions of the European Researchers Nights were involved researchers from different nationalities and field of knowledge

The Directorate General for Europe in the Region of Madrid provides with some merchandising for kids that show the importance of Europe as a whole. Our close collaboration with the MSCA National Contact Points gives us a win-win situation in order to continue with this EU dimension of the MADRIDNIGHT. Actually, Spain is the first

EU country receiving incoming MSCA researchers. According to the results of the impact evaluation, attendees when asked about the perception they have of the European support in science revealed that science and innovation is supported in a 42% by EU while researchers' career in a 51, 9%.

16. Support school teachers in developing a scientific approach around priority topics

The researchers will support school teachers to develop new scientific materials and experiments that may be used in the classroom. The **Researchers at Schools activities** will **allow to establish a close relationship between researchers and school teachers**. Prior to the visits to the schools, researchers will provide teachers the tools necessary to take the maximum advantage of the activity. During the school year, researchers will follow the progress of these classrooms and help them if necessary.

The expected project **outcomes** for researchers include the opportunity for them to interact with citizens and with authorities at local, regional and national level. Researchers will also have the possibility to improve their skills to communicate science to a non-specialist audience by the participating in the NIGHT activities and the specialized training sessions on Science Communication provided during the project duration. It is expected to train more than 100 researchers on Science Communication. In 2020 impact assessment, only 35,9% of the researchers involved in the Night considered that they could dedicate enough time to outreach activities. One of the objectives of the project is to increase this number to 70%. Regarding the importance of the outreach activities for the researchers, 70,1% of them declared that it is a very important part of their work. Trying to get 90% and ensure that researchers will continue doing this communication activities is another of the goals of the project. The organizations taking part in the consortium will also benefit from the project by means of improving their visibility, and having access to non-specialized audiences who usually do not have access to science and research activities. Moreover, they will improve the communication of their research results to society and therefore their reputation.

2.2 Measures to maximise impact

The total number of **people reached by the awareness campaign** is expected to be about **3.500.000** people for 2022-2023 editions. The awareness campaign through all the communications actions implemented (mass media, TV, radio, internet, exterior publicity metros posters, streets advertising, etc.) will be measured using different tools like the Gross Ratio Points (GRP) for publicity impact, the General Study for Media (Estudio General de Medios, EGM) for mass media in Spain or by Click-through rate to measure the internet impact, likes, twits and retweets, comments or visualizations in YouTube and all measures in social networks.

The project is expected to **attract 95.000 people (over 47.000 each year)**, improving the rates obtained in past editions being onsite activities the general rule. The special circumstances of the last editions with most part of the activities turned out to be online the indicators to measure the attendees were and will be through connections to internet via streaming, attendees in the panels and number of visualizations in different YouTube channels. In the present edition, when possible, the activities will be broadcasted via streaming, since the impact reached in most of activities performed has been really remarkable. During the pre-events it is expected to reach around 55.000 people since there will be around of 30 pre-events to the Night as mentioned above, including the Madrid Science Fair.

Researchers and projects funded by EU Framework Programmes especially Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions will play an important role in the all the pre-events as in the Night in Madrid. They will be involved in all the activities performed. Encounters with attendees will be fostered giving them the opportunity to explain what they are doing and how they got the European funds, the research teams they belong to or in case they come from another country, how they feel in Spain or what they do in their free time. It is important that attendees can realize the support researchers receive from Europe, and how Europe is benefited by their work. The involvement of MSCA fellows in the project will be assured by presence of the MSCA fellows as well as with different activities along the Spanish territory like Information days, workshops, webinars or seminars in order to create great awareness about the MADRIDNIGHT Project by MSCA Spanish National Contact Points.

It is expected that **over 140 MSCA Fellows** will be involved in the Project and **over 270 researchers having benefited by EU Framework Programmes (ERC, H2020, Horizon Europe, Interreg, Erasmus+, EIT, Life+...)** The **total researchers involved** in all the activities will be about **1300**. The **dissemination of the project activities and results** is one of the aspects to achieve in the project. It is **expected to reach as much people** as possible through our channels of communication (social networks, mass media...etc.). At the end of the project, a final assessment report will be published on the project website, and in those of the participating institutions. Fundación madri+d website, www.madrimasd.org had 30.000.000 of visits in 2020, it is considered one of the most important



websites in Spanish language in science, technology and innovation. Most of the visitors are aware of the results of the event by seeing the videos of the Night, visiting the Photo gallery of the researchers' profiles with more than 415 photos and with mini bios of the researchers involved and photos of the activities organized.

The **project website**, hosted on www.madrimasd.org, had 100.000 hits between May and November 2020 (the results for 2021 edition are still not available). The expectations for the 2022-2023 edition are to keep or even increase that figures. **Social networks** will be at the core of the communication channels increasing the impact to previous results. The provisional results for 2021 are very promising: over 10.600 tweets that reached about 12.000.000 users and had an economic value of 88.427€ with 48.000.000 potential impressions. On Instagram, over 100 publications were posted.

Regarding the mass media, 137 impacts were measured, with a total estimated audience of 19.700.00 and an economic value of 573.969€ Additionally, about **30 news** will be published in the newsletter of the Fundación madri+d, Notiweb, which is sent daily to more than **38.000 subscribers**.

Extra efforts will be done using professional networks as LinkedIn dissemination project results and activities in different forums. Special attention will be taken to the international audience by publishing news about the European Researchers' Night on the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions blog from our Spanish NCP. This blog is focus on dissemination and communication of MSCA actions. Currently it has more than 12.000 worldwide users. This will help to spread out the results and the project activities widely. Besides the twitter accounts of the Spanish NCPs will help to the dissemination.

European Researchers' Night in Madrid 2021 provisional results

Communication vector	Impact
Photo gallery of researchers' profiles on the project website	+415
Twitter	27.900 followers, +10.600 tweets+ 12MM potential reach; estimated economic value: 88.427€, 48MM potential impressions
Instagram	2.241 followers, +100 publications
Mass Media	Impacts: 137, audience: 19,7MM, estimated economic value: 573.969€

Potential synergies will be searched at International, European and National level to create synergies and to work on common approaches to strengthen the impact of the European Researchers' Night. The website of the Night in Madrid will host the links to the European Researchers' Night in Europe as well as the official ERN website. The Night in Madrid will be shown in any future European debates that could be organized.

Taking advantage of the Ibero-American users (more than a 30%) of the website of the Fundación madri+d some universities and research centres of these countries have shown a special interest in the event, its organization, methodology and impact. Some studies have been carried out about the Night in Madrid. The fact that some Ibero-American countries celebrate the Night is due to the impact achieved. Therefore, a fluent communication will be established to strengthen synergies between Madrid and these countries. The agreement the Foundation madri+d has signed with the Organization of Ibero-American States reinforced the ties between both institutions.

The **project coordinator has a previous vast experience** coordinating and implementing international and European projects (+23 projects). At present, MADRI+D coordinates the Enterprise Europe Network Madri+d (COSME 2,3M€), UrbanGoodCamp (Erasmus+KA2 1M€) and INN MADRIMASD5 (H2020 0,25M€) and participates in several projects as partner (MERANET2, NET4MOBILITY...). MADRI+D has a lasting experience collaborating with Ibero-American institutions (Academic and Non-Academic) by several bi-lateral projects with Argentina (EU funded ABESTIII Project, Enterprise Europe Network Mentoring, ALINVEST5.0), Mexico (EU funded EU-MEX INNOVA Project, EEN Mentoring), Chile (EEN Mentoring), Colombia, Uruguay (NET4MOBILITY, EEN) and Caribbean Countries.

Researchers from Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay will participate in the Night as in previous edition. These activities will be implemented with their own funds and the support of the Organization of Ibero-American States. These activities will count on the presence of MSC fellows and other researchers benefited by European funds. At National level, a label especially designed, will identify the ERN of all the Nights in Spain. The website of MADRIDNIGHT will host a section named Others Nights providing information of Spanish Nights. There will be also a [common website](#) for all the Spanish events, prevents and common activities will be organized to reinforce the impact of the national event. Besides, common questions will be included in the questionnaires to get a national overview of the event. Online meetings will be scheduled among the Spanish beneficiaries of the Night 2022-2023 to decide common actions to be implemented.

According to the trend observed in the last edition it is expected to maintain and improve the high **researchers' recognition** by different actions as: promoting researchers' profiles, showing researchers as ordinary people with hobbies and regular life, the researchers' photo gallery at Instagram and MADRIDNIGHT website will help to

improve the researchers' public recognition. In 2020 Madrid Night, 92,5% of the interviewees consider that researchers' work contributes to the welfare of society, 92,8% that research improves greatly the competitiveness of a country and 83,1% of visitors think that researchers also contribute to solve social problems. The project will continue working on this way in order to increase this public recognition.

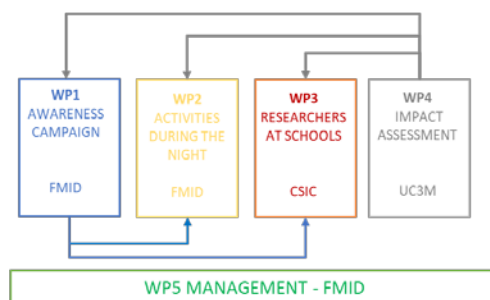
It is expected to **increase popularity of scientific careers** based on the tendency observed in 2020 Madrid Night that keeps growing. 42,1 % over 16 years old declare they would like very much to follow scientific studies while a 65,8% declare their intention to work as a scientific researcher in the future. This percentages give a high recognition of the scientific career even tough when asking about social recognition and researchers' salaries the majority thinks that they are not enough.

Target Audience	Means
General Public	Activities from Researchers at Schools, Pre-events, social media and activities during the night
Researchers and Professionals	Newsletters, social media, professional networks (LinkedIn) and project website
Regional and National Stakeholders	Newsletters, social media, professional networks (LinkedIn) and project website

3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

3.1 Work plan and resources

To assure the quality and effectiveness of the project **the work plan includes the required 5 Work Packages**. The strategy to achieve quality and effectiveness of the project is based on the main concept of the project described in previous section. It is designed to ensure an effective implementation and management contributing to attain the objectives of the project. The work plan will be the guide for the right development of the project during a period of **24 months**. The project will consist mainly of: design and implementation of the awareness campaign, organization of the different activities during the NIGHT and Researchers at Schools, and development of the activities, elaboration of the questionnaires and the interviews layouts for impact assessment, collection of the information, analysis of the results, dissemination and management.



The work plan will be broken down into 5 compulsory Work Packages (i.e.: Awareness campaign, Activities during the NIGHT, Researchers at Schools, Impact assessment and Management). The project will last 24 months so it will help to fulfil successfully of the task in the project.

1.-Awareness campaign: (WP1). This WP deals with the design and implementation of a wide awareness campaign that aims at communicating the event, at attracting as much people as possible to the event and at transmitting the main messages of the European Researchers' Night.

The motto of the Night in Madrid **Researchers and citizens: facing together European challenges**, the European Researchers' Night in Madrid aims to highlight that working together is the way to overcome the challenges that the world and the European society is facing. This is the message to be conveyed in the whole project. The **awareness campaign will be launched combining the traditional communication vectors** (written and online press, radio, TV, public advertising in the streets,) **along with the new ones** mainly through internet and social networks. Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Tiktok and You Tube will be at the core of the project. Last edition You Tube channels has resulted a most useful tool to reach all kind of public, especially young people. Through the social networks pre-events, events, researchers' profiles and interviews will show the wide scope of the project. From the beginning of the project in May messages will be launched to attract as much people as possible to the Night. In this edition, agreements with local, regional and national TV and radio stations will be sought in order to ensure a wide coverage and reach a great diversity of public, even science reluctant people.

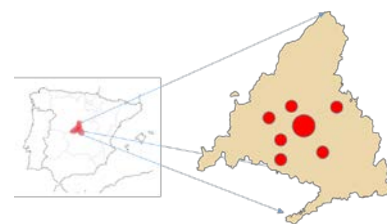
The target of the awareness campaign will be besides the public at large, young sector of society (students of all kind) with a special focus on girls to attract them towards STEAM subjects, contemporary other collectives will be reached as parents, teachers, entrepreneurs and kids and also disabled and science-reluctant people. So, the campaign will be reinforced in places related to these targets; universities, schools and crowded places like streets, metro, or the entrance highways to Madrid. Pre events will be organized as part of the awareness campaign as well as promotion in public events. Some common actions with the rest of the Nights will be planned.

In order to find synergies at a national level a common visual identity and a common website will be designed to include other Spanish Nights. A common hashtag will identify the Nights in Spain. The website of the MADRIDNIGHT will be launched in month one (M1) including links to the EU official website and other Spanish

and European Nights, therefore people will get aware of the event and plan their visits. The Night in Madrid will collaborate other European Nights, the Awareness Campaign by highlighting each other's' events in social media, websites or articles to reinforce the European dimension of the event.

The Madrid Night website will also host the activities that will be organized by the **Organization of Ibero-American States**, an associated partner of the project, involving researchers benefited by European project specially MSCA fellows in **Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, and Uruguay**.

2.-Activities during the Night (WP2). 170 activities in 27 venues will be performed during the 23rd and 24th of September 2022 and the 22nd and 23rd of September 2023. The activities will be varied, combining science, technology and innovation of different areas with other issues, such as art, music, food, theatre, etc. The activities will be focused on the five Missions of the European Union: Cancer, Climate Change, Oceans, Smart Cities and Soil. All of them will be fun, lively, attractive, encouraging the direct contact between public and researchers. The activities will be held in different cities of the Region of Madrid (Madrid city, Alcalá de Henares, Alcorcón, Móstoles, Leganés, Pozuelo de Alarcón, and Villaviciosa de Odón) with very large population. They are cities located in the northwest and in the south of Madrid. Different venues will host the activities: Botanic Gardens, Museums, Research Centres, Hospitals, Universities campus, historical and cultural centres as part of the Europe Heritage and Innovative spaces, market and park. There will be activities for all kind of public, special programmes for kids, students and families but also activities for people without any scientific background or even science reluctant. The Museum of Natural History will organize activities for intellectual and physical disable people. The involvement of researchers benefited with European funds, especially MSCA fellows will underline the European dimension of the events.



3.- Researchers at Schools activities (WP3). 123 activities will be organized by the partners of the project to bring the researchers' work closer to Primary, Secondary, High School and Vocational Training students of the Region of Madrid. Researchers will explain their work at schools and will also invite students to visit the research centres and universities where they work to explain them how scientists carry out their job. The content of the Research at Schools activities will be focused on research related to the 5 missions of EU and there will be organized in very special dates: the International Day of Women and Girl in Science (11th February) the Day of Europe (9th May) and the International Celebration Days related with the 5 missions such as: World Oceans Day (8th June), World Soil Day (5th December) or World Cancer Day (4th February). **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), the Spanish National Research Council** will be the leader of the WP. CSIC has a long experience in outreach activities especially those related with primary and secondary schools. CSIC carries out the CSIC at School project that aimed at bringing scientists and teachers together to introduce science teaching from the earliest educational stage. The project won the 2016 National Education Award for the promotion of Scientific, humanistic and artistic vocations in Spain.

4.-Impact Assessment (WP4). Analysis of the results will be done including qualitative and quantitative assessment in order to evaluate the impact of the whole event and to compare the evolution of the objectives pursued by the European Researchers' Night regarding previous editions. There will be also an evaluation of the Researchers at Schools Activities. This evaluation will be done by the **Research Institute for Higher Education and Science (INAECU)** an interdisciplinary and interuniversity research centre belonging to Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, both partners of the project. INAECU has institutional support, professional experience and technical background to develop the future assumed responsibilities according to the goals of the project. INAECU is integrated by several multidisciplinary groups of researchers from different fields such as Scientific Communication and Dissemination with important connections with researchers from university, research institutes and other scientific institutions at national and international level. The backgrounds of the members of the research institute are related to Library and Information Science, Statistics, Management and Systems Engineering and Automation, among others. This interdisciplinary character of INAECU is a strength that will help to fulfil the objectives of the WP4. The leader of the WP4 is Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

The methodology that will be applied is based on questionnaires including quantitative and qualitative indicators, face to face interviews addressed to public attending the activities, researchers involved, institutions and stakeholders. Online questionnaires and interviews will also be launched. A contest with prizes will be organized to encourage participants to fill in the interviews and questionnaires.

All the reports will be available on the website of the project to be used by interested. On behalf of the sustainability of the project, the use of paper will be reduced at minimum. Dissemination of the results also will include the publication of news and interviews of researchers and stakeholders in the Fundación madri+d daily bulletin.

5.-Management of the project (WP5). A simple, flexible, effective and transparent management structure is established for the project. It will be formed for three bodies: Coordinator, Steering Committee and the Advisory Committee. The management of Fundación madri+d will ensure the fulfilment of the objectives and results of the project, the observation of the schedule, the preparation and implementation of the activities organized along with an adequate management of resources.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
WP1.1 Awareness campaign 1							D11																	
Task 1.1.1. Communication activities – Awareness Campaign							D11																	
Task 1.1.2. Communication – Advertising Campaign							D11																	
Task 1.1.3. Pre-events and Post Events Organization							D11																	
WP1.2 Awareness campaign 2																								
Task 1.2.1. Communication activities – Awareness Campaign																								
Task 1.2.2. Communication – Advertising Campaign																								
Task 1.2.3. Pre-events and Post Events Organization																								
WP2.1 Activities during the NIGHT 1																								
Task 2.1. Organization of activities during the European Researchers' Night 2022							ACT	D2.1																
WP2.2 Activities during the NIGHT 2																								
Task 2.2. Organization of activities during the European Researchers' Night 2023																								
WP3.1 Researchers at Schools activities 1																								
Task 3.1.1. Researchers at Schools activities 5 missions of EU																								
Task 3.1.2. Researchers at Schools activities International Day of Women and Girls in Science																								
Task 3.1.3. Researchers at Schools activities Europe Day																								
Task 3.1.4. Network of Ambassadors of the European Researchers' Night in Madrid																								
WP3.2 Researchers at Schools activities 2																								
Task 3.2.1. Researchers at Schools activities 5 missions of EU																								
Task 3.2.2. Researchers at Schools activities International Day of Women and Girls in Science																								
Task 3.2.3. Researchers at Schools activities Europe Day																								
Task 3.2.4. Network of Ambassadors of the European Researchers' Night in Madrid																								
WP4.1 Impact assessment 1																								
Task 4.1.1. Impact assessment Night 2022																								
Task 4.1.2. Impact of RAS Activities, 2022																								
WP4.2 Impact assessment 2																								
Task 4.2.1. Impact assessment Night 2023																								
Task 4.2.2. Impact of RAS Activities, 2023																								
WP5.1 Management 1																								
Task 5.1.1. Coordination and financial management																								
Task 5.1.2. Project Meetings																								
Task 5.1.3. Internal Communication and Collaboration with other Nights																								
WP5.2 Management 2																								
Task 5.2.1. Coordination and financial management																								
Task 5.2.2. Project Meetings																								
Task 5.2.3. Internal Communication and Collaboration with other Nights																								

Gantt chart. MADRIDNIGHT Project

The management structure and procedures aim at realising a correct management of the project and will last the project duration. The management structure, techniques and procedures to be applied in the project will guarantee that: the project is carried out according to the time schedule and budget established, the objectives are achieved efficiently, a system to provide continuous evaluation and a constant project monitoring is created, an effective co-ordinated structure is established and maintained, the project is managed according to the contract signed between REA and the coordinator. The project coordinator will maintain a continuous link with REA. The decision-making process will be transparent and participative while at the same time flexible.

The management structure (explained in detail in table 3.1a) will be simple and effective, also due to the long expertise of the coordinator, having an ample experience in the European Researchers' Night projects and other of the long-standing collaboration among partners and subcontractors.

Table 3.1g Budget for the proposal

Participant short name	Personnel costs/€	Subcontracting costs/€	Purchase costs/€ (Travel and subsistence + Equipment + Other goods and services)	Other cost categories/€ (please specify)	Indirect costs/€ (25 % of personnel costs + purchase costs)	Requested grant amount (same figures as in the Application forms)/€	Total Cost (including Own Funds)/€
FMID	76.896,03	51.435,24	90.986,00	0	41.970,51	143.706,97	261.287,78
CNIO	11.637,50	0	4.000,00	0	3.909,38	5.000,00	19.546,88
UCM	8.000,00	0	2.500,00	0	2.625,00	10.625,00	13.125,00
IMDEA AL	10.417,50	0	1.300,00	0	2.929,38	3.000,00	14.646,88
UAM	13.750,00	0	18.800,00	0	8.137,50	18.800,00	40.687,50
UC3M	45.228,40	0	9.184,00	0	13.603,10	24.768,03	68.015,50
IMDEA E	13.737,50	0	7.000,00	0	5.184,38	10.000,00	25.921,88
CSIC	43.679,00	0	47.239,38	0	22.729,60	40.000,00	113.647,98
UAH	9.000,00	0	7.800,00	0	4.200,00	8.800,00	21.000,00
IMDEA AG	22.500,00	0	9.800,00	0	8.075,00	13.500,00	40.375,00
UPM	20.700,00	0	11.000,00	0	7.925,00	11.000,00	39.625,00
IMDEA S	17.209,80	0	14.640,00	0	7.962,45	5.400,00	39.812,25
URJC	12.250,00	0	5.400,00	0	4.412,50	5.400,00	22.062,50
TOTAL	305.005,73	51.435,24	229.649,38	0	133.663,78	300.000,00	719.754,13
					€		

	Year 2022/€	Year 2023/€
Total cost per edition	359.877,06	359.877,06

Table 3.1h: 'Subcontracting costs' items

1/FMDI		
	Cost (€)	Description of tasks and justification
Subcontracting	51.435,24	Activities during the Night: subcontracting of 72 activities organized by the institutions involved in the WP2 (European University-Madrid, Francisco de Vitoria University, Health Research Institute of the Hospital Clínico San Carlos, National Institute of Aerospace Technology, San Pablo CEU University, National University of Distance Learning, Spanish Railways Foundation, Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)

Table 3.1i: 'Purchase costs' items (travel and subsistence, equipment and other goods, works and services)

1/FMDI		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	4.200	Parking, taxi and train tickets for the Night team and any researchers if needed during the event and in the Researchers at Schools activities. Subsistence costs of the Night team during the event. Participation in national/international congress to present the results of the project
Equipment	0	
Other goods, works and services	84.786	Conception, design and adaptation of the image of the Night and the promotional material. Advertising campaign: online, streets and subway. Activities during the Night: staging, dismantling and technical support for the Night activities. Consumables (awards for public, reagents and products necessary for the hands-on activities). Renting of Círculo de Bellas Artes (Fine Arts Centre). Organization of preevents, postevents and common actions with other Night funded projects in Spain. Organization of Researchers at Schools activities. Electronic devices to be raffled among the attendees who fill in the questionnaire
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)	2.000	
Total	90.986	
2/ CNIO		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	0	
Equipment	0	
Other goods, works and services	4.000	Night's organisation costs for 2022 and 2023: consumables, catering, printing dissemination material and technical services
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)	0	
Total	4.000	
3/ UCM		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	1.500	Several international researchers will be travelling to participate in a dissemination of a project's results Displacement of university teachers to schools (WP3)
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	1.000	Gowns, gloves, masks, reagents, etc.
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	2.500	
4/IMDEA Alimentación		
	Cost (€)	Justification

Travel and subsistence	150	Cost of the researchers travelling to schools
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	1.150	1000€Editing video for the awareness campaign. 150 €Fungible material
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	1.300	
5/ UAM		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence		
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	18.800	NIGHT: Material for experiments and workshops (2.800€); Promotional material (1.200€); Posters, panels, booklets and photocopies (3.000€); Catering service (600€); Researchers at School activities: Consumables for workshops (3.000€); Transportation (students) (2.800€); Promotional material (600€); collaborations (2000€)
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	18.800	
6/ UC3M		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence		
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	9.184	3.240 € Remuneration for speakers. 1.000 €Photos and video services. 1.000 €Lab materials for the Night and Researchers at Schools activities. 2.800 €Software licence for impact assessment. 1.144 €Other expenses for preparing activities
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	9.184	
7/ IMDEA Energía		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence		
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	7.000	Dissemination material such as brochures, posters and video, consumables to conduct the different workshops and catering
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	7.000	
8/CSIC		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence		
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	47.239,38	Reagents, products and lab material for organization of activities during the Night and for Researchers at Schools activities at: MNCN: 16.600 €//RJB: 12.337,38 €// CCHS: 4.202 €// Cantoblanco Research Centres: 14.100 €
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	47.239,38	

9/ UAH		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	600	Researchers at school travel costs
Equipment		
Other goods, works and services	7.200	Consumables, printing work and other services necessary to carry out the activities included in the project
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	7.800	
10/ IMDEA Agua		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	300	Travel to educational centres, subsistence.
Equipment	400	Tables, screens, microphones, speakers, etc.
Other goods, works and services	9100	Laboratory consumables, promotional materials, preparation and printing of brochures and posters, other consumables, etc.
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	9.800	
11/ UAH		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	300	Researchers' trip to schools
Equipment	0	
Other goods, works and services	10.700	Consumables for activities during the Night and Researchers at Schools activities. Promotional material. Cleaning service and insurances
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)		
Total	11.000	
12/IMDEA Software		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	510,00	Travel and subsistence
Equipment	0,00	
Other goods, works and services	14.130,00	Merchandising, sending, image design, translations, support in organisation, catering, awards and recording, broadcasting and production services
Remaining purchase costs (<15% of pers. Costs)	0,00	
Total	14.640,00	
13/URJC		
	Cost (€)	Justification
Travel and subsistence	0	
Equipment	0	
Other goods, works and services	5.400	Expendable materials to carry out the activities: stationery materials, chemical reagents and miscellaneous consumable material: 3.550€ Printing of promotional material: brochures and posters: 550 € Restoration services: 600 € Merchandising, pens, notebooks, bags: 700 €
Remaining purchase costs	0	

(<15% of pers. Costs)	
Total	5.400

3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

The MADRIDNIGHT coordinator has an ample expertise in outreach and public engagement activities at regional and national level. Since 2002, project partners, subcontractor and Fundación madri+d had been developing agreements and activities together bringing researchers to the society with great success (European Researcher’s Night Since 2010, Madrid Science Week, Madrid Science Fair, International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Meet the MSCA Fellows, etc.).



The MADRIDNIGHT project brings together **22 institutions (13 partners, 8 subcontractor institutions and 1 associated partner)** located across the Region of Madrid with a human team highly experienced in outreach and public engagement activities consolidated in the last 12 years. The MADRIDNIGHT consortia includes **all public universities** (Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), Universidad de Alcalá (UAH), Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM), Universidad Rey Juan Carlos (URJC) and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M) leader of the WP4 and the **main research regional centres** (Fundación IMDEA Alimentación, Energía, Agua and Software) **and national**

centres (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas (CNIO) and Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) leader of the WP3 that takes part with its research centres: Royal Botanic Garden (CSIC-RJB), National Museum of Natural History (CSIC-MNCN), Centre for Human and Social Sciences (CCHS-CSIC), National Centre for Biotechnology (CNB), Severo Ochoa Molecular Biology Centre (CBM), Biomedical Research Institute (IIBM), Institute of Materials Science in Madrid (ICMM), Institute of Catalysis and Petrochemistry (ICP), Institute of Ceramics and Glass (ICV), Institute of Mathematical Sciences (ICMAT), Institute of Food Science Research (CIAL), Institute for Theoretical Physics (IFT) UAM-CSIC and Institute of Microelectronics of Madrid (IMN).

The **8 subcontractor institutions:** National University of Distance Learning (UNED), European University-Madrid (UEM), Francisco de Vitoria University (UFV), San Pablo CEU University (CEU), Health Research Institute of the San Carlos Clinic Hospital (IdISClinico), National Institute of Aerospace Technology (INTA), Spanish Railways Foundation (FFE) and the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SEBBM) are responsible for the implementation of their activities under the tutelage of the coordinator. They will organize a total of 72 activities during the project in the European Researchers’ Night.

All organizations are committed to maximise complementarities and synergies to achieve the objectives of the project. Each participant brings unique and complementary expertise. All of them have an ample expertise in EU and International Projects and Communication and Public Engagement Activities. As it was explained in WP5, the **Coordinator and its team have a recognized expertise in management and implementation of EU projects.** Since 2002, madri+d is involved in more than 40 EU funded project from FP6, FP7, H2020, Erasmus+, Horizon Europe and COSME. In all these project dissemination and communication, plans are thoroughly implemented by the Fundación madri+d.

The **allocation of tasks** within the MADRIDNIGHT project is an evolution from previous editions moving from a mono-beneficiary scheme to a multi partner project that will allow beneficiaries to be part of the project in a more active way and a greater commitment. Due to the excellent experience obtained madri+d coordinates the project, being responsible for Work Packages 1, 2 and 5 and ensuring a perfect implementation of all of them. MADRIDNIGHT personnel efforts are distributed according the WP as follows: **WP2- Activities during the Night**-has the biggest number of staff effort, **26 person months**, being the second the new WP, **WP3-Researchers at Schools Activities**- with **14,5 person months**. **WP1- Awareness campaign** has **13 person months** and **WP4- Impact assessment**- has **11,8 person months**. Finally, the **Management (WP5)** has the lowest number of staff effort, **10 person months**. The **total staff effort of the project sums 75,3 person months**.

4.- ETHICS SELF-ASSESSMENT

4.1.- Ethical dimension of the objectives, methodology and likely impact

Objectives of the activities:

No ethical issues were identified.

4.2.- Compliance with ethical principles and relevant legislations

We take note that according to article 15.2 of the grant agreement, the beneficiaries must process personal data under the agreement in compliance with the applicable international, EU and national law on data protection.

In particular the beneficiaries must comply with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (“General Data Protection Regulation” OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p.1 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679>).

Under these rules, personal data must be processed in accordance with principles and conditions that aim to limit the negative impact on the persons concerned and ensure fairness, transparency and accountability of the data processing, data quality and confidentiality. This implies, in particular (but not limited to), that:

- data processing must be subject to appropriate safeguards;
- data should wherever possible be processed in anonymised or pseudonymised form;
- data processing must be subject to free and fully informed consent of the persons concerned (unless already covered by another legal basis, e.g. legitimate or public interest);
- data processing must NOT be performed in secret and participants/data subjects must be made aware that they take part in the project and be informed of their rights and the potential risks that the data processing may bring.

In that respect, we are responsible for all our partners, contractors or service providers that process data at our request or on our behalf.

We take note that for complex, sensitive or large-scale data processing or data transfers outside of the EU, we should consult our data protection officer (DPO), if we have one, or a suitably qualified expert; We understand that any personal data processed by the REA and the Commission under the grant agreement is ruled by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

ANNEX 2**ESTIMATED BUDGET (LUMP SUM BREAKDOWN) FOR THE ACTION**

Estimated EU contribution											
Estimated eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)											Maximum grant amount ¹
Forms of funding	WP1 Awareness campaign 1	WP2 Activities during the NIGHT 1	WP3 Researchers at Schools activities 1	WP4 Impact Assessment 1	WP5 Management 1	WP6 Awareness campaign 2	WP7 Activities during the NIGHT 2	WP8 Researchers at Schools activities 2	WP9 Impact Assessment 2	WP10 Management 2	
	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	Lump sum contribution	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h + i + j
1 - MADRIMASD	19 486.97	39 853.00	3 888.82	3 748.64	4 876.06	19 486.97	39 853.00	3 888.82	3 748.64	4 876.05	143 706.97
2 - FSP CNIO	678.01	1 351.81	170.10	130.42	169.65	678.01	1 351.81	170.10	130.42	169.67	5 000.00
3 - UCM	1 440.78	2 873.00	361.36	277.15	360.51	1 440.78	2 872.30	361.46	277.15	360.51	10 625.00
4 - IMDEA ALIMENTACION	406.81	811.09	102.06	78.25	101.79	406.81	811.09	102.06	78.25	101.79	3 000.00
5 - UAM	2 549.34	5 082.82	639.56	490.39	637.89	2 549.34	5 082.82	639.56	490.39	637.89	18 800.00
6 - UC3M	842.59	4 696.35	646.06	5 358.63	840.39	842.59	4 696.35	646.06	5 358.62	840.39	24 768.03
7 - IMDEA Energy	1 356.03	2 703.63	340.19	260.84	339.31	1 356.03	2 703.63	340.19	260.84	339.31	10 000.00
8 - CSIC	1 360.77	10 814.51	5 424.12	1 043.38	1 357.22	1 360.77	10 814.51	5 424.12	1 043.38	1 357.22	40 000.00
9 - UAH	1 193.31	2 379.19	299.37	229.54	298.59	1 193.31	2 379.19	299.37	229.54	298.59	8 800.00
10 - IMDEA AGUA	1 830.64	3 649.90	459.26	352.14	458.06	1 830.64	3 649.90	459.26	352.14	458.06	13 500.00
11 - UPM	1 491.63	2 973.99	374.21	286.93	373.24	1 491.63	2 973.99	374.21	286.93	373.24	11 000.00
12 - IMDEA SOFT	732.26	1 459.96	183.70	140.86	183.22	732.26	1 459.96	183.70	140.86	183.22	5 400.00
13 - URJC	732.26	1 459.96	183.70	140.86	183.22	732.26	1 459.96	183.70	140.86	183.22	5 400.00
14 - OEI											
Σ consortium	34 101.40	80 109.21	13 072.51	12 538.03	10 179.15	34 101.40	80 108.51	13 072.61	12 538.02	10 179.16	300 000.00

¹ The 'maximum grant amount' is the maximum grant amount fixed in the grant agreement (on the basis of the sum of the beneficiaries' lump sum shares for the work packages).

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

FUNDACION SECTOR PUBLICO ESTATAL CENTRO NACIONAL INVESTIGACIONES ONCOLOGICAS CARLOS III (FSP CNIO), PIC 999547850, established in C MELCHOR FERNANDEZ ALMAGRO 3, MADRID 28029, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID (UCM), PIC 999874546, established in AVENIDA DE SENECA 2, MADRID 28040, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

FUNDACION IMDEA ALIMENTACION (IMDEA ALIMENTACION), PIC 972732491, established in PABELLON CENTRAL DEL ANTIGUO HOSPITAL DE CANTOBLAN EDIFICIO NUMERO 7- CARRETERA MADRID- COLMENAR VIEJO--KILOMETRO 14, MADRID 28049, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID (UAM), PIC 999861354, established in CALLE EINSTEIN 3 CIUDAD UNIV CANTOBLANCO RECTORADO, MADRID 28049, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID (UC3M), PIC 999899572, established in CALLE MADRID 126, GETAFE (MADRID) 28903, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

Fundacion IMDEA Energia (IMDEA Energy), PIC 998683192, established in AVENIDA RAMON DE LA SAGRA 3, MOSTOLES MADRID 28935, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

AGENCIA ESTATAL CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS (CSIC), PIC 999991722, established in CALLE SERRANO 117, MADRID 28006, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA (UAH), PIC 999835746, established in PLAZA DE SAN DIEGO, ALCALA DE HENARES/MADRID 28801, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

FUNDACION IMDEA AGUA (IMDEA AGUA), PIC 992925951, established in AVENIDA PUNTO COM N2, ALCALA DE HENARES MADRID 28805, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD POLITECNICA DE MADRID (UPM), PIC 999974844, established in CALLE RAMIRO DE MAEZTU 7 EDIFICIO RECTORADO, MADRID 28040, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

FUNDACION IMDEA SOFTWARE (IMDEA SOFT), PIC 998520426, established in CAMPUS DE MONTEGANCEDO SN, POZUELO DE ALARCON 28223, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

ANNEX 3

ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS (URJC), PIC 999886283, established in CALLE TULIPAN, MOSTOLES 28933, Spain,

hereby agrees

to become beneficiary

in Agreement No 101061343 — MADRIDNIGHT ('the Agreement')

between FUNDACION PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO MADRIMASD (MADRIMASD) and the European Research Executive Agency (REA) ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and mandates

the coordinator to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE ACTION FOR REPORTING PERIOD [NUMBER]

EU contribution												
Eligible lump sum contributions (per work package)												Requested EU contribution
WP1 [name]	WP2 [name]	WP3 [name]	WP4 [name]	WP5 [name]	WP6 [name]	WP7 [name]	WP8 [name]	WP9 [name]	WP10 [name]	WP [XX]		
[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	[Lump sum contribution// Financing not linked to costs]	
Forms of funding												
Status of completion	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	COMPLETED	NOT COMPLETED	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	$l = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h + i + j + k$
1 – [short name beneficiary]												
1.1 – [short name affiliated entity]												
2 – [short name beneficiary]												
2.1 – [short name affiliated entity]												
X – [short name associated partner]												
Total consortium												

The consortium hereby confirms that:
 The information provided is complete, reliable and true.
 The lump sum contributions declared are eligible (in particular, the work packages have been completed and the work has been properly implemented and/or the results were achieved; see Article 6).
 The proper implementation of the action/achievement of the results can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documentation that will be produced upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Articles 19, 21 and 25).

SPECIFIC RULES

CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY (— ARTICLE 13)

Sensitive information with security recommendation

Sensitive information with a security recommendation must comply with the additional requirements imposed by the granting authority.

Before starting the action tasks concerned, the beneficiaries must have obtained all approvals or other mandatory documents needed for implementing the task. The documents must be kept on file and be submitted upon request by the coordinator to the granting authority. If they are not in English, they must be submitted together with an English summary.

For requirements restricting disclosure or dissemination, the information must be handled in accordance with the recommendation and may be disclosed or disseminated only after written approval from the granting authority.

EU classified information

If EU classified information is used or generated by the action, it must be treated in accordance with the security classification guide (SCG) and security aspect letter (SAL) set out in Annex 1 and Decision 2015/444¹ and its implementing rules — until it is declassified.

Deliverables which contain EU classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving EU classified information may be subcontracted only with prior explicit written approval from the granting authority and only to entities established in an EU Member State or in a non-EU country with a security of information agreement with the EU (or an administrative arrangement with the Commission).

EU classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

ETHICS (— ARTICLE 14)

Ethics and research integrity

The beneficiaries must carry out the action in compliance with:

- ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity)

¹ Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

and

- applicable EU, international and national law, including the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Supplementary Protocols.

No funding can be granted, within or outside the EU, for activities that are prohibited in all Member States. No funding can be granted in a Member State for an activity which is forbidden in that Member State.

The beneficiaries must pay particular attention to the principle of proportionality, the right to privacy, the right to the protection of personal data, the right to the physical and mental integrity of persons, the right to non-discrimination, the need to ensure protection of the environment and high levels of human health protection.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the activities under the action have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the activities under the action do not:

- aim at human cloning for reproductive purposes
- intend to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such modifications heritable (with the exception of research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads, which may be financed)
- intend to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer, or
- lead to the destruction of human embryos (for example, for obtaining stem cells).

Activities involving research on human embryos or human embryonic stem cells may be carried out only if:

- they are set out in Annex 1 or
- the coordinator has obtained explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

In addition, the beneficiaries must respect the fundamental principle of research integrity — as set out in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity².

This implies compliance with the following principles:

- reliability in ensuring the quality of research reflected in the design, the methodology, the analysis and the use of resources
- honesty in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting and communicating research in a transparent, fair and unbiased way

² European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity of ALLEA (All European Academies).

- respect for colleagues, research participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage and the environment
- accountability for the research from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision and mentoring, and for its wider impacts

and means that beneficiaries must ensure that persons carrying out research tasks follow the good research practices including ensuring, where possible, openness, reproducibility and traceability and refrain from the research integrity violations described in the Code.

Activities raising ethical issues must comply with the additional requirements formulated by the ethics panels (including after checks, reviews or audits; see Article 25).

Before starting an action task raising ethical issues, the beneficiaries must have obtained all approvals or other mandatory documents needed for implementing the task, notably from any (national or local) ethics committee or other bodies such as data protection authorities.

The documents must be kept on file and be submitted upon request by the coordinator to the granting authority. If they are not in English, they must be submitted together with an English summary, which shows that the documents cover the action tasks in question and includes the conclusions of the committee or authority concerned (if any).

VALUES (— ARTICLE 14)

Gender mainstreaming

The beneficiaries must take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action and, where applicable, in line with the gender equality plan. They must aim, to the extent possible, for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including at supervisory and managerial level.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE (— ARTICLE 16)

Definitions

Access rights — Rights to use results or background.

Dissemination — The public disclosure of the results by appropriate means, other than resulting from protecting or exploiting the results, including by scientific publications in any medium.

Exploit(ation) — The use of results in further research and innovation activities other than those covered by the action concerned, including among other things, commercial exploitation such as developing, creating, manufacturing and marketing a product or process, creating and providing a service, or in standardisation activities.

Fair and reasonable conditions — Appropriate conditions, including possible financial terms or royalty-free conditions, taking into account the specific circumstances of the request for access, for example the actual or potential value of the results or background to which access is requested and/or the scope, duration or other characteristics of the exploitation envisaged.

FAIR principles — ‘findability’, ‘accessibility’, ‘interoperability’ and ‘reusability’.

Open access — Online access to research outputs provided free of charge to the end-user.

Open science — An approach to the scientific process based on open cooperative work, tools and diffusing knowledge.

Research data management — The process within the research lifecycle that includes the organisation, storage, preservation, security, quality assurance, allocation of persistent identifiers (PIDs) and rules and procedures for sharing of data including licensing.

Research outputs — Results to which access can be given in the form of scientific publications, data or other engineered results and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols, models, workflows and electronic notebooks.

Scope of the obligations

For this section, references to ‘beneficiary’ or ‘beneficiaries’ do not include affiliated entities (if any).

Agreement on background

The beneficiaries must identify in a written agreement the background as needed for implementing the action or for exploiting its results.

Where the call conditions restrict control due to strategic interests reasons, background that is subject to control or other restrictions by a country (or entity from a country) which is not one of the eligible countries or target countries set out in the call conditions and that impact the exploitation of the results (i.e. would make the exploitation of the results subject to control or restrictions) must not be used and must be explicitly excluded from it in the agreement on background — unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority.

Ownership of results

Results are owned by the beneficiaries that generate them.

However, two or more beneficiaries own results jointly if:

- they have jointly generated them and
- it is not possible to:
 - establish the respective contribution of each beneficiary, or
 - separate them for the purpose of applying for, obtaining or maintaining their protection.

The joint owners must agree — in writing — on the allocation and terms of exercise of their joint ownership (**‘joint ownership agreement’**), to ensure compliance with their obligations under this Agreement.

Unless otherwise agreed in the joint ownership agreement or consortium agreement, each joint owner may grant non-exclusive licences to third parties to exploit the jointly-owned results (without any right to sub-license), if the other joint owners are given:

- at least 45 days advance notice and
- fair and reasonable compensation.

The joint owners may agree — in writing — to apply another regime than joint ownership.

If third parties (including employees and other personnel) may claim rights to the results, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that those rights can be exercised in a manner compatible with its obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must indicate the owner(s) of the results (results ownership list) in the final periodic report.

Protection of results

Beneficiaries which have received funding under the grant must adequately protect their results — for an appropriate period and with appropriate territorial coverage — if protection is possible and justified, taking into account all relevant considerations, including the prospects for commercial exploitation, the legitimate interests of the other beneficiaries and any other legitimate interests.

Exploitation of results

Beneficiaries which have received funding under the grant must — up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) — use their best efforts to exploit their results directly or to have them exploited indirectly by another entity, in particular through transfer or licensing.

If, despite a beneficiary's best efforts, the results are not exploited within one year after the end of the action, the beneficiaries must (unless otherwise agreed in writing with the granting authority) use the Horizon Results Platform to find interested parties to exploit the results.

If results are incorporated in a standard, the beneficiaries must (unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority or unless it is impossible) ask the standardisation body to include the funding statement (see Article 17) in (information related to) the standard.

Additional exploitation obligations

Where the call conditions impose additional exploitation obligations (including obligations linked to the restriction of participation or control due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security reasons), the beneficiaries must comply with them — up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1).

Where the call conditions impose additional exploitation obligations in case of a public emergency, the beneficiaries must (if requested by the granting authority) grant for a limited period of time specified in the request, non-exclusive licences — under fair and reasonable conditions — to their results to legal entities that need the results to address the public emergency and commit to rapidly and broadly exploit the resulting products and services at fair and reasonable conditions. This provision applies up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1).

Additional information obligation relating to standards

Where the call conditions impose additional information obligations relating to possible standardisation, the beneficiaries must — up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) — inform the granting authority, if the results could reasonably be expected to contribute to European or international standards.

Transfer and licensing of results

Transfer of ownership

The beneficiaries may transfer ownership of their results, provided this does not affect compliance with their obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their obligations under the Agreement regarding their results are passed on to the new owner and that this new owner has the obligation to pass them on in any subsequent transfer.

Moreover, they must inform the other beneficiaries with access rights of the transfer at least 45 days in advance (or less if agreed in writing), unless agreed otherwise in writing for specifically identified third parties including affiliated entities or unless impossible under the applicable law. This notification must include sufficient information on the new owner to enable the beneficiaries concerned to assess the effects on their access rights. The beneficiaries may object within 30 days of receiving notification (or less if agreed in writing), if they can show that the transfer would adversely affect their access rights. In this case, the transfer may not take place until agreement has been reached between the beneficiaries concerned.

Granting licences

The beneficiaries may grant licences to their results (or otherwise give the right to exploit them), including on an exclusive basis, provided this does not affect compliance with their obligations.

Exclusive licences for results may be granted only if all the other beneficiaries concerned have waived their access rights.

Granting authority right to object to transfers or licensing — Horizon Europe actions

Where the call conditions in Horizon Europe actions provide for the right to object to transfers or licensing, the granting authority may — up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) — object to a transfer of ownership or the exclusive licensing of results, if:

- the beneficiaries which generated the results have received funding under the grant
- it is to a legal entity established in a non-EU country not associated with Horizon Europe, and
- the granting authority considers that the transfer or licence is not in line with EU interests.

Beneficiaries that intend to transfer ownership or grant an exclusive licence must formally notify the granting authority before the intended transfer or licensing takes place and:

- identify the specific results concerned
- describe in detail the new owner or licensee and the planned or potential exploitation of the results, and
- include a reasoned assessment of the likely impact of the transfer or licence on EU interests, in particular regarding competitiveness as well as consistency with ethical principles and security considerations.

The granting authority may request additional information.

If the granting authority decides to object to a transfer or exclusive licence, it must formally notify the beneficiary concerned within 60 days of receiving notification (or any additional information it has requested).

No transfer or licensing may take place in the following cases:

- pending the granting authority decision, within the period set out above
- if the granting authority objects
- until the conditions are complied with, if the granting authority objection comes with conditions.

A beneficiary may formally notify a request to waive the right to object regarding intended transfers or grants to a specifically identified third party, if measures safeguarding EU interests are in place. If the granting authority agrees, it will formally notify the beneficiary concerned within 60 days of receiving notification (or any additional information requested).

Granting authority right to object to transfers or licensing — Euratom actions

Where the call conditions in Euratom actions provide for the right to object to transfers or licensing, the granting authority may — up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) — object to a transfer of ownership or the exclusive or non-exclusive licensing of results, if:

- the beneficiaries which generated the results have received funding under the grant
- it is to a legal entity established in a non-EU country not associated to the Euratom Research and Training Programme 2021-2025 and
- the granting authority considers that the transfer or licence is not in line with the EU interests.

Beneficiaries that intend to transfer ownership or grant a licence must formally notify the granting authority before the intended transfer or licensing takes place and:

- identify the specific results concerned
- describe in detail the results, the new owner or licensee and the planned or potential exploitation of the results, and
- include a reasoned assessment of the likely impact of the transfer or licence on EU interests, in particular regarding competitiveness as well as consistency with

ethical principles and security considerations (including the defence interests of the EU Member States under Article 24 of the Euratom Treaty).

The granting authority may request additional information.

If the granting authority decides to object to a transfer or licence, it will formally notify the beneficiary concerned within 60 days of receiving notification (or any additional information requested).

No transfer or licensing may take place in the following cases:

- pending the granting authority decision, within the period set out above
- if the granting authority objects
- until the conditions are complied with, if the granting authority objection comes with conditions.

A beneficiary may formally notify a request to waive the right to object regarding intended transfers or grants to a specifically identified third party, if measures safeguarding EU interests are in place. If the granting authority agrees, it will formally notify the beneficiary concerned within 60 days of receiving notification (or any additional information requested).

Limitations to transfers and licensing due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security reasons of the EU and its Member States

Where the call conditions restrict participation or control due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security reasons, the beneficiaries may not transfer ownership of their results or grant licences to third parties which are established in countries which are not eligible countries or target countries set out in the call conditions (or, if applicable, are controlled by such countries or entities from such countries) — unless they have requested and received prior approval by the granting authority.

The request must:

- identify the specific results concerned
- describe in detail the new owner and the planned or potential exploitation of the results, and
- include a reasoned assessment of the likely impact of the transfer or license on the strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security of the EU and its Member States.

The granting authority may request additional information.

Access rights to results and background

Exercise of access rights — Waiving of access rights — No sub-licensing

Requests to exercise access rights and the waiver of access rights must be in writing.

Unless agreed otherwise in writing with the beneficiary granting access, access rights do not include the right to sub-license.

If a beneficiary is no longer involved in the action, this does not affect its obligations to grant access.

If a beneficiary defaults on its obligations, the beneficiaries may agree that that beneficiary no longer has access rights.

Access rights for implementing the action

The beneficiaries must grant each other access — on a royalty-free basis — to background needed to implement their own tasks under the action, unless the beneficiary that holds the background has — before acceding to the Agreement —:

- informed the other beneficiaries that access to its background is subject to restrictions, or
- agreed with the other beneficiaries that access would not be on a royalty-free basis.

The beneficiaries must grant each other access — on a royalty-free basis — to results needed for implementing their own tasks under the action.

Access rights for exploiting the results

The beneficiaries must grant each other access — under fair and reasonable conditions — to results needed for exploiting their results.

The beneficiaries must grant each other access — under fair and reasonable conditions — to background needed for exploiting their results, unless the beneficiary that holds the background has — before acceding to the Agreement — informed the other beneficiaries that access to its background is subject to restrictions.

Requests for access must be made — unless agreed otherwise in writing — up to one year after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1).

Access rights for entities under the same control

Unless agreed otherwise in writing by the beneficiaries, access to results and, subject to the restrictions referred to above (if any), background must also be granted — under fair and reasonable conditions — to entities that:

- are established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe associated country
- are under the direct or indirect control of another beneficiary, or under the same direct or indirect control as that beneficiary, or directly or indirectly controlling that beneficiary and
- need the access to exploit the results of that beneficiary.

Unless agreed otherwise in writing, such requests for access must be made by the entity directly to the beneficiary concerned.

Requests for access must be made — unless agreed otherwise in writing — up to one year after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1).

Access rights for the granting authority, EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies and national authorities to results for policy purposes — Horizon Europe actions

In Horizon Europe actions, the beneficiaries which have received funding under the grant must grant access to their results — on a royalty-free basis — to the granting authority, EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for developing, implementing and monitoring EU policies or programmes. Such access rights do not extend to beneficiaries' background.

Such access rights are limited to non-commercial and non-competitive use.

For actions under the cluster 'Civil Security for Society', such access rights also extend to national authorities of EU Member States for developing, implementing and monitoring their policies or programmes in this area. In this case, access is subject to a bilateral agreement to define specific conditions ensuring that:

- the access rights will be used only for the intended purpose and
- appropriate confidentiality obligations are in place.

Moreover, the requesting national authority or EU institution, body, office or agency (including the granting authority) must inform all other national authorities of such a request.

Access rights for the granting authority, Euratom institutions, funding bodies or the Joint Undertaking Fusion for Energy — Euratom actions

In Euratom actions, the beneficiaries which have received funding under the grant must grant access to their results — on a royalty-free basis — to the granting authority, Euratom institutions, funding bodies or the Joint Undertaking Fusion for Energy for developing, implementing and monitoring Euratom policies and programmes or for compliance with obligations assumed through international cooperation with non-EU countries and international organisations.

Such access rights include the right to authorise third parties to use the results in public procurement and the right to sub-license and are limited to non-commercial and non-competitive use.

Additional access rights

Where the call conditions impose additional access rights, the beneficiaries must comply with them.

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION, OPEN SCIENCE AND VISIBILITY (— ARTICLE 17)

Dissemination

Dissemination of results

The beneficiaries must disseminate their results as soon as feasible, in a publicly available format, subject to any restrictions due to the protection of intellectual property, security rules or legitimate interests.

A beneficiary that intends to disseminate its results must give at least 15 days advance notice to the other beneficiaries (unless agreed otherwise), together with sufficient information on the results it will disseminate.

Any other beneficiary may object within (unless agreed otherwise) 15 days of receiving notification, if it can show that its legitimate interests in relation to the results or background would be significantly harmed. In such cases, the results may not be disseminated unless appropriate steps are taken to safeguard those interests.

Additional dissemination obligations

Where the call conditions impose additional dissemination obligations, the beneficiaries must also comply with those.

Open Science

Open science: open access to scientific publications

The beneficiaries must ensure open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications relating to their results. In particular, they must ensure that:

- at the latest at the time of publication, a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or the final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication, is deposited in a trusted repository for scientific publications
- immediate open access is provided to the deposited publication via the repository, under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public Licence (CC BY) or a licence with equivalent rights; for monographs and other long-text formats, the licence may exclude commercial uses and derivative works (e.g. CC BY-NC, CC BY-ND) and
- information is given via the repository about any research output or any other tools and instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the scientific publication.

Beneficiaries (or authors) must retain sufficient intellectual property rights to comply with the open access requirements.

Metadata of deposited publications must be open under a Creative Common Public Domain Dedication (CC 0) or equivalent, in line with the FAIR principles (in particular machine-actionable) and provide information at least about the following: publication (author(s), title, date of publication, publication venue); Horizon Europe or Euratom funding; grant project name, acronym and number; licensing terms; persistent identifiers for the publication, the authors involved in the action and, if possible, for their organisations and the grant. Where applicable, the metadata must include persistent identifiers for any research output or any other tools and instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the publication.

Only publication fees in full open access venues for peer-reviewed scientific publications are eligible for reimbursement.

Open science: research data management

The beneficiaries must manage the digital research data generated in the action ('data') responsibly, in line with the FAIR principles and by taking all of the following actions:

- establish a data management plan ('DMP') (and regularly update it)

- as soon as possible and within the deadlines set out in the DMP, deposit the data in a trusted repository; if required in the call conditions, this repository must be federated in the EOSC in compliance with EOSC requirements
- as soon as possible and within the deadlines set out in the DMP, ensure open access — via the repository — to the deposited data, under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public License (CC BY) or Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC 0) or a licence with equivalent rights, following the principle ‘as open as possible as closed as necessary’, unless providing open access would in particular:
 - be against the beneficiary’s legitimate interests, including regarding commercial exploitation, or
 - be contrary to any other constraints, in particular the EU competitive interests or the beneficiary’s obligations under this Agreement; if open access is not provided (to some or all data), this must be justified in the DMP
- provide information via the repository about any research output or any other tools and instruments needed to re-use or validate the data.

Metadata of deposited data must be open under a Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication (CC 0) or equivalent (to the extent legitimate interests or constraints are safeguarded), in line with the FAIR principles (in particular machine-actionable) and provide information at least about the following: datasets (description, date of deposit, author(s), venue and embargo); Horizon Europe or Euratom funding; grant project name, acronym and number; licensing terms; persistent identifiers for the dataset, the authors involved in the action, and, if possible, for their organisations and the grant. Where applicable, the metadata must include persistent identifiers for related publications and other research outputs.

Open science: additional practices

Where the call conditions impose additional obligations regarding open science practices, the beneficiaries must also comply with those.

Where the call conditions impose additional obligations regarding the validation of scientific publications, the beneficiaries must provide (digital or physical) access to data or other results needed for validation of the conclusions of scientific publications, to the extent that their legitimate interests or constraints are safeguarded (and unless they already provided the (open) access at publication).

Where the call conditions impose additional open science obligations in case of a public emergency, the beneficiaries must (if requested by the granting authority) immediately deposit any research output in a repository and provide open access to it under a CC BY licence, a Public Domain Dedication (CC 0) or equivalent. As an exception, if the access would be against the beneficiaries’ legitimate interests, the beneficiaries must grant non-exclusive licenses — under fair and reasonable conditions — to legal entities that need the research output to address the public emergency and commit to rapidly and broadly exploit the resulting products and services at fair and reasonable conditions. This provision applies up to four years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1).

Plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results including communication activities

Unless excluded by the call conditions, the beneficiaries must provide and regularly update a plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results including communication activities.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION (— ARTICLE 18)

Implementation in case of restrictions due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security of the EU and its Member States

Where the call conditions restrict participation or control due to strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security, the beneficiaries must ensure that none of the entities that participate as affiliated entities, associated partners, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties are established in countries which are not eligible countries or target countries set out in the call conditions (or, if applicable, are controlled by such countries or entities from such countries) — unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority.

The beneficiaries must moreover ensure that any cooperation with entities established in countries which are not eligible countries or target countries set out in the call conditions (or, if applicable, are controlled by such countries or entities from such countries) does not affect the strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security of the EU and its Member States.

Recruitment and working conditions for researchers

The beneficiaries must take all measures to implement the principles set out in the Commission Recommendation on the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers³, in particular regarding:

- working conditions
- transparent recruitment processes based on merit, and
- career development.

The beneficiaries must ensure that researchers and all participants involved in the action are aware of them.

Specific rules for access to research infrastructure activities

Definitions

Research Infrastructures — Facilities that provide resources and services for the research communities to conduct research and foster innovation in their fields. This definition includes the associated human resources, and it covers major equipment or sets of instruments; knowledge-related facilities such as collections, archives or scientific data infrastructures; computing systems, communication networks, and any other infrastructure, of a unique nature and open to external users, essential to achieve excellence in research and innovation. Where relevant, they may be used beyond research, for example

³ Commission Recommendation 2005/251/EC of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (OJ L 75, 22.3.2005, p. 67).

for education or public services, and they may be ‘single-sited’, ‘virtual’ or ‘distributed’⁴:

When implementing access to research infrastructure activities, the beneficiaries must respect the following conditions:

- for transnational access:

- access which must be provided:

The access must be free of charge, transnational access to research infrastructure or installations for selected user-groups.

The access must include the logistical, technological and scientific support and the specific training that is usually provided to external researchers using the infrastructure. Transnational access can be either in person (hands-on), provided to selected users that visit the installation to make use of it, or remote, through the provision to selected user-groups of remote scientific services (e.g. provision of reference materials or samples, remote access to a high-performance computing facility).

- categories of users that may have access:

Transnational access must be provided to selected user-groups, i.e. teams of one or more researchers (users).

The majority of the users must work in a country other than the country(ies) where the installation is located (unless access is provided by an international organisation, the Joint Research Centre (JRC), an ERIC or similar legal entity).

Only user groups that are allowed to disseminate the results they have generated under the action may benefit from the access (unless the users are working for SMEs).

Access for user groups with a majority of users not working in a EU Member State or Horizon Europe associated country is limited to 20% of the total amount of units of access provided under the grant (unless a higher percentage is foreseen in Annex 1).

- procedure and criteria for selecting user groups:

The user groups must request access by submitting (in writing) a description of the work that they wish to carry out and the names, nationalities and home institutions of the users.

The user groups must be selected by (one or more) selection panels set up by the consortium.

⁴ See Article 2(1) of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme Regulation 2021/695.

The selection panels must be composed of international experts in the field, at least half of them independent from the consortium (unless otherwise specified in Annex 1).

The selection panels must assess all proposals received and recommend a short-list of the user groups that should benefit from access.

The selection panels must base their selection on scientific merit, taking into account that priority should be given to user groups composed of users who:

- have not previously used the installation and
- are working in countries where no equivalent research infrastructure exist.

It will apply the principles of transparency, fairness and impartiality.

Where the call conditions impose additional rules for the selection of user groups, the beneficiaries must also comply with those.

- other conditions:

The beneficiaries must request written approval from the granting authority for the selection of user groups requiring visits to the installations exceeding 3 months (unless such visits are foreseen in Annex 1).

In addition, the beneficiaries must:

- advertise widely, including on a their websites, the access offered under the Agreement
- promote equal opportunities in advertising the access and take into account the gender dimension when defining the support provided to users
- ensure that users comply with the terms and conditions of the Agreement
- ensure that its obligations under Articles 12, 13, 17 and 33 also apply to the users
- keep records of the names, nationalities, and home institutions of users, as well as the nature and quantity of access provided to them

- for virtual access:

- access which must be provided:

The access must be free of charge, virtual access to research infrastructure or installations.

‘Virtual access’ means open and free access through communication networks to digital resources and services needed for research, without selecting the users to whom access is provided.

The access must include the support that is usually provided to external users.

Where allowed by the call conditions, beneficiaries may in justified cases define objective eligibility criteria (e.g. affiliation to a research or academic institution) for specific users.

- other conditions:

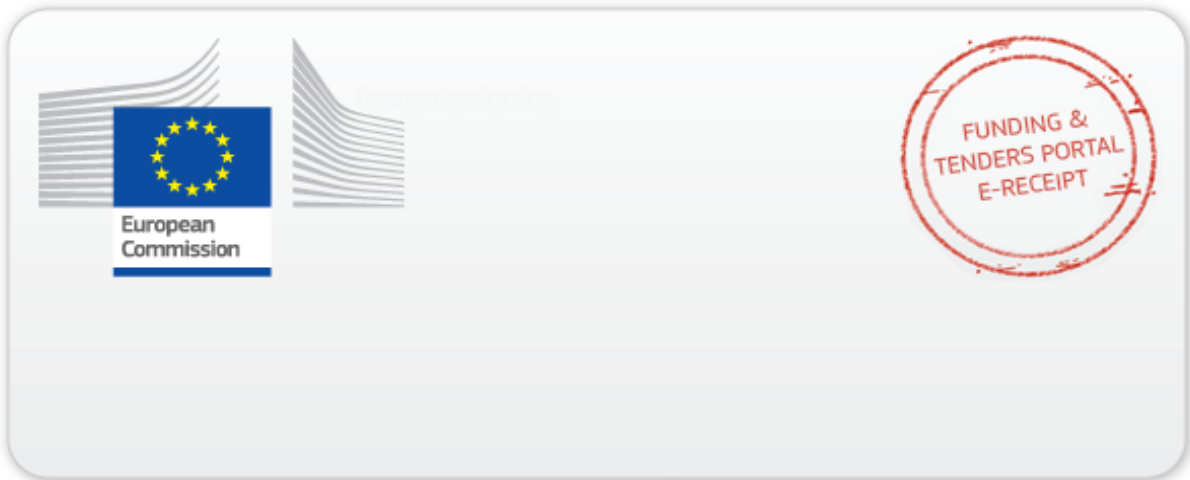
The beneficiaries must have the virtual access services assessed periodically by a board composed of international experts in the field, at least half of whom must be independent from the consortium (unless otherwise specified in Annex 1). For this purpose, information and statistics on the users and the nature and quantity of the access provided, must be made available to the board.

The beneficiaries must advertise widely, including on a dedicated website, the access offered under the grant and the eligibility criteria, if any.

Where the call conditions impose additional traceability⁵ obligations, information on the traceability of the users and the nature and quantity of access must be provided by the beneficiaries.

These obligations apply regardless of the form of funding or budget categories used to declare the costs (unit costs or actual costs or a combination of the two).

⁵ According to the definition given in ISO 9000, i.e.: “Traceability is the ability to trace the history, application, use and location of an item or its characteristics through recorded identification data.” The users can be traced, for example, by authentication and/or by authorization or by other means that allows for analysis of the type of users and the nature and quantity of access provided.



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