



European Plant Science Organisation  
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## Summary analysis

# EPSO Analysis of Horizon 2020 Calls in 2014-16 for plant scientists

Brussels, xx.xx.2018 [Draft 1.1, 13.6.2018 – **yellow information shows work in progress**]

The complete EPSO Analysis files of the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Calls of the Horizon 2020 Programme for plant scientists are available in the EPSO [Members Section](#).

In the complete analysis we provide the **list of projects relevant to plant sciences** under the three programmes European Research Council (ERC), Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions (MSC), Societal Challenges (SCs) including the project website, the hosting institute (ERC / MSC) or coordinator (SCs) respectively and project budget per project.

From this information we calculated the **share of the call budget** that included projects with contributions from / relevant to the plant science community:

2014 call:	2015 call:	2016 call:	
2,7 % (=44.6 M€)	2,1 % (35.6 M€)	2,8 % (47 M€)	of the total ERC budget,
3,0 % (=20.7 M€)	5,5 % (36.7 M€)	4,2 % (28.1 M€)	of the total MSC budget,
1,4 % (=38.2 M€)	3,1 % (87.9 M€)	<b>4,4 % (147 M€)</b>	of the total SCs budget.
1,9 % (=103.6 M€)	3,1 % (160 M€)	<b>3,9 % (222 M€)</b>	of the total ERC, MSC, SCs budget

support projects relevant to plant science.

In addition, we analysed the **success rates** in the three programmes showing the following average success rates:

2014 call:	13,9 % in the ERC,	16,8 % in the MSC;	19,7% in the SCs (2 <sup>nd</sup> stage)
2015 call:	13,8 % ERC,	13,2 % MSC	15,2 % SCs (2 <sup>nd</sup> stage)
2016 call:	<b>in progress</b>		

We encourage our members to use the analysis to prepare their future proposals – use projects funded as examples, consider success rates, encourage more submissions to the ERC - and to discuss with their national ministries / agencies ways to improve the contributions from plant science to the societal challenges.

Only two summary tables from each of the full analysis files are provided hereafter.

## Overview Analysis 2014 calls, published 3.5.2016

### Overview of **Budget** Dedicated to Plant Science in Horizon 2020 in 2014 calls

Grant type	Total call budget	Estimate of total budget granted to projects relevant to plant science*	Estimated % granted to projects relevant to plant science
<b>European Research Council (ERC)</b>			
Starting	€ 485,039,385	€ 14,796,236.50	3.1%
Consolidator	€ 712,588,727	€ 17,020,049.5	2.39%
Advanced	€ 450,000,000	€ 12,704,148	2.8%
Proof of Concept	€ 15,000,000	€ 150,000	1%
<b>ERC Overall</b>	<b>€ 1,662,628,112</b>	<b>€ 44,670,434</b>	<b>2.69%</b>
<b>Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)</b>			
ITN	€ 405,180,000	€ 5,062,813.56	1.2%
Individual Fellowships	€ 240,500,000	€ 12,493,665.60	5.19%
RISE	€ 70,000,000	€ 3,172,500	4.5%
<b>MSCA Overall</b>	<b>€ 679,680,000</b>	<b>€ 20,728,979.16</b>	<b>3.05%</b>
<b>Societal Challenge 2 (SC2)</b>			
Research and Innovation actions			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security	€ 128,000,000	€ 26,167,125	20.4%
ISIB - Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	€ 21,514,753.25	€ 10,484,627.25	48.7%
Coordination and support actions			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security	€ 1,000,000	€ 733,933	73.3%
ISIB - Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	€ 24,500,000	€ 1,858,430.50	7.59%
Societal Challenge 2 overall			
SFS, ISIB, BG (Blue Growth)	€ 266,500,000	€ 38,248,246.50**	14.7%
All Societal Challenges (SC 1-7)			
<b>SCs Overall</b>	<b>€ 2,730,870,000</b>	<b>€ 38,248,246.50</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Overall ERC, MSCA, SC2</b>			
ERC, MSCA, and SC2 Combined	€ 2,608,808,112	€ 103,647,659.66	3.97%
<b>Overall ERC, MSCA, all SCs</b>			
ERC, MSCA, and all SCs Combined	€ 5,339,678,112	<b>€ 103,647,659.66</b>	<b>1.94%</b>

\*We have made our best efforts to identify all projects relevant to plant science. It remains possible that some projects may be missing from our analysis. Full lists of projects are included in the relevant sections of this document. \*\*Share of relevant projects allocated to public research entities (e.g. universities, public research institutes, etc). Full list on Briefing page 27.

## Overview of **Success Rates** in Horizon 2020 in 2014

The first year of Horizon 2020 was characterized by oversubscription – over 40,000 proposals were submitted. These applications add up to around 8 times the overall call budgets, compared to 5 times the budget during FP7. This has resulted in a success rate of only 14.53%, however different parts of Horizon 2020 have different chances of success. Below we have selected some preliminary and indicative statistics from the most relevant parts of Horizon 2020 for plant scientists.

<b>European Research Council—2014 Calls</b>					
	Eligible Proposals	Total Funded	Success Rate	Life Science Success Rate	
<a href="#">2014 Starting Grant</a>	3,204	375	11.7%	13.7%	
<a href="#">2014 Consolidator Grant</a>	2,483	372	15.0%	17.4%	
<a href="#">2014 Proof of Concept 1 &amp; 2</a>	443	120	27.5%	N/A	
<a href="#">2014 Advanced Grant</a>	2,287	190	8.3 %	10.4%	
Total	8,417	1,057	12.6%	13.9%	
<b>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions—Selected 2014 Calls, Indicative</b>					
	Total Proposals	Above Threshold	Funded estimate	Estimated Final Success Rate*	Life Science Success Rate
<a href="#">European Training Networks</a>	1,003	834	~84	10.1%	9.2% (ITN overall)
<a href="#">European Industrial Doctorates</a>	105	76	~15	19.3%	9.2% (ITN overall)
<a href="#">European Joint Doctorates</a>	53	35	~6	17.0%	9.2% (ITN overall)
<a href="#">European Fellowships (Standard, Career Restart, Reintegration)</a>	6,402	5,221	~1,211	23.2%	18.5%
<a href="#">Global Fellowships</a>	1,029	874	~122	14.0%	11.6%
<a href="#">Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)</a>	203	111	~44	40.0%	45.5%
Total	8,795	7,151	~1480	20.7%	~16.8%
<b>Societal Challenge 2—2014 Calls</b>					
	Total Proposals	Total Funded	Success Rate	SC2 Stage 2	
Sustainable Food Security	163	27	17%		
Blue Growth	68	17	25%		
Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	79	17	20%		
Total	310	61	19.7%		

\* The complete data for MCSA was not available at the time of publication. The estimate was calculated by EPSO based on the requested budget from above-threshold proposals and the available budget as listed in official European Commission documents.

## Overview Analysis 2015 calls, published 18.5.2018

### Overview of **Budget** Dedicated to Plant Science in Horizon 2020 in 2015 calls

Grant type	Total call budget	Estimate of total budget granted to projects relevant to plant science*	Estimated % granted to projects relevant to plant science
<b>European Research Council (ERC)</b>			
Starting	€ 430,000,000	€ 16,429,969	3.8%
Consolidator	€ 585,000,000	€ 16,558,648	2.8%
Advanced	€ 630,000,000	€ 2,496,521	0.4%
Proof of Concept	€ 20,000,000	€ 142,783.75	0.7%
<b>ERC Overall</b>	<b>€ 1,665,000,000</b>	<b>€ 35,627,921.75</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)</b>			
ITN	€ 370,000,000	€ 19,956,091.14	5.4%
Individual Fellowships	€ 215,000,000	€ 10,562,500.80	4.9%
RISE	€ 80,000,000	€ 6,228,000	7.8%
<b>MSCA Overall</b>	<b>€ 665,000,000</b>	<b>€ 36,746,591.94</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
<b>Societal Challenge 2 (SC2)</b>			
Research and Innovation actions (RIA)			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security	€ 104,000,000	€ 58,762,060	56.5%
ISIB - Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	€ 15,000,000	€ 3,999,998.75	26.7%
Coordination and support actions (CSA)			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security	€ 500,000	N/A	N/A
ISIB - Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	€ 10,000,000	€ 6,263,280.00	62.6%
European Research Area (ERA) COFUND			
ISIB - Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	€ 17,000,000	€ 9,765,200	57.4%
SME instrument phase 2 (SME-2)			
BG - Blue Growth	€ 5,000,000	€ 1,286,382.50	25.7%
<b>SFS + ISIB + BG = SC2 Overall</b>	<b>€ 377,300,000</b>	<b>€ 78,790,538.75</b>	<b>20.9%</b>
Research and Innovation actions (RIA)			
BBI – PPP (Bio – Based Industries/Public-Private Partnerships)	€ 106,000,000	9,080,106.25	8.6%
<b>SFS + ISIB + BG + BBI-PPP = SC2 Overall</b>	<b>€ 483,300,000</b>	<b>€ 87,870,645</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
<b>SCs (1-7) Overall</b>	<b>€ 2,813,200,000</b>	<b>€ 87,870,645</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>Combined Overall</b>			
<b>ERC + MSCA + SC2</b>	<b>€ 2,813,300,000</b>	<b>€ 160,245,158.69</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
<b>ERC + MSCA + all SCs</b>	<b>€ 5,143,200,000</b>	<b>€ 160,245,158.69</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

\*We have made our best efforts to identify all projects relevant to plant science, however, it remains possible that some projects may be missing from our analysis. Full lists of projects are included in the relevant sections of this document.

## Overview of **Success Rates** in Horizon 2020 in 2015

In 2015, the success rate in terms of number of eligible proposals was 10.7%, in terms of EU financial contribution requested 10.9%, and in terms of number of applications 11.2%. Compared to 2014 this represents a decrease of 2.5 % in the success rate of eligible proposals, of 3.3 % in EU financial contribution and of 4.2 % in number of applications. The total success rate in Horizon 2020 for 2014 and 2015 is 11.8% for proposals and 12.3% for EU financial contribution.

In 2015, the largest share of the funding went to the Excellent Science part with a total of 38.2% of the funding and 58.3% of the total number of signed grants. The Societal Challenges part received 37.8% of the funding and its share of the total signed grants was 23.6%. **(R3)**

<b>European Research Council (R4)</b>				
	Eligible proposals	Total funded	Success rate	Life science success rate
<a href="#">2015 Starting Grant (R5)</a>	2,862	349	12.2%	12.1%
<a href="#">2015 Consolidator Grant (R6)</a>	2,023	302	14.9%	~15%
2015 Proof of Concept	197	89	45.2%	N/A
<a href="#">2015 Advanced Grant (R7)</a>	1,927	277	14.4 %	14.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,009</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>13.8%</b>
<b>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions</b>				
	Total proposals	Above threshold	Funded estimate	Estimated final success rate
<a href="#">European Training Networks (R9)</a>	1318	1131	82	6.2%
<a href="#">European Industrial Doctorates (R10)</a>	156	123	14	8.97%
<a href="#">European Joint Doctorates (R11)</a>	87	64	8	9.2%
<a href="#">European Fellowships (Standard, Career Restart, Reintegration) (R13)</a>	7405	6025	1053	14.2%
<a href="#">Global Fellowships (R14)</a>	976	796	110	11.2%
<a href="#">Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) (R16)</a>	361	233	89	24.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10303</b>	<b>8372</b>	<b>1356</b>	<b>13.2%</b>
<b>Societal Challenge 2 (R1)</b>				
	Total proposals	Total funded	Success rate	SC2 stage 2
Sustainable Food Security	134	16		11.9%
Blue Growth	20	6		30%
Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy	77	13		16.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>15.2%</b>

## Overview Analysis 2016 calls, published 18.5.2018

Overview of **Budget** Dedicated to Plant Science in Horizon 2020 in 2016 calls – **in progress**

Grant type	Total call budget	Estimate of total budget granted to projects relevant to plant science*	Estimated percentage granted to projects relevant to plant science
<b>European Research Council (ERC)</b>			
Starting	€ 485,000,000	€ 14,124,021.26	2.9%
Consolidator	€ 605,000,000	€ 22,804,379.99	3.8%
Advanced	€ 540,000,000	€ 9,901,546.27	1.8%
Proof of Concept	€ 20,000,000	€ 148,619	0.7%
<b>ERC Overall</b>	<b>€ 1,650,000,000</b>	<b>€ 46,978,566.52</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
<b>Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)</b>			
ITN	€ 375,000,000	€ 13,606,696.50	3.6%
Individual Fellowships	€ 218,710,000	€ 9,556,217	4.4%
RISE	€ 80,000,000	€ 4,968,000	6.2%
<b>MSCA Overall</b>	<b>€ 673,710,000</b>	<b>€ 28,130,913.50</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Societal Challenge 2 (SC2)</b>			
Research and Innovation actions (RIA)			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security			
RUR - Rural Renaissance			
Innovation Action (IA)			
BG – Blue Growth			
European Research Area Networks (ERA - NET) COFUND			
SFS - Sustainable Food Security			
SFS + ISIB + BG = SC2 Overall			
BBI – PPP (Bio – Based Industries/Public-Private Partnerships)			
SFS + ISIB + BG + BBI-PPP = SC2 Overall			
All SCs (SC 1-7) Overall			
<b>Combined Overall</b>			
ERC + MSCA + SC2			
<b>ERC + MSCA + all SCs</b>			

\*We have made our best efforts to identify all projects relevant to plant science, it remains possible that some projects may be missing from our analysis. Full lists of projects are included in the relevant sections of this document.

Overview of **Success Rates** in Horizon 2020 in 2016 – **in progress**

<b><u>European Research Council (R4)</u></b>				
	Eligible proposals	Total funded	Success rate	Life science success rate
2016 Starting Grant <a href="#">(R5)</a>	2,887	325	11.3%	12.1%
2016 Consolidator Grant <a href="#">(R6)</a>	2,274	314	13.8%	~15%
2016 Proof of Concept	405	113	32.8%	N/A
2016 Advanced Grant <a href="#">(R7)</a>	2,373	231	9.7 %	14.3%
<b>Total</b>	7,939	983	12.4%	<b>13.8%</b>
<b>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions</b>				
	Total proposals	Above threshold	Funded estimate	Estimated final success rate
<a href="#">European Training Networks (R9)</a>	1367	1218	94	6.9%
<a href="#">European Industrial Doctorates (R10)</a>	162	97	17	10.5%
<a href="#">European Joint Doctorates (R11)</a>	82	67	10	12.2%
<a href="#">European Fellowships (Standard, Career Restart, Reintegration) (R13)</a>	7896	6416	?	
<a href="#">Global Fellowships (R14)</a>	916	747	?	
<a href="#">Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) (R16)</a>	367	244	83	22.6%
<b>Total</b>	10790	8789		%
<b><u>Societal Challenge 2 (R1)</u></b>				
	Total proposals	Total funded	Success rate stage 2	
Sustainable Food Security			%	
Blue Growth			%	
Innovative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Bioeconomy			%	
Rural Renaissance			%	
Bio – Based Industries/Public-Private Partnerships			%	
<b>Total</b>			%	

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EPSO, the European Plant Science Organisation, is an independent academic organisation that represents more than 200 research institutes, departments and universities from 30 countries, mainly from Europe. EPSO's mission is to improve the impact and visibility of plant science in Europe. [www.epsoweb.org](http://www.epsoweb.org) | EU Transparency Register Number 38511867304-09