



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Focus on MSCA COFUND

14 February 2025

Marc PATUZZO
REA.A.4

Marie Skłodowska
Curie Actions

What is MSCA COFUND?

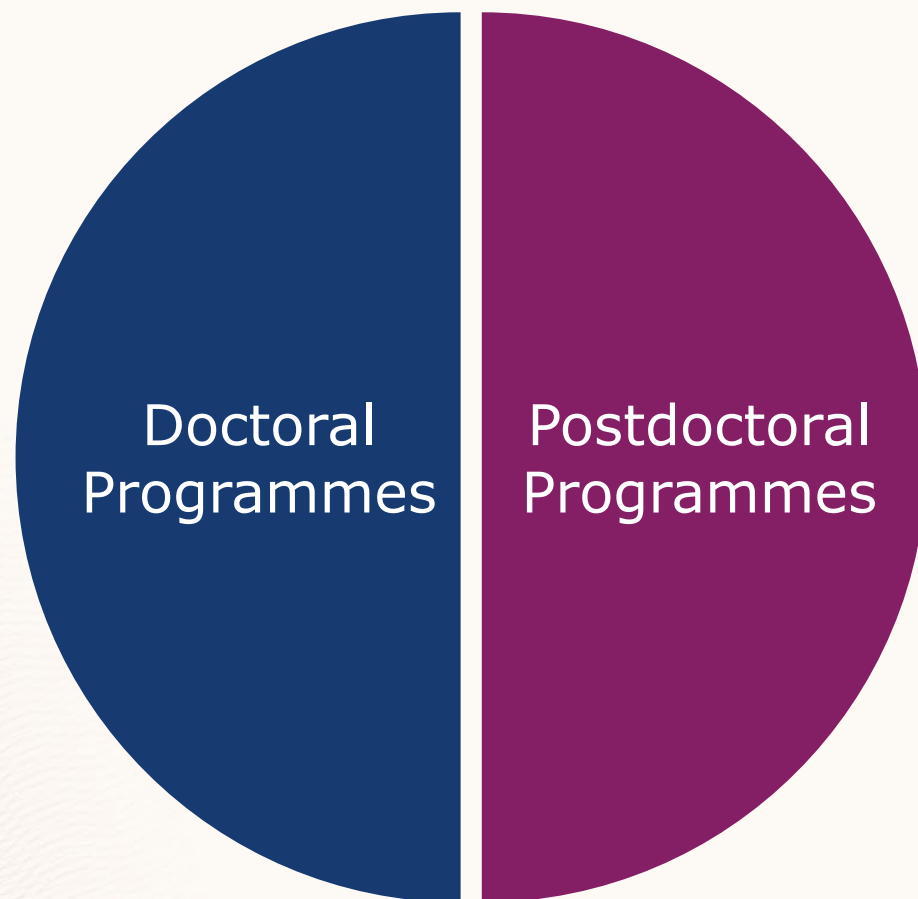
Mono-beneficiary action:

new or existing national, regional, international schemes for doctoral training & postdoctoral fellowships

Focus:

best practice, high standards & excellent working conditions, sustainable structuring effects, encouraging synergies with other EU funds

COFUND Modalities



MSCA COFUND – For whom?



Single legal entity established in an EU Member State



Single legal entity established in HE associated country



All beneficiaries must recruit at least three researchers

COFUND Academic & non-academic sectors?

Academic sector

Higher education establishments

Non-profits

International European Research
Organisations

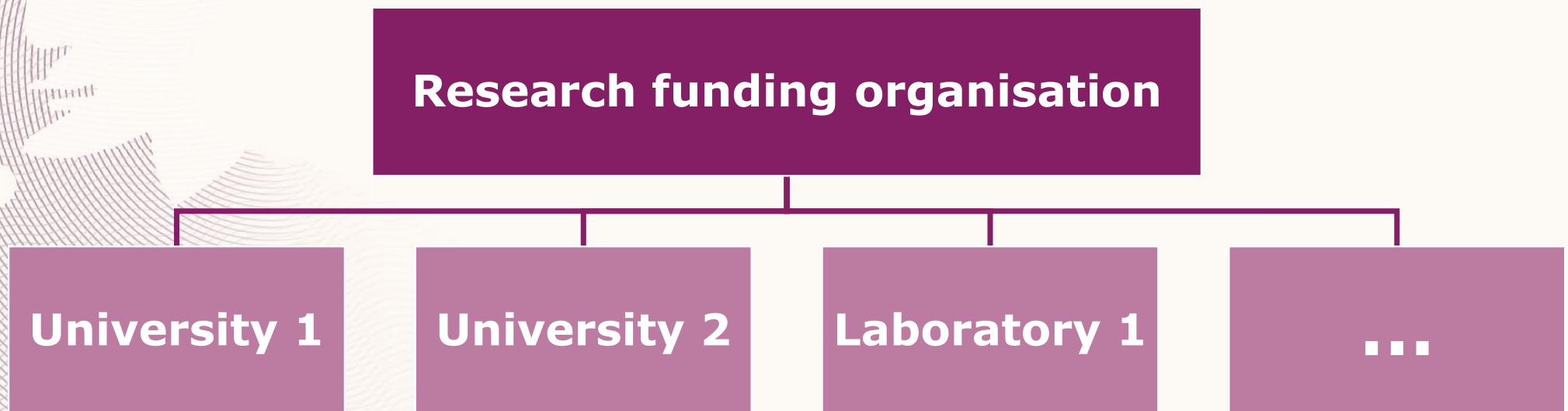


Non-academic sector

Any socio-economic actor not
included in academic sector

COFUND – Possible structures

1 - Hierarchical



COFUND – Possible structures 2 - Horizontal



COFUND – Possible structures

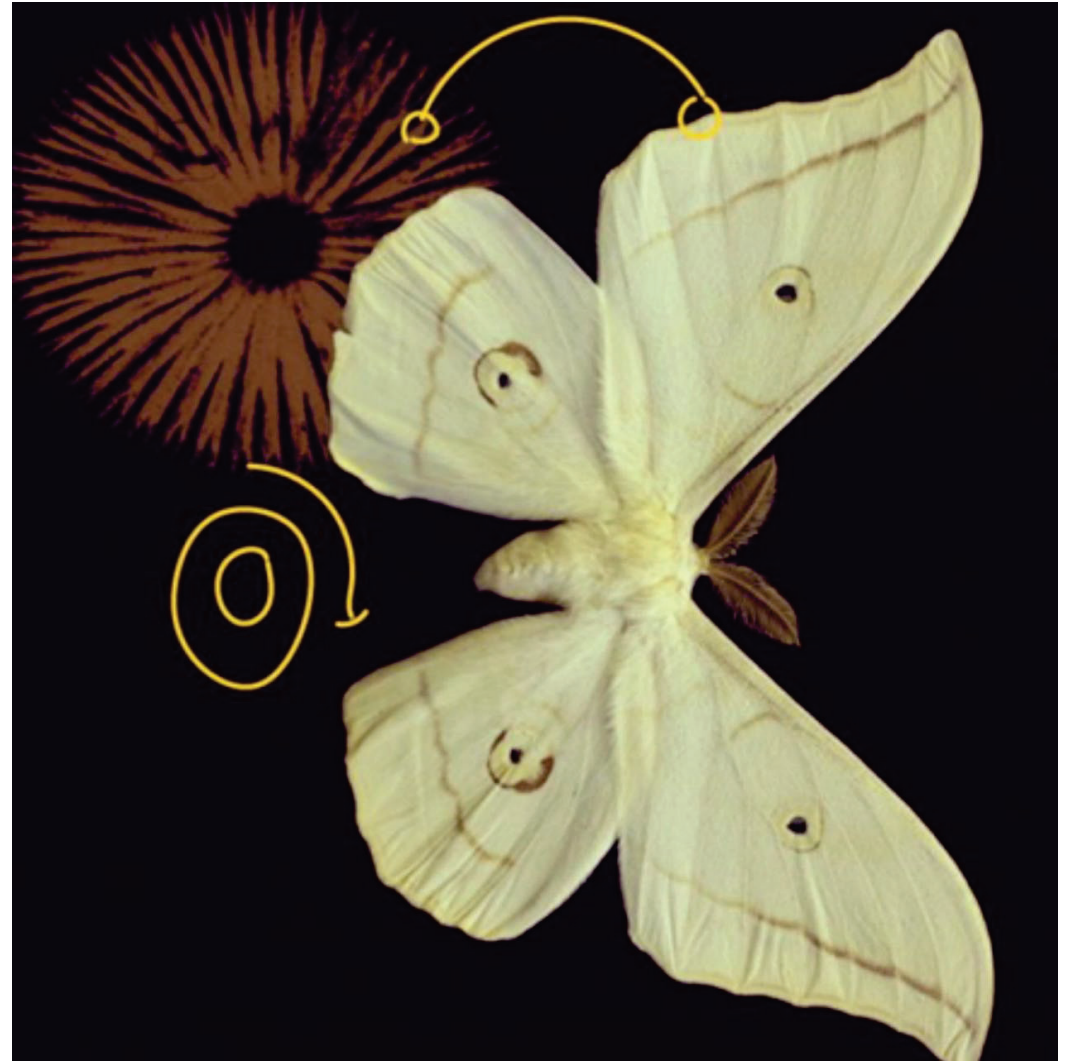
3 – Single Point



COFUND partners

Implementing partners

Associated partners



COFUND



Co-funding

Max. EUR 10m/beneficiary/call



Duration

Programme: max. 60 months
Fellowship: min. 3 months



Recruitment

Fellows: min. 3 fellows must be recruited

COFUND – Eligible researchers



**Doctoral
programmes**



**Postdoctoral
programmes**



**Any
nationality**

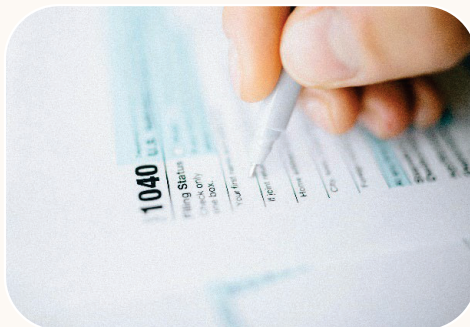


Mobility rule

COFUND – Bear in mind



**Researchers 100%
on project**



**EU contribution
coverage**



Researcher eligibility



**Long-term
leave
allowance
&
special
needs
allowance**

COFUND – Bear in mind



Part-time allowed for personal, family, or professional* reasons (*upon approval)



Secondments up to 1/3 of fellowship duration



COFUND **Seal of Excellence**
for applications scoring $\geq 85\%$

COFUND – Award criteria

Excellence (50%)

Impact (30%)

Implementation (20%)

COFUND

Budget structure & Project implementation



COFUND Budget – EU contribution

**For recruited researchers &
institutional contributions
per person-month**

**Doctoral
programmes
EUR 3,300***

**Postdoctoral
programmes
EUR 4,700***

Any cost items of the programme supported

*50% of COFUND allowance in case of fixed-amount fellowship



COFUND budget - Conditions

**Total amount of
programme to be
specified**

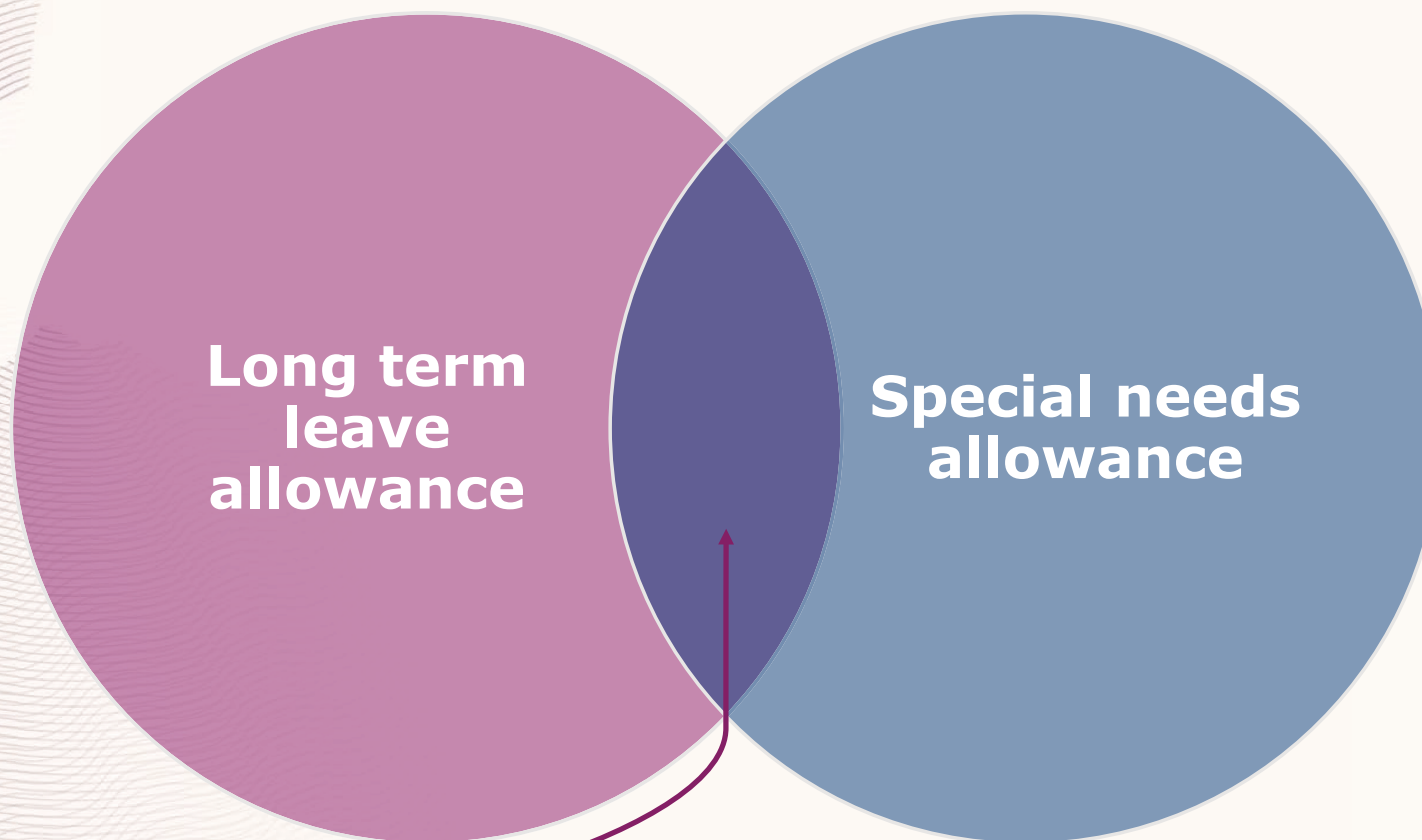
- Amounts for researchers
- Amounts for organisation(s)

**Minimum
monthly gross
remuneration
+
mobility costs**

- Doctoral candidates: EUR 3,300*
- Postdoctoral candidates: EUR 4,700*

*Min. EUR 1,400 (doctoral) & EUR 1,990 (postdoc) if fixed-amount fellowship

COFUND budget – Cost categories



Upon request

COFUND – Project implementation



Employment
contract or
equivalent direct
contract



No fixed-amount
fellowships

COFUND – Project implementation

**Independent experts
involved at every
stage of selection
process**

**The selection of the
researchers with
vacancy notice on
Euraxess**

**Project
implementation**

Training programme

**Postdoctoral
programmes must
involve independent
international experts**



European
Commission

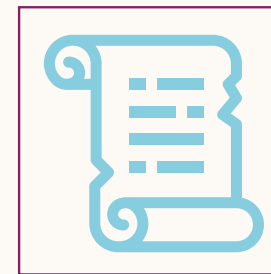
COFUND – Project implementation



Call timing



**Number of fellows
to be recruited**



Reserve list

COFUND – Supervisor in application and recruitment process

Rationale to be specified for contact with supervisor at application stage

No involvement in the drafting of proposal and no approval required before submission

No role in recruitment process or decision making

Recruitment process to be open, transparent, merit-based, impartial and equitable

Assurance of no conflict of interest and no preselection in the recruitment process

COFUND – Use of artificial intelligence

Use of generative AI tools permitted

Applicants bear legal responsibility for their proposal

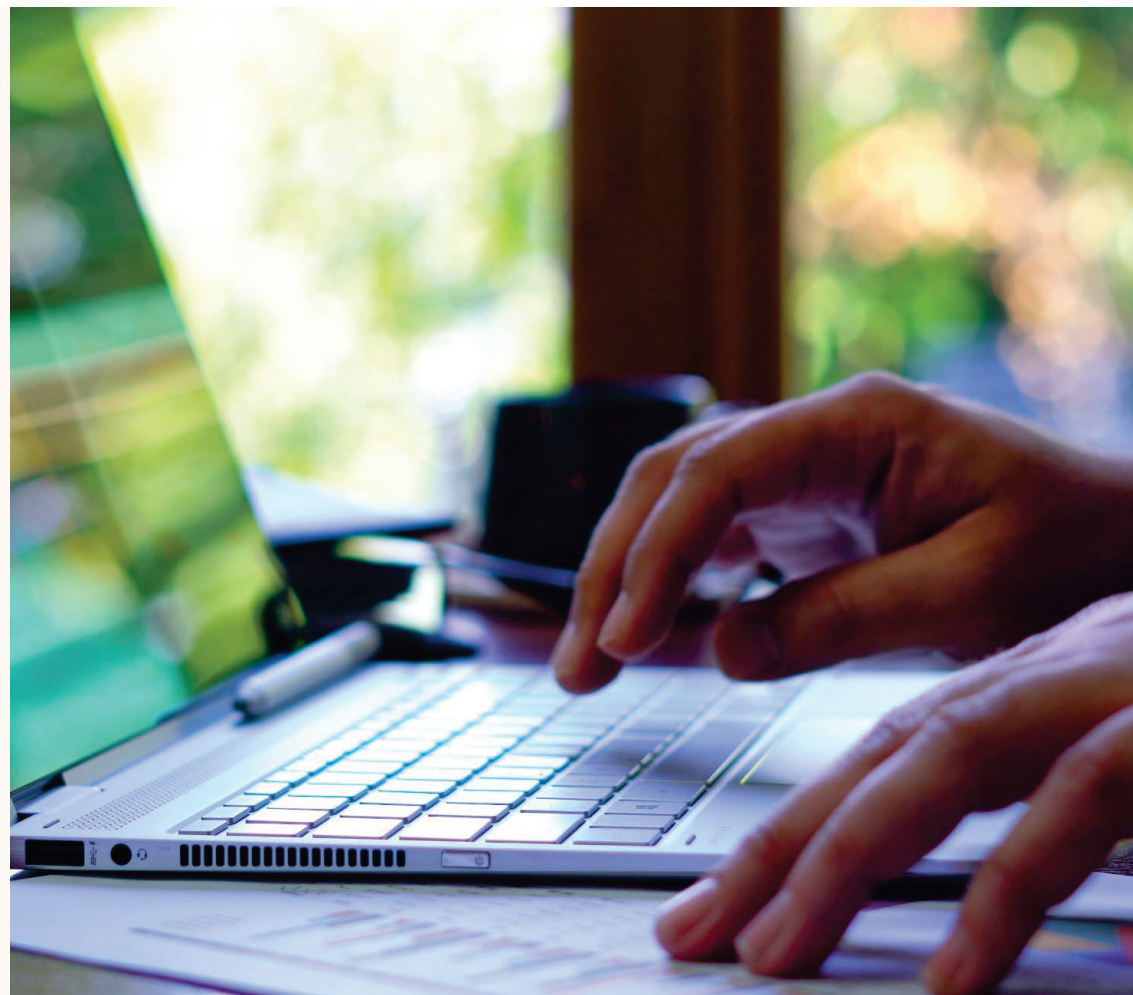
No role in recruitment process or decision making

Inaccurate/erroneous data generated by AI tools to be penalised

Plagiarism may lead to proposal rejection

COFUND

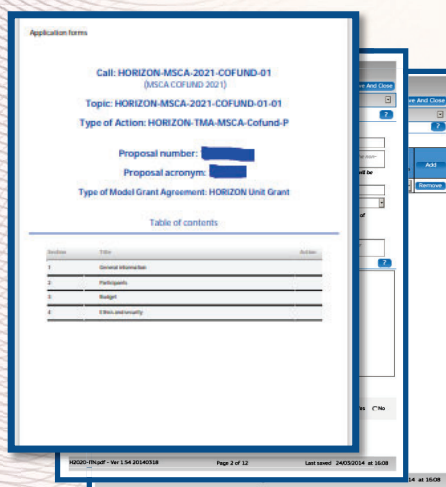
Application structure Belgian participation 2025 call details



COFUND – Template structure

Part A
Structured data

Part B
Technical description



Thumbnail of the COFUND application form. The form is titled 'Application form' and contains the following information:

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2021-COFUND-01
(MSCA-COFUND 2021)
Topic: HORIZON-MSCA-2021-COFUND-01-01
Type of Action: HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-Cofund-P
Proposal number: [redacted]
Proposal acronym: [redacted]
Type of Model Grant Agreement: HORIZON Unit Grant

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	
2	Participants	
3	Budget	
4	Work and results	

Page 2 of 12

Part B1
Description of action

Part B2
Annexes

Part A – Structured data

1. General Information

2. Participants

3. Budget

4. Ethics & Security

Part B – Technical description

History of Changes

Instructions for drafting Part B

Definitions

Generative AI tools for proposal preparation

Part B1 – Description of the action

Part B2 - Annexes

Part B1 – Description of the action

Start Page

**Table of Contents
(1 page)**

**General
Description &
Info on
Beneficiary
(max 2 pages)**

1. Excellence

2. Impact

3. Implementation

Sections 1-3 (max 30 pages)

Part B2 – Annexes

4. Ethics

5. Partner organisations

6. Environmental considerations re: MSCA Green Charter

**No overall page
limit**

**Exception: S5
- max ½ page
per
associated/
implementing
partner)**

COFUND budget – Part B1

Cost categories	EU contribution (A) (EUR/person-month)	Own resources (B) (EUR/person-month)	Total cost = EU contribution + own resources (A+B) (EUR/person-month)
COFUND allowance	3 300 (for Doctoral)* 4 700 (for Postdoctoral)*		***
Mobility allowance**			****
Family allowance**			****
Travel allowance**			****
Research costs**			
Other (training, etc.) **			
Management costs **			
Indirect costs**			
Number of fellows			
Number of fellow months			
Total amount			

Please make sure that the Total cost (including EU contribution and Own resources) declared in section 3 of Part A of the proposal matches exactly what is presented in Part B1.

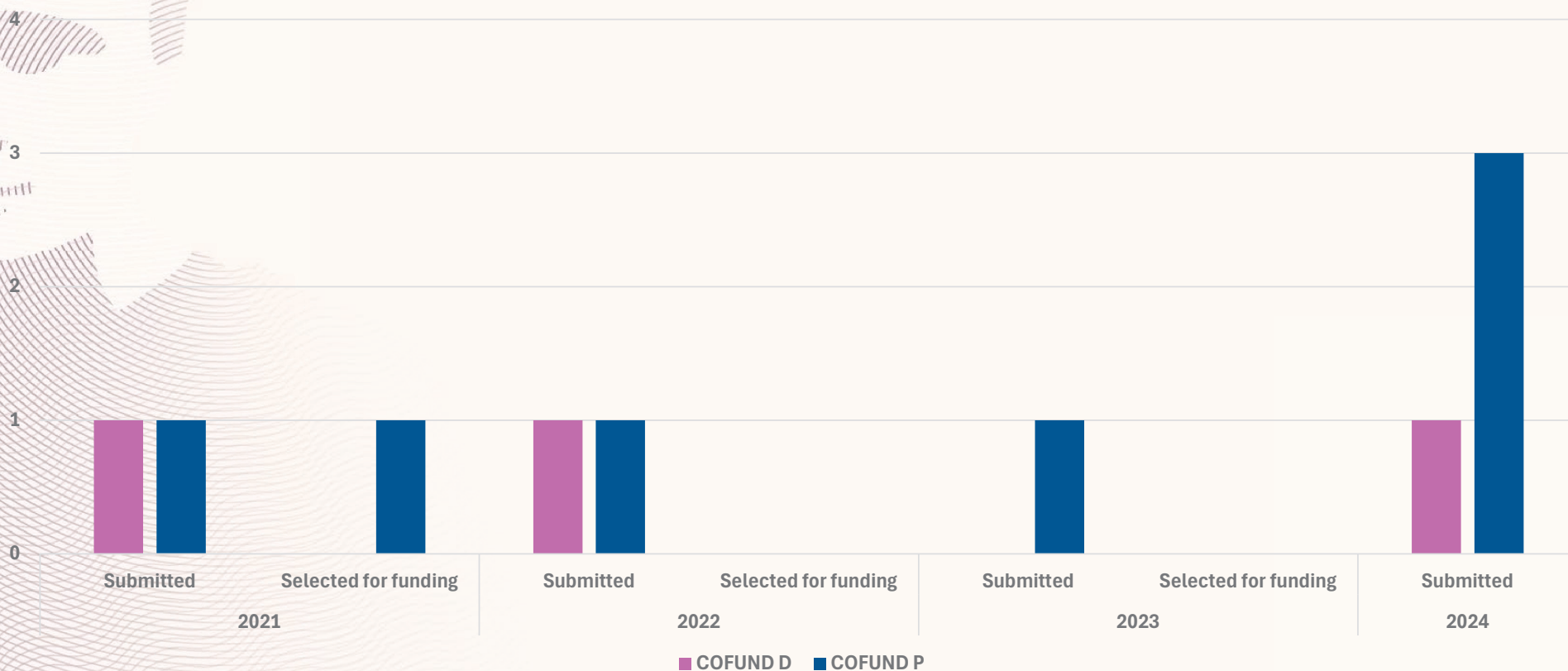
- * Choose applicable rate
- ** If applicable
- *** Monthly gross remuneration
- **** Total amount of allowance, if provided

COFUND budget – Part A

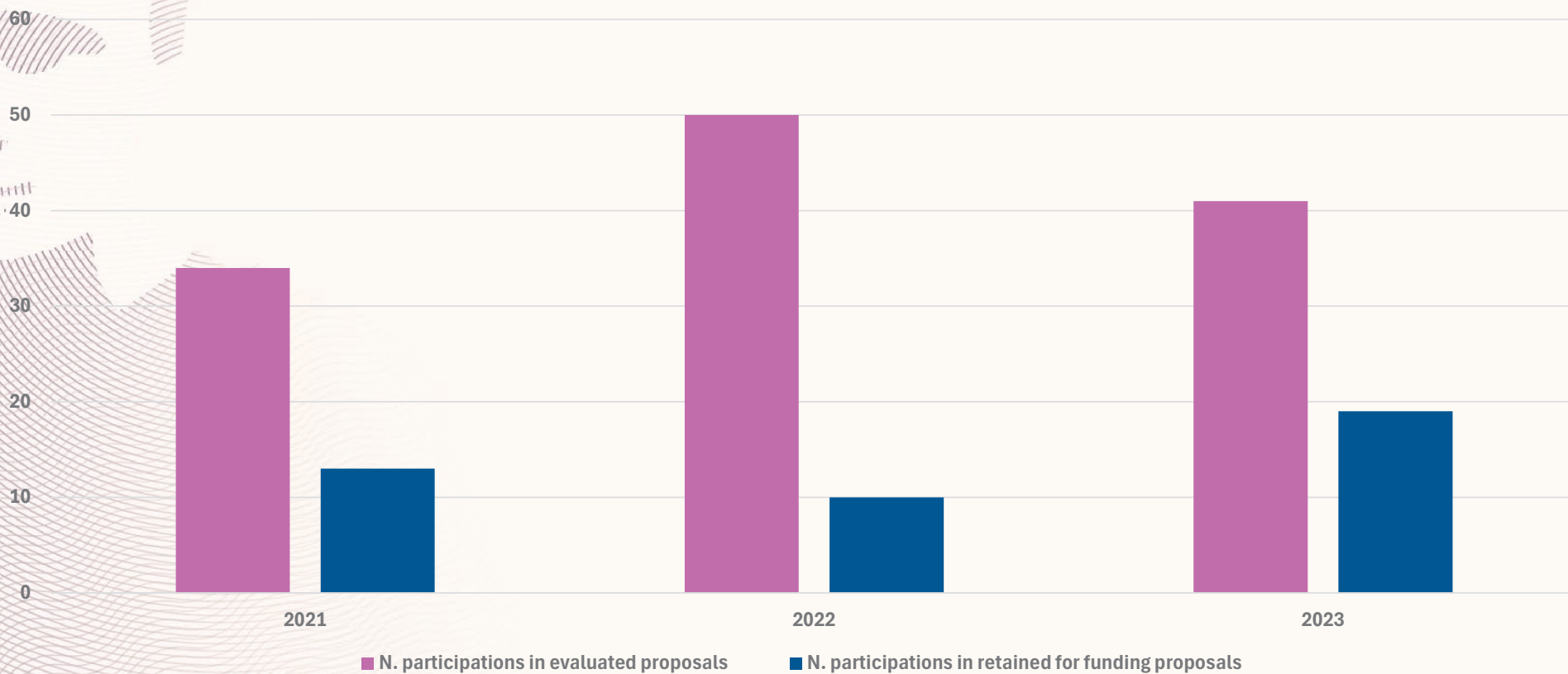
Participant number	Organisation short name	Role	Country	Academic sector	IO	No of recruited researchers	Number of person months (Employment)	Number of person months (Fellowship)	Contributions for recruited researchers		Total	Own resources	Financial contributions	Total estimated project income
									Employment Contract	Fixed amount fellowship				
1				No	No									
Total														

Cost categories	EU contribution (A) (EUR/person-month)	Own resources (B) (EUR/person-month)	Total cost = EU contribution + own resources (A+B) (EUR/person-month)
...			
Number of fellows			
Number of fellow months			
Total amount			

Belgian participation in HE COFUND - Proposals



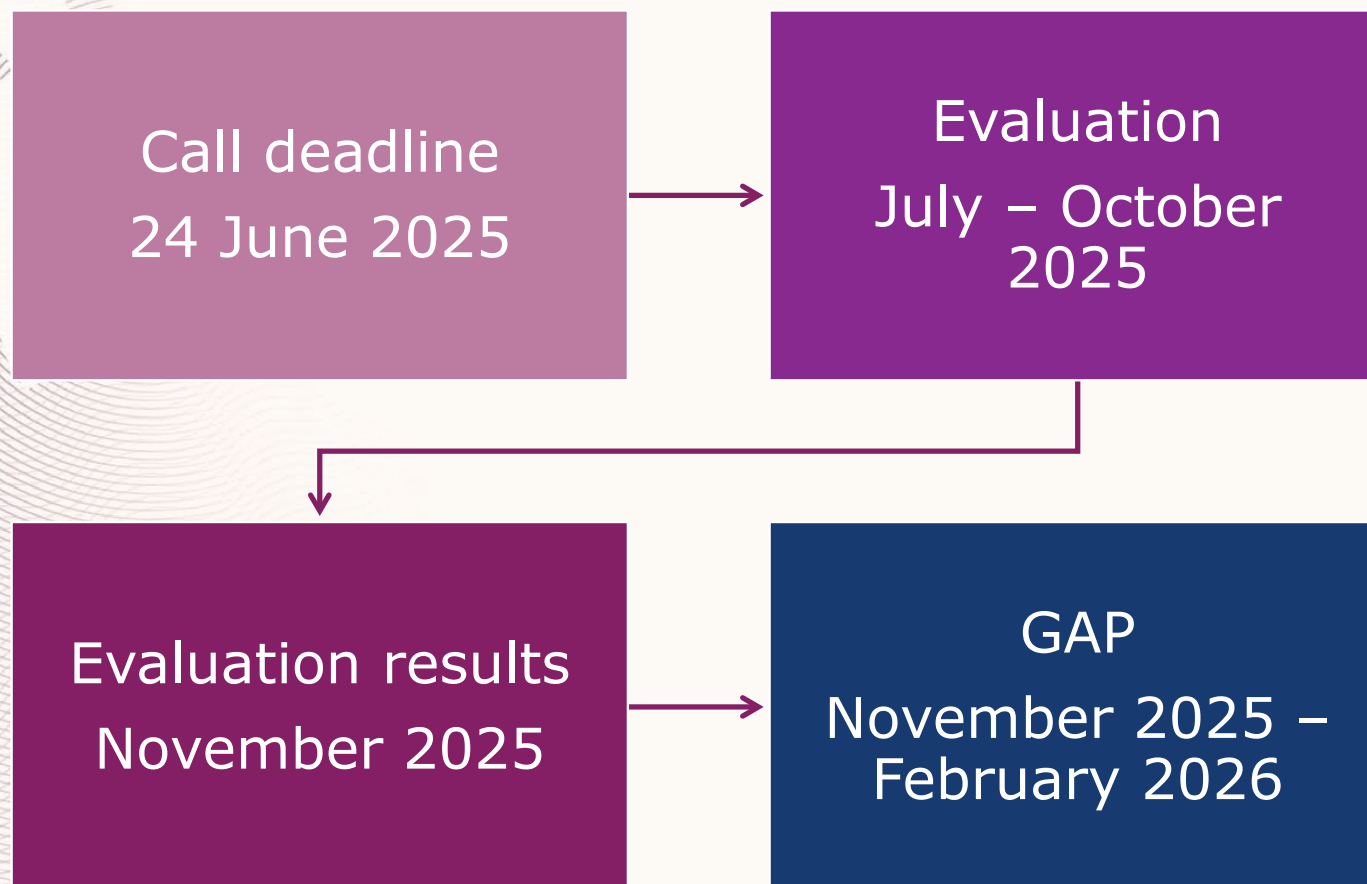
Belgian participation in HE COFUND - Organisations



COFUND – 2025 call details

Call	2025	
	Opening Closing	Budget (EUR m)
COFUND 2025	23 January 25 24 June 25	101.8

COFUND – 2025 call indicative timeline



Thank you!

#MSCA #HorizonEU



European Research Executive Agency

https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions_en



© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](#) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. Image sources: iStockphoto.com/Unsplash

