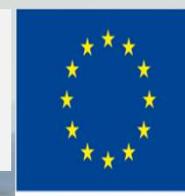




UC-EUNICE STAFF WEEK.

Staff mobility for Training



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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www.unican.es

European and International Projects at the UC: Good practices

Dr. Cătălin Tîrnuacă, catalin.tirnauca@unican.es

June 20, 2023. European Projects Office

A. Presentation of the European Projects Office (OPEI):

- Origins;
- Who we are;
- Services;
- Experience.

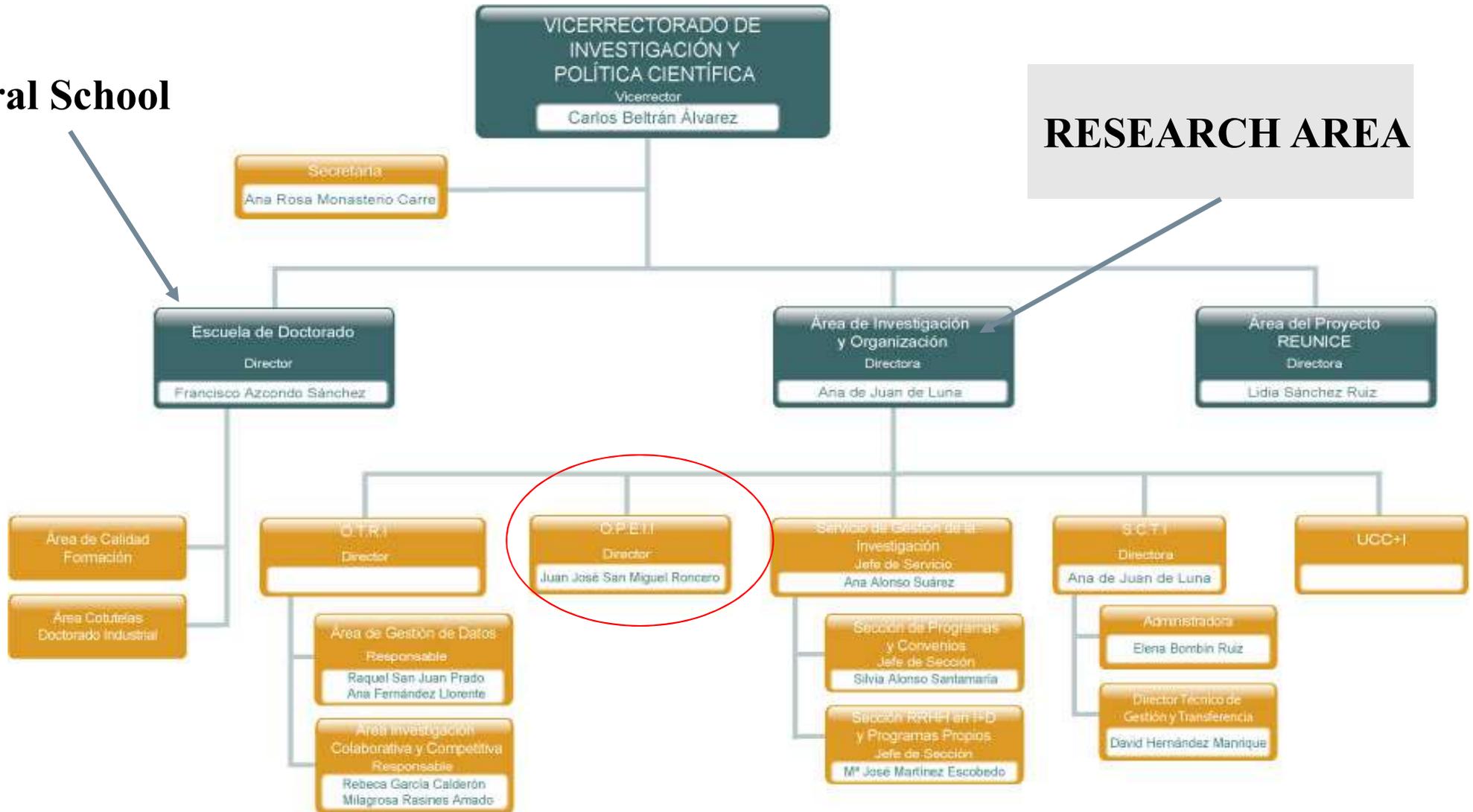
B. Good practices:

- Staff Exchanges calls (Horizon Europe/Horizon 2020);
- How we obtained coordinated projects: BIOTRAFO and CELISE.

Vice-chancellorship of Research and Science Policy

Doctoral School

RESEARCH AREA



European Projects Office (OPEI)

Who are we?

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OPEI: our role and services

- ❑ **Main ROLES:** **promoting and managing** the participation of the UC's R&D groups in **European and international research projects** and **giving institutional support**.
- ❑ **Main ACTIVITIES** are:
 1. **Promote** the participation in European and international R+D+i programs: up-to-date website, monthly newsletter, personalized emails, interviews, tailored courses for our researchers (CEFONTE), Social Media.
 2. **Assist** our Research Groups in the preparation of proposals: partners search, budget preparation, eligibility check, proof-reading (implementation), and submission.
 3. **Administrative, legal and financial management** of European and international research projects: negotiation phase, financial reporting, day-to-day management and audits.
 4. **Coordination of actions** on European and international programs with other regional, national, European and international actors: ej., members of the national working groups RedOE – CRUE, European Commission, etc.
 5. **Continuous training**: to be able to give the helpdesk service: CARONTE, Redes y Gestores, etc.

More information at: <http://web.unican.es/unidades/oficina-proyectos-europeos/>

OPEI: our experience

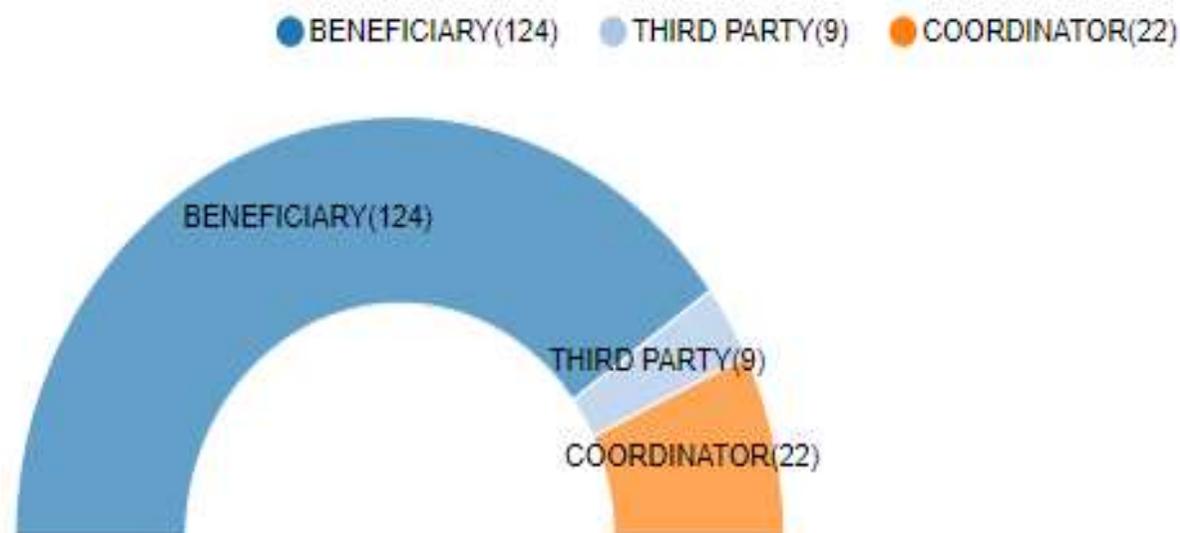


Connecting cities
Building successes



OPEI: our experience

- In **FP7** (2007-2013) the UC has obtained **51 projects** with a funding of more than **12 million euros**.
- In **H2020** (WP: 2014-2020) we have obtained funding for **70 projects** for an amount exceeding **19 million euros**.
- Already negotiating **10 grants** in Horizon Europe, **2** coordinated.
- **Other European and international calls:** 8 **LIFE** projects, 2 projects funded by the Research Fund for Coal and Steel (**RFCS**), 7 transnational **Atlantic Area** projects, 4 **Interreg SUDOE** projects, etc.



- **Complete list of projects and information on our WEB:**
<https://web.unican.es/unidades/oficina-proyectos-europeos/proyectos-de-la-uc>
- Check our track record and main collaboration partners on the Participant Portal of the European Commission:
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/org-details/999880075>

Good practices: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

The MSCA have **5** main actions

Doctoral Networks

implement doctoral programmes (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) **by international partnerships** of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research and innovation. Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

Staff Exchanges

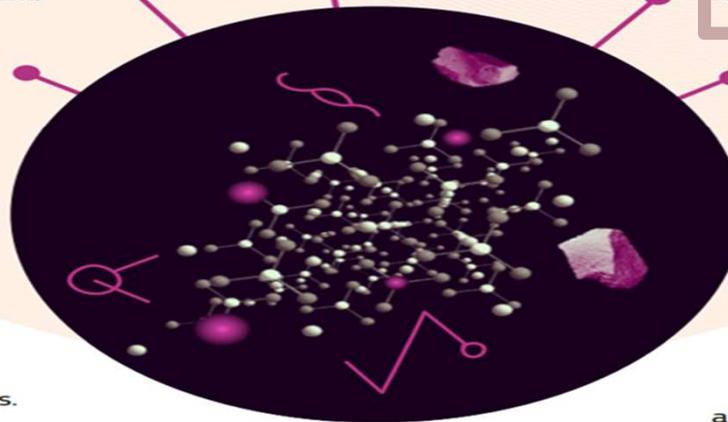
encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

MSCA and Citizens

brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large through the European Researchers' Night - the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

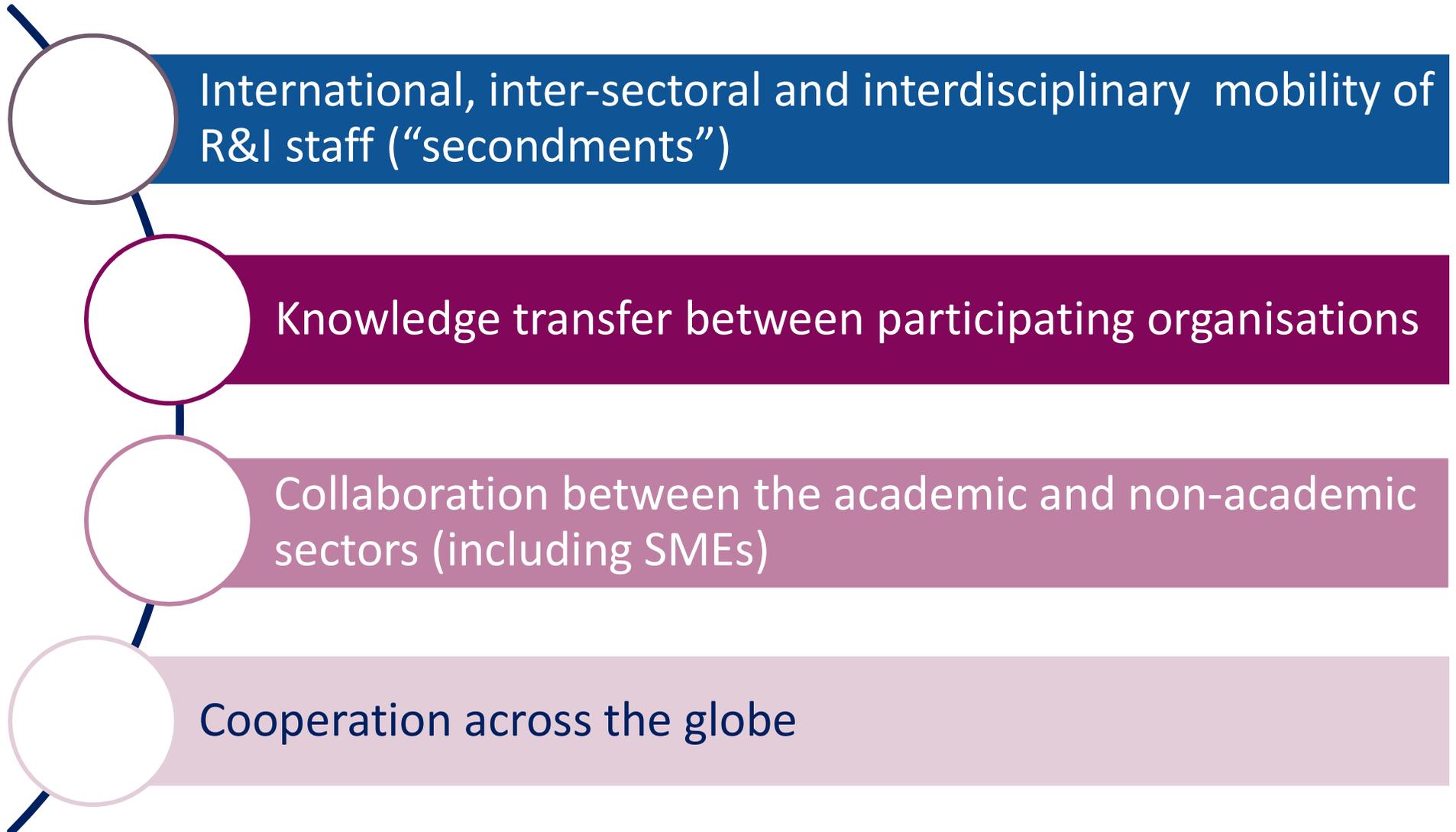
COFUND

co-finances regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers' training and career development. The COFUND action spreads MSCA's best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.

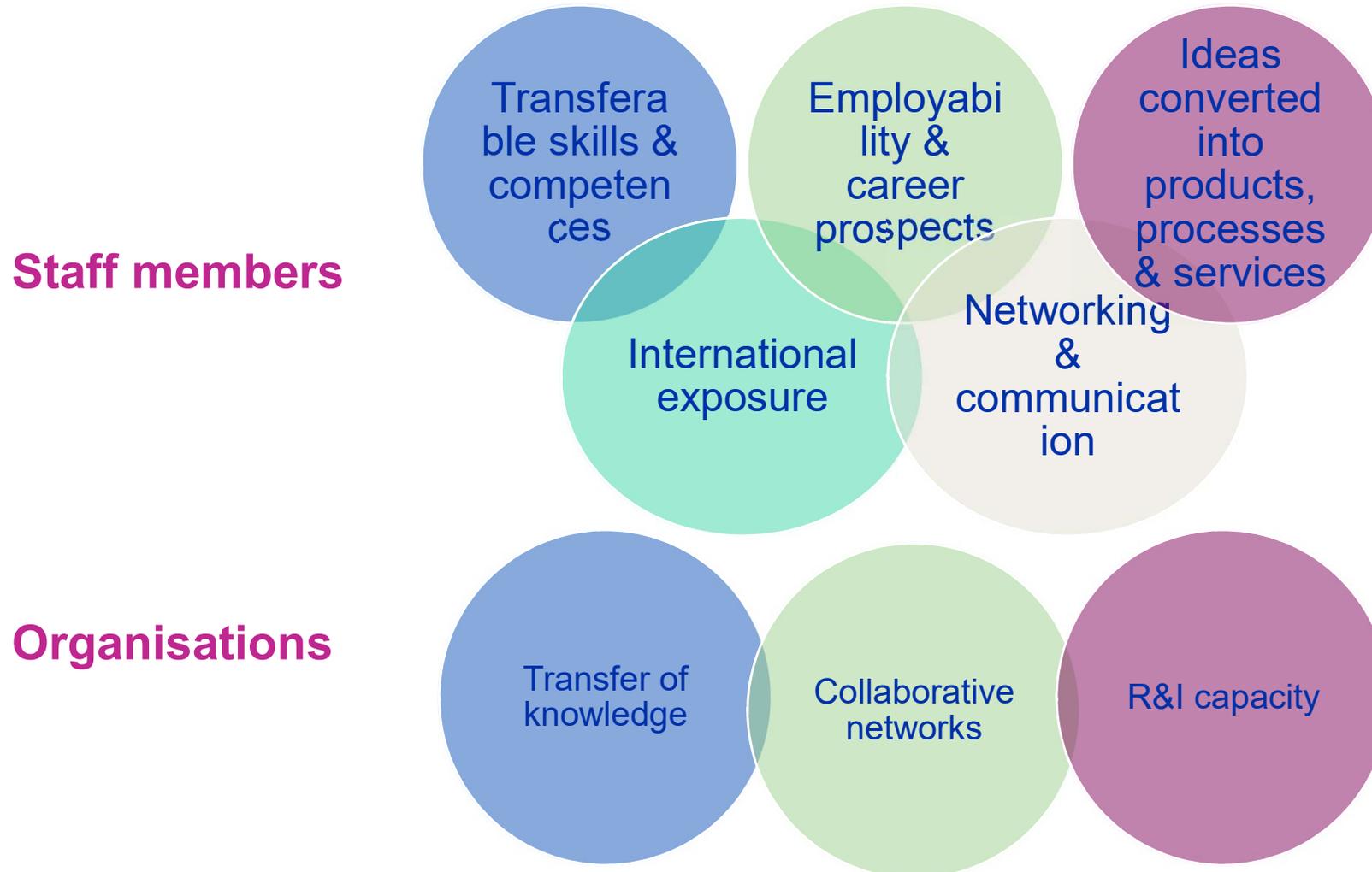


Source: Presentation Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Staff Exchanges by Rodrigo Gutiérrez Domínguez, European Research Executive Agency

MSCA SE/RISE: objectives



MSCA SE/RISE: Added value



MSCA/SE: Eligible participants

Academic sector



Consortium of min. 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different EU Member State or HE Associated Country



Non-academic sector

If organisations are from the same sector, there must be at least 1 organisation from a non-associated Third Country*

* Secondments within EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries must be between different sectors (between academic and non-academic), except for interdisciplinary secondments, which must be limited to a maximum of 1/3 of the total implemented months.

Source: Presentation Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Staff Exchanges by Rodrigo Gutiérrez Domínguez, European Research Executive Agency

MSCA SE/RISE: Eligible staff



Any type of staff involved in R&I activities (researchers, administrative staff, managerial staff, technical staff)

Each staff member is seconded for a period of **1 to 12 months** (may be split into several stays)

Seconded staff members

Researchers at any career stage (from doctoral candidates to postdoctoral researchers)

Staff needs to be devoted **full-time** to the action during the secondment



Actively engaged in research and/or innovation activities for at least **1 month** prior at the sending institution

After the secondment, staff should **return to their sending institution**

MSCA SE/RISE: Eligible exchanges

		"HOSTING" (receiving seconded staff members)		
		Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	Organisation in TC*
"SENDING" (seconding staff members from organisation)	Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	1/3	✓	✓
	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	✓	1/3	✓
	Organisation in TC*	✓	✓	✗

1/3 This symbol refers to same sector secondments up to 1/3 of the total implemented secondments funded by the EU as long as they are demonstrated to be interdisciplinary.

* denotes TC partners that are eligible for automatic funding

What does Staff Exchanges fund?



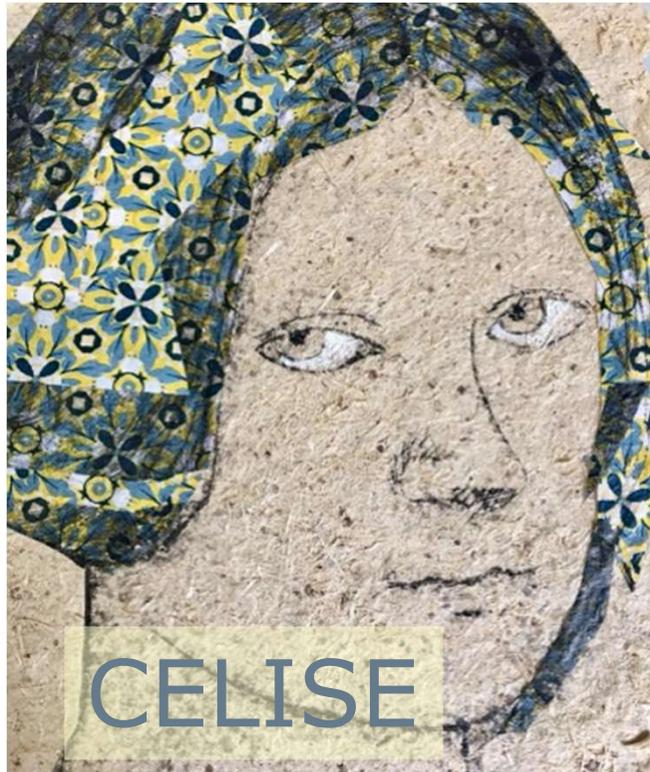
Source: Presentation Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Staff Exchanges by Rodrigo Gutiérrez Domínguez, European Research Executive Agency

BIOTRAFO: MSCA-RISE Grant 823969

- Started in January 2019
- Ends in September 2023
- 13 partners (complementarity)
- 6 outside EU28, 5 in Third Countries.
- 3 enterprises +10 universities and research centers.
- **R&D Group on Power Transformers:**
<https://www.gitep.unican.es/> (Prof. Dr. Alfredo Ortiz)
- <https://www.biotrafo.unican.es/>
- Twitter: [@BIOTRAFO](https://twitter.com/BIOTRAFO)



CELISE: MSCA-RISE Grant 101007733

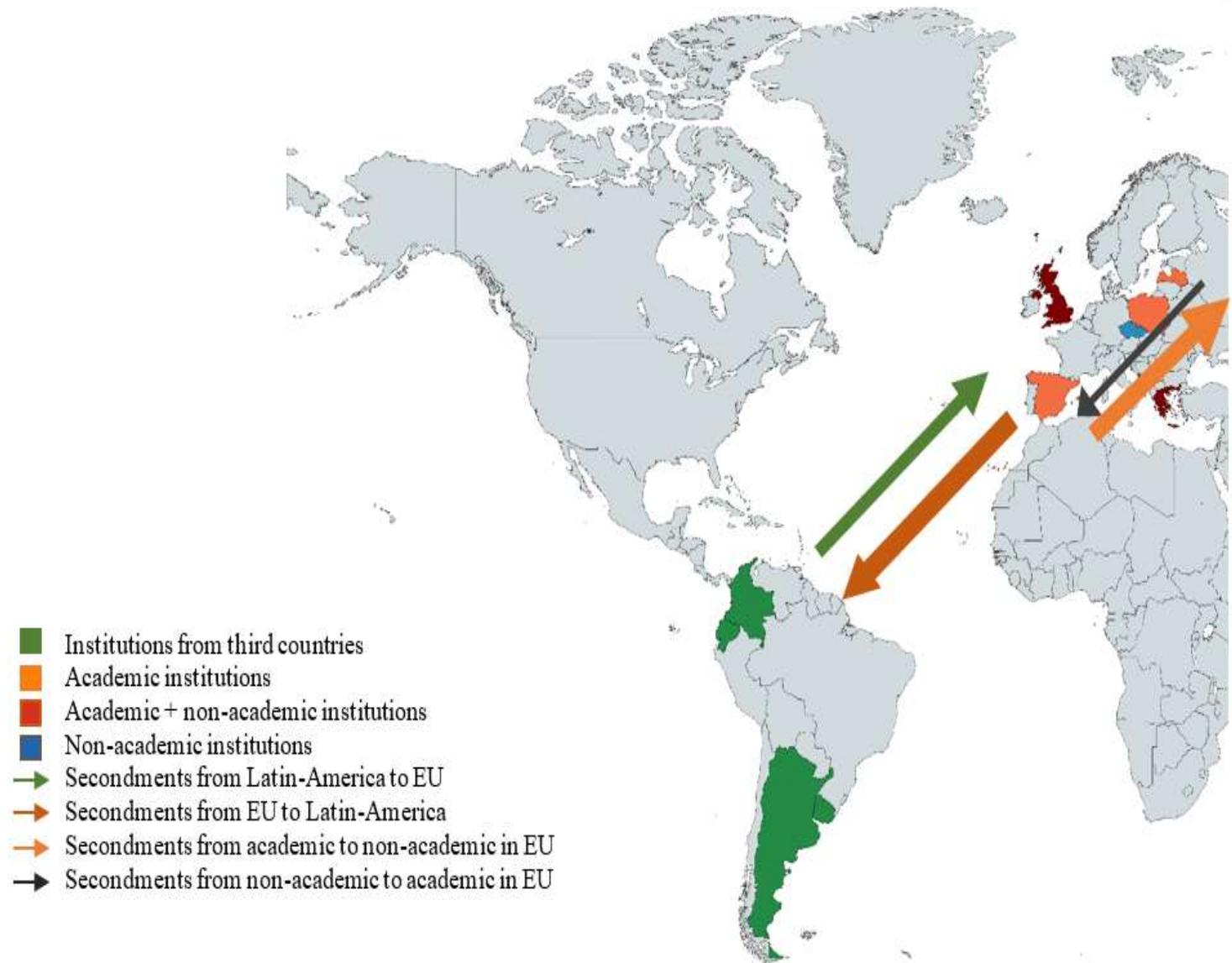


- Transfer of knowledge on **sustainable cellulose-based materials** from **biomass residues** that can be used not only in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), but also in **rural and vulnerable areas** of Europe and Latin America.
- Started in October 2021 and ends in September 2025
- Webpage: <https://celise.unican.es/>
- Twitter: @CELISE_Project
- 21 partners: 16 from Academy and Research institutions and 5 from the industry (SMEs).
- Coordinator: <https://geruc.es/> (**Prof. Dr. Alberto Coz**)
- All industrial partners are SMEs.
- 8 from outside EU28 (4 UK + 4 South America)



CELISE: MSCA-RISE Grant 101007733

- Complementarity
- 83 secondments
- 135 months
- 49 participants
- 45% women
- 40% PhD students



The (Good?!) Practice

- Both coordinators attended the training offered by OPEI through CEFONT for proposal preparation and funding opportunities.
- Used all their contact networks to build solid consortia.
- Additional funding for proposal preparation: Cost Actions ([FP1205](#), [FP1306](#), [FP1407](#), [CA17128](#)) and Europe Research Dynamization Actions from National Minister.
- Did not give up (second try was successful!).
- Asked OPEI for help:
 - We wrote the implementation part;
 - Budget supervision and secondments' implementation;
 - Negotiation, formalization, Partnership Agreements with Third Countries, Consortium Agreements, etc.
 - How to properly implement and justify the stays in case of an audit (eligibility).
- OPEI REWARDS:
 - Many challenges and problems to solve: smooth implementation;
 - Training and additional effort (headaches).

■ Thank you !!

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