ERC Synergy Grant 2024 Call

5 September 2023

UK NCP Information Event Session 1:
Introduction, UK participation, eligibility criteria and proposal development

ERC-UK@ukro.ac.uk

What will be covered in this session?

💬	Introduction to UKRO & UK Participation
⛰	Overview of the ERC
📄	Eligibility criteria for Synergy Call
🖊	Proposal development
❓	Q&A

Housekeeping

- All participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar.

- A chat function is available and will be monitored.

- Please use the Q&A function to submit questions.

- You can 'up vote' your favourite questions.

- We will be recording this session.

- Slides will be shared after the webinar on the event page.

UK Research Office
Brussels

About the Presenter(s)

Jon Brookes

- **European Advisor since January 2017**

- **Interim ERC National Contact Point**

- **They/Them**

Guest speakers:

Charlie Archer-
Senior Policy Adviser, European Programmes
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

Prof. James Scourse –
HoD for Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Exeter

About UKRO

We support UK organisations involved in EU R&I funding

UK National Contact Point for
ERC and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Unique partnership between UKRI and subscribing organisations

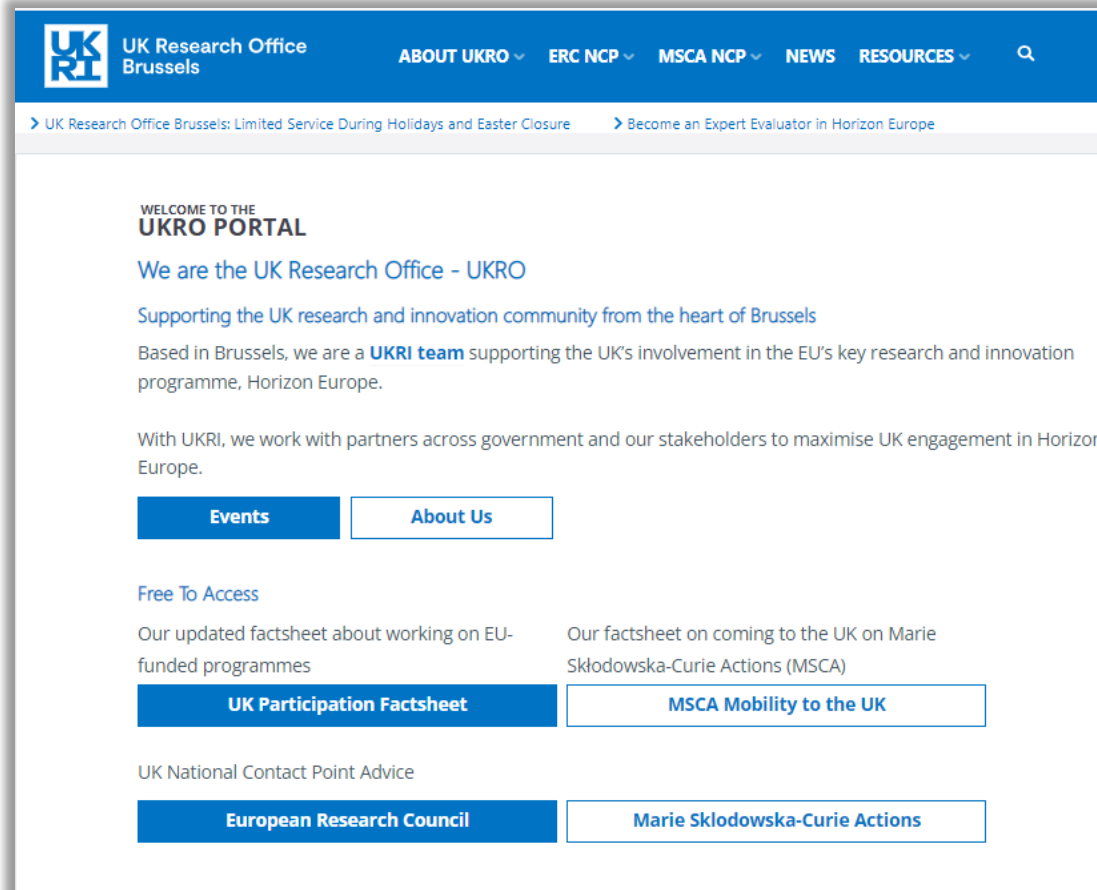Provide a service to more than 140 subscribing organisations

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- Factsheets on Horizon Europe and other funding streams

- Webinars on lots of topics about Horizon Europe, how to apply, how to run a project and more.

- Click here to find out more

Have a look at our recently added:

- Article series on Horizon Europe Novelties
- ERC webinars
- MSCA webinars

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UK Participation in Horizon Europe

UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement

UK participation in Horizon Europe

In December 2020, the negotiations on the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement were concluded

The announcement sets out the UK's intention to **associate to Horizon Europe**

Includes **full participation in the programme** with only exception of the EIC Fund*

*non-mandatory equity element of one EIC scheme

UK entities can participate in/coordinate projects and receive funding from Horizon Europe, incl. MSCAs

UKRO website provides latest info on UK participation

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UK-EU TRADE AND COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Summary

December 2020

UK participation in Horizon Europe

[European Commission's Q&A](#) confirms **UK eligibility to apply:**

"UK entities including universities, research centres, scientists, innovative businesses, industry, etc. can participate in the first calls for proposals of Horizon Europe as soon as they are published on the European Commission's website."

"...UK applicants are treated as if the UK is an associated country throughout the process, from admissibility and eligibility to evaluation, up until the preparation of grant agreements."

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Q&A on the UK's participation in Horizon Europe

The UK is expected to become an associated country to the EU's R&I Framework Programme Horizon Europe. The UK will therefore have the same rights and obligations as other countries associated to the Programme.

Research and Innovation

Date: 22-12-2021

Introduction to the ERC

Horizon Europe structure

Pillar 1
Excellent Science

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3
Innovative Europe

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

What is the ERC?

The ERC's mission:

- encourage the highest quality research in Europe
- support investigator-driven frontier research *across all fields*
- fund projects *purely* on the basis of *scientific excellence*

What makes the ERC unique:

- Excellence is the only criteria
- Funding split based on number of applications, *not* field/discipline/topic
- Freedom to work with and fund team members from anywhere in the world

BOTTOM-UP, CURIOSITY-LED EXCELLENT RESEARCH

ERC Budget in Horizon Europe

26% increase in real terms compared to Horizon 2020.

Further budget increase expected once Associated Countries formally join.

Horizon Europe structure is represented below with each section proportionate to budget allocation size.
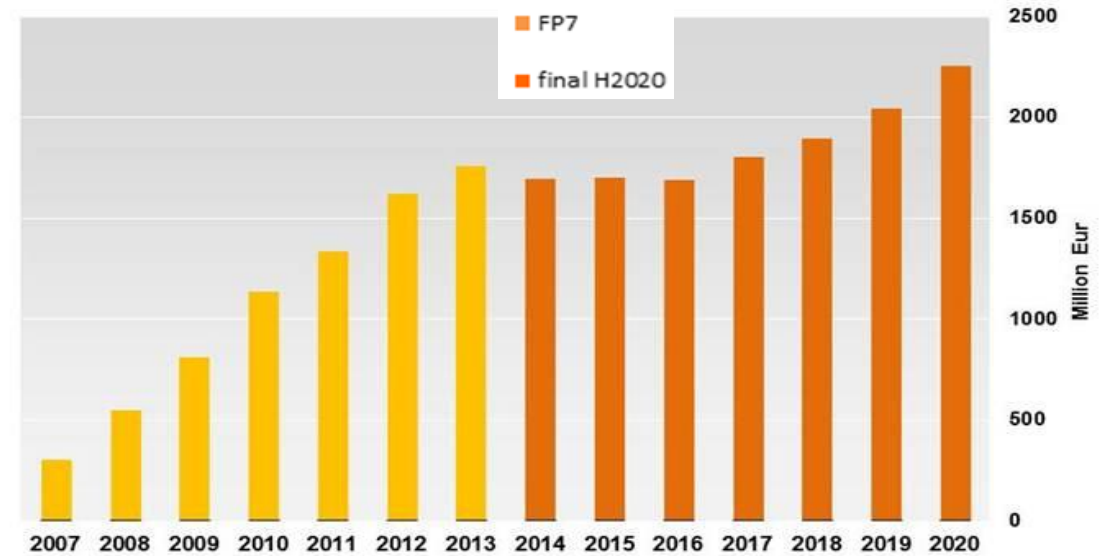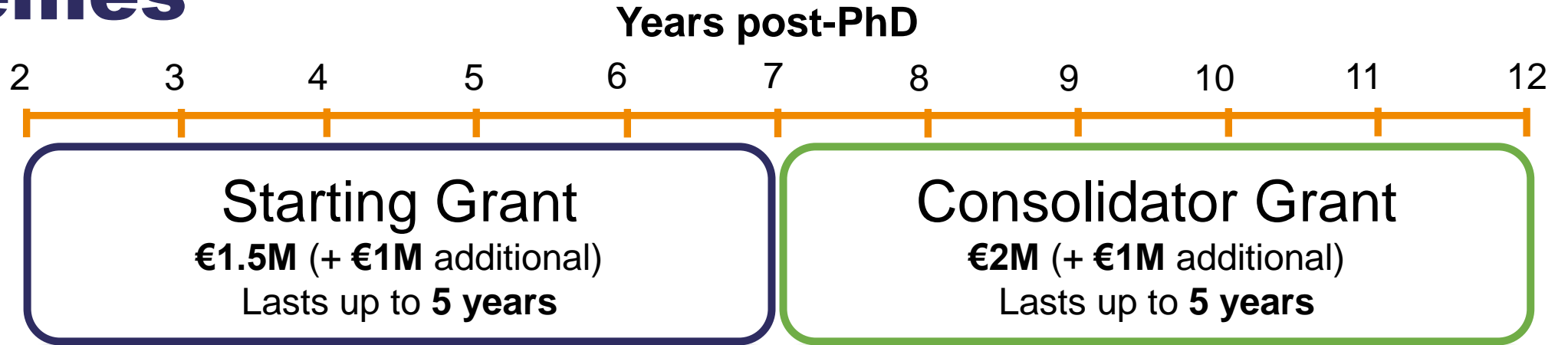

ERC BUDGET: €16 Billion

Pillar 1 Excellent science

Pillar 2 Global challenges

Pillar 3 Innovative Europe

Pillar 4

ERC Grant Schemes

Years post-PhD

2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12

Starting Grant
€1.5M (+ €1M additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

Consolidator Grant
€2M (+ €1M additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

No PhD Requirements

Advanced Grant
€2.5M (+ €1M additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

Synergy Grant
€10M (+ €4M additional)
Lasts up to **6 years** with **2, 3 or 4 PIs**

Proof Of Concept Grant
€150k Lump Sum
Lasts for **1.5 years**
Top-up grants for current ERC grantees
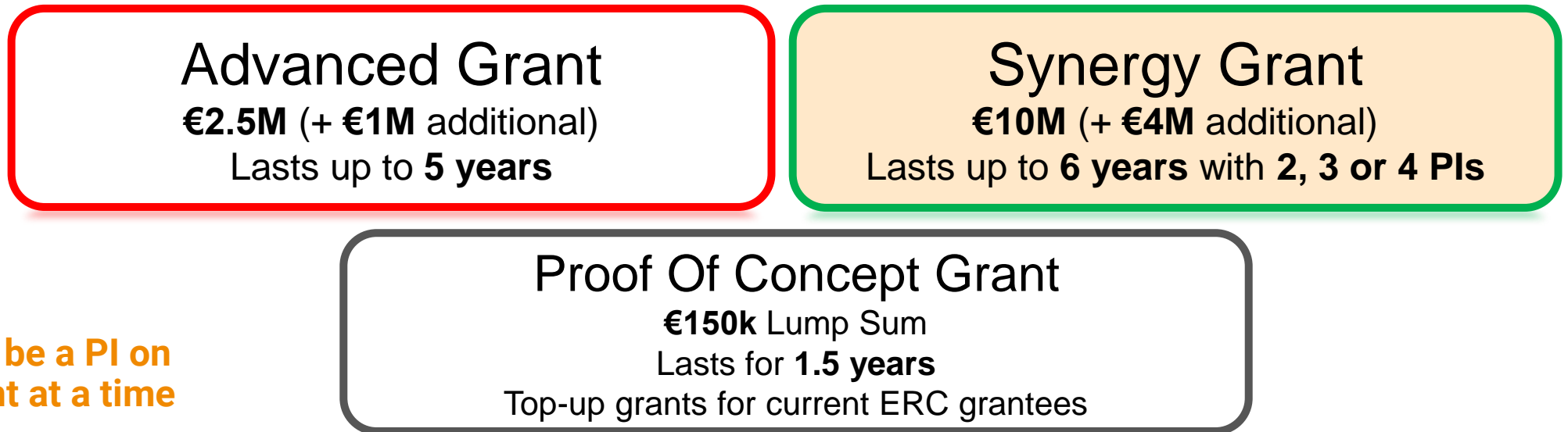
You can only be a PI on one ERC grant at a time

Types of research funded

Proposals:

- can be in **ANY field of research**

- must be **very ambitious** in risk and in scope

- Based around a **central Principal Investigator,** who can be supported by "team members"

- **"Frontier research"** aiming for breakthroughs not incremental advances

- **judged only on the scientific excellence of**
  - the proposed project and
  - the Principal Investigator

More in part 2 of this webinar series on the evaluation criteria, including how panels and external experts evaluate proposals

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What is special about Synergy?

Synergy: Integrated, complementary knowledge and approaches contributed by PIs in the group

Joint effort to achieve something the PIs could not on their own

Small, flexible group: PIs decide who they need to work with

Any PI can join with others as equals to carry out excellent Frontier research, any career stage/discipline
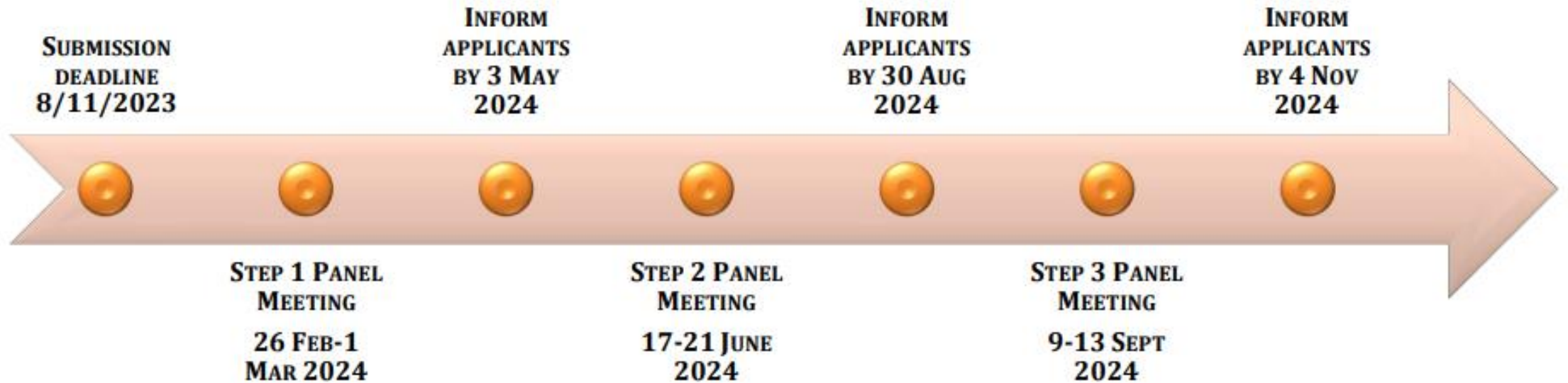
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ERC 2024 Calls

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant	Proof of Concept
Call Type	ERC-2024-StG	ERC-2024-CoG	ERC-2024-AdG	**ERC-2024-SyG**	ERC-2024-PoC
Call Opens	11/07/2023	12/09/2023	29/05/2024	**12/07/2023**	16/11/2023
Deadline	24/10/2023	12/12/2023	29/08/2024	**08/11/2023**	14/03/2024 17/09/2024

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Evaluation timeline

SUBMISSION DEADLINE 8/11/2023

STEP 1 PANEL MEETING 26 FEB-1 MAR 2024

INFORM APPLICANTS BY 3 MAY 2024

STEP 2 PANEL MEETING 17-21 JUNE 2024

INFORM APPLICANTS BY 30 AUG 2024

STEP 3 PANEL MEETING 9-13 SEPT 2024

INFORM APPLICANTS BY 4 NOV 2024

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ERC Panel Structure

Physical Sciences & Engineering	Life Sciences	Social Sciences & Humanities
PE1 Mathematics	**LS1** Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures & Functions	**SH1** Individuals, Markets and Organisations
PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter Particle	**LS2** Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems	**SH2** Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
PE3 Condensed Matter Physics	**LS3** Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration*	**SH3** The Social World and its Interactions*
PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences		**SH4** The Human Mind and Its Complexity
PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials	**LS4** Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing	**SH5** Texts and Concepts*
PE6 Computer Science and Informatics	**LS5** Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System*	**SH6** The Study of the Human Past
PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering		**SH7** Human Mobility, Environment, and Space
PE8 Products and Processes Engineering	**LS6** Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy	**SH8** Studies of Cultures and Arts*
PE9 Universe Sciences	**LS7** Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases	
PE10 Earth System Science		
PE11 Materials Engineering	**LS8** Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution	
	LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering	

***From 2024, LS and SH domains have changed slightly**, check again to find your proposal's best fit!*

- **SH8** panel is newly added, split off from pre-existing panels
- LS3, SH3 and SH4 panels all have new panel titles
- LS5 panel has a new subtitle and descriptors

Synergy Grant dynamic panels

Due to the collaborative nature of Synergy grants, the call's evaluation process **does not have a disciplinary panel schema**
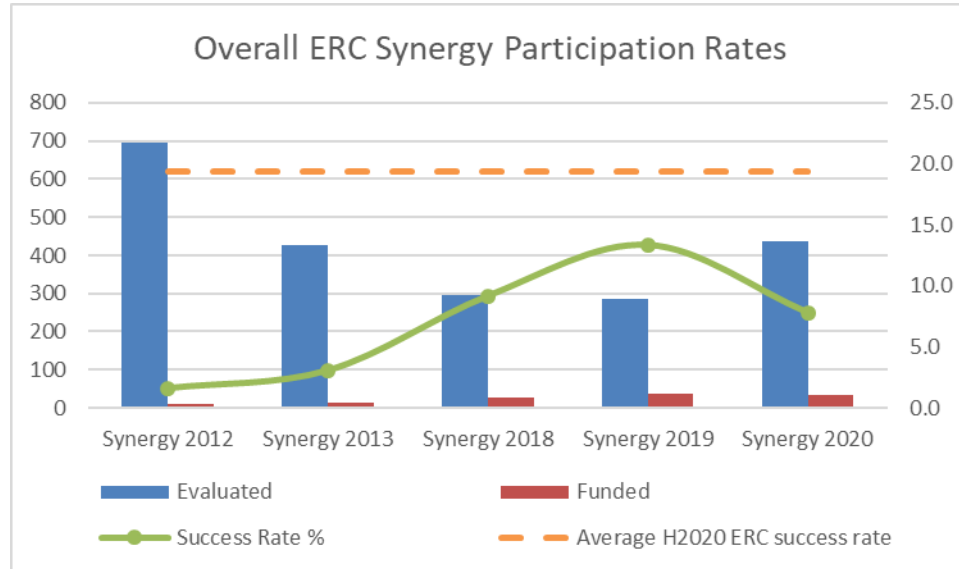
Instead…

…bespoke panels with a variety of experts are set up during the evaluation to match the unique profile of submitted proposals

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Synergy Grant dynamic panels

- The panels are not predefined at the beginning of the evaluation. The applicants apply to a single panel and all panel members belong in step one to this panel that covers all fields of science and scholarship.

- To facilitate the allocation of proposals to the right experts, the applicant corresponding PI has to indicate between four and six fixed **keywords**.

- There is no hierarchical order of the selected keywords. The fixed keywords and free keywords and the abstract of the proposal are analysed together to ensure the best expertise for each proposal.

- It is the **corresponding PI's responsibility** to choose and indicate the most relevant keywords for the evaluation of the proposed research.

- The composition of the panels at step 2 and step 3 is by nature multi-disciplinary to accommodate a proper evaluation of multidisciplinary and complex proposals.

- The allocation of the proposals to the various panels in step 2 and step 3 will be done by grouping proposals based on their research areas and the expertise of the panel members.

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Participation Statistics for ERC SyG Grant

Overall ERC Synergy Participation Rates

Legend:
- Evaluated (blue bars)
- Funded (red bars)
- Success Rate % (green line)
- Average H2020 ERC success rate (orange dashed line)

X-axis: Synergy 2012, Synergy 2013, Synergy 2018, Synergy 2019, Synergy 2020

Synergy scheme is newer than the other ERC schemes and has been allocated smaller budgets.

The call has been in its current form since 2018, since then overall success rates have been at a higher level.

Although the number of projects funded is relatively small, each project involves multiple PIs so a Synergy project is larger.

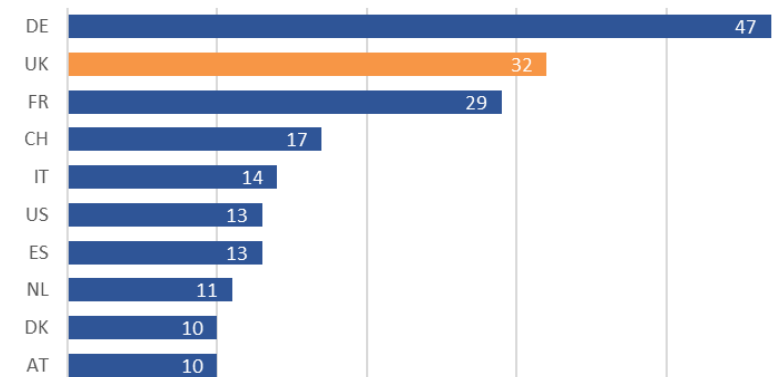## UK's Synergy Grant track record during in Horizon 2020

ERC Synergy PIs Hosted per Country

Pie chart:
- DE 20%
- FR 18%
- UK 12%
- ES 7%
- NL 6%
- IT 4%
- AT 4%
- US 4%
- DK 4%
- Other 14%
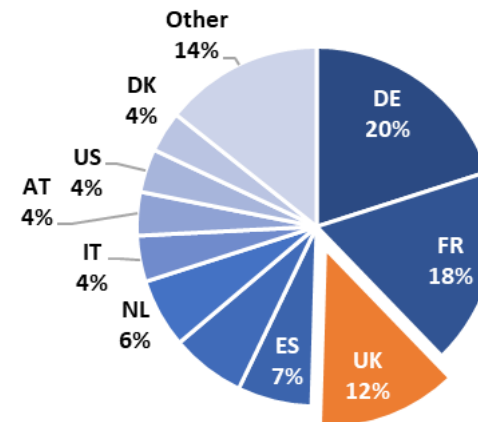
Many Synergy grants have international PI groups, in that sense comparing projects by their countries can be misleading.

We can see that the UK is **3rd most popular** host-country for Synergy PIs

UK-hosted PIs are commonly part of these collaborative teams

32 of the 95 Synergy Grants awarded under H2020 had at least one UK-hosted PI.

### # Projects with 1+ UK-hosted PI over its lifetime (top ten)

Bar chart:
- DE 47
- UK 32
- FR 29
- CH 17
- IT 14
- US 13
- ES 13
- NL 11
- DK 10
- AT 10

Information from 2022 SyG evaluation

359 proposals submitted, (19% decrease compared to 2020)

3.3 PIs per project on average (Consistent with previous calls)

9.1% success rate (33 proposals)

SyG2022 submissions - # of PIs by HI country

EU (861) AC (214) Non-EU (117)

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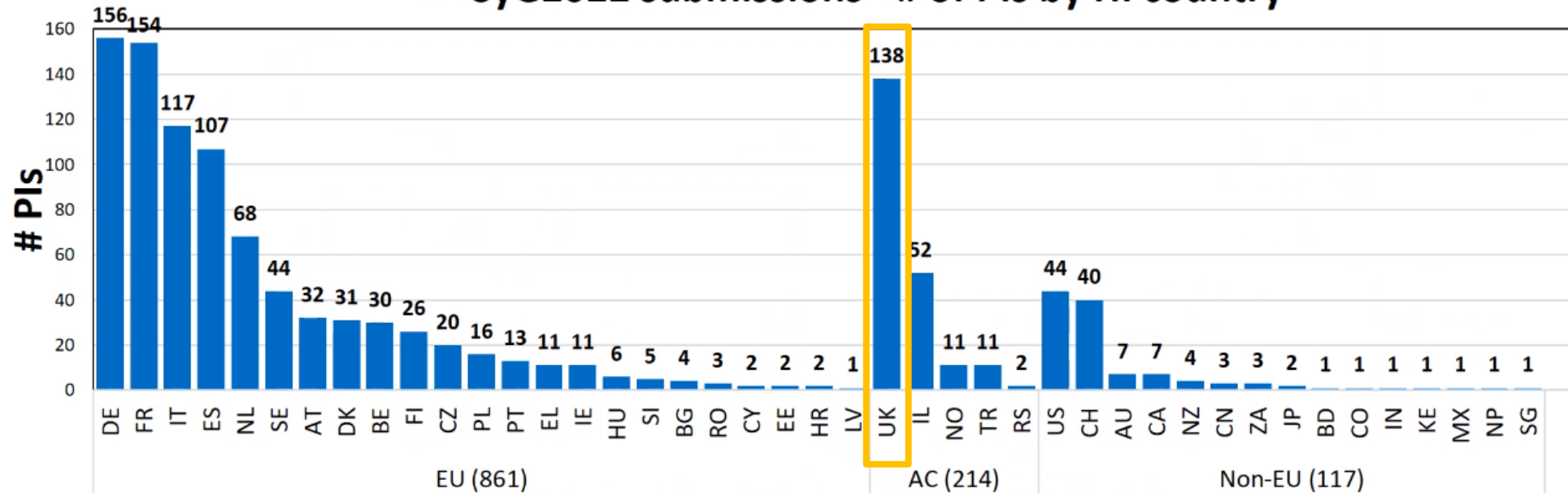
Covid-19 and ERC

For Synergy call, ERC have specified that they expect **all** PIs to attend the interview **in person.**

Standard ERC flexibility for COVID-19 disruption

- Possible to postpone project start date by 6 months
- Possible to extend duration of project by 6 months or further on case by case basis
- Flexibility on teleworking and time commitments (notify ERCEA)

Remember – EU financial contribution to the project cannot be raised
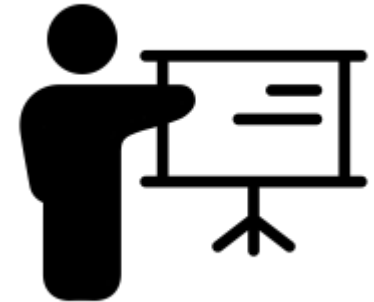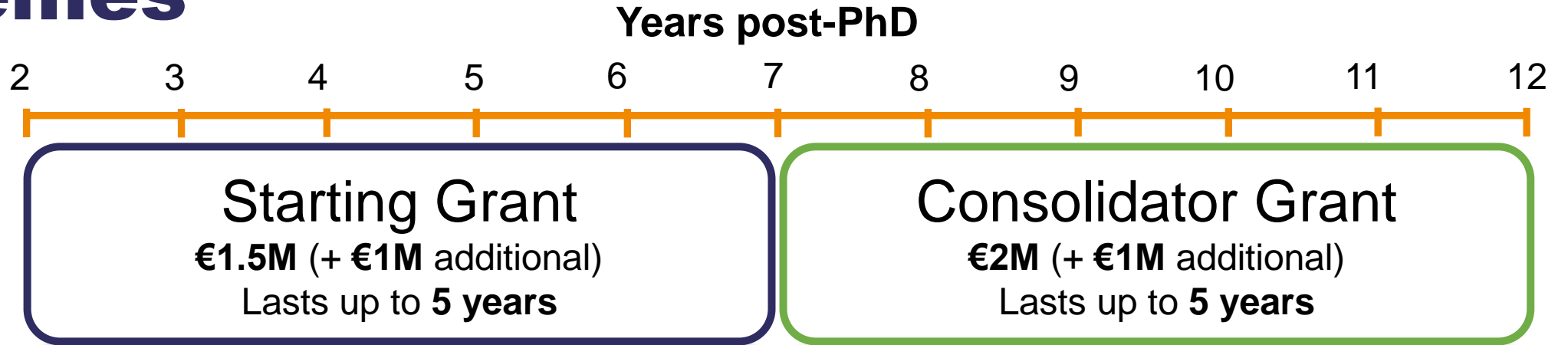
Find out more on the ERC website

[Coronavirus – business continuity measures at the ERC](#)

The interviews are planned between 9 and 13 September 2024. Please check the ERC website for any changes.
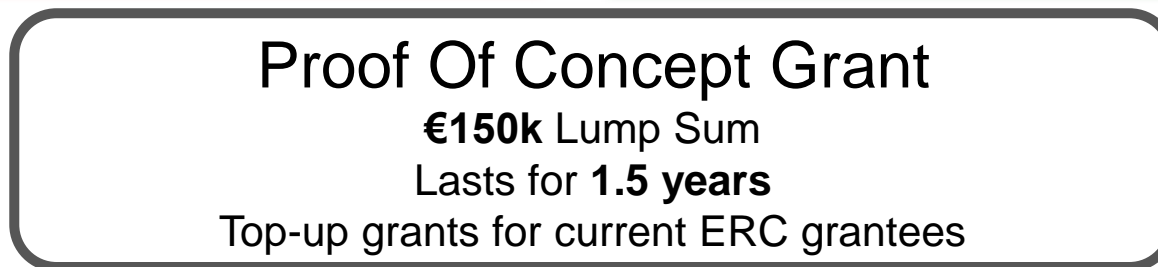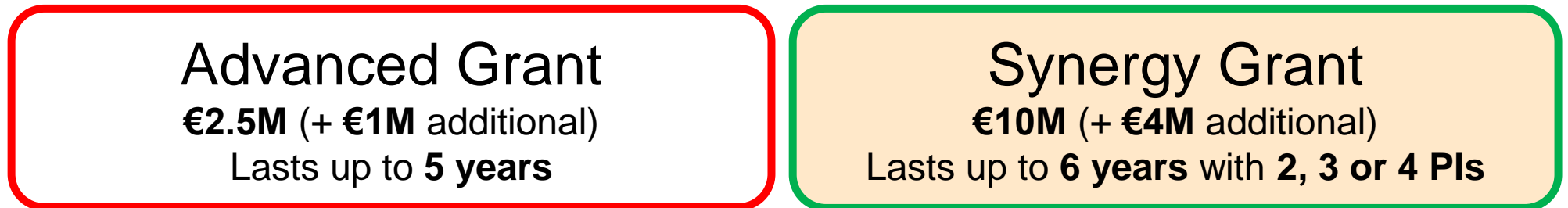
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ERC Eligibility Criteria

ERC Grant Schemes

Years post-PhD

2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12

Starting Grant
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Top-up grants for current ERC grantees

You can only be a PI on one ERC grant at a time

Synergy Group Eligibility

2, 3 or 4 PIs

1 designated as "corresponding PI". *Nothing added in their role, they communicate with EC*

PI group can be a mix of different career stages

Max. 1 PI can be hosted outside EU/Associated Countries

PIs are evaluated individually and as a group

If one PI cannot carry out the project, they cannot be replaced

Remember the European Commission's Q&A sets that the UK is treated as an associated country.

Corresponding Principal Investigator

- The corresponding principal investigator bears the overall responsibility for the supervision of the scientific and technological implementation of the action, while the other principal investigators must contribute to the overall implementation and supervise each one their parts

- For reporting: the corresponding principal investigator assumes the primary responsibility for the scientific reporting and contribution to the financial reporting, while the other principal investigators must contribute to both the scientific and financial reporting

- For events or circumstances likely to affect the Agreement: each principal investigator must inform the coordinator, their beneficiary and the other principal investigators

- Corresponding PIs must also cover settlement of disputes between the principal investigators and between them and the beneficiaries).

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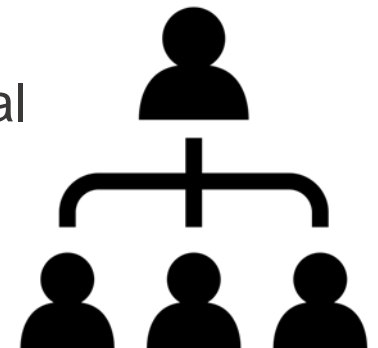
Principal Investigator Eligibility

Who?	Where?
• No restrictions based on age, nationality, current location or current employment/contract status.	• Must have an institution based in an EU Member State or Associated Country willing to host them.

Calculated as an average across entire project duration, can vary to a degree year on year

Grant Type	Minimum % of Working Time on Grant	Minimum % of time in EU Member State/Associated Country*	Years since PhD Award
Starting	50	50	2-7
Consolidator	40	50	7-12
Advanced	30	50	N/A
Synergy	30/40/50*	50	N/A

* Minimum time requirement is 30% but evaluators will look at your profile (e.g. over 50% recommended for Starting profile)

* Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against time commitment
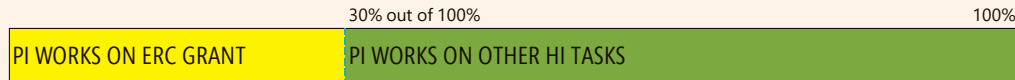
Principal Investigators' minimum grant time commitments

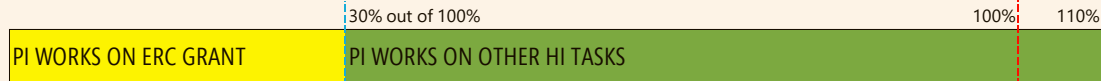| Minimum 30% working time working on the ERC grant	Minimum 50% time spent in Europe (Member State or Associated Country)
• All percentages are established by reference to the full time equivalent at the host institution (see below) or 1720 hours per year.	• Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against time commitment

Synergy PI with FTE Contract

30% out of 100%   100%
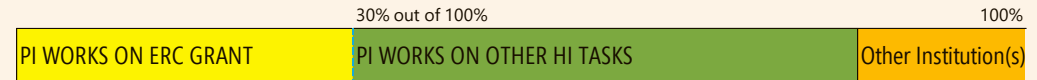
| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TASKS |

Synergy PI with FTE Contract split between the HI and other institutions

30% out of 100%   100%

| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TASKS | Other Institution(s) |

Synergy PI working more than the 100% (FTE) ceiling

30% out of 100%   100%   110%

| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TASKS |

Synergy PI working more than the 100% (FTE) ceiling split between the HI and other institutions

30% out of 100%   100%   110%

| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TASKS | Other Institution(s) |

Synergy PI working part-time - time commitments are pro-rata (% of part-time contract)

30% out of 75%   75%   100%

| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TASKS | |
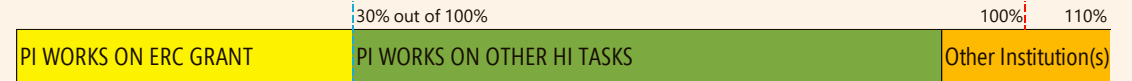
Synergy PI working part-time, split between the HI and other institutions

30% out of 75%   75%   100%

| PI WORKS ON ERC GRANT | PI WORKS ON OTHER HI TAS | Other Institution(s) | |
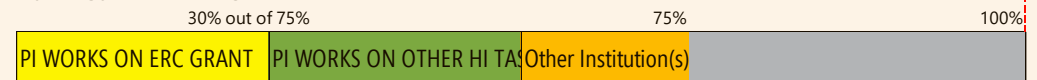
PHD Eligibility

NEW CHANGE 2023: The PhD award date that the ERC uses to calculate whether you are in the eligibility window:

✔ The documented date of the **last successful defence of their PhD degree**. Find out when that different date was in your case and request documents early – you may need to contact awarding institution

✘ Not the award date, PhD certificate or any other rules set by national policy or awarding institution.

✘ **N.B. PHD not a requirement for Synergy Grants!**

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Host Institutions Eligibility

Can be any type of legal entity
(university, business, public body, NGO etc.)

Must be based in the territory of an
EU Member State or Associated Country

Has the infrastructure and capacity to allow the PI to
independently direct the research and manage ERC funding

Must not constrain the PI to the institution's research strategy.
PI has the right to transfer the grant to another institution.

Must 'engage' the PI for project duration, if grant is successful

Not assessed as a separate criterion during peer review but
must sign a letter of commitment as part of application

If funded, the HIs will:
- sign up to the **Grant Agreement**
- sign a '**Supplementary Agreement**' with the PI
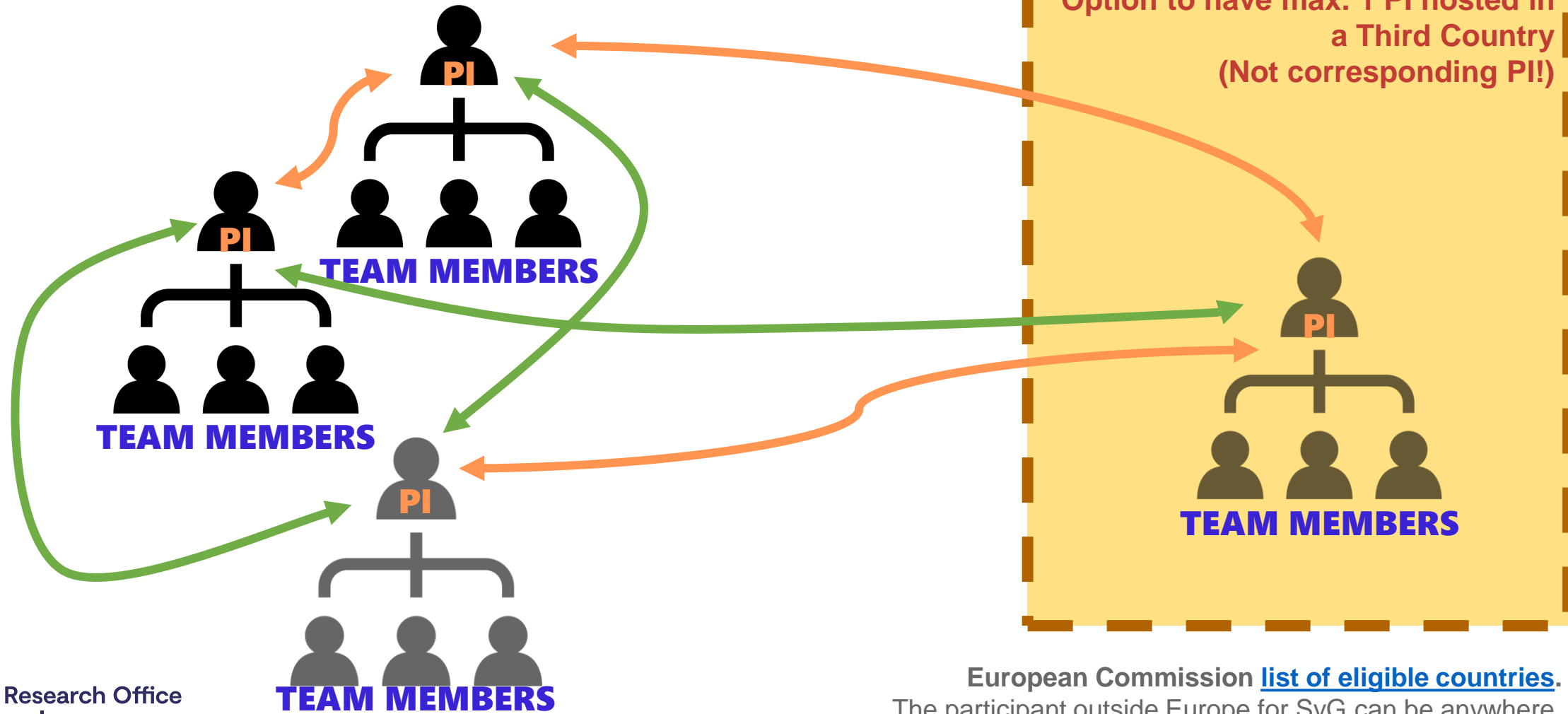
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Principal Investigators leading Team Members

- PI **leads** the research project, they are not collaborating as equals with their team

- PI has the **freedom to choose** how many team members are included in the project

- PI **names individuals or roles** that will be recruited in the proposal

- PI must **justify the team** and its composition and contribution

- Evaluators reject proposals where the PI is overshadowed by any team members

PI
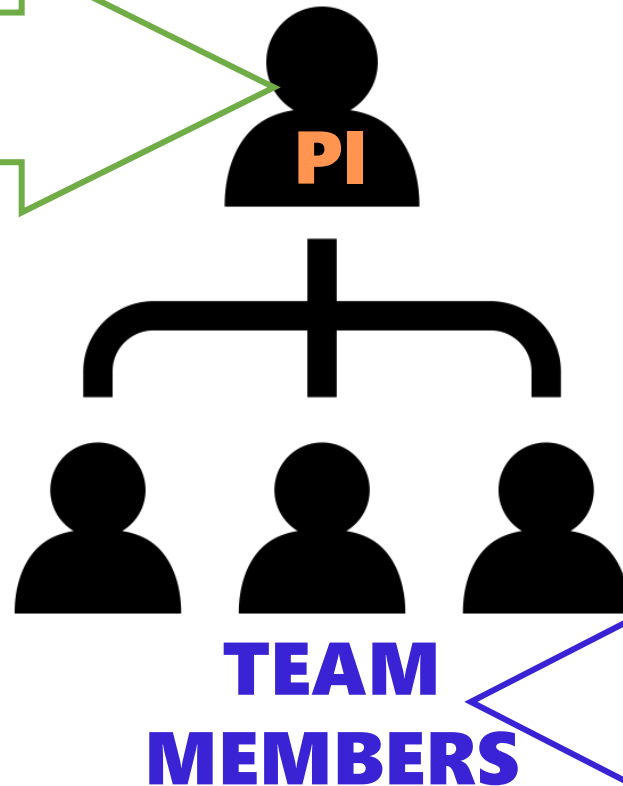
TEAM MEMBERS

- **Team members cannot be co-investigators**

- **Assigned to specific project outputs/tasks**

- Should not have purely supervisory/mentor roles

- Can be **research staff at any level** (including technicians and project managers)

- Of any age, nationality or country of residence

- Can be based **at the Host Institution or any other organisation** in the world

- **EU funded**, even outside member states or associated countries

Principal Investigators in Synergy Grant Groups

PI

TEAM MEMBERS

PI

TEAM MEMBERS

PI

TEAM MEMBERS

Option to have max. 1 PI hosted in a Third Country
(Not corresponding PI!)

PI

TEAM MEMBERS

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European Commission list of eligible countries.
The participant outside Europe for SyG can be anywhere,
so their Host Institution's Third Country may not be listed.

What kind of team members can be in an ERC project?

Depending on the nature of a project the research team may involve team members from other research organisations situated in the same or a different country.
[2022 ERC Work Programme](#)
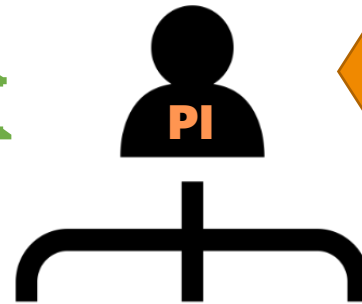
Only 2-4 PIs
evaluated in proposal according to the broadly defined work programme (no prescribed job title)

1 - 4 Host Institutions
(a SyG group can be on the same corridor or opposite ends of the world)

PI

More in Session 2
about adding organisations other than the Host Institution on the EC portal (other beneficiaries or third parties)

PI designs and chooses their team according to the needs of the project

Third Country
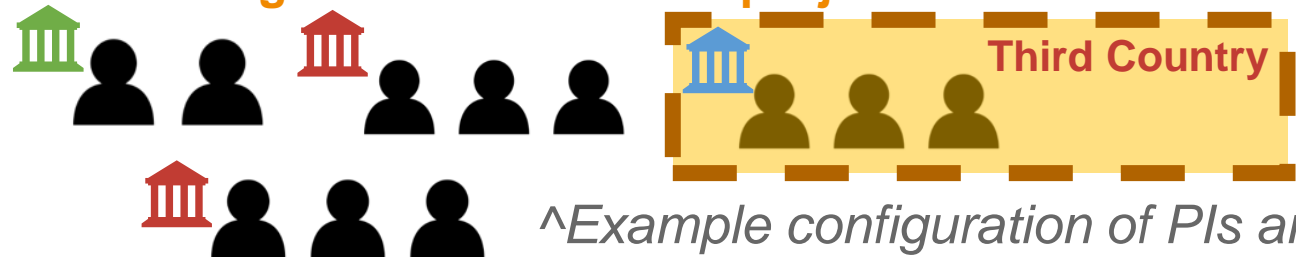
^Example configuration of PIs and HIs

Researchers at any career stage?
YES, from PhD to Professor etc, as long as the PI is clearly leading the project.
Non-academic/administrative team members?
YES, if they are justified and help to carry out the objectives
Team members based in organisations than the Host Institutions?
YES, if they are justified and help to carry out the objectives

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Difference between a Synergy Group and other Horizon Europe consortia

"It is of utmost importance not to confuse the term 'synergy' and its requirements with the concepts and the terminology of other parts of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme […]
Support for consortia is provided by other calls under Horizon Europe."

Synergy Group is:

- PIs (and their teams) that are capable of tackling bold research themes requiring novel approaches

- Research teams are typically characterised by exceptional combinations of knowledge and skills

- The collaborative element is expect to add a creative layer of excellence making the group greater than sum of its parts

- Principal Investigators hold a central role

Synergy Group is not:

- Loose cooperation: e.g. essentially separate projects with networking links/events

- Simply passing data or information from one team to another

- Long-established approaches to collaborating

- Agreement between organisations with staff participating. It must be led by each PI, who can still move the grant elsewhere
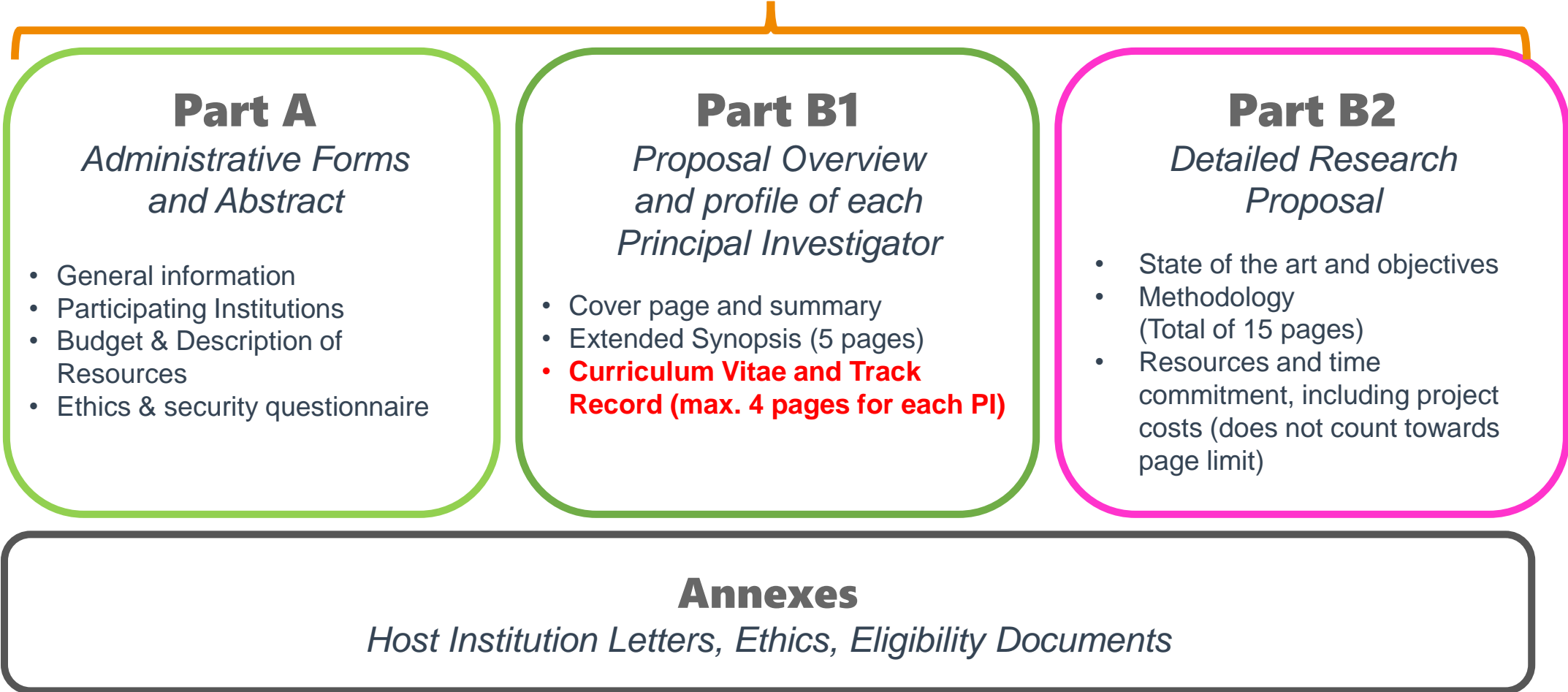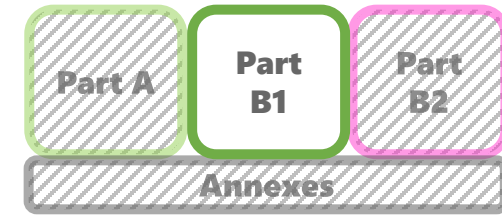
Proposal Development

1-step submission for a 3-step evaluation

Part A is filled in online. B1, B2 and annexes are uploaded as PDFs. All submitted together at the call deadline

Part A
Administrative Forms and Abstract

- General information
- Participating Institutions
- Budget & Description of Resources
- Ethics & security questionnaire

Part B1
Proposal Overview and profile of each Principal Investigator

- Cover page and summary
- Extended Synopsis (5 pages)
- **Curriculum Vitae and Track Record (max. 4 pages for each PI)**

Part B2
Detailed Research Proposal

- State of the art and objectives
- Methodology (Total of 15 pages)
- Resources and time commitment, including project costs (does not count towards page limit)

Annexes
Host Institution Letters, Ethics, Eligibility Documents

Part B1

- **Strict formatting requirements:**

Page Format	Font Type	Font Size	Line Spacing	Margins
A4	Times New Roman, Arial or similar	At least 11	Single	2cm Side 1.5cm Bottom

- **Cover Page (info repeated from Part A)**

- **Extended Synopsis (5 pages)**

- **Curriculum Vitae and Track Record (max. 4 pages for each PI)**

More detail on formatting and specifics of Part B1 in Session 2

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Writing the Extended Synopsis
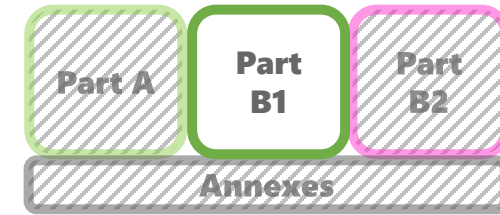
Self-contained

- **All the essential info** about your idea in **5 pages**

- **Describe where the novelty lies** – what is the state-of-the-art and how does this proposal go further?

- Your synopsis should be **referenced**, not counted towards page limits

- Must contain all relevant information and some details about **combination of the PI's scientific approaches** to show feasibility of the scientific proposal and the know-how **(skills, experience, expertise, disciplines and teams)** of the group

Persuasive to generalists

- A variety of **experts acting as generalists** come to a collective decision of whether to pass the proposal to Step 2 – so **be concise and clear without jargon**

- **Persuade them the idea and scientific approach are feasible** – include just enough and don't give a reason to reject!

- Demonstrate that the proposals goes **beyond what individual PIs** could achieve alone

Entertaining!

- Sell your idea - the synopsis should **grab the panellists' attention**

- Your idea should be ambitious – be explicit about **high risk and potentially high gain**

- The description of novelty and ambition **should leave them curious to find out more detail** in Part B2 at Step 2 and the interview at Step 3

Things to think about: Extended Synopsis

Part A
Part B1
Part B2
Annexes
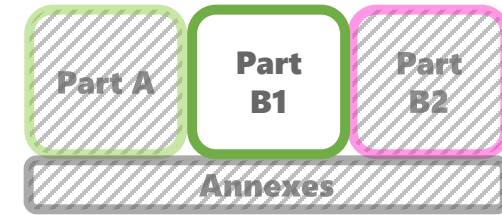
- ✓ Consider what excites you about the research and convey this in your application

- ✓ Scientific Impact – you should be progressing the field of research beyond its current state.

- ✓ Why is a group-based approached needed? Does the proposal highlight why your group's scientific elements are well suited to the project theme and objectives?

- ✓ Timeliness and relevance should be shown throughout the project

- ✓ Research aims should clearly link to the research objectives, which should clearly link to research methodology(ies)

# Writing your CV and Track Record

No prescriptive PI profiles

- **Personal details: education, employment**

- **Research achievements (up to a max. 10)**
  - Demonstrating advancement in the field
  - Emphasis on more recent achievements
  - Short narrative on significance of achievements

- **Peer recognition, prizes, fellowships, academy memberships, etc**

- **Additional information (setting the context)**
  - Career breaks, diverse career paths, life events
  - Other contribution to research community

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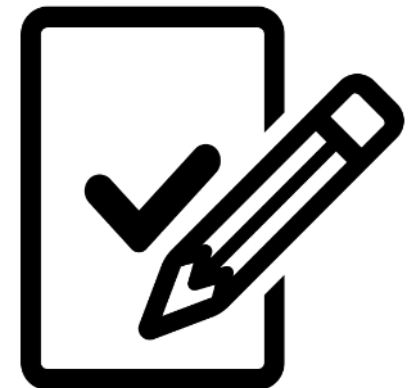
Part B2
(15 pages excluding the resources and time commitment section and References)
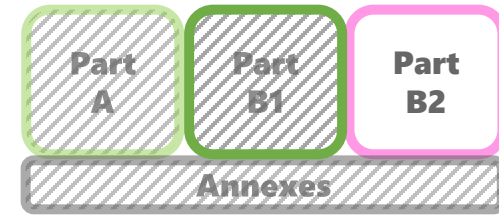
- **State of the art and objectives**
  - Objectives here become grant agreement objectives
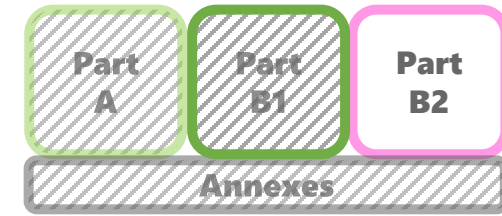
- **Methodology**
  - Proposed methodology
  - Milestones and alternatives
  - Risk and mitigation
  - Project Management
  - Publication & Exploitation of results

- **Funding I.D**
  - All ongoing grants and submitted grant applications of each of the PIs (not included in page limit)

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Writing your State of the Art and Objectives in Part B2

Coherence with Part B1

- **Elaborate Part B1 coherently:** Explain precisely how you plan to achieve what you promised

- **You will have at least one expert reviewer in addition to the generalist panel members**, add technical detail that someone much closer to your field would need to know

- **Don't copy paste from Part B1**. Both parts are considered together at Step 2 so make them complementary

State of the art

- It should be clear **how and why the proposed work is important for the field**

- What **scientific impact** will your project have if successful? What new horizons or opportunities for science, technology or scholarship

Objectives

- Objectives should **fit context of the state-of-the-art** – they should match the ambition to go past the current frontier

- These objectives will become **part of the Grant Agreement** if successful – so the need to be feasible

Writing your Methodology in Part B2
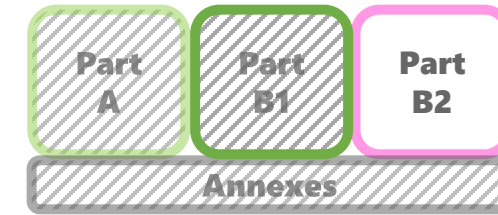
Methodology

- Should be **extensive**, include the essential detail that an expert close to your field would need to know

- Describe significant synergies, complementarity and added value of the group

- Don't leave any reasons for the remote experts to raise doubts in the generalist panel

- Work plan should also be clear and **persuade evaluators that your group can carry out the logistics** of a long term project

Risk Mitigation Strategy

- Where possible **cover every risk with a mitigation strategy**

- **ERC accepts high risk** to hopefully reach high gain – but external experts and to some extent panellist can be more risk averse

- Show evaluators you are aware and considerate of issues and how to react but **be prepared to acknowledge unavoidable uncertainty** that comes with ambitious, new ideas

Your team

- The team members under each PI

- Be sure to show how you will be the **leader of your team** and central figure for your part of project, **alongside other PIs in leadership roles**

- **Explain what each team member will do** – these can be named people or roles specified for recruitment

Justify resources

- Be ambitious but every **part of the budget must have a place in the project and be linked to objectives**

- **Show resources put towards collaborative efforts between PIs**

Writing your Resources and Time Commitment in Part B2
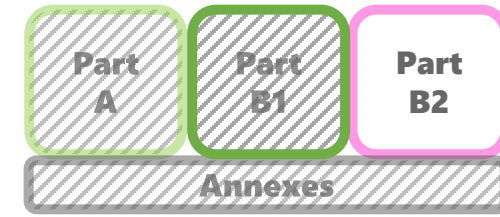
Resources

- Describe the **size and nature** of the Synergy Group, indicating key members and their roles

- Specify any **existing resources** that will contribute to the project

- Describe and fully justify **other necessary resources**, such as infrastructure, equipment, travel costs, consumables, publication costs etc

- Describe and fully justify any 'additional funding' requested

Time commitment

- Specify the time commitment of each PI

- **Minimum 30% working time per PI**

- Each PI can make a commitment above the minimum

- Experts will evaluate each time commitment separately based on the needs of the project and according to the profile of each PI

- **N.B.** Funding I.D. now in B2

Budget table

- Use the budget table template in Part B2

- ERC will fund 100% eligible costs and a flat-rate 25% for indirect costs

- Any unjustified budgets will be cut by the panel members

Things to think about: The Scientific Proposal
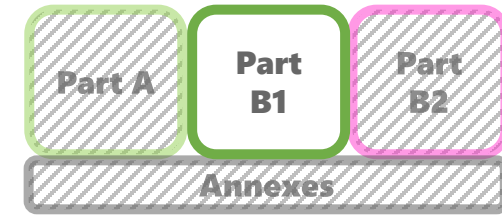
✓ **Recap and expand** on Part B1 introductory Extended Synopsis.

✓ Detail the **current state of the art** in your field: highlight the achievements, challenges and gaps. How will your project go beyond these?

✓ Explain how, and why, your project is important to the field and what **impact** and **implications** it will have if successful. Timeliness should be shown throughout.

✓ Discuss the **challenges** and **unconventional aspects** of your project.

✓ **Coherence** and **clear linkages** throughout proposal text: linking aims to budget via research methodologies. The better your proposal is organised the more feasible the project work plan will appear.

✓ Any preliminary **data management plans** could add to the excellence of your scientific approach. The full data management plan is required by Month 6 if funded.

ERC 2024 SyG Call

Register for the 2nd Information Webinar on 7 September 2 (10:00 – 12:00 UK time)

- the submission process

- how proposals are evaluated

- other elements to consider when designing a project for your group's big research idea.

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Useful links

- **[ERC 2024 SyG call](#)** on the Funding and Tenders portal

- **[ERC 2024 SyG Information for Applicants](#)**

- **[2024 PDF Application Form template](#)**

- **[ERC Information System](#)** and **[Project database](#)** to search through info about past Synergy Grant Projects

- **[Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)**

- **[Novelties in the Horizon Europe MGA](#)** – Commission Stakeholder Workshop video

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Break

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Guest speaker

Professor James Scourse

HoD for Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Exeter

Principal Investigator on ERC SyG 2019 Grant-
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Any questions?

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