

## FAQ, ERC 2016 Calls



### ERC-2016-NCP | NCP project on strengthening competitiveness in ERC calls

Nr	Question	Answer
1.	What are cross-border brokerage events? With what objective?	Cross-border brokerage events are any events bringing together relevant stakeholders from different countries with an objective of sharing experience and best practice to strengthen competitiveness in ERC calls.
2.	What are “transnational workshops for coaching potential ERC applicants”?	Transnational workshops for coaching potential ERC applicants are workshops for potential ERC applicants from several countries, explaining the essence of the ERC application and evaluation process.
3.	The ERC Work Programme 2016 provides that the travel and subsistence expenses of participants should be covered for both types of events: transnational workshops for coaching potential ERC applicants and dedicated local ERC stakeholder events. The costs of every single participant to these events should be paid by the project?	All participants to the events should be eligible for reimbursement of their participation costs. The travel and subsistence costs of all participants requesting the reimbursement should be paid up to the available budget for the specific event.

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4.	Who are the stakeholders involved in the “ERC application process”, and the stakeholders in the “dedicated local ERC stakeholder events”?	Both include the following stakeholders of the ERC: representatives of scientific community such as national Academies of science, universities and research institutes, research councils, research funding agencies, government officials responsible for science and research, and the ERC National Contact Points.
5.	How can an NCP project contribute to the organisation of specific ERC widening European participation events? What could be the tasks of the NCPs?	By establishing a forum for dialogue, exchange of experiences, networking, and learning about good practices among different stakeholders relevant for successful application to the ERC calls. The NCPs could for example be in charge of: - Identification and invitation of relevant national stakeholders - Identification and invitation of potential ERC candidates - Local logistical support in organising the events - Reimbursement of participants: travel and subsistence costs - Contribution to the programme of the events
6.	What are the criteria to select countries for stakeholder and widening participation events?	Level of success in the ERC calls (balance between more and less successful countries) and geographical proximity to the place of event (neighbouring countries).
7.	Who selects the countries of events?	The countries should be selected by the NCPs consortium in consultation with representatives of the ERC Scientific Council working group on Widening European Participation and of the ERCEA.
8.	The ERC Work Programme 2016 reads that the actions shall be implemented "under the guidance of a group comprising representatives of the NCP project, of the ERC Working Group on Widening European participation (ERC WG), and of ERCEA". Who has the lead in the implementation of these actions?	The lead is with the ERC NCPs consortium who should consult the other parties of the joint NCP, ERC WG, ERCEA group on all relevant activities of the project.

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9.	What is the definition of a “country with weak participation in the ERC programme”? Where is the limit?	Any country with below average success rate in ERC calls is considered to have weak participation in ERC programme.
10.	The ERC Work Programme 2016 mentions that "building up cooperation with other relevant stakeholder networks to increase the support to potential ERC applicants will also be encouraged". What are the "other relevant stakeholder networks"?	The other relevant stakeholder networks are professional/umbrella associations and educated societies active in shaping science and research policy on European level, including but not limited to academies, networks of universities, researchers associations, and associations of research performing and research funding organisations.









