



HORIZON 2020

SCIENCE WITH AND FOR SOCIETY

*SwafS-08-2019 – Research
innovation needs & skills training in
PhD programmes (CSA)*
Policy briefing



Disclaimer: This policy briefing, based on the Work Programme topic description, is intended to guide applicants and experts but is not a legal reference in itself.



SwafS-08-2019: Research innovation needs & skills training in PhD programmes (CSA)

Specific challenge:

- Specifications and recommendations on innovative employment-oriented curricula and research innovation needs & skills training in PHD programmes can be found in the:

New Skills Agenda (EMPL) and the Modernisation Agenda (EAC)

- It is crucial for Higher Education Institutions to integrate **open science** and **open innovation skills courses** into **PhD programmes** in order to prepare researchers for a successful career in and outside academia
- Develop courses in curricula with and by non-academic actors and provide courses in non-academic surroundings



Scope:

- A **broad package of skills-related training**, integration and intelligence for researchers and scientists in all career stages and sectors will need to be developed and integrated into existing or new curricula
- Preferably pilots will be organised by (or in cooperation with) **experienced projects** (e.g. Erasmus+, ITN, etc ...)
- Demonstrate **proof of concept** and **initial impact** of the PhD training programme
- Reasoning for improving and formally integrating skills training is key
- Demonstrate ability to **trace post-graduates during employment** (including sex-disaggregated data)
- Include **counselling initiatives** for PhD candidates and PhD graduates into focused careers in and outside academia



Impact:

- Post-graduate candidates and early-stage researchers, in closing the skills gap between research employment in academia and beyond academia
- Innovation potential of future PhD candidates
- Joint collaboration between academia and stakeholders in the regions (hubs) for better career choices
- Learning about future skills needs and employment potential of scientists of all (interdisciplinary) fields
- Interdisciplinary and international mobility of researchers working under open science in line with the IDTP