

## YELLOW RESEARCH TRAINING

### How to write a competitive individual research grant proposal?

#### 1. Workshop

The competition for individual research grants like Marie Curie and the Dutch NWO Talentscheme is fierce while these grants are becoming more and more important for young researchers to safeguard a successful research career. But what is the difference between a research grant proposal and a scientific journal paper? And what does a CV of an outstanding researcher look like and how can you “build” such a CV?

This workshop prepares young researchers to become competitive candidates for prestigious individual national and European research grants.

#### 2. Programme Outline

We start with a brief overview of the main European and Dutch research schemes with particular attention for individual grant schemes for young post-docs, such as MSCA IF, VENI and Rubicon including the evaluation process. Next we will focus to the CV's of the participants. What are important ingredients of your CV and what are the evaluation criteria of the above mentioned funding schemes related to the PI of an individual research proposal? Does your CV fulfil these criteria yet, and what is still missing? Furthermore, one of the important lessons is that there is usually no direct relationship between the writing instructions for your proposal and the evaluation criteria, in particular related to the PI –part. After the lunch break we will discuss the evaluation criteria of these funding schemes as well the so-called “hidden criteria”, which are used to assess the quality of the research project. Next, we will address a typical project structure and proposal content. We will end the day with an individual assignment to define a personal action plan for each participant. How can you further exploit your

strong points and how can you improve the weak parts of your CV and track record? What would be the best moment to apply for which grant?

#### 3. Outcome

Participants obtain general and latest information about the most important EU and Dutch Grant Schemes, with particular focus on the individual grants. In addition they will jointly identify the weak and strong parts of their CV and define an action plan towards becoming competitive candidates for individual research grants.

#### 4. Who should attend

This workshop is primarily intended for young researchers (PhDs, postdocs) who have the ambition to pursue a career and are planning to submit an individual research grant proposal in the near future.

#### 5. Methodology

Participants are provided with solid background information. Hands-on experience will be facilitated by a number of interactive exercises. Moments of discussions are included in the programme to stimulate exchange of views between participants and trainers. The seminar is in English.

Interested course participants provide their CV by mail to the trainer 1 week in advance of the training for review.

#### 6. Programme

##### 9:00 Start of the workshop

Main characteristics of research grants of H2020 and NWO, with focus on individual grants (MSCA IF + Rubicon + VENI), including evaluation process CV-part of research proposals including CV building: what are the most important evaluation criteria related to PI, what does a competitive CV look like? How to present your CV in a competitive research proposal? Group assignment: peer review of CV according to evaluation criteria. Various examples, tips & tricks.

##### Lunch break

Before you start writing: project building vs. proposal writing; general project structure, tips and tricks for proposal writing. What is the difference between a research grant proposal and a scientific paper (exercise)?

Individual assignment: what is still missing in your CV? What information do you need to better present your CV and track record? What is the best scheme for me? What are possible next steps?

##### 16:00 Feedback of the day

#### 7. Trainers

**Aya van den Kroonenberg, PhD.** Aya joined Yellow Research in 2013. She has more than 20 years of experience with writing and reviewing European research grants with a particular focus on individual research grants. Aya is regularly invited by the European Commission as an expert evaluator for FP research proposals.

Our knowledge and experience in pre-submission review of individual grants is an important aspect of our success with this training. We have been running workshops on individual grants at numerous universities as well as assisted in the pre-submission review of the most important national and European Research grants.

#### 8. Date and location

Dates	8 June 2018
Time	9:00 – 16:30
Location	Twente University Netherlands