



NEUROSOME



H2020-MSCA-ITN-2017 GA - 766251

NEUROSOME: First training event

Heraklion, Crete, May 2019

NEUROSOME

Exploring The Neurological Exposome

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<http://www.enve-lab.eu>



Marie Skłodowska Curie Action NEUROSOME

Budget: €3,493,845

Starting date 1st October 2017

Duration: 48 months

9 Beneficiaries

**AUTH, URV, IUSS, CSIC, JSI,
ISS, BURLO, TP, UPD**

5 Partners Organizations

**Johns Hopkins University, Emory University, Harvard
University, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, UPCOM**

14 ESRs





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Innovative Training Networks



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Beneficiaries (Participants level 1)

- Signatory to the grant agreement
- Full partner of the network
- Contribute directly to the implementation of the training programme by supervising, hosting and training ESR
- Provide secondment opportunities

Partner organisations (Participants level 2)

- Do not sign the grant agreement
- Provide training and host ESR's during secondment
- Both academic and non-academic organisations can take part in an ITN either as a beneficiary or as a partner organisation

ESRs

- At the time of recruitment (ITN) the researcher must be in the first 4 years (full-time research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree



- To support the **development of environment-wide exposure and health associations with neurodevelopmental disorders** through an exposome approach connecting multiple types of environmental, exposure, HBM multi-omics in vitro and clinical data.
- To improve the **identification of cause and effect relations** between multiple environmental stressors, biomonitoring data and observed adverse health outcome considering modification due to intrinsic (i.e. genetic susceptibility) and extrinsic (i.e. diet and socio-economic status) factors.
- To develop **new standards for HBM data interpretation** in conjunction with environmental and exposure information in selected areas of South Europe (Greece, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, France and Spain).



NEUROSOME

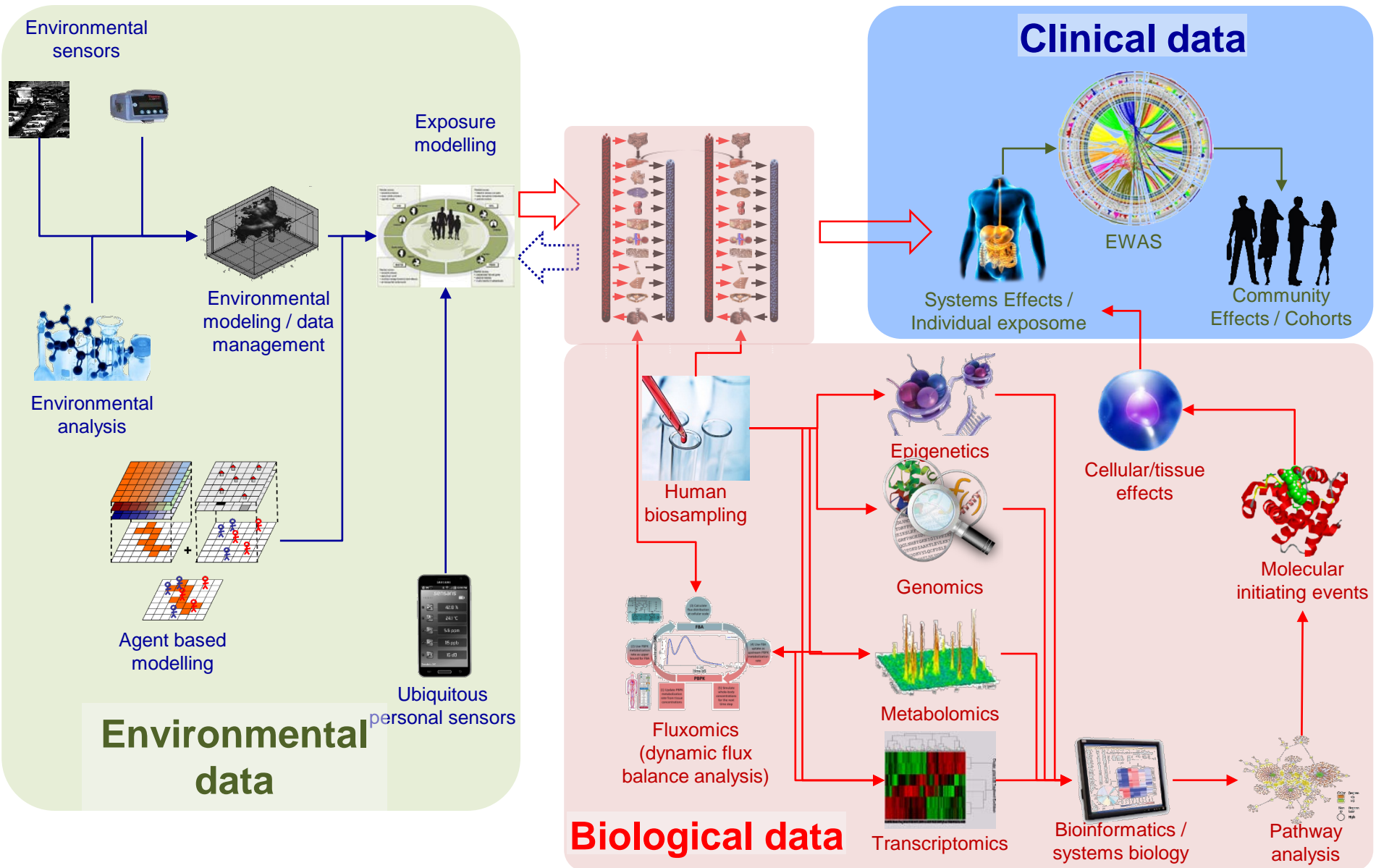
Connectivity-based workflow for exposome studies



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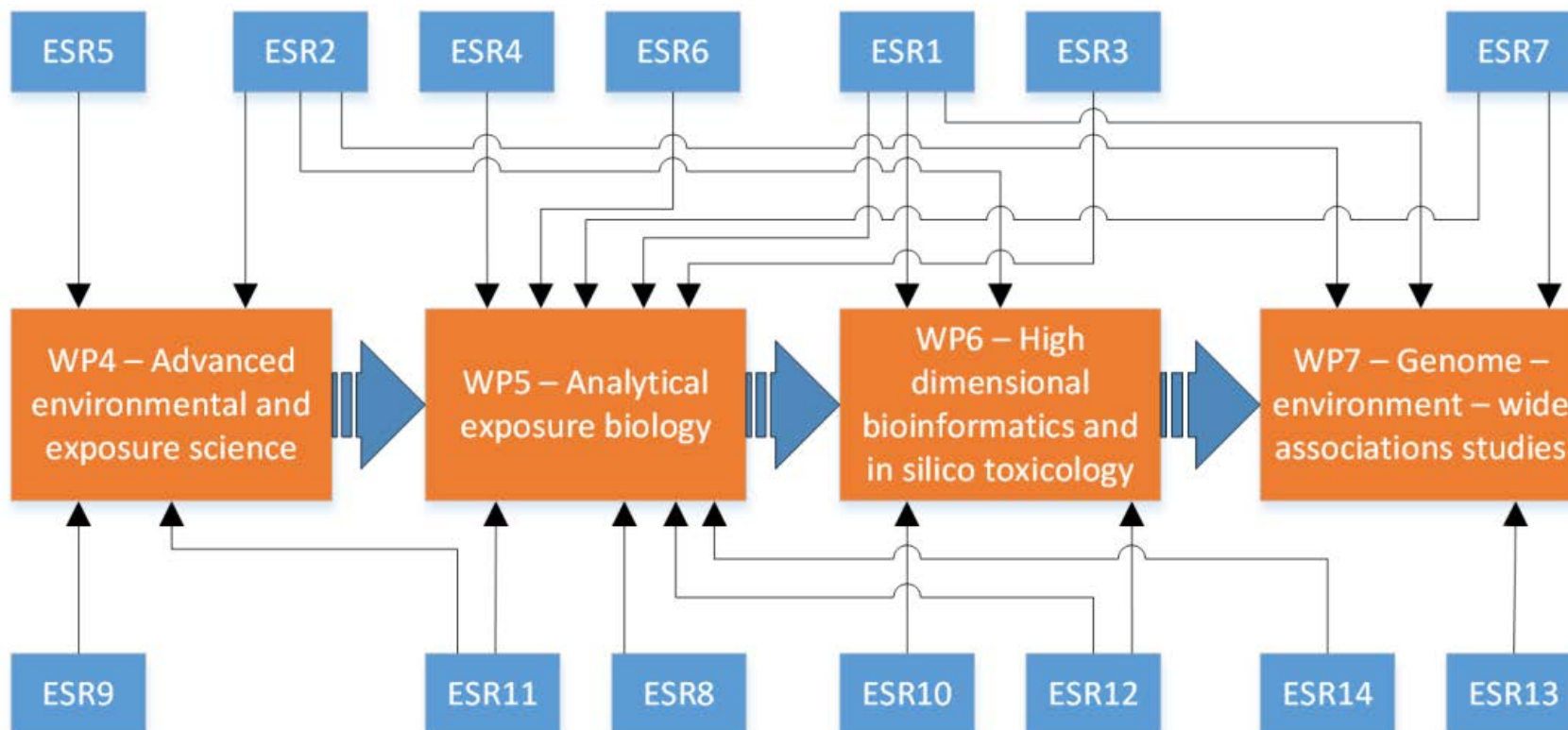
Work-Package list



WP Title	Lead Beneficiary	Start Month	End Month	ESR involvement
Management	AUTH	1	48	No
Dissemination and communication	URV	1	48	All ESRs
Recruitment and career enhancement	IUSS	1	45	All ESRs
Advanced environmental and exposure science	CSIC	2	45	ESR2, ESR5, ESR9, ESR11
Analytical exposure biology	ISS	2	45	ESR1, ESR3, ESR4, ESR6, ESR7, ESR8, ESR11, ESR12, ESR14
High dimensional bioinformatics and in silico toxicology	AUTH	2	45	ESR1, ESR2, ESR10, ESR12
Genome-exposome-wide health association studies	TP	2	45	ESR1, ESR2, ESR7, ESR13
Structured training courses	UPD	2	45	All ESRs



Links between ESRs and NEUROSOME scientific WPs





Coordinator:

- Submit a 'progress report' within 30 days after one year from the starting date of the action;
- Organise a 'mid-term review meeting' between the beneficiaries, partner organisations and the Agency before the deadline for the submission of the report for RP 1 (reporting period 1);
- Establish a supervisory board of the network
- Submit any other deliverables identified in Annex 1

Beneficiaries:

- The beneficiaries must: submit a '**researcher declaration**' within 20 days after the recruitment of each researcher.



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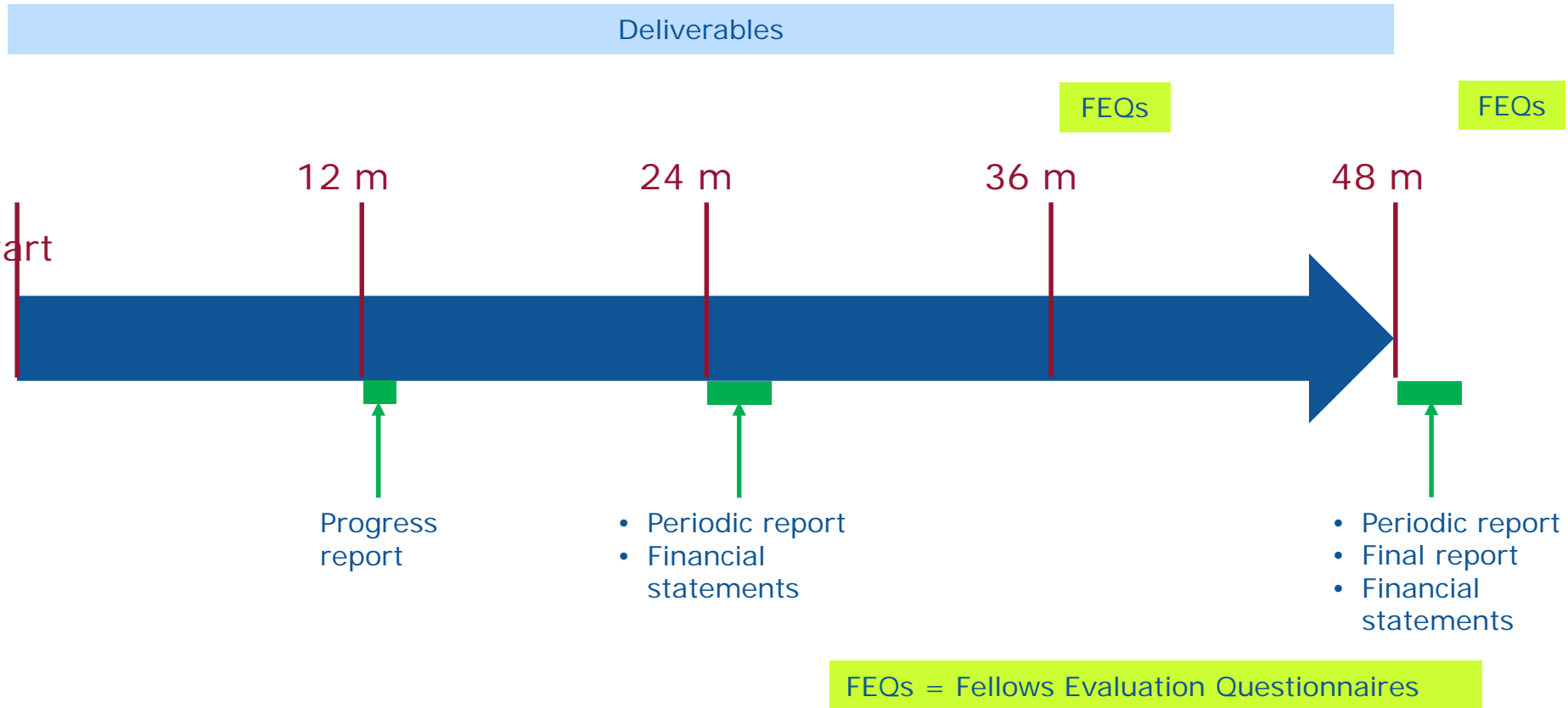
Reporting



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Costs categories

A. Costs for Recruited Researchers:

- A.1 Living allowance
- A.2 Mobility allowance
- A.3 Family allowance

B. Institutional Costs:

- B.1 Research, training and networking costs
- B.2 Management and indirect costs



Challenges

(writing the proposal)



- An ITN is a scientific proposal and needs to be of high scientific excellence and innovation
- The objectives of the research programme should be well defined.
- The interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral aspects should be well taken into consideration in the training programme, and the non-academic sector contribution is considered important as well
- The specific research training objectives for each researcher should be clearly described
- The participant's expertise should complement each other
- To provide the opportunity to the ESRs to develop multidisciplinary skills, including complementary skills and competences, through their research projects and the bespoke training courses



Challenges

(writing the proposal)



- The training programme should enhance the ESRs career perspectives
- The good perspective for the cohort of researchers delivered by the network to reinforce the European innovation capacity should be demonstrated
- A clear orientation to a structured program aiming at an equivalent level of knowledge of ESRs should be emphasized
- The recruiting strategy should be carefully prepared and presented
- The secondments plan (who will host which ESRs and for how long) should be clearly described
- The scientific visibility through peer-reviewed papers in high impact journals should be sufficiently emphasized



Challenges

(proposal implementation)



- A major scientific challenge is the implementation of the work that has to be done in the project. We need to keep in mind that ITNs are scientific projects with a clear timeline of deliverables; however, this is a work that has to be done by the ESRs, that have to be trained.
- Other challenges of administrative nature include:
 - the bureaucracy that is required by the national legislation regarding the ESRs recruitment
 - Several practicalities related to the visa for non-EU ESRs; depending of the country of origin, visa issuing might be a very cumbersome and time consuming process. This will result in late recruitment, which in turn could result in a delay of the work progress
 - Opening of a VAT position in the country of the hosting institute might be an additional factor that will delay the effective date of ESR contracting; please notice, that in case the ESR will not make a 36 months contract, this will impact the Research, training and networking costs as well as the management and indirect costs