

H2020 GENERAL MGA

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
17	third parties	Participants' roles should correspond to their real contribution to the project. Main actors should be the beneficiaries and third parties should perform secondary tasks. Other details on linked third parties, subcontracting, coordinator tasks and in-kind contributions already included in the former MGA version.
32/33	(revised) final grant amount	Further details and explanations on the calculation of the (revised) final grant amount have been shifted to Article 21. For the revision of the final grant amount, a recovery may be done if needed.
50	double ceiling	Two examples have been added to clarify the double ceiling.
51	recalculation & adjustments (yearly basis)	Adjustments to the hourly rate (yearly calculation method) must be done by using the hourly rate that would have had to be used at the end of the reporting period concerned. One example has been added to clarify the adjustment of the hourly rate.
56	hourly rate of the national project reference	Concerning employees on long-term sick leave, the average annual productive hours of the previous year may be used.
61	employees hired during on-going financial year	Clarifying examples have been added, for calculating the pro-rata annual productive hours in option 2 and 3.
66	option 3 – standard annual productive hours	Provided that the standard annual productive hours have been calculated according to the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices and that option 3 is consistently applied, the auditors will not challenge standard annual productive hours that are 90% of the standard annual workable hours.
69	natural persons with direct contract	The hourly rate of natural persons working under a direct contract may include mandatory social security contributions for that person.
73	unit costs for SME owners/natural persons	The monthly living allowance set by the Commission has been adapted for the Work Programme 2018-2020 (EUR 4.880).
77	travel costs and related subsistence allowances	Travel costs for experts participating on an ad hoc basis are eligible if their participation is ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - either foreseen in Annex 1 - or justified in the periodic technical report and approved by the Commission via simplified approval procedure (= without formally amending the GA).
82	prototype/pilot plant	Only direct costs for construction of the prototype/pilot plant may be eligible, provided ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the building is the or one of the main action task/s in Annex 1 AND - the costs are foreseen in Annex 2 (estimated budget) AND - the eligibility conditions in Article 6.1 and 6.2 are met. Records of the construction costs under a fixed assets account of the beneficiary are normally considered compliant with Article 6.1(a)(v) if ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it is in accordance with the national accounting standards and the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices AND

		- there is no double charging of costs.
91	large research infrastructure	The ex-ante assessment of the beneficiary's costing methodology for the declaration of costs for large research infrastructure may not necessarily cover the entire legal entity from the beginning of H2020, but only some parts with different starting dates. A positive ex-ante assessment is obligatory for the eligibility of those costs.
99	internally invoiced goods and services	Normally, costs of resources that do not belong to the beneficiary and are provided free of charge do not appear in the beneficiary's accounts and are therefore not eligible (consequence: must be excluded from the calculation of the unit cost for internally invoiced goods and services). In the case of co-owned resources registered in the third parties' accounts, these costs do not have to be removed from the calculation of these unit costs, if ... - the third party is mentioned in the grant AND - the costs fulfil the other eligibility conditions of Article 6.2.D.5 GA.
135	in-kind contributions against payment	Costs of foundations/spin-off companies etc. that are created to manage the beneficiary's administrative tasks and which are paid directly by the coordinator are in general considered as in-kind contributions against payment. In general, the costs are eligible if they are recorded in the beneficiary's accounts. If not, costs may still be eligible, if ... - the costs are recorded in the accounts of the third party AND - the beneficiary proves that such practice is in line with national law and applicable accounting standards.
147	linked third parties	Concerning associations, foundations or other legal entities composed of members, generally it is the entity that is the beneficiary and the members that are its linked third parties.
151	participation of international partners	International partners may be added to older GAs via an amendment.
152	participation of international partners	International partners must not be eligible for funding, meaning ... - either they are a legal entity established in a third country not listed in General Annex A to the H2020 Work Programme - or they are an international organization other than international European interest organisations (see Article 2.1(12) of the Rules for Participation for definition).
176		no change visible
185	reporting – financial report	Beneficiaries having action and operating grants, may charge indirect costs in their action grants only if they are able to demonstrate cost separation under these conditions: - the operating grants may not cover 100% of the beneficiary's annual budget (= no full operating grants) - the beneficiary must use analytical accounting that is used to identify and separate costs - the beneficiary must record all real costs incurred for the activities covered by operating and action grants - the allocation must give a fair, objective and realistic result. If a beneficiary can not comply with these conditions, it must ... - either not sign/terminate the operating grants to be able to claim indirect costs in the action grants - or keep the operating grants, but sign the action grants without indirect costs or request no indirect costs at reporting stage.

		<p>The possibility of combining operating and action grants may apply also to older GAs.</p> <p>In case of overlapping EU action and operating grants, the beneficiary should immediately contact the Commission.</p>
194-209	payments and payment arrangements	<p>Restructuring of Article 21 explanations.</p> <p>Further details and explanations on the calculation of the (revised) final grant amount have been included and two examples added.</p> <p>Calculation steps and one example have been added for the pre-financing payment.</p> <p>Calculation steps have been added for the payment at beneficiary termination.</p> <p>The beneficiary's final grant share will be calculated only at the end of the project.</p> <p>If the terminated beneficiary is audited during an ongoing project, the amount due will be recalculated. If the terminated beneficiary is audited after the end of the project, the recovery will follow the standard rules.</p> <p>Calculation steps have been modified for the interim payments (e.g. interim payment letter) and two examples have been added.</p> <p>Calculation steps have been added for the payment of the balance and the former explanations concerning receipts have been integrated. Four examples have been modified/added.</p>
223/224	(extension of) findings	<p>If the findings also impact other EU/Euratom grants, the procedure will be followed by a usually centralised extension procedure.</p> <p>The beneficiary has to choose one method for the entire extension procedure (submit for all grants either revised financial statements or an alternative correction method).</p>
250/251	data sharing for public health emergencies	<p>new!</p> <p>If foreseen in the work programme/call, grant agreements for health actions will include specific contractual provisions concerning the sharing of quality-controlled digital research data and associated metadata relevant for public health emergencies.</p> <p>In actions targeting public health emergencies, beneficiaries must ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide a DMP at the latest before signature of the GA AND - give free-of-charge access to relevant data within 30 days after their creation AND - give open access to other data as soon as possible.
255		no change visible
268/269	research integrity	Beneficiaries must follow the principles listed in Article 34 and comply with the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity.

		Fundamental research integrity principles have been reduced to four principles (reliability, honesty, respect and accountability).
298/299	cost rejection	Further details and explanations on the calculation of cost rejection have been shifted to Article 21.
301-303	grant reduction	<p>A grant reduction will be made at the end of the action, at beneficiary termination and after the payment of the balance.</p> <p>Serious breach of obligations refers to all kinds of non-compliance with the GA obligations, including obligations during the award procedure. Practically, the most frequent breach is the improper implementation of the action/non-compliance with Annex 1.</p> <p>Steps for the contradictory procedure have been added. Further details and explanations on the calculation of the grant reduction have been shifted to Article 21.</p>
308	recovery of undue amounts	Further details and explanations on the recovery of undue amounts have been shifted to Article 21.
318/319	suspension of payments (EU)	Steps for the contradictory procedure have been added.
323/324	GA suspension	Steps for the contradictory procedure have been added.
331	beneficiary termination (consortium)	In case of a beneficiary's termination by the consortium, it has to inform the beneficiary concerned and demand his opinion in writing and provide it to the Commission. If the beneficiary does not reply, the consortium has to prove the beneficiary's opinion has been requested in writing.
338		no change visible
339	action can no longer be implemented	Clarification in form of an additional example: The GA may be terminated by the Commission if a beneficiary that has the necessary background to work on the action and owns the installations where most of the work would be implemented, terminates its participation.
341	GA or beneficiary termination (EU)	Steps for the contradictory procedure have been added.
342	termination of the coordinator	The amendment request must be made by one of the beneficiaries (acting on behalf of the consortium) and reports must be submitted by the new coordinator.
344	force majeure	Personal reasons or internal instructions are generally not considered as force majeure.
354/355	amendments - change of beneficiary due to partial takeover	<p>As a best practice, the Commission suggests to upload the takeover contract in the Participant Portal and specify in the amendment request that the legal documents are available there.</p> <p>The financial statement for the open reporting period until transfer must be either uploaded by the former beneficiary (for the time it was a beneficiary) or by the new beneficiary.</p>
356		no change visible
357	amendments - changes to Annex 1	A significant change to deliverables requires an amendment. Changes to the due date of deliverables normally do not require an amendment, except if timeliness is crucial.
367	dispute settlement	Except for disputes of public law nature (they remain before the European Court of Justice), contractual disputes of non-EU beneficiaries normally refer to the courts of Brussels, Belgium. No other forum may be chosen.

ERC MGAS

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
383	records for personnel costs – hours worked for the action	prove of compliance with the PI time commitments removed
390	open access to scientific publications	definition of “peer-reviewed” added
391	open access to research data	obligation to use the ERC template for the data management plan removed
396	supplementary agreement – obligations on the PI	time commitment obligations added; calculation added; time commitments of the PI have to be fulfilled even if no personnel costs are charged for him/her

MSCA MGAS

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
409; 525-551	background information and approach; MSCA-SNLS	grant for MSCA-SNLS added
422	researcher costs – declaration of costs	unit cost for living allowance adapted (EUR 3.270)
423	researcher costs – eligibility of costs	additional condition for part-time employment added (limit of max. 50% of the time spent under the action)
424	researcher costs – eligibility of costs	additional conditions for EJD – PhD-programme award added
426	researcher costs - calculation	clarifications and examples added
427	institutional costs	coverage of this budget category has been widened; example added; clarifications
431	third parties involved in the action	rule about the hosting of secondments added
438	recruitment and working conditions – rights for the researchers	rule on researchers’ costs for implementation of the action added
442	MSCA-IF actions	MSCA-IF annotations are applicable to the Widening Fellowships
450	researcher costs – declaration of costs	unit cost for living allowance adapted (EUR 4.880)
451/452	researcher costs – eligibility of costs	additional conditions for part-time employment added (professional grounds + limit of max. 50% of the time spent under the action); clarifications
453	researcher costs – other conditions	definition of “long-term resident” changed
454	researcher costs – calculation	clarifications and examples added
458	participants	rule about the hosting of secondments added
459	records and other supporting documentation	condition for part-time for professional reasons added
463	recruitment and working conditions – rights for the researcher	support of time spent by the researcher with the beneficiary before the outgoing phase added rule on researchers’ costs for implementation of the action added
464	employment contract – obligations on the researcher	exception for part-time for professional reasons added

472	transfer of the GA – effects	splitting of the maximum grant amount between the former and the new beneficiary and agreement obligation added
481	seconded staff costs – declaration of costs	unit cost for living allowance adapted (EUR 2.100)
482	seconded staff costs – eligibility of costs	the time for engagement in or link to research and innovation activities at the premises of the sending beneficiary/partner organization/entity with a capital or legal link has been changed to 1 month
496	recruitment and working conditions – rights for the seconded staff members	rule on seconded staff members' costs for implementation of the action added
505	researcher costs – declaration of costs	unit cost for living allowance adapted (EUR 3.870/EUR 5.480)
506	researcher costs – calculation	clarifications and examples added
516	financial support – additional cost eligibility condition	definition of “long-term resident” changed and exception for fellowship programmes similar to MSCA-IF EF Reintegration Panel added
516	financial support – additional cost eligibility condition (selection procedure)	indication of minimum gross salary added
517/518	financial support – additional cost eligibility condition (recruitment and working conditions)	minimum remuneration for researchers adapted (EUR 2.709/EUR 3.836) rule on recruited researchers' costs for implementation of the action added
518	financial support – other obligations	rules on exception from full-time employment added
525-551	MSCA-SNLS	new!

SME INSTRUMENT MGAS

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
562	third parties involved in the action	reformulations; international partners added to list of non-accepted third parties

PCP/PPI MGA

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
651	third parties involved in the action	rule on other interested third parties added
656		no change visible
658		no change visible
659	PCP subcontracting – additional cost eligibility condition (procurement procedure)	new link to PCP procurement documents added
665		no change visible

668	PPI subcontracting – additional cost eligibility condition (procurement procedure)	new link to PPI procurement documents added
672		no change visible
678	payments and payment arrangements – calculations	amount for second pre-financing payment in case of need increased (up to 100%)

EJP COFUND MGA

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
692		no change visible

FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIPS AND SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
734	action starting date	new!

LUMP SUM MGAS

page (AGA v5.0)	topic	note/change
736/737	background information and approach	explanation of, usage of and examples for lump sum pilot MGA added
746	third parties involved in the action	reformulations; international partners added to list of accepted third parties; possibility of in-kind contributions added
749	keeping records	difference to General Lump Sum actions clarified; reference only to technical implementation of the action; no obligation for timesheets/invoices for costs incurred added; further clarifications on evidence and archiving

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