

Workshop on “Effective Proposal Preparation for European Research Fellowships”

25 May 2018

Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University
Bangkok, Thailand

Total participants: 66

Total evaluation forms gathered and analysed for this report: 27 ¹

The final analysis of the participants’ evaluation forms clearly shows a predominance of a **very good evaluation** (4) in terms of contents, location and material distributed, and **excellence** for the speaker and her knowledge and the for usefulness of the workshop for future applications. In general terms there are no negative scores at all, with only few scores of 3 (11 in total for all the questions), making the final results for each evaluation topic in balance between 4 (very good) and 5 (excellent).

Quality of researchers/participants

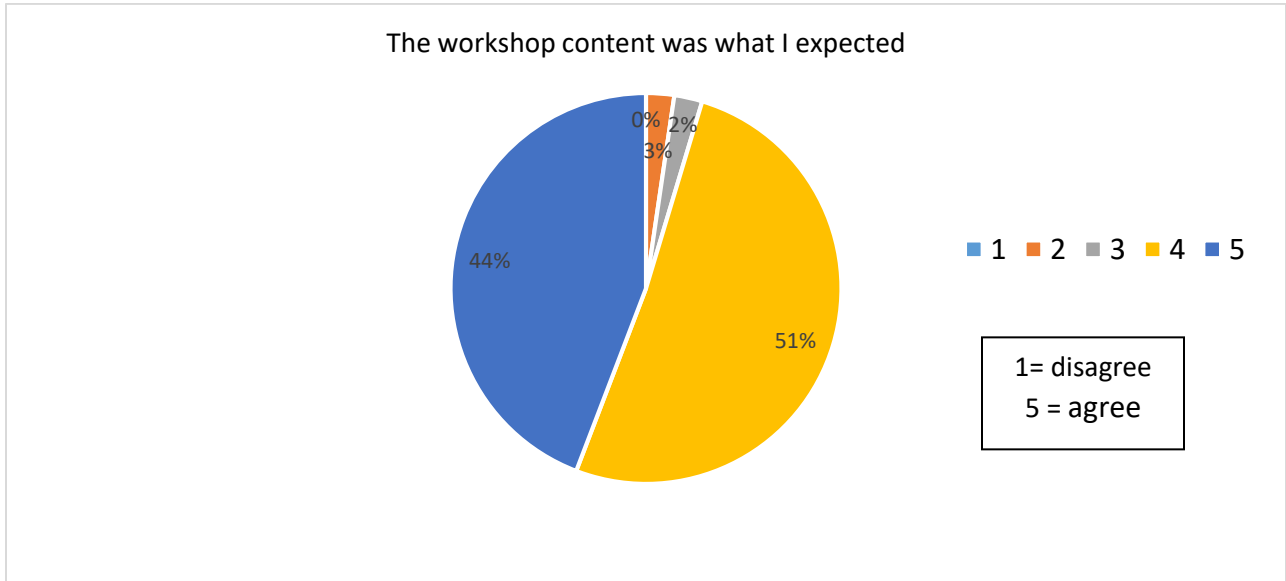
Very interactive participation of the 66 trainees during the two group exercises. The majority of them showed great ability for networking and, most importantly, for understanding how the proposal writing for the Individual Fellowships (IF) work, specifically what are the major rules and proposal writing tricks to take into account when developing the 10 pages IF proposal, also and most importantly considering that participants come from different R&T backgrounds and from different career levels (i.e. PhD, post-PhD and more senior academic staff). The interaction and interest showed during the practical exercises by most of the participants clearly showed that there is a strong knowledge basis to allow some of them to submit successful proposals. The same applies for the second group exercise, where the focus of the international and intersectoral aspects of a good Marie Curie RISE proposal were well understood and greatly presented when exposing the groups’ results of the evaluation exercise. In general terms, I think there could be at least a couple of good RISE proposals on the way for next year Call (as from my individual discussions within the trainees) as well as few IF proposals to be submitted this year (at least 5), one of which by a European Researcher (Polish) willing to be reintegrated in Europe. What it might be needed in very few cases, if willing to apply for an IF, is to help them to find and/or decide which is the right host, and tutor, in Europe.

Suggestions for future training events

The free comments underline a positive impact of the workshop and a need for a more focused and long workshop (two days extensive course) for a real proposal IF writing, step by step.

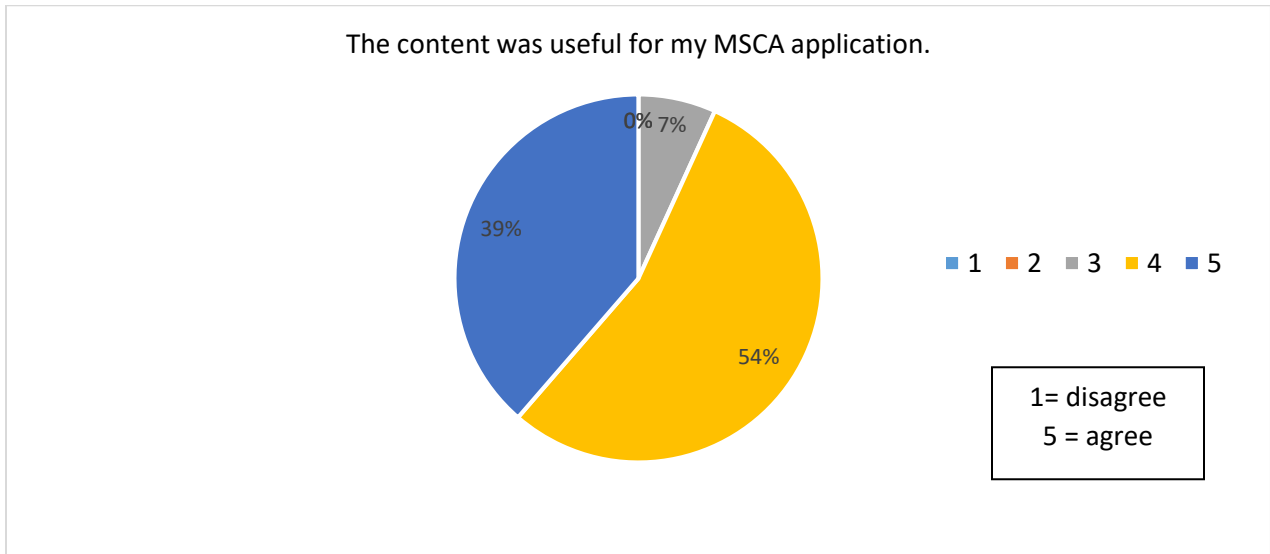
¹ *Suggestion:* at the end of next workshops only one exit from the training room with someone collecting the evaluation forms of the participants in a box, it could help in gathering more feedbacks from them.

1. The workshop content was what I expected. 1= disagree 5 = agree



1	2	3	4	5
0	0	1	16	10

2. The content was useful for my European application. 1= disagree 5 = agree



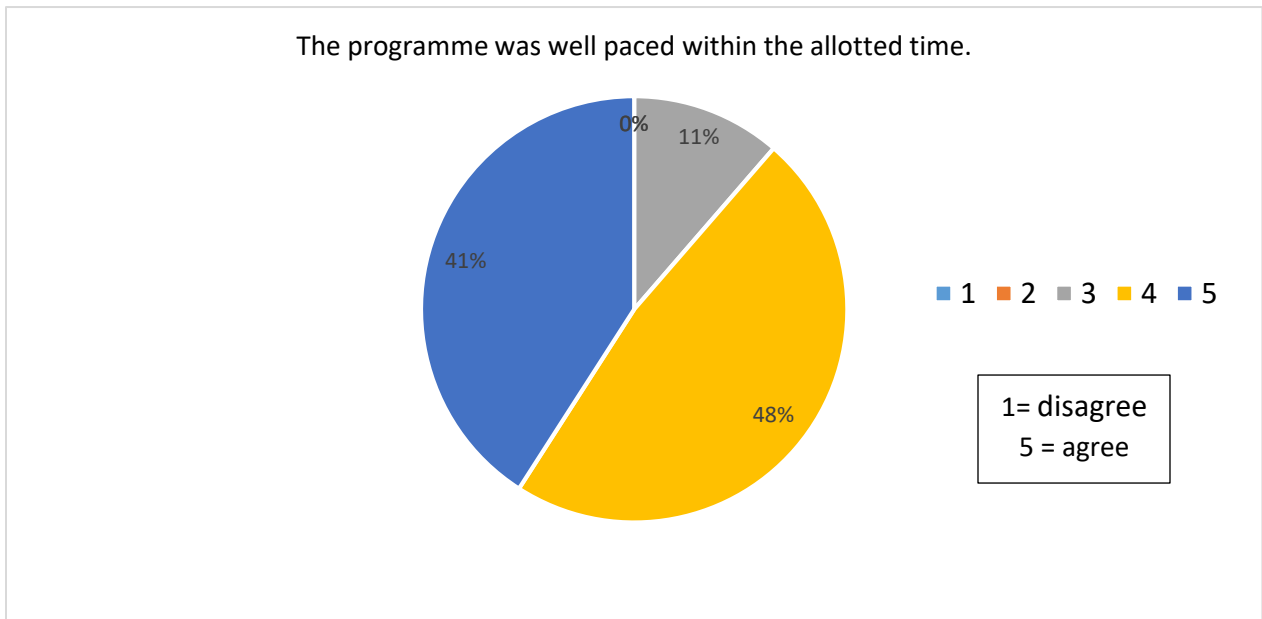
1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	6	21

3. I will recommend this workshop to other researchers. 1= disagree 5 = agree



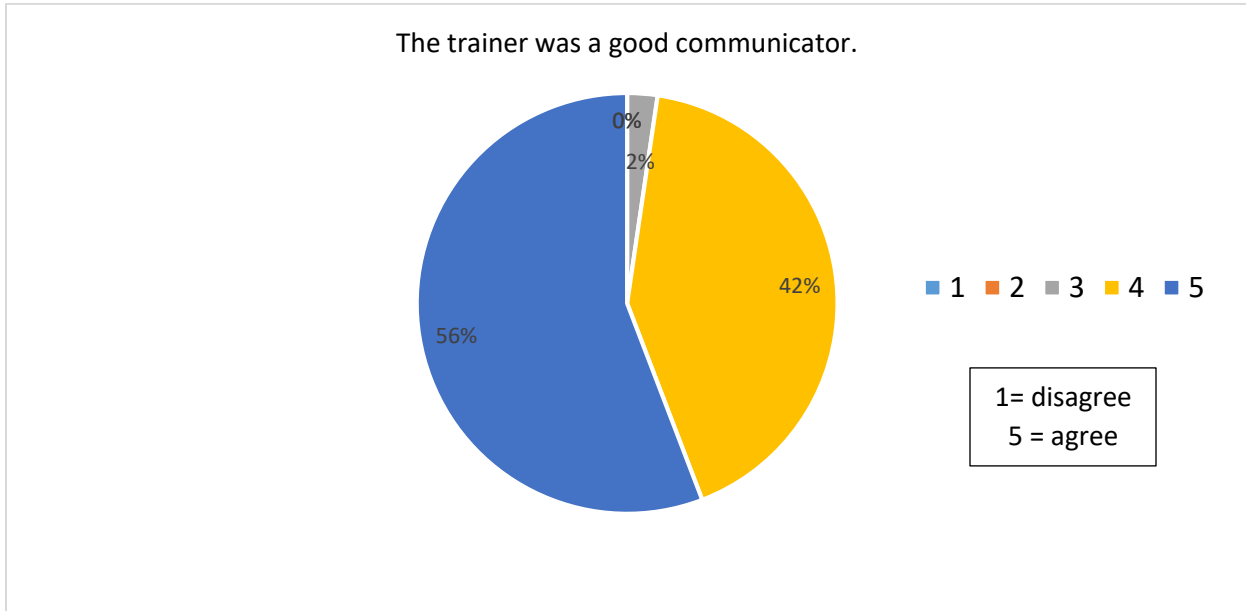
1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	9	18

4. The programme was well paced within the allotted time. 1= disagree 5 = agree



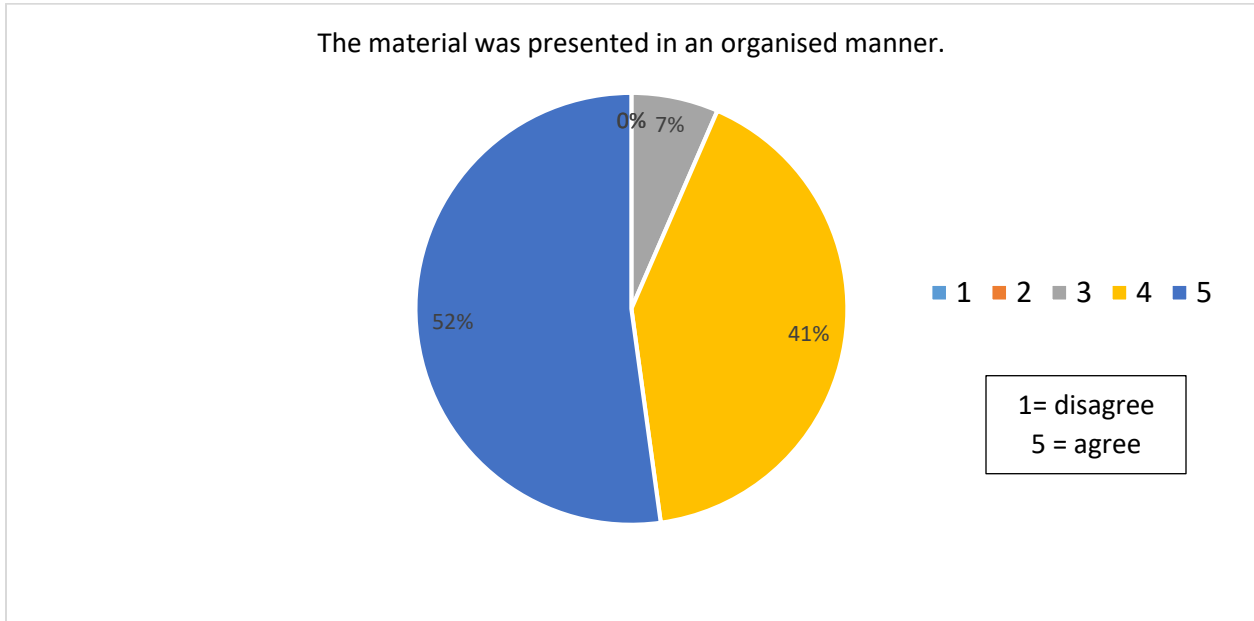
1	2	3	4	5
0	0	3	15	9

5. The trainer was a good communicator. 1= disagree 5 = agree



1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	8	19

6. The material was presented in an organised manner. 1= disagree 5 = agree



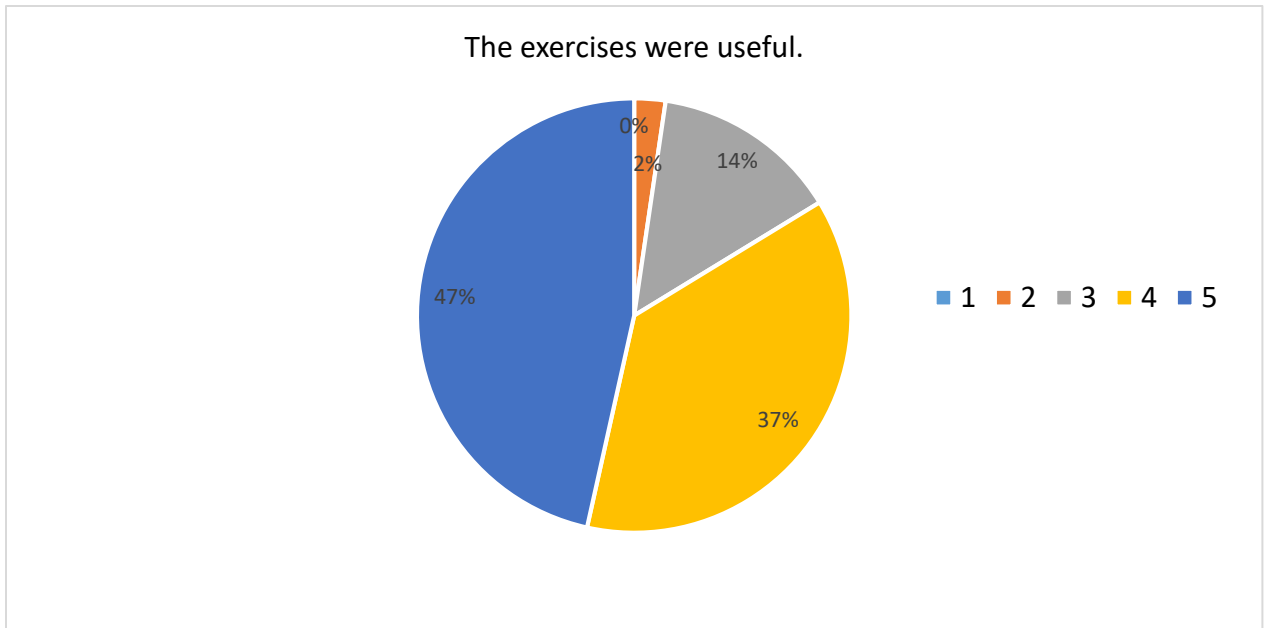
1	2	3	4	5
0	0	5	14	8

7. The trainer was knowledgeable on the topic. 1= disagree 5 = agree



1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	6	21

8. The exercises were useful. 1= disagree 5 = agree



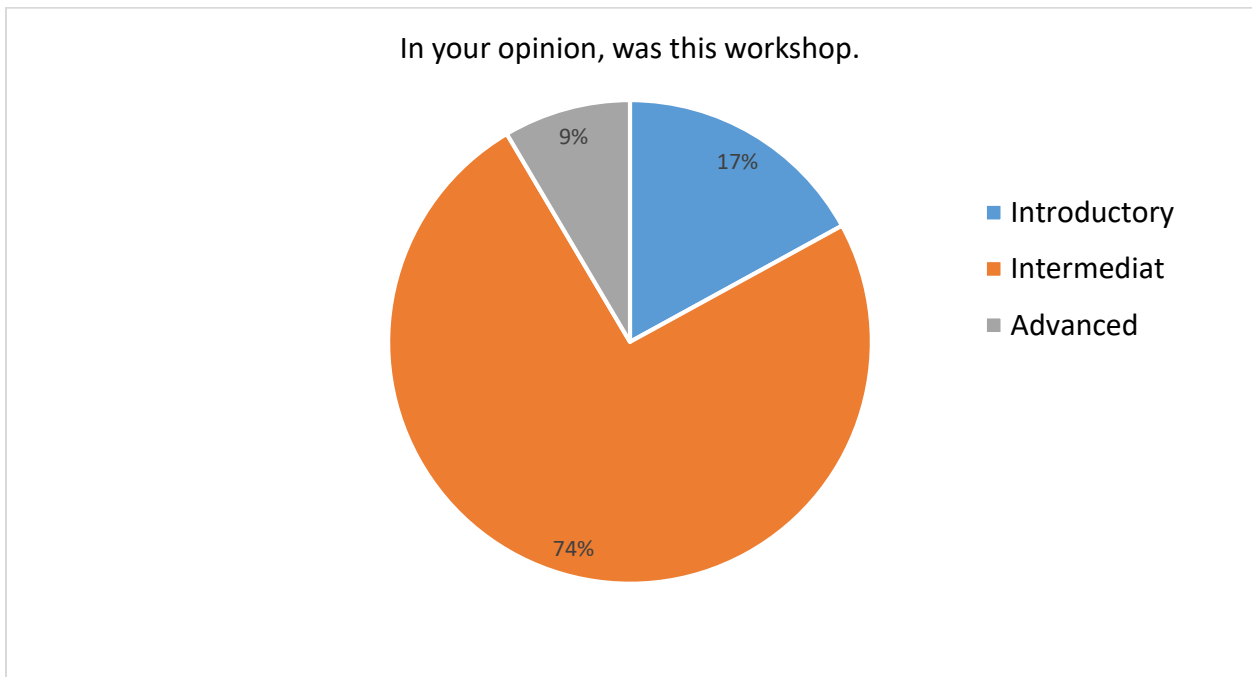
1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	5	22

9. Given the topic, was this workshop. 1= Too short, 2= Right length, 3 = Too long²



1	2	3
4	21	1

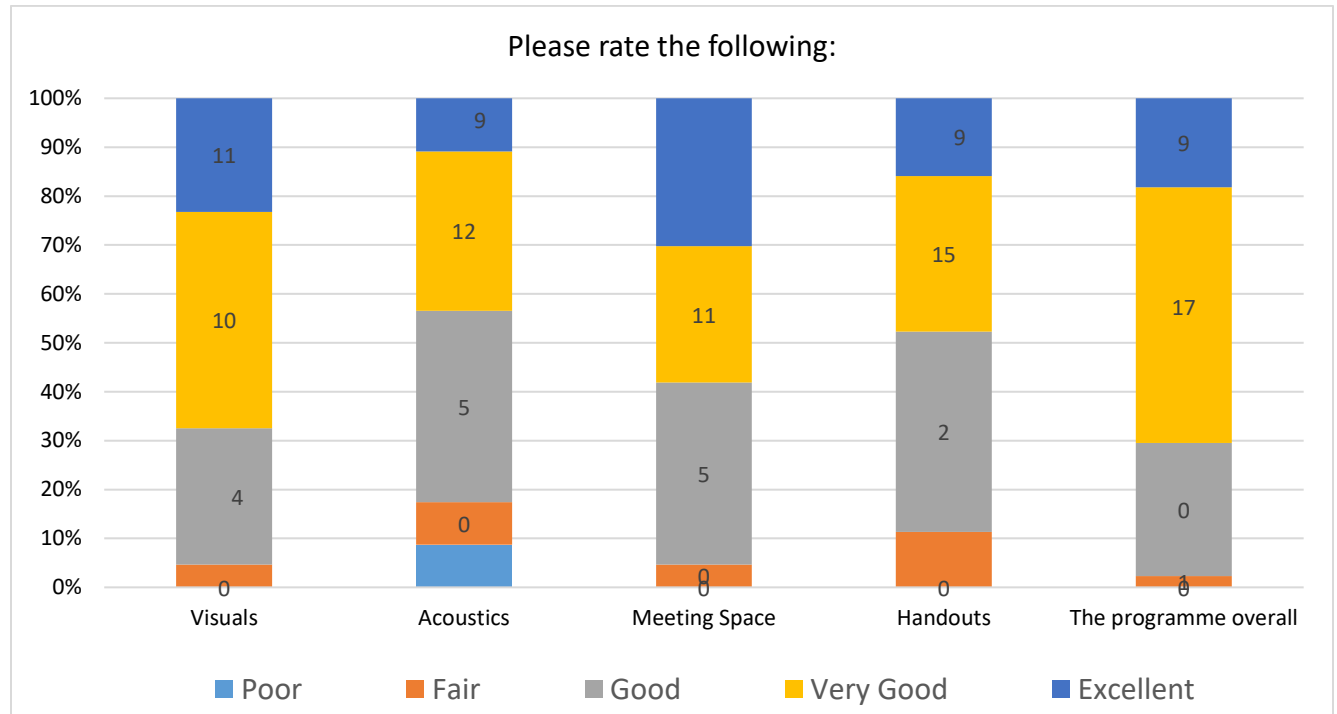
10. In your opinion, was this workshop: 1= Introductory, 2= Intermediate, 3 = Advanced



1	2	3
1	16	9

² One questionnaire not filled in in the back side, so the total is 26 analysed for questions 9 to 13

11. Please rate the following: 1= Poor, 2= Fair, 3= Good, 4= Very Good, 5 = Excellent



	1	2	3	4	5
Visuals	1	0	4	10	11
Acoustics	0	0	5	12	9
Meeting Space	0	0	5	11	10
Handouts	0	0	2	15	9
The programme overall	0	0	0	17	9

12. What did you most appreciate/enjoy/think was best about the workshop? . Any suggestions for improvement?

- Good group discussion
- To meet and have new connections
- Ms Katia knew what she was saying!
- Details were excellent and recommendations very useful
- The enthusiasm of the lecturer
- Exercises were wonderful!
- Active learning
- Real evaluation of a submitted proposal
- The speaker is excellent and friendly
- The exercise was good, however if possible an example of real IF application should be shown

Future needs:

- More intensive real proposal writing workshops, such as how to build a proposal step by step
- Evaluation of a real IF proposal

- How to choose the right research fund

13. Please list any topics you would like to learn more about in the next 12 months:

- Learn about cooperation with China and other Asian countries
- Workshop that entail writing a real full proposal during the given timing