

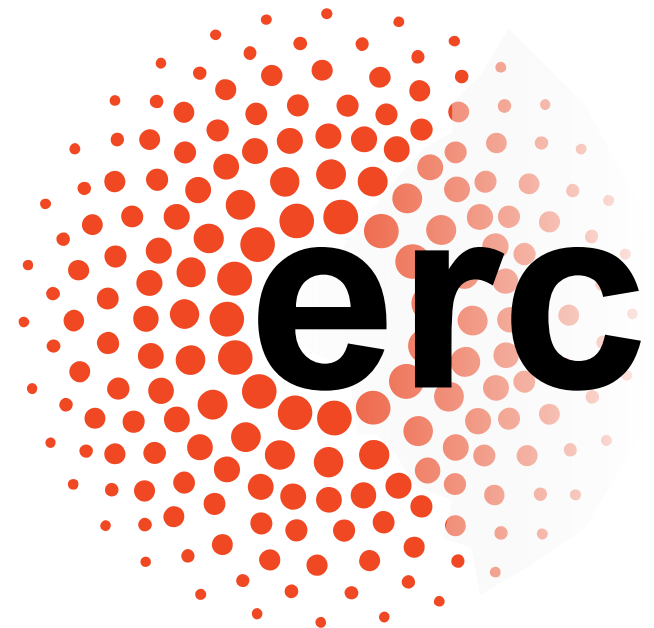
# The European Research Council

## What is the ERC Proof of Concept grant?

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ERC Executive Agency

Support to the Scientific Council



15 February 2019

**Information meeting on ERC Proof of Concept 2019 call**

FWO / F.R.S.-FNRS Brussels<sup>1</sup>

# The tip of an iceberg in the vast ocean of public funded research



# Reducing the gap between research and innovation

## ERC Proof of Concept grant (2011 – 2018)



### Continuous call

3 cut-off per year  
150,000 € grant



### For all ERC grantees

Innovative ideas and start-ups  
from all areas of research



### Simple & efficient

7 page proposal  
Results in 100 days



### Clear selection criteria

Focussed on innovation  
potential, socio-economic  
benefits, quality of the PoC plan



### Competent evaluators

Expert in technology and  
knowledge transfer, providing  
constructive feedbacks



### Competitive process

36% average success rate  
2,606 proposal received,  
938 funded



### High inherent risk

Majority of PoC projects at  
idea stage; high uncertainty  
and development costs



### Matching with investors

Several pitching events  
and initiatives linking PoC  
ventures with investors and  
corporates



### Additionality effect

50% of applicants would have  
not gone into innovation  
without the PoC

# The objective of the PoC



➤ **Maximise the value-creation** of the excellent ERC-funded research

Provide funds to bring ERC-funded ideas to a *pre-demonstration* for:

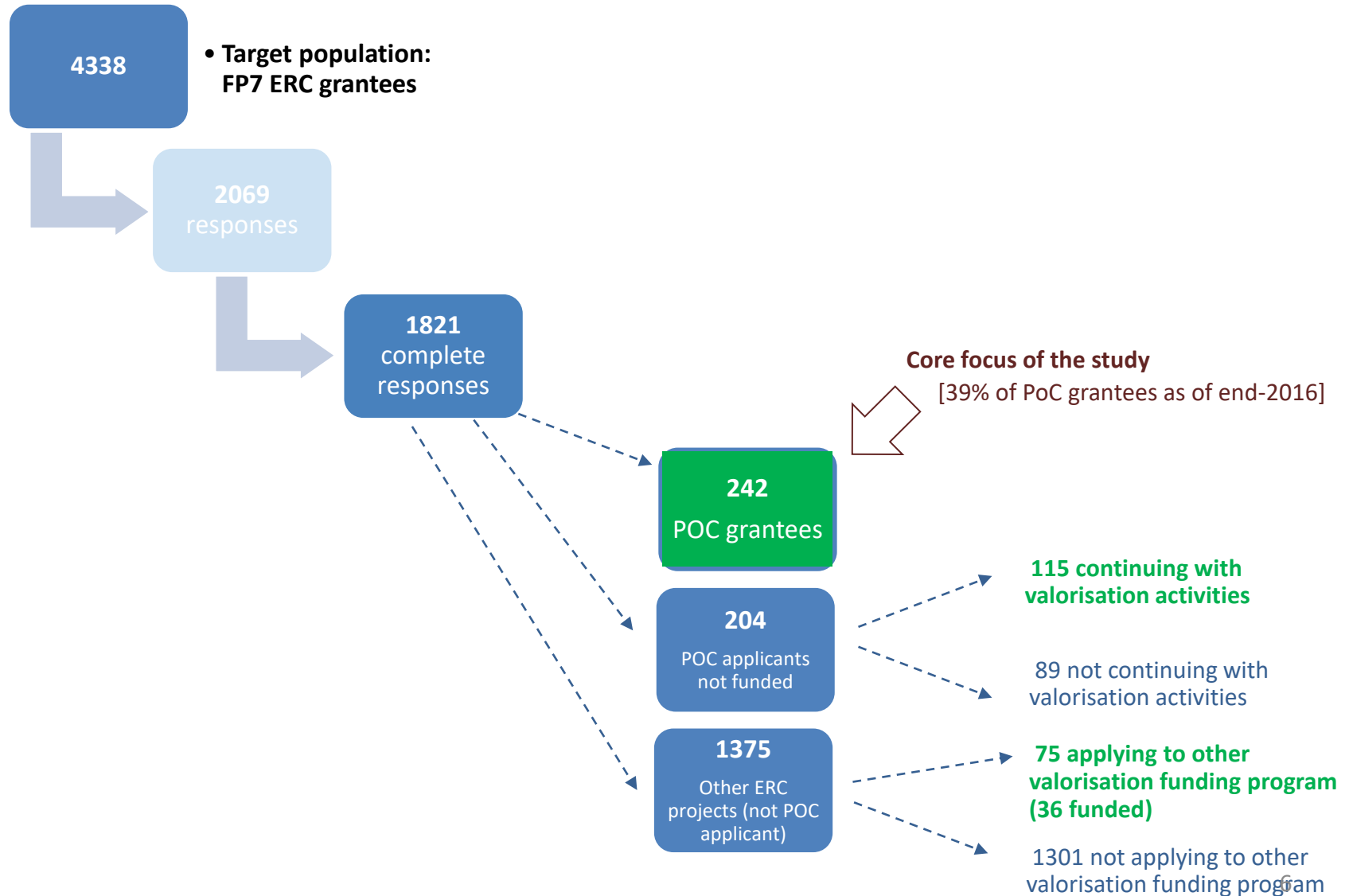
- *Generation of return for innovators (economic, reputation, prestige, influence, ...)*
- *Generation of new value for users (socio-economic benefits)*

# PoC data (2011-2018)

	Budget 10ml	Budget 10ml	Budget 10ml	Budget 15ml	Budget 20ml	Budget 20ml	Budget 20ml	Budget 20ml	
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
Proposals	139	120	279	426	323	405	497	417	2606
Funded	51	60	67	121	160	159	160	160	938
Success	37%	50%	24%	28%	50%	39%	32%	38%	36%

# Assessment of the PoC scheme

Survey launched on 6 February and closed 27 March 2017



# Of the PoC grantees responding to the survey:



>78% achieved  
their objectives



42% filed at least  
one patent application



>17% achieved a  
licensing agreement



20% created  
a company



> 14% involved  
in consultancy



>25% obtained  
an R&D agreement



68% projects mentioned in the media  
56% mentioned in blogs or social media  
49% involved in expert panels or policy committees  
20% source of inspiration in policy decision-making  
30% mentioned in documents of professional bodies or standards

# Of the PoC grantees responding to the survey:



68% feel more capable to take an idea to market



50% would have not undertaken a valorisation project without the PoC



43% would prefer a larger grant



50% would prefer a longer grant