

How to access the Marie Curie Actions

Royal Holloway, University of London

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<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

FP7 People: Introduction

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

Marie Curie Actions

Objectives and Policy Context:

- Make Europe more **attractive** to researchers
- Structuring effect on the European Research Area through transnational and intersectoral mobility in order to create a European labour market for researchers
- Strengthen **human potential** by:
 - Encouraging people to become researchers
 - Encouraging researchers to carry out their research in Europe
- Trans-national and inter-sectoral **mobility**
- €4.7 Billion

Principles

- Skills and competence development at all stages of research career
- Open to all research areas addressed under the Treaty plus possibility of targeted calls
- Strong participation from enterprises
- Reinforce international dimension
- Appropriate gender and work/life balance
- Good working environment, transparent recruitment and career development

Marie Curie Actions

Overview: Marie Curie Actions



Host Actions	Individual Actions
<p>Initial Training Networks (ITN) <i>Including:</i> <i>Innovative Doctoral Programmes (new)</i> <i>European Industrial Doctorates (new)</i></p> <p>Industry Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP)</p> <p>International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)</p>	<p>Intra-European Fellowships</p> <p>Incoming International Fellowships</p> <p>Outgoing International Fellowships</p> <p>Career Integration Grants</p>

+ Co-Fund, *Researchers Night*

Definition of researchers

Early-Stage Researchers	0 - 4 years (FTE) <i>from obtaining degree that qualified them to embark on a doctorate</i>
Experienced Researchers	i) in possession of a PhD or i) at least 4 years experience (FTE)

Central to all MC projects

The RESEARCHER, their training and mobility

In order to assess eligibility (for project or fellowship), it is essential that you consider the following:

- **The minimum or maximum amount of research experience stipulated for the action**
- **The transnational mobility requirements for the action**

Overview of calls

Action	Call identifier	Budget (EUR million)	Opens	Deadline
Initial Training Networks (ITN)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-ITN	470.72	10 July 2012	22 November 2012
COFUND	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-COFUND	115	10 July 2012	5 December 2012
Researchers' Night	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-NIGHT	4	2 October 2012	8 January 2013
Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IAPP	81	2 October 2012	16 January 2013
International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IRSES	30	10 July 2012	17 January 2013
Career Integration Grants (CIG)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-CIG	40	18 October 2012	7 March 2013 18 September 2013
Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IEF	134	14 March 2013	14 August 2013
International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IIF	44.5	14 March 2013	14 August 2013
International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF)	FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IOF	44.5	14 March 2013	14 August 2013

FP7 People: Individual Actions

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

Individual Fellowships

- **Aimed at ‘Experienced Researchers’**
- **Skills diversification and knowledge sharing**
- **Three categories:**
 - Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)
 - International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)
 - International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF)
- **Deadline: 14 August 2013**

Intra-European Fellowships

- **Researchers based in the EU or Associated Country**
- **Must have spent less than 12 months in the last three years in the country where the fellowship is undertaken**
- **12 – 24 months in an EU Member State or Associated Country**
- **Resuming a career in research**
- **Individual applies with host**
- **Attaining or strengthening professional independence**
- **Skills diversification**



- **EU Member or Associated State Nationals only**
 - *PLUS non-nationals in MS/AC for more than 5 years at deadline*
- **24 – 36 months in total of which 12 -24 months in third country followed by mandatory reintegration phase in European host institutions**
- **Individual applies with host**
- **Acquiring new knowledge in the third country – bringing it back to the EU/AS**
- **Contract is between European host institution and Commission for duration of fellowship**
- **Mandatory return phase of 1 year**

- **Researchers based in third countries**
- **12 – 24 months incoming phase in EU/AS**
- **Possible 1 year reintegration grant for nationals from International Co-operation Partner Countries (€15,000)**
- **Individual applies with host**
- **Contract between European host institution and EC for incoming phase, and between third country host and EC for reintegration / return**
- **Knowledge-sharing**
- **Mutually-beneficial research co-operation**

Career Integration Grants

- Supports integration into research career in Europe
- To provide those taking up stable post with own research budget
- Should enable transfer of knowledge & building of links with country from which researcher has moved
- No requirement to have benefited from MCA previously
- Must comply with mobility rule
- Support a research project of 2- 4 years
- Contributes to the research costs
- Researcher applies with host institution
- Host commits to employ researcher for at least duration of project
- €25 000 per year flat rate funding
- **Deadlines: 7 March 2013 and 18 September 2013**

Community Contribution for Individual Fellowships

Category 1: monthly living allowance paid to researcher

Category 2: monthly mobility allowance paid to researcher – covers previous travel allowances & career exploratory allowance

Category 3: contribution to the training expenses of eligible researchers & research/transfer of knowledge programme expenses – managed by host organisation

Category 4: management activities – N/A

Category 5: contribution to overheads

Category 6: other – N/A



Paid to fellows

Category 1: Living allowance (inclusive of all compulsory deductions)

Experience	Stipend (€/yr)	Employment contract (€/yr)
Early-Stage researchers	19,000	38,000
Experienced researchers (4 – 10 years)	29,250	58,500
Experienced researchers (> 10 years experience)	43,750	87,500

Correction factor applied for cost of living (UK Coefficient = 134.4%)

Category 2: Mobility allowance – now includes old travel/career exploratory allowances

Without family: €700 per month

With family: €1,000 per month

Correction factor applied for cost of living

Managed by host institution

Category 3: Contribution to training expenses of eligible researchers and research/transfer of knowledge programme expenses

- Flat rate of €800 per researcher month

Category 5: Contribution to overheads

- Flat rate of €700 per researcher month
Correction factor applied

Reintegration phase of ICPC IIF

- Flat rate of €15,000 for the year

Results



Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2011	3302	600	17.9%
2010	2832	504	17.8%
2009	2388	575	24.1%
2008	1738	463	26.6%
2007	1672	439	26.3%

Results



International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2011	1290	204	15.8%
2010	1160	137	11.8%
2009	1040	154	14.8%
2008	661	140	21.2%
2007	562	139	24.7%

Results



International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2011	856	164	19.2%
2010	730	120	16.4%
2009	590	120	20.3%
2008	441	110	24.9%
2007	332	110	33.1%

Results



Career Integration Grants (CIG)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
March 2012	759	203	26.7%
September 2011	747	208	27.8%
March 2011	707	211	29.8%

FP7 People: host actions

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

Marie Curie Initial Training Networks

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

Initial Training Networks

- **Three strands**
 - ‘Classic’ multi-partner ITNs – maximum 500 researcher months
 - Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP) – maximum 500 researcher months
 - European Industrial Doctorates – maximum 180 researcher months
- **Budget:**
 - €400 million for ITN/IDP
 - Ring-fenced €20 million for EID
 - **Deadline: 22 November 2012**

What is an ITN?

- **Aims:**
 - Offering a series of fellowships to ESR and EXR through a Joint Training Programme including complementary skills modules – focus on development of early-stage researchers
 - Covers networking costs & the organisation of short training events
 - As an option, can recruit ‘visiting scientists’
- **ITNs are in:**
 - Defined scientific fields as well as inter-disciplinary, new and emerging supra-disciplinary fields

Who can participate in an ITN?

- At least 3 different research groups from Member or Associated States
- BUT ALSO it can be single sites (in Member or Associated States) if the international context is strong – role of associated partners key
- Third country partners are eligible, in addition to the minimum requirements. International Co-operation Partner Countries (ICPC) may receive funding, whilst those in non-ICPCs may receive funding if absolutely essential for the project

Who participates in an ITN?

- An ITN has both industrial and academic partners. Industry involvement essential at one of two levels:
 - As a full partner
 - Provider of specific training or secondment opportunities

Note: the third-level option of involvement through membership of an advisory board is no longer available

Who can you recruit to an ITN?

- **An ITN supports researchers:**
 - With up to 5 years FTE
 - From all over the world
 - For periods of 3 - 36 months (ESRs)
 - For periods of up to 24 months (EXRs)

Researchers can be of any nationality but must comply with the mobility rule

ITNs – Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP)

- 1 Participant (from MS/AC)
- Associated Partners from any country, sector, discipline
- Should be: intersectoral, international, interdisciplinary
- Should equip doctoral candidates with innovative skills (both subject-specific and generic)
- Quality and quantity of supervision of doctoral candidates key
- No option to recruit experienced researchers: ESRs only!

ITNs – European Industrial Doctorates

- 2 participants: 1 academic, 1 private sector (MS/AC only)
- Possible associated partners from any country and any sector
- Each researcher must:
 - Be enrolled in a doctoral programme
 - Be employed by at least one of the participants
 - Spend at least 50% of the time in the private sector
 - Be jointly supervised by both participants
- 1 to 5 researchers/project
- Mandatory consortium agreement
- No experienced researcher recruitment

ITNs – European Industrial Doctorates

Should:

- Involve companies in doctoral training
- Develop innovative aptitudes and entrepreneurial mindsets
- Improve the employability and career perspectives of doctorate holders
- Strengthen co-operation between universities and companies
- Enhance the research potential and competitiveness of European companies and SMEs

ITNs – overview of 3 modes

	Multi-ITN	IDP	EID
Partners level-1	3 minimum 3 diff. MS/AC	1 any MS/AC	2 2 diff. MS/AC
Partners level-2	unlimited (any country/sector/disc.)	unlimited (any country/sector/disc.)	unlimited (any country/sector/disc.)
Private sector involvement	highest possible level (partners level 1 and 2)	expected via associated partners	1 partner level 1 + associated partners
Eligible researchers	ESR (3-36 months) ER (3-24 months) \leq 20%	ESR (3- 36 months)	ESR (3- 36 months)
PhD enrolment	typically expected (ESR)	mandatory	mandatory
Intersectoral aspects	secondments encouraged (\leq 30%)	secondments encouraged (\leq 30%)	\geq 50% in private sector
Res. months	500 max	500 max	180 max
Budget/country	40% max to 1 country	n/a	n/a
Panels and ranking lists	8 ranking lists (corresponding to scientific panels CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC)		EID ranking list (20M€ earmarked)

Financial Information– ITNs

Category 1: Monthly Living Allowance

- €38,000 per ESR/year x country co-efficient (134.4% for UK!)
- €58,500 per ER/year x country co-efficient

Category 2: Mobility Allowance

- €1000/€700 (family/not) per researcher month x country co-efficient (flat rate)

Category 3: Contribution to Training and Research Costs

- €1,800 per researcher month (multi ITN)
- €1,200 per researcher month (EID and IDP)
- Flat rate category

Category 4: Management Activities

- Maximum 10% of total EU contribution (real costs category)

Category 5: Overheads

- 10% of direct costs
- Flat-rate cost category

Results



Initial Training Networks (ITN)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2012	1015	127	12.5%
2011	909	84	9.2%
2010	857	63	7.4%
2008	886	92	10.4%
2007	902	68	7.8%

ITNs – results of 2012 call

- **UK co-ordinators** submitted 231 apps
- 40 successful (17.3% success rate)
- **UK participated** in 1156 applications
- 173 successful (15% success rate)

- **IDP:** 104 submitted
- 6 funded (6% success rate)
- 4 of those funded were in UK
- Note: low success rate, but those funded scored very highly

- Ave no of partners: 8
- Ave no of fellows: 11.4
- **Resubmissions:** success rate 16%
- accounted for 49% of A-list proposals

Industry Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPPs) and IRSES

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk>

What is an Industry–Academia Pathways and Partnership?

- **It is a two-way partnership with at least one commercial enterprise and one academic organisation in two different Member or Associated Countries**
- **An IAPP aims to increase industry-academia co-operation by:**
 - Supporting the creation, development, reinforcement and execution of strategic partnerships
 - Creating diverse career possibilities and experience for researchers
 - Knowledge sharing/cultural exchange, especially SMEs
 - Aiming for longer term co-operation between both sectors
 - **Deadline: 16 January 2013**

What can you do with an IAPP?

- **Staff exchange – experienced researchers (and possibly technical staff and research managers!) for between 2 months and 2 years**
- **Recruit experienced researchers for between 2 months and 2 years**
- **Organise common workshops/conferences**
- **Inter-sectoral mobility possible, within framework of whole project, in same country up to a maximum of 30% of total researcher months**
- **For SMEs, a contribution towards small equipment costs (up to 10% of project total)**

Benefits for the Researcher - IAPP

- **Category 1:**
 - Living allowance (including salary)
Correction factor of 134.4% applied
- **Category 2:**
 - Mobility allowance
 - Without family: €700 per month**
 - With family: €1000 per month**
 - Correction factor of 134.4% applied*

Benefits for the Institution – IAPP

- **Category 3:**
 - Contribution to Research/Training/Transfer of Knowledge
€1800 per research per month
**Category 3 also includes costs for the researcher*
- **Category 4:**
 - Management Activities
Maximum 10% of the total EC contribution
- **Category 5:**
 - Contribution to overheads
10% of direct costs except for subcontractors
- **Category 6:**
 - Other types of eligible expenses – Small equipment cost for SME. Up to 10% their budget

Results



Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2012	266	50	18.8%
2011	160	51	31.9%
2009	356	59	16.6%
2008	141	41	29.1%
2007	102	41	40.2%

What is IRSES?

- **Two-way staff secondments** between institutions in EU/AC and eligible third countries
- At least two **participants** from two different MS/AC and one partner from an eligible third country
- **Secondment** – up to 12 months
- **Project duration** of 24 – 48 months
- Commission **contribution**: EUR 1900/ researcher/month for EU/AC secondments plus EUR 200 per researcher/month long distance allowance (where applicable)
- **Deadline: 17 January 2013**

Who can participate in IRSES?

- **Eligible staff include researchers, technical and management staff**
- **Eligible countries: EU Member States and Associated Countries**
- **Countries in the European Neighbourhood Policy: Armenia, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestinian-administered areas, Syrian Arab Rep., Tunisia, Ukraine**
- **Countries that have an S&T agreement with the EU: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Egypt, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States**

Results



International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

Year	No. proposals submitted	No. proposals funded	Success rate
2012	158	98	62.0%
2011	186	85	45.7%
2010	168	89	53.0%
2009	177	107	60.1%
2008	72	59	81.7%

Hints & Tips

Approaching your project proposal writing

- Keep the Guide for Applicants in front of you
- Address all criteria from the evaluation grid
- Plan your proposal writing
- Remember ethics table even if no issues
- Remember B7 table – half page per beneficiary on host capacities

Approaching your project proposal writing

- It will feel repetitive – addressing issues from different angles
- Stick to the page limit
- Think about your evaluators
 - Clearly address the main objectives
 - Use clear and concise language
 - Explain country specific jargon
 - Provide them with the evidence they need
- Find colleagues to read it through

Further Information

UKRO NCP website:

<http://www.ukro.ac.uk/mariecurie/index.htm>

Queries on the schemes:

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Other useful websites:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/people/home_en.html

Links

- **EU Marie Curie Actions web page:**
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>
- **Participant Portal**
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home>
- **The Charter and the Code**
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/index>
- **Euraxess Mobility Portal**
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess>

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