

The European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

Marie Curie Actions: International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)



Overview of Presentation

- Overall scope of the Marie Curie Actions (MCAs)
- SA participation in FP6 MCA
- IRSES objectives, main features, participation and evaluation criteria
- Other priorities
- DST support for FP7 participants

Overall scope

- Human resource development in R&D in Europe
- Numerous, well-trained, motivated researchers
- Attract students to SET careers
- Attract researchers to Europe and retain
- Skills and sustainable career development
- Continuity of previous Framework programme
- Appropriate gender balance

Budget = 4 750 € M



Five MCA Building blocks

- **Initial training**
Networks for early stage researchers
- **Life long training and career development**
Intra European Fellowships and European Reintegration grants
- **Industry dimension**
Industry Academia Pathways and Partnerships
- **International dimension**
Incoming and outgoing fellowships
- **Specific actions**
Networking of NCPs and awards

FP6 MCA Participation

- **Incoming Fellowships:**

Overall submissions - 2223

SA Submissions - 10

Approved - 0

- **Outgoing fellowships:**

Overall submissions – 1550

SA Submissions - 299

Approved - 1



International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

Objectives

- To strengthen partnership between research **organisations** within the EU member state/associated countries and third countries through joint exchange programmes of researchers, staff and networking activities

Requirement for participation

- Countries with existing or in a process of negotiating S&T agreements with the EU
- Countries covered by European neighbourhood policy
- Minimum of 2 EU partners and one other participating country



Countries eligible for participation in IRSES

- ***Countries with EC agreements on S&T***

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Egypt, India, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Russia, **South Africa**, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States

- ***Countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)***

- Eastern Europe & Central Asia (EECA) *Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine*

- Mediterranean Partner Countries (MCP) *Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian-administrated areas, Syrian Arab Rep., Tunisia*

Main features

- Exchange of researchers, technical and management staff between organisations
- Development of institutional capacity rather than individual
- Short term exchanges (max 12 months)
- Balanced exchanges principle (each country fund its outgoing researchers), but EU funding of IPCP countries is possible
- **DST will provide matching funding for SA researchers**
- Seconded researchers should maintain their salary at home institution and return

Call published end Nov 2007, close 28 March 2008 (€ 25 M)

Evaluation Criteria

- Quality of exchange programme (25%)
(Objective, relevance and scientific quality of partners)
- Transfer of knowledge (30%)
(Quality, mutual benefit, role of staff and adequacy)
- Implementation (15%)
(HR capacity, expertise, facilities and appropriate overall management of the programme)
- Impact (30%)
Potential to develop lasting collaborations

OTHER MOBILITY INSTRUMENTS



(1) Industry-academia pathways and partnerships (Industry-Academia Knowledge-sharing Scheme)

Objective: Encourage knowledge sharing, cultural exchange *and* sustainable cooperation between industry and academia (in particular SMEs)

Main features

- Longer-term (4yrs full cost) co-operation between sectors ≥ 1 university/research centre + ≥ 1 private sector; ≥ 2 different Member States/Associated countries
- **Open to researchers from Third countries**
- Enhance sustainable cooperation between partners of both sectors in joint projects
- 2-way staff secondments / hosting of experienced researchers from outside the partnership
- Organisation of workshops/conferences, including for researchers from outside the partnership
- Special measure: equipment costs for SMEs



€ 400M

(1) Industry-academia pathways and partnerships (Industry-Academia Knowledge-sharing Scheme)

- **Who can participate:**

Research staff and technical & managerial staff of all levels of experience

- **Current open call:**

Budget: € 45 million

Deadline: 25/03/08



(2) International dimension (Outgoing & Incoming International Fellowships)

Incoming fellowship objectives

- To reinforce the scientific excellence of the Member States (MS) and the Associated Countries (AC) through knowledge sharing with **incoming researchers from Third Countries (TC)**
- To develop mutually beneficial research co-operation between Europe and TC
- Build sustainable connections through mobile researchers

Main features

- Project duration: 12 up to 24 months
- Application submitted by the TC researcher in conjunction with the host organisation in a MS or AC
- Salary plus contribution to research related costs
- 1 year return phase for ICPC



(2) International dimension (Outgoing & Incoming International Fellowships...

Outgoing fellowship objectives

- To reinforce the international dimension of the career of **European researchers** by training and acquisition of new knowledge in a Third Country (TC)
- To transfer acquired knowledge in organisations from Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AC)

Main features

- Fellowships of 2 phases: initial outgoing phase in a TC (*partner organisation*) and a mandatory re-integration phase in a MS or AC (*return host organisation*)
- Project duration: up to 36 months (outgoing phase: 1-2 years reintegration phase: 1 year)
- Application submitted by the researcher in conjunction with the host organisation

(3) Initial training of researchers (Marie Curie Networks)

Objectives:

- Strengthen and structure Early Stage Training at European level
- Improve career perspectives by broad skills development (including industrial needs)

Main features

- International network of participants -at least three participants established in at least three MS or Associated countries
- Funding for up to 4 years
- **Open to researchers from Third countries (motivation)**
- Joined training programmes with (i) training through research (ii) complementary competences (structured training) modules
- Involvement of private sector
- Allowances for "*early-stage*" researchers (incl. first post-docs) and *visiting scientists* positions; Short training events, also open to researchers from outside the network

Participation of Women in Marie Curie Actions

- No separate action but integrated in all actions
- > 40% female participation in Marie Curie actions
- Strong promotion, but no positive discrimination
- Support resumption after career break
- Family-friendly implementation modalities,
e.g. family allowances; flexibility for split stays

DST support

1. Advisory

- ESASTAP team
- National Contact Points (NCPs)
- Brussels office: Senior S&T rep

2. Information



DST support...

3. Financial support

- Seed funding
- Co-investment funding

4. Marketing of SA S&T excellence

- Partner search service on ESASTAP website
- International theme specific events in Europe
- Distribute thematic brochures in international and local events



Thank you!

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