

**The European Union's
Seventh Framework Programme
(FP7)
&
Marie Curie Actions (MCA)**

21 JULY 2009



Overview of Presentation

FP7

- European Union's Framework Programmes
- FP7 structure
- Third country participation
- FP7 thematic areas

MCA

- Overall scope of the Marie Curie Actions (MCAs)
- Overview of the MCA
- Outline of each action and 2009 calls



SA-EU S&T partnership

- EU is historically SA's most important partner for international S&T collaboration
- EU one of the leading knowledge generation and innovation economies in the world
- Internationalisation of SA S&T
- Connection to global research
- Increase of research funding



European Union's Framework Programmes

- EU's main instrument for funding R&D
- FP1: (1984-1987)
- FP2-FP6 : 4 years
 └─→ (R150 Million investment)
- South Africa started participating in FP4
- FP7: 7 years
 └─→ April 2009 (R120 Million investment)



What is the FP7?

- Will run from 2007 to 2013
- Total budget: 50,5 billion EURO (approximately R450 billion)
- Will also addresses social, economic, environmental and industrial challenges



Structure of FP7

Four Specific Programmes

- ***Cooperation:*** Collaborative research, research networks, coordination research programmes and support actions
- ***Ideas:*** Frontier research, researcher driven
- ***People:*** Human capital: training & mobility
- ***Capacities:*** Research infrastructures, SMEs, Science and Society and Horizontal international cooperation actions



FP7 participation

- Implementation through defined calls for proposals
- European partners are needed for participation
- Legal personality – natural or legal person
- Abandon collective financial responsibility
- Guidance for IP in consortium agreements
(<http://cordis.europa.eu/ipr-helpdesk/en/>)
- Independent experts for evaluation and monitoring
(<https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7/index.cfm?fuseaction=welcome>)
- Full electronic submission

3rd country participation

Participation per programme

- **Cooperation** - as partners
- **Ideas** - as participants in European-led research teams
- **People** - as beneficiaries of training and career development activities
- **Capacity** - in international activities promoting strategic cooperation



Thematic Areas

Thematic Areas	Budget (€million)*
1) Health	6.1
2) Food, agriculture and biotechnology	1.9
3) Information and communication technologies	9.1
4) Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies	3.5
5) Energy	2.3
6) Environment (including climate change)	1.9
7) Transport (including aeronautics)	4.2
8) Socio-economic sciences and the humanities	0.6
9) Space and	
10) Security	2.8

32.4 billion

FP PARTICIPATION STATS

In April 2009

- 41% success rate 82 participations in 69 projects
- EC investment R120 million
- Health and FAB (11 participations each)
ICT and transport (8), SSH (5), Space (4)

Top 10 partners

UK, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and India



MARIE CURIE ACTIONS



Overall scope

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



Five MCA Building blocks

- **Initial training of researchers (ITN)**
- **Industry dimension** (Industry Academia Pathways and Partnerships)
- **International dimension** Incoming and outgoing fellowships, reintegration and international research staff exchange scheme (IOF, IIF, IRG, IRSES)
- **Specific actions** (Networking of NCPs and awards)

Participation in MCA

- Respond to calls for proposals
- Proposals drafted in conjunction with EU partners
- All actions are for experienced researchers, except for ITN, IRSES and IAPP
- No consortium agreement except for IRSES
- Not all actions are funded by the EU



Overview of MCA

Host Actions

- Aimed at building institutional capacity
- Open for researchers, management and technical staff
- IRSES, IAPP, ITN

Individual Actions

- Aimed at building individual capacity
- Open for experienced researchers (PhD or 4 years full time in research)
- IIF, IOF, IRG



Host Actions

1. International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

- The objectives is 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

IRSES MAIN FEATURES

- Exchange of researchers, technical and management staff between organisations
- Short term exchanges (max 12 months) and stay can be split into several periods
- Balanced exchanges principle (each country fund its outgoing researchers), but EU funding of ICPC countries is possible
- EU provide 1800€/person/month as lump sum
- DST will provide 3000€/p/m/project support for successful SA participants
- Seconded researchers should maintain their salary at home institution and return

Next call (open 28 November 2009- close 25 March 2010)



2. IAPP

- The objective is to encourage knowledge sharing, cultural exchange, technical expertise and sustainable cooperation between industry and academia (in particular SMEs)
- Research staff and technical & managerial staff of all levels of experience
- Enhance sustainable cooperation between partners of both sectors in joint projects
- Joint research projects or programmes addressing real or perceived barriers which inhibit movement of research between public and private sectors

IAPP MAIN FEATURES

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
- 2-way staff secondments / hosting of experienced researchers from outside the partnership
- Secondments for 2 months to 2 yrs with 1 yr active in seconding organisation
- Recruited experienced staff 12-24 months
- Organisation of workshops/conferences, including for researchers from outside the partnership
- Special measure: equipment costs for SMEs
- Call opened on 24 April - close 27 July

3. ITN

- Objective: to strengthen and structure Early Stage (first 5yrs of career) Training to:
 - improve research and broad skills development
 - help join established research teams
 - enhance career prospects in public and private sectors
- Must have industry participation and a letter of commitment is required from industry partners

Next call open on 8 September – close on 22 December



ITN 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* position
 - short training events (also open to researchers from outside the network) and training and networking activities

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS

1. International Incoming fellowship (IIF)

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; and
- To build sustainable connections through mobile researchers

Call opened on 18 March – close on 18 August



IIF MAIN FEATURES

Main features

- Aimed at experienced researchers
- Fellows work full time on the project
- Can't replace a fellow who withdraw in the middle of the project
- 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 EU/AC and ICPC 15 000€ /yr, and incoming host to sign contract with the EC

Call open March 2009 and close August 2009



2. International Outgoing Fellowship (IOF)

- The objective is to reinforce the international dimension of the career of European researchers by training and acquisition of new knowledge in a Third Country (TC)
- High level research organisation
- Transfer acquired knowledge in organisations from Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AC) upon return
- Structured long term professional development and advanced training and life-long learning

IOF 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
- Personal career development plan to be established by researcher and supervisor at return organisation



Call opened on 18 March - close 18 August



www.esastap.org.za

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

SA FP MCA Participation

- **FP6 Incoming Fellowships:**

SA Submissions - 10

Approved – 0

- **FP6 Outgoing Fellowships:**

SA Submissions - 299

Approved – 1

- **FP7 first calls**

8 approved projects



Thank you!

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