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FP7 “People” Programme

MARIE CURIE INTRA-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT (IEF)

Call identifier: [FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF](#)

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Deadline: 16 August 2012 at 17.00.00, Brussels local time

Indicative budget: EUR 120 million of the 2012 budget

Topics called:

ACTION	Funding Schemes
Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships for Career Development	Support for training and career development of researchers

What is an Intra-European Fellowship?

The Intra-European Fellowship (IEF) aims to help **experienced researchers (i.e. in possession of PhD or with at least 4 years of research experience full time)** enhance their career by providing financial support for an **individual project** that will get funded for a period of **12 to 24 months**. The goal is to support researchers in attaining a leading independent position, e.g. principal investigator, professor or other senior position in education or enterprise. The IEF may also assist researchers to resume a career in research after a break. As the other Marie Curie Actions, the **rule of mobility** is mandatory in an IEF: **applicants can be of any nationality**, but they must move from an EU Member State (MS) or an Associated country (AC) to another MS or AC. The IEF follows a **bottom-up approach**, e.g., the research topic is freely chosen by the researcher in collaboration with the host institution. The IEF is **cross-cutting**, e.g. any scientific field can be funded.

How does it work?

Proposals for IEF involve a **single host organisation** established in a **Member State or Associated Country**. The project proposals are submitted by experienced researchers in liaison with a *host organisation* which is represented by the *scientist in charge* to the Research

Executive Agency (REA). It is important to note that the *experienced researcher* (future *fellow*) and the *scientist in charge* are two different people.

Proposals will be classified into Evaluation Panels under eight major areas of research: Chemistry (CHE); Social and Human Sciences (SOC); Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG); Environmental and Geo-Sciences (ENV); Life Sciences (LIF); Mathematics (MAT); Physics (PHY); plus a Career Restart panel (CAR). Researchers applying to the Career Restart Panel must, at the time of the deadline for submission of proposals, not be active in research and not have held a fellowship, or been employed under contract in research for at least 12 months.

Successful proposals will be invited to enter into negotiation with the REA. On the basis of the information provided in the proposal (particularly part A of the proposal) and the recommendation by the independent experts, a "*grant agreement*" will be then prepared and sent to the *host organisation* ("*beneficiary*").

Which host institutions are eligible?

Participants are legal entities **established in a MS or an AC to FP7**. Many different types of *host organisation* can take part in IEF such as:

- National organisations (e.g. universities, research centres, etc, whether private or public);
- Commercial enterprises, especially those of small and medium size (SMEs);
- Non-profit or charitable organisations (e.g. NGOs, trusts, etc.);
- International European Interest organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL, etc.);
- The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission;
- Other International Organisations (e.g. WHO, UNESCO etc.)

Who can apply?

– **Eligible researchers:** The action addresses *experienced researchers* who are at a stage of their career when they can benefit from a life-long training and career development measure. This includes researchers with a more senior profile in terms of experience as well as those who wish to resume their research career after a break. Researchers must be *experienced researchers* at the relevant deadline for submission of proposals.

– **Rules of mobility and nationality applicable to eligible researchers:**

Applicants can be of **any nationality**. They must demonstrate mobility from a Member State or an Associated country to another MS or AC, and must comply with the rule for mobility at the deadline for submission of proposals. Researchers **must have not resided** or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc) in the country of their host organisation **for more than 12 months in the 3 years** immediately prior to the reference deadline (short stays, as holidays, are not taken into account). As far as international European interest organisations or international organisations are concerned, this rule does not apply to the hosting of eligible researchers. However the appointed researcher must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference deadline for submission of proposals in the same appointing organisation.

But:

Experienced researchers, who have been **active in research in a third country** immediately prior to the deadline for submission of proposals **may be eligible to apply** for both an Intra-European Fellowship (IEF) (see example below) and an International Incoming Fellowship (IIF). In such cases, when the applicant judges that they are able to

contribute to the transfer of knowledge to Europe, they may consider applying for an IIF rather than for an IEF. (See *Guide for Applicants specific part IEF 2012*, page 12 .)

Example:

An experienced researcher, who has spent 15 months immediately prior to the call deadline in an other third country, is eligible for an IEF fellowship in a MS or AC provided that she/he was active in another MS or AC before moving to the third country.

As an exception, for the 'career restart' panel, researchers will be eligible if they have not resided or carried out their main activity in the country of their host organisation for more than 3 years in the 5 years immediately prior to the relevant deadline for submission of proposals. The benefit of the proposed mobility will be assessed during evaluation in terms of benefit for the ERA.

What types of expenses are covered?

The financial support for Intra-European Fellowships takes the form of a grant covering up to 100% of the budget, according to a system of flat rates for eligible cost categories, comprising the following components:

- a monthly living allowance: a **yearly gross living allowance for an experienced researcher of €58'500**;
- a monthly mobility allowance: This is a monthly payment of a flat rate contribution to cover expenses related to the mobility (relocation, family expenses, language courses, travel expenses etc.):
 - **€1000/month**: experienced researcher with family obligations;
 - **€700/month**: experienced researcher without family obligations;
- a contribution to the training expenses of eligible experienced researcher: This contribution is managed by the *host organisation* for expenses related to the participation of the *experienced researcher* in research and training activities. In principle **all** costs related to the successful execution of the project by the *fellow* (e.g. *purchase of consumables, participation in conferences and training courses, fees for scientific journals, memberships in scientific associations etc.*), and which would normally not arise if the *fellow* was not hosted at the *host organisation*, are eligible. This contribution consists of a flat-rate amount:
 - **€800 per researcher-month**;
- a contribution to overheads: flat-rate of **€700 per researcher-month**.

Typical Activities of an IEF

IEF funding is provided for advanced training. This may include the acquisition of **new and/or complementary skills**, and **transnational mobility**. The training is based on a **personal career development programme** agreed between the researcher and the supervisor at the host organisation. Financial support is provided for a period of **12-24 months** (full-time equivalent), for individual projects presented by experienced researchers in liaison with a host organisation from a MS or AC.

The **types of training** might include:

- **Training-through-research** under supervision, through an individual personalised project;

- **Hands-on training** to develop your scientific skills (new techniques or instruments, etc.) and your complementary skills (proposal preparation to request funding, patent applications, project management, tasks coordination, technical staff supervision, etc.);
- Intersectoral or interdisciplinary **knowledge transfer**;
- The capacity to **build collaborations**;
- Active **scientific and financial management** of your research project;
- Developing **organisational skills** through organisation of training or dissemination events.

A **Personal Career Development Plan** will be established by the *experienced researcher* and the scientist in charge prior to the start of the project in order to aid in the provision of the research training programme and research objectives that best suits the needs of the *experienced researcher*.

How to apply?

The Participant Portal call page:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people?callIdentifier=FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF> contains the IEF Call Information Package.

Proposals in this call must be submitted electronically using a special web-based service (*Electronic Proposal Submission Service, EPSS*) before a strictly enforced deadline.

For additional information, please see the IEF section of the Marie Curie Actions official website http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/mariecurieactions/ief_en.html.

This leaflet is prepared with the use of the European Commission Participant Portal.

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