



Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2007-2013)

FP7 “People” Programme

MARIE CURIE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STAFF EXCHANGE SCHEME (IRSES)

IRSES, International Research Staff Exchange Scheme aims to **strengthen research partnerships between European research organisations and research organisations from countries with which the EC has an S&T agreement (including Russia)**, through staff exchange and networking activities. **Participants** are non profit public or private research organisations which receive support from the EC to establish or reinforce long-term cooperation with third country research organisations.

An **IRSES partnership** shall be composed of at least **two independent participants established in two different EU MS or AC**, and **one or more organisations based in a third country (including Russia)**. There is no maximum size for an exchange programme. The coordinator of a project must be from a Member State or Associated Country.

Typical Activities of an IRSES Project

A multiannual joint programme may include joint research and training activities or joint workshops and seminars, as well as other networking activities.

How does it work?

IRSES participants are research organisations that will be members of a **partnership**, built on a joint research programme. Knowhow and competences will be increased through **short exchanges of staff**. The IRSES scheme targets early stage and experienced researchers, but technical and managerial staff can also benefit from the exchange programme. **The duration of exchanges for each researcher/manager/technician will be for a maximum of 12 months**. Very short stays (i.e. of less than one month), are exceptional and should be well justified in the application.

What is funded in IRSES?

The European Union contribution consists of a flat rate of **€ 1900 per exchanged staff member per month**. The contribution is intended to cover the cost of travel and subsistence of the exchanged staff, as well as networking activities, management costs and overheads directly

related to the execution of the exchange. Staff members to be exchanged **are seconded** and remain employed by their institution of origin (with full salary and the right to return).

Duration of IRSES

Financial support will be provided for a period of **24 to 48 months**.

Evaluation criteria

- Quality of Exchange programme (25%): Objective and relevance of the joint exchange programme; Scientific quality of partners; Synergies between partners.
- Transfer of Knowledge (30%): Quality and mutual benefit of the ToK; Adequacy and role of staff exchange with respect to ToK.
- Implementation (15%): Capacities (HR; infrastructures; facilities); Appropriateness of the plans for the overall management of the exchange programme.
- Impact (30%): Relevance of the partnership for the ERA; Potential to develop long term collaboration.

Preparation and submission of proposals

The Call Information Package published on the Participant Portal http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls includes the following key documents required for the preparation of proposals:

- Call fiche,
- Work Programme,
- FP7 factsheets,
- Guide for Applicants - Common Part,
- Guide for Applicants - Ethics,
- Guide for Applicants - Call Specific,

as well as additional useful documents, such as the Rules for Submission and Evaluation of Proposals etc.

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 IRSES section of the Marie Curie Actions official website <http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>.

The series of information Newsletters issues 1-6 2011 (<http://fp7.hse.ru/mobility/bull>) in Russian describes in details FP7 “People” procedures from project proposals submission to finalization of financed projects including reporting.

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

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