

## **ORIENTATION PAPER**

**prepared in connection with the FP7 2013 Work Programme of**

## ***PEOPLE PROGRAMME***

### **Working document – not legally binding**

This paper is made public at an early stage in the adoption process of the work programme to provide potential applicants with the currently expected main lines of the 2013 work programme. It is a working document not yet endorsed by the Commission and its content does not in any way prejudice the subsequent modifications by the Commission, nor the final decision of the Commission.

The adoption and the publication of the work programme by the Commission are expected by mid-July 2012. All related documents will then be accessible via [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7\\_documentation](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_documentation)

Only the adopted work programme will have legal value. No essential information, such as indicative budgets, will be provided by the Commission until the final work programme is adopted. Any such information disclosed by any other party shall not be construed as having been endorsed by or affiliated to the Commission. The Commission expressly disclaims liability for any future changes of the content of this document.

***DRAFT VERSION May 2012***

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## **Objective:**

The overall strategic objective of the People Programme is to make Europe more attractive for researchers. The Specific Programme aims to strengthen, quantitatively and qualitatively, the human potential in research and technology in Europe, by stimulating people to take up the profession of a researcher, encouraging European researchers to stay in Europe, and attracting to Europe the best researchers from the entire world.

It is implemented by systematic investments in people, mainly through a coherent set of Marie Curie Actions, particularly taking into account the European added value in terms of their structuring effect on the European Research Area. These actions address researchers in terms of their skills and competence development at all stages of their careers, from initial research training specifically intended for young people, to career development and life-long training in the public and private sector. Mobility, both trans-national and intersectoral, is fundamental to this programme.

A strong participation by enterprises, including SMEs, is considered a crucial added value for this programme. The enhancement of industry-academia cooperation in terms of research training, career development and knowledge sharing, taking into account the protection of intellectual property rights, is encouraged throughout.

The international dimension, as a fundamental component of human resources in research and development in Europe, will be addressed in terms of career development without discrimination, as well as of strengthening and enriching international cooperation through researchers and attracting research talent to Europe.

The programme aims to ensure gender mainstreaming by encouraging equal opportunities in all Marie Curie Actions and by benchmarking gender participation (a target of at least 40 % participation by women). In addition, the actions will be designed to assist researchers to get established on a more stable career path and to ensure that researchers can achieve an appropriate work/life balance, taking into account their family situation, and to contribute to facilitate resuming a research career after a break.

The Marie Curie Actions are open to all domains of research and technological development addressed under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Research fields are chosen freely by the applicants. However projects that can be covered by the Euratom Treaty are excluded from funding.

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## I CONTEXT

### General introduction and approach for 2013

The People work programme 2013 will be designed to support the implementation of the Europe 2020 Flagship Initiatives 'Innovation Union', 'Youth On the Move' and 'An Agenda for new skills and jobs', and in particular to bring education, research and innovation closer to each other to attract, train and retain in Europe the next generation of researchers who will be able to address major societal challenges.

The work programme 2013 will ensure continuity with the work programme 2012, alignment with the new strategic approach, fully supportive of the ERA-initiatives related to researchers as proposed by the Commission in 2008<sup>1</sup>, and a bridge to Horizon 2020.

The work programme will seek to make Europe more attractive for researchers, to further enhance doctoral training in line with the EU Principles on Innovative Doctoral Training, and to establish a balanced "brain circulation" within the EU as well as with third countries.

In this context the following specificities of the programme will be strengthened:

- Quality of doctoral training

European Industrial Doctorates and Innovative Doctoral Programmes continue under the Initial training of researchers activity with the objective to stimulate entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation in Europe. This is achieved in particular by involving businesses in doctoral training so that skills of researchers better match public and private sector needs.

- Involvement of industry, including SMEs

Inter-sector mobility of researchers continues to be a priority. This issue is particularly addressed through the IAPP and ITN actions. Intersectoral co-operation is further reinforced in the work programme by clarifying the rules of the IAPP action and by involving industry in the training of doctoral candidates through the support of European Industrial Doctorates. Strong participation of SMEs is actively encouraged.

- Attractive employment conditions and gender balance in research careers

Marie Curie Actions continue to promote gender balance and act as trend setters by offering attractive working and employment conditions as well as competitive salaries to researchers, in particular through a system of adequate family and mobility allowances. The systematic reference to the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for their Recruitment<sup>2</sup> ('Charter & Code') in the evaluation criteria will support the implementation of the Innovation Union (IU).

- Leveraging national policies and programmes

The objective of increasing impact through actions involving Member States and Associated Countries research organisations, as stated in the Innovation Union, is addressed by the

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<sup>1</sup> "Better careers and more mobility: a European partnership for researchers" (COM(2008)317 final of 23 May 2008) and "A strategic Framework for EU International S&T cooperation" (COM(2008)588 final of 24 September 2008)

<sup>2</sup> Commission recommendation of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, C(2005) 576 of 11.3.2005.

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COFUND instrument. The potential of this action to generate additionality, both through numerical impact, measured by the number of new fellowship programmes created at national level as a result of COFUND, as well as through its structuring effect in terms of implementation of the 'Charter & Code', is well recognised.

- Knowledge sharing, dissemination and open access

The communication of publicly funded research is a key issue for the dissemination of knowledge and for the public understanding of science and the role it plays in the lives of the European citizens and as a vehicle to achieve innovation.

This is why it is proposed that beneficiaries funded partially or entirely by the IEF, IIF, IOF and CIG Actions are encouraged to deposit peer-reviewed articles resulting from projects in an institutional or subject-based repository, and to make their best efforts to ensure open access to these articles within six months after their publication.

To further enhance dissemination, proposers in most of the Marie Curie Actions are also required to plan suitable outreach activities in each proposal. This plan is assessed during the evaluation process and also during the project follow-up. In this context, the alumni services will provide possibilities for the organisation of joint events and the involvement of the fellows in outreach activities as ambassadors for Marie Curie Actions and the ERA.

- International cooperation

Most Marie Curie Actions are open to researchers from all nationalities and to participation by legal entities from third countries, which fully contribute to the Innovation Union objectives.

- EURAXESS activities

New initiatives are launched to support the rapid implementation of the IU 'commitments' related to the removal of obstacles to mobility and cross-border co-operation. The 'Charter & Code' is a key instrument towards this aim. It provides a reference framework for the roles, rights and responsibilities of researchers, their employers and funders. Continued support for policy implementation will be provided by the EURAXESS-Researchers in Motion initiative. This will include activities to raise awareness of issues related to social security, taxation, visa and residency which will be carried out under EURAXESS Rights, with the active support by the EURAXESS Services Network. EURAXESS Rights will also be further developed to increase the impact of the 'Institutional Human Resources Strategy', and to help institutions prepare for their successful participation in the accreditation mechanism for HR Excellence in Research that will be supported under the Support for the Coherent Development of Research Policies work programme 2013 and under Horizon 2020. EURAXESS will also contribute to the continued dialogue with the researcher community, for example concerning the Commission initiatives towards a 'European Framework for Research Careers' and principles for innovative doctoral training.

Through its Services Network EURAXESS will continue to provide practical support for the transnational and international mobility of researchers. In collaboration with EURAXESS Links the EURAXESS Services Network will facilitate contacts with the researchers' diaspora abroad.

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Particular efforts will be geared towards increasing the number of jobs and funding opportunities (including calls for fellowships at national and regional level) published on the EURAXESS (Jobs) Portal. New activities will be geared towards the technical realisation of the EURAXESS Data and Information Infrastructure (the so-called "Researchers' Card", a large-scale registration and information system for both mobile and non-mobile researchers), building on the preparatory work that has been carried out under previous work programmes. This tool will provide easy information access and networking opportunities to researchers while at the same time facilitating the gathering of data and evidence on researchers in support of future ERA policy development.

### **Terms used in the work programme**

Researchers addressed under the 'People' Specific Programme are of at least postgraduate or equivalent level and are classified on the basis of professional experience (see definitions below).

#### ***Definitions used throughout the work programme*** (Italics in the text imply these definitions)

***Early-stage researchers*** shall at the time of recruitment (ITN) or secondment (IAPP, IRSES) by the host organisation, be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not yet been awarded a doctoral degree.

***Experienced researchers*** shall, at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals (IEF, IIF, IOF, CIG) or recruitment (ITN, IAPP, COFUND)/secondment (IAPP, IRSES) by the host organisation, be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience. In ITN, experienced researchers shall also, at the time of recruitment by the host organisation, have less than five years of full-time equivalent research experience.

***Full-time equivalent research experience*** is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree which would formally entitle him or her to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited or seconded, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.

***Mobility***: at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals, or recruitment by the host organisation, depending on the action, researchers shall not have 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 date. Compulsory national service and/or short stays such 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 shall not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference deadline for submission of proposals or recruitment by the host organisation, depending on the action, in the same appointing organisation.

In the 'career restart' panel in IEF, researchers shall not have 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.

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**Research organisations** are defined in the FP7 Rules for Participation<sup>3</sup> as a "legal entity established as a non-profit organisation which carries out research or technological development as one of its main objectives".

**Other third countries** are countries which are neither EU Member States nor third countries associated to FP7 (associated countries<sup>4</sup>).

## Implementation principles

The Marie Curie Actions are open to all domains of research and technological development addressed under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Research fields are chosen freely by the applicants in a 'bottom-up' manner. Projects that can be covered by the Euratom Treaty are excluded from funding.

All research carried out under the work programme shall respect fundamental ethical principles, and the requirements set out in the text of the 'People' Specific Programme.

The actions will be implemented on the basis of open, quality-driven Europe-wide competition, with excellence of the project and participants, impact of the project and implementation capacity of the participants as the selection criteria. A limited number of actions will be implemented by service contracts or other Commission procedures.

Trans-national and intersectoral mobility is a key feature and a strong participation by enterprises, in particular SMEs, is considered an important added value. Enhanced industry-academia cooperation in terms of research training, career development and knowledge-sharing is encouraged. The definition of industry goes beyond the traditional manufacturing and/or production industries and comprises enterprises in the general sense of business economic actors.

The international dimension is addressed by actions aiming to strengthen and enrich international cooperation through researchers and to attract research talent to Europe. Most of the Marie Curie Actions are open to *other third country* researchers. Also, depending on the action, the participation of legal entities from *other third countries* and of international organisations is foreseen under the conditions provided by the FP7 Rules for Participation (for details see each relevant action in part II). Moreover, the 4<sup>th</sup> Activity – the Marie Curie World Fellowships – is explicitly targeted at increasing the appeal for researchers to move to and from Europe. Beyond the individual fellowships, the International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) provides the possibility to strengthen cooperation between European *research organisations* and *research organisations* of countries with which the EU has concluded Science and Technology agreements and European neighbourhood countries. Whereas the fellowship actions de facto favour applications to countries with an established research reputation, the IRSES action contributes to widening the geographical scope by

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<sup>3</sup> Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in actions under the Seventh Framework Programme and for the dissemination of research results (2007-2013) [Regulation (EC) No 1906/2006 of 18.12.2006, OJ L 391 of 30.12.2006, p.1] – hereafter 'FP7 Rules for Participation'.

<sup>4</sup> For a list of FP7 associated countries, see [ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/third\\_country\\_agreements\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/third_country_agreements_en.pdf)

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giving an additional incentive for cooperation with certain International Cooperation Partnership Countries (ICPC).

The gender dimension is addressed in all Marie Curie actions. Indeed, the pursuit of knowledge and its translation towards society require the talent, perspectives and insight that can only be assured by increasing diversity in the research workforce. Therefore, the programme aims to ensure gender mainstreaming. The application of the principles of non-discrimination and equal opportunities are required in all Marie Curie Actions and gender participation is benchmarked with a view of achieving a broad balance over the period of the Framework Programme. The target of at least 40% participation by women at all levels set in earlier work programmes is maintained for 2013. In addition, in research projects where human beings are involved as subjects or end-users, gender differences may exist. In these cases the gender dimension in the research content has to be addressed as an integral part of the proposal to ensure the highest level of scientific quality.

The actions are designed to ensure that researchers can achieve an appropriate work/life balance and will support researchers wishing to resume their research career after a break. Although as a general rule fellowships are expected to be full-time, flexibility is provided for instance in terms of splitting a fellowship into more than one stay, or through part-time working, if justified and appropriate in the frame of the project implementation.

In the implementation of the Marie Curie Actions, attention is also paid to the transparency of recruitment and selection processes practiced by projects and programmes funded, as well as to the working conditions and career development opportunities of the researchers employed or funded by them. For this the Commission Recommendation of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers<sup>5</sup> offers a reference framework.

Proposals under actions covered by the work programme will, depending on the action, be submitted either by one or several organisations or by an individual researcher in liaison with a host organisation. An individual researcher can submit only one proposal per calendar year to any of the individual actions IEF, IIF, IOF. In addition, they cannot benefit, at the same time, from more than one Marie Curie Action.

In case of multiple submissions by a research or research funding organisation, the applicant entity may be asked to demonstrate the capacity to participate in more than one of those projects simultaneously, in terms of research staff, infrastructure and management.

In case of submission of a proposal in the same field as a project for which the applicant/participant has already previously received European Union financing under the Seventh Framework Programme, other Union programmes or under previous Framework Programmes, the applicant has to demonstrate the substantial added value of the new project in relation to the project previously financed.

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<sup>5</sup> Commission recommendation of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, C(2005) 576 of 11.3.2005.

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**Modalities of implementation: The Research Executive Agency (REA)**

The activities in sections II, III under the work programme will be implemented by the Research Executive Agency according to the provisions of the Commission decision C/2008/3980 of 31/7/2008 "delegating powers to the Research Executive Agency with a view to performance of tasks linked to implementation of the Specific Community Programmes People, Capacities and Cooperation in the field of research comprising, in particular, implementation of appropriations entered in the Community budget".

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## II CONTENT OF CALLS IN 2013

### Activity 1: Initial Training of Researchers

#### 1.1 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INITIAL TRAINING NETWORKS (ITN)

##### Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-ITN

##### ***1.1.1 Introduction and objective of the action***

This action aims to improve career perspectives of *early-stage researchers* in both public and private sectors, thereby making research careers more attractive to young people. This will be achieved through a trans-national networking mechanism, aimed at structuring the existing high-quality initial research training capacity throughout Member States and associated countries. Direct or indirect involvement of organisations from different sectors, including (lead-) participation by private enterprises in appropriate fields, is considered essential in the action. In particular, the action aims to add to the employability of the recruited researchers through exposure to both academia and enterprise, thus extending the traditional academic research training setting and eliminating cultural and other barriers to mobility.

For the purposes of this action, the *private sector* is understood to comprise organisations gaining the majority of their revenue through competitive means with exposure to commercial markets.

The action will be implemented by supporting competitively selected networks of organisations from different countries engaged in research training. The networks will be built on a joint research training programme, responding to well identified training needs in defined scientific or technological areas, with appropriate references to interdisciplinary and newly emerging supra-disciplinary fields.

##### ***1.1.2. Technical content/scope***

**Partnership:** a distinction is made between partners in a network, based on their level of participation.

- Participants (level 1):

Participants are organisations (e.g. universities, public or private non-commercial research centres, large enterprises, SMEs, non-profit or charitable organisations, etc.) that are full partners of a network. They contribute directly to the implementation of the joint training programme of the network by recruiting, employing (where applicable) and supervising eligible researchers, by providing training in research and in transferable skills, as well as secondment opportunities. Full network partners are signatories to the grant agreement, receive funding and take complete responsibility for executing the proposed training programme.

- Associated partners (level 2):

Associated partners do not recruit any researchers, but provide training in research and transferable skills, as well as secondment opportunities. Associate partnership is open to both public and private sector organisations located in any country. Associated partners are not signatories to the grant agreement. However, each associated partner shall include an up to date letter of commitment in the proposal to ensure their real and active participation in the network.

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All partners (level 1 and level 2) participate in dedicated network activities as well as in the supervisory board.

**Private sector (including SMEs):** In order to ensure that researchers are trained in a suitably intersectoral environment to fully acquire the skills necessary for them to participate in a range of roles in the modern knowledge economy, the active involvement of the private sector in the research training programme is considered essential. This involvement is foreseen either at level 1 or at level 2. In all cases, the degree of involvement and commitment of the private sector will be assessed by the expert evaluators.

#### **Type of networks:**

- ***Multi-partner ITNs (ITN)***

ITNs are typically set up as multi-partner ITNs, with at least three participants (level 1) established in at least three different Member States or associated countries. Above this minimum, the participation of *other third countries* and of international organisations is possible under the conditions provided by the FP7 Rules for Participation. Participation of the private sector at level 1 is highly encouraged. Associated partners (level 2) can also complement the training programme.

On top of these multi-partner ITNs, two other implementation modes are also possible as described below:

- ***European Industrial Doctorates (EID)***

They are composed of 2 participants at level 1, one academic institution and one participant from the private sector, established in two different Member States or associated countries.

The academic participant can be:

- an institution entitled to deliver doctoral degrees and recognised as such by the relevant authorities of the country concerned. In this case a research institution can be associated (level 2) to it for the purpose of the training.

or

- a research institution (level 1) associated with a university (level 2) that will deliver the degree.

Any additional associated partners (level 2) can also complement the training programme.

Each researcher shall:

- be enrolled in a doctoral programme of the academic participant
- be employed by either both participants at level 1, or employed by one of them and seconded to the other for the share of the time foreseen under this action.
- spend at least 50% of his/her time in the private sector
- be jointly supervised by at least two supervisors, one from each participant.

In addition the consortium shall draw up a consortium agreement for their cooperation in the programme, which shall at least cover the employment status of the candidate, IPR and the supervision arrangements, including qualifications of supervisors.

Applicants to the European Industrial Doctorates will be evaluated in a separate panel.

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- ***Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP)***

They are composed of a sole participant established in a Member State or associated country. They are typically universities or research institutions offering innovative doctoral programmes ensuring an international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral training. Collaborations with a wider set of associated partners (level 2), including from the private sector, as well as innovative elements of the proposed training addressing the needs of the Innovation Union flagship initiative, will be taken into account during the evaluations.

**Training Programme:** Participants will apply for support through a joint training programme. These training programmes will address in particular the development and broadening of the research competences of early-stage researchers, including doctoral candidates.

Training will be primarily focused on scientific and technological knowledge through research on individual, personalised projects. This will be complemented by substantial training modules addressing key transferable skills common to all fields, e.g. in the field of entrepreneurship, management and financing of research projects and programmes, management of intellectual property rights, other exploitation methods of research results, ethical aspects, communication, standardisation and societal outreach.

Attention will be paid to the quality of the joint research training programme, with provision for qualitative and quantitative supervision and mentoring arrangements as well as career guidance, while ensuring, where relevant, the meaningful exposure of each researcher to other disciplines and sectors through visits, secondments and other training events. The training programme will exploit complementary competences of the participant(s) and associated partners, including from the private sector, and will reflect, where relevant, existing or planned research collaborations among the partners. It will require the mutual recognition of the quality of the training and, if possible, of diplomas and other certificates awarded.

Each programme will have a clearly identified supervisory board co-ordinating network-wide training. The board will be composed of the network participant(s) and associated partners, and may also include any other stakeholders of relevance to the training programme. The board will ensure an adequate balance between scientific and technological training through personalised research projects and transferable skills training, appropriate to the needs of each recruited researcher. Involvement of the private sector in the supervisory board aims to ensure that the skills requirements for the researchers are defined on the basis of a thorough understanding of the sectoral needs of both academia and private sector to enhance the intersectoral employability of the researchers. The supervisory board will also establish active and continuous communication and exchange of best practice among the partners to maximise the benefits of the partnership.

Training events offered within the participant(s) and associated partners (summer schools, specialised training courses, seminars, etc) may also be opened to external researchers. Visiting researchers, originating from either the private or public sectors, can also be invited with a view to complement the network's capacity to transfer new knowledge.

The size of the joint training programme will depend on the nature and scope of the training activities to be undertaken by the participant(s) and associated partners, on the effective interaction among them, as well as on considerations regarding the management.

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Each recruited researcher will establish, together with her/his personal supervisor(s), a Personal Career Development Plan. It will comprise his/her training and career needs (including transferable skills and meaningful exposure to the private sector, in particular through well-targeted secondments) as well as the scientific objectives and will later on report upon the success with which these objectives were met. In this way the researchers will be encouraged to play an active role in shaping their own training programme and professional development. Joint supervision of [early-stage researchers](#) is encouraged in ITNs and IDPs and mandatory in EIDs.

All the above elements will be assessed by the expert evaluators during the evaluation procedure.

In principle, the maximum duration of the programme to be supported will be four years from the date of commencement specified in the grant agreement. The grant agreement will be limited to the recruitment of maximum 500 researcher-months for Multi-partner ITN and IDP, and 180 researcher-months for EID.

**Eligible researchers:** This action supports the initial training of researchers.

The initial training phase is predominantly directed at [early-stage researchers](#), and includes inter alia training in the frame of doctoral programmes. Support for [early-stage researchers](#) will be for periods of 3 to 36 months.

Within *multi-partner ITNs*, the initial training can also, to a limited extent, be directed to [experienced researchers](#) as long as they have less than five years of full-time equivalent research experience at the time of recruitment by the host organisation. They are encouraged to be recruited and trained in the private sector, with special attention being given to SMEs, in order to develop their management and entrepreneurial skills (organisation of the planning of secondments, setting-up collaboration with other institutions, coaching of ESRs, etc...). The support for [experienced researchers](#) will be for periods of 3 to 24 months.

In all cases eligibility will be determined at the time of recruitment.

An individual researcher may not be recruited as an [early-stage researcher](#) and subsequently as an [experienced researcher](#) within the same network.

**Rules of mobility and nationality applicable to eligible researchers:** Researchers can be of any nationality. They shall comply with the rule for [mobility](#) at the time of recruitment by the host organisation.

### ***1.1.3. Expected impact of the action***

Training programmes under this action are expected to contribute to the structuring of existing high-quality initial research and doctoral training capacity throughout Europe in both public and private sectors. By bringing complementary providers of research training from different countries, sectors and disciplines together, the programmes under this action are expected to enhance industry-academia cooperation in terms of skills development and knowledge-sharing and to deliver better overall quality of initial research and doctoral training in Europe. This will not only help to develop future generations of entrepreneurial researchers more capable of contributing effectively to the knowledge-based economy and society, within and between public and private sectors, but also add to the intersectoral and trans-national employability of these researchers and to the attraction of young people to a research career.

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## **Activity 2: Life-Long Training and Career Development**

### **2.1 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INTRA-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT (IEF)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE -2013-IEF*

#### ***2.1.1. Introduction and objective of the action***

This action is to support the career development, or restart, of *experienced researchers* at different stages of their careers, and seeks to enhance their individual competence diversification in terms of skill acquisition at multi- or interdisciplinary level and/or by undertaking intersectoral experiences. The aim is to support researchers in attaining and/or strengthening a leading independent position, e.g. principal investigator, professor or other senior position in education or enterprise.

The action may also assist researchers to resume a career in research after a break. To assure equal opportunities to all proposals, applicants for such proposals can apply to be evaluated in a separate multi-disciplinary panel. To qualify for evaluation in this 'career restart' panel, researchers shall not have been active in research for at least 12 months immediately prior to the deadline for submission.

Support is foreseen for individual, trans-national, intra-European fellowships awarded directly at European Union level, to the best and most promising researchers active in Member States or associated countries, based on an application made by the researchers in conjunction with the host organisations.

#### ***2.1.2. Technical content/scope***

**Projects and participants:** This action provides financial support for advanced training and trans-national mobility, for a period of 12 to 24 months (full-time equivalent), for individual projects presented by *experienced researchers* active in Member States or associated countries in liaison with a host organisation from another Member State or associated country. Grant agreements for selected proposals are signed between the Research Executive Agency and the host organisation, that will then employ the researcher for the duration of the project.

The research topic will be chosen by the researcher in collaboration with the host, with a view to achieving a diversification of competences and developing his/her career in a European context.

Each researcher will establish, together with her/his personal supervisor in the host organisation, a Personal Career Development Plan comprising his/her training needs (including transferable skills) and research objectives and will later on report upon the success with which these objectives were met. In this way the researchers will be encouraged to play an active role in shaping their own training programme and professional development.

#### ***2.1.3. Expected impact of the action***

Rather than merely providing employment opportunities for *experienced researchers*, this action aims to catalyse significant development in researchers' careers, specifically by adding different and/or complementary research competences at an advanced level, in the process of reaching and/or reinforcing a position of professional maturity or to permit them to resume a

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research career. Projects are therefore expected to add significantly to the career development of the best and most promising researchers active in Europe, in order to enhance and maximise their contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society.

## **2.2 MARIE CURIE ACTION: CAREER INTEGRATION GRANTS (CIG)**

### *Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-CIG*

#### **2.2.1. Introduction and objective of the action**

The objective is to reinforce the European Research Area (ERA) by encouraging researchers to establish themselves in a Member State or in an associated country, thereby attracting and retaining the best talents in Europe. The action is designed to support researchers in the first steps of their European research career and to attain lasting professional integration in the ERA. By providing researchers with a substantial research budget, the action is intended to improve considerably their prospects for long term integration, thus contributing to the success of their research career.

This action should also allow the transfer of knowledge that the researchers have acquired prior to the Career Integration Grant, as well as to the development of lasting co-operation with the scientific and/or industrial environment of the country from which they have moved. This action has a particular emphasis on countering European 'brain drain' to *other third countries*.

#### **2.2.2. Technical content/scope**

**Projects and participants:** This action consists of financial support for long term professional career integration projects in a host organisation of a Member State or associated country. The financial support aims to provide the researcher with the best possible conditions for establishing herself/himself in a long term research career.

For selected projects, a grant agreement is issued with the integration host organisation, which will commit itself to ensure an effective and lasting professional integration of the researcher for a period of at least the same duration as the project. The integration host organisation shall provide the researcher with an employment contract with a remuneration package of at least the same level to that offered to equivalently qualified researchers at the same institution. Evidence that the researcher will be integrated in the host organisation on this basis for a longer term will be taken into account during evaluation.

Projects will be selected on the basis of a proposal submitted by an eligible researcher in liaison with a host organisation. The grant can cover a period of up to 4 years.

#### **2.2.3. Expected impact of the action**

Projects under this action are expected to contribute significantly to the reinforcement of the human research potential in the European Research Area, by helping the integration of mobile researchers into a long term research position, as well as to improve substantially the research potential of these researchers by allocating them a contribution to the research budget. Moreover, the action is beneficial in terms of knowledge transfer and trans-national cooperation. Indeed, the projects provide European organisations active in research in both the private and public sectors with opportunities to acquire new knowledge and experience gained by researchers during their mobility experience within or outside Europe. At the same

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time these researchers bring with them a network of beneficial international research collaborations.

## **2.3 MARIE CURIE ACTION: CO-FUNDING OF REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES (COFUND)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-COFUND*

### **2.3.1. Introduction and objective of the action**

This action aims at increasing the European-wide mobility possibilities for training and career development of [experienced researchers](#), in line with the objectives set out in the activity heading 'Life-long training and career development', thus boosting its overall impact. The co-funding action targets programmes that support the trans-national mobility of [experienced researchers](#) at different stages of their careers, including researchers shortly after having obtained a doctorate, by broadening or deepening their individual competence, in particular in terms of acquisition of multi- or interdisciplinary skills or having intersectoral experiences and in particular encouraging mobility between public sector organisations and private companies; to support researchers in attaining and/or strengthening a leading independent position, e.g. principal investigator, professor or other senior position in education or enterprise; integrate researchers into a research career in Member States and associated countries, including in their country of origin, after a mobility experience.

Rather than providing the possibility for trans-national experiences only through direct European Union actions, the co-funding action aims to encourage existing or new regional or national programmes to open up to and provide for trans-national mobility, as well as to reinforce international programmes.

The co-funding action targets a competitive selection of existing or new regional, national and international funding programmes that focus on the objectives set for this action, based on individual-driven mobility. These programmes shall run an open, merit-based competition for the applying researchers, and be founded on international peer-review. While avoiding limitations regarding the researchers' origin and destination, they should also offer adequate working conditions for the fellows. These requirements should be in line with the principles set out in the European Charter for researchers and Code of conduct for the recruitment of researchers<sup>6</sup>. In particular, given their level of experience, the researchers funded under the programme are expected, as a general rule,<sup>7</sup> to be offered employment contracts complying with the social security legislation applicable<sup>7</sup>. This also applies to programmes that provide a research grant to the fellows without covering their salaries. When an employment contract is not provided by the applicant programme, then this should be duly justified, and the longer-term perspectives for a change be presented. These elements will be assessed by the expert evaluators during the evaluation procedure.

### **2.3.2. Technical content/scope**

**Participants:** Participants in the co-funding modality shall be established in Member States or associated countries and are organisations falling under one of the following categories:

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<sup>6</sup> Commission recommendation of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, C(2005) 576 of 11.3.2005.

<sup>7</sup> See Council Regulation (EC) N° 883/2004 of 29 April 2004.

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- Public bodies, as defined in Article 2.13 of the FP7 Rules for Participation, responsible for funding and managing fellowship programmes, e.g. ministries, state committees for research, research academies, councils or agencies;
- Other bodies, including [research organisations](#), that finance and manage fellowship programmes either with an official mandate or recognised by public authorities, such as agencies established by governments under private law with a public service mission, charities, etc.;
- International organisations as defined in Article 2.10 and 11 of the FP7 Rules for Participation that run comparable actions at European level as part of their mission.

**Programmes:** Participants will submit multi-annual proposals for new or existing regional, national or international programmes to be co-funded.

The proposal should demonstrate that the programme or programmes (to be) managed by the participant fund(s) individual research training/career development fellowships for the target group of [experienced researchers](#) addressed under the activity heading 'Life-long training and career development'. The programmes supported should have regular selection rounds for these category of researchers based on open, widely advertised competition, with transparent international peer review and selection of candidates on merits. The proposal should contain a clear plan on how the openness of the programme, the trans-national mobility and the working conditions of the final beneficiaries will be realised and/or enhanced. The European Union contribution for existing actions should not substitute or replace existing funding but contribute to an increased level of trans-national fellowships or the amelioration of working/employment conditions. These points should be adequately reflected in the proposal and will be assessed during the evaluation process.

The action takes into account three types of trans-national mobility, on which the support under this action is essentially based:

- (1) **Outgoing mobility** for fellowships/grants to residents of Member States or associated countries, preferably with a return phase;
- (2) **Incoming mobility** for fellowships/grants to non-residents of the country of the host organisation;
- (3) **Reintegration** of Member State or associated country nationals having carried out research in an [other third country](#) for at least 3 years, to establish them in a longer-term career after this trans-national mobility period.

The programmes to be cofunded under this action may be similar to IEF, IOF, IIF and CIG actions in this work programme.

The reference for the methods of selection of the final beneficiaries and their working conditions provided for under the programme are those laid down in the Commission Recommendation on the European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for their Recruitment<sup>8</sup>. In establishing the mobility rules and during the selection process of researchers, the co-funded programmes shall ensure that all selected researchers will

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<sup>8</sup> Commission Recommendation C(2005) 576 of 11 March 2005 on the European Charter for Researchers and on a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.

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demonstrate genuine mobility with a significant benefit for the European Research Area. These elements will be assessed by the expert evaluators during the evaluation procedure.

Selected programmes under the co-funding actions will be required to brand the eligible fellowships awarded “Co-funded by Marie Curie Actions”, and to advertise their calls and programmes internationally, including on the web-sites requested by the Commission (Euraxess Jobs web-site: <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/index>).

In principle, selected programmes will be co-funded for a duration of 24 to 60 months.

**Eligible researchers under the co-funded programmes:** To be eligible, researchers supported under the programmes co-funded in the frame of this action shall comply with the definition of *experienced researchers* and of trans-national mobility mentioned above. If the hosting organisation of the researchers is an international European interest organisation or international organisation located in any of the Member States or associated countries, the compliance with trans-national mobility rules is not required.

### **2.3.3. Expected impact of the action**

The co-funding action will on a voluntary basis **exploit synergies between European Union actions and those at regional and national level**, as well as with other actions at international level. The structuring effect and impact of the co-funding mode would be through its leverage effect on regional, national or international funding programmes that focus on the objective set up for the “life-long training and career development”, based on individual-driven mobility. This impact is expected to extend to:

- (1) **Enabling** the relevant regional, national and international actors to contribute significantly to the development within their own setting of high quality human resources, by **introducing and/or further developing** the **trans-national dimension** of their offers, both in terms of **incoming mobility** (of either researchers from countries other than that of the programme, or of the **return and reintegration** of nationals currently abroad), as well in terms of **outgoing mobility** of researchers to another country.
- (2) **Increasing the numerical and/or qualitative impact**, in terms of supported researchers or working/employment conditions.
- (3) **Combating fragmentation** in terms of objectives, evaluation methods and working conditions of regional, national or international offers in this area.

## **Activity 3: Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways**

### **3.1 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIPS AND PATHWAYS (IAPP)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IAPP*

#### **3.1.1. Introduction and objective of the action**

This action seeks to enhance industry-academia cooperation in terms of research training, career development and knowledge sharing, in particular with SMEs, and including traditional manufacturing industries. It is based on longer term cooperation programmes with a high

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potential for increasing mutual understanding of the different cultural settings and skill requirements of both the industrial and academic sectors. The IAPP action supports the 'Innovation Union' flagship initiative by strengthening research and business performance and by promoting innovation and knowledge transfer throughout the EU. Stronger cooperation between universities and business via staff exchange will encourage entrepreneurship and help to turn creative ideas into innovative products and processes that can efficiently address European and global societal challenges.

The action will be implemented through targeted and flexible support for human resources interactions within cooperation programmes between at least two organisations, one from each sector and from at least two different Member States or associated countries.

### **3.1.2. Technical content/scope**

**Participants:** Participants under this action are one or more research organisations (e.g. universities/research centres) and one or more commercial enterprises, in particular SMEs, that propose a research project based on a joint cooperation programme. Within this action, the commercial partners shall be research-performing companies gaining the majority of their revenue through competitive means with exposure to commercial markets, and will include incubators, start-ups and spin-offs, venture capital companies, etc. There shall be at least one participant from each of the two sectors and from at least two different Member States or associated countries. Above this minimum, the participation of *other third countries* and of international organisations is possible under the conditions provided by the FP7 Rules for Participation. The participants recruit and/or host eligible researchers and contribute directly to the implementation of longer-term cooperation programmes established between them in line with the objectives of this action.

**Programme:** Support is provided for the creation, development, reinforcement and execution of strategic partnerships in the form of a longer-term research cooperation programme between the participants, aimed at knowledge sharing and inter-sector mobility, based on targeted human resources interaction. Such strategic research partnership projects can be coordinated by either an industrial or an academic participant.

The longer-term cooperation programme shall exploit complementary competences of the participants in the strategic partnership, as well as other synergies. The implementation of the cooperation programme will be realised by:

- Exchange of know-how and experience through inter-sector two-way secondments of research staff of the participants, with in-built return mechanisms, and also by enabling these staff to attend events in a trans-national setting. All projects are expected to exchange staff. Typically this exchange is in both directions, but there is flexibility.
- Networking activities, organisation of workshops and conferences to facilitate sharing of knowledge and culture between the participants in a wider setting, involving the participants' own research staff and external researchers.
- Optional recruitment by the participants of *experienced researchers* from outside the partnership for involvement in transfer of knowledge and/or in the training of researchers;

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Given the compulsory nature of secondments within the partnership and the optional nature of external recruitments, secondments will represent at least 50% of all human resources supported.

In principle, the maximum duration of the programme to be supported will be four years from the date of commencement specified in the grant agreement.

**Eligible researchers:** Exchange of research staff can be for *early-stage* or *experienced researchers* level and can also include technical and research managerial staff. To be eligible for exchange, staff members of a participant institution shall have been active continuously for at least one year (full-time equivalent) at that institution. The support granted to eligible researchers will be for periods of 2 to 24 months. The participant from which the exchanged researchers originate will have to secure by contract the commitment of its researchers to return after the exchange to further develop the acquired knowledge. For secondments of less than one year, the return period will be of at least the same length as the total exchange duration. For secondments equal or longer than one year, the return period will be of at least 12 months.

Newly recruited staff from outside of the partnership shall be *experienced researchers*. They will be recruited for a period of between 12 and 24 months.

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

Newly recruited researchers can be of any nationality. They shall comply with the rule for *mobility* at the time of recruitment by the host organisation.

Seconded staff members shall have been active in the seconding institute for at least 12 months prior to the secondment.

In the context of a collaboration established between more than two participants, a limited level of inter-sector mobility may be allowed between two participants in the same Member State or associated country. This intra-national mobility is limited to a maximum of 30% of the researchers' months in the project, is expected to occur between institutions independent of each other (also in terms of financial resources and staff) and is undertaken within the frame of the overall coherent knowledge sharing plan for all the participants.

**3.1.3. Expected impact of the action**

Research projects under this action are expected to structure effectively and significantly enhance the interaction at human resources level between research organisations in the public and private sector, in terms of knowledge sharing and broad skills development, bringing closer together their different cultures and expectation patterns, with a view to more effectively advancing the contributions of research to Europe's knowledge economy and society.

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## **Activity 4: World Fellowships**

### **4.1 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INTERNATIONAL OUTGOING FELLOWSHIPS FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT (IOF)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IOF*

#### ***4.1.1. Introduction and objective of the action***

This action aims to reinforce the international dimension of the career of European researchers by giving them the opportunity to be trained and acquire new knowledge in a high-level organisation active in research, established in an *other third country* (outgoing phase). Subsequently, these researchers will return with the acquired knowledge and experience to an organisation in a Member State or associated country.

#### ***4.1.2. Technical content/scope***

**Projects and participants:** This action provides financial support to individual mobility projects presented by *experienced researchers* in liaison with host organisations in the Member States or associated countries. The grant agreements will be concluded with the return host organisations of the Member States or associated countries for a total duration of up to 36 months.

The project is expected to include a coherent research programme for the total duration of the contract, of which an initial outgoing phase, of between one and two years, is to be spent in a distinct legal entity in an *other third country* (partner organisation) and a mandatory re/integration phase of one year within the contracting organisation (return host organisation) in a Member State or an associated country. This element will be assessed by the expert evaluators during the evaluation procedure. The reintegration phase will normally commence directly after the outgoing phase.

The research topic will be freely chosen by the researcher in collaboration with the return host organisation, with a view to completing and/or diversifying her/his expertise.

Each researcher will establish, together with her/his personal supervisor in the return host organisation, a Personal Career Development Plan comprising his/her training needs (including transferable skills) and research objectives and later report on the success with which these objectives were met. In this way the researchers will be encouraged to play an active role in shaping their own training programme and professional development.

The researchers shall be selected on the basis of a proposal submitted in liaison with a return host organisation in a Member State or an associated country. The researchers will be in a situation of secondment during the outgoing phase of training in the partner organisation in the *other third country*.

#### ***4.1.3. Expected impact of the action***

The projects under this action are to contribute to significant steps/changes in the careers of the best and most promising European researchers, specifically adding different and/or complementary research competences at an advanced level, in the process of reaching and/or reinforcing a position of professional maturity, by exposing them to a research training experience outside Europe. Projects are expected to add significantly to the career

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development of European researchers, while by means of the return phase their experience and knowledge acquired as well as the contact-network built up outside Europe is used to the benefit of the development of the European knowledge-based economy and society.

## **4.2 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INTERNATIONAL INCOMING FELLOWSHIPS (IIF)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IIF*

### **4.2.1. Introduction and objective of the action**

This action aims to reinforce the research excellence of the Member States and the associated countries through knowledge sharing with incoming top-class researchers active in an *other third country* to work on research projects in Europe, with the view to developing mutually-beneficial research co-operation between Europe and an *other third country*. It aims to encourage these researchers to plan their period of international mobility within the framework of a coherent professional project and thus enhances the possibility of future collaborative research links with European researchers and organisations active in research in their future research career.

If before the incoming phase the researcher was active in an International Cooperation Partner Countries (see Annex 1), the possibility is provided to assist the researcher to return to this country, thus contributing to the establishment of sustainable cooperation between these countries and European organisations.

### **4.2.2. Technical content/scope**

**Projects and participants:** The action provides financial support to individual research projects presented by the incoming *experienced researchers* in liaison with a legal entity ('host organisation') in a Member State or an associated country, as well as possibly with a 'return host organisation' if the researcher was active in an International Cooperation Partner Country (see list of countries in Annex 1.1) before the incoming phase.

The research topic will be freely chosen by the researcher in collaboration with the host organisation.

The researchers shall be selected on the basis of a proposal submitted in liaison with a host organisation in a Member State or associated country, as well as with a 'return host organisation' if appropriate.

#### *Incoming Phase:*

The grant agreement will be concluded with the host organisations of the Member States or the associated countries for a total duration of between 12 and 24 months.

#### *Possible Return Phase for researchers from International Cooperation Partnership Countries (ICPC):*

For a possible return phase to an ICPC, a grant agreement will be issued for the duration of up to one year with the return host organisation, which will commit itself to ensure an effective return of the researcher. The grant is to be used as a contribution to research costs relating to the researcher's project at the return host.

The return phase will normally commence not later than 6 months after the termination of the incoming phase.

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#### **4.2.3. Expected impact of the action**

Projects under this action will add to the research excellence in both the public and private sectors in Member States and associated countries, due to the sharing and application of new knowledge transferred and developed by highly qualified researchers embedded in the European research effort. At the same time the projects will constitute nuclei for future research relations at international level, which will be beneficial in the context of the development of the European knowledge-based economy and society.

### **4.3 MARIE CURIE ACTION: INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STAFF EXCHANGE SCHEME (IRSES)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IRSES*

#### **4.3.1 Introduction and objective of the action**

The Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme is an action that aims to strengthen research partnerships through staff exchanges and networking activities between European [research organisations](#) and [research organisations](#) from countries with which the European Union has an S&T agreement or is in the process of negotiating one<sup>9</sup>, and countries covered by the European Neighbourhood policy<sup>10</sup>. Compared to individual Marie Curie Actions, that provide mobility possibilities to individual researchers, this action will provide support to [research organisations](#) to establish or reinforce long-term research cooperation through a coordinated joint programme of exchange of researchers for short periods.

#### **4.3.2 Technical content/scope**

**Participants:** A participant in this action is a [research organisation](#) that will be a member of the partnership that contributes directly to the implementation of the joint exchange programme, by seconding and/or hosting eligible researchers.

A partnership in this action shall be composed of at least two independent participants established in at least two different Member States or associated countries, and one or more research organisations either located in countries with which the European Union has or is in the process of negotiating an S&T agreement, or in countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.

**Eligible programmes and eligible staff:** Participants will submit multi-annual proposals for joint programmes dedicated to exchanges of research staff. Technical and management staff may also participate in the exchanges.

Financial support will be provided for a period of 24 to 48 months, to joint programmes aiming at trans-national mobility of researchers, technical and management staff. For organisations in Member States and associated countries, the mobility shall be towards the [other third country](#) partners, and vice-versa. The duration of exchanges for each researcher or technical/management staff will be for a maximum of 12 months.

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<sup>9</sup> See ANNEX 1.2 to the work programme for the list of countries eligible for the IRSES action.

<sup>10</sup> And which are not associated countries for the purpose of FP7.

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The staff to be exchanged should be guaranteed full reintegration and the positive recognition of the mobility experience, thus maximising the benefit of this action for long term cooperation.

The grant agreement will be concluded with the participants located in the Member States or associated countries, while the other members of the partnership will be defined in this agreement as 'partner organisations'.

It is expected that the exchange in each direction from and to the European Research Area is balanced in terms of researcher months.

#### **4.3.3 Expected impact**

Projects under this action are expected to contribute significantly to constructing new and enhancing existing networks of beneficial international research collaborations between Member States and associated countries and those [other third countries](#) covered by the Science and Technology agreement or by the European Neighbourhood Policy. At the same time the participants bring with them knowledge encouraging an exchange of best practice.

## **Activity 5: Specific Actions**

### **5.1 RESEARCHERS' NIGHT (NIGHT)**

*Call Reference FP7-PEOPLE-2013-NIGHT*

#### **5.1.1. Introduction and objective of the action**

This action aims to bring the researchers closer to the public at large, so enhancing their role in the mainstream of society. The increasing success and impact of this annual event since 2005 both in terms of number of people reached and the benefits to the Marie Curie programme justifies its annual frequency. The format of the call for proposals, which was applied for the first time in 2006, allows for a greater cohesion between the various actions supported, their scale, the target audience and the messages delivered.

#### **5.1.2. Technical content/scope**

**Projects and participants:** The Researchers' NIGHT will take place on Friday 27 September 2013, and will be the next occasion for a European wide public and media event for the promotion of research careers. It is intended to ensure as large a geographical coverage as possible, involving the maximum number of Member States and associated countries. Participants can be any legal entity in the Member States and associated countries, and/or if relevant, constituting a partnership at regional, national or international level.

Activities organised will have to be focused on the public at large, and be organised with researchers being actively involved and directly in contact with the public.

The grant will cover a period of up to seven months (covering the necessary awareness campaign, the activities during the night itself and the impact assessment period).

#### **5.1.3. Expected impact of the action**

The expected impact of this action consists of continuing to tackle the existing stereotypes about researchers and the profession, and to have the public at large better understand the central role of researchers and the key benefits they bring to society. The action should

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demonstrably reinforce the trend for increasing public participation in the Researchers' Night. An additional impact should be to convince young people that research careers are fascinating and to stimulate them to embark on research careers.

### **III OTHER ACTIONS FOR 2013**

The activities described in this chapter are not implemented through calls for proposals.

The different initiatives, which aim to respond to the objective of reinforcing human resources in research and innovation in Europe and to stimulate a culture of mobility and career development, collectively contribute to achieving the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and its Innovation Union flagship initiative. These activities will be implemented by the Commission through the Funding Scheme 'Coordination and Support Actions', either by public procurement through calls for tender or through specific contracts or grant agreements<sup>11</sup>, or via experts' contracts.

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<sup>11</sup> Based on framework contracts under Article 88 of the Financial Regulation and Article 117 of the Implementing Rules; or by a grant to an identified beneficiary in the sense of Article 14(a) of the FP7 Rules for Participation.

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## IV ANNEXES

### Annex 1.1 International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC)

#### List of

#### International Co-operation Partner Countries (ICPC)<sup>12</sup>

#### ACP\*

#### -AFRICAN

• Angola	LM
• Benin	L
• Botswana	UM
• Burkina-Faso	L
• Burundi	L
• Cameroon	LM
• Cape Verde	LM
• Central African Republic	L
• Chad	L
• Comoros	L
• Congo (Republic)	LM
• Congo (Democratic Rep.)	L
• Côte d'Ivoire	L
• Djibouti	LM
• Equatorial Guinea	UM
• Eritrea	L
• Ethiopia	L
• Gabon	UM
• Gambia	L
• Ghana	L
• Guinea	L
• Guinea-Bissau	L
• Kenya	L
• Lesotho	LM
• Liberia	L
• Madagascar	L
• Malawi	L
• Mali	L
• Mauritania	L
• Mauritius	UM
• Mozambique	L
• Namibia	LM
• Niger	L
• Nigeria	L
• Rwanda	L
• Sao Tome and Principe	L
• Senegal	L
• Seychelles	UM
• Sierra Leone	L
• Somalia	L
• South Africa <sup>65</sup>	UM

• Uganda	L
• Zambia	L
• Zimbabwe	L

#### -CARIBBEAN

• Barbados	UM
• Belize	UM
• Cuba	LM
• Dominica	UM
• Dominican Rep.	LM
• Grenada	UM
• Guyana	LM
• Haiti	L
• Jamaica	LM
• Saint Kitts and Nevis	UM
• Saint Lucia	UM
• Saint Vincent and Grenadines	UM
• Suriname	LM
• Trinidad and Tobago	UM

#### -PACIFIC

• Cook Islands	UM
• Timor Leste	L
• Fiji	LM
• Kiribati	LM
• Marshall Islands	LM
• Micronesia, Federal States of	LM
• Nauru	UM
• Niue	UM
• Palau	UM
• Papua New Guinea	L
• Samoa	LM
• Solomon Islands	L
• Tonga	LM
• Tuvalu	LM
• Vanuatu	LM

#### ASIA

• Afghanistan	L
• Bangladesh	L
• Bhutan	L
• Burma/Myanmar	L
• Cambodia	L
• China <sup>65, 16**</sup>	LM
• Democratic People's Republic of Korea	L
• India <sup>65**</sup>	L

• Lao People's Democratic Rep.	L
• Malaysia	UM
• Maldives	LM
• Mongolia	L
• Nepal	L
• Oman	UM
• Pakistan	L
• Philippines	LM
• Sri Lanka	LM
• Thailand	LM
• Vietnam	L
• Yemen	L

#### EASTERN

#### EUROPE

#### AND CENTRAL

#### ASIA (EECA)

• Armenia <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Azerbaijan <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Belarus <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Georgia <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Kazakhstan	LM
• Kyrgyz Republic	L
• Russia <sup>65**</sup>	UM
• Tajikistan	L
• Turkmenistan	LM
• Ukraine <sup>65,66</sup>	LM
• Uzbekistan	L

#### LATIN AMERICA

• Argentina <sup>65</sup>	UM
• Bolivia	LM
• Brazil <sup>65**</sup>	LM
• Chile <sup>65</sup>	UM
• Colombia	LM
• Costa Rica	UM
• Ecuador	LM
• El Salvador	LM
• Guatemala	LM
• Honduras	LM
• Mexico <sup>65</sup>	UM
• Nicaragua	LM
• Panama	UM
• Paraguay	LM
• Peru	LM
• Uruguay	UM
• Venezuela	UM

#### MEDITERRANEAN

#### PARTNER

#### COUNTRIES (MPC)

• Algeria <sup>66</sup>	LM
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• Morocco <sup>65,66</sup>	LM
• Palestinian-administered Areas <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Syrian Arab Rep. <sup>66</sup>	LM
• Tunisia <sup>13,14</sup>	LM

#### WESTERN

#### BALKAN

#### COUNTRIES

#### (WBC)

• Kosovo <sup>15</sup>	LM
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\*In the 'Specific international cooperation actions', Africa can also be considered as a region on its own, while the Caribbean countries can also participate with Latin American and the Pacific countries with Asia.

\*\*For participation in the 'Specific international cooperation actions' each of Brazil, China, India and Russia may be considered individually as a region on its own. Thus, the required two or more partners can be located in these countries. However, in this case, at least two different partners from different provinces, oblasts, republics or states within Brazil, China, India or Russia are necessary.

In accordance with Article 2(12) of the Rules for Participation in FP7, 'International Cooperation Partner Country' (ICPC) means a third country which the Commission classifies as a low-income (L), lower-middle-income (LM) or upper-middle-income (UM) country. Countries associated to the Seventh EU Framework Programme do not qualify as ICP

<sup>12</sup> Legal entities established in countries in which the European Union under Articles 75 and 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union has issued actions to interrupt or to reduce, in part or completely, economic relations, may only receive a financial contribution if it complies with these actions.

<sup>13</sup> Signed an agreement with the EU covering Science & Technology.

<sup>14</sup> These countries are also part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).

<sup>15</sup> As defined by UNSC resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999.

<sup>16</sup> Legal entities established in the high-income-territories Hong-Kong, Macao and Taiwan, are not eligible under the ICPC provisions.

**WARNING: This is a working document, which can change before its official publication. Applicants must refer only to the final published document. Please consult the following web page for updates:**

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7\\_documentation](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_documentation)



## **Annex 1.2 Other Third Countries eligible for the International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) <sup>17</sup>**

- **Countries with EU International agreements on Science and Technology:**

Algeria\*, Argentina\*, Australia, Brazil\*, Canada, Chile\*, China\*<sup>18</sup>, Egypt\*, India\*, Japan, Jordan\*, Mexico\*, Morocco\*, New Zealand, Rep. of Korea, Russia\*, South Africa\*, Tunisia\*, Ukraine\*, United States.

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

- Eastern Partnership Countries: Armenia\*, Azerbaijan\*, Belarus\*, Georgia\*, Ukraine<sup>19</sup>.

and

- Mediterranean Partnership Countries (MPC) that are not associated countries: Algeria\*, Egypt\*, Jordan\*, Lebanon\*, Libya\*, Morocco\*, Palestinian-administrated areas\*, Syrian Arab Rep.\*, Tunisia\*.

\* International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC) eligible for funding in IRSES

## **Annex 1.3 Countries eligible for the additional long distance allowance in the IRSES Action**

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- India
- Japan
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Rep. of Korea
- South Africa
- United States

<sup>17</sup> and which are not associated countries for the purpose of FP7.

<sup>18</sup> Hong-Kong and Macao are eligible to participate, but not for the EU contribution as specified in section 4.3.2.

<sup>19</sup> Until the country becomes associated to FP7.