

Information Sheet

FP7 People-Marie Curie Actions 2011

IIF: International Incoming Fellowship



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"The world is a book and those who do not travel only read one page." Saint Augustine

What is an IIF?

The International Incoming Fellowship (IIF) aims to attract top-class **experienced researchers** active in *third countries to undertake research projects in Europe*, in a Member State (MS) or an Associated Country (AC), with a view to developing mutually-beneficial research cooperation. The IIF consists of a financial support for projects of a period of two years max. For researchers coming from an ICPC (International Cooperation Partner Countries, see Annex I People Work Programme 2011), the possibility of a return phase to their country of origin is possible.

Researchers can be of **any nationality**. To be eligible, the researcher must have been active in research in a third country at the deadline for submission, and must not have resided in a MS or an AC the last three years prior the deadline for submission.

As for the other Marie Curie Actions, the IIF follows a **bottom-up approach**, e.g. the research topic is freely chosen by the researcher in collaboration with the host organization. The IIF is **cross-cutting**, e.g. any scientific can be funded.

What is a "third country"?

A *third country* is a country which is neither an EU Member State nor an Associated Country to FP7, e.g.: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Japan, South Africa, Venezuela USA, etc.

What is funded in an IIF?

The financial support for an IIF takes the form of a grant covering up to 100% of the budget. It includes in particular a **yearly gross living allowance of €58'500 + a mobility allowance for an experienced researcher**. Experienced researcher: either in possession of a PhD or with at least 4 years of research experience full time.

When is the IIF Call in 2011?

The next IOF Call is open on March 16, 2011 with a **deadline on August 11, 2011**. Its indicative budget is about €40 mio. Find more details in the [Work Programme 2011](#).

What is the life cycle of an IIF?

How long does it take from the moment you write your proposal until the moment your project can finally start (in case you get funded by the European Commission)?

Count roughly 10-12 months before starting your project:

- **Stage 1:** After the Call for an IIF has been published, the researcher and the return host organisation have 3 months to prepare and submit a proposal until the deadline.
- **Stage 2:** A panel of experts will evaluate the proposals (2-3 months)
- **Stage 3:** Applicants whose proposals have been successfully evaluated in Stage 2 will be invited by the EC to negotiate (2-3 months)
- **Stage 4:** If the negotiation with the EC has been successful, it will take another 2-3 months to prepare the contract
- **Stage 5:** incoming phase of the project at the partner institution of a duration of 24 months
- **Stage 6:** possible return for researchers from ICP Countries for a period of 12 months.

Tips for a successful proposal

- Demonstrate in as many ways as possible that you are the best and promising European researcher in your area.
- Explain the contribution that your project is expected to make. Your project must be **innovative and original**.
- Outline the benefit that will be gained from undertaking the project at the Community level and how it will contribute **to enhance the European scientific excellence**.
- Demonstrate the **expertise of the partner organisation and the return host institution** as well as the **expertise of the scientific in charge** in the field of research you want to explore
- Describe how this project will **contribute to your own career**
- Respect the maximum length of the proposal
- Do not miss the Call deadline!

FAQ

Q: Where can the return host institutions be located?

A: Typically in one of the EU 27 Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AC). The EU-27 are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The **Associated Countries** are: Albania, Croatia, Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey. Other states may become associated countries, check the latest news here: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/participate_en.html

Q: Are holders of medical doctorates eligible for IIF?

A: Typically, no. In the context of Marie Curie actions Medical doctorates are not equivalent to a Ph.D. In such a case, you may still be eligible if you have at least 4 years of research experience after your diploma/degree.

Q: What type of organisations can take part?

A: Many different types of host organisation can take part in IIF assuming they are ideal to boost the researchers' career:

- National Governmental or public organisations (e.g. universities, research centres etc)
- Commercial enterprises, especially those of small and medium size (SMEs)
- NGOs
- International European Interest Organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL, etc.)
- The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission

Q: What are the Evaluation Criteria?

A: Scientific and Technological Quality (25%), Training (15%), Researcher (25%), Implementation (15%) and Impact (20%).

Q: Can I send my application by post?

A: No, you have to submit your application electronically on the EPSS (Electronic Proposal Submission Service).

Q: Who is the Coordinator?

A: The Coordinator is the researcher who takes the lead in the preparation of the proposal. The coordinator is the single contact point with the European Commission. Before the Call deadline: the fellow researcher is considered as the coordinator. But after the Call deadline, the *scientific in charge* will be the coordinator. The fellow researcher and the scientific in charge can not be the same person.

Q: If this is not for me but I am still interested in international fellowships, where else can I look for funding?

A: There are a number of other sources including :

Some foundations in Switzerland :

<http://esv2000.edi.admin.ch/e/verzeich.asp>

the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF):

<http://www.snf.ch/>

the Swiss State Secretariat for Education & Research (SER) :

<http://www.sbf.admin.ch/>

Where can I find out more about applying?

- An essential complement to this document is the People R&D Guide: <http://www.euresearch.ch/people-R&D>
- The Guide for Applicants and Work Programme 2009 that are both available here: <http://www.euresearch.ch/people-info>
- General information on participation rules, documents, or project management via your regional office: Basel, Bern, Geneva, Fribourg, Lausanne, Lugano, Luzern, Neuchatel, St. Gallen, Zürich: www.euresearch.ch/ro
- Euresearch services: www.euresearch.ch/services
- Check out Cordis, the FP7 web site of the European Union : http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/people/home_en.html

Need another copy of this guide?

Latest revision here: <http://www.euresearch.ch/People-IS>

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Swiss Marie Curie Blog :

<http://swissmariecurie.blogspot.com/>