



NANOTWINNING



FP7 for Young Researchers

Marie Curie Actions

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Some basic about Marie Curie Actions

Some basic about Marie Curie Actions:

- Addressed to **researchers at all stages of their careers**, in **all domains** of research (bottom-up)
- **Mobility** (international, intersectoral, interdisciplinary)
- Application through **competitive** calls for proposals for individuals (post-doc level) or institutions
- **Selection criteria**: S&T quality, Training/Knowledge transfer, Implementation, Impact
- **Budget** covers generally: salary, mobility and research budget for the researcher



Overview of Marie Curie Actions in FP7

| Marie Curie Action | | Objective |
|--|---|---|
| Initial training of researchers <i>(1900 M€)</i> | Initial Training Networks (ITN) <i>European Industrial Doctorate (EID)</i> <i>Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP)</i> | Improve career perspectives of early stage researchers in both public & private sector |
| Life-long training and career development <i>(1170–1400 M€)</i> | Intra-European Fellowships (IEF) | Career development of experienced researchers by e.g.: diversification skills/competencies; integrate a stable position after mobility |
| | Career Integration Grants (CIG) | |
| | Co-funding of regional, national, international programmes (COFUND) | |
| Industry dimension <i>(250-450 M€)</i> | Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP) | Open and foster dynamic pathways between public research organisations and private commercial enterprises |
| International dimension "<u>World fellowships</u>" <i>(1170–1400 M€)</i> | International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF) | Reinforce extra-European dimension of the ERA through mobility through training, knowledge transfer and cooperation |
| | International Incoming Fellowships (IIF) | |
| | International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) | |

Basic definitions: individual and host actions

- Intra-European/International Fellowships are *individual actions*:
 - individual researcher applies jointly with host institution
 - duration 12-24 months (plus 1 year reintegration phase for International Outgoing Fellowships)
 - contract between Commission and host institution; work contract or stipend agreement between host and fellow
 - fellowship bound to individual (no replacement)

Basic definitions: individual and host actions

- Initial Training Networks are *host actions*:
 - consortium of various institutions applies for funding
 - successful consortia advertise positions and select fellows/researchers themselves

Basic definitions: level of experience

■ Early-Stage Researchers (ESR):

- 0-4 years experience (full-time equivalent) since degree qualifying them to embark on a doctorate

■ Experienced Researchers (ER):

- either in possession of a doctorate degree, or
- at least 4 years of research experience (full-time equivalent)

Basic Definitions

- All Marie Curie individual actions are for **Experienced Researchers** only
- Host Actions can be open to either **Early-Stage Researchers** and/or **Experienced Researchers**

Mobility requirements

- Fellow has not been resident in the host country for more than 12 month within the last three years
- Fellow does not have the nationality of the host country. Special rules in case of:
 - dual citizenship
 - European researcher returning from a third country
 - third country researcher having resided in Europe for a long time
 - International organisations as host institutions

Initial Training Networks

- Multi-Partner ITNs (ITN)
- European Industrial Doctorates (EID)
- Innovative Doctoral Programmes



Marie Curie approach for doctoral training

*In principle for all **Early stage researchers**
(doctorate is not required)*

Scope: improve the **employability** and **career perspectives**, through:

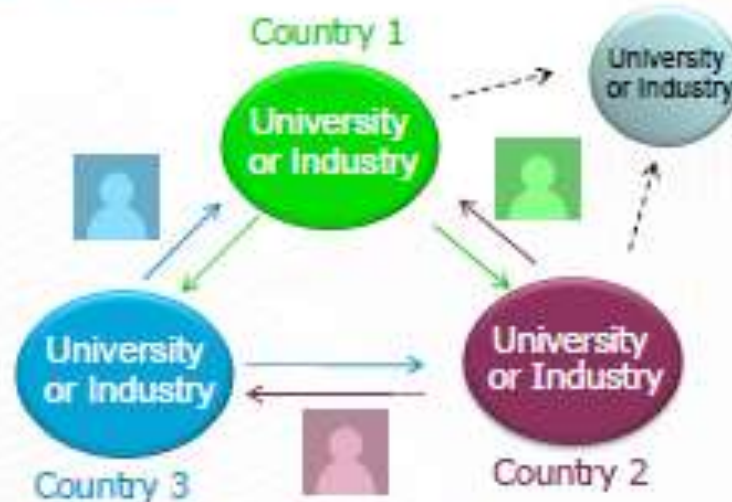
- development of appropriate **skills** for working in both the private and public sector
- **structured** training programmes (skills development and research work)
- development of innovative **aptitudes** and entrepreneurial **mindsets**
- Involving the **private sector** in doctoral training, in cooperation with universities (exposure to the private sector)
- triple "I": **International, Intersectoral, Interdisciplinary**

MARIE CURIE ACTIONS for an INNOVATIVE EUROPE

Excellence, mobility and skills for researchers



Multi-ITNs



- At least 3 participants + associated partners, from different countries, sectors and disciplines
- Short-term secondments of researchers
- Networking activities
- Equip researchers with innovative skills (scientific and transversal skills)

Who can be recruited to ITN

- ITN supports researchers:
 - With up to 5 years experience (incl. doctoral study)
 - From over the world
 - For periods of 3-36 months (ESR)
 - For periods of up to 24 months (ER)
 - Researchers can be seconded to other partners for up to 30% of recruitment

Researchers can be of any nationality but must comply with the mobility requirements

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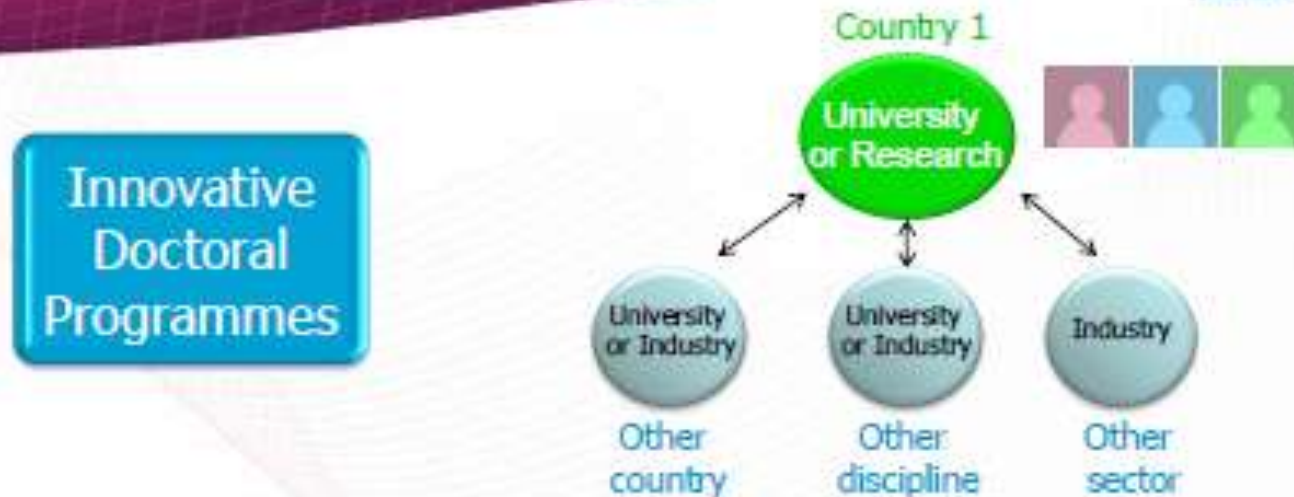


2 participants (1 from each sector) + possible associated partners

- Each researcher must:
 - ✓ be enrolled in a **doctoral programme**
 - ✓ be employed by at least one of the participants
 - ✓ spend at least **50%** of the time in **private sector**
 - ✓ be jointly supervised by both participants

MARIE CURIE ACTIONS for an INNOVATIVE EUROPE

Excellence, mobility and skills for researchers



- 1 participant + associated partners from different countries, sectors and disciplines
- Innovative training programme addressing the triple 'i' dimensions
- Equip doctoral candidates with innovative skills (scientific and transversal skills)
- Quality and quantity of supervision of doctoral candidates

ITN Financial Information

- Monthly Living Allowance
 - €38,000 per ESR/year x country coefficient (cc)
 - €58,500 per ER/year x cc
- Mobility Allowance
 - €1000/ €700 (family/not) per researcher per month x cc
- Contribution to Training and Research Costs
 - €1800 per researcher per month (multi ITN)
 - €1200 per researcher per month (EID and IDP)
- Management Activities
 - Maximum 10% of total EU contribution



NANODRUG 2011-2015

Novel Nanoparticles for Drug Delivery to the Skin

- The aim of the NANODRUG Network is to contribute to the defragmentation of nanomedicine by providing a unique training programme that covers all different aspects ranging from nanoparticles synthesis and characterisation, drug delivery, molecular biology to nanotoxicology, preclinical studies, risk assessment and nanotechnology policy making.
- This project brings together 6 academic groups and 2 industrial teams as full partners, complemented by 3 associate partners, one of which is an industrial team, from 6 European Union member states

For more information:

www.nanodrug.qmul.ac.uk



NANOTOES 2010-2014

Nanotechnology: Training of Experts in Safety

- Research and training programme covers the issues of biological effects of nanomaterials including their impact on human health and environment and equally the influence of biological entities on the properties of nanomaterials
- 9 Academic institutions + 3 industrial partners from 7 EU and two Associated Countries
- Both for ESR and ER

For more information:



www.nanotoes.eu



NAMASEN 2011-2015

“Neuroelectronics and Nanotechnology: Multidisciplinary Approach for the Science and Engineering of Neuronal Networks”

- It provides 12 young researchers with the opportunity to work in leading Europe’s laboratories in Neuroengineering, Material Sciences and Computational Neurosciences
- 10 academic plus 3 industrial partners from the UK, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Israel, Poland and Greece

For more information:



www.namaseen.net



NANOCTM 2010-2014

Nanoelectronics: Concepts, Theory and Modelling

- The NanoCTM network tackles major challenges in the theory of nanoelectronics.
- Ten internationally-leading European theory-of-condensed-matter groups from nine different countries [including one of Europe's leading industrial electronics-research groups (QinetiQ)] have joined forces as full participants, combining theoretical expertise in nanowires, quantum dots, carbon-based electronics, and spintronics, along with interaction and proximity effects in small dimensions.

For more information:

<http://www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/nanoctm/>

How to apply (ITN)

- Find an announcement on a job/fellowship position



<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/index>

Send CV and application form to the host institution

- Find an ongoing ITN project

Marie Curie vacancies at Euraxess

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/index>

The screenshot displays the Euraxess website interface. At the top, the European Commission logo and the text "European Commission EURAXESS" are visible. Below the header, there are navigation tabs for "Home", "Jobs", "Services", "Rights", and "Links". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Job vacancies**: A section with 3186 positions available, featuring a search bar and a "By directory" list. The "Marie Curie vacancies" link is circled in red, with an arrow pointing to it from the top right.
- My EURAXESS**: A user account section for "Vladimir Arkhangelski" with a "Login" button.
- News and Events**: A section titled "VOICE OF THE RESEARCHERS – NEW! Click here to have a say on policies for your career, and join the 'Voice of the Researchers'". It includes a banner for "Ideas for improving research careers? MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!" and a link to the "Marie Curie Actions conference @ Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF)".
- Find your National EURAXESS Portal**: A section with a map of Europe.
- EURAXESS WIDGETS**: A section with a "Get support!" link and a "European Research Council" logo.
- EURAXESS MAGAZINE**: A section with a "Get support!" link and a "Marie Curie Actions" logo.
- Fellowships & Grants external links**: A section with a "Get support!" link and a "Marie Curie Actions" logo.

The bottom of the page features a Windows taskbar with the "start" button and several open applications, including "Firefox - Mozilla" and "Mozilla Firefox". The system clock shows "12:00".

Exercise 3: Find a MCA project

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>

The screenshot shows the Marie Curie Actions website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the European Commission logo and the text 'RESEARCH & INNOVATION Marie Curie Actions'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with the following tabs: Home, About, Apply now, Funded projects, News and events, and Media library. The 'Funded projects' tab is highlighted in green. A red arrow points to a link labeled 'MCA funded projects' within a dropdown menu that also includes 'How to manage my project', 'Publish your Marie Curie Actions funded job vacancies', and 'Statistics'. Below the navigation, there is a large banner featuring the CERN logo and a video player. To the right of the banner is a search bar and a section titled 'Open calls' with a list of calls for proposals (FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEE, FP7-PEOPLE-2012-3OE, FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF, FP7-PEOPLE-2012-CIG) and their respective deadlines. At the bottom of the page, there are several promotional boxes: 'JOB VACANCIES in your country', 'WHICH ACTIONS are suited for me?', 'Participant portal', 'Solutions for researchers', and 'MARIE CURIE ALUMNI'.

Exercises

■ Let's try!

Job Vacancies

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/index>

MCA ITN Projects

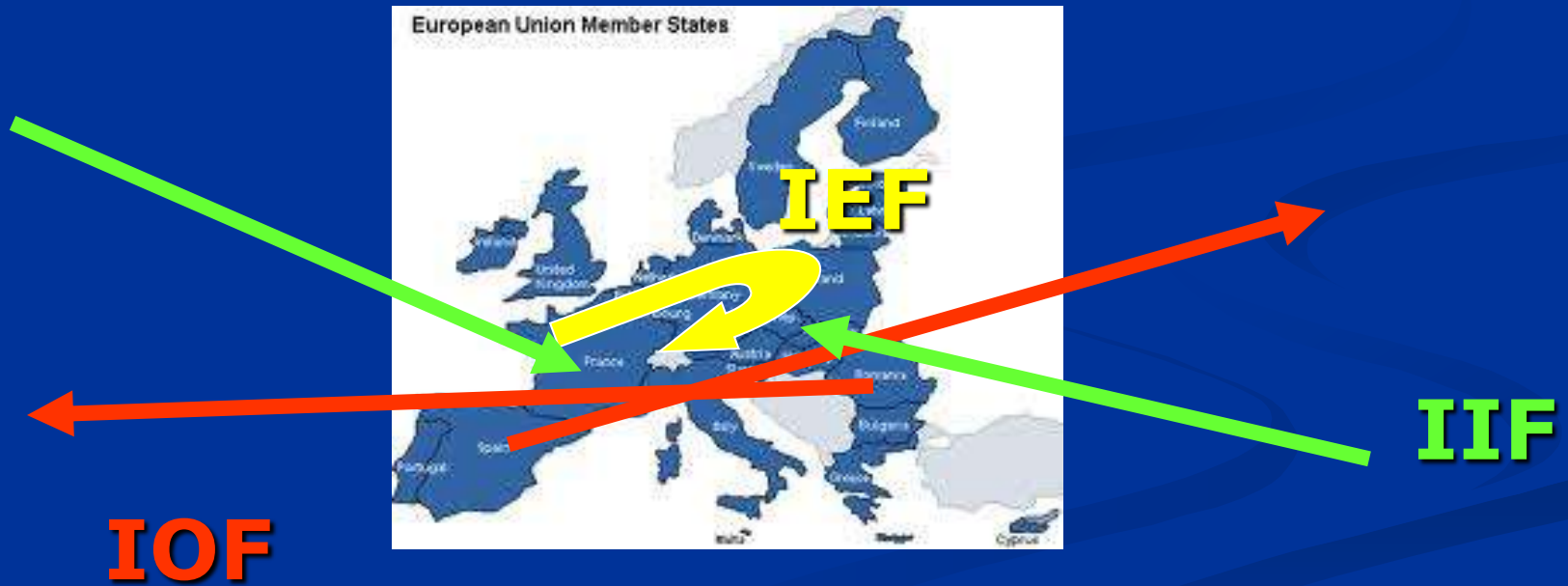
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>

Individual Fellowships

IEF: Intra-European Fellowships

IOF: International Outgoing Fellowships

IIF: International Incoming Fellowships



Intra-European Fellowships

- For EU Member State or Associated Country researchers
- 12-24 months in a different EU MS or AC
- Individual applies with host
- Personal Career Development Plan by a Researcher together with his/her personal supervisor in the host organisation
- Contract between Commission and the host organisation, that then will employ the researcher for duration of fellowship

International Outgoing Fellowships

- For EU Member State or Associated Country researchers
- 24-36 months in total of which 12-24 months in third country
- Mandatory reintegration phase in *return* (European) host institution (12 months)
- Individual applies with *return* host institution
- Contract between *return* host institution and Commission for duration of fellowship

International Incoming Fellowships

- For Third Country researchers
- 12-24 months incoming phase in EU MS/AC
- Possible 1 year reintegration phase for researchers from ICPC
- Individual applies with host
- Contract between European host and EC for incoming phase, and between third country *return* host and EC for reintegration phase

Individual Fellowships: Funding (EU contribution)

- For the researchers:
 - Living allowance
 - Mobility allowance
- For the institutions:
 - Contribution to training and research expenses
 - Contribution to overheads
 - Other types of eligible expenses

Living allowance

Table 3.1: Yearly reference rates for monthly living allowances under employment contracts (Correction Coefficient index 100)⁸⁷

| Researchers Categories | EUR/year |
|---|-----------------|
| Early-stage researchers | 38 000 |
| Experienced researchers (< 10 years experience) | 58 500 |
| Experienced researchers (>10 years experience) | 87 500 |

x host country correction coefficient

Mobility allowance

- Flat rate allowance to cover expenses linked to household, relocation and travel in the host country
- €700/€1000 without/with family
- Country correction coefficient applied

Benefits for the institutions

- Contribution to training and research expenses: € 800 per researcher-month
- Contribution to overheads: € 700 per researcher-month
- For IIF only: possible return phase single flat rate: € 15,000 researcher/year up to a maximum 1 year
- Country correction coefficient applied

How can a Researcher apply?

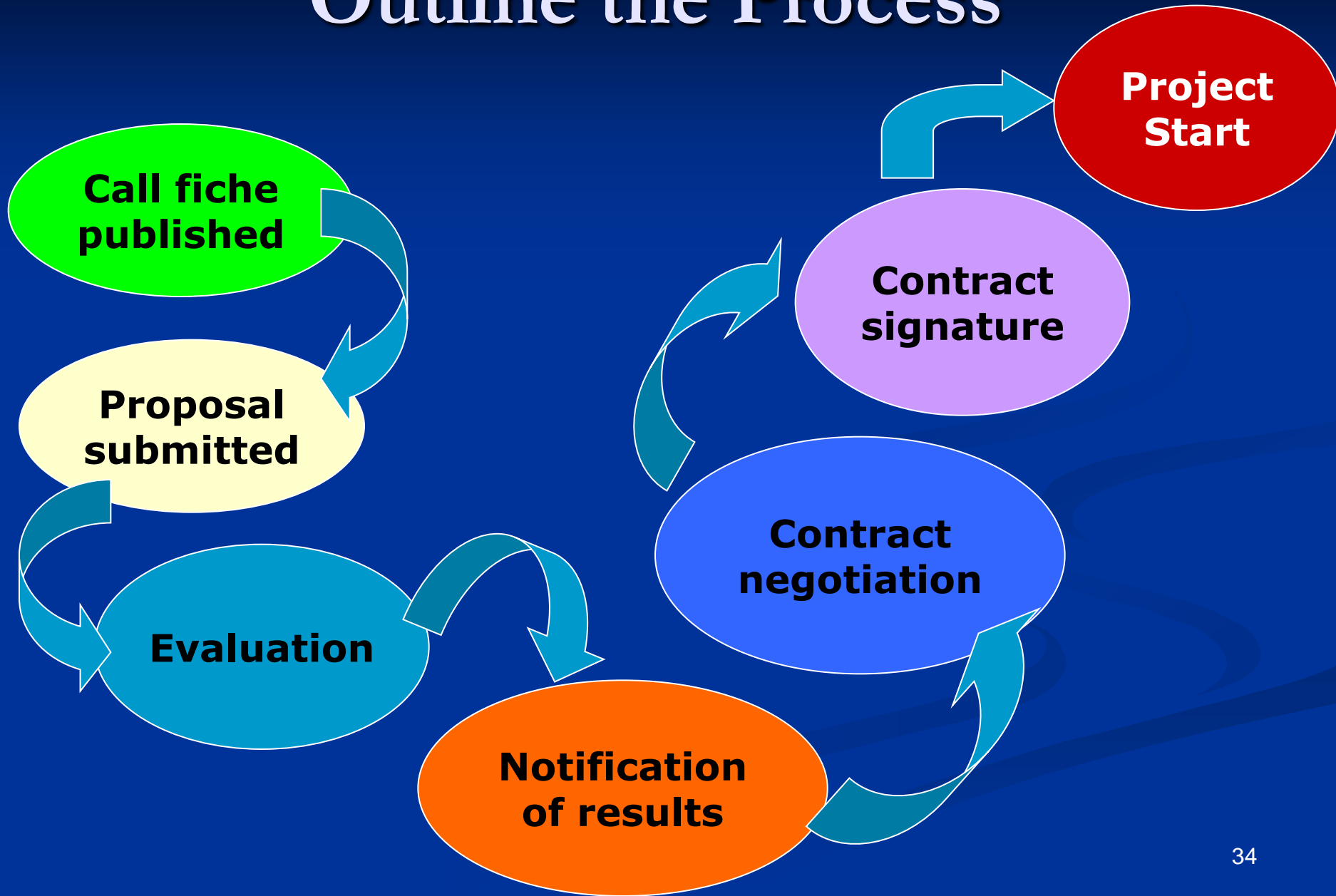
■ For a Host-driven Actions (e.g. ITN):

To apply directly to an institution that has been selected by the European Commission

■ For individual fellowships (IEF, IOF, IIF):

To prepare a project together with a host institution of your choice and submit it to the Commission

Outline the Process



Indicative timetable

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Publication of Call | 14 March 2013 |
| Deadline for submission of proposals | 14 August 2013 |
| Evaluation of Proposals | October 2013 |
| Evaluation Summary Reports sent to proposal coordinators | End of November 2013 |
| Invitation letter to successful coordinators to launch grant agreement negotiations | December 2013 |
| Letter to unsuccessful applicants | From December 2013 |
| Signature of first grant agreements | From February 2014 |

Proposal submission

- **Submission** should be done online through *Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS)*
 - Find a call at FP7 Participant Portal
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls
 - Go to “Electronic Proposal Submission” section. Press “Go”
 - Register
 - Fill in the forms following instructions of the Guide for Applicants
- **Help:**
 - EPSS Guide: <https://www.epss-fp7.org/epss/download2s?downType=helpF&fileType=GUIDE>
 - Helpdesk: e-mail support@epss-fp7.org or by phone +32-2-233 3760

Proposal Submission Forms

■ PART A

Set of forms on administrative information about the proposal and the proposers

■ PART B

- Free text description of the research project
- Series of headings and explanatory notes based on the evaluation criteria
- Limits on font size, size of PDF file

Evaluation of Proposals

- Evaluation by competent independent experts
- Need to address all of the issues to maximise scores
- Total score is 100%
- Some criteria have a threshold
- Overall threshold is 70%
- Each area is weighted
- Science counts 25%
- You must focus on the objectives of the action to be successful

Evaluation criteria and thresholds

| Evaluation Criterion | Weighting (in %) | Threshold | Priority in case of ex aequo |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| S&T Quality | 25 | 3 | 3 |
| Training (*) | 15 | 3 | 2 |
| Researcher | 25 | 4 | 1 |
| Implementation | 15 | N/A | 5 |
| Impact | 20 | 3.5 | 4 |

(*) for IIF – Transfer of knowledge – no threshold



Maximising Your Chances of Success – Individual Fellowships

What does the Commission want?

S&T Quality

- Research quality incl. interdisciplinary aspects
- Research methodology
- Originality and innovative nature and relationship to the ‘state of the art’
- Timeliness and relevance
- Host research expertise in the field
- Quality of the group/‘scientist in charge’

Training/Transfer of Knowledge

- Clarity and quality of the training/transfer of knowledge objectives for the researcher
- Relevance and quality of the additional research training (Intra-European)
- Measures taken by the host for providing mentoring/tutoring (Intra-European)
- Potential of transferring knowledge to European host (International)

Researcher

- Research experience
- Results including patents, publications, award, prizes, lectures etc.
- Independent thinking and leadership qualities
- Match between the fellow's profile and project

Tips

- Indicate everything relevant to criteria
- Put right statements
- Give evidence of statements (+ use referee assessment – EPSS facility)

Implementation

- Quality of infrastructure / facilities & international collaboration of host
- Practical arrangements for implementation & management of scientific project
- Feasibility & credibility of project, including work plan (Gantt Chart)
- Practical and administrative arrangements, and support for the hosting of the fellow

Impact

- Impact on future career development
- Potential for creating long term collaboration
- Contribution to European excellence and competitiveness regarding the expected research results or through transfer of knowledge
- Impact of the proposed outreach activities

Proposal writing – Hints & Tips

- Work with your supervisor
- Keep the Guide for applicant in front of you
- Treat the criteria as examination questions
- Think about the way you write
 - Brainstorm each section
 - Then focus on a section at a time
- It will feel repetitive – addressing issues from different angles
- Think about your evaluators
 - Clearly address the main objectives
 - Use clear and concise language
 - Provide them with the evidence they need



Have you maximised your chances?

- Please be aware that there will be strong competition.
- Edit your proposal carefully, strengthen or eliminate weak points.
- Put yourself in the place of an expert evaluator; please refer to the evaluation criteria given in the Call-Specific Guide.
- Arrange for your draft to be evaluated by experienced colleagues, use their advice to improve it before submission.

GOOD LUCK!



Be simple and cogent!!

The Hyperion Brick – precise info on the weather

- Brick is wet – it is raining
- Brick is dry – it is not raining
- Brick makes shadow – it is fine weather
- Brick is not visible – it's fog
- Brick swings – it is windy

- There is something white on the brick – snow
- Brick moves up and down - earthquake
- There is no brick – data updating



That's all folks!

Thanks and good luck!

*Vladimir Arkhangelski
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