Marie Curie
“CIG and IxF”
Call for Proposals within ‘People’ WP2013

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EURAXESS Cyprus

UNIVERSITY of CYPRUS
Info-Day 7 June 2013
INTRODUCTION

• “Ice – Braker”:
  - Who YOU are…
  - Who I am…

• Welcome – Introduction

• General FP7 Presentation so as to “get started”

• enough with the appetizers → MAIN “course”:
  MC-IxF and CIG 2013
  Call and Proposal Preparation

• Briefly Proposal Writing “Hints-&-Tips”…
You may be informal – “loose” / “at ease”

This should be “Quick and Dirty” so nobody wastes more than 2 hours…
I WILL be available after the presentation for anyone more interested.

“Paper-less” Approach…!
7th Framework Programme (FP7) in brief

• lasts 7 years, from 2007 to 2013

• has a total budget of over € 53,2 billion
  this is a substantial increase compared with FP6

• the main strategic objectives are
  – to strengthen the scientific and technological base of industry
  – to encourage international competitiveness
  – to address specific problems with a global character or are faced by third countries on the basis of mutual interest/benefit

• FP7 is a key tool to respond to Europe’s needs in terms of jobs and competitiveness and to maintain leadership in the global knowledge economy

Useful Document:
→ FP7 In-a-Nutshell Factsheet (...will be provided electronically)
To which countries is FP7 open?

**All Member States of the European Union (MS)**

**Associated country (AC)**
means a third country with an science and technology agreement with the European Community, under which it makes a financial contribution to FP7

**Candidate County**
currently recognized as candidates for future accession

**Third country**
means a state that is not a MS of the European Union, not a AC nor a candidate country

**International cooperation partner country (ICPC)**
means a third country which the European Commission classifies as a low-income, lower-middle-income or upper-middle income country and which is identified as such in the FP7 work programmes

**Industrialized high-income countries** (USA, Canada, Japan etc.) are generally not funded (unless specified), but they can participate on a self-financing basis.

**Please note:** Third countries and ICPC may have varying eligibility for different specific and work programmes
Who can participate?

Participation in FP7 is open to a wide range of organisations and individuals as:

- Research groups at universities or research institutes
- Companies intending to innovate
- Small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Public or governmental administration
- Early-Stage and Experienced Researchers
- Institutions / Research Infrastructures of transnational interest
- Organisations and researchers from third countries
- International organisations
- Civil society organisations
- Etc.
• The RPF manages and operates the National Network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for ALL FP7 Programmes and Thematic Priorities, providing assistance and information to the Cypriot Research Community for Calls-of-Proposals, Proposal Preparation and Submission, Project Management, etc.

• The RPF also coordinates the network of Programme Committee Delegates (policy issues, formulation of Work Programmes, etc)
Indicative „Cypriot Stats“
⇒ So that you know…“it‘s doable“!!! 😊

- Signed Grants: ≈ 250
- Cypriot Participations in the Grants: ≈ 290
- Grants with Cypriot Coordinators: ≈ 50
- SME participations: ≈ 90
- EC funding to Cypriot participants: ≈ €55 mil.

- Out of the FP7 Programmes → PEOPLE is the most successful for Cyprus with ≈ 30% suc.rate.

- Out of the ≈ 50 Cypriot Coordinations in FP7 up to now, ≈ 30 are in PEOPLE with ≈ 20 being for Actions like CIG and IxF.
PEOPLE = Marie Curie Actions

Our “focus” in today’s session

www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7
The indicative breakdown (€ million) of FP7

- Ideas: €7460
- Cooperation: €32,365
  - JRC: €1751
  - Euratom: €2751
  - Capacities: €4217
  - People: €4728
PEOPLE: «training and career development for researchers»

PEOPLE = eight Marie Curie Actions plus “Researchers’ Night” and “Support to EURAXESS Collaboration” → Budget: 4.75 Billion € (2007-2013)
→ improving the human potential in European research and development by covering all stages of a researcher's professional life from initial training to lifelong learning and career development.

- Initial Training Networks - ITN
- Industry – Academia Partnerships & Pathways - IAPP
- Intra – European Fellowships – IEF
- International Incoming Fellow. – IIF
- International Outgoing Fellow. – IOF
- Career Integration Grants – CIG
- International Research Staff Exchange Scheme – IRSES
- Cofunding Regional, National & International Programmes - COFUND

- Starting out… (host driven)
- Research means Business (host driven)
- Research & Career Develop. (individuals appl.)
- From the World to Europe (individuals appl.)
- From Europe to the World (individuals appl.)
- A Career in Europe (individuals apply)
- Swapping Staff (host driven)
- Funds for Funders (host driven)
How Marie Sklodowska Curie Actions are foreseen in HORIZON 2020...
“By bridging education and research, and reaching out to industry, Marie Curie Actions are a strong enabler for at least three of these flagships – the Innovation Union, Youth on the Move and the Agenda for new skills and jobs.”

President Barroso, 10 December 2010
MARIE CURIE ACTIONS for an INNOVATIVE EUROPE
Excellence, mobility and skills for researchers

Policy context

Innovation Union
- 1 million more researchers
- Attract and train young people to become researchers
- Improve quality of doctoral training
- Involve businesses in doctoral training

Youth On the Move
- Promote researchers mobility across sectors, countries and disciplines
- Attractiveness of European universities
- Stronger links between education, research and innovation

The Agenda for New Skills and Jobs
- Equip researchers with relevant skills that will match both public and private sector needs
- Improve career prospects of doctoral candidates
«Objectives» of Marie Curie Actions

**INNOVATION UNION - ERA**
- 1 million more researchers
- Improve quality of doctoral training
- Involve businesses in doctoral training
- Attractive employment conditions
- ERA attractiveness
- Gender Balance
- Competitiveness of knowledge base enterprises, including SMEs
- Exploitation of results, commercialisation of research
- Leveraging national policies and programmes
- International cooperation
- Open access, dissemination

**The Agenda for NEW SKILLS and JOBS**
- Equip researchers with relevant skills that will match both public and private sector needs
- Improve career prospects of doctoral candidates

**YOUTH On the MOVE**
- Promote researchers mobility across sectors, countries and disciplines

**Modernisation of HIGHER EDUCATION**
- Attractiveness of European universities
- Stronger links between universities and businesses
Towards a **smart** and **knowledge-based society**

**Marie Curie Actions** for attractive research careers in Europe

- Attract, train, retain researchers in Europe
- Promote mobility across borders, sectors and disciplines
- Equip researchers with key skills matching both public and private sectors needs
- Set up attractive working conditions
Some basic about Marie Curie Actions:

- Addressed to researchers at all stages of their careers
- Open to all domains of research (bottom-up)
- Mobility (international, intersectoral, interdisciplinary)
- Application through competitive calls for proposals
- Selection criteria:
  S&T quality, Training/ToK, Implementation, Impact
- Budget covers generally:
  salary, mobility and research budget for the researcher
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.
For ERs (and MERs)
Individual Fellowships

Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)
Career Integration Grants (CIG)
International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF)
International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)
• **Scope:**

→ to reinforce the European Research Area (ERA) by encouraging researchers to establish themselves in a MS / AC, thereby attracting and retaining the best talents in Europe.

→ 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.
- **Participants and Eligible Researchers:**

- ERs complying with the mobility rule.

- Up to 4 years.

- Flat rate contribution of 25 000 EUR per ER and per year for the benefit of the recruited ER, to contribute to his/her research costs at the career integration host.
• **Scope:**

- To support the career development, or restart, of ERs 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.

- To support ERs 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 = CAREER RESTART
• **Participants and Eligible Researchers:**

- Financial support is provided for advanced training and transnational mobility, for a period of 12 to 24 months (full-time equivalent), for individual projects presented by *ERs active in MS/AC* in liaison with a *host organization from another MS/AC*.

- 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.
• **Scope:**
  → to reinforce the research excellence of MS / AC through knowledge sharing with incoming top-class ERs 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. → to encourage these ERs 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 careers.

• **Participants and Eligible Researchers:**
  → ERs of any nationality coming from outside Europe (complying with the mobility rule...)

International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)
• **Scope:**

→ to reinforce the international dimension of the career of European ERs by giving them the opportunity to be trained and acquire new knowledge in a high-level organization active in research, established in an other third country (outgoing phase).

→ Subsequently, these ERs will return with the acquired knowledge and experience to an organization in a MS / AC.
• **Participants and Eligible Researchers:**

- ERs nationals of MS/AC (or even TC if carrying out main activity in MS/AC for over 5 yrs)

- Financial support for up to 36 months to individual mobility projects presented by *ERs in liaison with host organizations in the MS / AC.*

**ATTENTION:** 12 to 24 months in Third Country, Compulsory Return of 12 moths to MS/AC

- Grant signed with the Organisation of the MS/AC
Money....Money....Money....!!!

Individual Fellowships IEF – IIF – IOF

Living allowance *: € 58 500 per year (with 4-10 years experience)
€ 87 500 per year (with > 10 years experience)

Mobility allowance *: € 700 or 1000 per month

Research/training/ToK expenses: € 800 per researcher-month
Management & Overheads*: € 700 per researcher-month

For IIF: Possible return phase – flat rate of € 15 000 for the reintegration

*Country correction coefficients apply
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Call ID</th>
<th>Call Opens</th>
<th>Call Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITN Initial Training Networks</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-ITN</td>
<td>10 July 2012</td>
<td>22 November 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COFUND Co-funding of Regional, National &amp; International Programmes</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-COFUND</td>
<td>10 July 2012</td>
<td>05 December 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIGHT Researchers' Night</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-NIGHT</td>
<td>02 October 2012</td>
<td>08 January 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAPP Industry – Academia Partnerships and Pathways</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IAPP</td>
<td>02 October 2012</td>
<td>16 January 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRSES International Research Staff Exchange Scheme</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IRSES</td>
<td>10 July 2012</td>
<td>17 January 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIG Career Integration Grants 1st cut off</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-CIG</td>
<td>18 October 2012</td>
<td>07 March 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF Intra-European Fellowships</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IEF</td>
<td>14 March 2013</td>
<td>14 August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIF International Incoming Fellowships</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IIF</td>
<td>14 March 2013</td>
<td>14 August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOF International Outgoing Fellowship</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-IOF</td>
<td>14 March 2013</td>
<td>14 August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIG Career Integration Grants 2nd cut off</td>
<td>FP7-PEOPLE-2013-CIG</td>
<td>18 October 2012</td>
<td>18 September 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PEOPLE: Training and career development of researchers

Budget €4 750 million (2007 - 2013)

We need highly trained and qualified researchers in order to improve the well-being of our citizens and increase economic growth.

What’s the benefit for citizens:

In order to compete globally we need more people to follow a career in research and to then provide them with the foundations for an open labour market. Therefore, Europe must be transformed into an attractive continent that supports innovation, knowledge creation and encourages researchers to stay.

During FP7 a series of EU research funded actions will support the on-going training, research and mobility of highly qualified scientists within Europe and the rest of the

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=people
Welcome to the Marie Curie Actions

Career Opportunities for Researchers

- anytime - anywhere

Are you Marie Curious?

Consider a research career

Funding

- WHAT are the Marie Curie Actions
- WHICH actions are suited for me
- HOW to apply
- WHEN to apply
- WHERE is my application
- HOW TO manage my project
- HELP? Your questions answered

Research & Innovation

European Commission

Welcome to the Marie Curie Actions

Career Opportunities for Researchers

- anytime - anywhere

Are you Marie Curious?

Consider a research career

Funding

- WHAT are the Marie Curie Actions
- WHICH actions are suited for me
- HOW to apply
- WHEN to apply
- WHERE is my application
- HOW TO manage my project
- HELP? Your questions answered

Policies

- EURAXESS - Researchers in motion
- European policies for researchers
- The European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for their Recruitment
- Europe4Researchers Newsletter

http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/index.htm
Charter and Code

- Working conditions of researchers
- Transparency of recruitment processes
- Career development

www.euraxess.org.cy
What is EURAXESS?

*EURAXESS* is an ERA key initiative to *promote research careers* and facilitate the mobility of *researchers* across Europe.

EURAXESS: European Union & 40 countries in Europe working together to *assist researchers and research organisations!*
The 4 key initiatives

Information about jobs & funding opportunities

Personalised assistance to researchers & their families through a network of > 500 people in 40 countries

Information about rights and obligations of researchers, their employers and funders, including entry conditions, social security and pensions

Networking tool for European & non-EU researchers worldwide
EURAXESS brings solutions!

- It helps boosting researcher career development;
- It helps researchers at an early stage research career with finding a job, helps them with their move, helps them connect with other researchers experiencing similar challenges;
- It assists experienced researchers with posting job vacancies, finding a good candidate, acquiring funding for their projects, getting a better understanding of their rights;
- EURAXESS can significantly enhance job and funding providers' visibility in Europe and overseas.
~ 4,000 research job positions/ > 1,000 funding offers daily available;

> 7,000 research organisations (companies, universities and SMEs across Europe and beyond) registered on EURAXESS with access to

~ 20,000 active CVs of researchers who uploaded their CV to the attention of potential employers;

~ 65,000 researcher accounts created so far;

Job and funding opportunities covering a vast array of research fields;

EU funded (MCA, ERC) jobs & funding opportunities systematically published there
Collaborations with relevant national/international job platforms and boards to:

- Provide researchers with more and more job opportunities in Europe to look at, and
- Enhancing significantly publishing organisations' visibility

Some examples: Naturejobs (UK), Focus Research (BE), Galaxie (FR), Euro*jobsciences (BE), INRA (FR), CINECA (IT), AcademicTransfer (NL), UniversityPositions (SE), Academic Positions (SE), and many more coming soon…
A network of >500 people working in >200 offices across Europe (40 countries) providing researchers & their family with personalised assistance and welcoming them in their new host country;

~500,000 queries in 4 yrs period

Topic ranking: funding opportunities; entry conditions; accommodation

2011: ~150,000 queries

Topic ranking: funding, accommodation, entry conditions.

«New entries»: pensions rights & medical care
Find all these and more through:

www.euraxess.org.cy
Proposal Writing

“Hints-&-Tips”

Let’s go through a MOCK IEF-2013...!
An electronic mean which allows Coordinators to prepare and submit online their proposals through Internet using the dedicated website.

- Working 7 days a week, 24 hours a day
- Replaces paper submission
- Need Internet Access and a PC!

→ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home
Proposal Writing

PART A: “Administrative” Online Forms

- A1: Project Summary
- A2: European Host
- A3: Fellow
- A4: Budget
Write with the eyes of an Evaluator
Successful Proposals are...

**S**pecific

**M**easurable, verifiable

**A**chievable

**R**elevant

**T**imely
It should be easy for the reader to clearly see in-a-nutshell:

• Why bother? (what problem are you trying to solve?)
• Is it a European priority? Could it be solved at National level?
• Is the solution already available (product, service, transfer)?
• Why now? (What would happen if we did not do this now?)
• Why you? (Are you the best people to do this work?)
Proposal Writing

What is expected within PART B of the Proposal (example IEF)

PART B: “Technical” Description of the Work uploaded in PDF to the system...!!!

- Research & Technological Quality (B1)
- Training (B2)
- Researcher (B3)
- Implementation (B4)
- Impact (B5)
- Ethical Issues (B6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S&amp;T Quality (award)</th>
<th>Training (award)</th>
<th>Researcher (award)</th>
<th>Implementation (selection)</th>
<th>Impact (award)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Threshold 3. Weighting 25%</td>
<td>Threshold 4. Weighting 25%</td>
<td>Research experience**</td>
<td>Quality of infrastructure / facilities and International collaborations of host</td>
<td>Impact of competencies acquired during the fellowship on the future career prospects of the researcher, in particular through exposure to transferable skills training with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriateness of research methodology and approach</td>
<td>Relevance and quality of additional research training as well as of transferable skills offered, with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate*</td>
<td>Research results including patents, publications, teaching etc., taking into account the level of experience</td>
<td>Practical arrangements for the implementation and management of the research project</td>
<td>Contribution to career development, or re-establishment where relevant*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originality and innovative nature of the project, and relationship to the ‘state of the art’ of research in the field</td>
<td>Measures taken by the host for providing quantitative and qualitative mentoring/tutoring</td>
<td>Independent thinking and leadership qualities</td>
<td>Feasibility and credibility of the project, including work plan</td>
<td>Benefit of the mobility to the European Research Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeliness and relevance of the project</td>
<td></td>
<td>Match between the fellow’s profile and project</td>
<td></td>
<td>Development of lasting cooperation and collaborations with other countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host research expertise in the field</td>
<td></td>
<td>Potential for reaching or reinforcing a position of professional maturity*</td>
<td>Practical and administrative arrangements, and support for the hosting of the fellow*</td>
<td>Contribution to European excellence and European competitiveness regarding the expected research results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the group/scientist in charge</td>
<td></td>
<td>Potential to acquire new knowledge</td>
<td></td>
<td>Impact of proposed outreach activities*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember! Guide-for-Applicants!!!

Evaluation Criteria & Weightings
General “Common Errors” / “EVAL-Eye”

**Common Errors**
- Proposal written as Scientific Paper
- Use of colors → the printout will be black/white...!
- Relevance to Individual Researcher’s Career Develop. is not evident / convincing
- S&T and Researcher parts are elaborate and in-depth, but Implementation/ Management and Impact under-developed
- Unclear Aims and Objectives
- Off page limits
- Template and its structure not followed
- Essential parts are disregarded

**What Evaluators expect**
- Evaluators have sufficient technical background relevant to the proposal’s concepts and approaches. However proposal should not be “too” technical as Evaluators may not be experts in the same particular field.
- Proposal has to convince that it will add value in the specific field, for Host/Researcher and the EU at large.
- Proposal should make the Evaluators’ “life” easier: consistent, well-written, following guidelines/templates
- Proposal should help the Evaluators score it more easily: “built” around the the eval. Scoring scheme (In GfA...)

Good Practice

- Evaluators don’t have too much time... Keep it simple and concise
- Explain abbreviations / Use Glossary
- Use tables and diagrams (relevant and easily understandable)
- Use Structure and Table-of-Contents from GfA... Use Headings and subheadings from GfA...
- Use Margins and Font Size set in GfA... Use Page-Numbering set in GfA... Keep Page Limits set in GfA...!
- Accurate, Verifiable and Professional content (refer. where needed)
- No “emphatic” statements and claims that are unsubstantiated
- Be consistent in UK/US English throughout the document. NO jargon or slang.
- Write for the “non-specialist”: if they can understand what you want to do and why it’s worth the funding... The specialist will, too!
- Proof – Read at the end...
Part B
Example of tentative “decoding”/interpretation of “Questions”/Sections from G-f-Appl.
seek out and stress the “emphasis points” that the “Question” itself provides...

R&T Quality
- Research Objectives against the State-of-the-art...
- Provide references
- Stress inter/multi disciplinary and/or intersectoral aspects...

Appropriateness
- Methods and techniques employed

Originality & Innovation
- NOVEL methods...
- Contribution to the field...

Timeliness & relevance
- WHY this is of value to the EUROPEAN level....
- WHY European money should be spent on this...
B2 TRAINING (maximum 2 pages)

Clarity and quality of the research training objectives for the researcher

State the training objectives and explain in detail how these can be beneficial for the (further) development of an independent research career.

Relevance and quality of additional research training as well as of transferable skills offered with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate.

Explain how the training provided will contribute to diversifying/broadening the competencies of the researcher, and how this will influence the researcher’s career development. Outline complementary training and skills expected during the execution of the project (such as research management, presentation skills, ethics, etc.).

Measures taken by the host for providing quantitative and qualitative mentoring/tutoring

Give a short outline of the host’s capacity for training, and which measures the host will undertake for training, mentoring/tutoring the researcher.

Don’t forget a “customized Personal Career Development Plan”...!
B3 RESEARCHER (maximum 7 pages which includes a CV and a list of main achievements)

Research experience
The applicant must present a comprehensive description of his/her research experience. A scientific/professional CV must be provided and should mention explicitly:

- academic achievements
- list of other professional activities
- any other relevant information.

Any leave of absence in the research career of more than one year such as maternity/parental leave, sick or family care leave, military service, humanitarian aid work, etc. should be detailed and justified.

Research results including patents, publications, teaching etc., taking into account the level of experience
Outline the major achievements of the researcher. These may also include results in the form of funded projects, publications, patents, reports, invited participation in conferences etc., taking into account the level of experience. To help the expert evaluators better understand the level of skills and experience it is advisable to write a short description, around 250 words, of the major accomplishments mentioning the purpose, results, skills acquired, derived applications etc.

Independent thinking and leadership qualities
Describe the activities that reflect initiative, independent thinking, project management skills and leadership. Describe the potential that the researcher has for increasing and reinforcing these qualities.

Match between the fellow's profile and project
Show that the applicant's skills and experience are suitable for the project proposed.

Potential for reaching or reinforcing a position of professional maturity
Describe the potential of the researcher to reach professional maturity.

Potential to acquire new knowledge
Describe the researcher's ability to acquire new knowledge and skills.
B4 IMPLEMENTATION (maximum 6 pages)

Quality of infrastructures/facilities and international collaborations of host

The host institution needs to specify the available infrastructures and whether these can respond to the needs set by the project. The host institution should further indicate to which extent the applicant can benefit from the host institution's participation in the international collaboration described in section B1.

Mention “Personal Career Development Plan”… cross-ref with B2

Practical arrangements for the implementation and management of the research project

The applicant and the host institution must be able to provide information on how the implementation and management of the fellowship will be achieved. The experts will be examining the practical arrangements that can have an impact on the feasibility and credibility of the project.

Don’t forget a “Contingency Plan”…!

Feasibility and credibility of the project, including work plan

Provide a detailed work plan that includes the objectives and milestones that can help assess the progress of the project. Where appropriate, describe the approach to be taken regarding the intellectual property that may arise from the research project.

“Work Packages”, Deliverables, Milestones, Gantt Chart…!

Practical and administrative arrangements and support for the hosting of the fellow

Describe the practical arrangements in place to host a researcher coming from another country. What support will be given to him/her to settle into their new host country (in terms of language teaching, help with local administration, obtaining permits, accommodation, schools, childcare etc.)?

Charter-&-Code, HR Logo, Employm. & Remunerat. package…!

Decision-making, Communication, Advis.Commit...!
**Work Breakdown Structure**

- **Phases**
  - 3 or 4 phases
  - e.g. Definition, Development, Demonstration, Testing/Evaluation

- **Work Packages (...should ensue from Objectives)**
  - a separate WP for each *main result* of the Project
  - WP Structure and number depends on complexity of activities:
    Number the WP: WP1, WP2 etc.
  - Don’t forget: “Management” and “Dissemination”

- **Tasks**
  - Punctual definition of the Activities
  - Number the Tasks following the WPs:
    WP 1 – Task 1.1, Task T 1.2, etc.

- **“Deliverables” (...should ensue from Work Packages)**
  - Task = Result
  - Number the “Deliverables” following the Tasks:
    Task 1.1. – Deliverable D.1.1, etc.
B5 IMPACT (maximum 4 pages)

Impact of competencies acquired during the fellowship on the future career prospects of the researcher, in particular through exposure to transferable skills training with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate.

Describe the impact that competencies and skills acquired during the fellowship will have on the prospects of reaching and/or reinforcing a position of professional maturity and/or research independence.

Contribution to career development, or re-establishment where relevant

How will the fellowship contribute in the medium- and long-term to the development of the fellow’s career? In the case of a fellow returning to research, how will his/her re-establishment be helped by the fellowship?

Benefit of the mobility to the European Research Area

Describe how the proposed mobility is genuine and therefore beneficial to the European Research Area. Genuine mobility is considered to allow the researcher to work in a significantly different geographical and working environment, different from the one in which he has already worked before.

Development of lasting cooperation and collaboration with other countries

What is the likelihood of creating collaboration between the host country and other countries after the end of the fellowship?

Contribution to European excellence and European competitiveness regarding the expected results

Describe the extent to which the expected results of the project will increase European excellence and ERA competitiveness and produce long-term synergies and/or structuring effects.

Impact of the proposed outreach activities

Describe the outreach activities of the proposal to be implemented by the researcher during the project duration (for examples, see box on Outreach Activities below).
Outreach Activities are dissemination initiatives directed at the general public. The primary goal is to create awareness of the importance of research to society and to raise awareness of Marie Curie Actions. Each applicant is invited to submit an Outreach Activities Plan as part of his/her proposal. The type of outreach activities is freely chosen by the applicant and could range from press articles to exposing students from primary and secondary schools or universities to science, research and innovation in order to develop their motivation to embrace research careers.

Outreach activities and their impact are taken into account during the evaluation of proposals in the light of the principles of the 'European Charter for Researchers' and 'Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers'. The relevant principle in the Charter is:

"Public engagement – Researchers should ensure that their research activities are made known to society at large in such a way that they can be understood by non-specialists, thereby improving the public’s understanding of science. Direct engagement with the public will help researchers to better understand public interest in priorities for science and technology and also the public’s concerns."

Possible outreach activities:

- **Marie Curie Ambassador**: Marie Curie fellows visit schools, universities, community organisations, etc. and promote their research field; Marie Curie fellows – "Ambassadors" – assist teachers in preparing and delivering teaching materials.
- **Workshop Day**: A Marie Curie project runs a workshop/activity day in areas related to the raising of scientific awareness, for school/university students.
- **Summer-School Week**: Students spend one week in a summer school where they receive a first-hand experience from the Marie Curie fellows about their current research activities or wider scientific issues; the Marie Curie fellows prepare specific activities, lectures and experiments.
- **Marie Curie Project Open Day**: Students and the general public visit the research institutions or labs and receive a first-hand experience or lectures.
- **Public talks, TV-Talks, podcasts and articles in Newspapers**: Marie Curie fellows give a public talk/TV interview or write an article in the local newspaper about the results of the project and how these results could be relevant to the general public.
- **e-Newsletters**: Marie Curie fellows develop a web-based document to be released on the internet for the attention of the public at large (e.g. Wikipedia).
- **Multimedia releases**: Marie Curie fellows make video-clips to be released on the internet, in spaces open to the public at large.
Take Home Message

• Divide your effort over the evaluation criteria!
• Think of the finishing touches which signal quality work (clear language, well-organised contents, useful and understandable diagrams, no typos, no inconsistencies, no obvious paste-ins, no numbers which don’t add up, no missing pages
• Make it easy for the evaluators to give you high marks. Don’t make it hard for them!
• Make sure you submit the latest, complete version of your proposal
• Don’t write too little; cover what is requested
• Don’t write too much
• Don’t leave them to figure out why it’s good, tell them why it’s good - Leave nothing to the imagination!
SMART Proposals are also...

- PRE-SCREENED....!!!

- The NCP offers free and confidential pre-screening of the proposal:
  - proof-reading ("commas" and "fullstops")
  - Addressing of Template’s Questions
  - Strategy and Text Suggestions
References

• People Network (http://www.fp7peoplenetwork.eu)
• People NCP blogspot http://mariecurieactions.blogspot.ch/
• ENV-NCP-TOGETHER (http://www.env-ncp-together.eu)
• “The European Union’s Framework Programme 7”, EFPC Group (www.EFPCGroup.com)
• “How to Write a Competitive Proposal for Framework 7” (Sean McCarthy)
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Thank you for your patience and attention…!

Libens, Volens, Potens…
(Ready, Willing, Capable)