



## An evolving programme

Over the years, the Marie Curie Actions have built a reputation for research excellence which is recognised worldwide, and taking part in the programme gives a considerable boost to participants' careers.

Due to the ongoing success of the Marie Curie Actions, their funding has increased substantially over the years. The programme ensures that the best and brightest researchers are supported throughout their career so that they can develop their full potential.

*'The Marie Curie fellowships offer ideal conditions to carry out high quality work. My time in Spain has been a wonderful training experience, both scientifically and technically, but I think the most valuable part was that it allowed me to grow as an independent researcher.'*

**Mario Trottini (Italy),**  
Marie Curie Fellow at the  
University of Valencia, Spain



## Find out more

Applying for funding from the Marie Curie Actions has never been easier. Over the years, the application process has been streamlined and the administrative requirements for successful projects have been significantly simplified.

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



## So what are you waiting for?

For more information on the benefits of participating in the Marie Curie Actions, and details of how to apply, visit the Marie Curie Actions website:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions>

Further information on European and international research careers, as well as job opportunities, can also be found in The European Researcher's Mobility Portal:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/eracareers/>

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European research  
in action

grant  
Research  
expanding horizons  
working abroad  
Mobility and career  
New opportunities  
studies

Anytime, Anyplace, Anywhere

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR RESEARCHERS

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?  
EXPLOIT YOUR RESEARCH POTENTIAL



MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

## Marie Curie Actions – promoting passionate people!

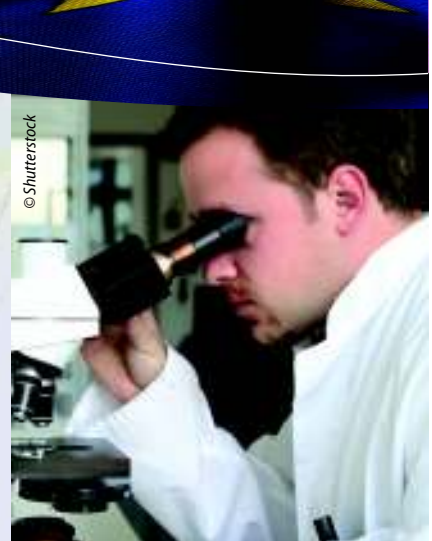
Are you an ambitious researcher looking to expand your horizons and work with the best in your field, wherever in the world they might be? Or do you want to move to a different sector and acquire new skills and learn new ways of working? Or maybe you're from outside the EU and want to come to Europe to pursue your career here?

Whatever your dream, if you're passionate about research and bursting with creative ideas for new projects in the natural sciences, social sciences, economics or humanities, then the EU's Marie Curie Actions are for you!

Since 1996, the Marie Curie Actions have helped thousands of researchers of all ages, nationalities and disciplines develop their careers and realise their research dreams – no other scheme in the world offers such a wide variety of opportunities to such a broad range of researchers. By doing this, the Marie Curie Actions also promote the transfer of knowledge and skills across national and sectoral borders, and crucially, advance excellence in research and innovation across Europe.

## A competitive salary, with benefits

One of the main attractions of the Marie Curie scheme is the competitive salary, which puts a research career on a level playing field with other occupations. However, a Marie Curie grant also covers much more. It takes care of your employer's costs such as social security payments, for example. It will even help out with costs incurred while developing your career, such as attending language or management courses or even buying a new suit for that important job interview!





## Anytime

In many funding programmes, researchers have to wait for research calls which match their dreams. Under the Marie Curie Actions, there are always calls available which offer researchers the opportunity to take the next step up the career ladder.

Opportunities don't just come directly from the European Commission. EU-funded networks of universities, research centres and industrial partners are constantly being established in a diverse range of fields with the goal of setting up training and career development programmes and boosting knowledge transfer.

These networks regularly advertise open positions on the European Researcher's Mobility Portal (<http://ec.europa.eu/eracareers>).

MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

## Anyplace

Across Europe, researchers are working in a range of sectors, including academia, industry, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Improving the links between these groups of researchers is vital if Europe is to stay on the cutting edge of research. For this reason there are Marie Curie Actions specially designed to support initiatives which promote cross-sector collaborations, for example between industry and academia.

Companies benefit from hosting Marie Curie Fellows by having some of the brightest minds in their field work for them.

However, cross-sectoral exchanges are not just for bigger companies. The Marie Curie schemes are designed to reduce administrative burdens for SMEs and extra funding can be made available for SME involvement in the programme.

*'As a fellow, I developed procedures and models for precise characterisation of optical interference coatings, gaining important insights into some of the world's most advanced technologies. As a scientist, I found it exciting and highly satisfying to contribute directly to the development of quality optical products.'*

**Diana Tonova (Bulgaria),**  
Marie Curie Fellow at Carl Zeiss, Germany



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## Anywhere

With Marie Curie Actions, the world truly is your oyster. Put simply, with a Marie Curie grant you can go anywhere in the world, giving you the opportunity to learn from the best and brightest in your field and discover how research is conducted in other countries.

## Expanding horizons

Obviously, working abroad provides Marie Curie Fellows with a wealth of personal experiences to go with the professional experience gained in the lab. Living abroad gives you the chance to get to know new cultures and see how things are done in other parts of the world. Friendships are created which last a lifetime, and it is these friendships which often form the foundations of the scientific networks of the future.

What's more, these benefits are not restricted to the Marie Curie Fellow; the host institution also benefits, as local researchers are usually as keen to learn from the visitor as the visitor is to learn from them.

## Homecoming help

As well as helping European researchers take up positions outside the EU, Marie Curie Actions also offer a helping hand when they want to return to Europe. Furthermore, scientists working inside the EU can also receive funding to return to their own country.

*'Being at Banach gave me the time and space to develop my research. The interaction with other students and established experts from all over the world was very stimulating and made me aware of what is going on in the international research community in my own and related fields.'*

**Gavin Band (UK),**  
Marie Curie Fellow at the Banach Centre, Institute of Mathematics at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland

## Anyone

Opportunities for all stages of your career

There are strictly NO age limits to Marie Curie Actions, which are designed to cater for researchers at every stage of their career. Whether you are a student taking your first steps up the research career ladder, a scientist keen to establish and manage your own research team for the first time, or are simply looking to bolster your career prospects with a spell in another country or sector, there is a Marie Curie scheme for you.

## Open to all nationalities...

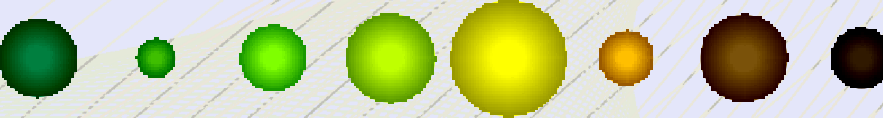
Marie Curie Actions are not just open to EU citizens – any researcher, from anywhere in the world, can apply for a grant to come and carry out research in Europe. In addition to this, EU citizens can use Marie Curie Actions to work outside Europe.

## ... and all disciplines

The Marie Curie Actions will fund research in any discipline, from archaeology to zoology, and anything in between.\*

### Distribution by discipline

Chemistry 12.69 %	Economics 3.05 %	Engineering 9.00 %	Environment 16.77 %	Life Sciences 28.58 %	Maths 6.13 %	Physics 15.99 %	Social Sciences & Humanities 7.79 %
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Source: Count of contracts (host actions) and FP6 report (Individual actions).

Note 1: figures don't include IRG and ERG  
Note 2: FP6 contracts only



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