



Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MCSA): Individual Fellowships (IF)



The European Union's (EU) funding programme 'Horizon 2020' (2014-2020) offers funding for both mobility of researchers and collaborative research.

This flyer outlines the scope and modalities to participate in the **MCSA - Individual Fellowship Programme** for which there is a call for proposals which opened on 12 April 2018 and is closing on 12 September 2018.

MSCA - Individual Fellowships are for experienced researchers who want to give their career a boost by working abroad. This fellowship helps in advancing the career by gaining new skills through training under guidance of a supervisor in an international environment and optional inter-sectoral secondments. The programme is open to all fields of knowledge and is bottom-up e.g. the topic is not prescribed by the call.

There are two types of Individual Fellowships:

- (1) **European Fellowships:** open to researchers from any country in the world (India) going or moving within Europe. This fellowship is to be done in Europe.
- (2) **Global Fellowships:** open to researchers from EU Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC), giving them the opportunity to conduct a research project in a host institution located in a Third Country (e.g. India).

With both these actions, the EU is promoting the two way mobility which is an important element to strengthen the R&I cooperation and capacity between the EU and India.

(1) European Fellowships: Indian researcher to Europe

European Fellowships are open to Indian researchers currently within or outside Europe who want to pursue their research career and who have already a doctoral degree or at least four years full- time research experience (hence also called a post-doc fellowship) in a research institute, university or company in Europe i.e.: in an EU Member State ¹ (MS) or Associated Country ² (AC).

The mobility rule applies to the hosting organisation in the MS or AC (i.e. the researcher must not have lived, worked or studied in the hosting MS or AC for more than 12 months during the 3 years prior to the deadline). The standard duration of the fellowship is 12 to 24 months. The financial support to the researcher covers living allowance/salary; mobility allowance and family allowance, as the case may be.

Opportunity for India: for experienced Indian researchers either moving from India to a country in Europe or moving within Europe (from one Member State or Associated country to another). See, however, above mobility rule.

(2) Global Fellowships: Europe based researcher to India

Global Fellowships are open to a national or long term resident in Europe (MS or AC) who wants to move to a country outside Europe, called Third Country (TC), for example to India, in the outgoing phase and then go back to Europe (MS or AC) during the return phase. To be eligible, fellows must be experienced researchers with either a doctoral degree or at least four years full- time research experience.

For Global Fellowships, the TC in which the partner organisation (e.g. Indian research institute, university or company) is located, is subject to the mobility rule (i.e. the researcher must not have lived, worked or studied in that TC for more than 12 months during the 3 years prior to deadline). The total duration of the fellowship is 36 months as follows: an initial period of 12 to 24 month at a partner organization in the third country (e.g. India) followed by a mandatory 12 month training period at an European host organisation in Europe (MS or AC).

The financial support to the researcher covers living allowance/salary; mobility allowance and family allowance, as the case may be.

Opportunity for India: a leading university or research institute in India can be a host university for a Global Fellowship and host an Indian or European experienced scientists coming from Europe. The Indian host universities or research institutes or university must for this purpose have a partnership agreement with a leading university of institute in Europe.

¹ https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/countries_en

² As of 1 May 2018, the following countries are associated to Horizon 2020: Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Tunisia, Georgia, Armenia.

WHY SHOULD YOU APPLY?

You can diversify your competences and acquire new skills at a multi- or interdisciplinary level through advanced training and mobility.

WHO CAN APPLY?

European Fellowships are open to experienced researchers from any country. There is no age restriction.

Global fellowships are open to experienced researchers in Europe (MS or AC), who want to benefit from training abroad.

In both cases, applicants either hold a PhD degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

WHO CAN HOST?

Any legal organisation from MS/AC (university, research centre or a company in Europe) could host *European Fellowships*.

Any legal organisation (university, research centre or a company in Europe) from Third Country (e.g. India) could act as "partner organization" to host *European Global fellow* during outgoing phase.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

All scientific disciplines (including social sciences and humanities)³ are eligible for funding. The calls are bottom-up i.e.: the field is freely chosen by the applicant.

WHAT THE FUNDING COVERS?

The grant provides an allowance to cover living, travel and family costs. In addition, the EU contributes to the training, networking and research costs of the fellow, as well as to the management and indirect costs of the project.

To be noted that the grant is awarded to the host organisation (beneficiary), usually a university, research centre or a company in Europe which then distributes the allowances to the researcher as agreed in the grant agreement/partnership agreement.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

European Fellowship proposals are submitted jointly with a "host" organisation in Europe and you as the researcher. You, the researcher, develop the proposal in cooperation with a European organisation that would be willing to host you. Host organizations can be universities, research institutes or company.

European Global fellow must submit proposal jointly with a "host" organisation in Europe and "partner organisation" from Third Country. At the proposal stage of *Global fellowship*, an Indian institution must submit a "letter of commitment" and an Indian 'host' researcher must provide information regarding their expertise, research and the training they will provide. Following the signature of a Grant Agreement, the Indian institution must negotiate a "partnership agreement," detailing financial and training provisions, with the European "host" institution.

HOW DO I APPLY?

You submit a research proposal, including your CV, in response to the call. The proposal is written in English, jointly with your chosen host organisation(s).

Find the right call on the participant portal: https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/actions/get-funding_en

Here you will find details of all active calls for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. The information is linked directly to the EU's Participant Portal, which provides all information, including the procedure, on how to apply.

WHEN CAN I APPLY?

The 2018-MSCA-IF call opened on **12 April 2018** with a deadline on **12 September 2018** (17:00 Brussels time).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- H2020 Programme Guide for Applicants Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowships (IF):
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/guides_for_applicants/h2020-guide-appl-msca-if-2018-20_en.pdf
- Guide on "How to Write a Winning Proposal for Individual Fellowships (IF)":
<http://horizon2020.lu/content/download/19636/181855/file/How%20to%20write%20a%20winning%20MSCA%20proposal.pdf>
- Individual Fellowships Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) 2015:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/doc/call/h2020/h2020-msca-if-2015/1650133-if-2015-faq_en.pdf

HOW TO FIND A HOST IN EUROPE

- EURAXESS search for host
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/hosting/search>
- Net4Mobility - Expressions of Interest
<https://www.net4mobility.eu/eoi.html>
- Marie Curie Alumni Association :
<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/jobs>

FOR ENQUIRY

In principle, further information should be obtained from the National Contact Point (NCP) but since India has not appointed its NCP, it is recommended to contact the NCP of the host country of interest to you. See for list of NCPs:

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html#c.contact=country/sbg//0/1/0&+person.last_name/desc

Information can also be obtained from:

EU DEL India | delegation-india-ri@eeas.europa.eu

See also: EURAXESS India | india@euraxess.net

