

Marie Curie Individual Fellowships 2012



Dr. Jennifer Brennan
Marie Curie NCP



Marie Curie Actions = People Programme



€1.2 billion available until end 2013

Marie Curie Actions, an Irish Success Story

€362 million

- Ireland's "Take" from FP7 to-date

€51 million

- Portion of this secured via Marie Curie (2nd-Largest FP7 Income-Stream)

€10 million

- MC Co-funding secured to boost national R&D budgets

211

- Irish Marie Curie Actions funded

55

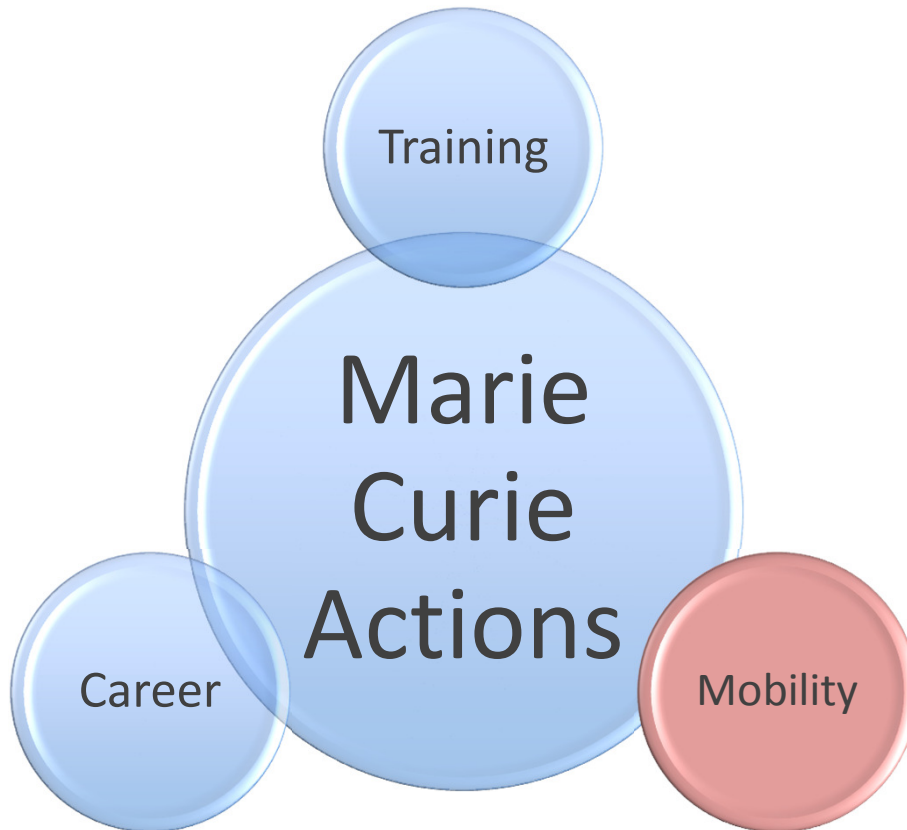
- Irish Participants in Marie Curie IAPPs

800

- Research Posts created in Academia and Industry by MC Funding

**What are the
Marie Curie
Actions?**





- Intellectual Capital
 - Enter the Researcher Profession
 - Stay in Europe
 - Attracting international researchers
- Knowledge Transfer
 - International & Inter-Sectoral Cooperation

“Bottom-Up”

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Life Sciences
- Economic Sciences
- ICT and Engineering
- Social Sciences & Humanities
- Earth & Environmental Sciences

- Applications are assessed in these 8 Panels
- Call success is equalised across the Panels



Marie Curie Individual Fellowships



IEF	Intra-European Fellowships for Career Development	“Research Career Development”	18% success rate (2011)
IOF	International Outgoing Fellowships	“From Europe* to the World”	19% success rate (2011)
IIF	International Incoming Fellowships	“From the World to Europe*”	14% success rate (2011)

- **IEF and IOF are about Career Development**
- **IIF is about Transfer of Knowledge**

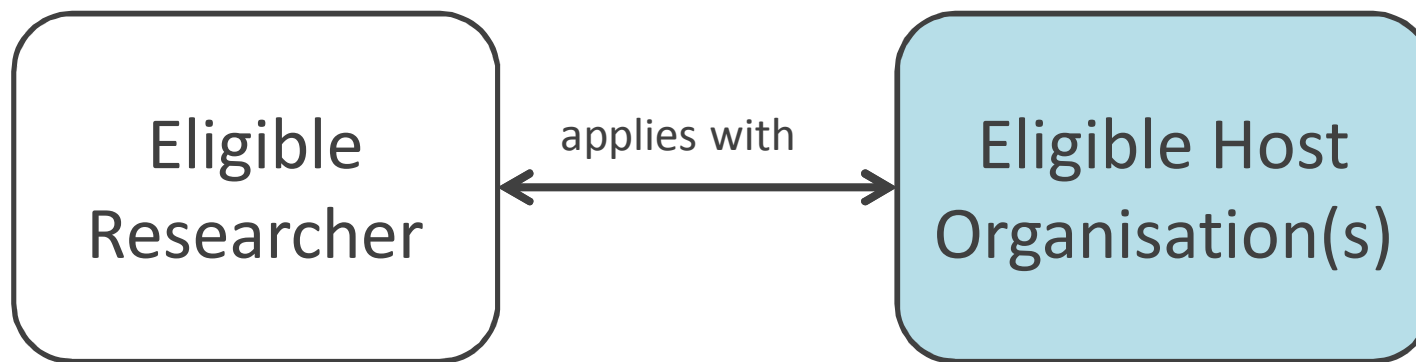
Facts and Figures – IxF Call

Next Deadline
16th August 2012

Budgets
IEF: 120 M€
IIF: 40 M€
IOF: 40 M€

Can only apply for one
fellowship type, even if
you are eligible for
more than one.

How does it work?



- Joint application preparation
 - Researcher
 - “Scientist in Charge” (person in the host organisation that the researcher will work with if funded)

Eligible Host Organisations

National Organisations

- e.g. Universities, Research Centres

Commercial Enterprises

- e.g. Multi-nationals, esp. SMEs

Non-Profits / Charities

- e.g. NGOs, Trusts

International European Interest Organisations

- e.g. CERN, EMBL

European Commission JRC

- The Joint Research Centre

International Organisations

- e.g. WHO, UNESCO

Eligible Researchers



For All Fellowships.....

Age Limit

- None

Required Experience

- **Experienced Researcher**: PhD or 4 years' full-time equivalent research experience (after obtaining a degree permitting the researcher to begin studying for a doctorate)
- Also open to **More Experienced Researchers** (with > 10 years experience after the degree permitting doctoral studies)

Mobility Rule

- At the Call deadline, the applicant must not have resided or had their main activity in the country of the host organisation for > 12 months in the last 3 years
- Can apply with current host organisation as long as Mobility Rule is satisfied

Intra-European Fellowships

Nationality

- No nationality requirements

Mobility

- Researchers must move from one Member State or [Associated Country](#) (MS/AC) to another
- Mobility Rule applies

Project Duration

- 12 to 24 months

IEF: Career Restart Option

Conditions

- Applicant must not have been active in research for at least **12 months** immediately prior to the Call deadline.
- Evaluated in a separate **Career Restart Panel** (CAR)

Mobility

- Researchers must move from one Member State or [Associated Country](#) to another
- **Mobility Rule is relaxed**: At the Call deadline, the applicant must not have resided or had their main activity in the country of the host organisation for > 3 years in the last 5 years

Project Duration

- 12 to 24 months

International *Incoming* Fellowships

Nationality

- No nationality requirements

Mobility

- Researchers must move from outside Europe (Other Third Country or OTC) to a MS/AC
- Mobility Rule applies

Project Duration

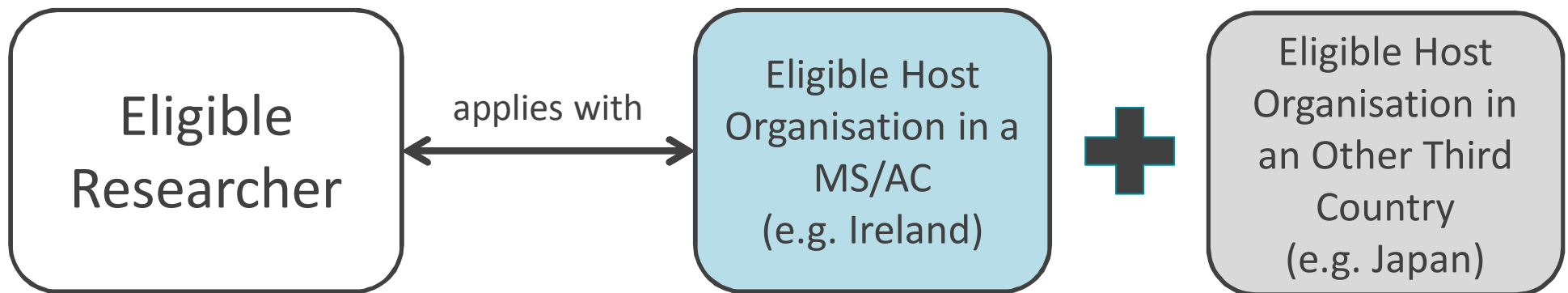
- 12 to 24 months
- Can add an extra 12 months reintegration to an [International Cooperation Partner Country](#) e.g. Brazil, South Africa, Armenia, Cuba,.....

Prof. Gary Stutte Marie Curie International *Incoming* Fellow

- PhD in Plant Physiology from University of California-Davis
- Faculty Member at University of Maryland
- Moved to Kennedy Space Centre in 1992 to work on NASA Life Science Support Contract
 - PI on plant research projects
 - Conducted spaceflight experiments on-board Space Shuttle and International Space Station
- Started a collaboration with LIT in 2002
- Moved to LIT on Marie Curie [IIF awarded in 2010](#)



International *Outgoing* Fellowships



- Employed by the Irish organisation for the fellowship duration
- Seconded to the Japanese organisation for the “**outgoing phase**” (between 12 and 24 months)
- Return to the Irish organisation for a mandatory 12-month “**return phase**”
- If application is funded, the two organisations sign a Partnership Agreement

International *Outgoing* Fellowships

Nationality

- Must be nationals of a Member State/Associated Country **OR**
- Nationals from an OTC (Other Third Country) who have been active in a MS/AC for at least **5 years** before the Call deadline

Mobility

- Researchers must move from a MS/AC to a country outside Europe (Other Third Country , OTC)
- Mobility Rule applies

Project Duration

- 12 to 24 months **outgoing phase** in an OTC
- Plus a mandatory 12-month **return phase** to a MS/AC

IOF: Non-Nationals

Nationals from an OTC (Other Third Country) who have been active in a MS/AC for at least **5 years** before the Call deadline are eligible

Examples

1. An Indian national who has resided and worked in Ireland continuously for the past 6 years can apply for an IOF with an outgoing phase in, e.g., Japan along with a mandatory return phase in a MS/AC
2. A Chinese national who has resided and worked in Ireland for the past 4 years cannot apply for an IOF

Funding Level



What does the EU funding cover?

	Experienced Researcher (p.a.)	More Experienced Researcher (p.a.)
Living Allowance*, &	€58,000	€87,500
Mobility Allowance*, \$ (€700 or €1000 per month for those with family)	€8,400 or €12,000	€8,400 or €12,000
Research/Training Costs (€800 per month to the host organisation)	€9,600	€9,600
Overheads Contribution* (€700 per month to the host organisation)	€8,400	€8,400
TOTAL	€84,400 or €88,000	€110,900 or €114,500

*Correction Coefficients apply; IE = 109.1

& **Is taxable** and includes employer's social costs (PRSI, pension contribution)

\$ May also be taxable (and in that case, includes employer's social costs)

Writing an Application



Getting Started

Preparing to Write

- Download the call documents from the Participant Portal*
 - 2012 Work Programme
 - Guide for Applicants
- Read them from cover to cover!
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Overall objective of the Action (Opening pages of GfA and 2012 Work Programme)
- Referees
 - Identify up to 3 referees to provide a reference for your application

Preparing to Submit

- All-electronic submission using Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS)
- Register with EPSS for the correct Call (IEF/IIF/IOF)*
 - Download Proposal Template (.rtf file)
- Get the Participant Identification Code (PIC) for your host organisation
 - Use [Search Facility](#)
 - For IOF: Need PIC of the return phase host organisation
- The deadline is 17:00 **Brussels time!**

* <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people>

Proposal Content

Part A
(Administrative)

Part B
(Proposal)

Part A - Administrative Forms

- Prepared electronically within EPSS system

Form	Title	Content
A1	Information on the Proposal	e.g. Acronym, Title, Selection of Evaluation Panel, Project Duration.....
A2	Information on the Host organisation(s)*	e.g. PIC, legal name, contact details, name of <i>scientist-in-charge</i>
A3	Information on the Researcher	e.g. Education details, work experience, country of location, residency for the past 5 years
A4	Funding Request	e.g. Mobility allowance, Funding level (Experienced or More Experienced Researcher)

* For IOF, two A2 forms are required, one each for the outgoing host and return host organisations

Referees

- Can **(not mandatory)** nominate up to 3 referees to provide an assessment of your track record and research potential
- Add their details in “Set up Proposal” section in EPSS
- The referees each receive an email from EPSS, providing access to online reference forms
- Ensure you ask their permission first!
- Discuss what topics they should refer to in their assessment – refer to Evaluation Criteria

Proposal Part B Content

B1

- Research and Technological Quality (8 pages)

B2

- IEF and IOF: Training (2 pages)
- IIF: Transfer of Knowledge

B3

- Researcher (7 pages)
- Including CV and list of achievements

B4

- Implementation (6 pages)

B5

- Impact (4 pages)

B6

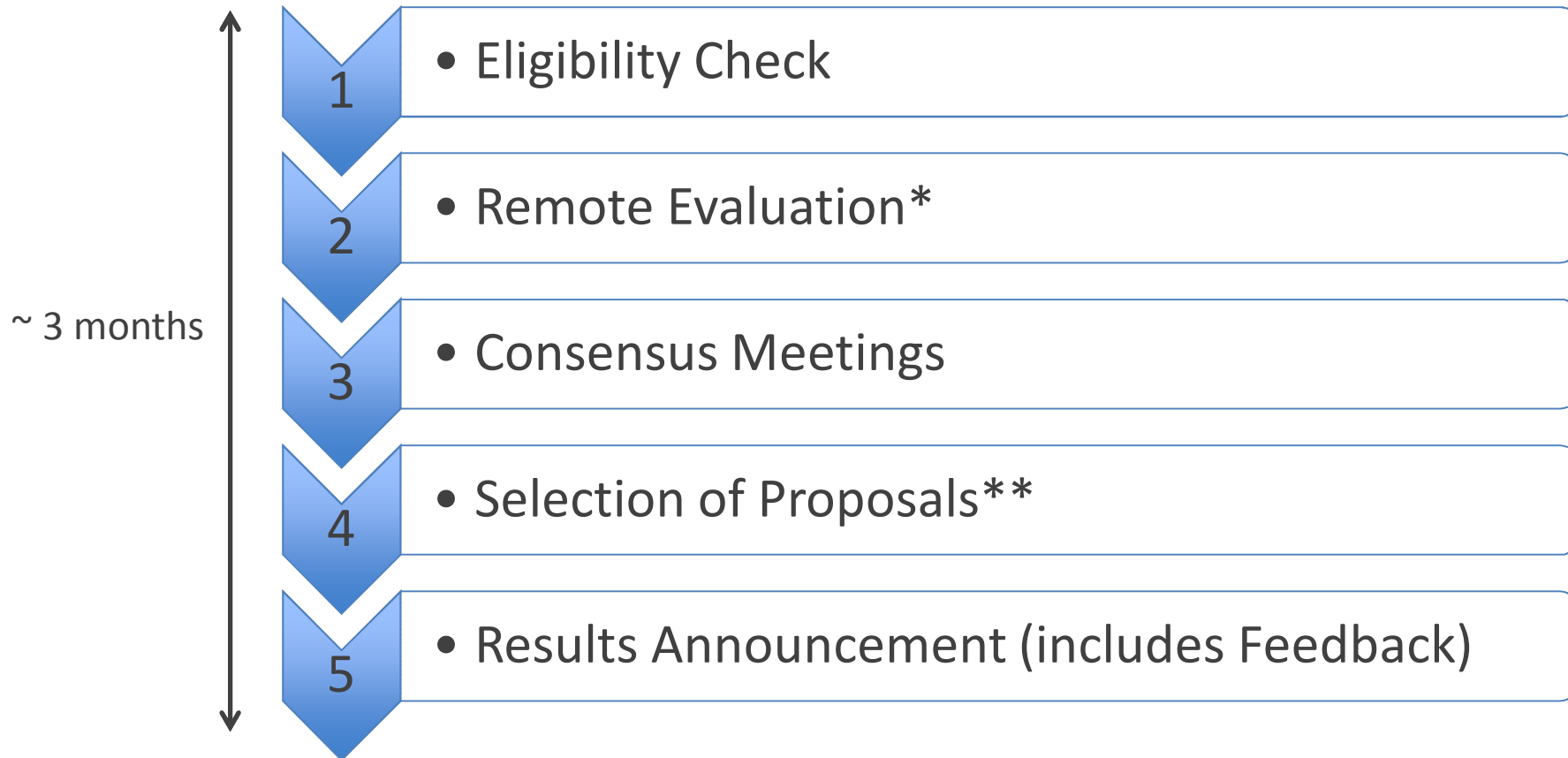
- Ethics Issues (No page limit)

**Use the template
that can be downloaded
from EPSS**

Evaluation of your Application



Evaluation Process



* Evaluated by at least 3 international experts

** Distribution across 8 panels proportional to # of proposals received

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Threshold (Marks out of 5)	Weighting	Priority (ex-aequo)
Researcher	4	25	1
IEF and IOF: Training IIF: Transfer of Knowledge	3 (IEF and IOF) n/a (IIF)	15	2
S&T Quality	3	25	3
Impact	3.5	20	4
Implementation*	n/a	15	5

Overall threshold of 70%

* For IOF, split where appropriate between outgoing and return host

Researcher

- e.g. research results (considering level of experience), independent thinking and leadership qualities, match between the fellow's experience and the project ([Referees' Comments NB here](#))

Training (IEF and IOF)

- e.g. clarity and quality of research and transferable skills training, host expertise in mentoring researchers,

Transfer of Knowledge (IIF)

- e.g. potential of transferring knowledge to European host, clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge objectives,...

S & T Quality

- e.g. methodology and approach, originality, timeliness of project, host expertise in the field, quality of the host group,.....

Impact

- e.g. impact on researcher's career, impact on ERA, impact on long-term collaborations with/outside Europe, impact of outreach activities,.....

Implementation

- e.g. management plans, host facilities/infrastructure, practical support to the fellow,.....



“Charter & Code”

- 40 principles
- **Charter:** framework for career management for researchers
- **Code:** promotes open and transparent recruitment and appraisal
- Embedded in Evaluation Criteria for all MC Actions (look for the * in the table of Evaluation Criteria)

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

Human Resources Strategy for Researchers

- “Next-step” - encourage mainstreaming of C&C in research entities’ policies
- 5-Step Procedure
- Results in Commission acknowledgment (permission to use HR Excellence logo)
- Irish HEIs taking part to-date are UCD, RCSI, UCC, UL, DCU and WIT
 - Working with the Commission to earn the logo



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

B6: Ethics Issues

- Ethics is considered essential by the Commission in the research activities that it funds
- The Commission will not fund:
 1. Research on Human Embryo/Foetus
- In proposals where the following are involved, the Commission may carry out their own ethical review:
 2. Research on Humans
 3. Privacy
 4. Research on Animals
 5. Research Involving Developing Countries
 6. Dual Use (possibly military or terrorist use)
- Every funding application must include a completed Ethical Issues Table
 - The table is divided into sections using the 6 headings above
- Indicating ethical issues in the table does not automatically lead to an ethical review – it helps the Evaluators to decide if one is needed

Advice from a Marie Curie Individual Fellowships Evaluator



Evaluation Criteria – General Comments

- Address all the sub-criteria for each criterion listed in the call - some reviewers take a ‘checklist’ approach to marking
 - Use the template provided in EPSS
- Be aware of the overall weighting of each criterion
- Do not “cut-and-paste” generic ‘off the shelf’ material, e.g. material taken directly from EU policy documents, websites etc.
- Minimise scientific jargon and write in a clear readable style

Researcher

- Excellent publication/conference participation record for a researcher in the early stages of their career
- The candidate needs to be a good match to the proposed research
- Provide good evidence of the candidate's ability to think/act independently
 - Reference letters can help

Training (IEF and IOF)

- Spell out the training objectives
- Potential acquisition of ‘additional’ research skills needs to be demonstrated
- Don’t forget to address the whole area of transferable/complimentary skills
 - If your host has a researcher career development programme, then spell out how you will use it to meet your objectives
 - Has your host endorsed the Charter & Code – if yes, say so!
 - List at <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/charterAndCode>
 - Is your host working towards earning the “*HR Excellence in Research*” logo? If yes, say so!
List at <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/strategy4ResearcherOrgs>
- Clearly demonstrate, **with hard evidence**, the quality of the research supervisor(s)/institution(s) with regard to the training of researchers

Transfer of Knowledge (IIF)

- Precisely what knowledge will be transferred
- How will you transfer it?

S & T Quality

- S&T objectives – make them clear and up front
- Make sure the ‘state of the art’ is up to date
- Write in a style that is **accessible to the non-expert**,
 - The majority of evaluators will not be expert in the specific subject area of the proposal e.g. use figures/tables where appropriate
- Highlight originality and any innovative aspect of the proposal
- Clearly demonstrate, **with hard evidence**, the research quality of the host supervisor(s)

Impact

- Emphasise the potential impact of the fellowship on the candidates' career development
- The case for the benefits to European excellence and competitiveness (ERA) needs to be a) specific to the proposal and b) convincing
 - Do not “cut-and-paste” generic ‘off the shelf’ EU policy material
 - Instead, discuss how your fellowship plan fits in with the policies

Implementation

- Include a detailed and well thought out project implementation plan, including research and other training activities too
 - A good Gantt Chart is very useful for this
- Make sure the work plan is feasible
- Good project management protocols need to be in place – e.g. specifics relating to frequency of supervisor/researcher meetings etc.

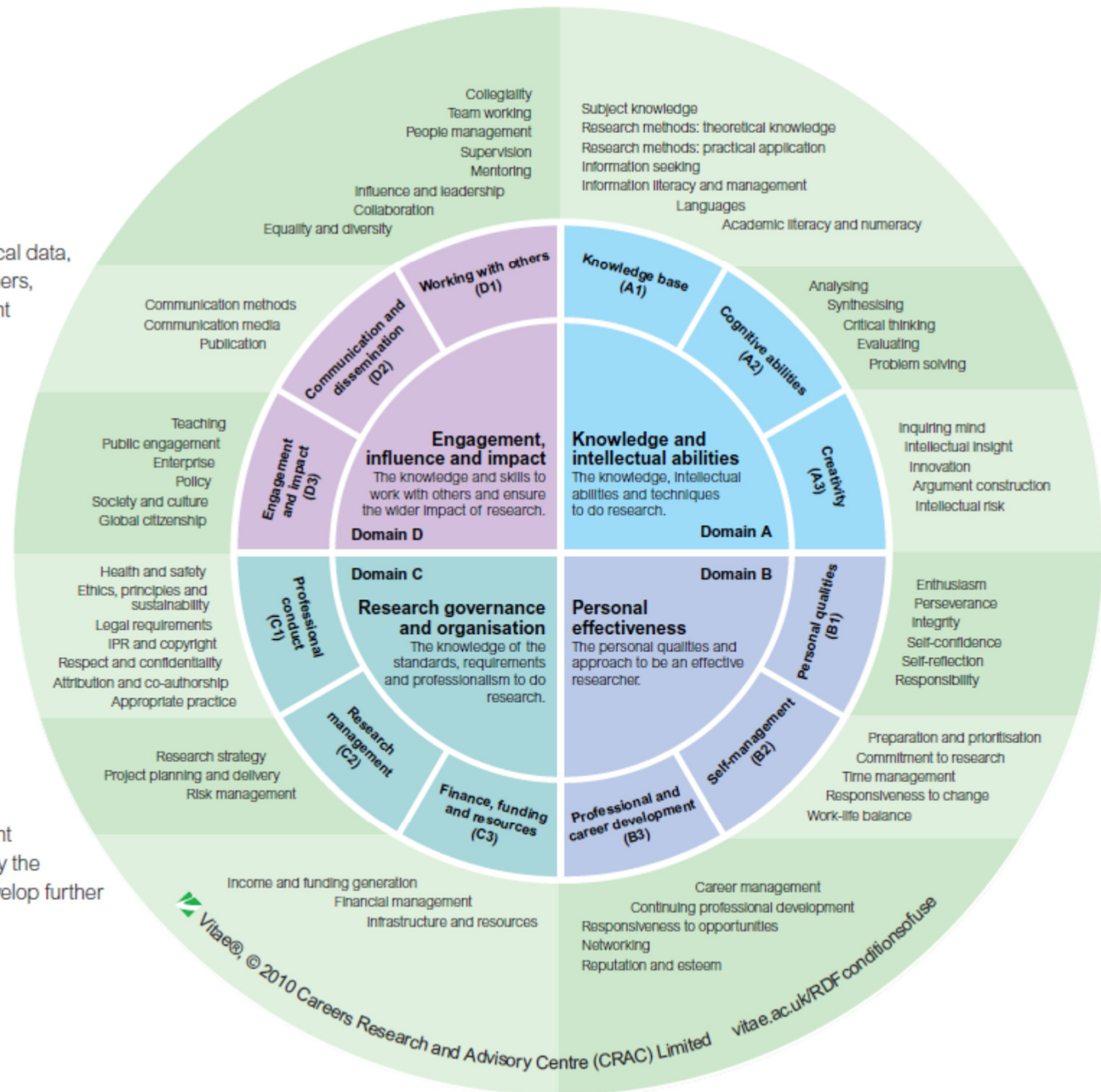
Final Advice from your NCP!

- Add a short “Executive Summary” at the beginning of the S&T section
 - Ensure to keep within the page limits
- You can find EU Policy Documents on research careers, mobility etc. at [EURAXESS Rights](#)
- Use the [VITAE Researcher Development Framework](#) to get training ideas. Four Domains:
 1. Knowledge and Intellectual Abilities
 2. Personal Effectiveness
 3. Research Governance and Organisation
 4. Engagement, Influence and Impact

Structure

The RDF has been created from empirical data, collected through interviewing researchers, to identify the characteristics of excellent researchers expressed in the RDF as 'descriptors'. The descriptors are structured in four domains and twelve sub-domains, encompassing the knowledge, intellectual abilities, techniques and professional standards to do research, as well as the personal qualities, knowledge and skills to work with others and ensure the wider impact of research. Each of the sixty-three descriptors contains between three to five phases, representing distinct stages of development or levels of performance within that descriptor.

The RDF has been incorporated into a downloadable Professional Development Planner to enable researchers to identify the areas in the framework they want to develop further and to create an action plan.



More Advice from your NCP

- Ask a colleague to read through your proposal and do a “mock evaluation”
- If in doubt, ask your Research Officer or National Contact Point for clarification!
- If you want to avail of a pre-submission proposal check by your Research Office, allow enough time for feedback.
- Regularly upload preliminary versions of your proposal, and don't forget to hit “submit”!
- Keep the deadline - **5pm Brussels time means 4pm Irish time!!**

CIIG: Career Integration Grants*



Encouraging Researchers to establish themselves in Europe

- Award of 2 to 4 years' duration
- Flat-rate contribution €25k p.a.
- Suitable for anyone with a contract that covers at least the duration of the award
 - New academic staff
 - Postdocs with independent funding
- Mobility rule applies
- Next deadline 18th Sep

* Amalgamation of previous ERG and IRG programmes

How the MC Office at IUA/Irish Research Council can help

- Keeping you informed
 - Email Distribution List
 - New website
 - Marie Curie Office Ireland on [Linkedin](#)
- Supporting your application
 - Training Webinars for specific Calls
 - Advice on whether your concept 'fits' the Call

www.iua.ie
mariecurie@iua.ie



www.euraxess.ie

EURAXESS IRELAND
SOLUTIONS FOR RESEARCHERS

- ‘One-stop-shop’ centralised support on issues related to mobility
- For ALL researchers
- Linked to central EU EURAXESS Site
- Advertise job opportunities (linked to Nature Jobs)
- Listing of Marie Curie and ERC positions

www.euraxess.eu

www.euraxess.ie



Q & A

mariecurie@iua.ie



www.fp7ireland.com

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www.fp7ireland.com/page.aspx?SP=Theme_People. The page is titled "People / Marie Curie" and is part of the "Seventh EU Framework Programme IRELAND" website. The navigation bar includes links for Overview, Cooperation, Ideas, People, Capacities, Euratom, and JRC. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column lists "Marie Curie Actions" with sub-links: Initial Training of Researchers, Life-Long Training & Career Development, Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways, World Fellowships, Specific Actions, and Useful Documents and Presentations. The middle column contains the "People / Marie Curie" section, which includes a search bar, a list of links (FP7 in Ireland, Legal and Financial, Who can help you?, Financial Assistance, Brussels Office, Find a call), and a detailed description of the Marie Curie Programme. The right column features a "Log-in" section, "Events & Open Calls" with links to view related events and open calls, and a "National Contact Point(s)" section for Dr. Jennifer Brennan, Irish Universities Association, with contact details and a link to access the European Commission's Marie Curie Actions website.

Seventh EU Framework Programme IRELAND

FP7 in Ireland
Legal and Financial
Who can help you?
Financial Assistance
Brussels Office
Find a call

Search site:

Log-in
Email
Password
Forgotten your password?

Overview Cooperation Ideas **People** Capacities Euratom JRC

Marie Curie Actions

Initial Training of Researchers
Life-Long Training & Career Development
Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways
World Fellowships
Specific Actions
Useful Documents and Presentations

Home > People / Marie Curie
People / Marie Curie

The Marie Curie Programme is a key European instrument that funds excellent researchers and those with a clear potential for future achievement. From the early 1980's, predating the Framework Programmes, the European Community has promoted the mobility of researchers at all stages of their careers, from PhD to postdoctoral and more senior level. It has funded researchers in all disciplines: from the physical and engineering sciences to the environmental and life sciences. It is one of the few areas where the EC funds researchers in the humanities and social sciences. The programme has also helped to develop R&D capacity in companies large and small.

Through the Marie Curie Programme researchers at Irish institutions and companies have brought in over €60m since 2002. This is an outstanding result as it is more than three times what would be expected given the size of the research population in Ireland. It demonstrates how researchers in Ireland punch above their weight in an internationally competitive environment. It is important to understand that this programme awards funds through a fiercely competitive process based on international peer review. Funded researchers have successfully competed against their peers from over 35 countries across Europe.

The Marie Curie Programme offers a variety of schemes focusing on different objectives (follow the links on the left for details on the different action lines). While some of them address the career development of researchers, others aim at expanding R&D capability of organisations and linking academia to industry. The Seventh Framework Programme has earmarked €4.727bn for Marie Curie schemes. We anticipate that researchers in Ireland will continue to compete successfully for Marie Curie funding.

Our future success in the programme will be an important factor towards the Government's aim to develop a knowledge-based society, particularly through the Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation. In particular, our positive experiences in training early career researchers through the Marie Curie Programme are helping shape the development of 4th Level Ireland and career structures for researchers in our universities.

Events & Open Calls

- [View related events](#)
- [View related open calls](#)

National Contact Point(s)

Irish Universities Association
Dr Jennifer Brennan
Irish Universities Association
+353 (0)1 6764948
mariecurie@iua.ie

[Click here to access the European Commission's Marie Curie Actions website](#)

Research Enquiry Service



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the European Commission's Research & Innovation Enquiries page. The page is titled "RESEARCH & INNOVATION" and features a navigation menu with links such as "Find Funding", "Research Policy", "Information", "Areas of research", "About this site", "What's new", and "Forum". A sidebar on the left contains links for "Home", "Guided tour", "Search", "Browse", "Index", "Site map", "Ask", "FAQs", "Research Enquiry Service", "Receive", "RSS", "Successes in Science", "The EU in your country", and "Who are you?". The main content area is titled "Research Enquiry Service" and includes a form for submitting questions. The form fields include First Name, Family Name, E-mail address, Street, Town, Post Code, Country (a dropdown menu), Telephone, Country of residence (a dropdown menu), Nationality (a dropdown menu), and Gender. A "Please confirm your email address" field is also present. The page also contains a "Do you have a question about Research or the Framework Programme?" section with a "Research Enquiry Service" logo and a "Please submit your enquiry by completing the form below." instruction. A footer at the bottom of the page shows the date "16/05/2012" and the time "10:57".

ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=enquiries

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 **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Enquiries

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European Research by country: 2004-2009
EU Member States Around the world

Who are you?
Researchers
Journalists
Students
Teachers
NGOs
Policy makers

RESEARCH ENQUIRY SERVICE

Do you have a question about Research or the Framework Programme?

Research Enquiry Service

A service provided by the Europe Direct Contact Centre

Do you have questions about European research in general or the EU Research Framework Programmes in particular?
Please use the form below to submit your question.

NB: * Please submit your questions concerning calls for proposals **at least two weeks** before the respective call deadlines - we can not provide an answer in time otherwise.
* The service does not provide help on: forgotten passwords (experts, proposals, etc.), technical aspects of proposal submission, or IT problems (use relevant help-desks refer on EPSS pages).

Tip: why not try the **FAQs** first - maybe you'll find the answer to your question quicker!
Confused about the service? Watch the **Research Enquiry Service quiz on EUTube**. The contestants are confused too, but maybe it will help you!

Please submit your enquiry by completing the form below.
All your personal information will be treated confidentially.

(*) = Mandatory data

First Name * Street
Family Name * Town
E-mail address * Post Code
Please confirm your email address * Country Please select
Country of residence * Telephone
Nationality *
Gender *

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