

# PEOPLE - MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

## Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes (COFUND)

COFUND aims at increasing the European-wide mobility of experienced researchers by financially supporting existing or new fellowship programmes of public research organisations (universities, ministries, national funding organisations, etc.). This mono-beneficiary action encourages public research organisations to open up their fellowship programmes to transnational mobility by co-financing them up to €10 mio. These fellowship programmes must run an open and merit-based competition for applying researchers. The freedom of the fellow to choose his/her research topic, destination or supervisor is a key-element for this action. The recruitment process should be in line with the principles set out in the European Charter & Code.

COFUND takes into account three types of transnational mobility:

- Outgoing mobility (two categories): fellowships to residents of EU Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AC) who will move from one MS or AC to another MS or AC (1) or from one MS or AC to a third-country preferably with a return phase (2)
- Incoming mobility: fellowships to non-residents of the country of the host organisation
- Reintegration: fellowships to MS/AC nationals currently active in a third-country for at least 3 years for reintegrating them in Europe

A combination of the three types is desirable

Eligible researchers:

- Experienced researchers: with a PhD or min. 4-year research experience (full time). They are usually offered a fellowship of 1-2 years
- Eligible researchers can be of any nationality (except in the reintegration type, see above) but must comply with the mobility rule: they must not have worked or resided in the country of destination for more than 12 months in the past 3 years

### FACTS

**Specific Programme:**  
PEOPLE – COFUND

**Project duration:**  
24-60 months

**Budget:**  
2013: 115 Mio. €

**Link:**  
<http://rp7.ffg.at/menschen>

**Next Call:**  
FP7-PEOPLE-2012-COFUND  
Call opens: 10.07.2012  
Deadline: 05.12.2012 at  
17:00 Brussels local time

## FUNDING

The European Union contribution is estimated as 40% of the total costs of the programme, with an overall maximum contribution of €10 mio./single applicant entity. If an organisation submits for more than one fellowship, the ceiling of €10 mio./ will apply to all the proposals retained for funding. The EU contribution cannot replace or substitute the existing funding. The COFUND contribution can be used as follows:

### Some examples of COFUND contribution:

1) Increase of own budget	<p>An existing transnational programme has the possibility to increase its own budget contribution:</p> <p><u>Budget prior to COFUND: €1 mio. for 10 fellowships</u></p> <p>Proposed increase submitted by the organisation: €1 mio. for 10 new fellowships</p> <p>COFUND contribution: €800.000 (=40% of €2 mio.)</p> <p>Own contribution: €1,2 mio.</p> <p><b>Total budget with COFUND: €2 mio.</b></p>
2) Own budget unchanged	<p>An transnational programme does not have the possibility to increase its own budget contribution but would like to increase the number of fellowships:</p> <p><u>Budget prior to COFUND: €9 mio. for 90 fellowships</u></p> <p>Proposed increase submitted by the organisation: €6 mio. for 60 new fellowships</p> <p>COFUND contribution: €6 mio. (=40% of €15 mio.)</p> <p>Own contribution (unchanged): €9 mio.</p> <p><b>Total budget with COFUND: €15 mio.</b></p>
3) National fellowship programme opening up for transnational mobility	<p>A national fellowship programme would like to open up part of its budget for transnational mobility:</p> <p><u>National budget prior to COFUND: €2 mio.</u></p> <p>Budget remaining for national fellowships only (not cofunded): €800.000</p> <p>Budget opening for transnational fellowships: €1,2 mio. ("own contribution")</p> <p>COFUND contribution: €800.000 (=40% of total transnational programme costs: €2mio.)</p> <p>Total costs of the transnational programme: €2 mio.</p> <p>[€800.000 (national fellowships only) + €1,2 mio. ("own contribution") + €800.000 (COFUND contribution) ]</p> <p><b>Total budget with COFUND: €2,8 mio.</b></p>

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