



# Marie Curie Action: Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)



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# COFUND

## Objectives and Impact

- **Numerical impact** and leverage effect
  - More individual Marie Curie fellowships
  - Creation of new fellowship programmes
- Encourages regional and national fellowship programmes to **open for transnational mobility**
- **Structuring the European Research Area (ERA):**
  - selection processes based on competition, transparent selection criteria, composition of selection committee, international peer review
  - Improved working conditions for researchers (employment contracts with full social rights)





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## important considerations

- COFUND fellowship programmes should comply with concept of ***individual driven mobility***. researchers should be able to choose the research topic, destination, research group or supervisor of their fellowship freely.
- Programmes which predefine the fellow's research work at a given location do not conform to this principle.
- COFUND will not support "recruitment schemes" to fill regular research vacancies.
- Also limitations regarding researchers' origin should be avoided





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Which topics can be funded?

- **Bottom-up approach:** all domains of research and technological development are eligible
- Fellowship programmes can cover **several or all fields of research** or can be restricted to a **specific domain**
- However, programmes should have **sufficient impact in the specific scientific field(s)**





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## COFUND state of play

Call	Call closure date	Call budget M€	Eligible proposals	Proposals retained for funding	Success rate	Co-funded fellow-years	Co-funded fellows
FP7-PEOPLE-2007-2-3-COFUND	13/3/2008	65	45	24	53.3%	2682	1647
FP7-PEOPLE-COFUND-2008	19/2/2009	75	35	26	74.3%	2406	1461
FP7-PEOPLE-2010-COFUND	18/2/2010	75	53	32 (some still in negotiation)	60.4%	2803 (prelim.)	1613 (prelim.)
FP7-PEOPLE-2011-COFUND	17/2/2011	90	64	19 (in negotiation)	29.7%	2355 (prelim.)	1132 (prelim.)
<b>Total</b>		<b>305</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>51.3%</b>	<b>10246</b>	<b>5853</b>





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## COFUND Programmes – Examples

- Eurotalents Fellowship Programme of the Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives (CEA), France
  - Scientific fields: Energy, environment and climate change, Life sciences and biotechnology, Microelectronics, nanosciences and nanotechnologies, high performance computing, high energy physics, high energy density physics and physics of the universe.
  - Incoming fellowships: 129 fellow-Years
  - Outgoing fellowships: 14 fellow-years
  - EU contribution: € 5 Mio





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## COFUND Programmes – Examples

- International Fellowship Program on Integrative Kidney Physiology and Pathophysiology, Universität Bern
- Programme supports postdocs to conduct research at one of the five medical university faculties in Switzerland (Basel, Bern, Geneva, Lausanne and Zürich) for two years.
- EU contribution: € 1.26 Mio





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## COFUND Programmes – Examples

- Dahlem Research School Fellowship Programme at Freie Universität Berlin:
  - Offers fellowships at one of the University's Excellence Programmes
  - Fellows have to propose own project plan focusing on the research area of your own choice, based on the research fields of the participating Excellence Programs
  - EU contribution: € 0.79 Mio







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## COFUND Programmes – Examples

### – TRENTINO Fellowship Programme:

- Existing fellowship programme since 2003 (only incoming)
- COFUND allowed:
  - increase in number of incoming fellowships (30 Fellow-years)
  - introduction of outgoing (65 Fellow-years) and reintegration scheme (25 Fellow-years)
  - improve the fellows' working conditions (employment contracts)
- EU contribution: € 2.66 Mio





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more information

List of COFUND Fellowship Programmes:

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

Information on Marie Curie Actions:

[ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/)

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## Next COFUND call

### – FP7-PEOPLE-2012-COFUND

- **Date of publication: 19 October 2011**
- **Deadline: 15 February 2012**
- **Budget: EUR 110 million**

