

ForBio: MSCA-IF Training Program 2018

Background

The Research School in Biosystematics – ForBio is organizing a training program for incoming and outgoing fellows applying for postdoctoral research grants from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) Individual Fellows program

(https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about/individual-fellowships_en). The program includes match-making between fellows and hosts, coaching, an intensive 3-day workshop, writing support, peer review, and liaison with EU coordination offices.

Goal of the MSCA-IF program

Enhance the creative and innovative potential of experienced researchers in biosystematics, in a broad sense, wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.

Target group

Academically-engaged senior PhD students, postdocs and junior researchers. Including IF programs ER-ST (Standard European), ER-CAR (Career Restart Grant), ER-SE (Society and Enterprise), ER-RI (Reintegration), and GF (Global). We aim to have a mixed group of incoming and outgoing fellows.

Deadlines 2018

May 1 st	Registration for training program (fellows apply with host), and submission of concept note developed with host
May 17 th	Decision on acceptance for Oslo workshop
June 18-20 th	MSCA intensive training in Oslo
August 1 st	Circulation of draft proposal to workshop team
August 20 th	Proposal peer review submission deadline
August 27 th	Feedback from review and subsequent revision
September 1 st	Continuous support
September 14 th	Submission of MSCA-IF proposals

Workshop (Week 25, June 18-20th)

At Tollboden, Marine Biological Research Station, University of Oslo, Drøbak, participation pending acceptance of concept note. MSCA-IF workshop taught by Kwintessence Consulting (<http://www.kwintessence.eu>) with focus on Excellence, Impact and Implementation. Three day intensive format with individual and group work. This workshop will include information from the Norwegian Research Council, the UiO EU office, and talks by MSCA-IF alumni about their experiences, suggestions, and ideas. Hosts of accepted fellows can attend as well.

- Day 1 focus on program with invited contributions from NFR, UiO EU office, and MatNat EU office. Evening program with invited talks by MSCA IF alumni giving insider hints on their application and a vision on how the MSCA has affected their careers.
- Day 2 and 3 focus on Excellence, Impact and Implementation. Mixed lecture and working group format. The fellow working groups write together and exchange ideas. These will be put together to avoid direct competition in topics.

- Day 4 and 5. Incoming fellows will be given the opportunity to work another two days with their hosts, funded by the workshop. Outgoing fellows are finished at the end of day 3.

Please consider the following about MSCA-IF fellowships

- Two (or three for GF) year competitive postdoctoral research fellowships
- Specific mobility requirements
- Think about the goal above when picking a host and project
- Hosts for incoming fellows include research organisations from the private and public sector, including universities, private industry, consultancy companies, and government sector hosts.
- Project can also include *secondments* to the private and public sector, including those listed above and other universities.
- Some potential hosts for incoming fellows are listed on the course homepage.
- Outgoing fellows need to identify their foreign host or shortlist potential hosts.