



EU and Member States Research and Innovation Cooperation with India

Testimonies of Participants in Cooperation Programmes



Compilation by the Delegation of the European Union to India

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

France	3
Italy	4
United Kingdom	10
European Union	17

FRANCE



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Dr. Tapan K. Sengupta

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Indo French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR/ CEFIPRA)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Not applicable

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I have known my collaborator, Prof. Pierre Sagaut, from an earlier international meeting and kept our professional contact for many years. We formalized it through the CEFIPRA/IFCPAR project (Project No. 3401-1) for three years. After a delayed start (due to requirement of government clearance), we did some real good work. This was possible because such a framework of collaboration exists between India and France. My impression of conducting research with the peer group was very useful and all forms of timely help were provided from CEFIPRA. We did publish and present our work in various fora. The professional tie still continues with collaborators continually in touch. I think that meaningful high quality research can be done using such existing frameworks.

Any Indian researcher should take up such opportunities, not only for the sake of cultivating professional contacts, but more to contribute to advanced scientific research and hold up the national pride of being an equal in performing highest quality of research through collaboration. Incidentally, during my research collaboration, I did not need to visit France even once. So is the case with the French counterpart. What was important was the output of our joint research.

ITALY



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Dr Samaresh Das

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

India-Trento Programme for Advanced Research – “Fabrication and characterization of Novel Photonic Crystal Structures and Si/Ge Quantum Dots for Photonic APPLICATIONS

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Trento, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Very friendly working environment with good research facility and expertise available in the host institute. The students were trained in state of the art optical characterization facilities and the collaboration resulted in a number of very good research publications. There is a proposal to extend the collaboration in another phase.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Anand Kumar Pandey

Name of the research scheme / programme:

PhD in Computer Science

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science, University of Trento, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Europe provides a very good infrastructure for research as well as the research environment is highly professional and the work ethics are very sound. It allows interaction with various international scholars across the globe with its various seminars, conferences, etc.

Personally, I'm very much impressed with the research environment in the Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science, University of Trento, Italy as well as continuous support and guidance of my advisor Prof. Fausto Giunchiglia is impeccable. Scholarship and other financial help make sure a moderate living.

I would recommend Indian students to not miss any opportunity of research in Europe. European research communities and institutions are expanding their horizons of research and it would be better if you become a part of this phenomenon.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Swarnajyoti Patra

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

India Trento Program for Advanced Research (ITPAR)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Trento, Trento, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

According to my feeling Europe is one of the best destinations for scientific research. Most of the institutes in Europe give importance on the high quality of research. They frequently organize work shops, conferences, seminars where we can meet well known persons in our research fields and share our views with them. The research environment in Europe is excellent. Labs are open 24 hours; library facilities are excellent and online subscription of more than thousands of international the journals and conference proceedings are available. The Supervisors are fully involved with the works and help to make our research work suitable for highly reputed journals or conferences. In my view, the life in Europe is quite comfortable. People of Europe always give importance on the values of your personal life.

According to my experience I can say that if you have at least 2-3 years research experience in Europe it definitely help you for your professional growth.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Prakash Parida

Research supervisor: Prof. Swapan K Pati
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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Project Number: INT/ITALY/MST-2/28/2008-2010
Published Paper: Negative Differential Conductance in Nano-junctions: A Current Constraint Approach, Prakash Parida, Swapan K Pati and Anna Painelli, Phys. Rev. B **83**, 165404 (2011)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Institute: University of Parma, Italy
Italian Scientific Coordinator: Prof. Anna Painelli

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc):

This Indo-Italy collaborative project enriched the mutual exchange of knowledge and experience between the two groups. We were really benefited out of this interaction.

We earnestly desire to keep ourselves in touch to enrich our thoughts and understanding for ever. I think Indian students/applicants should have such type of collaborations to broaden their scientific knowledge by interacting with the experts in Europe. Europe is a place of excellence for fundamental research. I'm grateful to have such an opportunity to interact with the experts and flourish myself. I believe this collaborative work should continue.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Arun Kumar Manna

Research supervisor: Prof. Swapan K Pati
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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Indo-Italian Collaborative Executive Programme for Science and Technological Co-operation

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Institute: University of Parma, Italy
Italian Scientific Coordinator: Prof. Anna Painelli

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Indo-Italian executive programme for Science and Technological Co-operation has left an indelible impression on me and remind me again that Europe is really an excellent place for fundamental and application based research. Firstly I'm thankful for providing me the opportunity to be a part of this collaborative project. I am also grateful for this opportunity which allowed me to visit the place and interact with many expert scientists from there. I had spent one month in Parma University, in Italy, Europe, for the scientific collaborative work with Prof. Anna Painelli's group. That time (15th June to 14th July, 2009) in her laboratory, I had a great time and had valuable scientific discussions with her and many other researchers in her group. It was really a great pleasure for me through which I gained a lot of knowledge. We did particularly work on an application based project on energy transfer phenomena in charge transfer chromophores. To fulfil the goal, we developed a very simple model based on a few charge resonance states and empirical parameters and the results obtained were validated with more refine quantum mechanical calculations. We believe that this work has immense potential to understand the energy transfer phenomena in molecular, biological, and photo systems. The successful conduction of this project between us results in two publications in distinguished scientific journals (Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 13, 12734 – 12744 (2011) and Chem. Phys. DOI:[10.1016/j.chemphys.2012.01.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemphys.2012.01.004)).

Since the starting of our collaborative project we are in touch and have been continuing scientific discussions in various field of research. I think that Indian students should have such an exposure to broaden their knowledge through mutual scientific discussions with the scientists in rest part of the world. I strongly advice to all Indian applicants not to loose this kind of chances for pursuing collaborative research work either with Painelli's group or with any other scientist from European countries.

With this, I sincerely, thank Indo-Italian executives for sciences and technological co-operation, providing generous research funding to successfully conduct this project.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Post-Doctoral
ITPAR – India Trento Programme for Advanced Research

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science (DISI)
University of Trento
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Trento, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Strong and diverse researchers, strong international collaboration, incredible research infrastructure and facilities attracted me towards Europe.

I enjoyed my work as a Post-Doctoral Fellow with the group at DISI. The group is very strong in the field of data and knowledge management. In fact I am still collaborating with the same group remotely.

Further, the interaction and publications in my ITPAR research at University of Trento helped significantly in securing a faculty position in India.

UNITED KINGDOM



Name and Contact details of the participant:

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

JOINT: an Indo-UK collaboration in joining technologies

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

The Open University, UK

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Europe has some of the large accelerator- and reactor-based experimental facilities such as those at ISIS, UK and ILL, France. These facilities are suitable for basic as well as applied research in the frontier areas of materials science and technology. Some of these facilities were used by us as a part of the current Indo-UK collaborative projects and it was felt that effective utilization of these facilities calls for wider participation from developing countries. Many of these facilities could be accessed easily, through these collaborative projects. Interaction with the collaborators helped in selecting the problems of common interest to work on, and also provided an opportunity to tackle those using different approaches.

We are maintaining a close interaction with the UK partners. One scientist from our laboratory had visited the Open University and also carried out neutron diffraction studies in ISIS at UK, and ILL at Grenoble, France. A post doctoral fellow from the UK side had visited us and had stayed for two months. Also, two of the members of the UK side had visited our laboratory during which, we had close interaction with them. These visits were very fruitful and had facilitated the progress of the projects a lot.

Our experience of interaction and team-work with the UK partners had been very encouraging. We feel that the duration of direct interaction with the partners promotes the progress of the projects. Hence, provision for sufficient number of visits of longer duration, by the partners of both the sides, may be made in the project. Provision should also be made in the prospective projects for including training of short duration for the users of the specialised facilities like ISIS and ILL.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Irradiation Effects on Flow Localisation in Zirconium Alloys ([EP/I012346/1](#))

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University Of Manchester

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

UK has some of the state of the art insitu-deformation/diffraction facilities which have tremendous potential for the basic and applied studies of the deformation mechanisms. Our collaboration with University of Manchester enabled us to exploit the mutual expertise in the diverse fields (while Indian side contributed in model alloy preparation and its synthesis, UK partner had contributed in the in-situ deformation studies) thus bringing out some new information in the field of Zirconium.

We are in constant touch with our UK partner and we already had two scientists from our lab visiting the UK lab for performing the experiments. A UK researcher is shortly visiting our lab for continuation of the work carried out so far.

Our experience has been that interaction and volume of work done are more when people from both sides physically present themselves at other's institutions. Thus our advise to potential new researchers is to plan the project such that there is a significant amount of exchange visits between the participating labs.

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Krishna AchutaRao

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

NERC (UK) - MoES (India) "Changing Water Cycle"

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I entered into the Changing Water Cycle project with researchers from the UK (and India) based on previous interactions with the lead PI from UK - Mat Collins of Exeter University. This project is still in its early days but I am happy with the way the collaboration has progressed so far. Among all the ongoing collaborative projects I have undertaken (with researchers in India, USA and UK) I would rate this the most productive. Working with clearly delineated deliverables and tasks has made the job relatively easy. It has also helped that I have been in frequent touch with the UK lead PI – through face-to-face meetings once every few months and periodic calls using Skype.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr N Rajalakshmi

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Project entitled “Mind the gap- Jumping the hurdles limiting polymer fuel cell performance and commercialisation “under the India –UK Collaborative Research Initiative in Fuel Cells (DST-UKRC)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Imperial College, London, University College, London and University of New Castle Upon Tyne

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Hydrogen energy research in general, fuel cell research in particular is an important area which needs to be addressed to mitigate several issues related to GHG emission, transport, air pollution control and energy security. Although several demonstration programs of these technologies is taking place throughout the globe, the major hurdle has been the cost and creation of hydrogen infrastructure. Many countries in Europe and India have similar issues with regard to energy security, huge import (oil) bill etc., which are better addressed collectively. India has a large pool of young scientific personnel, has a well as proven capability in materials research, software skills and leap frogging ability as has been demonstrated in telecommunication. Europe has well proven track record of innovations in design and engineering of hardware and bring in sophistication. It is but natural that India and Europe work together to achieve our common goals.

The meets that have arranged by UKRC has helped scientists from UK and India to identify suitable partners with matching capabilities and complimenting work plan to take up a project which is of utmost importance. We have been sanctioned a project for three years which is going on smoothly. The success of these programs is much higher as it goes beyond exchange visits.

The meetings of this type are essential to bring in more collaboration.

It is important to be realistic in selecting the objectives with a well defined target instead of just saying that at the end of the project few papers will be published. It is also important to be very clear about the individual group capabilities.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

UK-India collaboration entitled “*BioPharm 2020: Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Indian/UK Scientists in the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industries*” funded by DST and RCUK.

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Centre for Biomolecular Sciences, University of Nottingham
University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Together with my collaborators at University of Nottingham, we had a very successful Science Bridge initiative under the joint funding by RCUK and DST, New Delhi.

From the Indian perspective, this initiative opened up many untapped opportunities within the country and outside. In particular, our initiative drew immense benefit from the vibrant entrepreneurial activities in our collaborating Institutions in UK. Indian Researchers therefore can benefit from the experience of the European counterparts in translational research, both in terms of finding relevant applications and creating business ventures.

In particular, I would like to share my experience of multiple applications of our basic science research in cancer biology using the fruit fly, *Drosophila*, in collaboration with our clinical partners at Nottingham University. Through this collaboration we discovered the relevance of our findings in cancer prognosis, for instance, and the utilities of our model in cancer drug screens. As a consequence, we now see a prospect of incubating a business proposition for cancer drug screen in our own campus.

We could further carry this entrepreneurial spirit to a large group of young researchers who received training through the activities of the Science Bridge. Several of them have now found a path to garner their scientific endeavours to entrepreneurial end points.

In brief, besides conducting competitive research, I would consider these opportunities for translational research as the most critical and relevant for nurturing partnership of Indian scientific community with their European counterparts.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

“India-UK Advanced Technology Centre (IU-ATC) of Excellence in Next Generation Networks Systems and Services” funded by DST and RCUK Digital Economy Programme

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Why work with UK researchers

- When we started, Indian academia (in technology field) did not have strong relationship with UK academia. Our international cooperation was more with US and to a limited extent with Germany. Because of our long historical relationship, we wanted to correct it by re-establishing relationship with UK. What was important was an equal relationship. We also knew that it would take time for fruition.
- Establishing relationship with UK scientists was also an attempt to build stronger tie-up with Europe. UK and Europe have a different worldview as compared to the USA. We felt that Indian democracy may be closer to UK and European nations in terms of philosophy and social values. Attempt to build technological relationship was also an attempt to balance US influence
- EU research policies and activities that addresses the issues facing the social, economic, political and cultural make-up of Europe act as an archetype and give other researchers an understanding on the possible advantages and challenges involved in taking up a certain approach.

Advantages of working internationally

- Working with international partners brings in fresh outlook at approaching a research problem and sometime brings in entirely new research problems.
- Cutting edge areas of innovation will see its application not just nationally but globally as well. Working internationally provide that platform

- It sometime enables leveraging complementary strengths available amongst two nations. Rather than working and dealing with research challenges in isolation, working internationally allows one to build complementary partnerships that can lead to more rapid and have far-reaching, results.
- Exposure to scientific labs outside the country results into rapid growth of a young researcher.
- Conceptual benefits: Broadening our area of work from a country-wise perspective to an international aspect gives way to knowledge transfer and mutual benefits. The broadened insights spur new research questions and new collaborations and vice versa.
- Translational Research: The challenges involved in translating research into products and policies can be well understood, as there is a wide arena for dissemination of the learning and research findings.
- IUATC program has an element of all of this. It is a multi-institutional partnership, where seven to eight institutes on Indian side work with equal number in UK. Industries are involved on both sides. About 200 researchers are working together.

Advice for future Indian applicants

- To build strategic, international partnerships that will be truly beneficial for both sides, it is important to plan early, identify specific potential areas of collaboration and individual strengths that could be built upon as well as list tangible benefits that will arise from these partnerships.
- Partners must be chosen carefully, so that possibility of long-term benefits accrues.
- Anticipate the weakness in synergies and plan strategies / add new collaborators to fulfil the void/ strengthen the link.

EUROPEAN UNION



Name and Contact details of the participant:

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

- 7th Framework Programme research project Biopoluca
- Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

- University of Naples, Italy
- EPFL, Lausanne

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Partnering/collaboration with scientists/researchers from Europe for Indians brings lot of complementarity to both the teams, if planned recognizing each-others strength and weaknesses. While we have been successful in putting innovative ideas as workable at laboratory scale, its industrial implications and applications have often been well and successfully brought by European partners. This is evidently because the gap between in Europe between academic institutes and industries is not so vast as it is in India.

The most important aspect of my collaboration has been increase in contacts, which has resulted a huge network comprising large number of researchers and several countries. This has ultimately resulted in the formation of an international forum, the International Forum on Industrial Bioprocesses with its headquarters at France (www.ifibiop.org). The Forum has grown big in size with members across the world and has resulted several networking among the partners, including several from India and Europe of bilateral as well as multi-lateral nature.

I think most important issues are (i) clarity about the goals and objectives for each partner, (ii) recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of each partner and compliment them for the success of the project, (iii) deliver the goals on time, (iv) due credit/IPR sharing.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Viswanath Talasila
Honeywell Labs, Bangalore

Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research projects Strengthening EU-India collaboration in networked monitoring and control systems technologies (EUCLID) and Wireless, Self-Powered Vibration Monitoring and Control for Complex Industrial Systems (WiBRATE)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Collaborating with the EU has many benefits for Indian researchers. EU is embarking on many ambitious programs to upgrade its technology and research base, India is doing this as well. EU historically (last 200 years) has contributed greatly to advance sciences and technology in the world and India itself has a long history of its own scientific contributions.

The coming together of these two geographical regions with a shared common interest in advancing science and technology can have enormous significance for both.

For India, specifically: the access to top EU researchers and labs, a potential to co-supervise students theses, an opportunity to publish (jointly) in top EU journals and finally the joy of collaboration itself.

For Indian researchers it is important to remember that the Indian government offers large funding opportunities and we are not required to be dependent on EU research funding anymore. This gives the opportunity to collaborate on a level playing field; which greatly enhances the freedom to carry out our own research. Furthermore, there are many common problems of interest which are beneficial to both Indian and EU society (e.g. advancement in agriculture, urban transportation, multi-lingual software development etc).

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Incoming International Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Universidad Autonoma de Madrid (SPAIN)

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

It gives individual importance to the fellow in doing project in EU countries. I am very happy with my Host Institution and host supervisor. Also IIF People gives particular importance to interdisciplinary research area. Though I am experienced with spice extracts and chemistry, I got a chance to work with mushrooms in the Host institution in Europe. The Marie Curie Fellowship is very prestigious, it gives very good financial support for doing project and it offers good financial support as well to the fellow. I am about to finish my project and I have a plan of having long term relationship (for applying collaborative projects in future) with my host institution and host professor.

It is a great opportunity for Indian students and I wish more Indian researchers should participate in these programmes.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Prof. Rajendra Prasad

School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Name of the research scheme / programme:

1. Utilisation of hemicellulose waste from agricultural and forest Industries using Xylan degrading and Xylose fermenting yeast.(No. TS3-CT 94-0279)
2. Novel approaches to combat multidrug resistance (MDR) in pathogenic yeast.(No. QLK2-CT-2001-02377)
3. Cooperation network of National Contact Points with a special focus on third countries in the areas of Food Quality and Safety and food, agricultural and biotechnology” (Food-N-Co).(No. FOOD-CT-2006-23114)
4. Creating A CIRCLE By Extending The BIO NCP Network To Third Country Third Countries BIO NCPs (BIOCIRCLE). (No. 227204)
5. Reinforcing the international cooperation in FP7 FAFB strengthening the CIRCLE of the Third Countries BIO NCPs (BIO CIRCLE 2). (No. 265608)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

1. Prof. Milan Hoefler, IZMB derUniversitat Bonn, AG MolikulareBioenergetik, Kirschallee 1, 53115 Bonn, GERMANY. (*Participating countries: Germany, Ireland, Argentina & India*)
2. Prof. Milan Hoefler, IZMB derUnivesitat Bonn, AG MolikulareBioenergetik, Kirschallee 1, 53115 Bonn, GERMANY. (*Participating countries: Germany, France, Switzerland, Slovakia & India*)
3. Dr. Koos de Korte, Senter Novem, Juliana van Stolberglaan 3, 2595 CA The Hague, The Netherlands. (*Participating countries: The Netherlands, Hungary, Austria, Belgium, Poland, Italy, Czech Rep., Argentina, South Africa, Kenya, Tunisia, Morocco, Serbia, Ethiopia, Brazil, Egypt, Jordan, Croatia, Mexico, China & India*)
4. Diassina DiMaggio, Coordinator, Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE), Via Cavour 71-00184, Roma, Italy. (*Participating countries: Italy, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, The Netherlands, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Tunisia, Thailand, Ukraine & India*)

5. Diassina Di Maggio, Coordinator, Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE), Via Cavour 71-00184, Roma, Italy. (*Participating countries: Italy, France, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, United Kingdom, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Tunisia, Ukraine, Greece & India*)

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

My collaboration with EU countries has been both on basic sciences and as well as on net working projects between EU and TC countries. Most of the institutes who were participant in basic science projects are still collaborating with me and have had several subsequent bilateral grants. The net working projects of NCPs between EU and TC countries have been very helpful in disseminating European Research and their mechanism of funding. Our efforts have led to several success stories culminating into new projects.

Over the years, one starts liking the European system and their management of research funds. What looked to be very complicated process involving project writing evaluation funding and management, all aspects ultimately are not complicated. I would encourage all fellow Indian scientists that if they have innovative ideas and sure of excellent proposals, then they must participate in EU programmes. Once successful, it becomes a gateway to European Research.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project “Saph Pani- Enhancement of natural water systems and treatment methods for safe and sustainable water supply in India”

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Consortium: 20 partners from 8 countries

Project Coordinator: Thomas Wintgens, FHNW – Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (Switzerland)

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

The above mentioned collaborative R & D project has EU's contribution of € 3.5 million for 36 months duration started from October 1, 2011. After the Project was qualified both technically and administratively, EU had released about 45% of the EU's share as advance to carry out the tasks envisaged in the project. Balance payment will be made as per the progress of the project's tasks.

Till now, we didn't face any problem handling with EU. It has its own sets of procedures and guidelines on financial aspects, which are not too stringent to follow.

What I noted is; EU encourages innovative research proposals rather traditional proposal for funding.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project Strengthening networking on Biomass Research and Biowaste Conversion – Biotechnology for Europe India integration (SAHYOG)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Why Europe: There are many similarities between India and Europe. Like India, Europe has been an ancient cultural land. There have been cultural and trade contacts between India and Europe for the last 2000 years. In its ethnic diversity, Europe resembles India. Therefore, collaboration between India and Europe is likely to lead to the development of technologies and scientific expertise to solve problems faced today by India as well as by Europe.

My impressions: I have been in contact with European scientists throughout my academic career which started in 1960. I have visited European countries several times, and have developed friendships with several European scientists. I have always enjoyed my visits to European countries.

Advice to future Indian Applicants: You have to be thoroughly competent in your own field. Don't try to ape the Western trends in science and technology. It would impress your European colleagues more and they would respect you if you have worked thoroughly on purely India-oriented problems, Although the modern European academics are quite fluent in English, try to learn the local language of the host country and absorb the local culture.

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Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project Health system stewardship and regulation in Vietnam, India and China (HESVIC)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Leeds University – UK
Institute of Tropical Medicine – Belgium
Royal Institute of Tropical Medicine - Netherlands

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

This was our first EU funded project and we were nervous as everybody warned us about the extensive bureaucracy involved in such projects. However, to our delight, a lot of this work was managed by the project coordinator, ie. Leeds University. So we did not face too many papers and forms to be filled up. Secondly, we felt that all these documents were justified as we were dealing with public money and there has to be very strong accountability measures in place.

The next surprise was the flexibility to conduct our research. We at IPH have experience with donors who micro manage – right from the research question to the data collection and analysis. However, we were really happy that none of this was present in the HESVIC project. Once the research proposal was approved, we were free to do the research and produce our results. There were only two reports to be submitted – one at midline and another at the end of the project. So as a researcher, I could focus on the research activities and not get bogged down by administrative procedures like submitting reports and preparing budget realisation statements etc. And our project coordinator facilitated a process wherein our admin team was coached on how to maintain the accounts as per EU requirements, including how to prepare the time sheets. This was very helpful, especially since we were novices regarding EU funded projects.

Of course, being a multi country study, we benefited a lot from the experiences of other countries. This was a research conducted simultaneously in China, Vietnam and India. So it was a good learning experience. This plus the expertise of the European partners in conducting such research really helped us manage the research effectively and come

up with very good findings. So not only did we learn from other countries, we also learnt from the scientists. To take a concrete example, the study was on governance and we got very good insights into governance from the health services perspective, from the social scientist perspective and from the political scientist perspective. I doubt any other research project will provide such a diverse and rich experience.

To summarise, I feel that our experience with the FP7 project has been really fruitful and we have not come across any major drawbacks during the three years. Of course there were some intellectual clashes between some of the scientists, but this is to be expected when we bring people from very diverse disciplines together. I would definitely recommend that Indian scientists apply for these projects, mainly because of the flexibility that it provides and the rich learning experience.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr.Lakshmi Sundar,
India Diabetes Research Foundation,
28, Marshals Road, Egmore, Chennai 600 008

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Research Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Staffordshire University, Stoke on Trent

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

We were awarded this research grant in Nov 2011. This study has five partners, the lead partner being Staffordshire University. Dr. A. Ramachandran's diabetes hospitals and India Diabetes Research Foundation in Chennai are the only clinical partners.

I was in Staffordshire as an experienced research fellow for a month in April- May 2012. The atmosphere there was very enabling. The training offered was excellent. A lot of newer advances in Podiatry with specific relation to diabetic foot was shared with me. I had hands on training in musculo skeletal ultrasound, casting etc.,

A lot of reading material was made available and I had access to the complete range of journals required in my field.

The early stage researcher will be here in July and she will definitely get exposed to clinical medicine and podiatry.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Ashok Patel

Email: prashokgoa@yahoo.com

Tel. No. +31-649871021



Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Unilever R&D Vlaardingen, Netherlands

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I relocated to Europe in July 2009 to join Unilever R&D Vlaardingen in Netherlands as Marie Curie International Incoming Fellow.

I had a wonderful experience of working as an independent researcher in a multi-national company environment. Marie Curie schemes definitely ranks among the best fellowship programmes in the world because of the attributes such as the flexibility of choosing your host institute, clarity and transparency in selection process and generous financial support.

As far as conducting research in Europe is concerned, I realized that my research got more international visibility in the scientific community resulting in a very productive output with 2 patent applications, 3 invited book chapters, 9 peer reviewed papers and 4 invited lectures in less than 3 years since I moved to Europe. Moreover, thanks to the generous research budget, I had opportunities to travel around the world and present my research work at some of the well-known conferences in my field of research (such as MRS and ACIS).

After completion of my fellowship, I have been working for Unilever R&D Vlaardingen as a Research Scientist and I am currently looking for newer job prospects to establish myself in European universities to grow my research career in an academic environment. I will definitely be applying for other EU schemes in near future.

I highly recommend young researchers from India to apply for EU mobility schemes to get a career-changing experience.

Good Luck!!

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Chinmaya Kar

Honeywell Fellow, Honeywell Technology Solutions (HTS), 19/2, Devarabisanahalli, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore-560103, Mobile: 9916102165

Chinmaya.kar@honeywell.com

Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project Wireless Self-powered Vibration Monitoring and Control of Complex Industrial System (WiBRATE)

Erasmus Mundus Fellowship in 2005

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Erasmus Mundus Fellowship in 2005: INSA Lyon, France

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

15 years back, USA was the forefront of research in engineering and hence attracted a large number of talents from Asia. However, it has been observed that European Commission has reversed the trends with large focus on research with various schemes that suit to different strata of life – M. Tech. students, Ph.D. students, Post-doc scholars, exchange mobility of experienced scholars / academicians, and research scholars. Moreover, the themes of the technologies of the FP7 programs have been evolving with time and settings the trends of the future. This has been facilitated by large experienced academicians available in Europe who have also large experience in setting up small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Therefore, there is large mix of both business and technology knowledge, which can help the budding researchers in materializing their dream.

My experiences with both Erasmus Mundus Fellowship as a scholar and FP7 project as researchers have been very fruitful. During my Ph.D. at IIT, Kharagpur in 2005, I've informally received immense technical mentorship from one of the prominent professors in the area of gearbox dynamics – Prof. Phillippe Vexex of INSA, Lyon France. He also advised me to join Erasmus Mundus Fellowship for 3 months as a visiting scholar. Though, this has been very short time for me to deliver any research result, It helped me in getting the exposure of mathematical modelling of the gearbox. I cherish the moment when Prof. Phillippe had personally received me at the airport.

In 2011, we were contacted by University of Twente to participate in a vibration monitoring and control project to be submitted under FP7 ICT theme. Honeywell Tech. Solutions (HTS) has agreed to be part of that consortium because of the importance of the subject as well as to collaborate with large experienced professionals and

academicians from 2 SMEs, 2 universities and 2 companies from Europe. This proposal of 4.2m Euro was sanctioned by EC and the execution is in progress. The collaboration is very conducive and led to another collaboration between one SME of Europe and HTS that has an objective to produce a state of art embedded condition monitoring system. Therefore, these FP7 funding not only enable better collaboration between partners during the tenure of the project, but also provides opportunity for long term relationships mutually benefiting the partners.

The first and foremost challenge for future Indian participant is to get information of various SMEs, universities and industry doing research in their favourite technology. The EC's CORDIS website can help in finding this information. There are also a number of networking projects under FP7 available (such as EuCLID etc.) that can help the participants in establishing contacts at Europe. Second, the participant should start interacting with the concerned professors or professionals with exchange of technical information on proposed research topic. In the process, informal collaboration as well as trust can be established. Third, the project proposal writing is a skill and is very important to express ideas to fruition. A researcher has to practice writing technical papers in journals, conferences etc. so as to master this skill. Once the reviewers of the themes are convinced the value of the ideas, the funding may not be difficult. Getting the fund also depends on other case studies and their values described in the proposal. Therefore, a strong consortium with members of varied technical expertise may be helpful in providing good ideas.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Prof B.R.Mehta

Schlumberger Chair Professor, Department of Physics, IIT

brmehta@physics.iitd.ernet.in

Name of the research scheme / programme:

1. Marie Curie International Fellowship (selected as a success story project)
2. 7th Framework Programme research project Euro-India Forum on Nanomaterials for Energy (EICOON)
3. India-Finland Joint Research Project on Nanoplasmonics

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Duisburg-Essen, Duisburg, Germany

VTT Advanced Materials, Tampere, Finland

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Europe as a mosaic of different countries and communities is similar to India. Long term relations – both professional and personal, get established without much efforts. I am in touch with all my hosts. Scientists from India can learn significantly from the well organized institutes, research groups and individual scientists. Relatively shorter travel time and negligible jet-lag comes as bonus.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Joyanta Choudhury

Assistant Professor

Department of Chemistry

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E-mail: joyanta@iiserb.ac.in

Phone: +91-755-4092318

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Incoming International Fellowship project Ring-walking, metal coordination and aryl halide oxidative addition (RINGWALK)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Weizmann Institute of Science, ISRAEL

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

It was really a great opportunity to work in the prestigious Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel for the development of my early career after doing the PhD in India. The independent way of innovation, execution and application of the research projects and problems; the top-level super-advanced infrastructure for carrying out basic and application-based chemistry research whether in Organometallic Chemistry or in Materials Chemistry; the friendly as well as highly professional working style-----are the primary attractive and logical reasons for me to choose Weizmann Institute of Science and specially Prof. Milko E van der Boom's group for my MC project.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Prof. Elango Lakshmanan

Department of Geology, Anna University, Chennai

Elango@annauniv.edu ; elango34@hotmail.com

www.elango.5u.com

Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project “Saph Pani - Enhancement of natural water systems and treatment methods for safe and sustainable water supply in India”

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Applied Sciences of North Western Switzerland

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

IHE-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, The Netherlands

Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Dresden, Germany

Centre for Environmental Management and Decision Support, Austria

Bureau de Recherches Geologiques et Minieres, France

Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin Gemeinnützige GmbH, Germany

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

The project offers opportunity of international collaboration.

It offers a great environment to share knowledge and learn.

An opportunity to know the experiences of industrialised nations.

Able to develop collaboration for the betterment of Science in India and Europe.

Offers opportunity to my students to get an insight into the research work carried out at Europe.

Europe is a great place to learn and cherish. So I would advice the Indian students to make good use of the many opportunities that are available for studying in Europe.

Helps in teaching.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Antony Ceasar Stanislaus

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Leeds, UK

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I have recently joined in this fellowship. European institutes offer more sophisticated facility with flexible environment for cutting edge research in all fields. In my scheme (MC-IIF), the successful candidates benefit from extremely high allowance for the stay during stay in EU country and fund for the transfer of knowledge back to India (home country) for the third year. I think I am extremely lucky to work in this fellowship.

I strongly encourage the Indian researchers to apply for the European Fellowships.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr.Kattimuttathu I. Suresh

Principal Scientist,
Polymers & Functional Materials Division,
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Hyderabad
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Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Freiburg, Germany.

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

The European Union comprises some of the top ranking countries in research. Countries around the globe are competing to become a knowledge economy and EU is a major contributor to international research in science & Technology and striving to become the most important knowledge based economy and is implementing several ambitious plans to remove obstacles to the mobility, and Research funding. This process offers ample opportunities for motivated researchers to experience the country, the culture, and competence and research facilities in Europe to the Indian Researchers/students. The programmes in the fields like energy, water purification and healthcare areas offer ample opportunities for future collaboration and Europe will have a greater role to play.

I have been collaborating with my German professor for nearly 12 years now and I was able to strengthen my research capabilities with the funding from EU, in the form of a Marie Curie fellowship. I have also received funding for continuation of my research in India after my return. I am glad to provide advisory help to anybody looking for a research opportunity in Europe.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Saravanan Chandrasekaran

Postdoctoral Researcher
School of Chemistry
University of Bristol
Bristol BS8 1TS
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 117 3318058

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Intra European Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Bristol, Bristol, UK

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Marie Curie (MC) fellowship is regarded a high-profile fellowship, so it's definitely good to have it in your research career. MC is very-well paid, which is included the money for attending conference, travel, short course, seminar, consumable, equipment and also visit to your home country. As you bring your own salary and overhead money you will be most welcome to anywhere in the European countries.

If you have independent research ability you can manage and work on your own research project, where you will get a good chance to improve your scientific skill as well as leadership quality.

To get the successful MC fellowship, you will need to have at least one paper in the international journal as first author, receive award in the form of fellowship or prize in conference, scientific society (or) university award in your research career (before applying to MC fellowship). This will help you to increase the success rate.

Following things are very important,

- a) Be aware of deadline and start to think and collect information about MC fellowship well in advance.
- b) Make a contact with the right person in your field, in order to get the host institution in European countries.
- c) Get and read the previously submitted MC application and make contact with the successful MC fellows.
- d) Write the proposal based on the advanced scientific ideas, which should make good impact on your proposal.

e) The proposal evaluation is competitive and the success rate also is very less, so you have to be very careful while you writing your MC project proposal.

Since I am having excellent experience with European institute and universities, I am assuring that you will become a good scientist and leader when you go back to your home country (Say for an example INDIA (or) any other nation).

All the very best.

Thanks.

Best regards,
Saravanan

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Asit Patra

Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, UK,
pp682@cam.ac.uk; asitpatra77@rediffmail.com

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship project Dynamic covalent polymerization of boron-aromatic oligomeric monomers

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, UK

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I am from India, and I had spent three years in Israel and one year in USA. An additional 2 years in the Europe would allow me an excellent overview of different environment systems and allowing me to gain knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses. I would also become capable of working and collaborating with groups from Europe.

India has been considered as a valuable partner for the Europe in many projects and areas. The Marie Curie program in Europe provides an excellent means of engagement and high level contact between me and European scientific communities and to bring best European scientific practices.

I am working as a Marie Curie fellow in the Chemistry Department, University of Cambridge, one of the leading universities in the world and that can compete with top universities in the United States. The University have long history of academic and scientific excellence which has a unique atmosphere of culture, learning, research and creativity. I benefited from a full training program including other activities like seminars and lectures.

I am working on self-assembly chemistry and polymers under supervision of Dr. Jonathan Nitschke, one of the leading group's in this area and providing me an excellent experience in the field.

The University of Cambridge has an extensive training programme on complementary skills and subjects that are relevant to the future of my careers like further development of transferable skills, with emphasis on communication, presentation skills and strategies for personal effectiveness etc.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. A.K. Suri (Project Coordinator) ,
Dr. S. K. Ghosh (Researcher)
Materials Processing Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Tel: 022-25593792/ 022-25591722, Fax: 022-2505151

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Incoming International fellowship project "Development of Self-lubricated Nanocomposite Coatings Impregnating in-situ formed MoS₂ for Tribological Applications" (NANOCOAT)

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Katholieke University Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

I am very much impressed by participating this Incoming International Fellowship scheme. My collaboration with my European partner is still continuing and hope it will continue a few more years. Most important part of this kind of participation is freedom of research work which a researcher intend to do. There is enough scope of exploration of news ideas into reality through research.

I would advice my future Indian applicants to participate more to fulfil their research goal and increase the collaborating network between India and Europe.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. Sunil Nair

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Alexander von Humboldt Post-doctoral Fellowship,
Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids, Dresden,
University of Oxford.

Testimony

Though my initial foray into Europe was a matter of chance, I ended up having a long stint in Europe, initially as a Humboldt Fellow at Dresden, and then as a Marie Curie Fellow at Oxford. A relaxed work environment, and accessibility to cutting edge science has meant that my stay in Europe has been enriching, both professionally, as well as personally. I expect these ties to continue for the foreseeable future.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr. SANJIB K. PATRA

Assistant Professor
Department of Chemistry
Indian Institute of Technology-Kharagpur
Kharagpur-721302
INDIA

Phone: +91-3222-283338 (Office)
Fax: +91-3222-255303
Email: sanjibpatra.iitk@gmail.com
skpatra@chem.iitkgp.ernet.in

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Postdoctoral Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Bristol, UK (Sept-2009 to Aug-2011)

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

The fellowship from EU allows to gain excellent education and training expertise especially in interdisciplinary cutting-age research areas in the top and prestigious Institutes in EU. The funding also helps to interact synergistically with other European groups and thus it contributed to further integration of research activities in Europe. On return to India, it opens up the opportunity for collaborative research between India and EU. As EU and India share the same core democratic values, such strengthening of international ties within Europe will contribute to making Europe an attractive place for the current and future generation of Indian scientists.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

D.Shanthana Lakshmi

IM-CNR, 17C, Via P.Bucci, 87036, Rende, Italy

sl.shaluar@itm.cnr.it

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellow

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Institute on Membrane Technology, ITM-CNR, 17C, Via P.Bucci, 87036, Rende, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Greetings from ITALY!!!

I am still enjoying the MC-IIF fellowship.....

Overall I am satisfied with the infrastructure provided by my host institute here in ITM. Through MC-IIF programme, it is very easy to collaborate with pioneer labs in membrane science.

It gives an overall freedom and space to think, activate and mobilize my own dream...

I am considering this programme as a source to learn EU techniques and bring back to my homeland for implementation.

I am confident that in future, I shall have very good collaborative project work with EU.

Looking forward to see more fellow Indians in the same forum...

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr.S.G.Prakash Vincent

Coordinator, International Centre for Nanobiotechnology (ICN)

Manonmaniam Sundaranar University

prakash.icn@gmail.com

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Heidelberg, Germany

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

Marie Curie Fellowship gave me a privileged place in the scientific community as globally it is recognised as one of the high-status award. The competition is fierce, writing a grant and getting it funded profoundly gives me a self satisfaction of achieved to the top. Time spent (2004-06) at European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), which is the premier Institute in Europe gave me a first-rate exposure to diverse high end techniques and collaborators. Returning back to India in 2006, I had organised two high profile training programmes on 'DNA Microarray- Analysis and Applications' in collaboration with EMBL Scientist with funding from European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO), Germany. Through this, International Centre for Nanobiotechnology (ICN) has an alumni of 17 Nationalities. For an Indian Scholar of any age trying out to obtain an MC-IIF grant will heighten up their career. A recent, invited write up by me is published in IndiaBioscience.org entitled '**Maricurie Fellowship- a scientific opportunity never to be missed**' (<http://indiabioscience.org/node/738>)

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Prof. Satyawati Sharma

289-Block III, CRDT, IIT Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016

Email: satyawatis@hotmail.com

Name of the research scheme / programme:

7th Framework Programme research project Optimization of Perennial grasses for Biomass Production

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

University of Catania, Italy

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

It is being a great pleasure for me to be a part of the collaborative project entitled "Optimization of Perennial grasses for Biomass Production" under the call FP7. This project is an example of great team work of 18 universities (16 from Europe, 1 from China and 1 from India i.e. ours). The research activities are going well in coordination and meeting at Catania with all participants / researchers from a number of countries is the additional gain. I have experienced an overwhelming response from each partner during the first Kick-off meeting in Catania, Italy held on 6th Feb -9th Feb 2012. It was great experience and I am looking forward for such more collaborations.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr Natasha Mhatre

Natasha.Mhatre@bris.ac.uk

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

School of Biological Sciences, University of Bristol

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

My experience with the Marie Curie fellowship has been extremely positive and I cannot encourage Indian students to apply to the scheme enough. There are many benefits to bringing a fellowship to any university and some of the most vibrant are in the UK where I currently work.

One the most positive things about the fellowship is that it has allowed me to travel freely and attend several meetings and conferences in my tenure. For me, this has been extremely valuable, in two important ways. It has raised my visibility and name recognition as a scientist in my field. In addition, I found the interaction and exchange of ideas during several meetings very stimulating and they have lead to some great insights.

I expect that many of the associations with both early and later career scientists that I have made during this period will extend to collaborative efforts well into my future.

Name and Contact details of the participant:

Dr.Lakshmi Sundar,
India Diabetes Research Foundation,
28, Marshals Road, Egmore, Chennai 600 008

Name of the research scheme / programme:

Marie Curie Research Fellowship

Host institution in Europe (if applicable):

Staffordshire University, Stoke on trent

Testimony (why Europe, your impressions, are you still in touch, any advice you may have for future Indian applicants, etc)

We were awarded this research grant in Nov 2011. This study has five partners, the lead partner being Staffordshire University. Dr.A.Ramachandran's diabetes hospitals and India Diabetes Research Foundation in Chennai are the only clinical partners.

I was in Staffordshire as an experienced research fellow for a month in April- May 2012. The atmosphere there was very enabling. The training offered was excellent. A lot of newer advances in Podiatry with specific relation to diabetic foot was shared with me. I had hands on training in musculo skeletal ultrasound, casting etc.,

A lot of reading material was made available and I had access to the complete range of journals required in my field.

The early stage researcher will be here in July and she will definitely get exposed to clinical medicine and podiatry.