



BANDIERA – Best Action for National Development of International Expert Researchers Activities
Co-funded by FP7 Marie Curie Actions – People, EC Contract n. 600407

RITMARE Flagship Project

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

for the assignment of **six (6) fellowships to experienced researchers** to carry out research activities within the objectives of the RITMARE Flagship Project at Italian research institutions by means of individual personalised projects in the fields of *Oceanography and Marine Sciences*:

- Maritime Spatial Planning
- Geohazards
- Sea Observation Systems
- Ocean Modeling

Within the 6 fellowships, up to 2 can be awarded to researchers with a senior profile. The salaries will be adequate to the level of experience.

The RITMARE Flagship Project, as part of the Italian National Research Plan 2011-2013 funded by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), is a national project for marine scientific and technological research.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order for applicants to be considered eligible, the below mentioned requirements must be met at the time of the call deadline.

Candidates must:

- hold a PhD degree or have at least four (4) years of full-time equivalent research experience;
- have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior the call deadline.

There are no restrictions concerning candidates' age, gender or nationality. Applicants with career breaks or variations in the chronological sequence of their career steps are eligible.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application must be submitted **before 24 June 2013, at h. 17:00 (Central European Time)** using the Application Portal available on CNR website <http://www.cofundbandiera.cnr.it>. Late submissions will not be taken into consideration.

Applicants will have to register on the above portal to fill in the online electronic application form giving detailed information on:

- their academic career, research experience, publications and other research outputs and qualifications
- their proposed research project
- the Ethics Issues Table on the planned research activity.

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Moreover, applicants will have to upload the following mandatory documents:

- application letter following the template provided
- PhD certificate, or – alternatively - University degree valid to access doctoral studies together with a report on at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience¹
- two signed letters of recommendation from the candidate's current or previous supervisors.

All documents related to the application shall be in English; in case of original documents drafted in a different language, an English translation must be attached.

HOST INSTITUTIONS

CNR – the National Research Council of Italy, in its capacity as coordinator of the COFUND-BANDIERA programme, will recruit the selected researchers who will be hosted at one of the following national research institutions involved in the RITMARE Flagship Project:

MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING

- CNR Institute for Marine Science (ISMAR), Venice, Ancona
- CNR Institute for Coastal Marine Environment (IAMC), Naples, Oristano
- Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (SZN), Naples

GEOHAZARDS

- CNR Institute for Marine Science (ISMAR), Bologna
- CNR Institute of Environmental Geology and Geoengineering (IGAG), Rome
- National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), Rome

SEA OBSERVATION SYSTEMS

- CNR Institute of Intelligent Systems for Automation (ISSIA), Genoa
- CNR Institute for Electromagnetic Sensing of the Environment (IREA), Naples, Milan
- National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics (OGS), Trieste
- CNR "The Italian Ship Model Basin" (INSEAN), Rome

OCEAN MODELING

- CNR Institute for Marine Science (ISMAR), Venice
- CNR Institute for Coastal Marine Environment (IAMC), Oristano
- CNR "The Italian Ship Model Basin" (INSEAN), Rome

Within the application, candidates can express one or more preferences regarding the scientific host institution(s) where their research activity could be, in their view, best carried out amongst those mentioned in the list above. The final decision on the host institution will be made by the Evaluation Committee which will assess the most suitable one in relation to the proposed research project, taking into account, when possible, the expressed preferences.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Evaluation Committee, made up of 3 to 5 effective members (depending on the number of applications) selected among internationally recognised experts in the scientific fields mentioned in the Call, after viewing the list of applicants and signing the statement that no Conflict of Interest could affect the assessment of the applications, will:

- access all applications and perform an independent, impartial and objective evaluation;
- meet (either in person or via teleconference) and each reviewer will fill in the evaluation form providing a score for each evaluation criterion and the relevant explanation;
- discuss and compare the evaluation forms, define a short-list specifying those candidates not passing the threshold and those pre-selected to be invited to the interview.

¹ Full-time Equivalent Research Experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree which would formally entitle him or her to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited (Italy in this programme) irrespective of whether or not a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure will be carried out pursuant to national laws and CNR internal regulations and in coherence with the principles stated in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, by "providing researchers with open, transparent and internationally comparable selection and recruitment procedures" (EC Recommendation of 11 March 2005).

An eligibility check of the received applications will be performed by the Management Board of BANDIERA-COFUND at the call closure and eligible proposals will be forwarded to the Evaluation Committee. Non-eligible candidates will be immediately notified in writing of the outcome of the eligibility check.

Selection meeting(s): the Evaluation Committee will hold meeting(s) to assess all eligible applications against Evaluation Criteria. Pre-selected candidates will receive a written evaluation with specific explanation of the scores and comments together with the invitation to an interview with an advance notification of at least 20 days. Unsuccessful candidates will receive an evaluation report (with comments and scores).

The interviews will in principle be held at CNR Headquarters, in Rome. In specific justified cases, the possibility of interviews by videoconferencing with identification procedure can be envisaged. The videoconference might take place at the nearest Italian embassy or consulate, or any other site decided by CNR.

Following the interviews, a written Evaluation Report will be prepared for each candidate and a final rank-list will be published on the CNR website <http://www.cofundbandiera.cnr.it>.

The fellowships will be offered to the candidates with the highest scores following the order of the rank-list.

The same order will be followed in case of withdrawals.

Candidates may submit a request for redress if they consider that there has been a shortcoming in the way their application has been evaluated that may have affected the final decision (see Guide for Applicants for further details).

Should a default in the eligibility requirements be detected in the course of the selection, the exclusion of the relevant application will be formalised at any stage of the procedure by means of a motivated act by the Director of CNR Office for Activities and Relations with European Institutions (CNR-UARIE) and communicated to the candidate.

The overall evaluation and selection procedure will be monitored and overseen by a CNR official not involved in the Evaluation Committee, acting as "Responsabile del Procedimento" who will be in charge of guaranteeing the correctness, fairness and transparency of the process. "Responsabile del Procedimento" for this Call is Mrs Nicoletta Palazzo, CNR-UARIE.

Pursuant to Italian legislation and CNR rules, candidates can formally request access to official documents related to their individual application.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The scientific and technological quality of the proposals as well as of the applicants' curricula will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Evaluation criteria	
Assessment of applications (maximum score: 40)	
1.	Educational qualifications (<i>maximum 5, threshold 3</i>)
2.	Research track record in the field (<i>maximum 9, threshold 7</i>)
3.	Research output in the field (<i>maximum 14, threshold 8</i>) in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - number and quality of peer reviewed publications; - funding awards; - patents; - presentations at international meetings; - awards, recognitions and other outputs.
4.	Short proposal of planned research activity (<i>maximum 12, threshold 8</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research/technological quality, including any inter/multi-disciplinary aspects; - Originality and innovative nature of the proposed research and relation to the 'state of the art' in the field; - Appropriateness of methodology and approach; - Feasibility and potential impact in the research field; - Coherence of the proposed research with the activities and infrastructures of the host institution.
Threshold to be reached for being invited at the interview: 26/40	
Interview (maximum score: 60)	
1.	Scientific knowledge and research experience in the area of interest (<i>maximum 20, threshold 15</i>)
2.	Presentation of the individual research project proposed (<i>maximum 20, threshold 15</i>)
3.	Communication, non scientific and complementary skills (<i>maximum 10, threshold 6</i>)
4.	Motivation, coherence between the fellowship offered and the potential long-term professional development plan of the applicant (<i>maximum 10, threshold 6</i>)
Threshold to be reached for being included in the final ranked list: 42/60	

The final rank-list will include those candidates having passed both thresholds and obtained an overall score equal or above 68/100.

APPOINTMENT CONDITIONS

The candidates with the highest scores will receive a notification of appointment and will be asked to accept the offered position within 30 days of notification.

The selected candidates will have to start their research activity within 90 days from the end of the selection procedure (in exceptional justified cases this could be extended to a maximum of 180 days, but may entail a shorter contract duration).

CNR will stipulate temporary contracts (*Coordinate and Continuative Collaboration*) of 24 months duration each.

The overall remuneration for experienced researchers, initial level, will include:

- a living allowance of 48.000€/year that will be paid in monthly installments
- a mobility allowance of 8.400 €/year or 12.000€/year depending on the family situation of the selected researchers, paid in monthly installments
- a contribution of 6.000€/year to support research costs connected to the project activity which will be managed by the host institution.

The overall remuneration for experienced researchers, senior level, will include:

- a living allowance of 60.000€/year that will be paid in monthly installments
- a mobility allowance of 8.400 €/year or 12.000€/year depending on the family situation of the selected researchers, paid in monthly installments
- a contribution of 6.000€/year to support research costs connected to the project activity which will be managed by the host institution.

The above mentioned sums for Living and Mobility allowances are to be considered gross amounts equal to the total cost that the employer must support (including taxes, social security and insurance that the Italian legislation places on CNR), with the sole exception of IRAP, the Regional Tax on Productive Activities (see Guide for Applicants for specific details).

As the BANDIERA-COFUND Programme is co-financed by the European Commission through the Marie Curie Action "Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)" each selected applicant will be a Marie Curie fellow as well as a BANDIERA-COFUND Programme fellow.

DURATION

Awardees will have to devote full time to their research projects for 24 months, within the duration of the RITMARE Flagship project and BANDIERA-COFUND programme. Serious justified reasons connected to personal or family circumstances can authorize a temporary break in the research activity but the total project length cannot, in any case, exceed the duration fixed by the European Commission's Grant Agreement and the Ritmare Project itself.

ADVERTISEMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF THE CALL

The present call is published on CNR website <http://www.cofundbandiera.cnr.it> and on the EURAXESS portal <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm>.

The call is being advertised on professional newsletters and dedicated mailing lists.

INFORMATION ON PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

Pursuant to art. 13 of the Italian Legislative Decree n. 196/2003, personal data will be processed only for the purposes of the present call and the possible signing of a contract of collaboration; the person concerned has the rights provided for in art. 7 of the above mentioned decree. These rights can be enforced towards the National Research Council of Italy - CNR represented for this purpose by the Director of CNR Office for Activities and Relations with European Institutions (fax +39 06 4993 3028, e-mail: cofundbandiera@cnr.it).

APPLICABLE REGULATION

For what not explicitly mentioned in this announcement, CNR shall act in compliance with article 2222 and following ones of the Italian Civil Code and of relevant national legislation.

BANDIERA-COFUND PROGRAMME'S CONTACT DETAILS

For queries and assistance please contact the Helpdesk:

E-mail: cofundbandiera@cnr.it

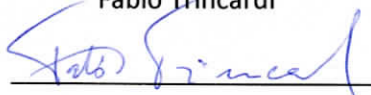
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Direzione Generale- Ufficio Attività e Relazioni con le Istituzioni Europee, Piazzale Aldo Moro 7 - 00185 Roma Italy

<http://www.cofundbandiera.cnr.it>

The BANDIERA-COFUND Programme Coordinator
Anna D'Amato



The RITMARE Project Director
Fabio Trincardi



23 May 2013