

June 2016

## LEaDing Fellows Programme for Postdocs, summary

### **LEaDing Fellows Programme**

The LEaDing Fellows Programme is a joint programme of Leiden University, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Delft University of Technology, Leiden University Medical Centre and Erasmus University Medical Centre.

This is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Cofund Programme for 90 postdocs for two year positions each, at one of the five partners. The aim is to provide opportunities for, international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary research training, as well as transnational and cross-sectoral mobility, by offering open recruitment and attractive working conditions. Existing vacancies are excluded.

### **Fellows**

- Must have resided or carried out their main activity in the Netherlands for less than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the date of recruitment.
- Of all nationalities are invited to apply;
- Must have obtained their PhD by the date of recruitment and less than 60 months prior. The application window is extended for pregnancy, maternity or paternity leave, compulsory military service or training for medical specialists.

### **Calls**

All information will be published on [www.leadingfellows.eu](http://www.leadingfellows.eu) , and on the websites of the five partners. Links will be posted on several other websites as well. The first call will open at 1 February 2017, for 20 positions; appointment: 24 months, between 1 November 2017 and 30 April 2020. The second call opens on 1 November 2017, for 40 positions; appointment 24 months, between 1 August 2018 and 31 January 2021 and the third call opens on 1 August 2018, for 30 positions; appointment: 24 months between 1 May 2019 and 31 October 2021.

### **Employment**

Fellows are employed by one of the five partners; they are encouraged to take up internships of one to three months at one of the other partners; they are encouraged to cooperate or participate in research activities with public or industrial collaborators. The local collective labour agreement, i.e. either of the universities or of the academic medical centres, will apply.

Applicants may tune their research to any existing or new collaborations between the partners, such as the Leiden Erasmus Delft Centres and Medical Delta: Centre for Economic and Financial Governance; Centre for Education and Learning; Centre for Sustainability; Centre for Global Heritage & Development; Centre for Metropolis and Mainport; Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa; Centre for Safety and Security; Centre for Big Open Linked Data Cities, Medical Delta. Their research may also play a role in partners' initiatives with external parties such as: The Hague Security Delta; Holland Particle Therapy Centre (HollandPTC); Clean Tech Delta; Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions (AMS); Erasmus Smart Port Rotterdam, or other industrial or public partners.

Fellows will be stimulated to use their supervisors' networks to cooperate with researchers in the partnering institutions and with both public and industrial contacts in the region. Cooperation, with non-academic partners – established industry, start-ups, government and other public and private

bodies – provides opportunities for postdocs to explore new career opportunities following their fellowship.

### **Application**

Before submitting an application potential applicants should contact supervisors in the field of their interest to explore options in order to ensure a good fit (group leaders may point out the programme to fellow researchers abroad). Applicants submit an application consisting of:

1. Research proposal: concise description of the research content; specific research goals; originality (multidisciplinary and inter-disciplinary); methodology and planning; and if relevant: some form of ethical consideration; plan for development of results towards viable application (3 pages max.),
2. Training plan: research skill widening and/or deepening, including meaningful exposure to (or collaboration with) academic, industry or societal partners; plans for acquiring additional soft skills and transferable skills; impact on (inter-sectoral) career development (3 pages max.),
3. CV and list of publications (4 pages max.),
4. Motivation letter of the candidate (1 page max.),
5. Support statement from the chair of the group that will host the fellow (0.5 page max.).

Applications are submitted to the LEaDing Fellow Office, located at TU Delft.

Evaluation criteria are 1) quality of the research proposal: balanced connection with PhD work, research design, expected scientific interaction between fellow and hosting group; 2) quality of the individual training plan: choice of research skills and transferable skills, expected project impact, cooperation with academic partners or extra-university sectors, dissemination and exploitation activities; 3) quality of applicant's track record: number and quality of publications, honours during study, relevant extra-curricular activities.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Cofund is a 'mono beneficiary programme': TU Delft acts as beneficiary. All five partners must comply with Marie Skłodowska-Curie Cofund rules and practices.

The rectores magnifici of the three universities and the deans of the two academic medical centres constitute the LEaDing Fellow Steering Committee; chairman is TU Delft rector, Karel Luyben. The LEaDing Fellow Panel guards over the scientific quality of the fellowships; the chair person is prof.dr. Isabel Arends, department head of biotechnology at TU Delft. Its fifteen members, in cooperation with foreign peers, execute the review and selection process. The day-to-day programme coordination is overseen by the LEaDing Fellow Office: Mrs. Caroline Kohlmann-van Noord and Mr. Ernst Harting, at TU Delft. At each of the partners a local contact person takes care of local procedures and supports partners and their hosts: employment preparation and reporting via TU Delft to the European Commission.

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