

# Report on the Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show

by

- French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) - FRANCE
- Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC) - CZECH REPUBLIC
- Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) - ITALY
- Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres (HELMHOLTZ) - GERMANY
- Romanian National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering (IFIN-HH) - ROMANIA
- Polish National Contact Point for Research Programmes of the EU (KPK) - POLAND
- The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK & TURBO) – TURKEY

## Introduction



European Union 7th Framework Programme Marie Curie Actions aim at strengthening quantitatively and qualitatively the human potential in research and technology in Europe by stimulating people to enter into the profession of researcher, encouraging European researchers to stay in Europe, attracting to Europe researchers from the entire world and making Europe more attractive to the best researchers. As one of the main drivers of technological development in Europe, research centers play a critical role in building and strengthening the skills and experience of researchers.

“Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show” building on the experiences with the 2011 Road Show carried the banner of encouraging European researchers to stay in Europe by making them mobile between different European research institutes of this Road Show Network which is enlarged in 2012 compared to the previous year. In that context the “Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show” was organized by 7 European research organizations which assisted to set up a link between the national research communities and the participating research institutes.

***This report has been prepared to give an overview on the purpose, the concept, the statistics, the participation rate, the satisfaction level, the impact and the future directions of the Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show.***

The report will be shared with the European Commission (EC) and Research Executive Agency, People Specific Programme – Programme Committee Delegates, Experts, and National Contact Points (NCPs) as well as the representatives of the participating research organizations, all of which contributed to the success of the Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show.

## The Underlying Idea

The Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show was the second series of info-days in which seven European research organizations together with the EC and local NCPs cooperated to introduce the opportunities of Marie Curie Actions to the European researchers located in Europe. The idea behind the Road Shows was to:

- promote the Marie Curie Actions of the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, in particular Intra-European Fellowships (IEF) and Career Integration Grants (CIG)
- to present and introduce the research centers in each of the countries visited and to acquaint the participants about their facilities and research activities, as well as research opportunities for experienced researchers at the post-doctoral level.



## The Content of the Road Show

The Road Show was organized as a series of info-days on the premises of 7 participating research organizations with a set of presentations by each invited institution and the EC representatives. In this regard, each of these participant research organizations organized a national Marie Curie Info-day between February and May 2012 for Marie Curie 2012 Road Show. During the info-days EC representatives introduced the opportunities and the support mechanisms available under Marie Curie Actions and the research organizations delivered presentations to describe their research environment. Marie Curie grant holders also described their experiences as well as the contributions the Marie Curie grants made towards their career progress. Bilateral contacts with the researchers were made possible at the booths which were set up by each research institution at the info-day venue. EURAXESS network was advertised in general at each local info-day by presentations or at the booths to show researchers how they will cope with the procedures of moving from one country to another. Also available research positions published in EURAXESS Portal was introduced to participants. All info-days were organized in cooperation with Marie Curie NCPs in the respective country. During the info-days, researchers were asked to fulfill the evaluation questionnaire which assisted the preparation of this report.

A common website hosted by Helmholtz Association was launched to provide practical information about all info-days of the Road Show. Programmes, presentations and contact information were shared through this site. In addition, the website included general information on Marie Curie Actions 2012 and 2013 calls.

[http://www.helmholtz.de/presse\\_medien/veranstaltungen/marie\\_curie\\_roadshow\\_2012/](http://www.helmholtz.de/presse_medien/veranstaltungen/marie_curie_roadshow_2012/)

## The Agenda of the Road Show

An example of the agenda followed by each info-day during the Road Show:

Registration	
"Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show"	Opening Statements by the Road Show Hosting Institute
	Opportunities of Marie Curie Actions by the Representative of the European Commission/REA
	Lessons Learnt Session by a Marie Curie Fellow/Grant Holder
	Presentations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CEITEC</li> <li>- CEA</li> <li>- ENEA</li> <li>- HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION</li> <li>- IFIN-HH</li> <li>- KPK</li> <li>- TÜBİTAK &amp; TURBO</li> </ul>
	National Support for Marie Curie Applicants by Marie Curie National Contact Points and EURAXESS Info Session
	Researchers' Bilateral Meetings with the Institutions at the Booths set up for the Road Show

## The Statistics after the Road Show

The table below summarizes the statistical information on each info-day of Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show. The column at the end shows the aggregated numbers to indicate the overall participation.

Participant Profile for Each Country	GERMANY	FRANCE	CZECH REPUBLIC	ITALY	TURKEY	ROMANIA	POLAND	OVERALL
How many registered?	69	92	76	103	144	80	130	<b>694</b>
How many Participated?	49	62	84	86	80	63	88	<b>512</b>
How many Questionnaires replied?	34	36	26	46	20	34	35	<b>231</b>

Table 1: Participant Information for Each Local Info-day

## The Participant Profile

A total of 512 researchers attended to the local info-days organized in Berlin, Paris, Brno, Rome, Ankara, Bucharest and Warsaw under Marie Curie 2012 Road Show. Nearly the half of the researchers, 231 in number, attending the local info days contributed to the evaluation of the info-day by fulfilling the questionnaire.

This analysis gave organizers an opportunity to see which nationalities 2012 Road Show reached. That's crucial to see that 13% of the participants are not from the nationalities of the info-day hosting countries.

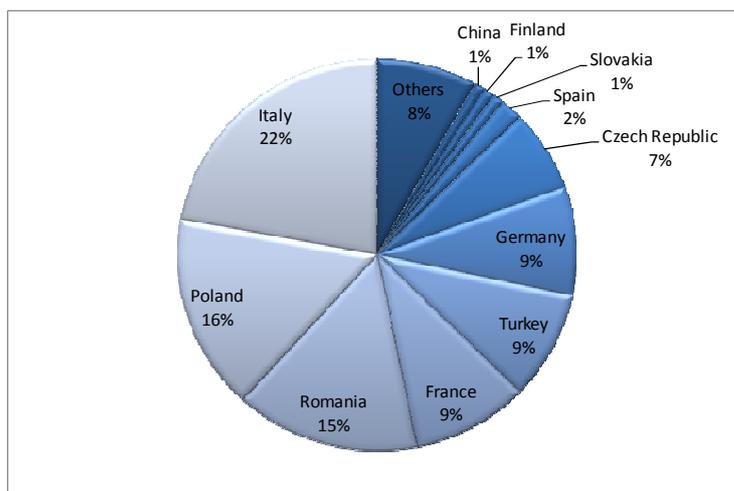


Figure 1: Participants' Nationalities

## Country of Origin

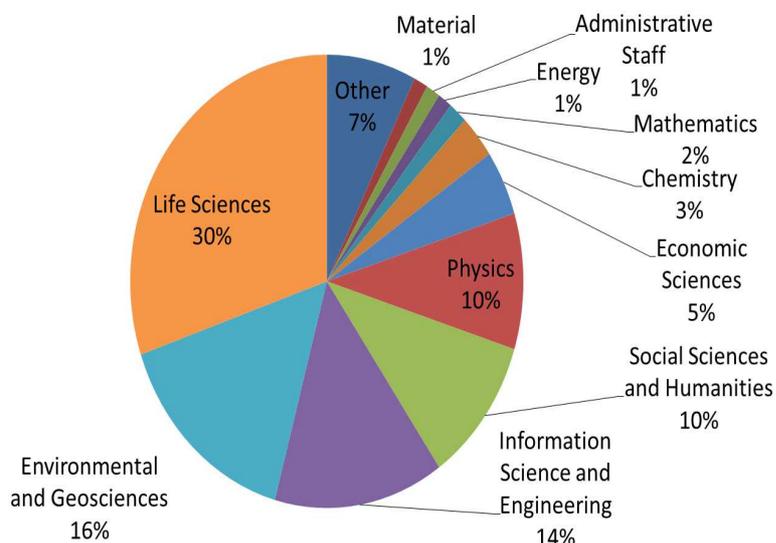
Besides German, Italian, Turkish, Romanian, Polish, Czech and French researchers, the Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show informed a total of 21 different nationalities who participated one of the 7 info-days organized under Marie Curie 2012 Road Show. Countries listed below are mentioned as hometowns of the researchers participating at least one of the local info-days under Marie Curie 2012 Road Show:

- China
- Finland
- Slovakia
- Spain
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Greece
- Ireland
- Lithuania
- Switzerland
- Belarus
- Chili
- Egypt
- India
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lebanon
- Mexico
- Russian Federation
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Vietnam

## Research Area & International Research Experience:

The Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show gathered researchers carrying out research in a wide range of areas. The pie chart on the right hand side classifies the participants of the 2012 Road Show according to Marie Curie Panels used in all Marie Curie Actions by the European Commission. Life Sciences pie shows the largest pie of the chart.

Among all participants with different research areas 71% declared that they had **international research experience**.



**Figure 2. Research Area according to Marie Curie panels**

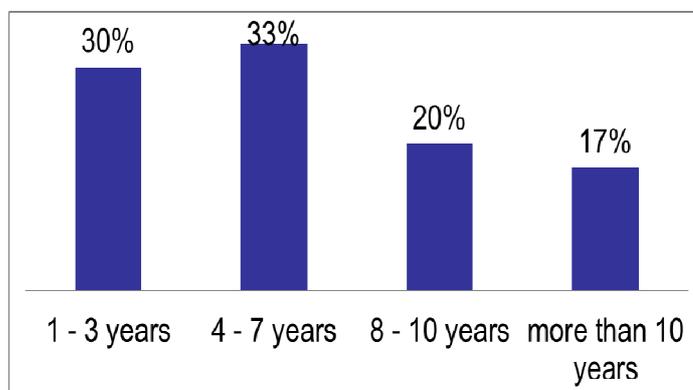
## Experience Level & Gender:

Figure 3 shows the research experience level of the participants.

70% had more than 4 years research experience and eligible to submit a proposal for upcoming Marie Curie calls.

Having early stage researchers with 30% as participant to the Road Show is also worth mentioning.

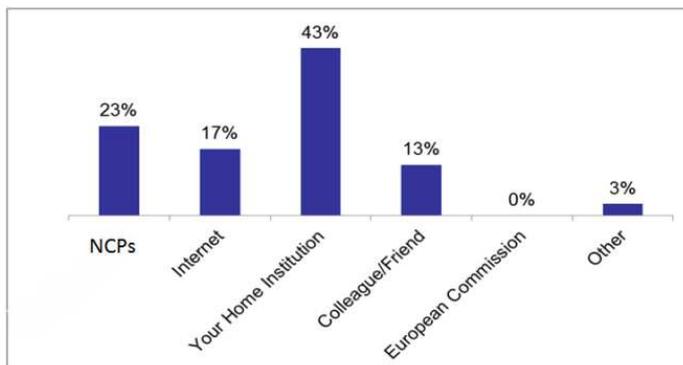
Regarding the female participants, their number compared to the male participants was higher. While 56% of total participants were female; 44% of total was male.



**Figure 3. Experience Level**

## Announcement of the Road Show

The biggest portion of the participants got the announcement of the info-days via their home institution. FP7 National Contact Points (NCPs) are the second source of information for the announcement of the Road Show. In other words, main dissemination channel for the announcements was the organizers: institution representatives and NCPs.

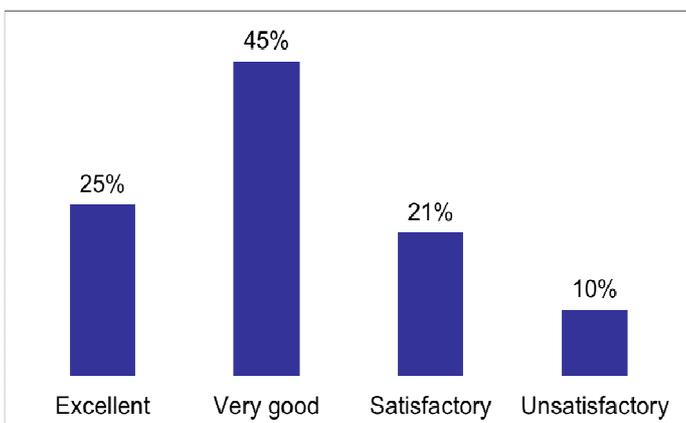


Thanks to the European Commission and Research Executive Agency, that supported the Road Show initiative since 2011, participation was always higher than expected. With the presentations delivered by EC & REA representatives, participants found the chance to get answers to their specific questions for MC calls. For the upcoming Road Shows, organizers would appreciate to get support of EC & REA in both delivering presentations and also making announcements of the Road Show.

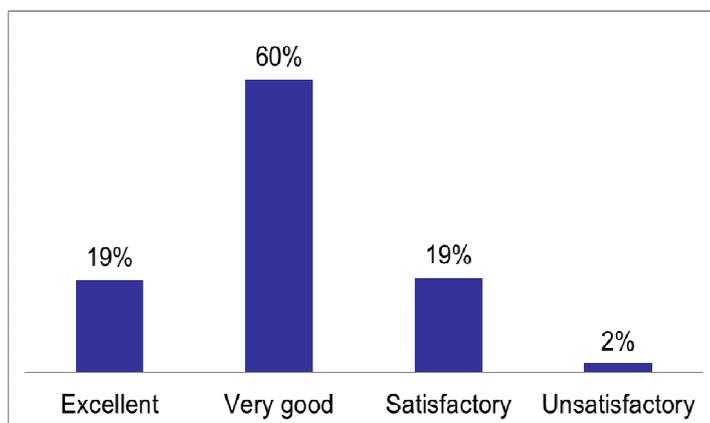
**Figure 4. How did you hear about the workshops?**

### Satisfaction Level of Participants

Satisfaction level of the participants during the Road Show was asked by several questions in the questionnaire disseminated to the researchers. The answers are reflected on the below charts:



**Figure 5. Did the workshop meet your expectations?**



**Figure 6. How would you rate the quality of the presentations?**



## Suggestions for Improvement

The questionnaire also asked the participants to make suggestions for the upcoming Road Shows. Here are the ones which seem to be constructive criticisms:

- Research areas of the institutions could be various. Since most of them focused on engineering, energy, life sciences participants carrying out research on social sciences couldn't find an available position to discuss. New institutes with different research areas for the upcoming Road Shows demanded.
- Presentations of the institutions were evaluated as quite long and complex, they are recommended to be simplified and shortened. Video presentations were demanded since they were more attractive. Some of the participants mentioned that booths were enough for the first contact with the institutes, no need to deliver a presentation.
- More emphasis on multidisciplinary research aspects was demanded since globalizing world required more interdisciplinary research environment.
- Researchers found the practical information session very useful with the local NCP. However there were some who wished to have proposal writing session with a mentor.

## Achievements of the Marie Curie Actions 2012 Road Show

- ✓ The questionnaire disseminated during the info-days proved that the Road Show reached its aim.
- ✓ The info-days increased the awareness on Marie Curie Actions;
- ✓ A total of 512 researchers at experienced and early-stage level were given practical and administrative information on the Marie Curie Actions' Schemes with a specific focus on IEF and CIG Schemes;
- ✓ Cooperation between the stakeholders of the Road Show have been enhanced to a great extent;
- ✓ The Road Show contributed greatly towards increasing the visibility of the participating research organizations;
- ✓ One-to-one consultancies provided the participating researchers with specific information on each single country's research environment and leading research institutions;
- ✓ The questionnaire provided the organizers a better impression of the outcome and benefits from the participant point of view as well as concrete inputs for future Marie Curie Actions Road Shows.
- ✓ Road Show indirectly contributed to the host driven actions of MCAs such as IAPP and ITN. New consortiums have been set up through contacts created during the Road Show and some kind of match making have been successfully done by the institutes. Moreover, some existing networks for different international research programmes found chance to get submissions (i.e. Turkey-Romania: EUREKA project proposal).

## Future Directions for the Marie Curie Actions Road Show

- ❖ Road Show initiative will go on in 2013.
- ❖ Marie Curie Actions 2013 Road Show has started to be planned. The plan is to arrange all Road Show info-days between January and May 2013, i.e. well before the calls' deadlines for individual schemes. This should give the participants even more time to develop project ideas, identify the right contacts and prepare their proposals before the deadline.

## Information and Contact Details of the Organizers

### 1. CEITEC

27 March 2012, in Brno, Czech Republic

Roman BADIK, Project Manager  
[roman.badik@ceitec.cz](mailto:roman.badik@ceitec.cz)

Michaela VLKOVA  
[vlkovam@tc.cz](mailto:vlkovam@tc.cz)

### 2. CEA

12 March 2012, in Paris, France

Guillaume FUSAI  
[guillaume.fusai@cea.fr](mailto:guillaume.fusai@cea.fr)

### 3. ENEA

11 April 2012, in Rome, Italy

Massimo BUSUOLI, Director, Brussels Office  
[massimo.busuoli@enea.it](mailto:massimo.busuoli@enea.it)

Roberta BONIOTTI, EU Adviser  
[roberta.boniotti@enea.it](mailto:roberta.boniotti@enea.it)

### 4. HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION

16 February 2012, in Berlin, Germany

Susan KENTNER, Director, Brussels Office  
[susan.kentner@Helmholtz.de](mailto:susan.kentner@Helmholtz.de)

Kristine AUGUST  
[kristine.august@helmholtz.de](mailto:kristine.august@helmholtz.de)

### 5. IFIN-HH

3 May 2012, in Bucharest, Romania

Alexandra VANCEA  
 European Affairs Counselor  
[alexandra.vancea@ancs.ro](mailto:alexandra.vancea@ancs.ro)

Dan Enache, Director CTTM IFIN-HH  
[dan.enache@nipne.ro](mailto:dan.enache@nipne.ro)

### 6. KPK

14 May 2012, in Warsaw, Poland

Anna WISNIEWSKA, National Contact Point  
[Anna.wisniewska@kpk.gov.pl](mailto:Anna.wisniewska@kpk.gov.pl)

Monika KORNACKA  
 Euraxess Service Centre in Warsaw  
[Monika.Kornacka@kpk.gov.pl](mailto:Monika.Kornacka@kpk.gov.pl)

### 7. TÜBİTAK and TURBO

27 April March 2012, in Ankara, Turkey

Tuğba ARSLAN KANTARCIOĞLU  
 Selcen Gülsüm ASLAN ÖZŞAHİN  
 TÜBİTAK Marie Curie Team  
[ncpmobility@tubitak.gov.tr](mailto:ncpmobility@tubitak.gov.tr)

Mehmet GÖKGÖZ, Director of TURBO  
[gokgoz@turboppp.org](mailto:gokgoz@turboppp.org)

