

EURAXESS Links India Newsletter is a quarterly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links India, which provides information of specific interest to European and non-European researchers in India who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

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# EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

## Contents

1	Briefing I EURAXESS members in focus: Spain .....	2
1.1	Spain and its RDI system in figures .....	2
1.2	Research Excellence in Spain .....	2
1.3	Recruitment Opportunities .....	2
1.3.1	HORIZON 2020: MSCA and ERC .....	2
1.3.2	SPANISH STATE RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES.....	3
1.3.3	REGIONAL RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES .....	4
1.3.4	PRIVATE SECTOR RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES:.....	5
1.4	Important information for incoming researchers .....	5
1.5	Bilateral funding mechanism for industry-led R&D collaborative projects: India & Spain Innovating Programme (ISIP) .....	6

*[Note: Briefing on Spain originally published on EURAXESS Links India I Quarterly Newsletter I Issue 1 2016 \(March 2016\)](#)*



# 1 Briefing I EURAXESS members in focus: Spain

*EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is an initiative of the European Research Area (ERA) that addresses barriers to the mobility of researchers and seeks to enhance their career development. This pan-European effort is currently supported by over 40 countries, of which we will profile one in each of our quarterly EURAXESS Links India e-newsletters. In this edition, we will zoom in on Spain*

Spain is a very active participant in European research projects. At the moment, around 9% of Horizon 2020 funding is allocated to Spanish institutions. Some of the areas that can be highlighted as especially important for Spanish participation are: Energy, NMBP (Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing) and the SME (small and medium-sized enterprises) instrument.

Click [here](#) for detailed report “EURAXESS Members in Focus: SPAIN”  
It compiles information on the Spanish R&D system, focusing on recruitment opportunities for researchers.

## 1.1 Spain and its RDI system in figures<sup>1</sup>

The Spanish System of Science, Technology and Innovation encompasses internationally recognised institutions where scientists and entrepreneurs are able to enjoy a variety of funding opportunities. The “Spanish strategy on science, technology and innovation (2013-2020)<sup>2</sup>” promotes the capacities of the system and enables collaboration between all the stakeholders of the system while increasing the social and economic returns from investment in R&D&I.

In 2014, Spanish institutions published 77,013 publications (including articles, conference proceedings and reviews), ranking 10<sup>th</sup> in the world (3.19% of the total world production). In terms of excellence (share of highly cited publications (top 10%), energy and veterinary medicine were the top research areas in Spain. Also, the international collaboration of Spanish institutions keeps growing every year: up to 44.69 % of all Spanish documents in 2014 were co-authored with a foreign institution. Finally, the total number of European patents with a Spanish origin in 2014 was 467.

## 1.2 Research Excellence in Spain

The “[Severo Ochoa Centres of Excellence](#)” programme for independent research centres and the “Maria de Maeztu Units of Excellence” programme for smaller unit recognises institutions from all areas of knowledge that perform cutting-edge research at world standards. The awarded centers and units show outstanding international scientific leadership and are open to international collaborations. The evaluation committees involved in the selection process are all foreign highly respected researchers, including Nobel laureates.

In Spain can be found a number of so-called “[Unique Scientific and technological infrastructures infrastructures \(ICTS\)](#)” composed of facilities of different scientific areas ranging from the life sciences to astrophysics or engineering, distributed throughout the Spanish territory and areas and devoted to cutting edge research and the highest quality technological development.

## 1.3 Recruitment Opportunities

### 1.3.1 HORIZON 2020: MSCA and ERC

Spain hosts more than 300 [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#) grants in more than 50 host institutions and is also very attractive for [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#) fellows. At present, through 2014 and 2015 MSCA calls, more than 220 experienced researchers are carrying out their research in Spanish institutions, which ranks Spain amongst the top four EU countries.

<sup>1</sup> Source: INE([www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es)) and ICONO ([www.icono.fecyt.es](http://www.icono.fecyt.es))

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/stfls/MICINN/Investigacion/FICHEROS/Spanish\\_Strategy\\_Science\\_Technology.pdf](http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/stfls/MICINN/Investigacion/FICHEROS/Spanish_Strategy_Science_Technology.pdf)



### 1.3.2 SPANISH STATE RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### **RAMÓN Y CAJAL CONTRACTS**

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Human Resources for Research ([ramonycajal@mineco.es](mailto:ramonycajal@mineco.es))

Recipients: National and foreign post-doctoral researchers with an outstanding research career, either coming or returning to Spain.

Description: The 5 year duration grants co-fund the recruitment of doctors at public and private research centres. The aim is to promote the incorporation of national and foreign researchers with outstanding careers as well as their stabilisation in Spain. The grants (EUR 33,720 per year), are allocated to co-funding the salary and employer's contributions to social security. Applicants will receive an additional allocation of EUR 40,000 per researcher recruited to cover research expenses. Lastly, institutions which at the end of the "Ramón y Cajal" contract period incorporate the beneficiaries on a permanent basis, will receive a grant totalling EUR100,000.

#### **JUAN DE LA CIERVA – INCORPORATION**

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Human Resources for Research ([cierva.formacion@mineco.es](mailto:cierva.formacion@mineco.es))

Recipients: National and foreign post-doctoral researchers

Description: The two-year grant addresses young PhDs who have completed their post-doctoral education and meet the scientific criteria requested and have proven scientific leadership. Within this grant, EUR 29,000 per year is allocated to co-funding the salary and employer's contributions to social security. Entities will receive an additional allocation of EUR 6,000 per researcher recruited to cover research expenses.

#### **JUAN DE LA CIERVA - TRAINING**

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Human Resources for Research ([cierva.formacion@mineco.es](mailto:cierva.formacion@mineco.es))

Recipients: Foreign and national early stage researchers who wish to gain post-doctoral training in a university or research centre different from the one where their PhD was obtained.

Description: The grants, in the amount of EUR 25,000 per year, are allocated to co-fund the salary and employer's contributions to social security.

#### **INDUSTRIAL DOCTORATES**

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Human Resources for Research ([predoctoral@mineco.es](mailto:predoctoral@mineco.es))

Recipients: These grants co-fund the contracts of national and foreign pre-doctoral researchers that aim to develop their PhD in industry.

Description: Company beneficiaries of this grant need to co-fund the contract of the pre-doctoral researcher. The maximum amount of the grants, which will be allocated to co-funding salaries and social security contributions will be EUR 21,800. The grant includes EUR 2,400/researcher and is aimed at stays in other institutions, together with EUR 1.500 to fund the expenses associated with the doctorate programmes.

#### **PRE-DOCTORAL GRANTS-TRAINING DOCTORS**

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Human Resources for Research ([predoctoral@mineco.es](mailto:predoctoral@mineco.es))

Recipients: National and foreign bachelor degree holders admitted or enrolled in a doctorate programme at the moment of signing the grant.

Description: Grants devoted to the training of pre-docs in universities, research centres, etc., in any discipline. The grants, in the amount of EUR 20,600 per



year, are allocated to co-fund the salary and employer's contributions to social security.

Contact: Subdirectorato General of Training and Mobility of Professors and Teaching Innovation.  
([solicitantes.fpu@mecd.es](mailto:solicitantes.fpu@mecd.es))

#### **PRE-DOCTORAL GRANTS. TRAINING OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS**

**Recipients:** Bachelors aiming to earn getting their PhD admitted or enrolled in a doctoral programme during 2015 or enrolled in a programme that allows them to access a doctoral programme in 2016.

**Description:** This grant is aimed at fostering the training of pre-docs in high quality doctorate programmes. The maximum amount of the grants, which will be allocated to co-fund salaries and social security contributions will be EU17,768.16 for the two first years of the grant and EUR 20,333.76 for year three and four.

#### **TORRES QUEVEDO CONTRACTS**

**Recipients:** Doctors who wish to be employed by companies that perform R&D&I to develop experimental and innovative research projects.

**Description:** Grants for permanent contracts for doctors in the private sector. The amount of the grants will be determined in accordance with the eligible budget and the type of project and company. However, the annual eligible budget will only cover gross annual remuneration equal to or over EUR 18,000, and may not exceed EUR 55,000. The grants must co-fund the salary and the employer's contribution to social security for the researchers recruited.

### 1.3.3 REGIONAL RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### **IKERBASQUE**

**Recipients:** The Basque Science Foundation (IKERBASQUE) holds annual calls for applications to attract high level researchers to research institutions in the Basque Country.

**Description:** Ikerbasque offers two types of grants: **Research fellows grants:** contract positions for postdoctoral researchers, within any of the Basque Research institutions. These fellowships are intended to offer young promising researchers a track towards a PI role and independent research; **Research professors contracts:** offers permanent contracts for experienced researchers in any Basque Research institutions. Only high level researchers with a solid track record in research and international research experience will be considered.

#### **ICREA**

**Recipients:** ICREA, through a selection process based on scientific talent, recruits researchers from all over the world.

**Description:** ICREA holds different calls: **ICREA Senior Call:** The selected researchers are given a permanent position, ICREA Research Professorship (equivalent to tenure) and become ICREA employees. ICREA researchers go through an evaluation process (promotion) at regular intervals throughout their entire career.

#### **ARAID**

**Recipients:** The call for applications is open to researchers of any nationality, who fit the requirements of academic and research background. It aims at recruiting outstanding candidates with excellent research records and leadership capabilities.

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Contact:  
<http://www.ikerbasque.net/>

Contact:  
<https://www.icrea.cat/Web/SectionViewer.aspx?section=260>

Contact:  
<http://www.araid.es/en/content/international-call-recruitment-researchers-2015>



**Description:** The positions may be developed at public/private research centres and companies in the region of Aragon. It is generally expected that successful candidates will become permanent staff of ARAID. The scientific performance of researchers is periodically subjected to external evaluation. ARAID will assist foreign researchers with their visa and work permit procedures.

Contact:

<http://gain.xunta.es/artigos/456/oportunius>  
([xestion.gain@xunta.es](mailto:xestion.gain@xunta.es))

#### **OPORTUNIUUS**

**Recipients:** The Innovation Agency of Galicia (GAIN) intends to reinforce the recruitment of first class researchers in the region.

**Description:** It offers ERC Grant holders a permanent contract with the Galician Innovation Agency (GAIN), who subject to evaluations every five years by an external committee. It also provides specific support for young scientists with potential for obtain a prestigious ERC grants.

#### **FUNDACIÓN SÉNECA**

**Recipients:** The Science and Technology Agency of the Region of Murcia (FUNDACIÓN SÉNECA) holds annual calls for applications to attract junior and senior researchers to research institutions in the Region of Murcia.

**Description:** Research internships will be funded for researchers with proven experience associated with prestigious external research centres. Séneca holds two different calls: **Senior researcher:** researchers who have held a doctoral degree for at least ten years and **Junior researcher:** researchers who have held a doctoral degree for at least five years.

Contact:

<https://www.fseneca.es/>

### 1.3.4 PRIVATE SECTOR RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

#### **OBRA SOCIAL LA CAIXA INTERNSHIPS**

**Recipients:** Predoctoral scholarships in Spanish universities and research centres

**Description:** The aim of the programme is to support the mobility of 20 young researchers and to support their incorporation in the best research groups in Spain. Also, these scholarships aim at training researchers with the necessary skills to widen their opportunities to develop a researcher career in academia, industry and entrepreneurship. Scholarships are for three years (with possibility of extension).

The total amount of the grant will be EUR 115,500, distributed over three years and with a EUR 7,500 award if the thesis is defended within the six months after which the grant is over.

Contact:

[http://obrasocial.lacaixa.es/ambitos/becas/presentacion\\_es.html](http://obrasocial.lacaixa.es/ambitos/becas/presentacion_es.html)

## 1.4 Important information for incoming researchers

Spain belongs to the EURAXESS initiative that provides support country (in key areas such as visas, housing, schooling, etc.) to researchers and their families when arriving to the. The Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) is the national coordinator of the Spanish network and there are almost 100 services and local centres ready to support incoming researchers. Additional information can be found at [www.euraxess.es/eng](http://www.euraxess.es/eng)

Every two years publishes FECYT exhaustive, up-to-date information about the labour situation, everyday life, and the specific characteristics of Spain, as well as the procedures necessary to become established in our country: <http://www.euraxess.es/eng/services/foreign-researchers-in-spain>

Contact E-mail:

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## 1.5 Bilateral funding mechanism for industry-led R&D collaborative projects: India & Spain Innovating Programme (ISIP)

Click [here](#) for detailed report  
*“Fostering Innovation-driven  
 R&D Cooperation between  
 India and Spain”*

Currently CDTI (Spain) manages three programmes/initiatives with several public R&D funding agencies from India with the main objective of promoting and funding innovation-driven research and technology development collaborative projects between Spanish companies and Indian entities. Eligible projects should be market-oriented, basically consisting of the development of new products, processes or services, or substantial improvement of the same. To date, 23 joint technology co-operation projects have been certified under the ISIP Programme, representing a total budget of EUR 23.3 million in sectors such as chemistry, smart textiles, machine-tools, low voltage technologies, ICT, hot-melt technologies, agribiotechnology, nutraceuticals, biosensors, bio plastics and renewable energy technologies and applications (wind, photovoltaic and CSP), urban mobility, e-health and flexible electronics, amongst others.

### Details of the programmes:

1. Sector focused initiative in BIOTECHNOLOGY: Indo-Spanish Joint Programme (PoC) for Technological Co-operation in the field of Biotechnology implemented by DBT (India) and CDTI (Spain);
2. Sector focused initiative in RENEWABLE ENERGY: Indo-Spanish Joint Programme (PoC) for Technological Co-operation in the field of Renewable Energy implemented by MNRE (India) and CDTI (Spain);
3. MULTI SECTOR INITIATIVE: Programme of Co-operation on Industrial R&D between Spain and India implemented by DST-GITA (India) and CDTI (Spain);

Under these programmes, calls for proposals are regularly launched and supporting activities such as assistance in matchmaking, partner identification, coordination of inbound/outbound delegations, bilateral workshops and seminars co-organised by the implementing agencies are undertaken.

These programmes work on a decentralised financing basis, meaning that CDTI will provide financing to Spanish counterparts in awarded projects as per internal conditions and regulations, and the Indian implementing agencies (DBT, MNRE, DST-GITA) fund the Indian counterparts in the consortia as well, as per internal conditions and regulations.

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