

Topic

Call Identifier

MSCA-IF-2016: Individual Fellowships

Call Deadline

Sep. 14th, 2016

Partner search deadline

July 31st, 2016

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Proposal Outline:

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships in safety management

The Centre for Risk, Safety and the Environment (CERISE) <http://cerise.euc.ac.cy> at European University Cyprus is looking for a talented postdoc/scientist in the field of safety science in the framework of the MSCA-IF-2016 program.

Research topic

According to EU-OSHA, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are seen as key drivers for economic growth, innovation, employment and social integration and form the backbone of the EU economy. In 2013 SMEs accounted for 99.8% of all non-financial EU enterprises; approximately 21.6 million businesses in the EU. According to EUROSTAT data, more than 90% of SME's employed less than 9 people, and are – therefore – classified as micro firms.

Various studies, including a number of publications of the proposer present the main challenges that SME's (in particular micro firms) face. Challenges due to their size, lack of sufficient resources, the pivotal role of the manager, the impact of the financial crisis, their level of resilience to these external impacts, and expectations that they will handle OHS issues (including risk communication) just as professional as much larger companies. Despite their size within the economy, they do not receive appropriate attention in literature.

Traditional survey's (e.g. ESENER) fail to grasp important input from micro firms. Scientific literature, also, confirms the above.

The study's main research questions can be summarized as:

- What are the views and perceptions of owners/managers and workers on safety issues and resilience of micro-firms?
- What is the safety performance of these micro-firms?
- Examine the relationship between safety context variables (e.g. safety culture, risk management, risk communication, resilience) and safety performance.
- Examine the relationship between work-related attitudes and perceptions, like participation in safety decisions and organizational commitment, and safety performance.
- Identify the role of psychological or economic resilience in micro firms in relation to safety management in times of financial ups and downs (e.g. the economic crisis).

Personal requirements/qualifications The MSCA-IF program supports experienced researchers for a full time period between 12 and 24 months. Personal requirements/qualifications include: - Fulfilment of the eligibility criteria as in the guide for applicants for the MSCA-IF program; - Eligible researchers can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity in Cyprus for more than 12 months since September 2013; - PhD degree or at least 4 years of research experience (full-time equivalent) in safety science, risk or related fields; - Previous experience in the safety science field and a strong publication record is

an asset - Independence and creative thinking -
Fluency in English, willingness to learn Greek.