

CONFAP – MSCA Staff Exchanges 2024 Call

Call for the submission of MSCA Staff Exchanges proposals in coordination with Horizon Europe

1. Objective:

The Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies – CONFAP invites researchers from Brazil to engage in research and innovation collaborations within the Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Staff Exchanges Call 2024.

This initiative aims to foster international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral cooperation through the exchange of research and innovation staff, thereby enhancing the creative and innovative potential of the participating individuals and organisations.

2. Background:

The present call is launched by CONFAP on the basis of the Administrative Arrangement signed in 2021 between the European Commission (DG RTD), on the one side, and the Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), the Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), and the Brazilian Funding Agency for Studies (FINEP) and Projects, on the other side, on the mechanisms to support EU-Brazil cooperation in research and innovation activities.

3. Scope:

Horizon Europe is the European Union’s flagship Research and Innovation programme, covering the period from 2021 to 2027. Within Horizon Europe, the [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#) (MSCA) support the career development and training of researchers across all scientific disciplines, with an emphasis on innovation skills, through international and intersectoral mobility.

Among the actions supported under MSCA, [Staff Exchanges](#) (SE) programme scheme is designed to promote international, interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration. This is achieved through the exchange of research and innovation staff and the sharing of knowledge and ideas, facilitating the journey from research to market (and vice-versa) to advance science and foster innovation. The programme aims to create a shared culture of research and innovation that values creativity and entrepreneurship, aiding in the transformation of innovative ideas into new products, services, or processes.

MSCA SE projects can involve individuals and institutions. The staff members can be researchers at any career stage as well as administrative, managerial, or technical staff supporting the R&I activities under the project, while the Action is also open for institutions, both from the academic and non-academic sectors (including enterprises) from EU Member States, Horizon Europe Associated Countries and third countries). While the programme provides funding for EU Member States, Associated countries as well as low- and middle-income countries, it does not automatically fund partners from high-income countries, such as Brazil. Whilst the scheme covers the mobility of staff members from European partners to Brazilian organisations for secondments of 1 to 12 months, it does not do so for secondments in the opposite direction. Therefore, Brazilian participants must secure their own funding sources to participate in collaborative proposals submitted under Horizon

Europe and be able to second their staff in Europe for knowledge-sharing, skills development, research, and innovation activities.

4. Participation in MSCA projects with the co-financing of Brazilian State Funding Agencies

Brazilian State Funding Agencies (FAPs) participating in the present call (specified in Item 7), may support the participation of Brazilian researchers or institutions in MSCA Staff Exchanges, according to the modalities defined:

- a) In the European MSCA-SE 2024 call as published on the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#);
- b) In the present call published by CONFAP;
- c) In the guidelines or orientations given by the participating FAPs, requiring further conditions.

Applicants eligible for funding by the Brazilian State Funding Agencies supporting the present call will use their own funding modalities to support the participation in MSCA SE 2024 proposals.

The participating FAPs may provide specific guidelines and instructions to this end.

Moreover, participants from Brazil must follow the rules of the Horizon Europe MSCA Staff Exchange 2024 call published on the portal of the European Commission, available [here](#).

As a first step, an eligible consortium of organisations, including the Brazilian partners, must submit a MSCA SE proposal within the deadline at the European Commission Funding & Tenders Portal, through the above-mentioned link.

In addition, Brazilian the representatives of Brazilian organisations in these proposals, must also submit a resumed proposal to their respective FAPs, following the indications of the present call, and in line with the funding modalities of their FAP.

5. Eligibility:

Eligibility Consultation: applicants from Brazil must consult their respective State Funding Agency to verify their eligibility. The eligibility consultation orients on the conditions and rules to be followed, from the Brazilian side.

Eligible Host Organizations: organizations that can act as hosts include Higher Education Institutions, Research Institutions, or entities from the non-academic sector (depending on the eligibility conditions of the involved FAP) that are based in the Brazilian states covered by the participating FAPs.

Flexibility and Specific Requirements: Each FAP involved in the call may set specific eligibility criteria for applicants and host organizations within their States. These could include thematic priorities, types of entities, or other particular conditions for participation.

Eligible Applicants: Participants from Brazil cannot be coordinators of the MSCA SE proposals, as they are not automatically eligible to receive funding from the EU, therefore, they cannot be responsible for the general administrative and financial management of the project; they can only participate as associated partners withing the consortium.

6. General information for the applicants:

6.1. Proposal preparation and submission

- a. Following the eligibility consultation, submissions of proposals to FAPs must occur after MSCA Staff Exchanges call closure (5 February 2025), as the general project presented by the international consortium must be annexed to the resumed project presented to the FAPs.
- b. The proposal submitted to the participating FAPs should indicate that the Brazilian partner in the respective State had relevant participation in the design of the complete project submitted to MSCA Staff Exchanges call; i.e. being a leader of work packages and/or tasks, or whose participation is fundamental for carrying out specific activities described in the MSCA Staff Exchanges proposal. The resulting collaboration must aim to contribute to the scientific, technological and socio-economic development of the involved Brazilian States.
- c. The Brazilian engagement, as described above, must also be clearly stated in the MSCA Staff Exchange proposal.
- d. Proposals with participation of Brazilian partners from more than one Brazilian state must be submitted independently to the FAPs from all states involved in the proposal.

6.2 Orientations for Proponents:

Proposal submitted to the participating FAPs must:

- a) Follow the guidelines indicated by the FAPs for this specific call.
- b) Clearly mention that the project is associated to a proposal submitted to the Horizon Europe MSCA Staff Exchanges (SE) call.
- c) Include the title and acronym of the proposal submitted to MSCA SE, details of the coordinating institution and of the partners involved in the consortium.
- d) Include a short section (maximum two pages) demonstrating why the participation of the partner from Brazil is relevant to the MSCA SE project and how this collaboration will contribute to the scientific and technological development of the involved State/s in Brazil.
- e) It is of crucial importance that the reviewers and panel members of the involved FAPs clearly understand how the collaboration of the involved staff in Brazil is scientifically relevant, integrated in the EU proposal, and determinant to the success of the whole proposal and the Staff Exchange scheme. It is also essential to clearly demonstrate that the staff in Brazil actively participated in the preparation and design of the proposal. **The applicant/s in Brazil is/are ultimately responsible for making these elements clear in their proposal submitted to the FAPs.**
- f) The proposal, containing the abovementioned elements must also attach an annex of the full copy of the proposal submitted to the MSCA Staff Exchanges call at the European Commission's Funding & Tenders Portal, including all mandatory annexes accompanying the proposal.

6.3 Proposal evaluation

- 6.3.1 The evaluation of the proposal submitted to the involved FAPs will follow their respective standard procedures used for analysis and selection of research proposals. The content of the proposals submitted for evaluation shall be kept confidential.
- 6.3.2 The proposal will be funded by the involved FAP/s only if it is also retained for funding by the European Commission and the European Research Executive Agency (REA). The Award Term of the FAPs (“Termo de Outorga”) will only be available for signature upon the submission of the Grant Agreement with which the EU awards the grant to the consortium.
- 6.3.3 All personal information included in the proposals will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), ensuring the proper protection of personal data and the privacy of the individuals involved. This commitment to confidentiality encompasses the contents of the proposals and the annexes indicated in point 6.2.f but also extends to the firm adherence to data protection laws.

7. Involved FAPs and Contact information

7.1. Participating State Funding Agencies

The FAPs listed below support the present call according to their respective Guidelines which shall be communicated directly by the FAPs. The participating FAPs are:

1. Paraná – Fundação Araucária
2. Pernambuco - FACEPE
3. Federal District - FAPDF
4. Alagoas – FAPEAL
5. Amapá - FAPEAP
6. Amazonas – FAPEAM
7. Goiás – FAPEG
8. Maranhão – FAPEMA
9. Mato Grosso - FAPEMAT
10. Piauí - FAPEPI
11. Rio Grande do Sul – FAPERGS
12. Rio de Janeiro – FAPERJ
13. Espírito Santo – FAPES
14. Bahia - FAPESB
15. São Paulo – FAPESP
16. Santa Catarina – FAPESC
17. Pará - FAPESPA
18. Paraíba – FAPESQ
19. Rondônia – FAPERON
20. Roraima - FAPERR
21. Ceará – FUNCAP
22. Mato Grosso do Sul – FUNDECT

7.2. Contact information

- Further information about the general features of the call can be obtained by sending a consultation to: internacional.confap@gmail.com
- Specific clarifications regarding eligibility issues and additional rules for participation and submission must be directed to the respective FAPs.

8. Deadlines:

- Submission of the Horizon Europe MSCA Staff Exchanges proposals: 5 February 2025.
- Notification of call results to applicants by the European Research Executive Agency: early July 2025 (TBC)
- Submission of proposals to the participating FAPs: dates will be communicated at a later stage by the respective FAPs.