Initiated in 1992 and open to PhD holders from Europe and all over the world, the Alain Bensoussan Fellowship Programme (ABFP) is designed for ICT students, researchers and professionals. Funded entirely by ERCIM members, the ABFP yields about 20 fellows per year in average. Focusing on inter-sectoral ICT research and lasting generally 18 months and, the fellowships are composed of two 9 months periods (9+9) to be spent in two different ERCIM institutes (in two European countries) to foster trans-national mobility. Exceptionally, fellowships of 12 month hosted by one sole ERCIM institution might be considered. In such particular cases, short research visits to other institutes are required in order to meet the training and mobility objectives of the programme. Throughout the programme, the fellows are supported by the ERCIM Human Resources Task Force to drive their personal development scheme and to assist them in their future career plans, whether in European research institutions or in European Industry. We believe COFUND will
provide a real opportunity to further develop and improve the already robust and and self-sustainable Alain Bensoussan Fellowship Programme. Moreover, given the strategic nature of this training scheme focusing on ICT and novel technologies, COFUND support in up-scaling this Fellowship Programme would also enhance its impact over European research and competitiveness at large. The present proposal was positively evaluated in 2008 COFUND Call (proposal 228374), but came first on the waiting list for funding. This is not a mere resubmission, for the ABCDE proposal was refined to integrate several comments made by the reviewers to further improve different aspects of an already successful Fellowship Programme, in particular by clarifying internal processes and by implementing additional career and personal development activities.

**Programme(s)**

**Topic(s)**

**Call for proposal**

FP7-PEOPLE-COFUND-2008

**Funding Scheme**

**Coordinator**

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EU contribution

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Last update: 25 May 2017

Record number: 97481