

CIE CANARIAS: Tri-continental Atlantic

Campus

Tri-continental Talent Programme

Call to attract researchers¹



¹ This document is a mere translation of the official call, published on the Official Gazette of the Canary Islands (*Boletín Oficial de Canarias*), on 23th December 2013.

0. INTRODUCTION

Within the framework of the 2015 University Strategy, through the Call for Campuses of International Excellence, the Tri-continental Atlantic Campus, comprising the two public universities of the Canary Islands (Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Universidad de La Laguna), was awarded the category of Campus of International Excellence, European Regional category (CEIR, from the Spanish) in 2010. The Tri-continental Talent Programme aims to make the Campus more international, as well as to achieve academic excellence by attracting and incentivizing talent within the Tri-continental area: Europe (particularly the Outermost Areas), Africa and Latin America (<http://ceicanarias.ulpgc.es/>). These grants are focused on the same fields of knowledge as the Tri-continental Atlantic Campus: Marine and Maritime Science and Technology, Astrophysics, Biomedicine applied to Development Cooperation and Integral Sustainability as a cross-cutting element in specialized thematic areas.

1. PURPOSE

The general purpose of this call is to fund mobility opportunities for researchers offering the Canary Islands high potential for scientific enhancement, as well as improvement in teaching, transfer, valorisation and innovation in the Tri-continental Atlantic Campus for each of the specialised fields mentioned above, as well as to increase the number of research groups linked to the activities of the CIE CANARIAS.

This programme aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

- a) To create a tri-continental (Europe, Africa, Latin-America) community of talent.
- b) To boost teaching, research and transfer projects.
- c) To contribute to economic and social development on the three continents.
- d) To generate joint research projects aimed at transfer, valorisation and innovation.
- e) To generate solid collaboration dynamics with international multidisciplinary teams.

- f) To increase the number of collaborations with foreign universities and/or research centres and participation in networks.
- g) To bring the university and the business tissue closer together from an international perspective.

2. FUNDING

Grants awarded will be charged to the budget of the CIE CANARIAS: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus budget. The cost of said grants will be charged to expense budget applications 640.00.05 and 640.00.06 of the 42C programme of the expense budget corresponding to expense unit 02007 of the ULPGC, in accordance with budget availability .

3. PROFILE OF THE BENEFICIARY

1. Compulsory academic requisites:

- Candidates must hold a doctorate.

2. Compulsory nationality requisites:

- Candidates must hold the nationality of a country in Europe, Africa or America.

4. DESCRIPTION OF GRANTS

1. The programme to attract Tri-continental Talent will comprise two modalities:

- a) Modality 1: “Contracts for Renowned Researchers”, aimed at researchers whose research work has been carried out outside Spain and is internationally recognized, to join one of the Canary Islands’ universities in the CIE CANARIAS. Contract terms will be of 6 months extendible until 31th December 2014 at the latest, in compliance with the terms specified in section 5 of this call.
- b) Modality 2: “Short research periods for Distinguished Researchers”, aimed at researchers working outside Spain whose work is internationally recognized, so that they can enjoy temporary collaboration with the CIE CANARIAS Universities. Research periods will last for three months, extendible for a further period of up to three months, in compliance with the terms specified in section 5 of this call.

2. Candidates must present a proposal that meets the purpose outlined above and contributes to the achievement of the objectives of this call. Said proposal will be drafted using the model given in Appendix 3 to this call.
3. Contracts and research periods will be carried out at the host university, which will be one of the universities of the CIE CANARIAS. The host university, directly or through any of its instrumental entities created in compliance with article 84 of the Spanish Organic University Law, will draw up the contracts foreseen in modality 1, and will pay the expense allowance for modality 2.
4. The candidate must suggest his/her host university and hold a letter of invitation from the institution if the grant is awarded. The universities' research groups will have to explain their degree of experience in the research line proposed by the applicant and document its work, including its main international collaborations, projects, publications, patents and other relevant information.
5. The applications will include a research director, who must have proven experience and extensive research results in the field of the research line proposed by the candidate applying for the grant.
6. The application proposal must show potential on three different levels: 1) Scientific; 2) Management and Implementation, and 3) Impact, both in terms of future collaboration and of contributing to the competitiveness of the economy of the Canary Islands; all of which in line with the objectives of this Call.

5. DURATION OF GRANTS

- Modality 1- Contracts for Renowned Researchers: 6 months extendible until 31 December, 2014 at the latest, provided the justification report the researcher has to present at least 15 calendar days before the end of his/her contract period is assessed positively. The possibility of extending the contract will also be subject to the availability of funding within the Project.
- Modality 2 – Short research periods for Distinguished Researchers: 3 months which may be extended to a maximum of 6 months, provided the justification report the researcher has to present at least 15 calendar days before the end of his/her research period is assessed

positively. The possibility of extending the research stay will also be subject to the availability of funding within the Project.

6. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The grants awarded under this call will be divided between the 4 areas of knowledge of the Tri-continental Atlantic Campus: Marine and Maritime Science and Technology, Astrophysics, Biomedicine applied to Development Cooperation and Integral Sustainability as a cross-cutting element in thematic areas of specialization. Should it not be possible to cover the grants envisaged, for reasons relating to the merits of the candidates, said grants may be transferred to other area(s) in which candidates offer sufficient merit. The initial assignation of the grants by modality and area is as follows:

- Modality 1 “Contracts for Renowned Researchers”
 - Marine and Maritime Science and Technology (at least 3 contracts)
 - Astrophysics (at least 3 contracts)
 - Biomedicine Applied to Development Cooperation (at least 3 contracts)
 - Integral Sustainability (at least 3 contracts)
- Modality 2 “Short research periods for Renowned Researchers”
 - Marine and Maritime Science and Technology (3 research periods)
 - Astrophysics (3 research periods)
 - Biomedicine Applied to Development Cooperation (3 research periods)
 - Integral Sustainability (3 research periods)

Should all the grants envisaged for any of the modalities not be assigned, those not assigned may be transferred to the other modality. Should this occur, the host university appearing in the application will be taken into consideration with a view to ensuring a balance between the two universities and resource allocation.

2. Modality 1. Researchers participating in modality 1 will be subject to the following provisions:

- Host universities will draw up a contract as foreseen in the article 23 and others of the Spanish Law 14/2011, of 1st June, on Science, Technology and Innovation for a minimum term and a maximum term described in section 5 of this call, with those researchers participating in this modality. Said researchers will be included in the General Social Security System Social, under the same regime as employees.
 - Financed contracts will be incompatible with the existence of any employment relationship or provision of services by the researcher employed, in the terms provided by the Spanish Law 53/1984, of 26th December, on incompatible activities corresponding to staff employed in the Public Administration. In this sense, the beneficiary shall sign, on entering into the contract described in this call, a sworn statement that explicitly states that he/she is not in either of the above-mentioned situations.
 - The researchers will receive a remuneration of approximately 30,000 Euros per annum gross; the exact figure must appear in each contract, and it will be proportionally adapted if the contract duration is shorter.
 - The entering into said contract does not imply any commitment by either of the universities regarding any subsequent employment of the beneficiary at the universities once the contract in question has expired.
 - The contract will be entered into for the period between January and December 2014. It will start, at any case, before 2nd July 2014.
3. Modality 2. Researchers participating in modality 2 will be subject to the following provisions:
- The host universities will make an expense allowance available to the beneficiary in order to finance a research period for a minimum term and a maximum term described in section 5 of this call.
 - The host universities will not enter into any employment relationship with the beneficiaries.
 - These grants are compatible with the holding of any other employment contract by the beneficiary researcher.

- The expense allowance will amount to 9,300² Euros max, whichever is the duration of the research period, to cover exclusively travel costs, transport, accommodation and maintenance during the research period. The specific rules regarding maximum allowable rates for accommodation and maintenance costs will be applied.
- The research period must take place between the months of January and December 2014; in no case may said research period start after 1st September 2014.

7. RIGHTS OF THE BENEFICIARY

1. To be included in a research group belonging to the various departments, R&D+i centres of university institutes of the host universities where the research is to be carried out, as employed researchers (Modality 1 only) of the same and participating as per the university statutes in their governing and representational bodies.
2. Enjoy the necessary collaboration and support of the director and members of the research group to ensure that his/her research programme can develop normally, depending on their availability.
3. Be registered in the General Social Security System (Modality 1 only).
4. They may collaborate for training purposes up to a maximum of 80 hours per academic year in the teaching tasks of the department to which they are ascribed, pursuant to the provisions of *Venia Docendi* of Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria ([published in BOULPGC no. 2, of 08.02.2013](#)) and of Universidad de La Laguna (http://www.ull.es/view/institucional/ull/Venia_Docendi/es). Any teaching given will be accredited by the issuing of the corresponding certificate.

8. DUTIES OF THE BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries of the grants must fulfil the following duties:

1. Accept the terms and conditions of the programme.

² The total amount granted will be the result of the summation of the expenses declared by the applicant, but it will never exceed the maximum amount.

2. Abide by the internal regulations of the host institutions, join the department to which the research group belongs and dedicate their work exclusively to the activities covered by this grant. Additionally, on a temporary basis, they may dedicate time to other projects related to the subject-matter of this call and that aim to help achieve or boost the objectives described in this call.
3. Follow the guidelines of the research director, undertaking the activities contemplated in their application and complying with the objectives and time-lines established in the work plan.
4. Protect the confidentiality of the information to which they have access as a result of the execution of the project.
5. Be submitted to those assessments or audits that the universities may consider appropriate, sending reports on the work undertaken and results achieved within the established time limits.
6. Include the double affiliation to ULPGC-ULL, CIE CANARIAS: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus in all those publications, communications and other activities that disseminate results arising from the grants awarded under this Programme. Likewise, they will mention the Campus of International Excellence, European Regional category, CIE Canarias using the expression “Research by XXXXXX, supported by Canary Islands CIE: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus”, where XXXXXX corresponds to the author’s name.
7. Beneficiaries from non-EU countries will provide evidence of:
 - a) A valid stay or residence permit for Spain and, if appropriate, a working permit.
 - b) Be in possession of medical insurance, valid in Spain.
8. Beneficiaries from EU countries must have the European Health Card. Failing this, a medical insurance (valid in Spain) must be shown.
9. Additionally, the host University can request beneficiaries the subscription of an accident insurance and a civil liability insurance.

10. Take on the duties corresponding to their registration in the General Social Security System (modality 1 only).

11. Any unexpected situation that may arise during the period covered by the grant (such as a change in research director, change in research line, absences, etc.) must be notified in advance.

9. INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

1. Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights will be subject to the following provisions:

a) Modality 1. Industrial property rights derived from the results obtained by the researcher employed by the university will belong to the university, pursuant to article 20 of Spanish Law 11/1986 of 20th March, on Patents and Utility Models, and to the stipulations of the industrial property regulations of the university. Intellectual property rights will be governed by the provisions of Spanish Legislative Royal Decree 1/1996, of 12th April, which approved the Consolidated Text of the Spanish Intellectual Property Law, as well as by the stipulations of the intellectual property regulations of the university.

b) Modality 2. Industrial and intellectual property rights derived from the results obtained by the researcher during his/her stay at the host university will be governed by the provisions of Spanish Law 11/1986 of 20th March, on Patents and Utility Models and by Spanish Legislative Royal Decree 1/1996, of 12th April, which approved the Consolidated Text of the Spanish intellectual Property Law, as well as by the stipulations of the industrial and intellectual property regulations of the researcher's home and host universities.

Ownership of these industrial and intellectual property rights will be shared by the researcher's home and host universities, as co-owners, under article 20 of the Spanish Patent Law and article 7 of the Consolidated Text of the Spanish Intellectual Property Act. The authors' moral rights will belong to them as per article 14 of the Consolidated Text of the Spanish Intellectual Property Act.

The percentage participation in the ownership of these industrial and intellectual property rights will be determined depending on the contribution made by each institution to the obtaining of said results (researchers and resources used) and must be reflected in a written document prior to the seeking of any application for protection.

The right to exploit the results will belong to the researcher's home and host universities in the same proportion as that of ownership. The moral rights of the results will belong to the authors, as established in article 14 of the Consolidated Text of the Spanish Intellectual Property Act.

2. The dissemination and diffusion of the results of the activities carried out by the beneficiary will be of the type used in the R&D or R&D+I projects in the framework of which the research activities have taken place:
 - a) For European projects, the clauses and procedures established, if any, in the contract with the European Commission and the Consortium Agreement signed by the stakeholders.
 - b) The procedures or requisites established in the public calls for national or regional programmes.
 - c) Agreements reached in the framework agreement or contract between the ULPGC or ULL and the funding body pursuant to article 83 of the Spanish Organic University Law.
 - d) In any case, the condition of beneficiary of a grant from the Tri-continental Talent Programme of the CIE Canarias: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus will always be cited.

10. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications must be lodged within 30 days as of the day after the publication of this call in the Official Gazette of the Canary Islands (*Boletín Oficial de Canarias*). Application forms will be available for candidates at the website of the CIE CANARIAS: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus (<http://www.ceicanarias.com/>).

Applications may be presented at the General Registries (*Registro General*) of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (C/ Real de San Roque nº 1, módulo D, planta baja - 35015 - Las Palmas de Gran Canaria), of the University of La Laguna (Pabellón de Gobierno, calle Molinos de Agua, s/n – 38207 - La Laguna), or in any of the places stipulated in article 38.4 of Spanish Law 30/1992, of 26th November, on the Legal Regime and Common Administrative Procedure. They may also be presented on-line, through any of the electronic portals of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and the University of La Laguna. In any case, and in order to facilitate the process, candidates are strongly recommended to e-mail their application to cei_talento@ulpgc.es.

Candidates must provide the following documents:

- Grant application in the standard form (Appendix 1).
- Applicant's Curriculum vitae³, in the standardised format for this call (Appendix 2), Spanish Standardised R&D+I CV (CVM) or other standardised models.
- Photocopy of certificate of doctorate, or of proof of payment of the corresponding fees.
- Descriptive report of the research project to be carried out, duly endorsed by the lecturer (who must also hold a doctorate) who supports the proposal (Appendix 3).

Once the period for the presentation of applications has come to an end, the applications and supporting documentation submitted will be evaluated in order to check that the candidates meet the requisites established to participate in this call. Candidates will be notified if any documentation required in order to participate in the call is missing, and they will be given 10 working days to submit the documentation in question. Once this period is over, the definitive list of those candidates who have been admitted and those who have been excluded will be published on the CIE CANARIAS: Tri-continental Atlantic Campus website.

11. SELECTION PROCESS

³ Accreditation of the *Curriculum Vitae* may be requested at any stage of the assessment process.

1. Those candidates that meet the requirements stipulated will be assessed according to the evaluation criteria specified at the end of this document. The Management Committee of the Programme will appoint a Selection Committee to carry out this process.
2. The Management Committee of the Programme will comprise the President of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, the President of the University of La Laguna and the Coordinators of the Campus of International Excellence, European Regional Category CEI CANARIAS Tri-continental Atlantic Campus, the Vice-President for Internationalisation and Excellence of the ULL and the General Manager of the ULPGC.
3. The Selection Committee⁴ will comprise a Chair, a Secretary and two specialists for each specialised field of knowledge. Said Committee will include an equal number of members from each of the two universities. Thus, the posts of Chair and Secretary will be held, respectively, by the Coordinators of CIE CANARIAS at the ULPGC and the ULL. Likewise, each field of knowledge will be represented by one specialist from the ULPGC and one from the ULL. Finally, the Selection Committee may consult with external experts or use external agencies if it deems fit.
4. Once the evaluation process has concluded, the President of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (as the coordinator of CIE CANARIAS) will publish the provisional resolution of the call on the CIE CANARIAS official website. Said publication will include the points awarded to each application, which will be placed in descending order, from the highest to the lowest. A period of 10 working days as of the day after the publication of this list will be established for the lodging of any objections. Once this period has concluded, and any objections lodged have been duly taken into consideration, said list will be considered definitive.
5. The final resolution of the grants in both modalities will be handed down by the President of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and published in the Official Gazette of the Canary Islands (*Boletín Oficial de Canarias*) and on the official CIE CANARIAS website.

⁴ The list of specialists will be published with the definitive list of those candidates who have been admitted and excluded, respectively.

6. One reserve list per specialised area may be constituted. Any awardees that may drop out of the programme will be replaced by those on the corresponding reserve list. The period for which the new beneficiary, in such a case, will receive the grant will be adjusted taking into consideration the period for which the initial awardee received his/her grant and the programme's available budget.

12. INCORPORATION OF BENEFICIARIES

Those candidates selected will be subject to the operational conditions and those of availability of both the institutions and the candidates. In any case, both the contracts and the periods of research must take place during the period 1 January to 31 December 2014, in compliance with terms specified in section 6 of this call.

13. JUSTIFICATION AND MONITORING OF GRANTS

1. A Scientific Committee will be appointed that will monitor the grants awarded under this Call. The Scientific Committee will comprise members of the university community from both universities belonging to the 4 fields of knowledge of the CIE CANARIAS. The Secretary of said Committee will be the CIE Canarias Coordinator from the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.
2. Modality 1:
 - a) The beneficiary must present a mid-term report justifying the degree of progress made in his/her Work Plan. Said mid-term report is to be presented during the first 10 calendar days following the mid-point of the contract.
 - b) At the end of the contract and within 30 calendar days after its termination, the beneficiary shall present his/her final report, presenting the results obtained by the project and the extent to which they match or differ from the results and objectives proposed in the initial application.
 - c) Both the mid-term and the final reports must be signed by both the beneficiary of the grant and the research director.

3. Modality 2:

- a) The beneficiary will present a final report within 30 calendar days of the end of his/her research period. Said report will contain the results obtained by the project and the extent to which they match or differ from the results and objectives proposed in the initial application. Said report must be signed by both the beneficiary of the grant and the research director.
- b) The beneficiary will present the boarding passes and invoices of the expenses during his/her research period. These will be presented jointly with the final report.

14. APPEALS

1. Administrative appeals may be lodged against this call and against the definitive resolution of candidates selected, which concludes the administrative proceedings. Any such appeals must be lodged within a period of two months before the Administrative Courts in question in accordance with the regulations stipulated in article 14 of Spanish Law 29/1998, of 13th July, which governs said jurisdiction; or alternatively, an appeal for reversal may be lodged before the Governing Bodies (*Rectorado*) of the Universities within a period of one month, as envisaged in articles 116 and 117 of Spanish Law 30/1992, of 26th November, on the Legal Regime of the Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure, in which case, no case may be made before the Administrative Court until the appeal for reversal has been expressly resolved or implicitly dismissed.
2. Any partial or total non-compliance with the requisites and duties established in this call and other applicable regulations, as well as any conditions that may be established by the corresponding decisions to award the above-mentioned grants, will give rise, once the corresponding non-compliance file has been opened, to the loss of entitlement to be paid the grant, and/or the obligation to pay back the grant and any accrued interest, in accordance with Title II (section on subsidies), Title III (financial control) and Title IV (violations and sanctions) of

Spanish Law 38/2003, of 17th November, and in the Regulations of Spanish Law 38/2003, of 17th November. For modality 1, it will be cause of contract termination.

3. The proportional criteria determining the degree of non-compliance are listed below:
 - a) The total non-fulfilment of the scientific and technical objectives for which the grant was awarded, determined by the monitoring and scientific-technical control mechanisms, will give rise to the total repayment of the grant and, where applicable, the loss of entitlement to be paid any amounts outstanding.
 - b) Non-achievement of partial objectives or specific activities will entail the repayment of those parts of the grant designated to that end and, where applicable, the loss of entitlement to be paid any amounts outstanding.
 - c) The non-presentation, in accordance with the stipulations of the corresponding call, of annual or final monitoring reports will lead to the repayment of those amounts received and not duly justified and, where applicable, the loss of entitlement to be paid any amounts outstanding.
 - d) Non-compliance with the measures of dissemination established, in the terms of article 31.3 of the regulations of Spanish Law 38/2003, of 17th November, will lead to the partial repayment of the amount related to said non-compliance.
 - e) The regime of violations and sanctions established in Title IV of the Spanish General Law of Subsidies will apply.

15. VOLUNTARY REPAYMENTS

The voluntary repayment of the grant received will be governed by article 90 of the General Regulations of Subsidies. To carry out any such repayment, a letter of payment of non-tax revenues, model 069, will be requested from the bodies responsible, as stipulated in Order PRE/3662/2003, on 29th December (published in the Official Spanish Gazette [BOE] on 31st December), which regulates the procedure by which non-tax revenues are collected by the Branch Offices of the Ministry of Economy and Finance cash deposits are made in branches of the General Public Depository (*Caja General de Depósitos*) located in the Branch Offices of said Ministry, modified by

Order EHA/3967/2007, of 26th December (published in the Official Spanish Gazette [BOE] on 8th January, 2008).

16. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each proposal will be evaluated against the following criteria:

S&T Quality	Researcher	Implementation	Impact
Research/technological quality, including any interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary aspects of the proposal	Research experience	Quality of infrastructure / facilities and International collaborations of host research group	Potential for creating long term collaborations and mutually beneficial co-operation between Canary Islands and the applicant's country
Appropriateness of research methodology and approach		Practical arrangements for the implementation and management of the research project *	
Originality and innovative nature of the project, and relationship to the 'state of the art' of research in the field	Independent thinking, leadership qualities, and capacity to transfer knowledge	Feasibility and credibility of the project, including work plan	Contribution to excellence and competitiveness of the Canary Islands through valuable transfer of knowledge
Timeliness and relevance of the project	Match between the fellow's profile and project		
Host research expertise in the field			
Quality of the group/scientist in charge			

Evaluation scores will be given for each of the five criteria, and not for the sub-criteria. The sub-criteria are issues that the expert should consider in the assessment of the relevant criterion.

Each criterion will be scored out of 5. Scores will be given with a resolution of one decimal place. The scores indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination:

- 0 - The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information
- 1 - Poor. The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2 - Fair. While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses.
- 3 - Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, although improvements would be necessary.
- 4 - Very Good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are still possible.
- 5 - Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question.

The weightings for the different criteria are summarized in the table below:

Evaluation Criterion	Weighting (in %)
S&T Quality	30
Researcher	30
Implementation	10
Impact	30