

Short Term Scientific Mission Grants GP4 Call (2023/03/03 to 2023/03/24)

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are exchange visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, strengthening existing networks and fostering collaboration between researchers. A STSM should specifically contribute to the scientific goal of the WORCK COST Action, whilst at the same time allowing those partaking in the missions to learn new techniques, gain access to specific data, instruments and/or methods not available in their own institutions or organisations.

STSMs must be carried out in a different country than the country of Affiliation of the applicant.

Term for execution

This STSM open call is for stays to be carried out between 1 April 2023 and 15 October 2023. We recommend that STSM have a minimum duration of 5 calendar days (including travel) and a maximum duration of 90 days.

Elegibility

Both Applicant and Host must be members of the Action.

In order to apply, the applicant must be a person affiliated to an institution located in a participating COST Full Member/COST Cooperating Member, an Action MC Observer from NNC, or located in an Approved European RTD Organisation (for an up to date list of countries, see <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/11/Annex-I-level-A-Country-and-Organisations-Table-Version-1.4.pdf>). Researchers affiliated to institutions from outside the scope of this list (such as International Partners of this action: <https://www.worck.eu/people/cooperation/>) may host STSM researchers from European COST countries, but may not apply for STSMs themselves.

The institutions/organisations where applicants pursue their main strand of research are considered as home institutions. The host institution is the institution/organisation that will host the successful applicant.

For more information about eligibility, please consult the information contained in the Cost Rules (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/07/COST-089-21-Level-B-rules-for-COST-Actions.pdf>).

Expenses covered by the Grant

STSM Mobility and Collaboration Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to performing a given mission. The grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the grantee.

The STSM Grant will be a fixed grant to cover part of the travel expenses and a living allowance. The cost of research materials is not eligible for consideration as part of the grant.

The calculation of the financial contribution for each STSM must respect the following criteria:

- Up to a maximum of EUR 2,500 in total can be awarded to each successful STSM applicant; of which up to a maximum of EUR 180 per day can be awarded for accommodation and meal expenses;
- up to a maximum of EUR 300 can be awarded for travel costs.

Applicants must provide in their application an argued estimation (budget) of the costs to be covered. The amount requested may be granted only in part. In that case, the applicant will be allowed to adapt the length of their STSM accordingly if they wish to do so.

Please note that, as a rule, the awarded grant will be paid only after the STSM has been completed and the report of the work carried out has been approved.

Upon request, reimbursement of 50 % of the grant can be reimbursed upon arrival to the host institution for YRI scholars (under 40 years of age) and early career researchers (up to 6 years after granting of PhD). Applicants from ITCs that fall under these categories are encouraged to apply.

WORK

Applicants requesting it should explicitly state in their application the need for early reimbursement and the how they meet the criteria. Each case will be evaluated individually, also taking into consideration the duration of the STSM and the overall amount of the grant.

STSM awards may be combined with other funding sources, but these must be acknowledged in the application and will be taken into account when calculating the amount granted.

Application procedure:

Applications should be submitted via e-cost.

The following documents must be uploaded:

- Application form (To be downloaded here: https://www.cost.eu/STSM_GrantApplication). It should describe: goals for the STSM, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, expected outcomes, and description of How the awarded grant will address one (or several) associated Grant Goals(s) related to the achievement of MoU objective(s) and/or contributing to the Science Communication Plan adopted by the Action.
- Confirmation of the host on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant
- CV of the applicant

Incomplete applications will not be accepted. The committee can request additional information if it is considered necessary.

Proposals will be evaluated by a STSM Committee consisting of representatives of each working group.



In case of non-fulfilment of the Grant, Cost Derogation Procedures (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/02/Derogation-Procedure-2022.pdf>) will be followed.

For more information please consult the information on our website (<https://www.worck.eu/activities/stsm/>), the Rules for Cost Actions (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/07/COST-089-21-Level-B-rules-for-COST-Actions.pdf>) and the Grant Awarding User Guide (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/12/Grant-Awarding-userguide.pdf>), or contact the Grant Awarding Coordinator stsm@worck.eu