

# **COST Action CA17128**

## **Continuous Call for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) Grants Applications**

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grant Period**

for Missions taking place from 01 November 2022 until 3 April 2023

*All activities must occur in entirety within the period specified above.  
Applications will be evaluated in order of arrival according to the specific regulations of STSM Grants*

#### **Important deadlines:**

##### **STSM:**

**Deadline for applications:** applications will be evaluated in order of arrival and accepted until 28 February 2023.

**Notification of application outcome:** maximum 15 days after application

**Period of STSM:** 01-November-2022; 3-April-2023

**Submittal report and financial claim:** 30 days from the completion of the STSM or 15 days after the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> Grant Period (3 April 2023), whichever date comes first.

#### **Purpose of a Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)**

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits to support individual mobility and foster collaboration between individuals. STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research program as a Ph.D. Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organization, or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research. **STSMs should be aligned and contribute to the scientific objectives of COST Action 17128 - LIGNOCOST.** Detailed information on the applicant's eligibility, rules, and other issues can be found in the documents "COST Vademecum (April 2021)", "Annotated rules for COST actions (July 2021)", and in the COST\_portal ([www.cost.eu/STSM](http://www.cost.eu/STSM)). Some critical information is also provided below:

- The financial support from COST is a contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the STSM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated outgoings. Financial support is limited to cover travel, accommodation, and meal expenses and is paid in the form of a Grant.
- STSMs must have a minimum duration of 5 calendar days, including travel.
- Up to a maximum of EUR 4,000 in total can be afforded to each successful STSM applicant, reflecting the duration and location of the STSM;
- STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call (**01/11/2022 – 10/03/2023**).

For this specific GP5, the Management Committee of COST Action CA17128 had allocated a total budget of 12,500 Euro is available for an indicative number of 6 STSMs. The amounts granted for each STSM will be determined during the evaluation process by the STSM Committee, consisting of the STSM coordinator and MC core members.

The **approval of applications** will be based on the following:

- i. The scientific scope of the STSM application must support the implementation of the overall scientific objectives of the Action, as described in its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- ii. The applicant's background and motivation.
- iii. Priority will be given to Ph.D. students.
- iv. Other factors will also be considered, such as gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI), broadening geographical inclusiveness, and equilibrium between WG.

## How to apply for an STSM:

Interested researchers can apply by following the directions provided below and submitting their application and supporting documents online via the COST platform to the STSM Coordinator: **Prof. Filomena Barreiro**. After selection, the applicants will be notified.

## The application process is as follows:

1. All applicants must carefully read the STSM rules detailed in Section 8 of the COST Vademecum (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/04/Vademecum-28-April-2021.pdf>), and in the Annotated rules for COST actions (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/12/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V1.3.pdf>).
2. All eligible applicants must create a complete e-COST profile (also adding their bank account details) at the same time as their online STSM application at: [www.cost.eu/STSM](http://www.cost.eu/STSM). Applicants who already have an e-COST profile may apply for an STSM by logging in to e-COST and clicking on "STSM Application" on the menu available on the left. The template for the application is the following: [https://www.cost.eu/STSM\\_GrantApplication](https://www.cost.eu/STSM_GrantApplication).
3. The applicants can download their Grant Notification Letter through the same portal ([www.cost.eu/STSM](http://www.cost.eu/STSM)) as soon as the application is approved.
4. The application will then be assessed by the formally delegated STSM Committee based on the expected contribution to the scientific objectives of the Action and the remaining criteria described above.
5. The applicant will be formally notified of the outcome of their STSM application by the e-COST system.
6. After completing the STSM, the applicant must submit a scientific report to the Host institution ([https://www.cost.eu/STSM\\_Report](https://www.cost.eu/STSM_Report)), which should be uploaded at e-COST within 30 days from the completion of the STSM, but no later than 15 March 2023.

Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days from the completion of the STSM or 15 days after the end of the 5th GP (3 April 2023), whichever date comes first, **will effectively cancel the Grant**.

***(Please note that the COST Association can request additional information to substantiate the information contained within the documents submitted by STSM applicants).***