



PIMo Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) GP2 Open Call

Deadline: December 5, 2020

Conditions of application:

- Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are directed to supporting individual mobility, institutional visits, and collaboration between individual scholars located in a Participating COST Full member / COST Cooperating Member country. **STSMs funding is incompatible with funding obtained from other sources to cover the same expenses for the same period of the mobility. Applicants should disclose whether they have applied for other sources of funding at the time when they are submitting their STSM applications.**
- STSMs need to be fully completed within a single Grant Period and within the Action's lifetime. On consideration of the ongoing and foreseeable COVID-related travel restrictions, **STSMs in PIMo Grant Period 2 (GP2) can only take place between 1 January 2021 and 2 April 2021.** An STSM must have a minimum duration of 5 calendar days, including travel. In those cases when the duration of the STSM application request exceeds 90 days the applicant should be an Early Career Investigator (up to 8 years after PhD).
- STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow, or may be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation, or legal entity which has a clear association with research in its remit. The institutions, organisations, or legal entities where applicants pursue their main project of research are considered to be Home Institutions, while Host Institutions are those that will host successful applicants for the duration of their STSM. **Host institutions must be located in a different country than the country of the applicant.**
- The following table shows the conditions of eligibility for STSM applicants:

Applicant's Home Institution	STSM Host Institution
Located in a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member	Located in another Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member
	Located in a Participating COST Partner Member
	An Approved IPC Institution
	An Approved NNC Institution
	The EU Commission or a EU Body, Office or Agency
	An Approved European RTD Organisation
Located in an Approved NNC Institution	An Approved International Organisation
	Located in a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member
Located in an Approved European RTD Organisation	Located in a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member

- Neither the COST Association nor the Grant Holder of the Action can be considered the STSM applicant's employer. STSM applicants must make their own arrangements for all provisions relating to personal security, health, taxation, social security, and pension matters.

Applications should include a CV and a Motivation and Workplan summary (2000 words max), as well as a detailed budget and a timetable of the proposed mission. Applicants should also nominate a senior researcher at the Host Institution who has agreed to supervisor or mentor the applicant during the course of their research visit. A formal letter of invitation from a representative/ researcher from the Host Institution to the applicant should be attached to the application.

Reporting requirements:

- The STSM Grantee has 30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit (via the COST platform) a scientific report to the STSM Coordinator and to the supervisor/mentor affiliated to the Host Institution. Payment of the Grant is conditional on an STSM scientific report being approved on behalf of the Action's MC by the STSM Coordinator and by a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution. The deadline to submit the last supporting documents is 30 days from the end of the STSM. The submission of the supporting documents is mandatory or the Grant is cancelled. Late submission, beyond the deadline, can also lead to the cancellation of the Grant and, in cases when a pre-payment was done, the obligatory reimbursement by the grantee of the amount received. A scientific report template is available on the Supporting documents page or on-line here: http://www.cost.eu/STSM_report_template

- Applicants are not permitted to submit more than one application per grant period, and more than two applications in the whole Action's life.
- Eligible STSM applicants must submit their STSM applications online at the following web address: <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>.

Evaluation Criteria:

Essential:

- Relevance of the mission from a scientific point of view, with respect to the Action's research focus and aims (the application is expected to create the opportunity for significant collaboration at a Host Institution and/or provide the applicant with access to documents, sources, works of art, etc, necessary to foster her/his research). Candidates are strongly encouraged to frame their projects specifically within the scope and goals of a particular Working Group, namely: (1) Things in Motion, (2) Ideas in Motion, (3) Paper in Motion, (4) People in Motion. The expected outcomes (in terms of publications) of the STSM mobility should also be discussed (up to 6 points).
- Applicant's CV (up to 3 points).

Preferential:

- Applicants based in [Inclusiveness Target Countries](#);
- Early Career Investigators

In the overall selection of applicants, gender balance will be pursued. Applications will be evaluated by the PIMo Core Team.

Financial details:

- An STSM Grant is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the STSM application. STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses relating to a given mission. An STSM Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the Grantee for a defined project.

- A maximum of EUR 2,500 in total can be disbursed to each successful applicant. In the event of a high number of applications, the STMS Committee may propose a cap on the maximum allowances in order to provide more grants.
- Specific provisions have been introduced to enable researchers from ITCs participating in the Action to request a pre-payment of 50% of their STSM Grant when they complete the first day of their STSM. In such cases, the representative of the Host Institution must confirm by e-mail to the Grant Holder that the STSM applicant has officially started the mission on day 1. Only then can the Grant Holder arrange payment of 50% of the STSM grant. The remaining 50% of the Grant is payable once the administrative requirements have been satisfied after the STSM.
- All grants will be paid within the deadline of 45 days after the completion of the STSM.

Deadline:

- Applications should be submitted online via the COST platform by **5 December 2020** (successful applicants will be advised on 15 December, 2020)
- A second call for applications will be issued if the available funds have not been entirely allocated in the Fall session. With applications closing: **10 January 2021**.

Enquiries:

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