COST Action CA 23114 RELINK2

https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23114

FIRST OPEN CALL

Short-Term Scientific Mission

This call is based upon work from COST Action RELINK2 (CA23114), supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

1. Important dates

Deadline for submission of application: continuous submission, until GP funds are no longer available. Outcome notification date: up to 4 weeks after submission.
Period within which the STSM must occur: Grant Period 1 (up to September 30, 2025, final report no later than October 15, 2025)

2. General information

COST Action Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are a Researcher's visit to a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation by a researcher or innovator for a specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time.
Short-Term Scientific Missions benefit to:
STSM Grantee: receives funding for implementing a project with an international team and gains new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques not available in the home institution;
STSM Host: receives an international partner in their institution and can develop long-lasting collaboration.

3. Scope of funding

Up to 2.000 EUR per grant in Grand Period 1. Minimum duration: 5 days. Maximum duration: 3 months.
The Grant amount requested should cover travel expenses, accommodation, and meal allowances based on a personalized budget of the Applicant.
COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy and COST Principles of Openness, Diversity and Inclusiveness will be considered when deciding on Grants.
Steps to Eligibility:
1) Create your e-Cost profile
2) You are encouraged to join the CA23144 RELINK2 Working Groups:
WG1. Theoretical challenges
WG2. Methodological challenges
WG3. Empirical analysis

WG4. Engagement and dissemination

4. Application process
Applications are filled in the online application form in your e-Cost profile.
The STSM Grant Application form consists of:
Details of the STSM (Title, start and end date and Country)
Goals of the STSM (max. 200 words)
Working Plan (max. 500 words)
Expected outputs and contribution to the Action MoU objectives and deliverables (please find CA23114 documents here)

STMS Grantees are expected to submit a scientific paper at an international peer- reviewed journal or a working paper (which will be published on the Action website) as the result of this networking activity within 6 months after completing the STSM.*
*Providing evidence: a message from the journal with the submission confirmation or the confirmation of the working paper series editor that the paper was submitted.

Additional documents
• Applicant's Curriculum Vitae with a list of relevant research or publications
(max 3 pages, font: 12 pt. Times New Roman, page borders: 1.2 inches)
• Acceptance Letter or Letter of Intent of the Host institution*
• Letter of recommendation or Support from Home institution.
• Sustainable budget** for the STSM with maximum total expenses of 2000 EUR
* Host institution must not be located in the same country as the Applicants Institution of affiliation.
** The Applicant may consult the list of maximum daily allowances (see here and here) when forming an outline for the budget, however, the amount can be lower. As for travel expenses, the applicant must choose the most economical means of transportation.

5. Grant Approval Process
Applications will be evaluated by the Grant Evaluation Committee (GEC), which consists of the Grant Awarding Coordinator and three selected members of the Management Committee, according to the following criteria:
1) Excellence of the application promoting the direct contribution to the RELINK2 Objectives and Grant period 1 Goals, which are outlined in detail in the Memorandum of Understanding of the Action.
2) Relevance of the Applicant's research area to the STSM topic
3) 1st-time participant in RELINK2 STSM

6. Grant Implementation
• Grant Awarding Coordinator approves the Grant in e-Cost
• The Grantee performs the STSM
• Upon the completed STMS the Grantee completes the Report in e-Cost and claims the STSM Grant pay-out.
Once the activity has ended, the Grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST within 30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.

The required report/documentation for claiming a STSM Grant is:

• report to the Action MC on the work developed,

• main achievements of the STSM and

• planned future follow-up activities, including publishing the paper in an international peer-reviewed journal or a working paper, as mentioned above in Section 4.

Relevant documents/links:

ANNOTATED RULES FOR COST ACTIONS (see sections 6.4 Eligibility and Process Description A2-2.3)

Grant Awarding User guide

For additional information please contact Grant Awarding Coordinator Prof. Petia Gueorguieva (petiagueorguieva@gmail.com).