Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) call

CA15137
European Network for Research Evaluation in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (ENRESSH)

Call Number 2_2
for Grant period 2 (01/05/2017 to 30/04/2018)

What is the purpose of an STSM?

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are aimed at strengthening existing networks and fostering collaborations by facilitating Researchers participating in a given COST Action to visit an institution or laboratory **in another Participating COST Country / an approved NNC institution or an approved IPC institution**. A STSM should specifically contribute to the overall scientific objectives of the COST Action*, whilst at the same time enable eligible researchers to learn new techniques or gain access to specific expertise, instruments and/or methods not available in their own institutions.

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ENRESSH - European Network for Research Evaluation in the Social Sciences and the Humanities
The challenge of the Action is to enable the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) to better demonstrate their true place in academia and society. To do so, the Action proposes to bring together different strands of work consecrated to SSH research evaluation, currently under development in different parts of Europe, in order to gain momentum, to exchange best practices and results, and to avoid unnecessary duplication.

A call for 5 topics has been opened:
T1 Research and dissemination patterns of SSH institutes and/or researchers (WP1);
T2 Examination of various types of SSH research impacts, stakeholders, knowledge and processes of impact generation (WP2);
T3.1 Productivity and a structure of outputs in various SSH disciplines (WP3);
T3.2 Setting up a pilot study for interoperating research information systems via VIRTA Finnish platform (WP3);
T-SIG Systematic study of ECI experience of SSH research evaluation (SIG)

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Topic 1: Research and dissemination patterns of SSH institutes and/or researchers (WP1)

Host institution: FORS, located at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland)

Description of the topic: This STSM will investigate research and dissemination patterns of SSH institutes and/or researchers. The focus of the STSM will lie in the analysis of the (full) output of SSH institutes using qualitative as well as quantitative descriptions and classifications (e.g. the grantees home institute as well as the host institute), not only regarding output type or dissemination channel but also regarding type of text and references used within these texts. Furthermore, interviews with researchers will shed light on knowledge production and dissemination strategies.

Objectives:
- to advance the understanding of knowledge production and dissemination in the SSH
- to investigate the relationship between publication patterns and the institution's profile

Special criteria for this STSM: the applicant has (basic) bibliometric knowledge and experience in qualitative research. Having access at the own institution's publication data is an advantage.

Results: The proposed STSM will result in a co-authored publication and contribute to the training school and to the recommendations for better adapted criteria and indicators for SSH research.

Practical details:

Working group: WG1 (conceptual frameworks for SSH research evaluation)

Duration and timing: between two weeks and two months

Location: FORS, Géopolis, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

Contact: Michael Ochsner (michael.ochsner@fors.unil.ch)

Topic 2: Examination of various types of SSH research impacts, stakeholders, knowledge and processes of impact generation (WP2)

Host institution: Universitat Politècnica de València, INGENIO (CSIC-UPV)

Description of the topic: In this STSM we intend to delve into the diversity of potential users, the types of uses they can make of HSS knowledge as well as the territorial scope of impacts.

Objectives:
- to examine the various types of SSH research impacts and stakeholders, especially in the cultural sphere;
- to analyse the types of knowledge use (conceptual/symbolic, instrumental);
- to identify the processes through which they emerge, and their territorial scope (local, national, international).

The work will be carried out in close cooperation with Julia Olmos Peñuela (University of Valencia), Vice Chair of WG2.

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Results: One or more publications thematising structural requirements and conditions favouring the flowing of SSH knowledge towards society as large and measures to value better SSH outcomes.

Special criteria for this STSM: preferably the applicant has to be familiar with science, research and innovation (policy) studies or has experience in generating impact.

Practical details:

Working group: WG2 (Societal impact and Relevance of the SSH)

Duration: between two weeks and two months

Location: Universitat Politècnica de València, Valencia, Spain

Contact: Elena Castro-Martínez (ecastrom@ingenio.upv.es)

Topic 3.1 Productivity and a structure of outputs in various SSH disciplines (WP3)

Host institution: Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Description of the topic: This STSM will confront productivity and a structure of outputs in various SSH disciplines. The focus of the STSM will lie in a cross-country comparison of the SSH publication patterns, especially in terms of publication languages and types (e.g., the share of monographs and non-English publications).

Objectives:

- to confront productivity and structure of outputs in various SSH disciplines, using data from existing national information systems or other databases and repositories (identify dissemination profiles, clusters and hybrids);

- to analyse characteristics of divers dissemination channels used in the SSH.

Results: One or more publications as well as establishment of new collaboration(s) (or development of the existing ones) between the Adam Mickiewicz University and the applicant's organisation.

Special criteria for this STSM: Thus, preferably the applicant has access to and is familiar with the data infrastructure in their own country or region.

Practical details:

Working group: WG3 (databases and uses of data for understanding SSH research)

Duration: between two weeks and two months

Location: Scholarly Communication Research Group – Faculty of Social Sciences, Szamarzewskiego 89c 60-568 Poznań, POLAND

Contact: Emanuel Kulczycki (emek@amu.edu.pl)

Topic 3.2: Setting up a pilot study for interoperating information systems via VIRTA Finnish platform (WP3)

Host institution: CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd, Research Information Management and Interoperability

Description of the topic: The STSM contributes to the WG3 goal of setting up a pilot study for interoperating at least 2 research information systems via VIRTA Finnish platform, and hence to task 4 of WG3 ("Design a roadmap for a European bibliometric database"). The STSM will contribute to the European VIRTA pilot aiming at the development of a European database of research information.

Objectives:

- to analyse publication data quality in the VIRTA pilot;
- to perform bibliometric analysis: A comparison of pilot organizations, for example in terms of co-publishing, publication types, or internationality.

Results: A paper on multilateral comparisons between countries.

Special criteria for this STSM: preferably the applicant has access to and is familiar with the data infrastructure in their own country or region.

Practical details:

Working group: WG3 (databases and uses of data for understanding SSH research)

Duration: between two weeks and two months, longer stay is preferable

Location: CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd, Espoo, Finland

Contact: Hanna-Mari Puuska (hanna-mari.puuska@csc.fi)

T-SIG Systematic study of ECI experience of SSH research evaluation (SIG)

Host institution: Université Paris-Est Créteil, Institut de Recherche en Gestion

Description of the topic: Special interest group for Early career investigators (ECI) is interested into the impact of evaluation on ECI in terms of recruitment, promotion and career paths.

Objectives:

- to collect interviews from ECI in different countries regarding the impact of evaluation on ECI;
- to conduct a systematic study of ECI experience of SSH research evaluation (challenges and opportunities related to evaluation that ECI face), as reflected in the interviews, in order to develop a questionnaire that could be addressed to a much bigger number of ECI in different countries.

*Results: Contribution to the t*raining school: Evaluation procedures and impact on careers; Publications: Co-authored publications drawn from the material collected by the interviews and questionnaires, SIG for ECI activities which foresee the preparation of the questionnaire grid as the outcome of grant period 2.

Special criteria for this STSM: preferably the applicant has access to and is familiar with the data infrastructure in their own country or region.

Practical details:

Working group: Special interest group for Early career investigators (ECI

Duration: two weeks between January 15–30, 2018.

Location: Université Paris-Est Créteil, Paris, France

Contact: Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard (stephanie.mignot-gerard@u-pec.fr)

Who is eligible to partake in ENRESSH STSM?

A STSM applicant must be engaged in a research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an Institution or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing scientific research.

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If the above requirements are satisfied researchers from the following countries (their primary affiliation is held) are eligible to receive an ENRESSH STSM grant:

1. Researchers holding their primary affiliation at an institution located in a Participating COST Country. A list of Participating COST Countries can be found on the respective COST Action Webpage at www.cost.eu.

2. For Researchers holding their primary affiliation in a Near Neighbour Country (NNC), the consideration for being eligible to receive a STSM grant is linked to whether their institution has been formally approved onto the Action or not – The eligibility status of Researchers located in NNC is restricted to those affiliated to approved NNC institutions.
The complete list of NNC can be found at
http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/cost_countries/international_cooperation/nnc. A list of approved NNC Institutions can be found on the respective COST Action Webpage at www.cost.eu.

3. For Researchers holding their primary affiliation at a European RTD Organisation, the consideration for being eligible to receive a STSM grant is linked to whether their institution has been formally approved onto the Action or not. The eligibility status of Researchers located in European RTD Organisations is restricted to those affiliated to approved European RTD Organisations. A list of European RTD organisations is detailed in Annex II of the COST Vademecum Part 1: COST Action (see http://www.cost.eu/participate/guidelines). A list of approved European RTD Organisations can be found on the respective COST Action Webpage at www.cost.eu.

Timeframe of the STSMs

Call 2-2 for STSM Applications for Missions Occurring between 01/10/2017 and 31/01/2018
Duration of all STSM activities is from 2 weeks to 2 months.

Financial support

The financial support is a contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the STSM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated outgoings. The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:

1. Travel expenses cannot exceed EUR 500;
2. For accommodation and meal expenses, a maximum amount of EUR 160 per day can be considered;
3. A maximum of EUR 2500 in total can be afforded to the grantee.
4. The final amount of the grant is dependent on the duration of the STSM and the level of prices at the host country.
4. STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.

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Financial support is limited to cover travel and subsistence expenses and is paid as a grant. Payment of the Grant is subject to the scientific report (**after the completion of STMS**) being approved by the Action Chair, STSM Coordinator and a researcher affiliated to the Host institution.

Selection criteria

- **The application of the research to the field of the Action** – a detailed work plan will help determine if the scientific aims of the work will be applicable to the Action's aims.
- **The home institution of the researcher** – We will take into account the number of applications from each institution to ensure a fair spread of researches across the network.
- **The experience of the researcher** – in line with COST Office rules, we will preferentially award STSMs to early stage researchers (PhD + <8 years). This should not discourage more experienced researchers from applying but their chances of being selected are slightly reduced.
- **The publication potential of the research carried out** – a short publication plan as part of the workplan, including intended journal, aim/working title and timescale for submission, will help to identify the most promising research.
- **Geographical and gender balance** issues will be taken into consideration;
- **The research should fit into the host institutions' research profile.**

How to apply for an STSM

Interested Researchers are advised to follow the directions provided below and submit their application and supporting documents to Mimi Urbanc (mimi@zrc-sazu.si) by the deadline of the 01/09/2017.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. All applicants must carefully read the funding rules detailed in section 6 of the *COST Vademecum: COST Action Part 1 - Short Term Scientific Mission (pages 32–35)*. This document is available at: http://www.cost.eu/participate/guidelines and http://www.google.si/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwi0uOvj77vOAhUC7BQKHQ8aD1IQFggmMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cost.eu%2Fdownload%2FCOST_Vademecum_Part_1_COST_Actions&usg=AFQjCNELzE83WJOCe-263FVg6mdDwY0RVA&sig2=13nkkxBQE404fZRRxjGV0Q&bvm=bv.129422649,d.bGg.

2. All applicants must register for an e-COST profile at https://e-services.cost.eu/ - adding their bank account details to their profile.

3. All applicants must complete, submit and download their STSM application online at: https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm.

4. All applicants must send their submitted STSM application form and the relevant supporting documents to Mimi Urbanc mimi@zrc-sazu.si for evaluation before the application submission deadline expires.

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The list of supporting documents to be submitted for the evaluation includes:
• The submitted STSM application form (downloadable when the online application is submitted - see point 3 above)
• A motivation letter including an overview of the proposed activities that will be performed which must contain a plan of work for the visit highlighting the proposed contribution to the scientific objectives of the ENRESSH COST Action and the general activities of the host institution;
• A letter of support from the Home Institution;
• A Full C.V (including a list of academic publications – if applicable). The CV must include the award date of the applicants PhD and their current position.
The applications will then be assessed by the Action Chair, STSM Coordinator and researchers affiliated to the Host institutions.
7. The applicant will be formally notified of the outcome of their STSM application by Mimi Urbanc by 10/05/2017.
8. Within 30 days from the end date of the STSM, the successful applicant must submit a scientific report to the Host institution and to Mimi Urbanc. The applicant is also responsible for acquiring an official acceptance letter / Email confirmation of acceptance from a senior Researcher affiliated to the Host institution formally accepting the scientific report. This formal acceptance of the scientific report has to be sent to the Grant Holder and Mimi Urbanc for archiving purposes.

Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days from the end date of the STSM will effectively cancel the grant.

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

Dates to remember
Deadline for applications to be submitted: 01/09/2017
Notification of application outcome: 15/09/2017
Period of STSM: between 01/10/2017 and 31/01/2018
Submitting the reports: within 30 days from the end date (not later than by 01/03/2018)
Accepting/ rejecting the reports: by 30/04/2018
Execution the payment of the grant: after receipt of the approval (by 30/04/2018).