

STSM GRANTS - CALL02

The International Network to Encourage the Use of Monitoring and Forecasting Dust Products (**InDust**, COST Action CA16202) is open the 2nd Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Call.

1. OBJECTIVES / DESCRIPTION

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, fostering collaboration between individuals. A STSM should specifically contribute to the inDust objectives. STSMs can have a duration of between 5 and 90 calendar days and up to 180 days if the applicant is an Early Career Investigator (ECI, < 8 years after obtaining PhD title).

Relevant dates:

- Deadline for applications on 15 November 2018
- Outcomes will notified on 22 November 2018
- STSM dates: must take place before 1 April 2019
- After the STSM: The successful applicant must submit a scientific report and relevant documentation submission within 30 days of the end of the STSM and before 23 April 2019, whichever takes place earlier (see Section 6 of the present document).

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity that has within its remit a clear association with performing research. The institution, organisation or legal entity where applicants pursue their main strand of research is considered as Home institutions. The Host institution is the institution / organisation that will host the successful applicant.

Eligibility can be determined by adhering to the stipulations in the following 3 categories depending on **Applicant in a Home Institution**:

- Researchers holding their primary affiliation at an institution located in a Participating **COST Countries** (i.e. COST Full Member and COST Cooperating Member countries) that signed the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are eligible.
- Researchers holding their primary affiliation in a **Near Neighbour Country (NNC)** institution formally approved on the Action are eligible.
- Researchers holding their primary affiliation at a **European RTD Organisation** formally approved onto the Action are eligible.

A list of COST Countries and approved NNC and European RTD Organisation institutions within inDust can be found at <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA16202>.

3. SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

The evaluation of each received STSM application is performed by the Core Group, on behalf of the Management Committee. The selection of applicants is based on the following criteria:

- The scientific scope of the STSM proposal must compliment the overall objectives InDust (<http://www.cost-indust.eu/the-action/objectives>).
 - Therefore, within InDust, those proposals that have as a final objective **a more user-oriented perspective** will be prioritised.
- There should be special considerations with respect to supporting COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI), broadening geographical inclusiveness.

The resolution of the call will be communicated to the applicants one week after the call is closed, i.e. on **22 November 2018**.

4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The financial support on offer is a fixed financial contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the STSM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated expenses.

It takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application. The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:

Up to a max of EUR 2500 in total can be afforded to each successful applicant, including:

- Up to a maximum of EUR 2500 in total can be afforded to each successful STSM applicant;
- Up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses;

For ECIs, the calculation for an increased financial contribution must respect the following criteria:

- Up to a maximum amount of EUR 3500 can be afforded to the Grantee for STSMs with a duration of between 91 and 180 days
- Up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses.

Financial support is limited to cover travel, accommodation and meal expenses and is paid in the form of a Grant.

For this **STSM Grant** call, the InDust Management Committee has allocated a total budget of **max 4000 EUR**. The amount granted for each participant will be determined during the evaluation process.

5. HOW TO APPLY

Interested researchers should:

- Carefully read the funding rules detailed in Section 7 of the COST Vademecum (<http://www.cost.eu/download/COSTVademecum>)

- Eligible STSM applicants must submit their STSM applications online at the following web address: <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>
- In order to complete the application, applicants are required to send by email the following documents to the STSM coordinators (i.e. Dr. Alexandra Monteiro and Dr György Varga):
 - Motivation letter (1-2 pages, including contact details; a project title; proposed start and end of the STSM; contribution to the objectives of InDust COST Action, and clear justification for choosing the hosting institution);
 - Written agreement from the host institution (stating name of applicant, time period of the STSM, and acceptance of the work plan, which has to be performed on the agreed dates);
 - Letter of support from the home institution;
 - Short work plan (1-2 pages) with expected outputs from the STSM (e.g. scientific paper, new dataset etc.);
 - CV (1-page), including publications and previous visiting fellowships.

Deadline for applications on **15 November 2018**.

NOTE: Remember that STSM dates must take place before 1 April 2019.

6. BEFORE THE STSM

Please note that you can start your STSM after:

1. The STSM coordinators assessed your request,
2. The STSM coordinator informed the Grant Holder that the proposed STSM has been approved,
3. The Grant Holder sent you a formal Grant Notification letter.

7. AFTER THE STSM

The applicant has to submit a scientific report to the host institution (for approval), and the STSM coordinator within 30 calendar days from the end date of the STSM in question and before 23 April 2019, whichever takes place earlier. The report should include the following:

- Aims of the STSM; work undertaken; main results; future plans (e.g. further cooperation with the host-institution, potential future publications etc.);
- Outputs (e.g. academic paper, funding application, new dataset etc.);
- Letter from the host institution which confirms that the applicant has successfully completed his/her stay.

The Grantee must submit documentary evidence of all the payments to the Grant Holder Manager (Ms Celia Caminero, celia.caminero@bsc.es) along with any other relevant administrative documents, which are the following:

- Letter from the host institution which confirms that the applicant has successfully completed his/her stay.
- Travel invoices.
- Boarding passes.

- Tax residence certificate.

Payment of the Grant is subject to the submitted scientific report being approved by the Action Chair and Vice-Chair.

If the results from a STSM are published in a journal or conference, please add the following acknowledgement in your paper/presentation:

“Part of this work was supported by the COST Action inDust (CA16202) supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).”

It would be highly appreciated that a copy of the paper/article, abstract or other flyer is sent to the STSM Coordinator and the Action Chair and Vice-Chair.

8. CONTACT PERSONS

- STMS Coordinators: Dr. Alexandra Monteiro (alexandra.monteiro@ua.pt) and Dr György Varga (varga.gyorgy@csfk.mta.hu)
- Grant Holder Manager: Ms Celia Caminero (celia.caminero@bsc.es)
- Chair: Dr Sara Basart (sara.basart@bsc.es)
- Vice-Chair: Dr Slobodan Nickovic (nickovic@gmail.com)