

## STSM GRANTS - CALL06

The International Network to Encourage the Use of Monitoring and Forecasting Dust Products (**inDust**, COST Action CA16202) is open the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 **minimum duration of 5 days** and need to be carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period.

**This STSM call will be permanent open for the current Grant Period (1 May 2020 – 30 April 2021). Once per month the applications received will be evaluated and the result communicated to the applicants by email.**

Relevant dates:

- Deadline for applications on 1 September 2021
- STSM dates: must take place before 30 September 2021
- Outcomes will be notified after 1 month (maximum) after the submission
- 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 October 2021, 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 [http://www.cost.eu/COST\\_Actions/ca/CA16202](http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA16202).

### 3. SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

Please, be aware that this STSM call will be permanent open for the current Grant Period (1 May 2020 – 30 April 2021). **Once per month the applications received will be evaluated** by the Core Group, on behalf of the Management Committee, and the result communicated to the applicants.

The selection of applicants is based on the following criteria:

- Fulfil the eligibility criteria (see Section 2)
- The scientific scope of the conference contribution must compliment the overall objectives inDust (<http://www.cost-indust.eu/the-action/objectives>).
  - Therefore, within inDust, those contributions 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.

### 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. A STSM Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the Grantee.

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 maximum of EUR 3500 in total can be afforded to each successful applicant;
- Up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses.
- Up to a maximum of EUR 300 can be afforded for travel costs.

For this call, the inDust Management Committee has allocated a total budget of **max 15000 EUR**. The amount granted will be determined during the evaluation process.

### 5. HOW TO APPLY

Interested researchers should:

- Carefully read the funding rules detailed in Section 8 of the COST Vademecum (<https://www.cost.eu/vademecum>)
- 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 upload in the online system the following documents:
  - Short work plan (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;
  - CV (1-page), including publications and previous visiting fellowships.

**Deadline for applications on 1 March 2021.**

***NOTE: Remember that STSM dates must take place before 20 April 2021.***

## **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 2021, 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 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](mailto:alexandra.monteiro@ua.pt)) and Dr György Varga ([varga.gyorgy@csfk.mta.hu](mailto:varga.gyorgy@csfk.mta.hu))
- Grant Holder Manager: Alexis Chanthasack ([alexis.chanthasack@bsc.es](mailto:alexis.chanthasack@bsc.es))