

COST ACTION IS1302 Call Number 1 2016 for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) Applications

Call for STSM Applications for Missions occurring between the 15th of August 2016 and 31st of March 2017.

All STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified above

Purpose of a Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

STSM facilitates Researchers from COST Countries participating in COST Action **IS1302** to go to an institution or research centre in another participating COST Country to foster collaboration and to perform empirical research. Participation of "Early-Stage Researchers" (ESR) in STSM is particularly encouraged.

STSM applicants must be engaged in a research programme as 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.

Specific information concerning STSM

Background

The primary aim of Working Group 2 is to obtain a better understanding of the complex external factors that influence the poor progress of patients residing for an above average time in forensic services. Rather than focusing upon the patient itself, this core area will explore what external factors might contribute to better practice.

More specifically, this core area will be focusing upon the determination of policy regulations like juridical contexts, admission responsibilities and economic implications. Regulations at national as well as inter- and transnational level will be described by the Action, which will result in a European overview of the disadvantages and advantages of the different European systems with regard to patient progression.

Another key issue of this core area will be the influence of clinical practice by examining factors such as the treatment programs that have been followed and indexing which staff interventions have been provided. Also, the 'what works' experiences of practitioners within long-term forensic psychiatric care (e.g. psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses) will be systematically explored.

Objective STSM

The STSM must be linked to the aims of Working Group 2. This call is for a researcher, who wishes to review the availability of longer stay units and their therapeutic regime in various participating countries and to report to the WG2 the results of analysis undertaken from data obtained from various participating countries. Support can be provided to the candidate in collecting, analysing and reporting the results.

The candidate will also gain first-hand experience of the legal and mental health system in the country of attachment.

Duration

STSM can have a duration of between 5 days and 90 days (and up to 180 days if the applicant is an ESR¹).

¹ An applicant can be considered as being an "Early-Stage Researcher" when the time that has elapsed between the award date of the applicants PhD and the date of the applicants first involvement in the COST Action **IS1302** does not exceed 8 years. PhD students are also eligible to partake in STSMs.

Funding

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 grantee can be afforded up to a maximum of EUR 1125;
4. STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.

Financial support is limited to cover travel and subsistence expenses and is paid as a grant after the coordinator has received the end report and the post-approval e-mail has been sent.

For this call, the Management Committee of COST Action IS1302 Towards an EU research framework on Forensic psychiatric care has allocated a total budget of EUR 1125 for 1 STSM. The amount granted for the STSM will be determined during the evaluation process by the nominally appointed person(s). The selection of applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM application, which must clearly compliment the overall objectives of the Action.

How to apply for an STSM:

Interested researchers are advised to follow the directions provided below and submit their application and supporting documents to the STSM coordinator: **Denise van Eeden** (dvaneeden@efp.nl) by the deadline of the **31st of July 2016**.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

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>.
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 obtain a letter of invitation from the Host institution confirming that they can undertake the STSM on the given dates prior to submitting an application. Changing of dates is only possible in specific cases and needs to be communicated with the coordinator before taking the STSM.
4. All applicants must complete, submit and download their STSM application online at: <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>.
5. All applicants must send their submitted STSM application form and the relevant supporting documents to Denise van Eeden (dvaneeden@efp.nl) for evaluation before the application submission deadline expires.

The list of supporting documents to be submitted for the evaluation are:

- Letter of invitation to the applicant from a senior Researcher affiliated to the Host institution
 - The submitted STSM application form (downloadable when the online application is submitted - see point 4 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 respective COST Action;
 - A letter of support from the Home Institution;
 - A Full C.V. (including a list of academic publications – if applicable).
6. The application will then be assessed by the STSM coordinator against the perceived contribution that the proposed visit will make against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
 7. The applicant will be formally notified of the outcome of their STSM application by Denise van Eeden on the [12/08/2016].
 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 Denise van Eeden. 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 (Ellen Vorstenbosch - isch1302@gmail.com) and Denise van Eeden (dvaneeden@efp.nl) 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.

Deadline for applications to be submitted: 31/07/2016

Notification of application outcome: 12/08/2016

Period of STSM: between 15/08/2016 and 31/03/2017