

CA19141 – Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present

Call for two Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) applications (GP3)

General information

Short-Term Scientific Mission consists in a visit of a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation (for Affiliation, see Article 4.1.1.1.1 in [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#)) by a researcher or innovator for the 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.

Who can apply

Any researcher affiliated to a legal entity in COST Full Member Country (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and United Kingdom), COST Cooperating Member (Israel), Near Neighbouring Countries (Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine), or European RTD Organisations (please see [Country and Organisations table](#) for more information) can apply.

Young Researchers and Innovators* and researchers from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC)** are especially encouraged to apply.

**A researcher or innovator under the age of 40.*

***ITC countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, North Macedonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey*

This STSM call is open until the funds are spent. Deadline for application is one month before the planned start of the STSM. All STSM activities must occur in their entirety, including the submission of the report, before October 31, 2023. One of the STSM will be reserved for an applicant from ITC country.

Location of the STSM

COST Full Member Country, (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland,

Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and United Kingdom), COST Cooperating Member (Israel), COST Partner Member (South Africa), Near Neighbouring Countries (Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine) or International Partner Countries/Third State (states that are neither COST Members nor COST Near Neighbour Countries)

Financial support

Financial support for STSM is a grant awarded to individuals, not intended to cover employment costs.

Scope: Providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, implementation of the project, delivery of the report to the COST Action MC and overall effort.

Maximum amount: Management Committee of the Action decided that the maximum amount per STSM grant in iNEAL Action shall be EUR 1 500,00.

A STSM Grant is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the STSM application. STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking a given mission. A STSM Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the Grantee. Please note that request of the grant amount should reflect the duration and location of your STSM. Besides scientific part of your application, evaluators will consider the grant amount request and can approve a lower amount.

Grants are paid by after the completion of the activity and approval of all required reports/documentation. However, STSMs grantees may request up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant. This amount is subject to availability of funds and approval by the Grant Holder Institution.

Application process

All applicants must register for an e-COST profile (<https://e-services.cost.eu/>) and add their bank account details to their profile.

Application shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms available. In this regard, applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

Applicants must upload their CV in their e-COST profile. This information will be visible to the by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

The applicant must obtain letter of support from the Host institution confirming that they can undertake the STSM on the given dates prior to submitting an application.

The content of the application

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title
- Start and end date (within the active Grant Period);
- Budget requested by the applicant;
- Information about the host institution and contact person.

To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Goals, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives;
- Confirmation of the host on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant;
- Other documents required by the Action (e.g. recommendation letter, etc...)

The applicant must send their STSM application form submitted to e-COST and the host confirmation to:

- Dr. Florent Rivals, Grant Awarding Coordinator (florent.rivals@icrea.cat),
- Dr. Ivor Janković, Chair of the Action (ivor.jankovic@inantro.hr),
- Dr. Stefano Benazzi, Vice-Chair of the Action (stefano.benazzi@unibo.it).

Templates:

[Grant application \(download\)](#)

[Host confirmation \(download\)](#)

Evaluation and selection

The applications will be administered and assessed by the Grant Awarding Coordinator which will perform the scientific and budgetary assessment of the applications against the perceived contribution that the proposed visit will make against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (can be downloaded at <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA19141/>). The selection of applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM application which must clearly compliment the overall objectives of the Action and be related to a specific Working Group.

Implementation of the Activity

Upon approval of the application, the Grantee receives a Grant Letter from the Grant Holder stating the approved amount and the conditions for receiving the grant.

Grantee performs the tasks in line with the approved application.

Reporting and claim for payment of the grant

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;

- Claims the payment of the grant via e-COST

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.

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of all required report/documentation.