

## **Fifth call for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) now opened - COST ACTION FA1303**

Dear all,

the fifth and last Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) call within the FA1303 COST ACTION is now open (see GTD COST ACTION WEBSITE <http://managtd.eu/>).

It will be closed on the **15<sup>th</sup> of November 2016**.

The results of the selection will be announced before the end of November.

You will find full details on rules and application in the dedicated webpage (<http://managtd.eu/en/stsms/calls.html>) and in this document, but we also send them in attachment

The duration of the STSM can be of any length included **between May and 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2017**. Please remember that this means that the 28<sup>th</sup> of February is the last day in which the final report can be mailed in order to receive the reimbursement.

As a general rule a STSM can last from 5 days to 3 months (it can be longer only in some special occasions and only in the case of Early Stage Researchers with a small economic compensation, from 91 days to 180 days).

The grant will include no more than 160€ max/day and 500€ max for the travel. The total amount of each grant can not anyway be more that 2500€ max in total, whatever is the length of the STSM. (Only in the case for ESR, it may reach up to 3500€ if the stay is longer than 91 days).

No invoices are requested and the money will be only reimbursed after the final report is approved.

Applicants must be engaged in a research programme as a postgraduate student or postdoctoral fellow (less than – PHD + 8 years), or be employed by or officially affiliated to an institution or legal entity having accepted the MoU of the Action.

To present a request an STSM online application form has to be submitted. The following documents also have to be sent by e-mail to the Coordinator for STSM: [laura.mugnai@unifi.it](mailto:laura.mugnai@unifi.it)

- STSM application form
- An acceptance/invitation letter from a senior Researcher affiliated to the Host institution
- A support letter / Email from the applicant Home Institution
- A motivation letter
- A full C.V. of the applicant (including a list of academic publications – if applicable)
- A short project description underlining how the topic fits with the goals of the Action

All the applications received within the deadline will be examined and selected following the criteria reported here below and stated in the COST Vademecum and in the website <http://managtd.eu/en/stsms/general-guidelines-and-rules.html>

The selected applicants will receive the MC Pre-approval (Email from delegated person, Laura Mugnai)

The participant shall prepare a scientific report within one week after the end of the STSM, and anyway not later than the final call deadline (28<sup>th</sup> of February 2017), otherwise the financial support will be cancelled.

Please contact me, as STSM coordinator, or the COST action coordinator, Florence Fontaine, if you need further information.

With my kindest regards

Laura

### **Assessment criteria for STSM**

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In order to select among the many requests the following are the general rules that must be taken into account.

The selection of applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM application that must be in line with the Action objectives.

Applicants must be engaged in a research program as a postgraduate student or postdoctoral fellow (less than – PHD + 8 years), or be employed by or officially affiliated to an institution or legal entity having accepted the MoU of the Action.

Early Stage Researchers (ESR) are specifically favored and they may even extend the duration of STSM beyond the 90 days (up to 180 d).

Furthermore for a STSM :

- Applications by ESR should be privileged
- Should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST action
- Should allow the applicants to learn new techniques or gain access to specific instruments and/or methods not available in their own institutions
- Applicants must be engaged in a research program as a postgraduate student or postdoctoral fellow (ESR = less than – PHD + 8 years, i.e. PhD obtained from less than 8 years), or be employed by or officially affiliated to an institution or legal entity having accepted the MoU of the Action.
- Geographical and gender balance issues are necessarily to be taken into account