COST Action CA18139
GEMSTONE

Application deadline

14.05.2023

Funding for MULTIPLE STSMs/ VM and ITC is available in Grant Period 4 and applications are highly encouraged!

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The applications will be evaluated by the Grant Awarding Coordinator

and supported by the Mobility Grants Committee members

A decision can be expected no later than 26.05.2023

What is a STSM?

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Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are exchange visits aimed at
- supporting individual mobility
- strengthening existing networks
- fostering collaboration between COST Action participants

A STSM should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of GEMSTONE, whilst at the same time allowing those partaking in the missions to
- to learn new techniques
- gain access to specific data, instruments, and/or methods not available in their own institutions / organizations

What is an ITC conference grant?

ITC Conference consists in a presentation of the own work given by a YRI affiliated in a Inclusiveness Target country (ITC)/ Near Neighbour Country (NNC) for their participation in high-level conferences.

Benefit to ITC Conference Grantee: receives support for attending and presenting their work (poster/oral presentation) at a conference and can establish new contacts for future collaborations

Their presented work must be related to GEMSTONE research area

What is a Virtual Mobility (VM) Grant?

VM consists of a collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within GEMSTONE, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, and expand networking

VM Grantee benefits:

- learn new techniques

- gain access to specific data, methods

The goal of VM is to support implementation of research coordination related to activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence, e.g. computational or modelling activities, data analysis, etc.

Eligibility Rules

Eligibility Rules: Who can apply?

Grant applicants shall be engaged in an official research program as
- a PhD Student
- postdoctoral fellow

or

- can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organization or legal entity, which has within its remit a clear association with performing research

STSMs are particularly (but not exclusively) intended for
- Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) < 40 years old.

Eligibility Rules: Who can apply?

ITC applicants must be affiliated with an ITC or NNC

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

NNC: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan*, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine

Applicants from these countries will be prioritised since GEMSTONE has working group and management committee members working in these countries

Eligibility Rules

Adherence to GEMSTONE's scientific objectives!

STSMs must contribute to the scientific objectives of one or more GEMSTONE working group:

- WG1: Study Populations and expertise groups
- WG2: Phenotyping
- WG3: Monogenic conditions – human KO models
- WG4: Functional investigations
- WG5: Bioinformatics
- WG6: Translational outreach

Eligibility Rules

For more information please refer to the COST Annotated rules (ANNEX 2)

https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/10/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-2021-11-01-1.pdf

in brief:
- All funded projects must be completed and reports submitted by 24.10.2023
- Max 4,000 € in total to each STSM grantee upon provision of an estimation of expenses expected for the duration of STSM
- Max 1,500 € in total to each VM grantee upon provision of an estimation of expenses expected for the duration of VM
- Max 2,000 € (in person conferences) or 500 € (virtual participation) in total to each ITC grantee upon provision of an estimation of expenses expected for the duration of the conference

Application Process

How to apply for STSM/VM?

A. Register to: https://e-services.cost.eu

B. Go to https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm or https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants/add?type=VM and provide:
- Support Letter from senior researcher affiliated to Home Institution
- Letter of Invitation from a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution
- STSM/ VM application form
- Motivation letter including a work-plan detailing the proposed activities
- Applicant's full CV (incl. list of academic publications – if applicable)

NOTE: it is very important to specify in the work-plan and motivation why and how your mission will contribute to the GEMSTONE objectives and, in detail, which WGs will benefit from your mission

How to apply for ITC?

A. Register to: https://e-services.cost.eu

B. Go to https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants/add?type=ITCG and provide

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organizers
- Recommendation letter from direct supervisor

Selection and Evaluation criteria

- Relevance of STSM/VM/ITC with action objectives

- Relevance of Host Institutions expertise with STS/VM objectives

- Results of direct interest for/exploitable by GEMSTONE

- Applicants that are YRI or PhD candidates will be prioritized

- Applicant with no previous STSM/VM/ ITC will be prioritized

- Preferably no other STSMs/VMs from same institution / country

- Gender balance

- Geographical dispersion with Inclusiveness Target Country
  prioritized (for STSM/VM)