



COST Action CA18139

**GEMSTONE**

Genomics of Musculoskeletal  
Traits Translational Network

# STSM call 2021/2022

STSM coordinator:

**Kent Søe**

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STSM Committee:

Amina Valjevac (ITC coordinator)

Evangelia Ntzani (vice-chair of GEMSTONE)

# First Call for STSMs (2021-2022)



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Application deadline

***20 March 2022***

Funding for **MULTIPLE** STSMs is available in Grant  
Period 3 and applications are highly encouraged!

# First Call for STSMs in GP3 (2021-2022)



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The applications will be evaluated by the STSM Coordinator

and supported by the STSM Committee members

A decision can be expected no later than the 1st of April 2022

# What is a STSM?

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are exchange visits aimed at

- supporting individual mobility
- strengthening existing and facilitating new 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



# Eligibility Rules

# Eligibility Rules: Who can apply?



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STSM 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

# Eligibility Rules



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## 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 (Section 8)

<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 STSM must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2022
- Max 3,500 € in total to each STSM grantee (as decided by the MC for the current GP3)





# Application Process

# How to apply?

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

B. Go to <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm> and provide:

- **Support Letter** from senior researcher affiliated to Home Institution
- **Letter of Invitation** from a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution
- STSM 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**

# Selection and Evaluation criteria

- Relevance of STSM with action objectives
- Relevance of Host Institutions expertise with STSM objectives
- Results of direct interest for/exploitable by GEMSTONE
- Younger candidates and PhD students will be prioritized
- Applicant with no previous STSM will be prioritized
- Preferably no other STSMs from same institution / country
- Gender balance
- Geographical dispersion with Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) prioritized



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# WG5- Bioinformatics

is looking for STSM applicants with an interest in developing a database for GEMSTONE consortium members.



- ❑ Data curation to find out what data is available within the consortium in collaboration with WG1
  - > Identify a pre-defined template database schema for retrospective and prospective data collection
- ❑ Data curation to find out what data is available from open source databases
  - > Identify a pre-defined template database schema for retrospective and prospective data collection
- ❑ Develop an API to link consortium / open source data from database to dashboards and AI modelling
- ❑ Develop dashboards to explore and visualize data



- Linux user / advanced python / javascript
- Software development
- Welcome applications from members interested in contributing to deliverables by shadowing / learning these skill sets from experienced members



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Please start to make arrangements **NOW**

