



COST Action TU1401 Training School - Call for Trainees

Theme: Renewable energy and landscape quality

1st TRAINING SCHOOL

VIA/LCA Techniques, Communities and Planning

Dublin, 22 - 26 August 2016

HOST: Dublin Institute of Technology

School of Transport Engineering, Environment and Planning

Bolton St,

Dublin 1

CALL for Trainees to participate in 1st Training School of COST Action TU1401

This Action investigates the inter-relationships between renewable energy production and landscape quality, and the role of public participation for the acceptance of renewable energy systems. The Action will develop a better understanding of how landscape protection and management, and renewable energy deployment can be reconciled to contribute socio-environmentally to the sustainable transformation of energy systems. This Action will consolidate and extend knowledge from a pan-European perspective using a modular methodological framework. This Action will enhance the science base for decision-making, and develop guidelines for public participation in planning renewable energy systems. The potential of sustainable landscape development, with innovative land uses producing synergies for landscape quality and renewable energy, will be revealed.

Early Stage Researchers in geography, landscape, environmental science and ecology, PhD students and MSc students that are eligible to apply for a Grant as Trainee in order to participate to the 1st Training School of RELY (COST Action TU1401).

The duration of the 1st Training School is 5 working days including a 1 day field trip. The Grant of up to 800 EURO will partially cover the travelling costs, hotel accommodation and subsistence during 5-day Training School.

Participating COST Countries in COST Action TU1401 are:

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

Application process

Applicants to the training school do so with:

- 1 A motivation letter, one page
- 2 A short CV

Email these to the Action Coordinator of Training Schools and Action Chair (see contact data below). The Applicant will be informed on the own candidature for grant from the Grant Holder by means of an official email via the e-COST tool (<https://e-services.cost.eu/>).

Closing date for applications is 20th May, 2016

Short description of the Training School

The training school will include lectures, a field trip and a series of workshops where the following themes are addressed:

Three broad themes are addressed in the training school are:

- 1 Communication and perception of RE in the landscape: experts and the general public
 - a. Exercises in Q method
 - b. planning simulation
- 2 Visual impact assessment/landscape character assessment techniques with GIS

The training school is designed around a set of workshops where students address a number of issues relating to renewable energy and landscape quality. The landscape in question will be in Co Wicklow and area to the south of Dublin with a mix of agriculture, forestry and protected landscapes.

Day 1 Guest speakers, trainers present on current theory and Irish scenarios

Day 2 A field trip, a tour of energy installations in Wicklow, local authority, Wicklow Uplands Council

Day 3 Laboratory and case study working groups

Day 4 Laboratory and case study working groups

Day 5 Group presentations and poster session

Learning Outcomes:

- Environmental literacy/landscape literacy
- Mediation skills
- Critical perspective and awareness of the variety/diversity of VIA methods (multidisciplinary and international approaches)
- Transferable skills to work in interdisciplinary and trans-boundary contexts
- Networking
- Landscape/environmental awareness
- Methodological competences
- Overview of pan-European situation of VIA
- Consensus-building skills

The trainers will be experts from the participating COST Countries in COST Action TU1401 RELY

Basic Rules for Grant Application:

Number of participants: 20 places

The reimbursement rate per day is EUR 160 maximum;

Up to EUR 300 may be attributed for the travel expenses;

A maximum grant of EUR 800 can be awarded;

Grant for Trainees can vary depending on the country of the Trainees (e.g. Domestic, near countries, far countries);

Prior to attending the Training School, the trainees must register on e-COST:

<https://eservices.cost.eu>.

Registration: The granted Applicant must use the on-line e-COST registration tool (<https://e-services.cost.eu>)

Selection of the Grants: The Action's Training School Coordinator, supported by Core group Committee, will assess the received applications and will communicate approval for grants. The granted Applicant will be informed by Grant Holder by email via eCOST system (<https://e-services.cost.eu/>).

Trainees must book their own airplane tickets and make arrangements for travel.

Accommodation for the training school is based in Dublin City University student accommodation. Details on how to book accommodation will be circulated to trainees.

For further information please contact:

Professor Michael Roth (MC chair)

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