



## **RELY SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

The COST Action TU1401 ‘Renewable Energy and Landscape Quality’ ('RELY') encourages Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs).

STSMs are Exchange Visits from 5 working days until 3 months that are aimed at strengthening the existing networks by allowing individual scientists to go to an institution or laboratory in other COST country to foster collaboration and contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action TU1401.

In 2016, there are up to 10 STSMs to be awarded and we invite you to participate in a Short-Term Scientific. The STSM must take place between January 2016 and November 2016.

### **COST Action TU1401 Objectives**

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. (LINK to Action website)

### **Financial Support**

A grant usually covers travel and subsistence. The financial support is a contribution to the costs of a STSM and may not cover all costs.

The financial contribution for a STSM will be a fixed grant based on the Applicant’s budget request and the evaluation of the application by the STSM assessment committee. An amount of EUR 60 to 90 for the daily allowance in particular for longer stays and EUR 300 for the travel is recommended. The total of a STSM shall not exceed EUR 2 500. In any case the costs associated with the STSM must not exceed the limits set in the “rules for reimbursement by COST of expenses for experts eligible for reimbursement”.

### **The STSM Applicants**

The selection of STSM applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM application that must be in line with the Cost Action TU1401 objectives. The applications from the Early Stage Researchers (ESR) are privileged. An ESR is a researcher in the start phase of his/her

career with at least the PhD and up to 8 years of experience after the PhD. The evaluation of STSM applications is performed by the STSM Coordinator appointed by the Management Committee of the Action. The selection of successful candidates is made following the recommendations of MC Chair and Action Core Group. The STSM Coordinator informs the Grant Holder about successful candidate and then the Grant Holder sends a grant letter generated from e-COST to the approved applicant. The grant letter must be signed by the applicant and returned to the Grant Holder.

The STSM applicant must be a PhD candidate or be engaged in a research programme as a postdoctoral fellow, or be employed by an institution of a COST Country that has signed the MoU of the Action. The host institution or the applicant should be actively participating in the COST Action TU1401.

For the period of the STSM neither the MC, nor the COST Office nor the Grant Holder may be considered as an employer. The grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security and pension matters.

## **Application**

If you are interested in applying, please complete the on-line application form (at <https://e-services.cost.eu/w3/index.php?id=91>) and send the following by 15<sup>th</sup> December to STSMs committee of this Action (S.Schmitz@ulg.ac.be):

- a written agreement of the host institution
- CV (2 pages)
- the start and end dates,
- work plan specifying what you intend to do (800 words)
- list of publications
- cover letter, explaining how your work will benefit from this STSM and how this STSM will contribute to the achievement of the COST TU1401 objectives
- letter of support from the home institution

## **After the STSM**

The grantee is obliged to submit a short scientific report to the host institution (for information) and to the STSM Coordinator or MC Core Group (for approval) within 30 days after the end date of the STSM. The report must contain the following information:

- Purpose of the STSM;
- Description of the work carried during the STSM;
- Description of the main results obtained;
- Future collaboration with the host institution (if applicable);
- Foreseen publications / articles resulting from the STSM (if applicable)
- Confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of the STSM;
- Other comments (if any).

The failure to submit the scientific report on time will effectively cancel the grant. The STSM Coordinator will inform the Grant Holder about the acceptance of the report via e-mail. Afterwards, the Grant Holder will execute the payment of the fixed grant directly to the grantee or to home institution as stated in the application form.