COST Action CA21141 - Grassroots of Digital Europe: from Historic to Contemporary Cultures of Creative Computing (GRADE)

Call for Short-Term Scientific Missions

WHAT ARE STSMs?

The purpose of Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) is to facilitate exchange visits—usually between 5 and 21 days—for researchers and innovators within the Action, with a focus on promoting individual mobility and fostering collaboration. STSM grantees receive funding to execute a plan with a specific goal and expected outcomes contributing to the Action objectives. The STSM is carried out as a collaboration with colleagues from an institution other than their home institution. The location of the host institution must be in a different country than the country of affiliation of the applicant. The STSM outcomes will be published on the GRADE website https://costgrade.eu/.

An STSM Grant provides a fixed contribution towards the overall travel, accommodation, and meal expenses of the grantee. The maximum amount of an STSM Grant is 4,000 EUR. For more information about STSMs, please consult the Annotated Rules for COST Actions, specifically Annex 2 "Networking Activities organised through a Grant Awarding Process".

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any Action participant eligible to receive financial support can apply for an STSM, however per COST policy we encourage the participation of Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) under the age of 40. Additionally, PhD students are eligible to participate in STSMs. However, all applicants must either be employed by or affiliated with an institution or legal entity associated with scientific research. STSMs are not available to BSc/MSc students who have no affiliation with an organization or research center.

WHAT IS COVERED?

The grant should be viewed as a contribution to the overall costs of the visit. Regardless of actual travel dates, subsistence lump sums (accommodation, meals) are limited to the number of visiting days plus two travel days.

- Travel expenses from home to visiting location and back (bus, coach, train 2nd class, and plane economy).

- Visa fees for the visiting country, including expenses to obtain the visa.

- The candidate can request a pre-payment of 50% of their STSM Grant (Subject to the availability of fund and approval by the Action Grant Holder) when they complete the first day of their STSM. The remaining 50% of the Grant is payable once the administrative requirements have been satisfied after the STSM.

- Costs related to personal security, health, taxation, social security, and pension matters are **not covered.**

SELECTION CRITERIA

STSM proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Relevance to the Action's objectives and deliverables**

   The STSM has to contribute towards the specific objectives of a selected Working Group (WG), as described in the Action's [Memorandum of Understanding.](#) Deliverables for the second grant period are related to the following themes:

- **Working Group 1:** Role of women and minorities in the histories of European creative computing

- **Working Group 2:** Open educational materials about sustainability in creative computing

- **Working Group 3:** White paper on the existing digital cultural heritage preservation efforts in Europe

2. **Academic rigor:** proposals are expected to demonstrate familiarity with the relevant academic field and be grounded in existing research.

HOW TO APPLY?

The applicant needs to encode an STSM application by logging into e-COST (https://e-services.cost.eu/) and clicking on the STSM application tab. Prior to submitting the application, it is recommended to contact the leadership of the relevant WG in order to seek preliminary feedback. It is also necessary to obtain a letter of invitation from the host institution before applying.

The application should contain the following documents:

- Application form (see COST template)
- Letter of invitation from the host institution
- CV with list of publications (if applicable)

More detailed information can be found in the COST Annotated Rules.

DEADLINE:
January 15th, (23.59 CET) 2023
The mobility period must end before **May 31st, 2024**

Please follow the application procedure as described in this document, and if you have any further questions, you can contact the GRADE Grant Awarding Committee: WG1 - Ivo Furman (ivo.furman@bilgi.edu.tr), WG2 - Agnes Bakk (bakkagnes@gmail.com) and WG3 - Riccardo Fassone (riccardo.fassone@unito.it).