

## CA18219 Geothermal-DHC

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for STSM applications in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grant period

**Complete applications should be received by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Exchange visits can start from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 and end by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

#### **PURPOSE**

Short-Term Scientific Missions support individual mobility and foster collaboration among individuals from various organizations and countries. Your STSM should be aligned and contribute to scientific objectives of the COST action CA 18219 Geothermal-DHC.

#### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

STSM applicants must be engaged in official research programs, either as PhD students or postdoctoral fellows, but they may also be employed by a legal entity which has a clear association with performing research. General eligibility rules (also on institutions) are published in COST VADEMECUM (<https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vademecum-V8-1-May-20202.pdf>), Section 8.

A registration at the Yellow Pages of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC is required for participating at STSM.

Only one person per home institution and host institution can apply per each grant period.

#### **DURATION**

STSM must have a duration between 5 and 90 calendar days including travel. Applications not granted within this grant period may apply for a grant again in the subsequent GP.

#### **STSM FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

STSM grants are a financial contribution and do not necessarily cover all expenses related to a STSM. Complementary funding by either the home and host organization are eligible, whereas double funding is prohibited.

A STSM Grant may cover the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses. The following general rules apply for financial contributions to STSM according to chapter 8 of the COST Vademecum:

For all participants:

- Up to a maximum of EUR 3,500 in total can be afforded to each successful STSM applicant
- Up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses.

- Up to a maximum of EUR 500 can be afforded for travel.

Researchers from ITC participating in the COST Action may request a pre-payment of 50% of their STSM Grant when they complete the first day of their STSM. In such case, the representative of the Host Institution must confirm by e-mail to the Grant Holder that the STSM applicant has officially started the mission on day 1.

Please note that the STSM committee is entitled to lower the financial contributions according to the perceived cost of living in the host country, Work and Budget Plan and the availability of funds. Furthermore, STSM committee should consider and can approve differentiated country rates to cover accommodation and meal expenses based on the perceived cost of living in the host country. The hosting organizations do not have access to any STSM grants.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- 1) Carefully read the COST Vademecum, Section 8 and the [STSM User Guide](#).
- 2) Elaborate your profile on [eCOST](#).
- 3) Elaborate your profile on the Yellow Pages of the Geothermal DHC ([Yellow Pages](#)).
- 4) Submit your STSM application on [eCOST](#) having prepared the following documents:
  - STSM project title
  - CV with the list of publications (1-2 pages)
  - Letter of Support (recommendation letter) from HOME Institution (1 page based on a *defined template*)
  - Letter of Support (invitation letter) from the HOST Institution (1 page, based on a *defined template*)
  - Motivation and work plan summary with requested budget (based on a *defined template*)

All requests concerning the STSM application need to be addressed to [Nina.Rman@GEO-ZS.SI](mailto:Nina.Rman@GEO-ZS.SI).

## APPLICATION EVALUATION

Your application will be automatically send by eCost to the STSM coordinator. The STSM Committee will assess the applications. The Grant Holder will send the Grant Letter notification to the applicant and activate the STSM. It also includes the allowed maximum funds and rules for reimbursement.

The evaluation and ranking of STSM applications is under the responsibility of the STSM committee. It is planned that they are evaluated within 10 working days after the application submission deadline. The applicants are noticed on the results of selection process several days later.

Please note that priority might be given to ITC participants and specific genders to support the inclusiveness targets of the Action (participation of at least 40% of each gender and access to at least 50% of all funds to ITC participants).

## AFTER THE STSM

[2nd Call for STSM applications in the 3rd grant period – COST Action CA18219 Geothermal-DHC](#)

After completion of your STSM you have to submit your signed Scientific Report using a template ([http://www.cost.eu/STSM\\_report\\_template](http://www.cost.eu/STSM_report_template)) to your HOST institution first. They should approve your Scientific Report by preparing an Official Confirmation Letter (no template is provided) or an email confirming that the STSM took place and the goals outlined in the Work plan were reached.

No longer than 30 days after the end date of your STSM stay you have to submit your Scientific Report and Host approval in .pdfs to the COST system. Failure to submit the Report and the Official Confirmation Letter will effectively cancel the grant.

When STSM Coordinator approves the Report the Grant Holder will pay the grant. Please note that the Grant Holder reserves the right to perform ex-post checks of the grants provided and to request justifications and documentation of costs occurred by the STSM participant.

The STSM Coordinator will send the approved Report to the Science Communication Manager and the respective WP coordinator. The Report will be published on Geothermal-DHC website and, if needed, further used in social media and other project materials. If there are any photographs from the research process in action the participant is warmly welcomed to submit it to STSM coordinator at [nina.rman@geo-zs.si](mailto:nina.rman@geo-zs.si).