

COST Action IS 1409

Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in western countries.

3rd Call for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) Applications for Missions occurring between 01 July 2017 and 31st March 2018

Topic of the COST Action IS1409:

Demographic ageing poses key challenges and opportunities for European countries. Many governments have responded quickly to ageing by introducing policies extending working life, without fully considering the potential impacts. Producing informed and gender-sensitive future policy requires exploring the unexamined differential impacts that such policy changes may have for the health and economic well-being of diverse groups of older workers including men and women in precarious and secure occupations, across different welfare regimes. The life-course perspective has been identified as an innovative approach to analyzing policy impacts and some life-course analysis of pension outcomes has been employed in some European countries. There is a need to build a network to develop capacity among researchers in life-course methods and in gender-aware policy analysis to enable accurate, multi-disciplinary, cross-national analysis of employment policy and practice for older workers.

The major innovation associated with this action is a focus on systematic cross-national integration of gender and life-course analysis into policy discourse and application in relation to extending working life, a critical societal challenge for Europe. It builds on existing gender analysis of older workers in a limited number of EU countries and extends Europe wide, filling a gap in expertise and policy application.

***All STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified above**

Purpose of a Short-term Scientific Mission

STSMs facilitate researchers from COST countries participating in COST Action IS1409 to go to an institution, organization or research centre in another participating COST country to foster collaboration and to perform empirical research. STSMs involve visiting a partner institution for a period of up to 3 months to improve closer cooperation and exchange, to develop capacity building and joint research, publications, and preparation of future projects. The STSM must further the scientific objectives of the Action, as set out above. The following detailed information is drawn from COST VADEMECUM.

Who can apply?

- STSM applicants are PhD or post-doctoral researchers, or employed by or officially affiliated to an institution or legal entity (public or private, as Home Institution);
- COST Action IS1409 in accordance with COST strategy supports Early Career

Investigators (ECI) Therefore, the participation of ECIs in STSMs is particularly encouraged but applications are not limited to ECIs. An applicant is considered an ECI when the time that has elapsed between the award date of the applicant's PhD and the date of the applicant's first involvement in the COST Action does not exceed 8 years. PhD students and other researchers are also eligible to partake in STSMs, but ECIs are prioritized when applications are evaluated.

- The table below (see category A) details the possible STSM scenarios available to the respective Researcher. The Host institution (category B) concerns the institution/organisation that will host the successful applicant.

A) Researcher in a Home Institution	B) To Perform a STSM in a Host Institution
From an institution in a <u>Participating</u> COST Country	In another <u>Participating</u> COST Country
	In an <u>approved</u> NNC institution
	In an <u>approved</u> IPC institution
From an <u>approved</u> NNC institution	In an <u>approved</u> <u>Specific organisation</u>
In an <u>approved</u> European RTD Organisation	In a <u>Participating</u> COST Country

Amount of grants

- STSM's can have a duration of between 5 days and 90 days (and up to 180 days if the applicant is an ECI).
- The financial support on offer is a contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the STSM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated outgoings. Financial support is limited to covering travel and subsistence expenses and is paid as a grant.
- During an STSM neither the MC, nor the COST Office nor the Grant Holder may be considered as an employer. Grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security and pension matters.
- The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:
 - Travel expenses cannot exceed EUR 500;
 - For accommodation and meal expenses, a maximum amount of EUR 160 per day can be considered;
 - For this call, a grantee can be afforded up to a maximum of EUR 2000;
 - For this call ECI (with a duration of more than 91 days), a maximum amount of EUR 2000 can be afforded.
- STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.
- Financial support is limited to cover travel, accommodation and meal expenses and is paid in the form of a grant after the STSM has taken place.
- For this call, the Management Committee of COST Action IS1409 has allocated a total budget of EUR 8,000 for up to 4 STSMs.
- The amounts granted for each individual STSM will be determined during the evaluation process.

How to apply?

- The applicant is responsible for choosing and contacting the Host institution and for organizing the application process. He/she has to complete the online application form (<https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>) and send it to the STSM coordinator by the **31st May, 2017**, attaching the following documents:
 - CV;
 - Publication list;
 - Work plan;
 - Written agreement letter from the host institution;
 - Support letter from the home institution;
 - Motivation letter, highlighting the importance of the mission for this COST Action, and for his/her own training and career.

The selection of applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM application which must clearly complement the overall objectives of the Action.

When to apply?

The current call is open until **31st May 2017**. Feedback will be given by the **June 15th 2017**. STSMs may take place within the period: 1st July 2017 – 31st March 2018.

After the STSM has taken place

It is important that within 30 days from the end date of the STSM, the successful applicant must submit a scientific report to the Host institution and to the STSM Coordinator Renata Siemienska. The applicant is also responsible for acquiring an official acceptance letter / Email confirmation of acceptance from a senior Researcher affiliated to the Host institution formally accepting the scientific report.

Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days from the end date of the STSM will effectively cancel the Grant.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

The STSM coordinator will approve the final report and send the completion notice to the Grant Holder. The Grant Holder will then execute the payment of the grant directly to the grantee.

STSM Coordinator Professor Renata Siemienska University of Warsaw
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