

# European Network for Environmental Citizenship (CA16229)

## Call for Proposals

### Short-term Scientific Missions

#### 1. Call for Proposals

The European Network for Environmental Citizenship (ENEC) aims to improve understanding and assessment of environmental citizenship in European societies and participating countries through Education for Environmental Citizenship (EEC). The Action focuses on the conceptualization of Education for Environmental Citizenship and contributes towards developing research paradigms and metrics for assessing Environmental Citizenship. Good examples and best educational practices leading to pro-environmental attitudes, behaviour and values are also highlighted and promoted.

ENEC members are invited to submit proposals for Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) that can focus on advancing the key objectives of the ENEC project. Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, and fostering collaboration between individuals within the scope of the current Cost Action. Particularly, we invite proposals that focus on one or more of the following key aspects of ENEC (CA16229):

- a) Development of new research paradigm and metrics for assessing Environmental Citizenship through education
- b) Identify research gaps and future research needs, priorities and perspectives in education for Environmental Citizenship
- c) Macro- and Micro-level dimensions for formal and non-formal education that could lead to Environmental Citizenship

#### 2. Important dates

- Opening Date for Applications: **8 July 2019**
- Deadline for applications: **26 August 2019**
- Announcement of grants awarded: **6 September 2019**
- Period of STSM implementation: **10 September 2019 to 10 February 2020**

#### 3. Eligibility

The STSM within the ENEC Cost Action (CA16229) aim to foster collaboration and to facilitate research in the field of Environmental Citizenship (see key aspects above). STSM applicants should be affiliated to any Group/University/Institute/Organisation from an ENEC Cost Action country (the Home Institution), and the STSM should take place at another ENEC Cost Action Group/University/Institute/Organisation (the Host Institution).

STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or

postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research. The COST Association and the Grant Holder of the Action cannot be considered as being an STSM grantee's employer. STSM grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters.

We particularly encourage applications from PhD students and Early Career Investigators (ECI), but applications are not limited to ECI applicants. According to COST Action guidelines, 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.

## 4. Application Process

Applications should be submitted online here: <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>. Please note that all applicants must register for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu/>.

The online application requires the submission of the following documentation:

- a) Motivation and Workplan summary (2000 words maximum), which addresses the following areas:
  - Aim & motivation - Please explain the scientific and/or other motivation for the STSM and what scientific and/or other outcomes you aim to accomplish with the STSM, in accordance with the key aspects of this STSM call.
  - Proposed contribution to the scientific objectives (key aspects, Section 1) of the Action.
  - Techniques - Please detail what techniques or equipment you may learn to use, if applicable.
  - Planning - Please detail the steps you will take to achieve your proposed aim.
- b) 3 page CV with key research experiences and publications (including PhD award date for ECIs)
- c) A letter of support from the Home Institution
- d) An Invitation letter from the Host Institution confirming that the STSM applicant can perform the activities detailed in the STSM work plan on the agreed dates.

## 5. Funding

For this call there is an allocated total budget of EUR 5,000 for 3 STSM.

STSM 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. Grants are normally processed only after the STSM has taken place and the reporting requirements have been met and approved by the STSM coordinator.

Reimbursement rules for COST Action can be found here: <https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/20180501-Vademecum2.pdf>

STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call (Section 2).

The following funding conditions also apply and must be respected:

- an applicant can be afforded up to a maximum amount of EUR 2500;
- for accommodation and meal expenses, a maximum amount of EUR 160 per day can be considered.

For ECI requesting additional provisions, the calculation for an increased financial contribution must respect the following criteria:

- Up to a maximum of EUR 3,500 in total can be afforded to ECIs for missions with a duration of between 91 and 180 calendar days;
- Up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses.

## 6. Evaluation Criteria

- a) Eligible host and home institutions for visitor and visiting members
- b) Eligible duration as outlined in Section 5 and Section 2
- c) Relevance and Quality of the proposed mission to ENEC COST Action's key aspects (Section 1)
- d) Relevance of the host institution's expertise to the STSM's key aspects
- e) The COST ACTION Gender equality principle, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI) and the COST ACTION Inclusiveness principle will also be considered during the evaluation and selection process.

(Geographical spread includes less research-intensive COST Member States, also known as COST Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs): Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey).

## 7. Review Committee

Andri Christodoulou, ECI Events Committee Leader & STMS coordinator, University of Southampton, UK

Slaven Gasparovic, ECI Events Committee Vice-Leader, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Andreas Ch. Hadjichambis, Cost Action Chair, Cyprus Center for Environmental Research and Education, Cyprus

Pedro Reis, Cost Action Vice-Chair, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

## 8. Post-STSM requirements

The STSM Grantee has 30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit on e-COST a scientific report and a Host approval of the scientific report. The Grantee should complete the scientific report, and send it to the Host for review and approval. The Host should confirm in written (by a letter or email) that they agree and approve the scientific report. They should also confirm that the STSM has taken place, including dates, and the goals achieved as outlined in the workplan proposal. Once both the scientific report and host approval are finalised, these should be submitted to the STSM via the e-COST platform.

The scientific report template is available here: [http://www.cost.eu/STSM\\_report\\_template](http://www.cost.eu/STSM_report_template)

The submission of the supporting documents on the e-COST platform is mandatory or the Grant is cancelled. Late submission, beyond the deadline, can also lead to the cancellation of the Grant and, in cases when a pre-payment was done, the obligatory reimbursement by the grantee of the amount received.

Payment of the Grant is subject to a STSM scientific report being approved on behalf of the Action's MC by the STSM Coordinator.

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*For any queries about this STSM call please contact: Andri Christodoulou, STSM coordinator,  
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