

Living in Surveillance Societies (LiSS) COST Action IS0807

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) Call for Applications – Spring 2012

LiSS Coordinator of Short-Term Scientific Missions:
Marc Langheinrich, langheinrich@acm.org

Call for Applications – Spring 2012

The Living in Surveillance Societies (LiSS) COST Action invites applications for Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs). Applications must be relevant to the LiSS Action and must adhere to COST rules for STSMs. The application procedure is set out in the 'LiSS STSMs Process' attached and the COST Vademecum. For the Spring 2012 call, applications must be received before **31 March 2012**.

All applications must be sent to the STSM Coordinator, Marc Langheinrich.

Background Information

Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) strengthen existing networks by allowing researchers to visit an institution in another COST country to foster collaboration, share knowledge, learn a new technique, or to undertake research. STSMs are for a minimum of one week (5 working days) up to a maximum of 3 months. The STSM grant covers travel and subsistence only. *This is intended to be a contribution and is not intended to cover all costs.* Grants will be paid out after the successful completion of the STSM.

Completion requires that *a short summary of the mission is submitted to the STSM Coordinator within 4 weeks of the end of the stay*, outlining the research activity undertaken and summarizing research outputs and outcomes. After acceptance of this report, the grant money will be released.

Typically, the amount awarded for an STSM will be between 40-70 EUR per day and 300 EUR for travel. While total funding for an STSM can be up to 2,500 EUR (and even up to 3,500 EUR for *Early Stage Researchers*), we strongly advise applicants to apply for smaller amounts (e.g., 500-1,500 EUR) in order to improve their chances for success. Also, the review committee will carefully evaluate each application in terms of "value for money", i.e., the significance of the proposed work and its outcomes in relation to the funds requested (see below for full list of evaluation criteria).

Deadline for Applications

Important application deadlines are:

26 March 2012:	Deadline for registration on 'COST Online Registration Tool'
31 March 2012:	Deadline for submission of application
15 April 2012:	Notifications of acceptance sent
28 February 2013:	Date by which STSM has to be completed

Indicative Application Criteria

The following criteria will be used to assess applications:

- *Relevance:* Is the proposed work in line with the LiSS Action and its working groups?

- *Coherence of proposed work plan*: Is it clear how the proposed stay will advance the research of the applicant?
- *Significance of Collaboration*: What role does the host institution play in the applicant's research? Can the same work not also be performed at the home institution of the applicant?
- *Anticipated outputs and outcomes*: What will be the concrete outcomes of this work (e.g., research reports, journal submissions, conference and/or seminar presentations)?
- *Contribution from collaborating institutions*: In what way do the collaborating institutions contribute to the costs? Remember that STSM funding is intended as a contribution only.
- *Value for money* (including size of grant requested): How does the funding amount related to the above points? Are the outcomes adequate to the contributed funding?

STSMs are mainly targeted at Early Stage Researchers (date of completion of doctoral studies plus 10 years, or equivalent) involved in the LiSS Action, though other researchers involved in the action may apply as well. The review committee will also seek to ensure a balance in relation to gender, age and geography.

Required Documents

Your application should be a single PDF document (or single ZIP file) with the following contents

1. *Motivation letter*, describing your research project and how your STSM will contribute to this
2. *Working plan*, outlining the activities you are planning on achieving during your stay
3. *Curriculum Vitae*, incl. academic & employment history and current status (e.g., PhD student)
4. *List of publications*, as pertaining to your research
5. Copy of the *STSM Online Registration* on e-services.cost.eu
6. *Letter of support* from the home institute
7. *Letter of acceptance* from the host institute

Further Information

Please see the following websites and documents for the preparation of your application:

- STSM Online Registration Tool: <https://e-services.cost.eu/w3/index.php?id=91>
If you have not done so already, please register by March 26, 2012
- LiSS website for application and evaluation procedures:
<http://www.liss-cost.eu/about-liss/short-term-scientific-missions/>
- COST Vademecum (Part B) – Grant System: <http://www.cost.esf.org/module/download/7181>
See section 4 "Short-Term Scientific Mission" (pp. 30-39)

Contact

All applications must be *sent via email* to the STSM Coordinator at langheinrich@acm.org, using the Subject line "STSM-Application, Spring 2012". If you do not receive a confirmation *within 3 working days*, please contact the coordinator via phone (see URL below for contact details) or email (from another account) to verify reception of your application.

Marc Langheinrich
University of Lugano (USI), Switzerland
www.inf.usi.ch/langheinrich