

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS

What the STSMs are?

STSM – Short Term Scientific Missions enable TINNET participants to visit an institution or laboratory in another country in the framework of the Action. Their main assumption is to support the individual mobility, strengthen the existing networks and foster collaborations between scientists from different countries. Each mission should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of the Action (which in our case means it should refer to the different tinnitus subtypes). STSMs create a great possibility for applicants to learn new techniques or gain access to specific instruments and methods not available in their own institutions.

How long does the STSM last?

Typically one scientific mission lasts 5 – 90 days, Early Stage Researchers (*ESR – researcher in the start phase of his/her career with at least the PhD and up to 8 years of experience after the PhD*) can extend the duration of the mission beyond the 90 days (91-180 days). All STSMs need to be carried out in their entirety within a single grant period (now we have the first Grant Period, which means that current missions must take place between June 2014 and May 2015).

Will I get the financial support?

Yes. The grant size depends on the duration of your stay and the average living costs in the country of your choice. A maximum EUR 2 500 in total can be afforded to the regular STSM grantee and EUR 3 500 to the ESR STSM grantee (for a duration of more than 91 days).

Check, if you can apply

If you are a postgraduate student, an Early Stage Researcher or an employee from a TINNET-affiliated institution (e.g. a clinician working there with people suffering from tinnitus) or legal entity, you are in the right place.

Please try to find your country in the list below:

Participating Countries	Near Neighbour Countries (NNC)	International Partner Countries (IPC) - RTSM
Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, fYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom	Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Russia, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine	Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa

If your country belongs to the Participating Countries or the NCC, you can apply for the STSM. If you are from the IPC you should choose so called *reciprocal* mission – RSTSM (see

description below). In situation when your country is not in a list, you are very welcomed to join the Action (for more details see <http://tinnnet.tinnitusresearch.net/index.php/contact-tinnnet/becoming-a-participant.html>).

What the RSTSMs are?

Reciprocal STSMs are missions, which are aimed at enhancing the potential impact of global networking and fostering knowledge creation and exchange between scientists in COST Actions with host institutions in International Partner Countries (IPC) that benefiting from a reciprocal agreement with COST (that means Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa). Reciprocal missions are possible only between Participating Countries and IPC.

How to apply?

In the beginning you should contact the host institution. You can find the actual *STSM Announcements* on our website. *The STSM Candidate Institutions* may be also interested in cooperation with you, express simply your interest. When you obtain the written agreement of host, you can submit your online application <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>. Send the completed file as e-mail attachment together with the necessary supporting documents (CV, full work plan, list of publications, motivation letter, letter of support from the home institution etc.) to the STSM Team (malgorzata.wrzosek@amu.edu.pl). We will perform the evaluation process of your application. Once your application is approved you will receive the Grant Letter and you can start preparing yourself for a mission.

After the STSM

Your mission is completed. The last task for you is to submit the short scientific report (send it to malgorzata.wrzosek@amu.edu.pl) within 30 days after the end date of the STSM. Below you can see points you should include:

- Purpose of your mission
- Description of the work carried out during a mission
- Description of the main results obtained
- Future collaboration with the host institution (if applicable)
- Foreseen publications/articles resulting from a mission (if applicable)
- Confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of your mission
- And other comments (if any).

Please remember that this is a very important step. The failure to submit or a submission exceeding 30 days will effectively cancel the grant.

Important remarks

The evaluation process takes some time. Remember to apply for the STSM at least one month before the planned start of your mission.

Grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security and pension matters. Take care of this before your departure.

During an STSM neither the MC, nor the COST Office nor the Grant Holder may be considered as an employer.

Contact:

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Małgorzata Wrzosek – malgorzata.wrzosek@amu.edu.pl