



Mathematical
models
for interacting
dynamics
on networks

COST ACTION CA18232

**OPEN CALL FOR
SHORT-TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS**

JULY 2020

Applications are invited for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) within the scope of COST Action CA18232 “Mathematical models for interacting dynamics on networks”. STSMs enable researchers from COST countries participating in the Action to visit an institution, organization or research centre in another participating COST country in order to foster collaboration, perform research, and further the goals of the Action. Participation of Early Career Investigators (ECIs), female researchers, and researchers working in any Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) is particularly encouraged.

Specific information concerning STSMs. STSMs can have a duration of between 5 and 90 days (or up to 180 days if the applicant is an ECI). It is expected that the STSM is conducted to collaborate with a member of a Working Group.

Eligibility criteria. The following table shows which STSMs are possible.

A) Researcher whose home institution is	B) may perform an STSM
in a participating COST country	in another participating COST country
	at an approved NNC institution
	at an approved IPC institution
at an approved specific organization	
an approved NNC institution	in a participating COST country
an approved European RTD organization	in a participating COST country

Since all applications are managed via the e-COST system, your ITC/NNC affiliation and ECI status will be determined by the information provided in your e-COST profile.

When? This is an ongoing call which will be open until further notice, consult the Action website for updates. Due to the uncertain nature of the pandemic, every effort will be made to evaluate STSM applications at short notice. **You may apply within one to two weeks of the intended start date**, we will attempt to reach a decision within this timeframe.

Financial support. The following conditions apply (see the COST Vademecum for full details):

- up to a maximum of € 3500 will be afforded to each successful STSM applicant;
- financial support can only cover travel, accommodation and meal expenses and is paid in the form of a grant;

- grants can normally only be paid **after** the STSM, upon approval of the Scientific Report (see below). However, researchers from an ITC may apply to receive half of the grant on the day they commence the STSM;
- **the financial support awarded is a contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the STSM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated costs.**

The amount granted to each individual STSM will be determined by the STSM committee during the evaluation process; depending on financial constraints, in the event of success **a lower amount may be awarded than was requested** in the application.

How to apply. All applications must be submitted via the e-COST system. To apply, you must first register for an e-COST account at

<https://www.e-services.cost.eu/>

including your bank account details. Log in to your e-COST account, select the STSM application tab, and follow the instructions. You should carefully read the funding rules detailed in the relevant section of the COST Vademecum, linked below. Your application must include all of the following documents:

- a motivation letter including an overview of the proposed activities to be performed. This must contain a plan of work for the visit highlighting the proposed contribution to the scientific objectives of the Action.
- a letter of support from your home institution;
- a letter of invitation from a Working Group member affiliated with the host institution;
- a full CV (including a list of academic publications).

Evaluation criteria. Applications will be evaluated by the STSM committee, a panel consisting of the STSM Coordinator, the ITC Conference Grant Manager, and the Equal Opportunity Agent according to the scientific objectives outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the Action and the following criteria:

- scientific merit of the proposal (scientific level of the project and how it is related to the aims of the Action);
- expected outcome for the Action;
- participation of Early Career Investigators (ECIs), female researchers, and researchers based in Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs) is preferred.

Women candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

After the STSM.

- You must submit a scientific report via the e-COST website within 30 days of the end of the mission to the STSM Coordinator, Prof. András Bátkai. This report should include:
 - a description of which project aims were achieved;
 - a description of the work carried out and the outcome/results;
 - any expected publications which may arise from the STSM (if applicable).

Relevant parts of the final report will be published on the Action website as part of the Action's dissemination activities. A template report is available at

http://www.cost.eu/STSM_report_template

- You must also obtain an official letter or email of confirmation from a senior researcher affiliated with the host institution which formally accepts the scientific report.

- The grant can only be paid out after the scientific report has been submitted and approved. **Failure to submit the scientific report within the 30 day period will effectively cancel the grant.**
- Please note that the COST Association can request additional information to substantiate the claims contained within the documents submitted by STSM applicants.

For more information...

- For more information on the Action, its scope and aims, as well as up-to-date information on the grants calls, consult the Action website:
<https://www.mat-dyn-net.eu/>
- The COST user's guide to STSMs, including step-by-step instructions on how to apply:
<https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/STSM-userguide.pdf>
- The COST Vademecum (details funding rules and obligations of the grantee):
<https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vademecum-V8-1-May-20202.pdf>
- For more information on COST inclusiveness policies, including a current list of all Inclusiveness Target Countries, consult
<https://www.cost.eu/who-we-are/cost-strategy/excellence-and-inclusiveness/>

Please direct any enquires to the STSM Coordinator for the Action, Prof. András Bátkai
andras.batkai@ph-vorarlberg.ac.at