COST Action 18234: Computational materials sciences for efficient water splitting with nanocrystals from abundant elements

4th Call for STSM
(*Short Term Scientific Missions*)
for missions occurring between February 1st and May 31th 2022

COST Action 18234: "Computational materials sciences for efficient water splitting with nanocrystals from abundant elements" is under COST, an EU-funded, intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in Science and Technology. COST Actions offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe (and beyond) and thereby give impetus to research advancements and innovation.

For more information about the Action, please visit the Action's webpage:
https://comp-h2o-split.eu

COST Action CA18234 invites applications for STSM

Short-Term Scientific Mission consists in a visit of a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation by a Researcher or Innovator for the specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time.

Short-Term Scientific Missions **benefit** the **STSM Grantee and the STSM Host. The STSM Grantee** receives funding for implementing a project with an international team and gains new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques not available in the home institution;
The **STSM Host** receives an international partner in their institution and can develop long lasting collaboration.

The Short-Term Scientific Missions must be aligned with the general objectives of the COST Action 18234, which targets the understanding, design and fine tuning of material properties for energy conversion processes using computer simulation approaches toward a multi-scale strategy.

Applicants and institution eligibility

STSM applicants can be individuals affiliated to a legal entity in:
- A COST Full/Cooperating Member
- An European RTD
- A NNC

The legal entity of the applicant (institution/ organisation) are considered as **Home Institutions**.

The Host Institution is the institution / organisation that will host the successful applicant. The Host institution can be anywhere in the world

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Eligible STSM applicants must submit their STSM applications online at the following web address: https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm

Financial support

An STSM Grant is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the STSM application.

STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking a given mission. A STSM Grant providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, implementation of the project, delivery of the report to the COST Action MC and overall effort.

The maximum amount per STSM grant is up to 4,000 EUR. Each STSM grant sum will be decided by the Core Group, based on the request of the applicant and should reflect the duration and location of the STSM.

The Grant holder can process advance payment of up to 50% of the grant, if requested by the grantee. The remaining of the Grant is payable once the administrative requirements have been satisfied after the STSM.

How to apply

STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.

The applications are to be submitted no later than **February 7th 2022.**

1. All applicants must register for an e-COST profile at https://e-services.cost.eu/ - adding their bank account details to their profile.

2. All applicants must complete and submit their STSM application online at: https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm . The application should include:
   - Title of STSM
   - Start and end date (within the current Grant Period)
   - Budget requested by the applicant
   - Information about the host institution and contact person

3. Necessary documents to upload with the application:

   ✓ **Application form** (template available on e-COST) describing: Goals, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives;

- ✓ **Confirmation of the host** on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant;
- ✓ **CV** (including a list of academic publications – if applicable)
- ✓ **Letter of support/ recommendation letter** from Home institute

The applications will be then assessed by the STSM coordinator and the Core Group, against the perceived contribution that the proposed visit will make and against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

(Please note that COST can request additional information to substantiate the information contained within the documents submitted by STSM applicants).

Evaluation results will be communicated to the applicants in two weeks after the application submission deadline.

COST Action reserves the right for justified reasons to leave the position open, to extend the application period and to consider candidates who have not submitted applications during the application period.

Scientific Report
Within 30 days from the end date of the mission, the STSM grantee must submit a scientific report to the Action MC on the work developed, main achievements of the STSM and planned future follow up activities.

The report must be uploaded to the e-cost together with the host approval of the scientific report.

Payment of the Grant is subject to a STSM scientific report being submitted within 30 days from the end date of the mission, approved by the STSM coordinator on behalf of the Action MC and by a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution.

STSM grantee might be invited to the Action meeting to present the work done during the mission.

Information regarding Covid-19 pandemic
All applicants must follow public authorities' instructions of the countries where the STSM will take place. It is highly recommended to not engage expenses before a clear view of the situation, both in the outgoing and incoming countries, and without purchasing travel cancelation insurance (General guidance is available at the following link: https://www.cost.eu/who-we-are/about-cost/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-actions/)

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For further details, please contact:

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Deadline for applications to be submitted: 07.02.22

Notification of application outcome: 21.02.22

Period of STSM: 1.2.2022 - 31.05.2022