



Visiting Fellowship Call

A) Short Term Scientific Mission – Summary description

The COST Action “**European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation**” (ENGAGER 2017-2021) supports Visiting Fellowships (also known as Short-Term Scientific Missions - STSMs), which are, primarily, exchange visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, strengthening existing networks and fostering collaboration between researchers. An STSM should specifically contribute to the scientific agenda of the COST Action, whilst at the same time allowing those participating in the missions to learn new techniques, gain access to specific data, instruments and/or methods not available in their own institutions.

The STSMs are intended especially for young researchers, especially PhD students and postdoctoral fellows. The duration of a standard STSM is between 5-90 days and the grant is 2,500€ maximum. In addition, Early Career Investigators (ECI), defined as researchers with less than 8 years since obtaining their PhD, can apply for a ECI STSM of 91-180 days and a maximum grant of 3,500€. The award usually covers economy travel and accommodation/subsistence, however the financial support is a contribution to the costs of a STSM and may not necessarily cover all the costs. Note, the STSM does not support research costs.

In the first phase of **European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation**, until 30/4/2018, it is planned to fund up to four (4) STSMs. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals with a high benefit/cost ratio, and are advised to discuss the budget and duration of their Visiting Fellowship with the STSM Co-ordinator, Dr Nikolaos Katsoulakos (katsoulakos@metal.ntua.gr).

B) Deadlines and Thematic of STSM applications

In this phase, applications will be accepted until 5-2-2018. The STSMs will start from 15-2-2018 and should be completed until 20-4-2018. During this phase of STSMs, applications should aim at exchanging and gaining knowledge and expertise related, mainly, to measuring and monitoring energy poverty. More specifically, applicants are encouraged to focus on issues like the following (the list is indicative):

- Legislation regarding defining and measuring energy poverty

- Methodologies for quantifying energy poverty
- Objective and subjective indices related to energy poverty
- National statistical data regarding energy poverty

More information about the scope and the objectives of **European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation** can be found in the following link:

http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA16232

C) Criteria for Funding

Some basic prerequisites regarding STSM applications are listed below:

- The Applicant should be engaged in a research programme as a postgraduate or doctoral student, postdoctoral fellow or to be employed in an institution in a COST country.
- Applicants are responsible for obtaining the agreement of the host institution BEFORE the submission of their application.

Regarding the evaluation of STSM applications, this is performed by the Core Group (CG) of the Action, upon recommendation of the Action's STSM coordinator.

The selection of applicants is based on **the scientific scope of the STSM application that must be in line with the Action objectives. Necessary geographical and gender balance issues** are to be taken into consideration and applications from Early Career Investigator (ECI) **should be privileged**.

The evaluation criteria, values and weights are summarized in Table 1:

Table 1. Evaluation criteria, values and weights for STSMs

CRITERIA	Value		
	low	medium	high
Relevance of STSM with action objectives	2	5	10
Quality of application and applicant's motivation	2	5	10
Relevance of host institute's expertise with STSM objectives	2	5	10
Results directly exploitable by Action	2	5	10
Relevance of applicant's research interests and record with the action and the proposed STSM	2	5	10
Participant based in ITC ¹ and/or plans to undertake STSM in ITC	2	5	10

¹ According to COST, ITC (Inclusiveness Target Countries) include: 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.

Applicant is ECI or PhD candidate	no 2		yes 10
Other STSMs from same country	10		5
Other STSMs by same applicant	10		5

The above criteria approved have been approved by the CG of the Action.

D) Application procedure

The procedure concerning STSM is governed by the **COST Vademecum** (<http://www.cost.eu/Vademecum>), in particular, Chapter 6.

The applicant should download the formal STSM application via the e-cost system (<https://e-services.cost.eu>), after registering to it, following the relevant instructions. After filling the application form, the applicant should send it electronically (via e-mail as an attachment) to the STSM coordinator of the Action, Dr. Nikolas Katsoulakos (katsoulakos@metal.ntua.gr) under the subject “Energy Poverty – STSM - <applicant’s name>”. Together with the application, any necessary documents that may be helpful in supporting the application may be sent, such as: CV, full workplan, motivation letter, list of publications, letters of support etc.)

European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation

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