CA23150 - pan-EUROpean BIoGeodynamics network (EUROBIG)

1st Call for Short-term Scientific Missions (STSM)

Important Dates

Call opens: 5th December 2024

Call closes: 28th March 2025

Notification of results: decision within 45 days from the submission

The travel periods for the STSMs should occur between 01/01/2025 and 31/08/2025 (to allow enough time for completion of the report and the subsequent reimbursement before the end of the yearly budget).

About STSM

STSM Grants (up to €4,000, average demands ca. €2000) are for EUROBIG participants to visit a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation by a researcher or innovator for specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time. The planned work must be relevant to the Action's scientific objectives.

About Cost Action CA23150 – EUROBIG

Growing evidence indicates that the Earth's interior and surface evolution is intrinsically interrelated with the evolution of its atmosphere, oceans, landscape and life. This lays down principal foundations of Biogeodynamics – an emerging scientific field that explores the interface of geodynamics, geomorphology, climate, ocean and atmosphere sciences, geobiology and ecology with special focus on how the evolution of the planetary interiors, surface, atmosphere, ocean, climate, and life is intrinsically interrelated. Despite its strong scientific and educational potential, Biogeodynamics has not been yet fully established as a new discipline and the progress in this direction in term of both science and education is relatively slow. An intrinsically cross-disciplinary character of Biogeodynamics creates organisational, educational and scientific challenges due to the necessity of truly collaborative research and education to efficiently combine scientific knowledge, research tools and training approaches from the very different research fields (such as Earth Sciences, Biology, Ecology, Climate Sciences, Planetology), which traditionally evolved independently from each other. To address the identified challenges, EUROBIG establishes the first pan-European Biogeodynamics network. This will accelerate the development of Biogeodynamics as a discipline in Europe and worldwide by supporting and linking the relevant communities, facilitating interactions to address the important scientific, methodological, educational and networking challenges of this new field. Conducting this COST Action on a pan-European level will allow to establish and maintain European leadership in this new crucial scientific field with great future cross-disciplinary research, educational and societal potential. More information about Cost Action EUROBIG: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23150/

Eligibility Rules

In order to apply for an STSM Grant, the following criteria must be fulfilled:

• The Applicant must be members of EUROBIG COST Action. If not already the case, please apply through the e-COST platform;
• The Application must be submitted before the deadline of a STSM call;
• Applicants are also requested to consult the Annotated Rules for COST Actions.

Financial Rules

• The maximum grant is €4,000 (average demands ca. €2000)
• The STSM grant can be used to fund/refund costs for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, and other relevant costs.
• Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the end of the Conference and approval of all required report/documentation;
• Note: The Core Group can decide to approve the grant with a lower amount than requested.

Application instructions

The applicant must use the e-COST management tool to register the STSM grant application request. In addition to the information entered at the website, the applicants should also upload the following documents:

• Application form (template available on e-COST)

• All documents are available here: https://www.cost.eu/funding/documents-guidelines/

• Letter of invitation from the host (physical person or institute)

• CV including selected publications

• Letter of recommendation from the supervisor at the institution (for MSc and PhD students)

• Requested budget in € - (Estimate of the expected expenses template) For additional information on the submission via the e-COST system, applicants may visit the Grant Awarding User Guide

- Using the e-COST site, go to COST Actions, on the left panel.
- Go to Grant Applications, again, on the left panel.
- Click on the "+ Apply for grant" button located on the bottom right.
- Select STSM grant
- Select the COST Action **CA23150 (EUROBIG)**
- Fill in the required information

Evaluation of applications

Each proposal will be assessed independently by the Grant committee of the Action, and an evaluation score will be given considering:

• the clarity of the proposal;
• relevance to the aims and objectives of EUROBIG;
• scientific quality of the proposal;
• suitability of the budget requested.

After the STSM

After completing the STSM, the recipient must submit a brief **report** outlining the results of their visit (see template here https://www.cost.eu/STSM_Report). The report must be submitted no later than 30 days following the end date of the STSM, or 15 days before the end of the Grant Period (October 31st), whichever comes first. It is important to note that if the report is not submitted on time, the grant will be revoked. Once the report has been approved by the Grant Awarding committee (STSM coordinator, Grant holder, WG leaders and Chair), the grant payment is expected to be processed within 30 days.

Grants are paid after the completion of the mission and approval of all required report/documentation. However, STSMs grantees may request up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant.

We look forward to receiving your application and are here to help with any questions you have.

Please send any questions to: Science Communication Coordinator: Dr Marina Manea - marina@geociencias.unam.mx Action Chair: Prof Taras Gerya – tgerya@ethz.ch Action Vice Chair: Prof Pietro Sternai - pietro.sternai@unimib.it Grant Awarding Coordinator: Dr Attila Balazs – attila.balazs@eaps.ethz.ch