Short-term scientific missions and conference grants in OMEGA-NET

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Short-term scientific missions (STSM)

- STSM: exchange visits between researchers involved in a COST Action, allowing scientists to visit an institution in another COST country; aimed at fostering collaboration, sharing techniques and infrastructure.

- Eligibility: applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research.

- Evaluation: must consider the <u>scientific scope of the proposed mission</u> and how the mission can <u>support the Action in achieving its scientific objectives</u>.

STSM scenarios

Applicant in a Home Institution	To perform an STSM in a Host Institution
Located in a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member	In another Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member
	In a Participating COST Partner Member
	In an Approved IPC Institution
	In an Approved NNC Institution
	In EU Commission, Bodies, Offices and Agencies
	In an Approved European RTD Organisation
	In an Approved International Organisation
Located in an Approved NNC institution	In a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member
Located in an Approved European RTD Organisation	In a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member

STSM criteria

- Duration: 5-90 calendar days; additional option of 91-180 days for early career investigators (ECI, i.e. up to 8 years from PhD completion)
  - Typically 1-2 weeks duration in previous Actions

- Carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period and always within the Action's lifetime

- STSM grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters.

STSM financial support and payment

- Fixed financial contribution which considers the budget request and the outcome of the evaluation. Does not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking a given mission.

- Amounts:
  - Up to EUR 2 500 in total to each successful applicant (EUR 3 500 for ECI missions between 91-180 days);
  - Up to EUR 160 per day for accommodation and meal expenses.

- 30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit a scientific report to the STSM Committee and the Host institution. Payment of the Grant is subject to the scientific report being approved in writing.

STSM in OMEGA-NET

Applicants should:

1) contact the potential host with a demonstration of interest;

2) with support from the host, fill in the preapproval questionnaire summarising the objectives and context of the mission and email it to the STSM coordinator (Raquel Lucas: rlucas@med.up.pt) copying the Action Chair (Ingrid S. Mehlum: ingrid.s.mehlum@stami.no);

3) after pre-approval from the STSM coordinating group, submit the official application online through the e-cost system: https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm

STSM in OMEGA-NET

Reminder for Hosts: please fill in host inventory (to be circulated again) to improve participation

Host details				
City, country	Host institution and department	Host website	Contact person's name	Contact person's email address

Mission details					
Project/cohort/resource	Topic for STSM	Output/task(s) for the STSM	Begin date	Duration	Minimum competence level of the grantee

So far, potential hosts include: Wuppertal (DE), Aarhus (DK), Barcelona (ES), Trieste (IT), Turin (IT), Rotterdam (NL), Porto (PT)
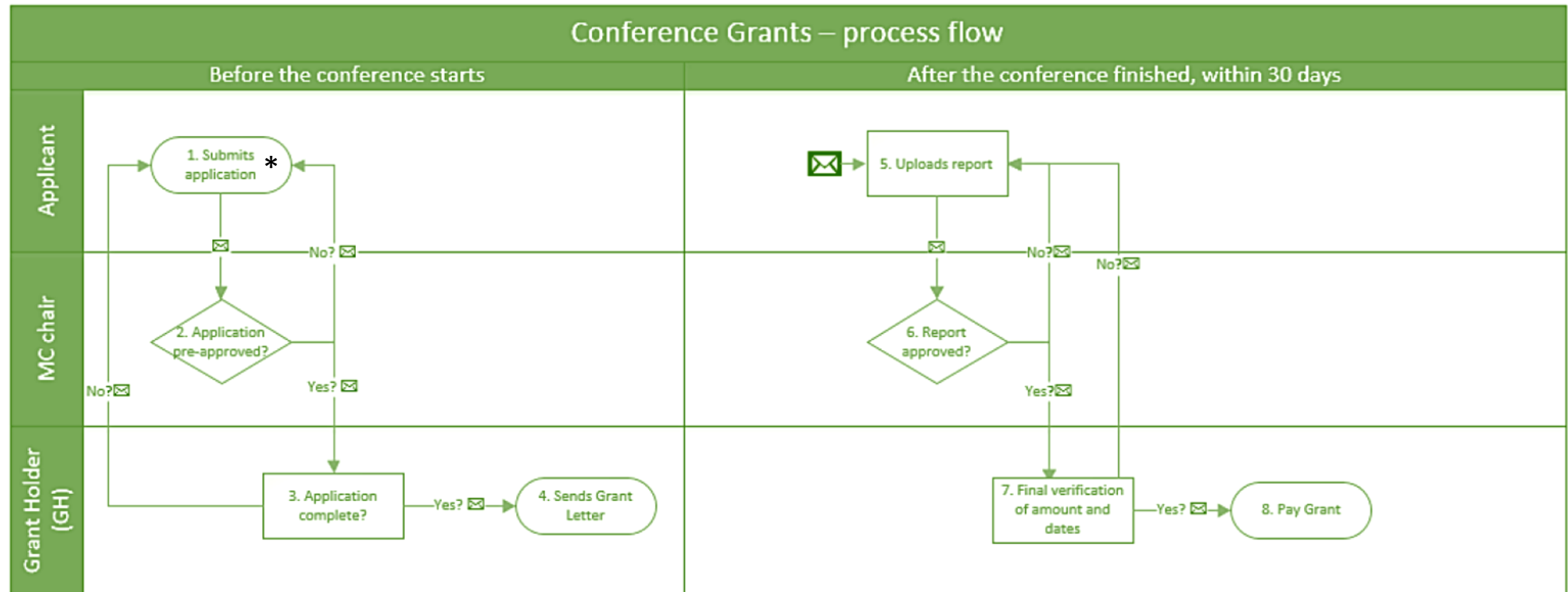
Conference grants for ITC

- New tool to help PhD students and ECIs from participating Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) attend international science and technology related conferences that are not organised by a COST Action.

- Applicant must present work on the topic of the Action and be listed in the programme.

- Any e-COST user who is a PhD student or an ECI and is affiliated with an institution located in an ITC country participating in the Action can submit an application for an Conference Grant, at least <u>45 days before the conference</u> start date. The applicant must be <u>engaged in an official research programme</u> as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow.

ITC: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, FYR Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

Conference grants for ITC

* Including acceptance letter from conference organisers

Conference grants for ITC

- Fixed financial contribution which considers the budget request and the outcome of the evaluation. Does not necessarily cover all expenses related to conference participation.

- Amounts:
  - Up to EUR 2 500 in total to each successful applicant;
  - Up to EUR 160 per day for accommodation and meal expenses;
  - Up to EUR 500 for conference fees

- 30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit a scientific report. Payment of the grant is subject to the scientific report being approved in writing.

Conference grants for ITC in OMEGA-NET

Applicants to ITC conference grants are asked to email the Action Chair (ingrid.s.mehlum@stami.no) copying the STSM coordinator (rlucas@med.up.pt) to <u>inform that they will apply</u> before submitting the official application online through the e-cost system:

https://e-services.cost.eu/conferencegrant/apply/new

Actions / Conference Grant / Application Form

APPLICANT DETAILS

Home institution *   -- Select Institution --

Degree level	Scientific field
Doctoral level or equivalent	Health Sciences

CONFERENCE GRANT DETAILS

Action number *   -- Select An Action --

Conference title *

Conference web page (if available)

Grant period *   -- Select Grant Period --

A Grant Period refers to the period of time that the Grant Holder of each Action has to complete their Action objectives. A Grant Period runs for one year unless stated otherwise. An ITC Conference Grant application must start and end during one single Grant Period.

Conference start date *

Conference end date *

Attendance start date *

Attendance end date *

The attendance start and end date should fall within the selected Grant period.

Number of conference days attended

OMEGA-NET budget

- GP 1: EUR 6000 (STSM) + EUR 2000 (ITC conference grants)

- GP 2:
  - STSM (EUR 28 000): 7 (EUR 2500 level) + 3 (EUR 3500 level)
  - ITC conference grants (EUR 8000): 4 at EUR 2000

More info:

- STSM
http://www.cost.eu/media/cost_stories/Short-Term-Scientific-Missions
and www.cost.eu/download/COSTVademecum

- Conference grants for ITC:

http://www.cost.eu/media/cost_stories/conference-grants-new-vademecum-2017

And OMEGA-NET website

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