

RECIPROCAL SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS - RSTSM

STSM coordinator:

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Action Chair:

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The aim of the RSTSM is to enhance the potential impact of global networking and foster knowledge creation and exchange between scientists in COST Actions with host institutions in IPC that benefiting from a reciprocal agreement with COST (Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa). The reciprocal agreement (COST 4115/13) is based on the ascertained mutual benefit to network (in particular to the benefit of ESRs). Each institution, with the signature of a reciprocal agreement with the COST Office, has allocated dedicated funds to support the participation of researchers from their countries in COST Actions.

For Actions with an approved IPC Institution in a country benefiting from a reciprocal agreement, the following scenarios are possible:

- If the Home Institution is from a participating COST country and Host Institution is from an approved IPC (International Partner Countries) Institution - RSTSM is financial supported by the COST Office directly
- If the Home Institution is from approved IPC Institution and Home Institution in a Participating COST country-RSTSM is financial supported by the implementing agent in the IPC benefiting from a reciprocal agreement

IMPORTANT: RSTSM are implemented by the COST Office as a special kind of STSM funded in addition to the Action's Budget and managed centrally by the COST Office.

RSTSM - financial support

A RSTSM grant is a fixed contribution based on the budget requested by the Applicant and on the evaluation of the application by the COST Office. This grant will not necessarily cover all expenses and only contribute towards travel and subsistence.

Financial contributions calculation rules for RSTSM in Australia and New Zealand:

- The reimbursement rate per day is EUR 160 maximum;
- Up to EUR 1 900 may be attributed for the travel expenses;
- A Maximum EUR 3 000 can be afforded to the grantee.

Financial contributions calculation rules for RSTSM in South Africa:

- The reimbursement rate per day is EUR 160 maximum;
- Up to EUR 1 400 may be attributed for the travel expenses;
- Maximum EUR 2 500 can be afforded to the grantee.

Financial contributions calculation rules for RSTSM in Argentina:

- The reimbursement rate per day is EUR 160 maximum;
- Up to EUR 1 000 may be attributed for the travel expenses;
- Maximum EUR 2 500 can be afforded to the grantee.

RSTSMs - PROCEDURE

The application process for the applicant from a Participating COST Country is as follow:

BEFORE the RSTSM

- Obtain written agreement from the host institution, before submitting an application;
- Complete the online application form <https://e-services.cost.eu/w3/index.php?id=91> (our COST action number is **BM1205**)
- Send the completed file as e-mail attachment together with the necessary supporting documents (CV, full work plan, list of publications , motivation letter, letter of support from the home institution etc.) to the STSM coordinator and the MC Chair;
- The MC Chair (or the MC Vice Chair in case the application is made by the MC Chair) must forward the application and the supporting document to the COST SO along with a statement of support indicating the benefit to the Action;
- Once approved by the COST SO, the applicant will received a Grant Letter specifying the amount granted for the RSTSM;

AFTER the RSTSM

The grantee is required to submit a short scientific report to the host institution, to the STSM coordinator and the MC Chair and to the COST Office SO **within 30 days after the end date of the RSTSM containing:**

- Purpose of the RSTSM;
- Description of the work carried out during the RSTSM;
- Description of the main results obtained;
- Future collaboration with the host institution (if applicable);
- Foreseen publications/articles resulting from the RSTSM (if applicable);
- Confirmation by the host institution of t he successful execution of the RSTSM;
- Other comments (if any).

IMPORTANT: The failure to submit or a submission exceeding 30 days will effectively cancel the grant.

The MC Chair is responsible for approving the scientific report. MC Chair approval and the scientific report must be sent by the MC Chair to the COST Office SO. After reception of the approval by email, the COST Office will execute the payment of the grant.

Publications and conference presentations resulting from a RSTSM should acknowledge the financial support from COST Action BM1205.