

CA22145 Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM)

2. Grant Period

2. Call-2025

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, fostering collaboration between individuals. We encourage candidates to refer to the recently updated Grant Awarding User guide and Annotated Rules for COST Action to ensure the proper implementation of this networking instrument.

STSM applicants must be COST members. The institution/organisation or legal entity where applicants pursue their scientific mission/research are considered as Home Institutions. The Host Institution is the institution/organisation that will host the successful applicant.

The primary goal of GameTable is to foster interactions to create innovative computational methods to study and preserve the cultural heritage of tabletop games. Within this outline we are interested in research related to the cultural understanding of tabletop games, the development of game-related AI techniques and finally the applications for cultural institutions and industry.

The STSM needs to be carried out in its entirety within a single Grant Period and always within the Action's lifetime. Scientific missions should be undertaken within a time period of 5 to 90 days.

Financial details:

- An STSM Grant is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the evaluation of the outcome of the application. STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking a given mission. An STSM Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the Grantee.
- EUR 4000 is the maximum amount grantable to each successful applicant. In the event of a high number of applications, the Scientific Committee could propose a cap on the maximum allowances in order to provide more grants. Each applicant is requested to provide details about the breakdown of the budget.
- In cases of high submission volume, applicants with larger budgets will be expected to provide substantial justification.
- Applications are evaluated individually.
- Grants are paid by the Grant Holder Institution after the completion of the activity and approval of all required report/documentation. However, STSM grantees may request up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant. This amount is subject to availability of funds

and approval by the Grant Holder Institution. The request of pre-payment shall be submitted to the Grant Holder Manager.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must be members of a GameTable Working Group.
- Proposed contributions and outcomes must align with the Action MoU objectives.
- The host organisation must be in a different country than the applicant's home country.
- Applicants from minority groups in each represented field will be prioritised to encourage broader participation in the Action.
- Individuals who received an STSM in the first grant period will not be prioritised in this round.

How to apply:

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

Required Documents for Application:

- **STSM Grant Application:** Use the e-COST template.
- **Letter of Agreement:** From the host institution, on official letterhead.
- **STSM Application Form:** Including goals, work plan, and expected outputs.
- **CV of the Applicant:** A current resume or curriculum vitae.

All documents must be uploaded to the e-COST platform.

A successful applicant cannot be granted more than once over the same grant period.

Deadline: This call for applications is open from the 10th of February, 2025 to the 10th of May, 2025.

Evaluation:

- Proposals will be evaluated by the Action Grant Awarding Coordinators and the Core Group of the GameTable Network based on their scientific merit and requested budget.
- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and the proposals will be evaluated shortly after the deadline.
- Priority will be given to researchers under the age of 40.
- STSM applications that clearly outline how the mission could lead to a new publication will receive priority consideration.

The STSM Grantee has 30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit a scientific report to the Core Group of the GameTable Network and to a supervisor affiliated to the Host Institution. Payment of the Grant is subject to approval of the STSM scientific report by the

delegated person(s) responsible on behalf of the Action's MC and by a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution. Written approval of the STSM scientific report by the aforementioned persons must be uploaded in e-COST for archiving purposes.

Please note: The COST Association and the Grant Holder of the Action cannot be considered as being an STSM grantee's employer. STSM grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters.