



Open Call for STSMs linked to the RoxyCOST CA18210, Grant Period 4

Short-Term Scientific Missions (**STSMs**) allow scientists to learn from an institution or laboratory in another COST country - a concept of particular interest to young scientists (PhD students, Post-docs). These Missions aim at strengthening the COST Action by allowing scientists to go to an institution or laboratory in another COST country to foster collaboration, to learn a new technique or to take measurements using instruments and/or methods not available in their own institution/laboratory.

Researchers across Europe are working together taking advantage of this instrument to show impressive results in a short period of time.

The Management Committee and the STSM Committee of **CA18210 - RoxyCOST** strongly encourage you to apply and benefit from such an experience!

All Action participants are invited to apply, and early career investigators (ECIs - less than PhD + 8 years) from the current member states of this COST Action are particularly encouraged to take part.

The application must be [performed online](#).

For guidelines on the STSM application process, please consult the [PDF guide](#).

Scientific priorities

The projects must be in line with the objectives, tasks and work plan of RoxyCOST/ **CA18210**. In particular, projects related to fruit physiology, conducted towards providing new targets to control fruit sensory and nutritional qualities and post-harvest shelf life are welcome. The projects should implement advanced methodologies and concepts with the aim to understand how ethylene, low oxygen, NO and ROS signals are integrated to impact the ripening and over-ripening processes of fruit. Special considerations will be made regarding the participation of researchers from Inclusiveness Target Countries.

The selection of successful STSM applicants is based on criteria such as: 1) the scientific scope within the objectives of the RoxyCost, 2) the overall research quality, and 3) the proven scientific benefit for the applicant. Overall, the STSM grant should help the Action in achieving its scientific objectives.

Additional criteria of eligibility

Applicants must be engaged in a research program in an institution from a COST country participating in the COST Action. The host institution must be a COST country or a non-COST institution officially participating in the CA18210, <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA18210/#tab|Name:parties>. The average contribution for a mission is a fixed grant based on the applicant's budget request and the decision from STSM committee. The STSMs need to be carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period. For the 4th grant period, total allocated budget for STSMs is 4500€, and individual grants will be calculated according to the country of destination and the length of the mission. The financial support is a fixed contribution to the costs of a STSM (travel, accommodation and to the daily allowances) and may not necessarily cover all the costs.

There will be 2 STSM application deadlines during the 2nd grant period, and one or more STSMs will be granted for each collection date:

- December 31st (for mission taking place in January, February, March and April 2023),
- April 30th (for mission taking place in May, June, July and August 2023).

For full eligibility criteria please check the [COST annotated rules](#). The selection of successful STSM applicants will be done so in consideration of the scientific scope of the proposed mission and how the mission can support the Action in achieving its scientific objectives (as guidelines for preparation of a successful application, please try to answer the questions in Data management plan). There should be special considerations made by the Action MC with respect to supporting COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI), broadening geographical inclusiveness.