



COST Action No CA22124 – EU Circular Economy Network for All: Consumer Protection through reducing, reusing, repairing (ECO4ALL)

1st Call for STSM

Achieving the objectives of sustainable development for 2030 with the contribution of sustainable consumption is a shared concern in modern society. Considering the significant regional disparities in EU and abroad, as well as the lack of a strategic policy framework on regional development, there is an increasing need for all to work towards the development of regional and cross-border cooperation.

The main aim of the ECO4ALL Action is to contribute to the information, reflection and dissemination activities for youth at large, academics, young researchers, staff of the public administration, business environment and for civil society as a whole regarding the circular economy that works for consumers; therefore ECO4ALL aims at promoting the understanding of sustainable consumption, the conservation of resources and the prevention of waste, as well as the responsibility of manufacturers in the design and marketing phases, as one of the most important prerequisites towards consumer protection through reducing, reusing, repairing.

Innovative aspects of the project consist of the improvement of the green circular economy as a behaviour, by driving the actions and decisions of governments, companies, workers, citizens and consumers to realise their economic, environmental and social impacts in a responsible manner. In the ECO4ALL 's view, the EU institutions focus on the environmental and productive aspects of the circular economy, with barely a mention of the social and consumer-related aspects. Under a comprehensive approach, the proactive role of consumers will overcome mere asymmetrical participation, and must empower them to participate in the full circularity of the process.

1. IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for submission of applications: **There is no specific deadline, applications can be submitted at any time.**
- Outcome notification date: **Grant decisions will be communicated on the 1st day of the month after the submission of the application and the decision of its attribution is based on the merits of the application.**
- Period within which STSM must occur: **12th February 2024 – 31st August 2024.**
- Deadline for delivering the STSM report and Video: **up to 15 days after the conclusion of the STSM.**



2. OVERVIEW

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are institutional visits by researchers or scholars aimed at fostering cooperation and collaboration. These visits should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of this COST Action “EU Circular Economy Network for All: Consumer Protection through reducing, reusing, repairing” (CA22124; henceforth ‘Action’), which are outlined in detail in the Memorandum of Understanding.

You may find the eligibility provisions, along with further specifics, conditions and information, in the Action’s STSM Guidelines and [COST Annotated Rules](#). Please read these two documents carefully before applying.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The host needs to be in a different country than that of the affiliation of the applicant.

3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The financial support in the form of an STSM Grant covers travel, accommodation and meal expenses. Please note that the awarded grant will be paid only after the STSM has been completed in accordance with STSM conditions (exceptionally ITC Grantees may claim 50% of the grant after confirmation by the host that the STSM has started)

For this first STSM call for GP1, the Management Committee of the Action has allocated a **total budget of EUR 13.000 Euros**.

A maximum of 2.500 Euros shall be awarded to each successful applicant.

An approximate budget, to justify the requested grant must be annexed to the application. The daily allowance for the country of the Host institution as determined in [COST Annotated Rules](#) is applicable. The exact amounts granted for each individual STSM will be determined during the evaluation process.

4. ILLEGIBILITY

In order to apply for an STSM grant you must:

1. Be enrolled as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow;
2. Be employed by, or affiliated to an institution or legal entity that conducts research.

5. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. Failure to submit the scientific report and the supporting documents within 15 days after the end date of the STSMs will effectively cancel the grant.
2. Grant is payable up to 30 days after the grantee’s report and supporting documents have been approved by the Action Chair (or Vice-Chair).



Please note that both COST Association and Action's Grant holder may request additional information to substantiate the information contained within the documents submitted by STSM applicants.

Please contact the Grant Awarding Coordinator Dr. Andrius Puksas via email if any queries relating to STSMs occur: andrius.puksas@vdu.lt.

To apply, please follow the steps below:

1. Register for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu/>, adding your bank account details to your profile (if a returning applicant or already in possession of a COST profile, move to step 2).

2. Complete the application form at the STSM application section of your e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu/>, uploading the following documentation:

- a) Letter of invitation from the Host Institution, under the supervision of a senior researcher affiliated with that institution; (optional) recommendation letters.
- b) Full CV (max. 3 pages), including a list of academic publications if applicable (font: 12 pt. Times New Roman).
- c) Fill out the available online **“Short-Term Scientific Mission Grant APPLICATION FORM”**
- d) A detailed – estimated – budget to justify the required grant.

3. Submit and download your application.

4. Please be aware that after the completed short-term scientific mission each awardee is expected to provide the following outputs:

- STSM reports on the aims and objectives, achieved results, and dissemination of the work/activities that were performed.
- Short (max 3 minutes) video summary of the STSM report, emphasizing how the STSM has contributed to the grantee's career (current and planned) as well as its contribution to the action.



Funded by
the European Union

