



## **A European Network to Leverage the Multi-Age Workforce (LeverAge)**

### **COST Action CA22120: GP 2 General Call**

#### **Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) grant**

Europe faces one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century – an aging, age-diverse workforce. In response many projects, including several other COST Actions, addressed aspects of work and/or aging. However, so far no Action has yet tackled the essential psychological and managerial aspect of work and aging. The LeverAge COST Action aims to expand science and practice on work and organizational practices for an age-diverse workforce, successful aging at work for workers of different demographics, knowledge transfer between generations, the integration of age-diverse workers at work, aging and technology at work, and late-careers and retirement.

The short-term scientific mission grants aim to support capacity building and transfer of knowledge through bilateral/multilateral collaborations. A Short Term Scientific Mission consists of a visit to a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation by a Researcher or Innovator for the specific work to be carried out and for a determined period.

For more detail on STSMs, please see [pages 95-96 of the Annotated Rules](#).

#### **What kind of expenses are covered by STSM funding?**

For the current grant period (1.11.2024 to 31.10.2025) COST Action LeverAge will award up to EUR 4000 per STSM. The grant provides a contribution for travel, accommodation, and subsistence expenses, project implementation, and report delivery for the STSM. The duration of the project is determined by the applicant. Funding is subject to budget availability.

#### **Who can apply?**

STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research program as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an Institution or legal entity, which has within its remit a clear association with performing research, located in a [COST Full or Cooperating Member](#) or [Near Neighbor Country](#). The host institution may be located in [any participating country from COST Action CA22120 in any part of the world](#), but it must be a different country than the country where the applicant has their primary affiliation.

#### **When to apply?**

Applications for GP2 may be sent in anytime before October 15, 2025. Applications will be collected for processing on the following dates: January 31, March 31, May 30, and July 31. Additional collection dates will be provided thereafter if there are funds remaining.

#### **How to apply?**

Applications should be submitted via the e-COST website.

To create an e-COST account and apply, you must [register](#) here. You may then apply [here](#).

### The application consists of:

- Project title
- Start and end dates (max. end date 31.10.2025)
- A detailed budget table, based on [country daily allowance rates](#). Please note that only the following budget items are eligible: long-distance (101+ km) travel, travel insurance, visa costs (if any), country daily allowance [based on COST daily allowance calculations](#), and costs associated with project implementation or report delivery. No other types of expenses will be reimbursed.
- Goals of the project (max. 200 words)
- Working plan (max. 500 words)
- Expected outputs and contributions to the COST Action objectives (max. 500 words)
- Contacts of the host organization and mentor
- Confirmation letter from the host organization
- CV of the applicant
- Motivation letter (maximum 1 page long, double spaced), emphasizing the importance of this short scientific mission for the applicants' career

### **Grant awarding criteria**

All incoming grants will be evaluated by the grant awarding committee (consisting of the grant awarding officer and three further members of the Action's core group) based on the following criteria:

1. The applicant fulfills eligibility criteria (see above)
2. The project addresses an essential psychological or managerial aspect of work and aging
3. A minimum duration of 5 calendar days
4. Geographic diversity, gender balance, and young research and investigator (YRI) status will be taken into account
5. Maximally one STSM proposal by a single applicant will be accepted during a given grant period
6. In case of conflicts of interest, for example if a grant evaluation committee member is also a grant applicant for a given call, other member(s) of the Action leadership with no conflict of interest will step in as replacement(s) to ensure no conflict of interest in the grant awarding process

### **Final report**

Within 30 days of the STSM completion, the applicant should provide a brief (1-2 pages double spaced) summary of the research activities conducted during the STSM and plans for further research building upon these activities.