



# 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Short Term Scientific Missions

## COST Action “Forest Energy”

“Development and harmonisation of new operational research and assessment procedures for sustainable forest biomass supply”

### Objectives:

The objective of the COST Action is to harmonize forest energy terminology and methodologies of forest operations research and biomass availability calculations thereby building the scientific capacity within forest energy research and supporting the technology transfer of the forest biomass procurement chain and sustainable forest management. The work in the COST Action is focused around 4 Working Groups:

**WG 1: Forest biomass terminology and units**

**WG 2: Operations research & measurement methodologies**

**WG 3: Machine cost calculation and data analysis methodologies**

**WG 4: System Analysis and modeling in forest operations**

The Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) should aim **to support the overall objectives** of the Action and on the work carried out in one of the Working Groups. These Missions (exchange visits) are aimed at **strengthening the existing networks** 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. They are particularly intended but not limited to young scientists.

### The Applicant:

The Applicant should normally be engaged in a programme of research as a post graduate student or postdoctoral fellow or be employed in an institution of a COST Country having accepted the MoU of the Action.

### Duration:

**Minimum one week (5 working days) - Maximum 3 months.**

For Early Stage Researchers (less than PhD + 10 years) the Management Committee may approve an extension to a duration beyond 3 months, but normally not more than 6 months in total.

### Financial Support:

The financial support is a contribution to the costs of a STSM and may not necessarily cover all the costs in each case. The grant should normally cover travel and subsistence. The total of a STSM shall normally not exceed EUR 2 500 (EUR 3 500 for Early Stage Researchers).

**As of February 2010 25 European countries and 6 countries outside Europe have joined COST Action FP0902. And there are more to come!**

**More information about participating countries and institutions can soon be found at:**

**[www.forestenergy.org](http://www.forestenergy.org)**

**We encourage all interested parties to make use of this great opportunity!!!**

**Deadline for applications is March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010**





### Application procedure:

#### How to Submit an STSM Application:

The Applicant must use the **on-line registration** tool to register their request for an STSM (<http://www.cost.esf.org/stsm>).

The following information has to be encoded with the registration:

- Applicant's title, name, work place, postal address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address
- name, postal address, telephone, fax and email of the prospective host at the receiving institute
- the planned dates and length of stay
- the title of the planned STSM
- a short description of the proposed workplan (about 250 words)
- a short curriculum vitae
- a budget request with breakdown for the costs of the STSM
- bank details

#### Financial Support:

The financial support is a contribution to the costs of a STSM and may not necessarily cover all the costs in each case. The grant should normally cover only travel and subsistence.

The financial contribution for a STSM will be a fixed grant based on the Applicant's budget request and the evaluation of the application by the STSM assessment committee. An amount of EUR 60 to 90 for the daily allowance in particular for longer stays and EUR 300 for the travel is recommended but not obligatory. The total of a STSM shall normally not exceed EUR 2 500 (EUR 3 500 for Early Stage Researchers and travel to Australia or New Zealand).

**Any exception needs special justification and prior approval from the COST Office.**

In any case the costs associated with the STSM must not exceed the limits set in the rules for reimbursement by COST of expenses for experts eligible for reimbursement.

You can download the STSM guidelines and procedures from the following link:

<http://www.cost.esf.org/module/download/7181>

For more information please contact the Chair of the Cost Action:

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