

CA22111 A European consortium to determine how complex, real-world environments influence brain development (ENVIRO-DEV)

First Call for STSMs

What is COST Action CA22111 about?

The goal of the COST Action CA22111 is to create the infrastructure and networks to allow for transformative new approaches to quantifying variability in the early life physical and social environments experienced by children across the EU. The action will start in autumn 2023, and consist of 4 working groups. Further details can be found here: <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA22111>

What are we looking for in this first call?

In this first call, we offer funding for a total of 5 short-term scientific missions (STSM). All the details on STSMs can be found in the FAQ document, but briefly put, we offer funding for young researchers to go to a different lab to gain new experiences and contribute to the overall goal of the action. In particular, we offer the following STSMs:

STSM 1 (WG1) - To conduct a literature review on how we measure environments and how we conceptualise child-environment interactions (this placement will be based in Antwerp under Kristien Hens [kristien.hens@uantwerpen.be])

STSM 2 (WG1) - To conduct a survey and literature review on what aspects of the environment are most relevant for development, from a cross-cultural perspective (this placement will be based in London under Georgia Lockwood Estrin [G.Lockwood-estrin@uel.ac.uk])

STSM 3/4 (WG2) - To conduct an interdisciplinary survey on the automatic methods that already exist for measuring early living environments, covering human geography, computer science, medicine, clinical and educational psychology/neuroscience and other related fields (one placement will be based in Göttingen/Heidelberg under Peter Marschik [peter.marschik@med.uni-goettingen.de] and the other in Turku under Manu Airaksinen and Jukka Leppanen [manu.airaksinen@aalto.fi]).

STSM 5 (WG4) - To conduct a survey on what aspects of the environment are most relevant for policy makers (this placement will be based in Oslo under Eivind Engebretsen [eivind.engebretsen@medisin.uio.no]).

Who can apply?

PhD students or Postdocs at a University or some other Institution performing research in a COST full or cooperating member country, and their country of affiliation has to be different from the country of the placement.

When is the application deadline?

November 19th, 2023. Decisions will be communicated in early December.

When do I have to go to the host lab?

You can spend your time in the host lab any time during the current funding period, which ends October 31st, 2024. However, we strongly encourage you to go late in 2023 or early in 2024, as the further planning of the COST action depends on the results of your STSM. Please detail in your application, when you plan to go.

How much funding will the participants receive?

Participants will receive a lump sum of 4000 €, which can be used to cover any expenses occurring as part of the stay. As part of the application, participants have to submit a budget and travel plan, which will be part of the evaluation process.

How do I apply?

To apply, please send the application documents (a CV and the work-plan as outlined in the form) to both, the intended host lab (see above) and the grant awarding coordinator (Sarah Jessen, sarah.jessen@uni-luebeck.de). The successful applicant will then have to also submit a formal application via the e-cost system.

Who can I ask if I have more questions?

First check the FAQ document. If you have more questions about STSMs and applying in general, contact Sarah Jessen, the grant awarding coordinator (sarah.jessen@uni-luebeck.de). For questions about the content of the individual STSMs, contact the respective PI directly.