

CA 18215

**China in Europe Research Network
(CHERN)**

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

Call for STSM hosts

What is a STSM?

Short term scientific missions (STSMs) aim to strengthen scientific networks and collaborations, increase knowledge exchange through access to specific expertise or methods and support especially early career researchers in their professional development. A CHERN STSM should also specifically contribute to the Action's scientific objective to develop an interdisciplinary, holistic, cross-sectoral and pan-European understanding of the variegated impacts and strategies associated with Chinese engagements in Europe by yielding new data, scientific outputs or policy recommendations.

Why become a STSM Host?

You will host a promising scholar, who will receive funds to travel to your institution, with whom you will be able to upgrade or expand your research, work on the scientific outputs or collaborate on joint funding applications. Based on the conditions of the call which you draft, you can look for a researcher with specific set of skills (e.g., online qualitative methods, language skills, etc.).

Who is eligible to be a STSM Host?

Any person affiliated with an institution, organization or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research connected to CHERN (e.g., university professors, researchers who are affiliated with research institutes or think-tanks etc.).

How does it work?

If you have an idea for a STSM, **fill in the application below and send it to one of the [CHERN Working Group](#) leaders (choose the one that relates most to your application) and to the STSM Manager dr. Martina Bofulin.**

The STSM should have a minimum duration of 5 calendar days that include travel, but could last up to 2 months, depending on the nature of the STSM. The maximum amount that can be awarded to the grantee is EUR 4 000,00.

The selection of the successful STSM Hosts will be done in consideration of how the proposed STSM can support CHERN in achieving its [scientific objectives](#). After the selection of the Hosts, the call for STSM fellows will be published on the CHERN website and promoted. The CHERN grant awarding committee will review the applications and in agreement with the Host select the successful grantee. The grantee will carry out the STSM and will be reimbursed according to the COST rules.

The STSM grantee(s) shall make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters while at the Host institution. The STSM grantee(s) can receive up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant.

More information on STSMs are available in the [Annotated Rules for COST Action \(Section 2.3 p. 94\)](#), on [our website](#) and by contacting the STSM Manager dr. Martina Bofulin (martina.bofulin@zrc-sazu.si)

When is the deadline?

The applications should be submitted to CHERN no later than **14 January 2022**.

Application form:

[The application form template can be found here.](#)

See the example below for guidance on how to formulate your application.

Example of a previous proposal

Topic: Chinese FDI in Renewables in Europe

Host institution:

Department of Political and Social Sciences -Università di Pavia (Italy)

Description of the topic:

In China, the consumption of renewable energies is growing faster than that of energy from fossil fuels (Wu, Zhu, and Zhu 2018), thanks to the ambitious policies put in place to facilitate green transformation. According to the International Energy Agency, China has installed one-third of the world's wind power and a quarter of solar capacity while in the last 10 years electricity generation based on fossil fuels went down from 82 to 72%, thanks to a significant increase in solar PV, wind, and hydro power. In terms of production capacity, China has become the world's largest manufacturer of wind turbines, PV panels, and electric cars and busses. In recent years, China has also been the largest investor in R&D for green technologies.

The EU has historically been at the forefront of technological development and investment in the renewable energy sector and China, which is rapidly catching up in several renewable energies, is using FDI in Europe as a channel for acquiring new knowledge and technology.

Objectives:

The STSM is aimed at a collaborative effort between the host and the visiting researcher in order to:

- Setting up a proposal to investigate Chinese FDI in Europe in the field of renewable energies;
- Developing a methodological framework for the project;
- Identifying possible data sources;
- Identifying European and Chinese potential partners for the joint bid for funding;
- Identifying funding sources.

Special criteria for this STSM:

- Familiarity with databases on Chinese FDI;
- Knowledge of the renewable energy field;
- Knowledge of quantitative methods.

Results:

- Draft proposal for a joint research project
- Short policy brief on Chinese FDI in renewable energy sectors in the EU

Practical details:

Working group: WG 2 (High tech and innovation driven investments and acquisitions)

Duration and timing: Duration approximately 2 weeks in autumn 2020 (due to COVID-19 measures the exact date shall be determined together with the selected applicant).

Location:

Contact: