

## **SIZEMIC - CALL for international short visits and exchange grants**

SIZEMIC is inviting applications for short visits (with maximum duration of 14 days) and exchange grants (duration of 15 days to 1 month) for early-stage researchers (PhD, Post-Doc) to:

- 1) Visit foreign institutions to pursue research activities (new data synthesis, modelling and/or literature reviews) addressing the aims of SIZEMIC.
- 2) Participate in overseas conferences (excludes organising/selection committee and poster contributions), workshops and seminars which are of particular strategic importance in order to engage with scientists.

SIZEMIC aims to foster new research on size-based approaches to understand ecosystem structure and processes. The network is particularly concerned to develop synergistic research activity across traditional boundaries, such as theoretical/field-based research, terrestrial/aquatic ecosystems, pure/applied ecology (see [www.sizemic.org](http://www.sizemic.org)).

**Eligibility:** The short visits and exchange grants are intended to cover the costs of travel and subsistence (on a per diem basis) of PhD's and Post-Docs from countries participating in SIZEMIC to visit research institutions in a country other than that of applicant's home institution, returning to the home institution at the end. The aim of a research visit should be related to the general objectives of SIZEMIC. It should be focussed on crossing traditional research boundaries and on fostering collaboration between research institutions, within the remit of SIZEMIC.

Short visit grants cover visits that last a maximum of 14 days, with a daily allowance of 85 € and a maximum of 500 € for travel. A maximum support of 1690 € per grant can hence be applied for.

Exchange grants cover visits that last between 15 and 28 days. These have the same maximum of 500 € for travel, and a daily allowance of 57 €. For further details about ESF short visits and exchange grants, including the conditions for eligibility, please consult the ESF website at <http://www.esf.org/activities/research-networking-programmes/guidelines-for-management-of-esf-research-networking-programmes/appendix-3.html>.

The proposal must include:

1. A curriculum vitae of no more than two A4 pages (single spaced, 12pt font) of the visiting researcher
2. Full details of the applicant's home institution and the prospective host(s) institution(s)
3. A short description of the proposed project work (or paper to be presented), including research goals and anticipated outputs. In case of participation in a conference, the proposal should include the abstract, notification of abstract acceptance (as an oral contribution), and a short statement on how the presentation and the conference relate to SIZEMIC. In case of participation in a workshop or seminar, focus in the application should be on demonstrating the strategic importance of this activity to the research development of the applicant, and on relevance of the applicant's research to SIZEMIC. In case of a research visit to a foreign institution, the application should clearly describe

the context and specific goals of the intended visit, the strategy, main methods and work plan (including timetable) that will be used to achieve these goals, and the anticipated outputs.

4. A clear statement of how the proposal relates to SIZEMIC aims
5. A letter of the prospective host(s) institution(s) expressing support for the visit (or in the case of a conference, confirmation of oral presentation)
5. Timetable, including starting date, and budget of visit

The chief criteria for selecting granting support for a short-term visit will be scientific excellence and novelty and relevance for the aims of the SIZEMIC network. The call will remain open while funds of the travel budget of SIZEMIC are available. Applications have to be submitted via the ESF on-line system: ([http://www2.esf.org/asp/form/svgrants/sv\\_form.asp?id=144](http://www2.esf.org/asp/form/svgrants/sv_form.asp?id=144)).