

COST Office
Avenue Louise 148
1050 Brussels, Belgium
t: +32 (0)2 533 3800
f: +32 (0)2 533 3890
office@cost.eu

www.cost.eu

Oxford (UK), July 12th, 2017

Subject | Minutes of the Fourth Management Committee Meeting of COST Action ES1401 “Time Dependent Seismology (TIDES)”

*Oxford, United Kingdom
July 12th, 2017*

1. Welcome to participants

The Chair, Dr. Andrea Morelli, welcomes all participants to the meeting, that takes place in the Leonard Auditorium at Wolfson College, Oxford (UK), during the Third Training School hosted at the same venue. The Chair opens the meeting at 14:30 as scheduled.

2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries

The following COST countries participating in TIDES are represented in the room (by the nominated MC Members named hereinafter):

Austria	Prof. Florian Bleibinhaus
Bulgaria	Dr. Gergana Georgieva
Czech Republic	Dr. Jaroslava Plomerova
Finland	Dr. Timo Tiira
France	Prof. Jean-Paul Montagner
Germany	Prof. Heiner Igel
Germany	Prof. Thorsten Dahm
Hungary	Dr. Laszlo Toth
Hungary	Ms. Dalma Trosits
Ireland	Prof. Christopher Bean
Malta	Dr. Pauline Galea
Netherlands	Prof. Jeannot Trampert
Norway	Prof. Valerie Maupin
Poland	Dr. Blanka Nita



Dr. Hamza Reci, from the Polytechnic University of Tirana, a MC Observer from COST Near Neighbour Country Albania, is also present at the meeting.

The Chairman explicitly welcomes Dr. Laszlo Toth and Ms. Dalma Trosits, the two representatives of Hungary – new member since the last MC meeting – who join TIDES activities for the first time. Dr. Toth and Ms. Trosits briefly present themselves and express the interest of Hungary for the topics pursued within TIDES.

In total, 15 (out of 26) Participating COST countries are represented at the MC meeting. The presence of at least two thirds Participating COST Countries is not met.

3. Adoption of agenda

The proposed Agenda for the meeting is read and approved. Prof. Valérie Maupin (representative of Norway) will act as Secretary for this meeting.

4. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting of the MC that took place in Sesimbra (PT) on September 21st are approved with no objections or comments.

5. Update from the Action Chair

- a. Status of Action: start and end dates of Action, participating COST countries, participating NNC/ IPC institutions and Specific Organisations.

The Chair reminds the audience of the relevant dates in the life of the Action. TIDES started on November 3rd, 2014, and will terminate on November 2nd, 2018. A readjustment of yearly termination dates for Actions, implemented by COST last year, introduced an additional short Grant Period that brought the yearly termination date to April 30th from 2016. TIDES is therefore in its 3rd year of activity, but in its 4th Grant Period. The next Grant Period will be the last one, ranging from May 1st, 2018, to November 2nd, 2018, with a duration of only 6 months and likely a reduced budget.

With the recent addition of Hungary, TIDES now has participation from 26 COST countries, and 2 Near-Neighbour countries.



b. Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM): review of completed reports and new applications

The STSM Coordinator, Prof. Graça Silveira, updates the MC on the implementation and outcome of Short-Term Scientific Missions. The STSM instrument has proved to be quite popular and successful within the TIDES community. Since its inception, TIDES has been able to support 28 missions. All applicants submitted applications describing their motivation for the stay, that have been critically evaluated by the STSM Committee, designated at the MC Meeting in Bertinoro (composed by the STSM Coordinator, Prof. Silveira; the Action Chair, Dr. Morelli; the Action Vice-chair, Prof. Montagner; and two members chosen among Working Group Leaders, Dr. Schimmel and Prof. Sigloch). The STSM Committee selected the successful grantees following criteria of excellence, inclusiveness, and gender balance. All grantees have later submitted a report of the activity carried on during the stay. The MC agrees on the positive outcome of the STSM instrument, and commits future resources to continue the program.

Until now, TIDES has run 5 STSM calls, with a total of 37 applications and 28 successful STSMs concluded. During the last Grant Period, we approved 10 STSMs, of which 9 have been successfully carried out, with an expense of 16,000€. One of the applicants renounced due to personal reasons. Of the grantees, 6 were men and 3 women.

The STSM committee agrees on the value of the work carried out during such STSMs, as described by the – often quite detailed – scientific reports that grantees submit prior to reimbursement, subject to approval by the committee.

The MC agrees on the value of the STSM instrument and expresses the desire to continue such a program.

The Chair thanks the STSM coordinator and the STSM Committee.

6. Update from the Grant Holder: Action budget status

The Chair informs participants that the former Grant Manager, Dr. Julie Baron, has very recently resigned from her job, and the role of GM has temporarily been taken by Dr. Livia Cassai (an employee of the Grant Holder institution) while the search for a new GM is currently ongoing. The Grant Holder Scientific Representative, Dr. Lucia Zaccarelli, could not participate to the meeting. Therefore, the Chair presents the report of the Grant Holder.

The Yearly Financial Report for period 2016-05-01 to 2017-05-22 – that has recently been submitted and validated – is reviewed in its main points. During the third Grant



Period the main items of science expenditure were 59,443€ for the 2nd Training School, 24,064€ for Meetings, and 16,000€ for STSM's.

For the currently ongoing Grant Period TIDES has received an assignment of 126,000€, that will be subject of discussion at item 11 b) (Action budget planning) later on.

Given the size of the network, the money assignments by COST impose severe constraints on possible activities. Therefore, the highest attention is being devoted, as usual, to efficiency in expenditures. For this reason, co-location of different events (this MC meeting during the Training School) is often sought and advisable.

7. Update from the COST Association, if a representative is present

No representative from the COST Association is present. The Action Scientific Officer anticipated to the Chair that she would not attend this meeting because of other commitments.

8. Monitoring of the Action

The Chair recalls that in December 2017 he has submitted the Action Progress Report at Month 24, and briefly goes through the Report.

The report gives an account of the significant progress achieved by TIDES in its first two years. All activities are progressing according to schedule, and remarkable results have been achieved in pursuing the Action Objectives. The main plan, as described in the MoU, revolves around four events, one each year, that comprise an advanced training school, working group meetings, together with a management committee meeting. This format has shown its merits in maximising interactions among Action participants and provides a real forum for exchange between experienced and early-stage researchers.

The Chair runs through the MoU Objectives, the achievement of which is in excellent shape, with some already accomplished and others well under way.

Co-authored publications and two H2020 proposals benefitted by the networking implemented by TIDES. More publications are listed on the Action web site (<http://tides-cost.eu>), that manifest the vibrant scientific vitality of the institutions engaged in TIDES activities.

Among the main Action successes, is a more effective training model for advanced students and early-stage researchers, based on theoretical and methodological lectures, complemented by hands-on practical software tutorials on a specific case study; and the scientific breakthrough of the use of ambient seismic noise with specific



allowance for location and characters of noise sources, enabled by networking across different disciplines (oceanography, seismology, computer science).

On the down side, the Chair points out the limited budget, and the complex administrative rules to follow. Among the most limiting rules, the need to reimburse every participant individually puts a large work load on the Grant Holder and limits engagement of young scientists from weak-currency countries who may not afford to anticipate the full cost of a stay abroad.

9. Implementation of COST policies on:

a. Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI)

Here in Oxford, TIDES could support participation of 40 trainees. Women and Early-Career Investigators (ECI) are well represented in the supported trainees group, among which the balance between women and men is 40% vs. 60%. Virtually all supported trainees are either PhD or Masters student – only 2 are young researchers, and they came from inclusiveness countries.

To further improve gender balance statistics, the MC agrees to explicitly state, in all future calls, that TIDES encourages applications from women and is committed to promote gender balance.

b. Inclusiveness and Excellence

Following COST recommendations, both excellence (together with topical relevance of research project) and inclusiveness have been considered as criteria to select grantees. Here in Oxford, trainees from 8 inclusiveness countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Turkey) are attending the school supported by TIDES grants.

10. Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report of working groups

Working Groups are holding meetings here in Oxford during the present week. The presence of many Early-Career Investigators, attending the school, is an excellent occasion to involve them in the scientific discussions on accomplishments, open problems, current directions and future projects. Working Group leaders will present an update of their past and planned activities to the general audience the last day of the school, on Friday morning.

11. Scientific planning

a. Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables)



The Chair recalls the main objectives, goals, tasks, and deliverables as outlined in the MoU. The development of the Action has already been addressed at point 8 above, discussing the Action Progress Report at Month 24.

b. Action Budget Planning

The Chair presents the Work and Budget Plan for the current Grant Period. The main expenditure items include the Training School on Seismic Tomography and uncertainties (that is happening this week) for an estimated 45,000€; the current meetings of MC and WGs for an estimated 38,000€; three further WG meetings for estimated 13,500€; and STSMs for estimated 11,000€.

While the final financial statements for the current events are not yet available, given the reduced actual participation to the MC Meeting (for which engagement for all MC Members had been accounted for in the Budget Plan) some saving can be inferred, leaving some resources (of the order of 15,000€) available to increase the budget for the three further WG meetings and the STSMs.

The Chair gratefully acknowledges the financial contribution for the ongoing Training School received from sponsors located in the proximity of Oxford (a leading manufacturer of seismic instrumentation, Güralp Systems Limited; the research center of the world's largest oilfield services company, Schlumberger Cambridge Research Ltd.; and the largest international non-governmental seismological organisation – the ISC) for which he thanks the local organiser, Dr. Tarje Nissen-Meyer.

Further, collaboration with the Early-Career Scientists of the European Geosciences Union (EGU) — besides the inclusion of several career-oriented activities in the program — brought a financial contribution towards reducing participation costs for few trainees.

WG2 and WG5 Leaders update the MC about the plan to slightly modify the topic of the planned WG meeting, focussing on best practices in volcano seismology. Participants will work together on a data set and compare results from different techniques. The WG Leaders will proceed to prepare and propose a more detailed plan.

c. Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)

The plans within the current Grant Period have already been discussed in the previous points. The next Grant Period, from May 1st to November 2nd, 2018, will probably have a reduced budget.

Following the plans of the MoU, a Training School on applications of time-dependent seismic imaging and monitoring will be organised, provisionally planned for the last week of June or the first week of July 2018. The location will be decided further on, after



considering plans from candidate local organisers. Representatives from the Czech Republic and from Bulgaria have volunteered to search for possible venues and will remain in contact with the Action Chair to explore the possibilities in more detail.

The Chair informs the MC about the exchanges intercourses with the SO, relating to finding the best framework — coherently with COST rules — for organising meetings (like this one) in conjunction and overlap with the Training School. The MC agrees on the importance of meeting during the TS, to maximise interactions — also with early-career scientists — and on the appropriateness of holding one large event a year, as done so far. This follows the plan of the MoU, and it is appropriate to follow such implementation also for the next year.

d. Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

TIDES maintains a web site at tides-cost.eu, that is hosted at the Grant Holder institution and that has been completely redesigned the last December. The Chair invites everyone to look at it, to actively contribute, and to give suggestions for improvement.

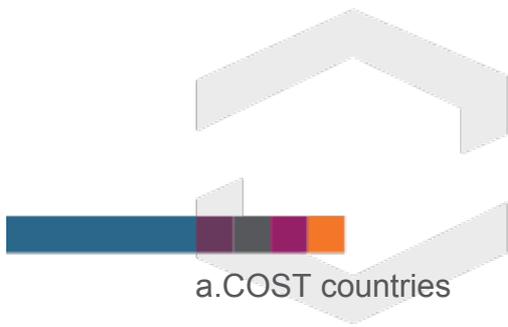
TIDES has a facebook page ([cost.tides.20152018](https://www.facebook.com/cost.tides.20152018)) that acts as a place for exchange of information. The Chair encourages contributions and suggestions for improvement.

The TIDES web site contains a list of papers related to TIDES activities. The list consists of papers that either include an explicit acknowledgement of TIDES support or discussions; or papers jointly co-authored by scientists from different institutions involved in TIDES; or even articles on topics related to TIDES activities authored by scientist in institutions involved in TIDES. For this site to be up-to-date, it is important that scientists send updates, it is therefore advisable that the Chair requests updates a few times per year.

A paper on the TIDES COST Action, prepared by C. Hadziioannou, C. Bean, and A. Morelli, has appeared on the Impact series published by Science Impact Ltd ([doi:10.21820/23987073.2017.1.74](https://doi.org/10.21820/23987073.2017.1.74)). The publications reportedly help research stakeholders to access relevant information on current and future research projects, policy and trends impacting their work in a clear, accessible and concise content format.

A possible article, describing the training model designed in TIDES schools — based on a library of Python notebooks and Virtual boxes to distribute software — could be written to be submitted to the AGU EOS journal. This training model has shown its merits in the past (and the present) Training Schools organised by the Action, and can be useful for training in geophysics.

12. Requests to join the Action from:



There are no new requests.

b. Institutions in Near Neighbouring Countries, International Partner Countries, and/or Specific Organisations: EU agencies, European RTD Organisation, International Organisations

There are no new requests.

13. AOB

Prof. Graça Silveira informs the participants of the upcoming ORFEUS/EPOS/EMSC meeting that will take place in Lisbon next October.

The European Seismological Commission will meet on September 2-7 in Malta. This meeting may be a good opportunity for TIDES to gain further visibility for its final deliverables and products, as it takes place close to Action completion date. A call for topical symposia will be issued in the next weeks or months.

14. Location and date of next meeting

The next MC meeting will be planned in conjunction with the next Training School, provisionally planned for the last week of June or the first week of July 2018.

15. Summary of MC decisions

The possibility to submit an article to AGU EOS journal, describing the training model designed in TIDES schools — based on a library of Python notebooks and Virtual boxes to distribute software — will be explored.

The next Training School will focus on practical applications of time-dependent seismic imaging and monitoring, provisionally planned on the last week of June or the first week of July 2018. Possible venues are being considered in Czech Republic and Bulgaria.

The next MC meeting will take place in conjunction with the next Training School, on the last week of June or the first week of July 2018.

16. Closing

The Chair thanks all the participants and closes the meeting at 16:00.