

Prague (CZ), July 4th, 2018

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

*Prague, Czech Republic
July 4th, 2018*

1. Welcome to participants

The Chair, Dr. Andrea Morelli, welcomes all participants to the meeting, that takes place in the lecture hall of Hotel Globus, Prague, during the Fourth Training School hosted at the same venue. The Chair opens the meeting at 15:00 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 or substitute, named hereinafter):

Austria Prof Götz BOKELMANN
Austria Prof Florian BLEIBINHAUS
Belgium Dr Thomas LECOQ
Bulgaria Dr Gergana GEORGIEVA
Czech Republic Dr Jaroslava PLOMEROVA
France Prof Jean-Paul MONTAGNER
Germany Prof Heiner IGEL
Germany Prof Torsten DAHM
Hungary Ms Dalma TROSITS
Hungary Dr Katalin GRIBOVSZKI (Substitute)
Ireland Prof Christopher BEAN
Italy Dr Lucia ZACCARELLI
Malta Dr Matthew AGIUS
Malta Ms Daniela FARRUGIA (Substitute)
Portugal Prof Graça SILVEIRA
Portugal Dr Carlos CORELA
Slovakia Dr Jozef KRISTEK
Spain Dr Daniel STICH
Spain Dr Martin SCHIMMEL

In total, 13 (out of 27) 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. Dr. Lucia Zaccarelli (representative of Italy) 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 Oxford (UK) on July 12th, that had been circulated, 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 Committee 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, introduced an additional short Grant Period that brought the yearly termination date to April 30th from 2016. TIDES is therefore in its 4th year of activity, but in its 5th Grant Period (GP5). This Grant Period will be the last one, ranging from May 1st, 2018, to November 2nd, 2018, with a duration of only 6 months and a proportionally reduced budget.

With the recent addition of Bosnia and Herzegovina, TIDES now has participation from 27 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 very successful within the TIDES community. Since its inception, TIDES has run 6 STSM calls, with a total of 46 applications, and has been able to support 34 missions — 3 more could not be carried on and cancelled by proposers, while 9 applications were rejected because of inadequate research projects. 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.

During the last concluded Grant Period (4th), 10 STSMs have been successfully carried out, with an expense of 12,130€. Of the grantees, 5 were men and 5 women.

The STSM committee agrees on the value of the work carried out during such scientific missions, 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 importance of the STSM instrument and expresses the desire to continue such a program. The MC agrees to issue a new call at the end of the present Training School in Prague, as a last call. To allow time for completion of the stays before the end of the Action, the application deadline will be set at July 30th, and the missions will have to be completed by October 19th, so that reports can be submitted by October 29th and be approved before the Action termination on November 2nd. The call will be first announced at the Training School, and published in the next couple of days.

The Chair thanks the STSM coordinator and the STSM Committee for the evaluation work.

A new tool has been introduced in 2018, the ITC Conference Grants. Within TIDES, they have been managed in a fashion very similar to STSMs, with the same committee charged with evaluation and acceptance of proposals. In the last grant period, GP4, 5 grants allowed participation to the Seventh EAGE Workshop on Passive Seismic 2018 and to the European Geosciences Union Assembly, with a total expenditure of 5,605€.

Four ITC Conference Grants have been assigned to be carried on during the current GP5, to attend the 36th General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission in Malta, 2-7 September

2018. As no other high-level conferences are known before termination of the Action, these will be the last that TIDES will give.

The MC feels that this is an excellent opportunity to allow participation to high-profile scientific symposia of early-stage scientists from Inclusiveness Target Countries.

6. Update from the Grant Holder: Action budget status

The Grant Holder and the Chairman update the MC about budget status. The financial report for GP4th (reporting from 01/05/2017 to 30/04/2018) is briefly outlined and shown on the screen. Eligible costs totalled 124,540.65€.

The Chairman informs that, for the currently ongoing Grant Period GP5, TIDES has received an assignment of 73,000€, for which a Work and Budget Plan had been submitted to COST and approved by the MC by electronic vote (via email). It will be discussed in more detail as Agenda item 11 b) (Action budget planning) later on.

Expenditure in this GP is closely following the plan. The amount of 5,600€ has been reserved for ITC Conference Grants, as mentioned in item 5-c, for a total of 5,600€. A last-minute cost estimate for the ongoing events in Prague (Training School, Workshop, and this Management Committee Meeting) projects possible savings of a few thousand Euros. This follows mainly by the partial attendance to the MC Meeting, but it is too early for a reliable estimate as the total costs for transportation will be known to the Grant Holder only when the travel reports will be submitted. It is likely, however, that some additional resources may be available to add to the plan. This will be discussed as item 11 (scientific planning) later on.

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

No representative from the COST Association is present today.

8. Monitoring of the Action

After extensive discussion, the MC agrees that the Action fulfilled its intended plans. As we are nearing termination of the Action, this is the right time to make a general assessment of its whole accomplishments.

A final report will have to emphasise the general impact of the action on the community, the contributions to developments of a new area of seismology, the (very important) training carried on with 5 schools, the links established with industry, the new proposals that resulted from networking, the innovative developments in connection with EPOS, the improvements of monitoring systems mainly on volcanoes and to earthquake early warning systems. A final report will collect the papers published, result of the training and networking carried on by TIDES. There may be interest to contribute to a book, collecting some of the excellent practical training that has been done within TIDES. Feasibility of such a project will be considered in the next few weeks.

The MC suggests that a further meeting, only of a few writing contributors, for drafting the final report could be considered if finances will allow.

9. Implementation of COST policies on:

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

Here in Prague, TIDES could support participation of 47 trainees. Women and Early-Career Investigators (ECI) are well represented in the supported trainees group, among which the balance between women (21) and men (26) is 45% vs. 55%. Virtually all supported trainees are either PhD or Masters student – only 2 are young researchers, and they came from inclusiveness countries.

The last STSM grant recipients were evenly distributed by gender (5 female, 5 male).

- 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 Prague, 9 (out

of 47) trainees from 7 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

During the past year, Working Groups have largely been in contact and working by informal exchanges, email, and through opportunistic meetings at conferences. Here in Prague, ongoing discussions among Early-Career Investigators, attending the school, and experienced lecturers leading WGs represent an excellent occasion to involve younger scientists in scientific debates, open problems, current directions and future projects. Working Group leaders will present final reports of accomplishments for the final Action report in the next few months.

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.

b. Action Budget Planning

The Chair presents the Work and Budget Plan for the current Grant Period. The main expenditure items include the ongoing Training School for an estimated 25,400€; the current meetings of MC and WGs for estimated 16,000€ and 5,500€; one WG meeting for estimated 4,000€; and STSMs and ITC Conference Grants estimated, in turn, 4,500€ and 6,200€.

While the final financial statements for the current events are not yet available, given the reduced actual participation to this MC Meeting, some saving can be inferred, leaving some resources (a few thousand euros) available.

This remaining amount could be used to increment resources available for further activities, or to organise a small meeting of a few MC members with the precise focus of writing the final report. This option will be kept as a possibility, to re-consider once the final cost statements for the ongoing activities will be available.

At the request about possibility to extend the Action termination date, the Chair commits to inquire about such a prospect.

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

Sadly, because of Action termination quite soon, there can be no long-term planning strictly within TIDES, but, gladly, there are many conversations about new initiatives.

d. Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

TIDES maintains a web site at tides-cost.eu, hosted at the Grant Holder institution. It will be kept online after Action termination, for as long as it will be possible within institutional policies of the Grant Holder institution, for some extended number of years although likely not permanently.

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 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.

12. Requests to join the Action from:

a. COST countries

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

There are none.

14. Location and date of next meeting

There is no plan for another meeting of the MC. The Chair thanks all MC members for continuing support and active participation during these years.

15. Summary of MC decisions

A new (the last) STSM call will be published in a few days, to allow scientific missions to take place in August-October.

A request for information about outputs of TIDES (such as scientific papers, new projects, new proposals) will be sent to all participants to be included in the final report.

The possibility to write a book, collecting training material from the TIDES Training Schools, will be looked at.

After the expenses from the ongoing activities will be finalised, the possibility to convene a small, focused, meeting specifically oriented at writing a final report and identifying future prospects originating from TIDES networking, will be looked at.

16. Closing

The MC express appreciation to the Chair for his efforts in running the Action. The Chair thanks all the participants for their contributions, and closes the meeting at 17:00.