



## **Re: An opportunity to participate in COST Action TU1404 – Call for WG members**

10<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

COST Action TU1404 “[\*Towards the next generation of standards for service life of cement-based materials and structures\*](#)” has been recently approved and its kick-off meeting took place in 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in Brussels. The Action will have a total duration of 4 years. The main objective of the Action is to develop in Europe a new generation of guidelines to predict/evaluate the service life of cement based materials and structures by integrating the most recent developments in experimental testing and numerical modelling approaches. Detailed information about the Action, including its scientific and societal objectives, can be found in its Memorandum of Understanding, available in this [link](#).

COST Actions are research networks that are financially supported by [COST – European Cooperation in Science and Technology](#). The support will cover the costs of networking activities such as meetings (e.g. travel, subsistence, local organiser support), conferences, workshops, short-term scientific exchanges, training schools, publications and dissemination activities. COST does not fund the research itself. Bear in mind that, as belonging to a COST country, you can be considered eligible for funding of behalf of this Action.

This Action is composed by three Workgroups, which comprise intensive networking activities (e.g. round-robin testing, benchmarking, drafting guidelines):

WG1 - Testing of cement-based materials

WG2 - Modelling of cement-based materials and the behaviour of structures

WG3 - Development of recommendations and products

We are calling for participation of interested people in joining this Action, with potential participation on one or more Workgroups. The invitation is open to all interested stakeholders in research (e.g. PhD students, post-docs, professors) and industry (e.g. cement suppliers, equipment manufacturers, software developers) and standardization bodies related to cement-based materials and structures.

If you are interested in joining this network and be eligible for the several funding opportunities that it represents, we kindly request you to fill out an online-questionnaire available in the following link:

[Link to the online-questionnaire](http://goo.gl/forms/3irltxK7YL) -> <http://goo.gl/forms/3irltxK7YL>

Your responses will assist us in better understanding your motivations and level of intended participation, ultimately contributing to a better overall managing and planning of the action. In case you have concerns in regard to privacy issues with uploading your information to the online-questionnaire behind this link (Google Form), you may reply to this e-mail address to request an offline-questionnaire.

In case you are interested in participating in this COST Action, please fill out the questionnaire before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. This will assist us in managing the information of all interested parties within the first weeks of January 2015.

We thank you in advance for your best attention to this e-mail with sincere hopes that this might be the beginning of a fruitful collaborative network among the collaborating COST Countries.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Dr. Paul Archbold (parchbold@ait.ie)

Dr. Niall Holmes (niall.holmes@dit.ie)

National delegates of Ireland on the Management Committee of TU1404