

## Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Reflections

### 'Celebrating collaboration' - COST Action 15221 – We ReLaTe

**STSM recipient name** Alison Farrell

**STSM recipient institution and country** Maynooth University, Ireland

**Host institution and country** Universidad de Sevilla, Espana

**Dates of visit** 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**STSM Title** Thematic analysis and mapping of existing centralised models which aim to support teaching, learning, research and writing in higher education.

**My STSM** involved looking at qualitative data associated with the Action. As part of the achievement of one of the Action's objective – namely, to identify existing centralised models which aim to support teaching, learning, research and writing in higher education – Action partners were surveyed. With the survey it was hoped to gather data on the existing models of support in partners' settings, and to get some sense of their place institutionally including their interconnectedness/interoperability.

**The most significant thing that I learned from my STSM was** that there is huge diversity across our higher education institutions, not least in terms of resources and supports. Seeing this again in the data reinforced for me how essential the connections and the collaborations associated with our Action are.

**What I enjoyed most about my STSM was** having time to dig into the data in a beautiful setting. I also really enjoyed meeting with colleagues from the host institution and learning from them.

**My advice to colleagues considering an STSM is** just do it! It can be a wonderful experience and hugely beneficial in terms of continuing professional development.

**And finally,** thank you to my host institution I am so appreciative of the efforts that they made to accommodate me in my work and to welcome me in their institution and city. I found the STSM a fantastic professional opportunity and I will certainly consider applying again if the opportunity arises.