FutureMed Grant Awarding
CALL for the 3rd Grant Period

The **FutureMed: A TRANSDISCIPLINARY NETWORK TO BRIDGE CLIMATE SCIENCE AND IMPACTS ON SOCIETY** COST Action (CA22162) opens the **Grant Awarding Call for its 3rd Grant Period (ending 31 October 2026).**

A.   Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)
B.   Virtual Mobility Grants (VM)
C.   ITC Conference Grants
D.   Dissemination Conference Grants (DCG)
E.   Young Researcher and Innovator Conference (YRI)
SUMMARY and other rules

A. Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

1. Scope & Eligibility

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

- support capacity building and transfer of knowledge through bilateral/multilateral collaborations;
- support specific / general topics that can help achieving the Action MoU objectives and deliverables (research coordination);
- are very flexible and inclusive networking activities crucial to establish new collaborations or reinforce existing collaborations across disciplines and different sectors (e.g., academia and industry / SMEs) with possible impact on career development;
- typical outcomes are spin-off publications and (funded) projects that contribute to the visibility and impact of the COST Actions, encouraging other researchers to join.

Short-Term Scientific Mission grant funds a visit to a host organization located in **a different country than the country of affiliation** by a **Researcher or Innovator** for the specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time.

The Grant applicant(s) are Action participants with a primary affiliation to a legal entity located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country, a COST Near Neighbour Country or a European RTD Organisation.

> In the framework of the FutureMed COST Action, high priority will be given to STSM proposals that make a strong contribution to the Action, either by advancing its objectives or by initiating activities within one of the four FutureMed Working Groups (WGs).
>
> All STSM applications must be discussed and agreed upon in advance with the relevant WG leaders.

2. Important Dates

In the **3rd FutureMed STSM Call**, applications will be processed **on a first-come, first-served basis**, for as long as funds are available. All STSMs should be completed before **15 October 2026**.

3. Financial Support of STSM

STSM Grants are providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, implementation of the project, delivery of the report to the COST Action MC and overall effort. STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking a given mission. Up to a maximum of EUR 4000,00 in total can be afforded per grant.

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of all required report/documentation. STSM grantees can request up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant. This

amount is subject to availability of the funds and approval by the Grant Holder Institution. The request of pre-payment shall be submitted to the Grant Holder Manager.

The FutureMed STSM Grant takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the STSM application. STSM Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses, but they are a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation, and meal expenses of the Grantee. The calculation of the financial contribution for each STSM shall respect the following criteria:

There is **no maximum duration** for the STSM. However, **the approved budget is subject to the total budget available, the number of the approved applications and the outcome of the evaluation.** Thus:

- For the 3rd Grant Period of FutureMed, STSM budget will be limited to 2000 EUR, with exceptions up to 4000 EUR, **if fully justified**.
- The applications must be accompanied by a detailed budget justification, subject to change according to the evaluation/suggestion of the Grant Awarding Committee (see paragraph 5).
- The applicant will be informed about the approved budget prior to the final acceptance of their application.

4. How To Apply

Applications shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms available (https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants/add?type=STSM). In this regard, applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

Applicants must upload their CV to their e-COST profile. This information will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

Specifically, FutureMed applicants shall follow these steps:

Firstly, obtain an **Invitation Letter** from the **Host Institution**, **upon prior agreement** with the relevant WG leaders, describing the work plan and the period of visit, upon agreement

Then, submit the STSM application online at https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants, selecting **Apply for New Grant** and then **Short-Term Scientific Mission Grant.**

- In the platform the applicant should provide:

  - **the STSM title**

  - **Start and End Date**

  - **the application form** following this template https://www.cost.eu/STSM_GrantApplication. The application form includes the following **components**:

    a) Goals of the STSM
       Purpose and summary of the STSM.

b) **Working Plan**
   Description of the work to be carried out by the applicant.
c) **Expected outputs and contribution to the Action MoU objectives and deliverables.**
   Main expected results and their contribution to the progress towards the Action objectives (either research coordination and/or capacity building objectives) and deliverables.

- **Budget request and justification** that should **reflect the duration and location** of the STSM

- **CV** (including a list of academic publications - if applicable), which will be uploaded anyway in the e-cost platform when you create an e-cost account

- **Letter of support** from the **Home Institution**

- The **written agreement** from the **Host Institution** that the STSM applicant can perform the activities detailed in the STSM work plan on the agreed dates.

The applicants will get a confirmation e-mail for their successful reception of their application from the e-cost platform.

5. Evaluation Procedure & Selection of Applicants

Applications will be evaluated by the Grant Awarding Committee on behalf of the Action MC. In case of conflict of interest, the Chair and/or co-Chair of the Action will replace the committee member(s) concerned. Applicants will be notified of the results **within two weeks of submitting their application**. In particular:

- Eligible applications will be evaluated and graded by each member of the Committee and all grades will be summed up.
- The i) **scientific goals**, ii) **working plan of the STSM**, and iii) **expected output and contribution to FutureMed research**, as derived from the **components** of the **application form,** will be evaluated. Each component will get a grade from 1 to 5 (Very poor to Excellent).
- **Only applications scoring 3 or higher in all categories will be further considered for funding**.
- The members of the Grant Awarding Committee must submit their evaluation report within two weeks of the applications deadline; otherwise, the Grant Awarding Coordinator will proceed with the available reports.
- Special considerations will be given to supporting COST policies on **promoting gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI),** and **broadening geographical inclusiveness**.

6. Reporting & Reimbursement

- Once the activity has ended, the grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST within 30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.
- Claims the payment of the grant via e-COST;

- The required report/documentation for claiming an STSM Grant is a Report to the Action MC on the **work developed, main achievements** of the STSM and **planned future follow-up activities**.
- Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of all required report/documentation. However, STSMs grantees may request up to 50% pre-payment of the approved grant. This amount is subject to availability of funds and approval by the Grant Holder Institution.

The FutureMed STSM Grantee has **30 calendar days from the end date of the mission to submit the scientific report**. In any case, **the scientific reports must be submitted before 15 October 2026**. The template for the final report can be found here: https://www.cost.eu/STSM_Report

The Grantee is also required to prepare a communication activity for a larger audience which will be published on the FutureMed website. For the type and the preparation of the communication activity, the Grantee will be in contact with the **Grant Coordinator Dr. Maria Hatzaki** (marhat@geol.uoa.gr).

Payment of the Grant is subject to the STSM scientific report being reviewed by the Grant Awarding Coordinator and approved by the Grant Awarding Committee, as well as the communication material.

7. Useful Documents

Before applying, please visit

- https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/annotated-rules-qa/ and read carefully the COST Annotated Rules for a detailed description of the regulations and procedures.
- https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf for the Grant awarding process and implementation

B. Virtual Mobility Grants (VM)

1. Scope & Eligibility

Virtual Mobility grant consists of a collaboration in an online setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc.

2. Criteria

Applicant(s) are Action participants with a primary affiliation to an institution located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or MC Observers from a COST Near Neighbour Country.
The applicant(s) shall inform the MC about the aim of the VM Grant and how its outcomes will generate benefits to the Action.

All VM applications must be discussed and agreed upon in advance with the relevant WG leaders.

3. Financial support

A maximum of 6 Virtual Mobility Grants per Action per Grant Period can be awarded. Each VM Grant cannot exceed EUR 1500,00. The grant does not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking the virtual mobility activity. The grantee must also ensure they have the required technical material/equipment and infrastructure to carry out the activities proposed in their application to the grant.

4. Application procedure

The application (template: https://www.cost.eu/VM_GrantApplication) shall include the following information:
- Main objective of the Virtual Mobility Grant.
- Working Plan: Description of the collaborative initiative to be implemented.
- List of participants of the collaborative initiative (short description of their expertise and contribution).
- Main expected outputs
- Contribution to the COST Action Strategy

Applications will be processed all year round, except that the VM must take place within one Grant Period. The VM application needs to be submitted at least four weeks before the expected starting date. Applicants are, however, encouraged to apply as early as possible, since applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

5. Evaluation of applications

In FutureMed, the Grant Awarding Committee evaluates VM Grants on behalf of MC. In case of conflict of interest, the committee member(s) involved are replaced by the Chair and/or co-Chair of the Action. The

selection of grantees will be based on contributions to the overall objectives of FutureMed and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

The i) **main objective of the VM**, ii) **working plan**, iii) **plan for participation**, and iv**) expected outputs and contribution to FutureMed objectives and deliverables** will be evaluated, following the same procedure as for STSM.

6. Submission of the report

The report shall include the description of the outcomes and achieved outputs, description of the benefits to the COST Action Strategy, description of the virtual collaboration (including constructive reflection on activities undertaken, identified successful practices and lessons learned). The **deadline** to submit the report is **30 calendar days from the end date of the activity for the VM Grant**. However, in any case**, the scientific reports must be submitted before 15 October 2025**. The **VM report template** can be found here: https://www.cost.eu/VM_Report

7. Useful Documents

Before applying, please visit

- https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/annotated-rules-qa/ and read carefully the COST Annotated Rules for a detailed description of the regulations and procedures.
- https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf for the Grant awarding process and implementation

C. ITC Conference Grants[1]

1. Scope & Eligibility

ITC Conference grant funds an **oral** presentation of their own work **within the scope of the Action** by an Action Participant affiliated with a legal entity located in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country in a **high-level conference** fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

The ITC Conference Grant must contribute to increasing visibility of the Action.

For a conference to be eligible for ITC Grant, it must be recognized as an international event and must demonstrate high academic or professional standing by meeting at least one of the following criteria: being organized by a reputable academic or professional body; being indexed in established databases (e.g., IEEE, ACM, Scopus, Web of Science; or being supported by a program committee or advisory board comprising recognized experts in the field.

2. Criteria

The ITC Conference Grant supports Action Participant affiliated to a legal entity located in an **Inclusiveness Target Country/ Near Neighbour Country** to establish a strong network and increase their visibility in the research community through sharing their work and to gain knowledge. The eligible countries are listed in the COST Country and Organisations Table (https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2023/11/Annex-I-level-A-Country-and-Organisations-Table-Version-1.7.pdf).

The conference start and end date shall fall within the active Grant Period. The ITC Conference Grant application needs to be submitted **at least four weeks before the starting date of the conference**. Applicants are, however, encouraged to apply as early as possible, since applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

3. Financial support

In the framework of FutureMed, a financial contribution of up to EUR 2000,00 can be awarded per Grant Period for face-to-face conferences or EUR 500,00 for virtual conferences. The amount awarded should reflect the duration and location of the conference and the actual conference fee. Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of required reports and documentation.

4. Application procedure

Application shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms. Applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes. Applicants must upload their CV to their e-COST profile. This information

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[1] Text in *italics* is from the Annotated Rules for COST Actions; Before applying, all applicants must carefully and completely read **Annex 2 of the** Annotated Rules for COST Actions.

will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period) and country
- Budget requested
- Attendance Type (face-to-face or virtual)

To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers
- Other documents required by the Action (e.g., recommendation letter, etc...)

5. Evaluation of applications

The Grant Awarding Committee evaluates the ITC Conference Grant applications on behalf of the MC. In case of conflict of interest, the committee member(s) involved are replaced by the Chair and/or co-Chair of the Action.

The acceptance of application(s) will be based on the contribution to the overall FutureMed objectives and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

The amount granted will be based on the requested budget and the funds available in the overall FutureMed Grant Period budget.

6. Submission of the report

The grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST within 30 days after the end date of the conference or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.
- The required report/documentation for claiming a ITC Conference Grant is
- Report to the Action MC on the activities during the conference.
- The certificate of attendance,
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation of the grantee.
- Copy of the given presentation (oral or poster). **The presentation must clearly acknowledge FutureMed and must include the FutureMed logo.**

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of required report/documentation.

In the report, besides detailing the activities during the conference, it is equally important to present the importance of conference attendance **in terms of personal development, networking, and capacity building**

(e.g., collaborations). The **deadline** to submit the report is **30 calendar days from the end date of the activity for the ITC Grant**. However, in any case, the scientific reports must be submitted before 15 October 2026.

7. Useful Documents

Before applying, please visit

- https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/annotated-rules-qa/ and read carefully the COST Annotated Rules for a detailed description of the regulations and procedures.
- https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf for the Grant awarding process and implementation

D. Dissemination Conference Grants (DCG)

1. Scope & Eligibility

Dissemination Conference grant funds an **oral** presentation by an Action Participant of the work of the Action in a **high-level conference** fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

Dissemination Conference grant:
- Significantly increases visibility of the Action in the research community, and can contribute to increasing visibility of the presenter;
- Attracts additional participants and stakeholders and disseminates Action results to relevant end-users at high profile conferences in the field on a topic relevant to the Action.

Dissemination Conference grant benefits to:
- Dissemination Conference Grantee: receives support for attending and delivering an oral presentation of the Action, their activities, and results at a conference and for developing new contacts and potential futurecollaborations;
- COST Action: receives increased visibility and awareness, new contacts with potential stakeholders.

For a conference to be eligible for DCG, it must be recognized as an international event and must demonstrate high academic or professional standing by meeting at least one of the following criteria: being organized by a reputable academic or professional body; or being indexed in established databases (e.g., IEEE, ACM, Scopus, Web of Science; or being supported by a program committee or advisory board comprising recognized experts in the field.

2. Criteria

The conference start and end date should fall within the active Grant Period. The Dissemination Conference grant application needs to be submitted at least four weeks before the starting date of the conference. Applicants are, however, encouraged to apply as early as possible, since applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

3. Financial support

In the framework of FutureMed, a financial contribution of up to EUR 2000,00 for face-to-face conferences or EUR 500,00 for virtual conferences can be awarded per Grant Period. The amount awarded should reflect the duration and location of the conference and the actual conference fee. Grants will be paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of the required reports and documentation.

4. Application procedure

Applications shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms. Applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

Applicants must upload their CV to their e-COST profile. This information will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committee is in the Action for evaluation purposes

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period) and country
- Budget requested
- Attendance Type (face to face or virtual)

To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers
- Other documents required by the Action (e.g., recommendation letter, etc...)

5. Evaluation of applications

The Grant Awarding Committee evaluate Dissemination Conference grant applications on behalf of the MC. In case of conflicts of interest, the Chair and/or co-Chair of the Action will replace the committee member(s) involved.

The selection of grantees will be based on contributions to the overall FutureMed objectives and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy. The amount granted will be based on the budget requested by the applicant, as well as the funds available for Dissemination Grants in the overall FutureMed budget.

6. Submission of the report

The required report/documentation for claiming a Dissemination Conference Grant is

- Report to the Action MC on the outcome of the presentation, contacts made and potential future collaborations. The template is here: https://www.cost.eu/DisseminationConference_Report
- The certificate of attendance
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation of the grantee
- Copy of the given presentation. **The presentation must clearly acknowledge FutureMed and must include the FutureMed logo.**

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of required report/documentation.

The **deadline** to submit the report is **30 calendar days from the end date of the activity for the DC Grant.** However, in any case, the scientific reports must be submitted before 15 October 2026.

7. Useful Documents

Before applying, please visit

- https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/annotated-rules-qa/ and read carefully the COST Annotated Rules for a detailed description of the regulations and procedures.
- https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf for the Grant awarding process and implementation

E. Young Researcher and Innovator Conference (YRI)

1. Scope & Eligibility

YRI Conference grant funds a presentation (poster/oral presentation) of their own work by a Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI) in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

YRI Conference grant:
• Serves COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy;
• Supports Young Researchers and Innovators to establish a strong network and increase their visibility in the research community through sharing their work and to gain knowledge;
• Can contribute to increasing visibility of the Action.

YRI Conference grant benefits to:
• YRI Conference Grantee: receives support for attending and presenting their own work within the scope of the Action (poster/oral presentation) in a conference and can establish new contacts for future collaborations.

For a conference to be eligible for DCG, it must be recognized as an international event and must demonstrate high academic or professional standing by meeting at least one of the following criteria: being organized by a reputable academic or professional body; or being indexed in established databases (e.g., IEEE, ACM, Scopus, Web of Science; or being supported by a program committee or advisory board comprising recognized experts in the field.

2. Criteria

Applicants are Action participants who are **young researchers and innovators (≤40 years old)**.

The conference start and end date should fall within the active Grant Period. The Dissemination Conference grant application needs to be submitted **at least four weeks before the starting date of the conference**. Applicants are, however, encouraged to apply as early as possible, since applications are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

3. Financial support

In the framework of FutureMed, a financial contribution of up to EUR 2000,00 for face-to-face conferences or EUR 500,00 for virtual conferences can be awarded per Grant Period. The amount awarded should reflect the duration and location of the conference and the actual conference fee. Grants will be paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of the required reports and documentation.

4. Application procedure

Applications shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms. Applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

Applicants must upload their CV to their e-COST profile. This information will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committee is in the Action for evaluation purposes

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period) and country
- Budget requested
- Attendance Type (face to face or virtual)

To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers
- Other documents required by the Action (e.g., recommendation letter, etc...)

5. Evaluation of applications

The Grant Awarding Committee evaluate Dissemination Conference grant applications on behalf of the MC. In case of conflicts of interest, the Chair and/or co-Chair of the Action will replace the committee member(s) involved.

The selection of grantees will be based on contributions to the overall FutureMed objectives and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy. The amount granted will be based on the budget requested by the applicant, as well as the funds available for Dissemination Grants in the overall FutureMed budget.

6. Submission of the report

The required report/documentation for claiming a Dissemination Conference Grant is

- Report to the Action MC on the outcome of the presentation, contacts made and potential future collaborations.
- The certificate of attendance
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation of the grantee
- Copy of the given presentation. **The presentation must clearly acknowledge FutureMed and must include the FutureMed logo.**

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of required report/documentation.

The **deadline** to submit the report is **30 calendar days from the end date of the activity for the YRI Grant.** However, in any case, the scientific reports must be submitted before 15 October 2026.

7. Useful Documents

Before applying, please visit

- https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/annotated-rules-qa/ and read carefully the COST Annotated Rules for a detailed description of the regulations and procedures.
- https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf for the Grant awarding process and implementation

SUMMARY and other rules

Financial support for networking activities organised through a Grant Awarding Process is a grant awarded to individuals, not intended to cover employment costs. Applicants shall not receive different overlapping grants (except for VNS) during the same grant period.

The financial support is as follows:

Grant tool	Scope	Max amount (EUR)	Decision of the amount
STSM	Providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, implementation of the project, delivery of the report to the COST Action MC and overall effort	Up to EUR 4000,00 per grant Up to EUR 2000 within FutureMed, with exceptions, if fully justified.	Decided by the Action MC or Core Group on proposal of the evaluators, based on the request of the applicant and should reflect the duration and location of the STSM.
VM	Providing a contribution for the overall effort, not necessarily covered by an employer or by a Grant Holder institution.	Up to EUR 1500,00 per grant	Decided by the Action MC or Core Group on proposal of the evaluators and should reflect the duration, scope and complexity of the task and activities to be covered via the VM grant
ITC Conference	Providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, registration fee and overall effort.	Up to EUR 2500,00 per grant for face-to-face conferences Up to EUR 2000 within FutureMed, with exceptions, if fully justified. OR Up to EUR 500,00 for online conferences	Decided by the Action MC or Core Group on proposal of the evaluators and should reflect the duration and location of the Conference and the actual conference fee. **Applicants to Conference Grants shall not apply to different types of conference grants in the period.**
Dissemination Conference	Providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, registration fee and overall effort.	Up to EUR 2500,00 per grant for face-to-face conferences Up to EUR 2000 within FutureMed, with exceptions, if fully justified. OR	Decided by the Action MC or Core Group on proposal of the evaluators and should reflect the duration and location of the Conference and the actual conference fee. **Applicants to Conference Grants shall not apply to different types of conference grants in the period.**

		Up to EUR 500,00 for online conferences	
YRI Conference	Providing a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, registration fee and overall effort.	Up to EUR 2500,00 per grant for face-to-face conferences Up to EUR 2000 within FutureMed, with exceptions, if fully justified. OR Up to EUR 500,00 for online conferences	Decided by the Action MC or Core Group on proposal of the evaluators and should reflect the duration and location of the Conference and the actual conference fee. **Applicants to Conference Grants shall not apply to different types of conference grants in the period.**

Participant grants are non-commercial transactions, therefore, claims as such are not subject to V.A.T deduction. Taxes normally due or applicable with respect to the payment of the grant are not to be deducted from amounts payable to participants. It is the responsibility of each participant to ensure that all amounts that they receive from COST funding are compliant with their national tax rules and obligations.

Provisions related to Force majeure impacting travel in paragraph A1-3.1.6 of Annex 1 are applicable to financial support for networking activities organised through a Grant Awarding Process. A user guide27 for claiming expenses in case of force majeure is available to the participants.

When the participant is invited to attend a COST event while concurrently benefiting from a COST STSM Grant, the eligible participant is entitled to claim:

- **the long-distance travel from the place of the STSM to the place of meeting/Training School and back**
- **50% of the Daily Allowance using the Reimbursement Form related to the meeting.**

Same reimbursement provisions apply. The applicant shall include in his/her meeting/Training School claim a statement from the Host Institution or Action Chair of the Action confirming the STSM mission and including the Action Number and the dates of the STSM (from/until).