



CA21150 | Call for STSM and Virtual Mobility Grants (2026)

February 2026

We cordially invite CA21150 members to apply for STSM (Short Scientific Mission) grants and Virtual Mobility Grants (VMG) in the fourth year of the action. **Short-Term Scientific Mission Grants** fund a visit to a host organization located in a country different from the country of affiliation by a researcher or innovator for specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time. Short-Term Scientific Mission grant benefits to the STSM Grantee in receiving funding for implementing a project with an international team and gain new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques not available in the home institution. It benefits the STSM Host in receiving an international partner in their institution and to develop a long-lasting collaboration.

Virtual Mobility Grants support online collaborations on specific or general topics that can help achieving the Action MoU objectives and deliverables (research coordination). The outcomes should contribute to the visibility and impact of the COST Actions (spin-off publications or funded projects).

Applicants who are not members of CA21150 are welcome to join.

| STSM & VMG Funding Opportunities

- STSM: Provision of a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, implementation of the project, delivery of the report to the COST Action MC and overall effort. VMG: Providing a contribution for the overall effort, not necessarily covered by an employer or by a Grant Holder institution.
- Maximum funds: STSM: EUR 4,000 (depending on duration and other costs according to own calculation); VMG: EUR 1,500

| Dates

| Application opening: 16 February 2026

| Notification within 4 weeks after submission

| Grants can start after 16 March 2026 and must be completed by 10 September 2026.

| Further Information: Scope & Evaluation Criteria

The COST Grants shall only be used to support the COST Action during a specific Grant Period within the frame of the rules for COST Grant budget. COST Grants may not be used for neither drafting, writing nor submitting proposals for the purpose of acquiring funding for national, European or internationally sourced research grants.

Interested applicants should contact the designated hosts or WG leaders as a first step.

- WG5 leaders are particularly interested in supporting members who would like to work together on data enlargement proposals to existing surveys or emerging survey projects. Such surveys can be comparative or country-based, with the idea that a country-based survey could serve to pilot questions for a (later) comparative survey. Survey questions should address leave use, uptake or eligibility, reasons for non-use or views/perceptions about parenting leave. We have a subgroup that is working on a questionnaire repository for such purposes, and team members would ideally draw from this repository to make their data enlargement proposals.



| How to apply

Please visit the [e-cost Grant application](#) website and fill in/upload the following:

- Title | start and end date | budget requested | information about the host institution and contact person | location of host institution
- To be uploaded: Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Goals, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives and deliverables | confirmation of the host on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant | For STSMs: detailed cost plan | For VMGs: justification of costs

Further detailed information: please see the [Annotated Rules](#). Grant payments are made after the STSM/VMG has been carried out and the report and other documents have been approved.

Depending on the availability of further funds, an open call for STSMs/VMGs will follow later this year. For more information please contact the [CA21150 Grant Awarding Coordinator](#) Tatjana Zorcec.



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