



AlertHub: Warning Communication Knowledge Network (CA23126)

Seventh grant call AlertHub

AlertHub launches its seventh grant call, for all grant types: (a) dissemination conference grants, (b) ITC conference grants, (c) young researcher and innovator conference grants, (d) short-term scientific missions, and (e) virtual mobility. Applications can be submitted to e-COST from June 3rd to June 22nd, 2026. Only activities that finish before September 30, 2026, can be submitted.

a) Dissemination conference grants:

Dissemination conference grants can be awarded to Action participants who give **an oral presentation of the work of AlertHub** in high-level conferences fully organized by a third party (i.e., not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action). The purpose of dissemination conference grants is to increase the visibility of an Action in the wider research community and to contribute to increasing the visibility of the presenter. Additional aims of this type of grant are to attract additional participants and stakeholders for AlertHub and to disseminate Action results to relevant end-users at high-profile conferences on a topic relevant to the Action.

b) ITC conference grants:

ITC conference grants can be awarded to Action participants who give **an oral presentation of their own work** within the scope of the Action and who are **affiliated to a legal entity located in an Inclusiveness Target Country** (list of countries: <https://www.cost.eu/about/strategy/excellence-and-inclusiveness/>). Their work should be presented 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 supports the Action participant to establish a strong network and increase their visibility in the research community through sharing their network and gain knowledge. The grant can additionally contribute to increasing AlertHub's visibility.

c) Young researcher and innovator conference grants:

Young researcher and innovator conference grants can be awarded to young researchers and innovators (YRI) **below the age of 40**, who give **a poster or an oral presentation of their own work** within the scope 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). The YRI conference grant 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. The grant can additionally contribute to increasing AlertHub's visibility.



The three types of conference grants apply to any high-profile conference on a topic relevant to 'AlertHub: Warning Communication Knowledge Network'. The conference must take place before September 30, 2026 and **applicants must have an acceptance letter**. One specific conference that is suggested because of its significant relevance to the Action is EUPRERA, which takes place on September 16-19. Another is the ECREA conference in Brno on September 8-11. Because COST aims to maximize the visibility of AlertHub through these conference grants, **no more than three grantees will be approved for the same conference**. Given that two conference grants for the ECREA conference have already been approved in the prior call, the current call can only approve one more for this particular conference.

d) Short-term scientific missions (STSM):

Short-term scientific mission grants fund **a visit to a host organization located in a different country than your country of affiliation**. The visit enables you to carry out specific work for a determined period (i.e., **minimum 5 days**). STSM's should support AlertHub's capacity building and transfer of knowledge through bilateral/multilateral collaborations. They support a topic that can help achieving the Action's objectives and deliverables. These STSM's are highly flexible and inclusive networking activities that facilitate the establishment of new collaborations or reinforce existing collaborations across disciplines and sectors (e.g., academia and industry/ SMEs) with possible impact on career development. The outcomes of this mission (e.g., publications, projects) must contribute to the visibility and impact of AlertHub. **Applicants must clarify how the scientific mission contributes to AlertHub and to one or more specific work groups. They are encouraged to contact the relevant work group leader(s) to ensure the added value of the STSM.**

The STSM grantee will receive funding for implementing a project with an international team and gains new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques not available in the home institution. The STSM host will benefit by receiving an international partner in their institution, and through the development of long-lasting collaboration. The short-term scientific mission has to be finalized before September 30, 2026.

e) Virtual mobility

Virtual mobility grants fund **collaborations in an online setting** among researchers or innovators within AlertHub, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc. Whereas the other grant types provide funding for the actual costs made by a grantee (e.g., accommodation, travel costs), virtual mobility grants reimburse the grantee for their overall effort. Virtual mobilities should support AlertHub's capacity building and transfer of knowledge through bilateral/multilateral collaborations. They support a topic that can help achieving the Action's objectives and deliverables. Virtual mobilities are highly flexible and inclusive networking activities that facilitate the establishment of new collaborations or reinforce existing collaborations across disciplines and sectors (e.g., academia and industry/ SMEs) with possible impact on the grantee's career development. The outcomes of virtual mobility (e.g., publications, projects) must contribute to the visibility and impact of AlertHub.

For AlertHub, virtual mobility serves as a flexible tool to implement online activities inside our network, to achieve our objectives and to increase the Action's impact and reach. This grant contributes to European leadership in knowledge creation and increasing our innovative

potential. The virtual mobility grantee can benefit by developing capacity in online collaboration and networking in a pan-European framework. **A few examples of activities** that can be performed through virtual mobility are (a) a virtual mentoring scheme with a focus on activities that generate capacity building and new skills (e.g., managerial skills, methodological skills, communication skills for young researchers and innovators), (b) methods and procedures that support the Action activities (e.g., setting up a survey amongst Action members to collect results from experiments carried out in their research groups; creating protocols based on network discussions; preparing questionnaires and response scales for Action members), and (c) research implementation that does not require in-person presence (e.g., computational modelling activities; data analysis for the Action). **Applicants must clarify how the virtual mobility contributes to AlertHub and to one or more specific work groups.**

How to apply?

All applications must be submitted directly through eCOST. Within eCOST, you will need to create a 'conference Grant Request'. To apply for this call, follow the next steps:

- Log into e-COST and go to 'COST Actions', on the left panel.
- Go to 'My Grant Applications', also on the left panel.
- Click on the 'Apply for grant' button located on the bottom right.
- Select the right type of grant from the list that aligns with your profile (i.e., Dissemination Conference grant, ITC Conference grant, Young Researcher and Innovator Conference grant, Short-Term Scientific Mission, virtual mobility)
- Select the COST Action CA23126.
- Fill in the required information.
- Save the information.

All applicants must upload their CV in their e-COST profile. Please **ensure that your CV is in English.**

Which information to include in your application?

You will need to fill in the following information when you apply for a **Dissemination Conference grant**:

- Title of the presentation;
- Conference title, date, and venue;
- Budget requested;
- Attendance type (face-to-face or online)

You will also need to upload the following information for a **Dissemination Conference grant**:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Alignment with the Science Communication Plan adopted by AlertHub (see section 3.2.2 of the Memorandum of Understanding) and expected impact to the COST Action.
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral presentation focused on promoting the scientific achievements and activities being performed by the COST Action.



- Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organizers.

You will need to fill in the following information when you apply for an **ITC Conference grant**:

- Title of the presentation;
- Conference title, date, and country;
- Budget requested;
- Attendance type (face-to-face or online)

You will also need to upload the following information for an **ITC Conference grant**:

- 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.
- Explanation of maximum 200 words about how the application is relevant for one or more specific WGs.
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral presentation.
- Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organizers.

You will need to fill in the following information when you apply for a **YRI Conference grant**:

- Title of the presentation;
- Conference title, date, and country;
- Budget requested;
- Attendance type (face-to-face or online)

You will also need to upload the following information for a **YRI Conference grant**:

- 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.
- Explanation of maximum 200 words about how the application is relevant for one or more specific WGs.
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted poster or oral presentation.
- Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organizers.

You will need to fill in the following information when you apply for a **Short-term scientific mission grant (STSM)**:

- Title;
- Start and end date;
- Budget requested;
- Information about the host institution and contact person. The location of the host institution must be in a different country than the country of the applicant's affiliation.



You will also need to upload the following information for a **Short-term scientific mission grant (STSM)**:

- 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 Science Communication Plan adopted by AlertHub (see section 3.2.2 of the Memorandum of Understanding).
- Explanation of maximum 200 words about how the application is relevant for one or more specific WGs.
- Confirmation of the host on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant.

You will need to fill in the following information when you apply for a **Virtual mobility grant**:

- Title;
- Start and end date;
- Budget requested

You will also need to upload the following information for a **Virtual mobility grant**:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Main objectives, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, plan for participation, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Science Communication Plan adopted by AlertHub (see section 3.2.2 of the Memorandum of Understanding).
- Explanation of maximum 200 words about how the application is relevant for one or more specific WGs.

Before applying for a grant please read the Grant Awarding User Guide available on My Grant Applications.

Application Timeline

This seventh AlertHub call opens between June 3rd and June 22nd, 2026. Applicants will be notified of the result by June 30th. Reports of your attendance must be submitted within 30 days after the last day of the conference, the short-term scientific mission, or the virtual mobility. Only activities that finish before September 30, 2026, can be submitted to this call.

Evaluation criteria

First, we assess if your application meets the conditions and formal requirements of this seventh call. Next, all applications that meet with the formal requirements will be evaluated on the five criteria listed below. Approval of the application will depend on the feasibility of the score, as well as the available budget:

1. **Relevance for the Action** (How closely does the topic of this proposal align with one or more of the Action's work packages?)
2. **Added value for the Action** (What is the added value of this application to AlertHub in terms of gaining knowledge, sharing insights, and/or increasing visibility of the Action?)

What contribution does the application make in the overall achievement the Action objectives and deliverables?)

3. **Excellence of the applicant** (How much does the expertise of the applicant add value to the Action and/or does the application allow for career development of the applicant?)
4. **Quality of the application** (Are the application's objectives, questions, methods, plan, and desired outcomes coherent, balanced and compelling?)
5. **Feasibility of the requested budget** (How fair and reasonable is the requested budget?)

Financial support

All grants provide a fixed financial contribution which considers the participant's budget request, the feasibility of that request, and a maximum set for each call. As such, the conference grant will not necessarily cover all expenses related to your participation in the conference. The grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of each grantee, as well as the conference fee. For the conference grants, the maximum is 2500 euro per grant for a face-to-face presentation and 500 euro for an online presentation. A short-term scientific mission grant provides a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses. For the STSM grant, the maximum is 4000 euro per grantee. A virtual mobility grant is somewhat different from the other three grant types. This virtual mobility grant provides a contribution for the overall effort, not necessarily covered by an employer or by a Grant Holder institution. For virtual mobility, the maximum is 1500 euro per grantee. More information about the reimbursement process can be found in the Annotated Rules (A1-3.1).

Receiving your grant

If you have been selected as a grant recipient, you will receive your grant after the conference/mobility. After the activity, the eCOST System will automatically ask you to submit a Scientific Report, which you need to provide within 30 days after the conference/mobility has ended. The report on the Conference Grants contains the outcome of the presentation, contacts made and potential for the future generated by the conference participation. The report also includes the certificate of attendance, the program of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings and a copy of the given presentation. **Recipients of a conference grant must add the COST logo and the Action logo to their presentations.** For the mobility grants, grantees will report on the work developed, main achievements, and planned follow-up activities. The grant will be sent to your bank account once your scientific report has been approved.

In addition, we might ask you to present the results of your funded activity at the next Management Committee meeting or to write a short entry for our social media. Please remember to ask someone to take a picture of you during your presentation or your activities so that we can share your involvement on the Action's social media.

Clarifications:

The COST Association and the Grant Holder of the Action cannot be considered as being a grantee's employer. Grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters.

For any questions related to this call, you can contact the Grant Awarding Coordinator, An-Sofie Claeys (ansofie.claeys@ugent.be).