



BEACON

Building Education and one
health with Adaptive
Convergence and Open
Networks

FIRST CALL FOR CONFERENCE GRANT OF BEACON COST ACTION



The call for Applicants will be open from the 22nd of May, 2026 to the 30th of June, 2026 for Conference ending before 1st October 2026

1. WHAT IS A CONFERENCE GRANT?

Within BEACON (CA24106), we offer three types of Conference Grants: ITC, YRI, and General.

- **ITC Conference Grants** aim to support researchers affiliated with Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) or Near Neighbour Countries (NNC) to attend and present their work at conferences not organised by COST.
- **YRI Conference Grants (Young Researchers and Innovators)** are designed to support early-career researchers in disseminating their work and strengthening their participation in international scientific events.
- **General Conference** Grants are open to all participants of the Action and aim to support broader participation in relevant scientific conferences.

Conferences may take place anywhere in the world. These grants contribute to the objectives of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

2. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

This is the first call for Conference Grants funded by Cost Action CA24106. BEACON is offering three Conference Grants. Up to a total of EUR 1,500.00 can be awarded to the selected applicants for face-to-face conferences, or EUR 750 for online conferences. The grant is intended to provide a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence, registration fee and general expenses. It may therefore not cover all the costs associated to the mission.

Please note that the awarded grant will be paid only after attendance at the conference.

3. WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications are open to participants of BEACON (CA24106), according to the following eligibility criteria for each type of Conference Grant:



- **ITC Conference Grants:** Applicants must be affiliated with a legal entity located in an [Inclusiveness Target Country \(ITC\) or Near Neighbor Country \(NNC\)](#). They must submit an oral presentation of their own work within the scope of the Action at a high-level conference organised by a third party (i.e. not organised or co-organised by the COST Action).
- **YRI Conference Grants (Young Researchers and Innovators):** Applicants must qualify as Young Researchers and Innovators (typically under 40 years old or within 8 years of completing their PhD, in line with COST criteria). They must present their own work (oral or poster presentation) aligned with the objectives of the Action at a relevant international conference.
- **General Conference Grants:** Open to all Action participants. Applicants must present their own work (oral or poster) related to the scope of BEACON (CA24106) at a high-level conference organised by a third party.

All applicants must:

- Be officially registered as participants of the Action in e-COST.
- Ensure that the conference is not organised or co-organised by COST.
- Submit proof of acceptance of their contribution (oral or poster presentation).

IMPORTANT: Conferences must be completed by 1 October 2026.

4. OBJECTIVES OF CONFERENCE GRANTS

The Conference Grants aim to:

- Support the COST [Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy](#), fostering equitable participation across countries and career stages.
- Enhance the scientific visibility and impact of BEACON (CA24106) by promoting the dissemination of research aligned with the Action's objectives.
- Facilitate international networking and collaboration opportunities among Action participants and the wider research community.



- Support Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) and participants from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) and Near Neighbour Countries (NNC) in strengthening their research profile, expanding their academic networks, and gaining exposure in high-level scientific events.
- Promote the exchange of knowledge, skills, and best practices relevant to One Health education, research, and innovation.

5. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications for Conference Grants are managed through the e-COST management tool (<https://e-services.cost.eu/user/login>). Applicants are required to complete the online form and upload the following documents:

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title of the presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period, i.e.no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods) and country
- Requested Budget
- Attendance Type (face to face or online)

To be uploaded in e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST), including:
 - Relevance of the conference to the objectives of BEACON (CA24106)
 - Motivation and expected impact on the applicant's career
- Abstract of the accepted contribution (oral or poster), clearly linked to the scientific activities of the BEACON COST Action.
- Proof of acceptance:
 - Acceptance or invitation letter from the conference organisers, or
 - If not yet available, a screenshot indicating the expected notification date
 - *Note: the acceptance letter will be mandatory before final grant approval*
- CV of the applicant



All submitted information will be accessible to Action leadership and evaluation committees for assessment purposes.

Applicants must clearly demonstrate:

- The relevance of the conference to BEACON (CA24106)
- The expected contribution to their scientific development
- The potential to enhance networking, visibility, and knowledge exchange

The selection process will also aim to ensure a balanced distribution of grants across Working Groups.

After the Conference

Within 30 days after the end of the conference, the grantee must submit:

- A report to the Management Committee (MC) describing outcomes, including visibility and new collaborations
- Certificate of attendance
- Conference programme or proceedings including the presentation
- Copy of the presentation delivered

Failure to submit the required documentation within the deadline will result in **cancellation of the grant.**

Additional Information

For further details, applicants may consult:

- COST [Annotated Rules](#).
- [Grant Awarding User Guide](#).

For any queries, please contact the Grant Awarding Coordinator (GAC):

Mr. Alejandro Arguelles Bullon

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GRANT AWARDING CRITERIA

Each proposal will be evaluated and ranked by the Grant Awarding Committee under the leadership and responsibility of the Grant Awarding Coordinator (GAC), with the support of the Action Chair and, where appropriate, the Working Group Leaders.

Applications will be scored based on the following criteria:

1. **Relevance to the Action (20 points)**

Alignment of the conference and the proposed contribution with the objectives and scope of BEACON (CA24106).

2. **Scientific Quality and Contribution (30 points)**

Quality, originality, and relevance of the research to be presented.

3. **Alignment with Working Group Objectives (20 points)**

Contribution to the objectives and activities of the relevant Working Group(s).

4. **Impact, Networking and Career Development (30 points)**

Potential to enhance visibility, foster collaborations, and support the applicant's career development.

Modality-Specific Considerations

In addition to the general criteria above, the following aspects will be specifically considered depending on the type of Conference Grant:

- **ITC Conference Grants:** Priority will be given to applicants affiliated with Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) and Near Neighbour Countries (NNC), in line with the COST Inclusiveness Policy.
- **YRI Conference Grants:** Particular attention will be paid to the applicant's career stage and the potential impact of the conference on their professional development.
- **General Conference Grants:** Emphasis will be placed on the overall contribution to the visibility and impact of the Action.



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Final Decision

The final ranking will be approved by the Grant Awarding Coordinator and the Action Chair.

In case of equal scores, priority will be given to:

- Applicants from ITC/NNC countries
- Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI)
- Applications ensuring balanced representation across Working Groups and countries

Conflict of Interest

To ensure impartiality, any evaluator with a potential conflict of interest (e.g. same institution, ongoing collaboration, or planned visit to the same institution) will not participate in the evaluation of the corresponding application. An independent evaluator will be assigned instead.

The Grant Awarding Committee reserves the right to allocate grants across categories to ensure strategic balance within the Action.