



CA19110

Plasma applications for smart and sustainable agriculture

CALL “VIRTUAL MOBILITY GRANT”

PERIOD JUNE 2023 – OCTOBER 2023

Deadline for applications: **until funds are spent.**

Collection dates: **July 25th, August 25th, September 25th, 2023.**

**We are pleased to announce the opening of a
Call for Virtual Mobility of the COST Action [PlAgri](#) (CA19110)**

(<https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA19110/>)

WHAT IS A VIRTUAL MOBILITY (VM) GRANT?

VM Grant aims to strengthen the existing network by allowing scientists to foster collaboration in a virtual setting, exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, disseminate the Action results, etc. Some examples of the activities that could be proposed and supported by this grant are reported in the following sections. More detail and the COST rules about the VM Grants can be found in the COST Annotated Rules.

A financial contribution of 1.500 € will be awarded for VM Grant per Grant Period.

ELIGIBILITY

The following eligibility criteria apply:

- Applicant(s) is(are) Action participant(s) with a primary affiliation to an institution located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or 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, actively contribute to the activities and overall objectives of the Action and submit a report at the end, to be approved by the VNS Manager on behalf of the MC.

DEADLINE AND APPLICATION

The call will remain open until the allocated funds are spent. The evaluation results will be communicated shortly after the next available collection date.

VM grant period ending: October 20th, 2023.

The application is to be submitted in the e-COST system (<https://e-services.cost.eu/>) and needs to include the following information:

- **CV** of the applicant (max 2 pages in pdf format).
- **Main objective** of the VM Grant.
- **Working Plan:** Description of the collaborative initiative to be implemented.
- **Plan for Participation:** List of participants in the collaborative initiative (short description of their expertise and contribution).
- **Main expected outputs:** Description of the results and contribution to the progress towards the MoU objectives (either research coordination and/or capacity building objectives can be tackled) and delivery of the MoU objectives.
- **Contribution to the COST Action Strategy:** Description of how the VM Grant will contribute to the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy and plans for stakeholder engagement and promoting the participation of researchers from NNC and IPC (COST Global Networking) and to the approved virtual networking strategy, if available.

SELECTION

The evaluation of applications will be performed by the Core Group on behalf of the MC. The selection of successful grantee(s) will be based on contributions to the overall objectives of the Action and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

The selection criteria will consider:

- Quality of the application (40%)
- Curriculum vitae of the applicant with demonstrated experience (30%)
- Active involvement of the applicant in the Action (WORKING GROUP membership is obligatory <https://plagri.eu/join-the-action/>) (30%)

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES

The successful applicant(s) shall implement the workplan approved in the application within the proposed time frame and no later than **October 20th, 2023**. For all the grant duration, the VM Grant winner will be supported and advised in its activity by the VNS Manager.

Some examples of the activities expected to be performed by the successful applicant:

- Discussions on standardization of methods/protocols/terminology related to plasma and agriculture
- Online survey on plasma and agriculture topics/members' opinions
- Production of content (ex. videos) for communication activities to be used on the action website, social media accounts, or conferences
- Round table on specific topics
- Organization of an online library with the most relevant works on plasma and agriculture
- Virtual mentoring of ECIs
- Webinars on specific techniques or topics
- Organization of a weekly/monthly newsletter
- Implementation of research-related activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence, e.g.
- Content preparation and coordination of science communication activities, e.g.



- Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC).
- Online workshops in 'webinar series'- or 'tv series'-like format.
- Online COST Action workshops in external international conferences or events, when the applicant can demonstrate a role in the organising committee, that could help in the promotion of the Action activities.

The creativity of the Action members is strongly encouraged. The example list is incomplete and any activity that can help achieve the Action objectives through virtual networking tools will be considered. The grantee is also encouraged to make use of the CA website and social media pages to promote their activity and to contribute to the CA visibility.

FINAL REPORT AND GRANT PAYMENT

Within 30 days from completion of the proposed activity, and in any case, no later than **October 24th, 2023**, the VM grantee is expected to submit the VM Grant report to the VNS Manager, who will coordinate the approval on behalf of the Action MC. The VM grantee must submit the report as soon as possible so that the grant payment can be completed before the end of the Action Grant Period 3 (October 31st, 2023). Additionally, to approve the VM report and proceed with the payment, the grantee must:

- provide at least one short text and one caption (supported by visual material resuming the grant activity) suitable for publication on the PIAgri website and social media platforms, respectively;
- confirm participation to a dissemination event (e.g., a webinar) which will be held within one month of the end of the Grant Period to facilitate the visibility of the outcomes of the VM Grants. The confirmation needs to be sent to VNS Manager Dr. Giulia Laghi at the time of VM report submission.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us:

Dr. Giulia Laghi (VNS Manager) (giulia.laghi5@unibo.it)

Dr. Nevena Puač (Action Chair) (nevena@ipb.ac.rs)