

# context

## **COST Action “European Network to connect research and innovation efforts on Advanced Smart Textiles” (CONTEXT) CA17107**



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union

### **CALL “VIRTUAL NETWORKING SUPPORT GRANT”**

PERIOD JUNE 2021 – OCTOBER 2021

Deadline for applications (**21<sup>st</sup> June 2021**)

**We are pleased to announce the opening of a Call for Virtual Networking Support of the COST Action CONTEXT (CA17107)**  
**(<https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA17107>) ([https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain\\_files/CA/Action\\_CA17107/mou/CA17107-e.pdf](https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain_files/CA/Action_CA17107/mou/CA17107-e.pdf))**

### **WHAT IS A VIRTUAL NETWORKING SUPPORT GRANT?**

These grants aim at promoting virtual collaboration as a complement to traditional ways of collaboration within the research and innovation communities. This mechanism intends to stimulate virtual collaboration among the members of a given Action.

To learn more about COST rules and about the Virtual Support Grants, please check the COST Vademecum that can be downloaded from: [www.cost.eu/Vademecum](http://www.cost.eu/Vademecum).

A financial contribution of 4.000 € will be awarded per Grant Period.

## ELIGIBILITY

The following eligibility criteria apply:

- 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 be prepared to develop a virtual networking strategy, coordinate the call for expression of interest for the Virtual Mobility Grants and draft at the end of the grant period a report to be approved by the MC.
- The applicant(s) should demonstrate experience in the field of the Cost Action: textiles and specifically smart textiles and capability to involve major stakeholders in the proposed virtual networking strategy: researchers, industry, and end-users.

## DEADLINE AND APPLICATION

The regular call application is open from **June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup> 2021**. The evaluation results will be communicated shortly after the submission.

**The period of the grant comprises from 28<sup>th</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.**

**The application shall be submitted in e-COST** and include the following information:

1. A description of how the COST Action can benefit from developing virtual networking activities, with a focus on:
  - Progress towards the MoU objectives and deliverables.
  - COST Excellence and inclusiveness Policy, specially towards the support of researchers in COST Inclusiveness Target Countries.
  - Stakeholder engagement and promoting the participation of researchers from NNC and IPC (COST Global Networking).
2. A proposal for the strategy outline on virtual networking, including an approach for coordinating Virtual Mobility Grants (where relevant) by:
  - Opening calls and managing the evaluation process for awarding the Virtual Mobility Grants.
  - Supporting and advising beneficiaries of the Virtual Mobility Grant.

Additionally, the proposal shall include a plan on coordinating and reporting any planned COST Action events that will be held online (e.g. Annual Meeting or Conference) and how they fit the overall Action strategy.

## SELECTION

The evaluation of applications will be performed by the Core Group, on behalf of the MC.

The selection of successful grantee 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 (30%)
- Curriculum vitae of the applicant with demonstrated experience (30%)
- Active involvement of the applicant in the Action (30%)
- Country of the applicant (ITC will be considered positively) (10%)

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

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