



## 8<sup>th</sup> Call for Inclusive Target Countries Conference Grants (ITC), Young Researcher and Innovator Conference Grants (YRI) & Dissemination and Communication Grants (DCG)

7 March 2025

<https://nexusnet-cost.com/>

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### NEXUSNET, ITC, YRI & DC grants

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> Call for applications for Inclusive Target Countries Conference Grants (ITC), Young Researcher and Innovator Conference Grants (YRI) and Dissemination & Communication Grants (DCG) funded by the COST Action CA20138 [“Network on water-energy-food nexus for a low-carbon economy in Europe and beyond – NexusNet”](#).

These calls for applications aim at:

- a) supporting participants from Inclusive Target Countries (ITC) to attend a high-level conference not organized nor co-organized by the NexusNet,
- b) supporting young researchers, innovators, and PhD students to attend international conferences, not organised by the Action,
- c) encourage grantees to participate in high-level conferences, not organised by the Action, and increase the visibility and awareness of NexusNet.

ITC, YRI & DC Grants offer reimbursement for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, registration fees, printing of scientific poster and overall effort.

The maximum grant amount is **1,500€** per grantee for face-to-face conferences and **500€** for virtual conferences.

Each application will be assessed independently by the Grant Awarding Committee of the Action, and an evaluation score will be given considering (i) the background of the conference, the sessions and the scientific issues that will be addressed in relation to the Action's strategic priorities and objectives as defined in the [Action's Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#), and (ii) the degree to which the proposed paper/poster/panel complements or contributes to the Action strategic priorities and objectives as defined in the MoU.

*NexusNet aims to empower collaborations between EU and international researchers and stakeholders, synthesize the existing empirical Nexus research and produce an intellectual toolkit, demonstrating a clear link to improved resource management and governance outcomes that underlie the value of Nexus.*

### Guidelines for applicants

#### Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

- **For ITC grants:** NEXUSNET participant affiliated with an institution located in an ITC/Near Neighbour Country: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine. [Check the latest version of the list.](#)



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- **For YRI grants:** PhD students, young researchers and innovators (under the age of 40).
- **For DC grants:** NexusNet members.
- The country must participate in the [NexusNet network](#).
- The list of recommended events is presented below, however, applicants are free to find other relevant events that:
  - ✓ Serve COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy
  - ✓ Support 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
  - ✓ Can contribute to increasing the visibility of NexusNet
  - ✓ Are not organised by NexusNet.

### How to apply for a grant?

- Applications for grants are managed through the e-COST management tool. All applicants must have an [e-COST profile](#).
- Fill in the form in the [e-COST system](#).
- Upload supporting documentation:
  - ✓ ITC Conference grant application (based on e-COST template)
  - ✓ YRI Conference grant application (based on e-COST template)
  - ✓ DC Conference grant application (based on e-COST template)
  - ✓ Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
  - ✓ Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organisers

- ✓ Cover letter justifying how the conference participation will contribute to increasing visibility of NexusNet
- For additional information on the submission via the e-COST system, applicants may visit the [Grant Awarding User Guide](#) or [How-to-apply guidelines](#)

The ITC, YRI, and DC Conference Grants of this 8<sup>th</sup> Call will be available within the 4<sup>th</sup> Grant Period of the Action, i.e., 21 September 2025. NEXUSNET offers **3 face-to-face and 1 virtual ITC grants, 3 face-to-face and 1 virtual YRI grants, and 3 face-to-face and 1 virtual DC grants**. Grantees need to make their own arrangements for travel, accommodation, etc.

Applications should be submitted by **21 March 2025**. Decisions will be announced by **31 March 2025**.

### Recommended events

- [8-10 April, 2025, Dresden, Germany, Dresden Nexus Conference, The Future of Resources – Resources for the Future](#)
- [27 April-2 May 2025, The EGU General Assembly 2025, Vienna, Austria & Online](#)
- [May 25-29, 2025, Mykonos Island, Greece, 12th International Conference on Environmental Management, Engineering, Planning and Economics \(CEMEPE 2025\) and SECOTOX Conference](#)
- [June, 16-18, 2025, Rimini, Italy, 7th European Climate Change Conference – Smarter, Faster and More Systemic Adaptation](#)
- [16-19 June 2025, Chicago, USA, 5<sup>th</sup> Sustainability Research & Innovation \(SRI\) Congress \(SRI2025\)](#)



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### Reporting and getting paid

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of the required report/documentation.

The deadline to submit the report is 30 days from the end of the activity, within 15 days from the end date of the Grant Period.

The report must include:

- Report following the template
- Certificate of attendance
- Programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster)
- Copy of the given presentation (oral or poster)

If the Grant Awarding Coordinator approves the report, the grantees will receive a notification that the grant can be offered, followed by the payment.

Participant grants are non-commercial transactions, therefore, claims as such are not subject to VAT deduction. Taxes normally due or applicable with respect to the payment of the grant are not to be deducted from amounts payable to participants. It is the responsibility of each participant to ensure that all amounts that they receive from COST funding are compliant with their national tax rules and obligations. Provisions related to Force majeure impacting travel in paragraph A1-3.1.6 of Annex 1 are applicable to financial support for networking activities organised through a Grant Awarding Process. [A user guide for claiming expenses in case of force majeure is available to the participants.](#)

### Useful links & documents

- [ITC Application form](#)
- [YRI Application form](#)
- [DCG Application form](#)
- [NEXUSNET official webpage](#)
- [NEXUSNET COST page and documents](#)
- [Official COST guidelines](#)

### Questions/inquiries

Please contact:

- NexusNet Chair:  
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- NexusNet Grant Awarding Coordinator:  
Assist. Prof. Tamara Rađenović  
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- NexusNet Grant Holder Manager:  
Assist. Prof. Giannis Adamos  
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