

Dissemination Conference Grants, 2026 CALL

European Atmospheric Research Lidar COoperation on Science and Technology (EARLICOST, Cost Action CA24135) is opening the 1st year Dissemination Conference Grant Call.

1. OBJECTIVES / DESCRIPTION

Dissemination Conference Grants are aimed at supporting oral presentation by an Action Participant of the work of the Action in high-level conferences fully organized by a third party (i.e., not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action). The Grantee delivers the approved oral presentation, actively networks with other participants, and promotes the COST Action to the potential stakeholders.

This grant is a fixed financial contribution that considers the applicant's budget request and the outcome of the application's evaluation.

Dissemination Conference:

- Significantly increasing visibility of the Action in the research community, contributing to increasing visibility of the presenter
- Attract additional participants and stakeholders and disseminate Action results to relevant end-users at high-profile conferences in the field on a topic relevant to the EARLICOST Action.

Relevant dates:

Deadline for applications: **Call opens in April 2026 and remains open until the capacity is filled**

Outcomes: **Every month starting May 6th, 2026**

Conference dates: must take place before the **1st of October 2026**

After the grand: The successful applicant must submit a scientific report and relevant documentation **within 30 days of the end of the conference**, and **before the 7th of October 2026**, whichever takes place earlier.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility criteria are:

- Applicants must be an Action Participant of the EARLICOST Action, and the grant is aimed at their participation in high-level conferences, to promote the COST Action to the potential stakeholders, and actively network with other participants. The main subject of the presentation must be on a topic relevant to the main objectives and

deliverables of EARLICOST.

- Applicants must be corresponding authors of an oral presentation at the conference in question and be listed in the official event/conference programme.
- COST Action CA24135 should be acknowledged both in the book of abstracts and in the oral presentation following COST guidelines (Annotated rules for COST actions, <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/11/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V3.0-25-IX-2025.pdf>).
- The participation must be pre-approved by the Action MC/core group (i.e., the Grant is for future conferences and not for conferences which have already taken place).

3. SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

The evaluation of applications will be performed by the Core Group, on behalf of the MC. The selection of applicants is based on the following criteria:

- The scientific scope and importance of the conference contribution must clearly be coherent and contribute to the overall objectives and deliverables of the Action.
- **Only oral contributions (face-to-face or online) are considered.**
- Attendance at European conferences is preferred; conferences elsewhere can be considered.
- Further aspects of the proposal evaluation are: a high-quality presentation focusing on the dissemination of EARLICOST outcomes, a clear strategy to approach stakeholders, and a plan to promote the COST Action. Gender/geographical equality is considered.
- If more Action participants apply for Dissemination conference grants planning to attend the same conference, presentation details have to clearly demonstrate no overlap and the uniqueness of each contribution.

4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The financial support on offer is a fixed financial contribution to the overall expenses incurred during participation in a given conference and may not necessarily cover all of the associated expenses. It takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application. The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:

- Up to a **max of EUR 2500 in total** per grant for face-to-face conferences, or **EUR 500 for virtual conferences**, can be afforded for each successful applicant.

- Applicants should provide an estimated budget that includes: registration fee, travel expenses, and daily allowance (including accommodation, meals, and short-distance transport expenses; table for The Daily Allowance rate available at <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2024/11/2024-Daily-allowance-table.pdf>, based on the country where the event takes place).
- The estimated budget should be included in the first part of the E-COST Application Form.
- In addition, when meal and accommodation expenses are supported by the hosting institution as part of the provisions offered in their conference package, the amount for subsistence afforded to each eligible participant must be deducted from the Grant.

For this call, the EARLICOST Management Committee has allocated a total budget of **max. 5000 EUR for Dissemination Conference Grants**. The amount granted will be determined during the evaluation process.

5. HOW TO APPLY

Interested researchers should:

- Carefully read the funding rules in the Annotated Rules for COST Actions (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/11/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V3.0-25-IX-2025.pdf>) and Grant Awarding User guide (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf>)
- Access your account) for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu/>
- Apply by filling in the information by logging into e-COST, clicking on the Grant Applications tab, and uploading the supporting documentation (Dissemination Conference grant application based on e-COST template; Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation; Acceptance letter from the conference organizers).
- Must fill in the information found at the following link: <https://res.inoe.ro/apps/forms/s/J89WzMmGPPRkZ2dbQ8FLHN8W>
- Your oral presentation must contain one acknowledgement slide to promote the Action and the funding organization. E.g., of acknowledgment: *“Part of this work was supported by the COST Action EARLICOST (CA24135), supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).”*

6. AFTER THE CONFERENCE

- a. The Grantee must submit the supporting documentation through the e-COST system (<https://e-services.cost.eu/>) **within 30 calendar days** from the end date of the conference and **before the 7th of October 2026**, whichever takes place earlier.
- b. The scientific report should be based on the e-cost template and include any relevant discussion or feedback for the talk given by the Grantee, information on relevant talks attended at the conference, interesting discussions, and how the grant is linked to EARLICOST specific deliverables. Pictures can be included. Summary of the approach to the stakeholders with their identification, as well as promotion of EARLICOST should be detailed.
- c. Program of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation has to be uploaded in the e-cost along with Certificate of attendance and Copy of the given presentation
- d. **Communication material:** In addition to the scientific reporting required by COST, DCG grantees will be asked to submit short communication material presenting the participation and its main outcomes. This material may take the form of a short video presentation or a PowerPoint presentation including photos and key results. Grantees are encouraged to choose the format, structure, and style that best reflect their experience and perspective, and to present their work creatively, while keeping the content accessible to a broad scientific audience. There is no fixed template; grantees are free to highlight the experience and what they consider most relevant. No professional editing is expected; clarity and authenticity are prioritised over production quality. The submitted communication material will be disseminated by the EARLICOST Communication Coordinator through the Action's communication channels (e.g., website, social media, newsletters), with the aim of showcasing the diversity, visibility, and impact of networking activities within the Action.

Payment of the Grant is subject to the submitted scientific report being approved by the Action Conference Grant Coordinator, the relevant WG leaders, the Action Chair, and the Vice-Chair.

7. CONTACT PERSONS

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