

COST Action CA21114 "CLIL Network for Languages in Education: Towards bi- and multilingual disciplinary literacies" SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS and VIRTUAL MOBILITIES

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2025

Terms and abbreviations used in this document: Check the full list here (including definitions)

The **COST Action** CA21114 "CLIL Network for Languages in Education: Towards bi- and multilingual disciplinary literacies" (CLILNetLE) objective is to develop an impactful, shared research agenda and dissemination strategy, targeting CLIL's educational potential to support the development of bi/multilingual disciplinary literacies.

As part of this aim, in its third year the Action continues to encourage and support **Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)** and **Virtual Mobility (VM)**. STSMs are Exchange Visits aiming at strengthening the existing networks by allowing individual researchers to go to an institution or laboratory in other COST country to foster collaboration and contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action CA21114. VMs consists of a collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, aiming at strengthening (the existing) networks and contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action CA21114.

Until 31st October 2025, there are several **STSM** and **VM** grants to be awarded and conducted. Applicants are invited to apply for one of the proposed topics below or propose their individual research theme **up to 3rd September 2025**. Note that all STSMs and VMs must be in line with the general COST Action CA21114 goals and objectives (https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA21114/) and benefit the Action. At this stage in the COST Action we are specifically focused on VMs and STSMs that support Deliverables 9, 10 and 11. All mobility grants need to be completed at the latest by **15th October 2025**.

Please remember that

- Any STSM must take place abroad (in another COST country) and the applicant needs to get in touch with a proposed hosting institution individually and provide a letter of invitation.
- Any VM needs to involve online collaboration of several COST members and have a clear benefit for the Action.

PROPOSED TOPICS / IDEAS

We specifically invite applicants to conduct research in line with the topics proposed below

1) One VM-grant to develop feedback/evaluation tools for the Teacher Dissemination Items published in D10 "Multimodal Teacher Resources", ensure feedback is gathered systematically from various contexts and collate this feedback. The output needs to be a short report on the uptake of teacher dissemination items and users' views on them.

- 2) One VM-grant to create an overview of existing policy recommendations in the areas of disciplinary literacies and CLIL, creating an annotated (and where needed translated into English) database.
- 3) One STSM grant to collate information on the implementation of Action findings during the Training School in September 2025 and to produce a report on this, including clear guidance for adaptation of materials. In addition, develop two dissemination items based on these findings. The local host will be Dr Letizia Cinganotto.

Apart from the above-mentioned topics, applicants may make their own proposals for a VM or STSM as long as it aligns adequately and directly contributes to COST CA21114 and the furtherance of Deliverables 9, 10 and 11. **However, the tasks outlined above will be prioritised.**

WHAT IS A STSM?

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are exchange visits aiming at strengthening the existing networks by allowing individual scientists to go to an institution or laboratory in other COST country to foster collaboration, to learn new techniques or gain access to specific instruments and/or methods or techniques not available in their own institutions. They shall have a minimum duration of 5 calendar days, which includes travel.

A STSM should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action CA21114. To learn about aims of COST Action CA21114, please look at Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) available on the COST website: https://e-services.cost.eu/action/CA21114

More information about the COST rules on the Short-Term Scientific Missions is available at the COST Annotated Rules for COST Actions

(https://www.cost.eu/Annotated Rules for COST Actions C).

WHAT IS A VM?

VMs consist of a collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, aiming at strengthening (the existing) networks, etc. A VM should specifically contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST Action CA21114. To learn about aims of COST Action CA21114, please look at Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) available on the COST website: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA21114/

More information about the COST rules on the VM is available at the COST Annotated Rules for COST Actions (https://www.cost.eu/Annotated Rules for COST Actions C).

RULES

The STSM or VM applicant must be a PhD candidate or be engaged in a research programme as a postdoctoral fellow or be employed by an institution of a COST Country. Applications from Young Researchers and Innovators (under 40 years) are privileged. The host institution should be actively participating in the COST Action CA21114. For the period of the STSM or VM neither the Management Committee (MC), nor the COST Office nor the Grant Holder (GH) may be considered as an employer. The grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security, and pension matters.

- The selection of STSM and VM applicants is based on the scientific scope of the STSM or VM application that must be in line with the COST Action CA21114 objectives. The selection of successful candidates is made by the Action Core Group (CG), based on a proposal of the Grant Awarding Coordinator & Co-Coordinator (Grant Coordinator) following the recommendations of the WG Leaders and the MC Chair. The Grant Coordinator informs the GH about successful candidate and then the GH sends a grant letter generated from e-COST system to the approved applicant. The grant letter must be signed by the applicant and returned to the GH.
- A STSM grant is a fixed contribution based on the requested budget that should reflect the duration and location of the STSM. The budget is evaluated by the Grant Coordinator. The grant is for travel and subsistence costs only. It does not necessarily cover all such expenses.
- Successful STSM applicants will receive a grant of up to €2 500. The budget will be awarded to the successful applicants in accordance with COST rules.
- A VM grant is a fixed contribution up to a maximum total budget of €1500 based on the requested budget. The requested budget is evaluated by the CG on proposal of the Grant coordinator and should reflect the duration, scope and complexity of the task and activities to be covered via the VM grant. It does not necessarily cover all such expenses.
- The STSM grant will be paid after the exchange visit (acceptance of the scientific report and a letter from the Host are required). The STSM candidates must therefore pre-finance costs related to the STSM (travel, stay, meals). STSM applicants with an affiliation in an institution in an Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) country can request a pre-payment of 50% of grant. This is payable under two conditions: 1) the GH has funds to cover 50% of the grant in advance, and 2) the host confirms to the GH that the mission has started. Please note that transfer of the 50% of the Grant can only take place after the mission has started; therefore, requesting a pre-payment is more effective for STSMs longer than 1 month.
- The VM grant will be paid after the VM exchange (acceptance of the scientific report). The VM candidates must therefore pre-finance costs related to the VM.

APPLICATION

If you are interested in applying, complete the **on-line application** available at your e-COST account (https://e-services.cost.eu/grants), after selecting COST Action CA21114 (Grant Applications, left menu) up to **3rd September 2025**. Or go directly to https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants/add?type=STSM.

For the application template, go to https://www.cost.eu/STSM GrantApplication

More information on the procedures is available in the STSM user guide (http://www.cost.eu/STSM_userguide).

For the STSM, the following supporting documents must be included in the application:

- Cover letter, explaining how your work will benefit from this STSM and how the STSM will contribute to the achievement of the COST CA21114 objectives;
- Work plan specifying what you intend to do (800 words), the start and end dates, and a clear and justified budget (accommodation/travel);

- A written agreement of the host institution;
- A **letter of support** from the **home** institution;
- **CV** (2 pages), including a list of **publications**.

All applicants will be informed about the result of the call by 10th September 2025

For the VM, the application form will describe: Main Objective, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant plus a realistic time frame and total working time, requested grant amount (plus **justification**), plan for participation, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives; name of the WG and WG leader who will supervise the grant.

For the application template, go to https://www.cost.eu/VM_GrantApplication

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed by the Cost Action CA21114 WG leaders, the Core Group and the Grant Coordinator according to the following criteria:

- Scientific quality and relevance of the work plan. Namely, how well it addresses the proposed topics and the COST Action CA21114 objectives, specifically D9, D10, D11
- Anticipated outcomes in respect of COST Action CA21114 objectives and D9, D10, D11;
- Contribution to personal development of the candidate;
- Other criteria include early career, gender balance and geographical inclusiveness;
- The application of the 'Rules and Principles for COST activities' by the applicant.

After the STSM

After the STSM, the Grantee is obliged to submit a **scientific report** (for approval) within **30 days after** the end date of the STSM or by 15th October 2025, whichever is earlier. The grantee must complete the report template (https://www.cost.eu/STSM_Report), upload, and submit it in e-COST along with additional supporting documents. The report must contain the following information:

- Purpose of the STSM;
- Description of the work carried out during the STSM;
- Description of the main results obtained;
- Submission of required output (e.g. Teacher Dissemination Items, Database, Report, etc.)
- Future collaboration with the host institution (if applicable);
- Foreseen publications / articles resulting from the STSM (if applicable);
- Confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of the STSM;
- Other comments (if any).

The Report will be evaluated by the WG leader responsible for the Grant, who will communicate the decision to the Grant Evaluation Committee who will accept it on the platform.

If the report is approved, the application status changes to Report Approved and the GH manager is notified that the grant can be paid. The applicant receives a copy of the e-notification.

Please note that failure to submit the scientific report on time will effectively cancel the grant.

If rejected, a justification is required and its content will be included in the e-notification to the grantee, who is asked to revise and re-submit the report.

The Grant Coordinator will inform the GH about the acceptance of the report. Afterwards, the GH will execute the payment of the fixed grant directly to the grantee or to home institution as stated in the application form.

After the VM

The VM grantee is obliged to submit a short scientific report (for approval) within 30 days after the end date of the VM or by 15th October 2025. The grantee must complete the report template (https://www.cost.eu/VM_Report), upload, and submit it in e-COST along with additional supporting documents. The report must contain the following information:

- the work developed
- submission of required output (e.g. Teacher Dissemination Items, Database, Report, etc.
- main outcomes and achieved outputs of the Virtual Mobility
- description of the future follow-up collaboration.

Please note that failure to submit the scientific report on time will effectively cancel the grant.

The Report will be evaluated by the WG leader responsible for the Grant, who will communicate the decision to the Grant Evaluation Committee who will accept it on the platform.

If the report is approved, the application status changes to Report Approved and the GH manager is notified that the grant can be paid. The applicant receives a copy of the e-notification.

If rejected, a justification is required and its content will be included in the e-notification to the grantee, who is asked to revise and re-submit the report.

The Grant Coordinator will inform the GH about the acceptance of the report. Afterwards, the GH will execute the payment of the fixed grant directly to the grantee or to the home institution as stated in the application form.

Clarifications:

Grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security, and pension matters.

For questions, please feel free to contact Eleni Meletiadou (<u>elenim@outlook.com</u>) or Visnja Pavicic Takac (<u>vpavicic@ffos.hr</u>).