



## ADVANCE-TB DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE CALL For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grant Period

ADVANCE-TB Cost Action 21164 opens the Dissemination Conference Call for the Second Grant Period (GP) (1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024)

### A. PURPOSE OF DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE GRANT

Dissemination Conferences are high-profile events or conferences not organized by COST Action. In CA21164, participation in Dissemination Conferences is proposed in the form of Dissemination Conference Grants, aimed at supporting Action members to attend international high-level conferences on the topic of the Action, which are fully organized by a third party.

The main purpose is to significantly increase the visibility of the ADVANCE-TB Cost Action in the research community, develop new contacts and potential future collaborations, and disseminate Action results (oral presentation) at high profile Conferences in the field of the ADVANCE-TB Cost Action. At the individual level, it can contribute to increasing the visibility of the presenter.

### B. IMPORTANT DATES

The ADVANCE-TB Dissemination Conference Call will be receiving applications according to the following timetable:

	1 <sup>st</sup> Round	2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	4 <sup>rd</sup> Round
Open Application Round	24th Oct 2023	01st Jan 2024	01st Apr 2024	01st Jul 2024
Deadline for application	24th Nov 2023	31st Jan 2024	30th Apr 2024	31st Jul 2024
Notification of decision applicants until	15th Dec 2023	15th Feb 2024	15th May 2024	15th Aug 2024
Conference Dates	Within 6 months after approval notification			

Please note that all Conference should be completed before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## C. DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE ELIGIBILITY RULES

Call applicants should be:

- ✓ Action Member of the ADVANCE-TB Cost Action 21164
- ✓ Action Member with a primary affiliation to a legal entity located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country, a COST Near Neighbor Country, or a European RTD Organization.
- ✓ The applicant and/or home research group might have previous experience in projects related to the Action focused on tuberculosis, non-tuberculous mycobacteria infections or any other related aspects.
- ✓ The applicant should have an abstract accepted at the conference.
- ✓ First-time GP applicants will be prioritized.
- ✗ Conference proposals out to the timetable will be automatically discarded.

## D. HOW TO APPLY

Eligible applicants shall follow these steps, according to the corresponding timetable:

1. Obtain an Invitation or Acceptance Letter from the Conference Organizers (including country and dates)
2. Download and complete all the fields of the Dissemination Conference grant application template, available here:  
[https://www.cost.eu/DisseminationConference\\_GrantApplication](https://www.cost.eu/DisseminationConference_GrantApplication)
  - Conference details (conference title, web page, venue and start/ end date)
  - Accepted oral contribution details (Title, authors and relevant details)
  - Alignment with the Action Science Communication Plan
  - Expected impact
3. Complete the Dissemination Conference application online at  
<https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants>
  - Select the Action of interest (21164) and Apply for New Grant
  - Select Dissemination Conference
  - Fill in the corresponding sections directly on the platform
  - Add the supporting documents:
    - i. Dissemination Conference application form completed (step 2)

- ii. Copy of your CV (including a list of academic publications - if applicable)
  - iii. Motivation letter including benefit to the development of the ADVANCE-TB COST Action and the clear link with the Advance TB objectives (1.000-3.000 words)
  - iv. Copy of the abstract of the proposed oral presentation
  - v. Acceptance or Invitation letter from the conference organizers
  - vi. Budget requested. More details on Section E - Financial Support
- Click on Submit application

The eligible applicants will get a confirmation e-mail for the successful reception of their application from the e-cost platform.

## E. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support for networking activities organized through a Grant Awarding Process is a grant awarded to individuals, not intended to cover employment costs. The scope will be to contribute (but not necessarily cover all) for travel, accommodation, and subsistence expenses, registration fees, the printing of scientific posters, and overall effort.

Dissemination Conference may be combined with other funding sources; these must be acknowledged in the application with a declaration of non-double financing.

The maximum amount allowed according to the type of Dissemination Conference:

- Face-to-face Dissemination Conference up to 2,000 € per grant
- Virtual Dissemination Conference up to 500 € per grant, to cover only registration fees

The selected applicants should wait for the official invitation from the Grant Holder before booking any travel arrangements and paying conference fees.

## F. EVALUATION PROCEDURE AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

The applications will be evaluated within two weeks after the submission deadline and the results will be communicated to the applicants by e-cost platform. The system of evaluation assigns points to each item based on the criteria defined on a 0 to 100 point scale.

The coordination process and final approval of grants are in charge of the Grant Awarding Coordinator according to the 2nd Grant Period Budget Plan and the number of applications submitted in every round:

### ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (up 100 points)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	POINTS
1	Quality and Scientific Excellence of the Conference	25
2	Keynote presentation	15
3	Oral presentation	10
4	Poster presentation	5
5	Impact on the career of the applicant	10
6	CV of the applicant	20
7	Relevance of the Conference to the objectives of ADVANCE-TB	15

*Please make sure to provide the required information for each of the evaluated items*

TOTAL POINT RATE	EVALUATION DECISION
0 – 50	Low recommendation application
51 - 80	Medium recommendation application
81 - 100	High recommendation application

In case the Grant Awarding Coordinator detects that requested documents are missing and/or needs additional information during the evaluation process, the applicant will be contacted and missing details will be requested. In order to include missing files, the application will be rejected and afterwards, the applicant will be able to edit the application and re-submit with the

corresponding documentation. This process can modify the date of notification of the final decision.

Please note that high priority will be given to proposals that strongly promote the ADVANCE-TB COST Action, either by pushing forward the current initiatives or by leading to new initiatives.

Special considerations concerning supporting COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Young Researchers and Investigators (YRI), and broadening geographical inclusiveness will be taken into account.

## G. REPORTING AND REIMBURSEMENT

Once the activity has ended and within 30 days after the end date of the activity, the grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST.

1. Download and complete all the fields of the Dissemination Conference Report template, available here:  
→ [https://www.cost.eu/DisseminationConference\\_Report](https://www.cost.eu/DisseminationConference_Report)
2. Upload on e-cost:
  - Dissemination Conference Report template completed
  - Report to the Action MC on the outcome of the presentation, contacts made and potential for future collaborations
  - Certificate of attendance
  - The program of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the grantee
  - Copy of the given presentation
  - Copy of the grantee ID number

Payment of the Grant is subject to the Dissemination Conference report being approved by the Grant Awarding Coordinator. Written approval of the report will be uploaded in e-COST for archiving purposes.

Grant Holder Institution will proceed with the final payment once the completion of the activity and approval of all required reports and documentation (including bank account details and ID number)



More information is available at the [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#) and [Funding Documents & Guidelines](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information ([advance\\_tb@igtp.cat](mailto:advance_tb@igtp.cat)).

Dr. Alicia Lacoma, PhD  
Senior Researcher  
ADVANCE-TB Chair

Dr. Cristina Prat Aymerich, MD, PhD  
Senior Researcher  
ADVANCE-TB Grant Awarding  
Coordinator

Badalona (Spain), 01st of Oct of 2023