



# UNDERGROUND4VALUE

#costCA18110

**Underground Built Heritage as catalyser for Community Valorisation**

## First Call 2022 for Virtual Mobility (VM) Grants

Dear Underground4value partners,

We would like to announce the opening of the First Call 2022 for Virtual Mobility (VM) Grants, aiming to develop collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action. We would be very happy to receive your proposals for virtual activities, to be finalised before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, for building capacity and spreading the uptake of virtual collaboration. With these Virtual Mobility (VM) Grants, our COST action aims at experimenting new approaches and creative contents, and strengthening the existing network by allowing individual participants to foster collaboration, to exchange knowledge, to learn new techniques, etc.

The Action Core Group, on proposal of a VM Evaluation Committee, will grant successful applicants to perform activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence.

The expected granted activities could be:

- A Virtual Mentoring Scheme for UBH Communities, with special focus on activities and exchanges that can generate capacity building and new skills, able to interact with the U4V TOOLBOX
- Guidelines, templates and structures to harmonise/standardise methods and procedures' communication (i.e., survey amongst all Action members to collect different results and outcomes from experiments done in their respective labs and research groups, common protocols to be used by the network afterwards; questionnaires and response scales to be used by the Action members as part of virtual networking activities)
- Support to implementation of research-related activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence (U4V platform, data analysis, etc...)
- Content preparation and coordination of science communication activities, also connected to the U4V Platform (MOOC, 'webinar series' or 'tv series'-like, online COST Action workshops)
- Social Media campaigns, with material of the Action (webinars, audio-visual material from the sites, info campaigns of the U4V labs, info campaigns of scientific missions...)

For more information about these grants, please read the <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/12/Grant-Awarding-userguide.pdf>.

### **U4V's strategy for VM over the 3<sup>st</sup> Grant Period**

Given the limited time to develop virtual networking strategies until the end of the 3<sup>th</sup> Grant Period (31<sup>st</sup> October 2022), we have decided to align all virtual activities with the overall objectives of the Action. We are concentrating now our efforts on six (6) VM grants maximum. The Action might open further calls within this grant period. The Core Group, headed by the Grant Awarding Coordinator (GAC), will support your activity. The CG will evaluate your proposals sent to GAC and Action Chair (AC) within the next weeks.

Virtual activities must consider the diversity of areas covered in this Action, the differences among members expertise (i.e., from experienced researchers to early-career investigators), and should be helpful to support objectives' achievement and outcomes' production for this grant period, that is, the U4V Platform, the U4V Toolbox, the Learning Platform, and the webinar series. Format typology can be flexible, open to innovation, and creative approaches, but respecting the Action visual identity. All developed contents will be available on our website and social media channels, at least for the duration of the COST Action. Additionally, all members of the COST Action CA18110, activities' participants can use these digital activities and display on their websites (with clear reference to creators and to the COST Action).

The call is open to all individuals with a primary affiliation to an institution located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or a COST Near Neighbour Country participating in the Action.

In the proposal, the applicant(s) shall inform about the aim of the VM Grant and how its outcomes will generate benefits to the Action, actively contribute to the overall Action objectives and relevant deliverables.



### Grant Amount

A financial contribution of EUR 1 500 will be awarded to maximum six (6) proposals, as defined by the MC. The grant does not necessarily cover all expenses related to undertaking the virtual mobility activity.

### Deadline

The application deadline is April 30th, 2022.

### Apply procedure

1. The applicant must carefully read the funding rules detailed in ANNEX 2 of the  [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#) and consult the  [Grant Awarding User Guide](#).
2. The applicant will need to encode an application by logging into [e-COST](#) and [click on the Grant Application tab](#). To encode a new application, you will need to click on 'Apply for grant' and select our COST Action CA18110. If you do not already have an e-COST account, you will first need to 'create an account' - which will include providing the details of the bank account into which a grant would be made if an application is approved and the grant completed successfully.
3. Applicants must also send their application form ([Annex I](#)) and the relevant supporting documents for evaluation to the Grant Awarding Coordinator, Ms Bahanur Nasya: [office@wonderland.cx](mailto:office@wonderland.cx), and the Action Chair, Giuseppe Pace: [giuseppe.pace@cnr.it](mailto:giuseppe.pace@cnr.it)
4. Granted persons need to send their quality report latest within October 2022.

### Evaluation process

A VM Evaluation Committee appointed by the Action Core Group performs the evaluation of each submitted VM grant application. The evaluation criteria defined by the VM Evaluation Committee shall be communicated to all potential applicants. In general, the selection of successful grantee shall be based on contributions to the overall objectives of the Action and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

### Implementation of activities

The successful applicant(s) shall implement the work plan approved in the application within the time frame also there defined and always within one single Grant Period.

The grantee has 15 calendar days (and not after 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2022) from the completion of the Virtual Mobility to submit a report (Annex II) to the Grant Awarding Coordinator of the Action including:

- Description of the outcomes and achieved outputs (including any specific MoU deliverables, or publications resulting from the Virtual Mobility).
- Description of the benefits to the COST Action Strategy (what and how).
- Description of the virtual collaboration (including constructive reflection on activities undertaken, identified successful practices and lessons learned).

The report shall consider only virtual activities carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period. The Core Group must be informed at the end of the respective activity of the main results of each Virtual Mobility Grant. In addition, the grantee will have the obligation to contribute actively to the activities of the Action WG relevant to those findings.

### Payment procedure

The Grant Holder shall pay the approved grant to the grantee after the Core Group has approved the grantee's report and no later than 15 days after the end of Grant Period.

The COST Association and the Grant Holder of the Action cannot be considered as being the grantee's employer who shall make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security, and pension matters.

The grantee must also ensure they have the required technical material/equipment and infrastructure to carry out the activities proposed in their application to the grant.

The CA18110 Action Chair

**Giuseppe Pace**



The CA18110 Grant Awarding Coordinator

**Bahanur Nasya**



## VIRTUAL MOBILITY (VM) GRANT APPLICATION TEMPLATE

This application is submitted by the VM grant applicant to the Virtual Networking Support Manager, who coordinates the evaluation on behalf of the Action MC.

Action number:

VM grant title:

VM grant start and end date: DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY

Grantee name:

**Main objective of the Virtual Mobility Grant**

*(max.200 word)*

Applicant enters max. 200 words summary here.

**Main scope of the Virtual Mobility Grant**

*(max.200 word)*

Applicant enters max. 200 words summary here.

**Main added value of the Virtual Mobility Grant**

*(max.200 word)*

Applicant enters max. 200 words summary here.

**Working Plan:**

Description of the collaborative initiative to be implemented. Please indicate how and when you will implement the action.

*(max.500 word)*

Applicant enters max. 500 words summary here.

**Plan for Participation:**

Indicative list of participants in the collaborative initiative (short description of their expertise and envisaged contribution).

*(max.500 words)*

Applicant enters max. 500 words summary here.

**Plan for inclusion of Action members:**

Indicative how you will include the members of this action or their work in your event(s) (short description).

*(max.500 words)*

Applicant enters max. 500 words summary here.

**Plan for Action input/feedback:**

Indicative how you will inform and feedback the members of this action (short description).

*(max.500 words)*

Applicant enters max. 500 word summary here.

**Main expected outputs:**

Main expected results and their contribution to the progress towards the Action objectives (either research coordination and/or capacity building objectives) and deliverables.

*(max.500 words)*

Applicant enters max. 500 word summary here.

**Contribution to the COST Action Strategy:**

How will the Virtual Mobility contribute to the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy<sup>1</sup> and to the Action plans for stakeholder engagement and promoting participation of researchers from Near Neighbour Country (NNC) and International Partner Country (IPC)<sup>2</sup>, and to the approved virtual networking strategy, if available.

*(max.500 words)*

Applicant enters max. 500 word summary here.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cost.eu/who-we-are/cost-strategy/excellence-and-inclusiveness>

<sup>2</sup> As described in the Action Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

## VIRTUAL MOBILITY (VM) GRANT REPORT TEMPLATE

This report is submitted by the VM grantee to VNS Manager, who will coordinate the approval on behalf of the Action MC.

Action number:

VM grant title:

VM grant start and end date: DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY

Grantee name:

**Description of the outcomes and achieved outputs (including any specific Action objective and deliverables, or publications resulting from the Virtual Mobility).**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.

**Description of the benefits to the COST Action Strategy (what and how).**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.

**Description of the main emerging topics, ideas, challenges and solutions.**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.

**Description of the highlights of the activity.**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.

**Description of the outreach of the activity.**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 wordss summary here.

**Ideas and recommendations for further improvement.**

*(max. 500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.

**Description of the virtual collaboration (including constructive reflection on activities undertaken, identified successful practices and lessons learned).**

*(max.500 words)*

Grantee enters max 500 words summary here.