

## Multidisciplinary consortium to accelerate plant cell wall knowledge (PlantWallK) - CA24116

### 1st Call for Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grants (ITCGs)

**Call opens:** 2026-03-01

**Deadline:** 2026-08-01

**Period to attend a conference:** 2026-04-01– 2026-08-31

**Report deadline:** within 30 days after the end of the conference

#### 1. Purpose

PlantWallK supports Action Participants affiliated with legal entities in Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs) and Near Neighbour Countries (NNCs) to attend international high-level conferences. Grantees must present their work within the scope of the Action through an **oral presentation**. The grant also supports networking and the establishment of new contacts for future collaboration. The presentation must explicitly acknowledge COST funding.

#### 2. Who can apply

The Grant Applicant must be researcher or innovator participant in PlantWallK COST Action with primary affiliation to a legal entity located in a COST affiliated in an [Inclusiveness Target Country](#) / [Near Neighbour Country](#).

#### 3. Eligibility and financial conditions

Applications must meet all the following requirements to be considered:

- The applicant must have an accepted oral presentation directly related to PlantWallK scientific aims.
- The presentation topic must align with PlantWallK priorities such as cell wall structure, biomechanics, modelling, high resolution imaging, or advanced data analysis.
- The conference must take place in a different country from the applicant's affiliation.
- The event must occur within the active Grant Period.
- European conferences are preferred, though non-European ones may be considered.
- Conferences must be attended in person.
- The grant is a financial contribution (up to 2000 EUR) towards travel, accommodation, subsistence, conference registration fees, and the overall effort linked to participation and reporting. No invoices are required.
- Grants are reimbursed after participation and approval of the mandatory report

#### 4. How to Apply

Applications must be submitted **via the e-COST platform** under Grant Applications.

The following documents must be submitted through e-COST:

- Completed [ITCG application form](#)
- Acceptance letter from conference organizers
- Copy of the abstract of accepted oral presentation
- PhD students should include a supervisor support letter

## 5. Evaluation Criteria

Applications that meet eligibility criteria will be assessed by three members of the Action **Grant Awarding Committee (GAC)**. This assessment considers the relevance of the presentation to PlantWallK objectives, quality of the Abstract, impact of the Conference, potential to disseminate the Action in relevant scientific communities. Evaluation decisions are typically communicated **within 4 weeks** of submission.

## 6. Reporting Requirements

Within **30 days** after the conference, grantees must submit at [e-COST platform](#) a **report** describing the presentation, outcomes, contacts, and collaboration potential ([template for ITCG report](#)) and upload the following documents:

- Certificate of conference attendance issued by the conference organiser.
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts / proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the grantee
- Copy of the presented slides (with Action and COST logo).

Failure to submit on time results in **automatic cancellation** of the grant.

Each publication produced with support of a STSM must acknowledge the support of the COST Action and use the COST and PlantWallK logos (on slides and posters).

Acknowledgement text:

*“This publication is based on work supported by the COST Action CA24116: Multidisciplinary consortium to accelerate plant cell wall knowledge (PlantWallK).”*

## Contact

For questions, contact:

**Grant Awarding Coordinator, PlantWallK (CA24116)**

Paula Sampaio

Email: [sampaio@i3s.up.pt](mailto:sampaio@i3s.up.pt)