

CA18219 Geothermal

Call for applications concerning grants offered in Period 5



1 SUBJECT

The COST Association offers various types of Grants for reaching the goals of its Actions and offer financial support in scientific collaboration. In this context, CA18219 Geothermal-DHC offers the below listed types of Grants for the period until **14 April 2024**.

a) **Virtual Mobility Grant (VM Grant)**

Maximum number of grants offered: up to 6 – each awarded up to EUR 1500

VM Grants consist of a collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc. Virtual mobility benefits both, the Action as it can use a flexible tool to implement virtual activities to achieve MoU objectives and increase impact and reach, and it benefits the VM grantee in developing capacity in virtual collaborations and enables networking in a pan-European framework.

For more information on Virtual Mobility Grants, please see **section A2- 1.1 Mobility of researchers and innovators** of the [COST Annotated Rules](#).

b) **ITC Conference Grant**

Maximum number of grants offered: up to 2 grants offered

ITC (Inclusiveness Target Country) Conference Grants aim at supporting Young Researchers and Innovators from [ITC and NNC \(Near Neighbouring Country\)](#) to attend international conferences that are not organised by the COST Action CA18219 Geothermal-DHC. The main subject of the oral/poster presentation at the conference must be on the topic of “Geothermal Energy for Heating and Cooling” and must acknowledge COST Action Geothermal-DHC (CA18219). For more information on ITC Conference Grants, please see **section A2- 1.1 Mobility of researchers and innovators** of the [COST Annotated Rules](#). or contact our ITCCG coordinator Prof Rao Martand Singh rao.m.singh@ntnu.no

c) **Dissemination Conference Grant**

Maximum number of grants offered: up to 2 grants offered

Dissemination Conference consists in a presentation of the work of the Action in high-level conferences by an Action participant. They aim at significantly increase visibility of the Action in the research community and contribute to increasing visibility of the presenter.

For more information on Dissemination Conference Grants, please see **section A2- 1.1 Mobility of researchers and innovators** of the [COST Annotated Rules](#).

d) Financial publication support

Maximum number of grants offered: up to 4 grants offered

CA18219 Geothermal-DHC offers financial support in paying submission fees of articles in open access journals, which result from a joint collaboration inside the Action.

For more information, please see the [Publication Support Strategy](#).

e) Short term scientific missions (STSM)

Please note that this type of grant is not offered in period 5!

2 DESCRIPTION OF CALL FOR GRANTS IN PERIOD 5

The Management Committee of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC decided to launch a set of **closed topic priority calls** (see chapter 2.1) to achieve the objectives and aimed outputs of the Action. However, in order to follow the COST policies, a maximum share of 40% of provided funds will be offered to **Grants outside the priority calls** (see chapter 2.2).



Maximum duration of Grants

Please note that all Grants related activities must be accomplished **before 31 March 2024**

2.1 Priority calls in Period 5

Priority calls constitute an important instrument to achieve the objectives and aimed outputs of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC. In contrast to open Grants, the anticipated activities and expected outcomes are predefined. At some of the proposed priority calls, the applicant may select the type of Grant, which she/he finds more appropriate to fulfill the stated objectives. The description of the proposed priority calls is shown in the subsequent **Table 1**.

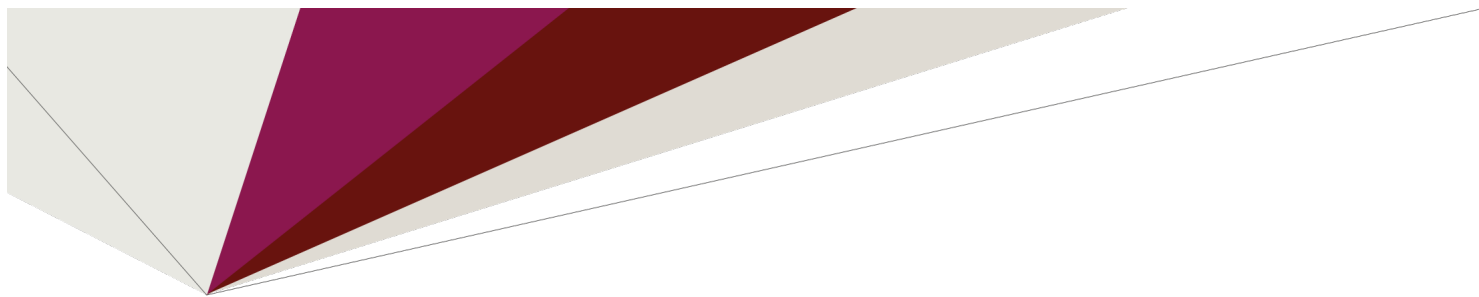


Table 1: Overview of priority calls on Grants offered in Period 4.

Title of the call Short description	Type of Grant	Expected outputs	Expected duration and end of Grant	Estimated maximum amount of Grant in EUR
<p>Development of the storyline for the educational video</p> <p>Our COST Action Geothermal-DHC aims at the creation of an educational video addressing young people on different aspects of geothermal heating and cooling systems. In addition, the video's goal would be the promotion of the geothermal energy profession, especially among young females. It will be a visual medium, in a simple language for everyone to understand and convey the message.</p> <p>The main target group of the educational video will be students, mainly from the age group of 15-19 years old. The video can also address bachelor students (before choosing their specialization).</p> <p>The awarded VM Grant is expected to cover the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Development of the scenario/storyline of the educational video ✓ Close collaboration with the Ad-hoc Working Group Young Researchers for the finalization of the scenario/storyline ✓ Inclusion, if possible, of the existing material i.e. the students' interviews that were taken at the summer school in Delft ✓ Close collaboration with the Ad-hoc Working Group Young Researchers for the identification of the criteria and characteristics of the educational video. 	VM Grant 1 Grant	Story book including concepts for scenes, mockups and text proposals (PDF format)	Accomplishment of activities before 23 February 2024	Up to EUR 1500

<p>Preparation of digital contents for the Geothermal-DHC web portal linked to a deputy lead position of the Working Group Outreach and Communication</p> <p>The awardee is expected to support the Science Communication Manager in building up relevant scientific content for the Geothermal-DHC web portal related to the use of geothermal energy in heating and cooling networks and the work of CA18219. This call is linked to a deputy lead position of the Working Group "Outreach and Communication". The awardee is expected to prepare text content and summaries for Social Media Channels, identify new content and make existing one more attractive. This also includes the preparation of contents for dissemination material (Action flyers and folders).</p>	<p>VM Grant 1 Grant</p>	<p>Text for Geothermal-DHC web portal and digital channels.</p>	<p>Accomplishment of activities before 31 March 2024</p>	<p>Up to EUR 1500</p>
<p>Digital training and support for a virtual recruiting event to connect young researchers in the field of geothermal energy with industrial representatives.</p> <p>The increased future deployment of geothermal energy supplied heating and cooling networks will require a massive increase of professionals in the field of geothermal energy. For that reason, CA18219 will offer a virtual recruiting event for young researchers and professionals, which will consist of two steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A virtual training offered to maximum 15 successful applicants will provide support for self-promotion and recruiting interviews. The grant awardee is asked to design, moderate (with support of CA18219) and document the training. 2) CA18219 will organize, together with European partners, a virtual, publicly accessible interlinking event with industrial representatives. The grant awardee is asked to design and support the event by moderating break out groups for instance. 	<p>VM Grant 1 Grant</p>	<p>1 virtual training on self-promotion including training material Concept and support of a virtual recruiting event</p>	<p>Accomplishment of activities before 31 March 2024</p>	<p>Up to EUR 1500</p>
<p>Supporting the elaboration of a “CA18219 sustainability and exploitation strategy”</p> <p>CA18219 aims at producing sustainable outcomes of the Action with regard to 1) the network created and 2) the products and results developed. Both are represented by the CA18219-Geothermal-DHC web portal (www.geothermal-dhc.eu) and the CA18219 “100 good reasons initiative” to showcase case studies of geothermal energy supplied heating and cooling networks in Europe (https://gis.geothermal-dhc.eu/). In the framework of a virtual mobility grant, the CA18219 Executive Committee (ExCo) will be consulted in developing a sustainability and exploitation</p>	<p>VM Grant 1 Grant</p>	<p>Design of a strategy paper, Design of a strategy meeting with external stakeholders</p>	<p>Accomplishment of activities before 31 March 2024</p>	<p>Up to EUR 1500</p>

<p>strategy, which results into a strategy paper. The Grant awardee is also expected to design a strategy workshop (hybrid, Brussels) with European stakeholders in uptakes of the products and initiatives started inside CA18219. Moreover, the Grant awardee is expected to support the ExCo in preparing an application for a COST Innovation Grant (www.cost.eu/rules_innovators_grant).</p>				
<p>Preparation of key deliverables of CA18219 CA18219 aims at the following key deliverables, represented by reports in the following order of priority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>D14 Summary report on the legal and social boundary conditions in the countries participating at the COST Action for the inclusion of geothermal technologies in heating and cooling grids (1 document).</i> 2. <i>D13 Stakeholder feedback report on the expected and aimed role of geothermal technologies for the decarbonization of heating and cooling grids in Europe, including analyses of opportunities and barriers (1 document).</i> 3. <i>D5 Catalogue of workflows and methodologies for the inclusion of geothermal technologies into heating and cooling grids based on problem – solution fact sheets (1 document).</i> 4. <i>D15 European Roadmap for the inclusion of geothermal technologies and market diffusion measures to reach the proposed 2030 and 250 inclusion targets in the heating and cooling sector (1 document).</i> <p>The successful applicants are asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Design the structure and content of documents related to the deliverables¹. b) Coordinate core teams in preparing contents. c) Act as main author and be responsible for editing and review. <p>¹Please note that any reports or documents linked to the deliverables should be as short and concise as possible. Not extensive reports are required.</p>	<p>VM Grant At least 2 Grants</p>	<p>Preparation of documents related to key deliverables</p>	<p>Accomplishment of activities before 31 March 2024</p>	<p>Up to EUR 1500</p>

2.2 Grants offered outside the priority calls

Application for Grants, in line with the COST Association and CA18219 eligibility rules and selection criteria, should demonstrate a benefit to fulfill the CA objectives as stated in the [Work and Budget Plan of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC](#).

The below shown table exhibits topics and keywords of enhanced interest, which are in line with the actual version of the CA18219 Geothermal-DHC “**Publication Strategy**¹” and will be preferred in the evaluation procedure:

Table 2: Topics and keywords in line with the objectives of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC.

Topics of interest linked to STSMs	Proposed keywords (non-exhaustive list)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solutions for the integration of geothermal technologies in multivalent heating and cooling (HC) networks• Social perception and environmental impact of geothermal HC networks in Europe• Enhancing the competitiveness of geothermal energy supported heating and cooling networks• Business models linked to geothermal HC networks• Regulatory framework linked to geothermal energy in HC networks• Underground Thermal Energy Storage in the context of use in HC networks• Energy & exergy analysis of geothermal HC networks and system optimization (e.g. peak load shaving)• Innovative solutions for geothermal energy use in HC networks• Geothermal cooling in the context of HC networks• Heat recycling and sector coupling solutions linked to geothermal energy use in HC networks• Strategies and measures to better integrate geothermal energy in HC networks in Europe	UTES, shallow/medium/deep geothermal, unconventional geothermal energy, geothermal heating, geothermal cooling, district heating/cooling network, exergy analyses, system integration

2.3 Dissemination fees support for papers in a special issue of the journal “Renewable Energy” related to CA18219

Our COST Action is represented in the board of guest editors related to the special issue “Use of geothermal energy in heating and cooling networks: Opportunities and challenges towards a widespread implementation”, which **opened on 5 July and will close on 30 September 2024**.

CA18219 will offer publication fee support to a limited number of articles prepared inside the Action network in case of **acceptance before 14 April 2024**. If you are interested to apply for publication fee support, please contact CA18219@geosphere.at. Please note that you are obliged to follow the COST rules as stated in the [attached guideline](#) in order to be eligible for publication fee support by our COST Action.

¹ For more information please visit: <https://projects-gba.geologie.ac.at/index.php/s/QX8mHNFUvjjV13j>

For more information on the special issue, please see: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/renewable-energy/about/call-for-papers#use-of-geothermal-energy-in-heating-and-cooling-networks-opportunities-and-challenges-towards-a-widespread-implementation>

3 ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA OF GRANTS OFFERED

3.1 Eligibility criteria

Please note that all Grants offered must be in line with the [COST Annotated Rules](#). In addition, CA18219 Geothermal-DHC requests additional eligibility rules on approval by the Management Committee. For more details, please see the table below.

A [Grant Awarding Committee](#) is entitled to propose changes to the content and extent of a Grant applied based on the application submitted.

Table 3: Summary of eligibility rules for Grants offered by CA18219 Geothermal-DHC

Grant type	COST general rules	CA18219 specific rules
Virtual Mobility Grant (VM Grant)	A2-1.1 Mobility of researchers in COST Annotated Rules	Optional caps on maximum Grants as stated in Table 1 or upon decision by the Grant Awarding Committee
ITC Conference Grant Dissemination Conference Grant	A2-1.1 Mobility of researchers in COST Annotated Rules Up to EUR 2 000,00 per grant for face-to-face conferences OR EUR 500.00 for virtual conferences	None
Financial publication support	A2-1.1 Mobility of researchers in COST Annotated Rules	CA18219 Publication Strategy

3.2 Selection criteria

A Grant Awarding Committee will evaluate the received applications based on the following criteria:

- ✓ **Priority Calls:** Soundness of the proposed activities and expected impact on achievement of the expected outcomes;
- ✓ Expected impact on the objectives of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC and Grant Period 5 Goals according to the [Work and Budget Plan of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC](#);
- ✓ Appropriateness of the proposed work and budget plan;
- ✓ Support of COST and CA18219 Geothermal-DHC inclusiveness policies on gender balance and ITC member integration.

All applicants will be notified on the outcomes of their applications including a short justification of the decision.

4 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

4.1 Collection dates

The subsequent table lists the collection dates for each call. Grants can be started right after the formal approval via the [eCOST system](#).

Table 4: Collection dates for calls and grants organized in Period 4.

Call type	Collection date
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Geothermal-DHC priority calls (all types of Grants)	15-01-2024, 17:00 CET (call 1), follow-up calls may be put in place
Virtual Mobility Grant (VM Grant)	31-01-2024, 17:00 CET (call 1), follow-up calls may be put in place
ITC Conference Grant	Continuous collection until 01-03-2024 on availability of funds
Dissemination Conference Grant	Continuous collection until 01-03-2024 on availability of funds
Financial publication support	Continuous collection until 01-03-2024 on availability of funds

Additional calls may be organized upon decision of the Management Committee of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC.

4.2 Application procedure

For all Grants offered by CA18219 Geothermal-DHC, the following **general application steps** must be executed:

- ✓ Carefully read the Grant Awarding User guide, Nov 2021 (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/12/Grant-Awarding-userguide.pdf>)
- ✓ Elaborate your profile on [e-COST](#);

The subsequent Table 5 summarizes all Grant type specific application steps.

Grant type	Submission	Necessary documents & templates	Remarks
Sort Term Scientific Mission (STSM) – not available in this call	Via eCOST	Application form ; Budget and time plan including the planned start and end of your STSM Letter of Support (recommendation letter) from HOME Institution (1 page based on a <i>defined template</i>) Letter of Support (invitation letter) from the HOST Institution (1 page, based on a <i>defined template</i>) CV with the list of publications (1-2 pages)	If referring to a priority call please send application form and budget estimation in addition to CA18219@geologie.ac.at
Virtual Mobility Grant (VM Grant)	Via eCOST	Application form CV with the list of publications (1-2 pages)	
ITC Conference Grant	Via eCOST	Application form Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation Acceptance letter from the conference organisers A CV (including a list of publications – if applicable)	If referring to a priority call please send application form and budget estimation in addition to CA18219@geologie.ac.at
Dissemination Conference Grant			
Financial publication support	Online application form	Short abstract and proposed journal	



Applications to priority call grants

In case you apply to a priority call Grant, please refer to the call title in your application!

5 OBLIGATORY REPORTING AND DISSEMINATION REQUIREMENTS

All awardees of Grants are obliged to support the communication and dissemination activities of CA18219 Geothermal-DHC by:

- ✓ Providing the obligatory reports via the eCOST reporting system
- ✓ Contributing to a webinar series on the outcomes of the Grants offered (15 to 20 minutes oral presentation)
- ✓ Publishing a short report on the outcomes of the Grant at the CA18219 Geothermal-DHC website (www.geothermal-dhc.eu)
- ✓ All awardees are encouraged to publish the work supported via Grants at conferences and in scientific journals – successful Grant awardees have priority access to the CA18219 publication support Grant!

6 CONTACTS

- ✓ For any administrative question: CA18219@geosphere.at (Mrs. Anna-Katharina Bruestle)
- ✓ Concerning Virtual Mobility Grants: CA18219@geosphere.at (Mrs. Anna-Katharina Bruestle)
- ✓ Concerning ITC Conference Grants: rao.m.singh@ntnu.no (Mr. Martand Singh)
- ✓ Concerning Dissemination Conference Grants: v.gemeni@haee.gr (Mrs. Vasiliki Gemeni)
- ✓ Concerning Financial Publication Support: ktsagarakis@tuc.gr (Mr. Konstantinos Tsagarakis)