

CA17116-SPRINT Virtual Networking strategy

The Virtual Mobility Grant is a new instrument for COST Actions and the **SPRINT strategy should aim for its use by a maximum number of researchers possible, for each grant period. This means on one side to develop activities to promote VMG applications among the Action participants; on the other, to acquire the ability and structure to receive and manage them.** Concretely, the VNS Manager will liaise with the Communication Manager to advertise the VMG among Action Members and support the candidatures and VM offers for example through a dedicated web page in the SPRINT web site and with an e-mail campaign. The web page and emails should contain a clear description of the tool, the application process, the supporting documents (i.e. guidelines and application templates) and the reference person for inquiries.

The VNS grantee should support the VNS Manager to schedule calls for VMG, predispose the guidelines, evaluation criteria, evaluation grid and the evaluation process. The VNS grantee should launch the call, collect the VMG applications at the deadline, check them for administrative eligibility, forward them to the evaluation committee and communicate the awarded/rejected applications to candidates. The VNS grantee should then advise the VMG awarded researchers during both the implementation and reporting phases of the VMG. Each VMG should produce a report.

The strategy to coordinate the SPRINT Action online events relies on the capacity to transpose those in-presence events planned into the Action proposal and not realizable in presence, into virtual events fully exploitable by the target stakeholder, without losing the expected impact of the event. This means to select the most suitable kind of event (e.g. live-streaming workshop, registered seminar, on-line public debate) and technical platform (e.g. Zoom, Facebook) for the target stakeholder(s) (e.g. clinicians, patient associations).

In this process, **the overall SPRINT strategy should remain steady, meaning to acquire knowledge from basic and applied research for the development of clinical applications with ultimate benefit for patients.**

For each reporting period, the VNS grantee, after consultation with the WG leaders should support the MC to draft and approve a plan of on-line events. The plan should include the list of events, their host, the time-frame, the targeted audience.

For each event, VNS grantee should assist the event host to identify the most suitable virtual tools, accordingly to the technical needs and the principle of best value for money, in adherence to the GDPR requirements. While the host will draft an agenda, contact possible speakers/trainers, including invited speakers from IPC, the VNS grantee will oversee and promote the inclusion of ECI, an equilibrated ration of male:female speakers and an adequate representativeness of speakers from ITC. VNS grantee will assure that invitations are sent in time and that the event is properly disseminated through the most suitable channels for that specific event, in collaboration with the communication manager.

The VNS grantee should support the event host during both the implementation and reporting phases of the event. Each event should produce a report, including proof of attendances (e.g. participants logs).