

COST Action CA22160
Enhancing knowledge of BIOMolecular solutions for the well-being of European AQUAculture sector - BIOAQUA

Call for Paper Applications

The COST network BIOAQUA is pleased to announce the call for paper applications for 2026. Before applying, all candidates must read [the Annotated Rules for COST actions](#). Any updates to the official Annotated Rules take precedence over this document.

Only BIOAQUA members can apply to this internal call.

1. Scope

This internal call aims to support high-quality scientific manuscripts that contribute to the objectives of BIOAQUA. The call particularly welcomes papers that focus on biomolecular approaches for improving aquaculture sustainability, fish health and welfare, environmental monitoring, and technological innovations aligned with BIOAQUA Working Groups. The Action encourages interdisciplinary work and fosters collaboration among COST countries and international partners. Papers that incorporate cross-country collaborations, early-career investigators, gender balance, and novel methodologies are especially welcome.

2. Eligibility

In order to see their claim for dissemination and communication products being reimbursed, dissemination and communication products shall meet the general conditions described in annotated rules.

- All activities need to be carried out entirely within one Grant Period, which terminates 31/10/2026.
- Be supported by invoices dated within the Grant period
- Respect the non-for-profit principle
- Acknowledge COST and EU funding (See A3-3.2 Acknowledging COST and EU Funding in Annotated Rules for COST actions)
- Meet COST financial rules, **particularly in relation to minimum number of different countries / Action members involved (carefully revise Annotated Rules for COST actions).**

Please consult Annex 3 *Dissemination and communication products* in annotated rules for more information. See A3-3.1 *Eligible expense* & [the Annotated Rules for COST actions](#) for more details about what expenses are eligible as dissemination and communication products.

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3. Financial support

In **BIOAQUA**: The final amount of financial support is decided by the Action's Core Group based on the proposal of the Application Evaluation Committee, in turn based on the request of the applicant.

4. Period of Application

Submission deadline: 15 September 2026, 23:59 CET

Notification of outcome: By 15 October 2026

Grant period ends: 31 October 2026 (all expenses and outputs must be invoiced by this date)

5. Application Procedure

Applicants must send:

- A completed application form via the link: <https://forms.office.com/e/42adAdqfg5>
- A draft manuscript (can be under review but must be unpublished at the time of submission)
- A Motivation letter (max 1 page) explaining the relevance of the work to BIOAQUA
- A Brief CV of the corresponding author and publication list
- A Statement of diversity and collaboration, including:
 - Number and affiliations of authors
 - Number of countries involved
 - Approximate age range and gender balance among authors
- A cost estimation (if requesting support for dissemination costs such as open access fees)

Documents should directly be sent to the Grant Holder Manager (Anja.Breistrand.Heskestad@vetinst.no), the Action Vice-chair Orkid Coskuner-Weber (weber@tau.edu.tr) and Chair Eva García (evagarcia@rtdi.eu), who will forward it to BIOAQUA's Core Group members. In this regard applicants are informed that their application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

6. Evaluation of Applications

All proposals will be evaluated by the Application Evaluation Committee, appointed by the Action Core Group. The evaluation considers scientific merit, feasibility, and alignment with the Action goals.

7. Report and payment

For releasing the corresponding payment, the applicant must send invoice to the Action Grant Holder Institute.

Norwegian Veterinary Institute

Postbox 64,

1431 Ås,

Norway

e-mail: anja.breistrand.heskestad@vetinst.no

Invoice must contain description of product and marked with COST BIOAQUA.

Questions, please contact Grand Holder Manager Anja B Heskestad, anja.breistrand.heskestad@vetinst.no

See A3-3.1 Eligible expense for proof of delivery, eligible expense and specific conditions.

The BIOAQUA Action provides partial or full reimbursement of costs associated with:

- Open access publication fees
- Professional layout or editorial assistance (non-profit rates)

In BIOAQUA: besides this, the applicant must send to the Action Vice-chair Orkid Coskuner-Weber (weber@tau.edu.tr) and Chair Eva García (evagarcia@rtdi.eu):

- A video or news with information relevant to the work that could be used in BIOAQUA's social media and website.