

Minutes

EVBRES COST Action - CA 17117

5th Action MC

Tuesday, August, 2021 from 14.00-16.00pm (European Central Time)

New Zoom link settled on 31th of Aug 2021 by Klara Brunnhuber:

ZOOM:

<https://elsevier.zoom.us/j/98763900684?pwd=QlNyTDhaYXpNYXUOWm5UanJyemRSOT09>

Meeting ID: 987 6390 0684

Passcode: 851009

- 1. Welcome to participants**
- 2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries or, if applicable, a quorum**

25 countries were present: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, United Kingdom

We did not have 26 countries, and therefore quorum was not achieved.

- 3. Adoption of agenda**

Agenda was not officially approved as quorum was not achieved. e-Vote will be sent later to the MC members.

- 4. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting (Online, 18 March 2021)**

Minutes was not approved as quorum was not achieved. e-Vote will be sent later to the MC members.

Matters arising of last meeting:

- Changes to EVBRES deliverables has been done (in process)
- EVBRES White Paper is available on the website: <https://evbres.eu/resources/publications/>; please put the Paper on good use, and let Caroline Blaine know how it has been used (carolineblaine@evbres.eu)
- Training School: The Training school activities have continued despite of COVID-19. Phase I with 100 participants (online) and Phase II with 17 participants have already been organised. The Group has been active in continuing to plan training activities, and the next Training School will be held on 16th and 23th of September, 2021 (full days via

Moodle learning platform). So far 10 students have registered for the course, more students are still welcome. In the future, the Training School will be run online only (asynchronous learning).

- New COST application deadline: 29th Oct 2021. No plans to apply for a new COST application mentioned by participants.
- COST Scientific Officer's presentation was held at the last MC Action meeting on 18 March, 2021 from 12.30-14.00pm (CET)– Please find the power points attached.

5. Update from the Action Chair

- a) Status of Action: Last Grant Period: 1 November 2021 to 16 October 2022 (the end day for EVBRES), participating COST countries, participating NNC/ IPC institutions and Specific Organisations.
 - Current Grant Period ending 31st October 2021 (extended from end of May)
 - 38 Participating COST countries
 - 3 Participating Near Neighbour Countries: Lebanon, Russian Federation, Palestine
 - 5 International Partner Countries: USA, Hong Kong SAR, Chile, China, Canada
- b) Update from STSM Coordinator
 - 3 STSMs conducted in Grant Period 3 so far (corrected to 4 after the session)
 - Ongoing STSM call, STSMs may start anytime from 25th June and end no later than 20th September 2021, see <https://evbres.eu/stsms/>
 - Please, contact Tatjana Zorcec to apply for or host an STSM: tzorcec@gmail.com
- c) Update about the upcoming 2nd EBR Conference
 - The conference will be held on 27-28 September 2021 (no conference fee)
 - At least 100 already registered
 - To be held online, free to attend for all
 - 23 presentations, 8 Keynote Speakers
 - Communications update by Caroline Blaine: Final Program and Abstract book of the conference will be ready in about 1 week;
 - More updated information about the conference can be found on the Conference website (<https://evbres.eu/ebconference/>)
 - Registration link for the conference can be shared with different networks to increase awareness and conference participants (<https://events.provisoevent.no/hvl/events/ebconference2/register>)
 - Twitter address has been developed to follow-up the conference <https://twitter.com/evbres>
 - EVBRES Newsletter is a central tool to disseminate EVBRES news. Please send a message to carolineblaine@evbres.eu if you (EVBRES COST members) have not received the Newsletter

6. Update from the Grant Holder, chair and Working Group Leaders: Plans for the last Grant Period and Action budget status + Follow-up of MoU objectives: Towards the final report. VOTE: regarding the budget for the 4th and last Grant Period

Budget for the Grand years 3 and 4 was shared (see more details in a powerpoint attached).

More detailed information about the budget for the 4th and last Grand Period is available as soon as the place of the next conference has been approved due to huge differences in daily allowance in different countries. No new items for the budget were proposed.

VOTE: The budget for the 4th Grand period was not approved as quorum was not achieved. e-Vote will be sent later to the MC members.

7. Implementation of COST policies on:

- a) Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI):

No major changes. Gender balance and involvement of Early Career Investigators:
Majority of women

- b) Inclusiveness and Excellence (see list of Inclusiveness Target Countries)

Inclusiveness and excellence: almost all COST countries represented

8. Scientific planning

- a) Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables)

- i. How to finalize the COST Action: EVBRES: No discussion. Changes in deliverables have been recently voted on but no official results yet available.

- b) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)

- i. The sustainability of EVBRES: To ensure long-term sustainability of EVBRES, EBR Strategy Team with 6 Core Participants will meet in London in the near future to discuss and finalise EBR Strategy, EBR Charter, and EBR Business Model. Registering as Non-profit organisation based in Norway. Consultation planned for spring 2022. In addition, the 1st General Assembly will be organised during 3rd EBR Conference (perhaps in Bratislava on 20-23 of June, 2022).

9. AOB

It has been proposed that Virtual Network costs should be included in the budget on 3rd Grand period. The costs need to be approved. The topic will be followed-up later by e-vote.

10. Location and date of next meeting:

It was proposed that the next in-person MC Action Meeting could be on 20 or 21 of June, 2022, aligned with the 3rd EBR Conference. Location and date will be decided as soon as the place for the next conference has been approved.

11. Summary of MC decisions

The number of the participants were re-calculated; it was 25. Therefore, no decisions taken during the MC Action Meeting.

12. Closing