



Evidence Synthesis in the Agri-Food Sector Scientific Conference – Call for Abstracts

We invite abstracts for the EU-NESA Scientific Conference on Evidence Synthesis in the Agri-Food Sector, which will bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders working with evidence synthesis across agri-food systems.

The conference aims to strengthen methodological quality, shared learning, and real-world impact of evidence synthesis in agri-food research, policy, and practice.

Dates: 21–23 April 2026 **Location: Čačak, Serbia**

Conference format

The conference will include:

- Thematic oral presentation sessions
- Poster sessions
- Dedicated time for discussion and networking
- Workshops

We welcome submissions relating to any form of evidence synthesis or its use, including preliminary/ongoing work, conceptual, methods-focused, practice-based, policy-oriented or interdisciplinary work.

This call is for

- early-career researchers
- applied researchers / practitioners
- policy stakeholders
- industry / NGO stakeholders
- members of the EU-NESA COST Action

working in or utilising the outputs of evidence synthesis in agri-food systems

Topics

We invite contributions addressing evidence synthesis in the agri-food sector, including but not limited to:

- Evidence synthesis methods and quality
- New and emerging approaches (including use of AI)
- Evidence-to-decision processes, and policy uptake
- Applications and case studies relating to evidence synthesis in agri-food systems
- Community building, capacity development and engagement around evidence synthesis

Abstract submission

Maximum length: 300 words (English)

You will need to indicate:

- your preferred presentation format: Oral presentation, Short oral presentation, Poster
- whether the presenting author is a Young Researcher and Innovator (under the age of 40)
- the country of the presenting author's host institution

Abstracts will be reviewed for relevance and clarity.

Deadline for abstract submission: **15 February 2026 (23:59 CET)**

Notification of acceptance: End of February 2026

Workshop submission

We also invite proposals for interactive workshops, for example on:

- Guidelines and good practice for evidence synthesis
- Methods training or capacity-building activities
- Cross-sector collaboration and stakeholder engagement

Maximum length of proposal 300 words (English)

Workshops should be designed to encourage participation, discussion, and shared learning and should be designed to last 1.5 - 2 hours.

Deadline for workshop proposals: **15 February 2026 (23:59 CET)**

Notification of acceptance: End of February 2026

Submit your presentation abstract or workshop proposal here: [EU-NESA Scientific Conference 2026 – Abstract & Workshop Submissions – Fill out form](#)

Funding and participation

Limited COST funding to support participation will be available, in line with COST rules and eligibility criteria.*

Information on funding options will be provided via the submission form.

We look forward to your contributions and to welcoming you to Čačak in April 2026.

This conference is funded by EU-NESA, COST Action CA23107, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

COST is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

* COST funding to support participation is available to eligible participants affiliated with institutions or organisations in COST Member Countries and Near Neighbour Countries, or other criteria in accordance with COST rules. To be eligible participants must be registered members of the EU NESA COST Action and have an active role in the conference (eg. oral or poster presentation, workshop contribution or other recognised contribution to Action activities).

Where funding is limited, it will be prioritised according to COST and EU-NESA priorities, which include the following criteria: participants based in Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs); Young Researchers and Innovators (YRIs); gender balance; relevance of work to the Action objectives; geographic balance of participants; active membership of EU-NESA and its activities. To join an Action Working Group, please register here:

<https://www.cost.eu/actions/ca23107/#tabs+Name:Working%20Groups%20and%20Membership>