



Call for MENTORS
RNY Mentoring Program Team

March 2021



COST Action CA 18123 Rural NEET Youth Network: Modelling the risks underlying rural NEETs social exclusion

Call to participate as Mentor in the RNY Mentoring Program Team

COST Action 18213 – Rural NEET Youths Network is calling for mentors to support researchers in RNYN mentoring scheme. Bahanur Nasya and Paul Flynn will manage the mentoring scheme, support you with your tasks and create opportunities for exchange.

The mentoring scheme consists of an international 1-year mentoring scheme for ECI who completed their PhD in the previous 8 years or PhD students. The mentoring scheme is going to be delivered in the middle of the Action. The program will be dedicated to research project development in the area of rural NEETs as well as in relevant related topics. The mentors will work together with mentees over a period of a year.

Your mentoring duties will involve:

- Preparing and managing the call for mentees (from publication to selection of mentees);
- Supervise a group of mentees in research development;
- Carry out activities to support the mentees in research development (exchange, online or face-to-face meetings, workshops);
- To give inputs (webinars, feedback sessions,) for the development process;
- To help with reporting of the supervised mentees progress to the Core Group of the Action.

All these activities are going to be supported by the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Action, in accordance to CA 18213 manual of norms and procedures.

We encourage all members of the Action to submit proposals for the RNYN mentors call. However, we strongly encourage candidates who correspond to the following criteria:

- Women
- To represent an ITC in the Action

Submissions from candidates are expected until the 14th of April of 2021.

To submit your proposal, please fill in the following form at this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKD7y0cwypwVontP6nTe4enjl_l4m_uZvFgsF-5vC67oLdBA/viewform

What is RNY Mentoring program?

The RNYN work plan will be produced by different working groups, but the mentoring program is a cross working group collaboration is aimed. In the long run, RNYN's scientific impact will lead to the creation of a rural NEETs' observatory, integrating ECI in a broad multidisciplinary community and strengthening the COST Inclusiveness Policy. Long-term socio-economic impact is expected to be translated into (in)ternational legislation to tackle rural NEETs' needs and promote sectorial innovations. RNYN is a timely proposal by creating networks/platforms to organize findings, connect critical mass dealing with rural NEETs and build up research capacity. It is also socially relevant, by aiming at informing policies and on-the-ground practices.

To reach the goals, the action board is conducting a Mentoring program in the second and third year of the project. The aim is to capture relevant topics for the rural area and support young researchers to set up research proposals, which can help the local development of NEET challenges.

What is the RNY Mentoring program goal?

The mentoring scheme aims to support Early Career Investigators (ECI), i.e. researchers up to 8 years after their PhD completion) as well as PhD students in developing research proposals on Rural NEETs related topics. Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) mentors and mentees participation in the mentoring scheme will be given priority. ITC countries consist of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and the Republic of Serbia.

Why a RNY Mentoring program?

Training opportunities in COST Actions are excellent ways of disseminating knowledge developed within the Actions to targeted groups and/or building capacity in highly innovative topic or method. CA 18213 has proposed a one-year mentoring program for ECI, to be repeated in years 2 and 3 of the Action, to achieve this goal. We uphold several reasons for developing a mentoring scheme dedicated to ECI and PhD students in RNYN.

Overview of the RNY Mentoring program Team tasks:

(1) Call for mentors: RNYN opens up one call for mentors within the Action members network. The call will seek to involve groups of, at least, 4 mentors who are grouped around one major theme. The theme should wide enough to accommodate several mentees interests/proposals. The mentors group proposes one theme for year 1 or for year 2. A form is provided by the mentoring team management team in the Acton website for submission. In case groups of mentors submitting proposals is superior to the number of editions, the mentoring scheme managing team will set up an assessment process.

(2) Call for mentees: based on the selected topics suggested by the mentors, the management team opens up a call for mentees within and outside the Action. Two calls will be open, one in January 2021 for the first mentoring scheme edition, and a second one in January 2022, for a second mentoring scheme edition. The call is organized and set up by the Mentoring Program Coordinator, based on a template approved by the MC. The call remains open for 30 days in eCOST.

The Mentoring Programme process:

1) First stage

- recruit mentors
- elaborating the workplan and mentoring plan, ingredients of the research proposal
- mentors' meetings for exchange

2) Second stage

- recruit mentees
- matching process, bring mentor and mentee together
- exchange workshops (mentors, mentees,)
- mentee meeting/feedback sessions
- finalising the research proposal

More info on training schools: Please check COST Vademecum (Section 6, Training Schools p. 29 and 30)

Useful link: <https://www.rnyobservatory.eu>

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