





# COST Action CA20106 ITC (Inclusiveness Target Country): Call for Conference Grants

**SEAWHEAT** is pleased to announce the call for ITC grant applications. The call is **open all year** round.

The earliest date for the submission of applications is 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2023. The conference to be attended by the successful applicants must be held by 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2023.

# ITC CONFERENCE GRANTS: WHAT ARE THEY?

ITC Conference Grants consist of financial support for Young Researchers and Innovators affiliated to an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbor Country for their participation in high-level conferences fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action. The grants:

- Serve COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.
- Support Young Researchers and Innovators affiliated to a legal entity in Inclusiveness Target Countries / Near Neighbor Countries to establish a strong network of researchers and increase their visibility in the scientific community through work and knowledge sharing.
- Contribute to increasing visibility of the Action.
- Benefit the recipients by supporting their attendance at a conference where they can present their work (poster/oral presentation) and establish new contacts for future collaborations.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

- Conference Grants are exclusively reserved to PhD students, PhD candidates, and Young Researchers (less than 40 years old) with a primary affiliation to an institution located in an <u>Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC)</u> participating in our COST Action SEAWHEAT (CA20106). A list of countries that have joined our Action is available <u>here</u>.
- The applicants must produce an oral/poster presentation at the chosen conference and be listed in the official event/conference program. The main subject of the approved conference's oral presentation/poster presentation must be among the Action topics and acknowledge COST's sponsorship (see <u>visual identify rules here</u>).
- The participation of each applicant must be pre-approved by the Action Management Committee.
- The conference must take place by the 15 of August 2023
- Detailed information can be found in Cost's Actions Annotated Rules.

#### HOW TO APPLY

• All applications must be submitted directly through the e-COST system. If you do not have an e-COST account yet, please create one here.







- Within e-COST, you will need to select the grant from the page 'Apply for new grant' and select ITC conference grant.
- After encoding the Grant application form by filling all above-mentioned sections, the applicant also needs to upload the actual application template completed which shall be previously downloaded from the application page.

You will have to upload additional supporting documentation as follows:

- o ITC Conference Grant application form (through the system based on e-COST template).
- o CV (including a list of academic publications, if any).
- o Short description of your involvement in our COST Action.
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers' (confirming either your speaking slot or your poster presentation).
- o A copy of the abstract or poster submitted to the conference.
- o If available at the time of application, please include a copy of the conference agenda.

## SELECTION PROCEDURE

In addition to the formal eligibility criteria detailed above, all applications will be evaluated against the following criteria of scientific merit:

- Does the conference (or topic of the panel, etc.) fall within the mandate of COST Action SEAWHEAT?
- Is the topic of the candidate's presentation within the mandate of COST Action SEAWHEAT and will it likely make a significant contribution to the debates within the Action?
- Is the proposal internally coherent, logical, and with a clearly discernible structure?
- Is the presentation likely to make a significant contribution to the candidate's scientific and professional development?
- PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO APPLY FOR THIS GRANT AT A CONFERENCE ORGANISED OR CO-ORGANIZED BY THE COST ACTION.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A Conference Grant is a fixed financial contribution that considers the applicant's budget request and the application evaluation by the delegated reviewers. A Conference Grant contributes to the selected recipient's overall travel, accommodation, and meal expenses. It does not necessarily cover all the expenses related to participating in a given conference.

The calculation of the financial contribution for each Conference Grant must respect the following criteria:

- Up to a maximum of € 2 000 in total for each successful applicant.
- Up to a maximum of € 160 per day is reimbursable for accommodation and meal expenses.
- Up to a maximum of € 500 can be granted for the conference as a contribution to expenses incurred by the grant recipient







• In addition, when the hosting institution supports meal and accommodation expenses as part of the provisions offered in their conference package, such costs must be deducted from the grant. Documentary evidence of the conference fee must be provided by the applicant and submitted with other relevant administrative documents.

# RECEIVING YOUR GRANT

If you have been selected as an ITC conference grant recipient, you will receive your grant **after** the conference. The e-COST system will automatically ask you to submit a Scientific Report, which you must ide within **30 days** after the conference has ended. After the Scientific Report has been approved, you will receive the reimbursement as per the COST financial reimbursement deadline.

In addition, you will be kindly asked to describe your conference experience at the next Management Committee meeting or to write a short blog entry for our website (example here). If possible, please ask someone to take a picture of you during your presentation so that we can showcase your involvement on our website and in our newsletter communication and dissemination activities (with your prior consent, of course).

Further details and questions are to be addressed to the Grant Awarding Coordinator, Dr. Olympia Nisiforou (olympia.nisiforou@cut.ac.cy)