REMINDNET opens the Call for ITC Conference Grants

These calls are based upon the work performed within COST Action CA22138 - Recovery of Mining District Network (REMINDNET), supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

ITC Conference Grants provide financial support for Young Researchers and Innovators affiliated in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country for their participation in high-level conferences. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (poster/oral presentation) at a conference and can establish new contacts for future collaborations.

ITC list: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Türkiye and Ukraine

NNC list: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Faroe Islands, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia

The ITC Conference Grant is a financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application by the Core Group. The Conference Grants do not necessarily cover all of the expenses related to participating in a given conference. The Conference Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the selected grantee.

Deadline for applications

August 16ᵗʰ 2024 – the applicant can start the ITC Conference Grants from the end of August 2024

Application Procedure

Note: An applicant must have a profile on the e-COST platform. After that, it is necessary to follow the steps detailed below:

➢ Complete and submit the online application form that you can find at the e-COST platform [Grant applications section] (Go to Grant applications -> Apply for grant, and choose the appropriate grant).
➢ The documents you will need include:
  ● Title of the presentation
  ● Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period, i.e., no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods) and venue
  ● Budget requested
  ● Attendance type (face to face or virtual)
  ● Conference country and an url

- ➢ Necessary documents to be uploaded to e-COST:
    - ● Application form describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career. The application template can be found [here](#)
    - ● Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral presentation
    - ● Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organisers
    - ● Short CV (max. 2 pages, Europass CV https://europass.europa.eu/en/create-europass-cv)
    - ● Recommendation letter from a senior researcher (only for PhD students and research assistants)

Detailed instructions on how to submit your application can be found in the [Grant Awarding user guide](#).

Eligibility Conditions

The following criteria must be met:

- ➢ The applicant must be a Young Researcher and Innovator (i.e. anyone under the age of 40) with a primary affiliation in an institution located in a participating ITC or NNC.
- ➢ The applicant must make an oral/poster presentation at the conference.
- ➢ The applicant must be listed in the official event/conference programme.

Financial Contribution

The ITC Conference Grant is paid in the form of a grant. The maximum grant amount is 2000 EUR for face-to-face conferences and 500 EUR for virtual conferences.

Evaluation of Applications

- ➢ The application will be assessed by the Grant Awarding Coordinator (Tansel Dogan) and the Core Group against the perceived contribution that the participation will make against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The applicant will be formally notified of the outcome of their grant application by the Grant Holder Manager no more than 15 days after the application was received.

Evaluation Criteria

- ➢ The ITC Conference Grant serves for the exchange and acquisition of know-how
- ➢ Usefulness of the selected conference to help in order to develop the career of the applicant;
- ➢ Scientific quality of the abstract submitted;
- ➢ Involvement of the candidate in the COST Action CA22138
- ➢ Benefit for the COST Action CA22138
- ➢ The proposed budget must be reasonable
- ➢ Geographical distribution of applicants across the ITC Conference Grant
- ➢ Gender balance across the ITC Conference Grant

Final Report of ITC Conference Grant

After the ITC Conference activity is finished, the grantee is required to submit a short scientific report via e-COST until **Tuesday 15 October 2024**, otherwise the grant will be effectively cancelled.

Grants are paid by the Grant Holder after the completion of the activity and approval of all required report/documentation.

Please note that the reimbursement of ITC Conference grantees will be done after the activity is over and the final report is submitted by the grantee. Exceptions to this rule cannot be granted.

Please note that COST can request additional information to substantiate the information contained within the documents submitted by ITC Conference Grant applicants.

Contacts

1. Grant Awarding Coordinator – Tansel Dogan tansel.dogan@thga.de (questions related to the application procedure and organization)
2. Action Chair / Vice Chair – Jindřich Šancer jindrich.sancer@vsb.cz / Stefan Möllerherm Stefan.Moellerherm@thga.de (questions related to the REMINDNET objectives)
3. Action Grant Holder Manager – Eva Kluzova eva.kluzova@vsb.cz (questions related to the e-COST, Grant Letter and financial matters)