ITC CONFERENCE GRANTS
DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE GRANTS
&
YRI CONFERENCE GRANTS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

→ Scope of conference grants organised through a Grant Awarding Process

- An **ITC Conference Grant** provides financial support for an oral presentation of the own work within the scope of the Action, given by the ENEOLI COST Action Participant affiliated to a legal entity located in an Inclusiveness Target Country or Near Neighbour Country in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party. The purpose of this grant is to increase the visibility of the Action Participant in the research community through sharing their work and establishing new contacts for future collaborations. The grant also serves COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy and can contribute to increasing visibility of the Action (AR, A2-1.2.1).
- A **Dissemination Conference Grant** provides financial support for an oral presentation of the work of the ENEOLI COST Action and its Working Groups in high-level conferences fully organized by a third party. The objective of this grant is to increase visibility of the Action in the research community, attract additional participants and stakeholders and disseminate the ENEOLI COST Action results to relevant end-users (AR, A2-1.2.2).
- A YRI **Conference Grant** provides financial support for a presentation (poster or oral) of their own work within the scope of the ENEOLI COST Action, given by a Young Researcher and Innovator in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party. The purpose of this grant is to increase the visibility of Young Researchers and Innovators in the research community through sharing their work and to establish new contacts for future collaborations. This grant also serves COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy and can contribute to increasing visibility of the Action. (AR, A2-1.2.3).

→ **Eligibility criteria**

- The ITC Conference Grant Applicant must be the ENEOLI COST Action participant affiliated (AR, 4.1.1.1.1) to a legal entity located in the Inclusiveness Target Country or in a COST Near Neighbour Country (AR, A2-1.2.1).
- The Dissemination Conference Applicant must be the ENEOLI COST Action participant affiliated (AR, 4.1.1.1.1) to a legal entity located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country, in a COST Near Neighbour Country or in a European RTD (AR, 6.4).
- The YRI Conference Grant Applicant is a Young Researcher or Innovator (< 40 years old), actively participating in the ENEOLI COST Action and affiliated (AR, 4.1.1.1.1) to a legal entity located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or in a COST Near Neighbour Country (AR, 6.4).
- The Applicant must upload their CV to their e-COST profile.
- Each Applicant may submit only one application for a Conference Grant per Grant Period.

→ **Duration**

- The duration of attendance at the conference should not overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods. For the active Grant Period, eligible conferences are those that begin on or after the 1st of January 2027 and finish before the 31st August 2027. The Applicant must indicate in the application form the duration of the conference, not the length of the stay.
- During this Grant Period, the Applicant can apply at any time until the 15th of June 2027, subject to budget availability. Applications will be evaluated following three submission deadlines:

  ✔ 15th of December 2026;

  ✔ 15th of March 2027;

  ✔ 15th of June 2027.

→ **Funding**

- Financial support is awarded to individuals and can be up to EUR 2 500,00 per grant for face-to-face conferences or EUR 500,00 for online conferences per grant.
- The funding is not intended to cover employment costs, but provides a contribution for travelling, accommodation and subsistence expenses, the registration fee and overall effort (AR, A2-3).
- The budget requested should be calculated against the actual number of days of attendance at the conference. The Participant may arrive on the day before the event commences and leave one day after the conference finishes.
- The decision on the amount of the grant is based on the Applicant's proposal and will reflect the duration and location of the conference and the actual conference fee.
- Once the conference has ended and the required and submitted report and documentation (AR, A2-2.3) are approved, the awarded grant is paid by the Grant Holder Institution.

II. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

→ **Submission of an application**

- Having an account at e-COST and having read Annex 2 of the Annotated Rules for COST Actions and the Grant Awarding User Guide beforehand, the Applicant shall submit the application online via e-COST using the dedicated forms available.

→ **Information to be filled in e-COST:**

- Title of the presentation (in the language of the presentation);
- Conference title, start and end dates of the event (within the active Grant Period) and country;

- Budget requested;
- Attendance type (face to face or online).

→ **Files to be uploaded to e-COST:**

- Application form describing:
  - ✔ for ITC and YRI Conference Grants: relevance of the conference topic to the Action and motivation describing the potential for impact on the Applicant's career;
  - ✔ for Dissemination Conference Grants: alignment with the Science Communication Plan adopted by the ENEOLI COST Action and expected impact on the ENEOLI COST Action.
- Copy of the abstract of the approved oral presentation (or poster for YRI Conferences), which has to be accepted at the conference in a double-blind reviewing process. Alternatively, the Applicant may be an invited speaker at the conference, without being funded by the congress organisers.
- Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organisers.
- Preliminary budget plan specifying expected expenditures (Word or Excel file with an overview of planned expenses).

III. EVALUATION PROCEDURE

→ **Evaluation criteria**

- Submitted applications are reviewed by the Grant Awarding Coordinator to verify the Applicants' eligibility and ensure that all required documents have been submitted.
- Applications respecting the requirement will be evaluated by the Grant Awarding Coordinator in consultation and approval of the Core Group, acting under the authority delegated by the Management Committee.

- Concerning the proposal, the following criteria will be adopted:
  - ✔ alignment with the overall goals of the ENEOLI COST Action, with clear reference to Working Group objectives and activities;
  - ✔ clear identification of potential outcomes such as dissemination of research results connected to the ENEOLI COST Action, publications, and future collaborations;
  - ✔ benefits for the Applicant, such as feedback on own research, learning opportunity through participation in talks, round table discussions, etc., and expansion of professional network;
  - ✔ benefits for the Applicant's home institution, such as positive impact in terms of internationalization and with regard to professional qualifications and competencies of their employee.

Moreover, age, gender, and geography will be taken in due consideration, according to the COST excellence and inclusiveness policy (AR, I.1.1.).

→ **Grant Letter**

- As soon as the Grant application is submitted, the Grant Awarding Coordinator is notified. The Applicant, Action Chair and Vice Chair also receive a copy of the notification.
- Upon approval of the application, the Grantee receives a grant letter from the Grant Holder, stating the approved amount and the conditions for receiving the grant.
- In case of rejection, the Applicant receives an adequate justification.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE

- An ITC Conference Grant Grantee delivers the approved oral presentation which corresponds to the overall goals of the ENEOLI COST Action. The presentation should acknowledge that the project has received the ENEOLI COST Action grant's funding. The presentation template is available here.

- A Dissemination Conference Grant Grantee delivers the approved oral presentation, actively networks with other participants and promotes the ENEOLI COST Action to the potential stakeholders. The presentation should acknowledge that the project has received the ENEOLI COST Action grant's funding. The presentation template is available here.
- A YRI Conference Grant Grantee delivers the approved (oral or poster) presentation, which corresponds to the overall goals of the ENEOLI COST Action. The presentation should acknowledge that the project has received the ENEOLI COST Action grant's funding. Presentation and poster templates are available here.
- Following the conference, the Grantee must submit the required report and supporting documentation via e-COST for review within 30 days of the end date of the activity or, for conferences held in August, by the 10th of September at the latest.
  - ✔ For ITC Conference Grants the required documentation is: 1. report on the outcome of the presentation of the accepted contribution, in terms of Grantee's visibility, including the establishment of new contacts for future collaborations, 2. the certificate of attendance, 3. the programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the Grantee, 4. a copy of the given oral presentation, 5. a short text and photograph documenting the participation at the conference, providing the basis for the Action's website post informing of the grant awarded.
  - ✔ For Dissemination Conference Grants the required documentation is: 1. report on the outcome of the presentation, contacts made and potential for future collaborations, 2. the certificate of attendance, 3. the programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the Grantee, 4. a copy of the given oral presentation, 5. a short text and photograph documenting the participation at the conference, providing the basis for the Action's website post informing of the grant awarded.

- ✔ For YRI conference Grants the required documentation is: 1. report on the outcome of the presentation of the accepted contribution, in terms of Grantee's visibility, including the establishment of new contacts for future collaborations, 2. the certificate of attendance, 3. the programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster) of the Grantee, 4. a copy of the given presentation (oral or poster), 5. a short text and photograph documenting the participation at the conference, providing the basis for the Action's website post informing of the grant awarded.

- The Grantee claims the payment by submitting the report via e-COST.
- The Grant Awarding Coordinator is notified as soon as the Grantee submits the report and must verify the validity and content of the report. If the report is approved, the application status changes to *Report Approved* and the Grant Holder Manager is notified that the grant can be paid.
- If the report is rejected, the Grantee receives a justification and is asked to revise and resubmit the report.

V. MORE INFORMATION AND DETAILS

- For more information on the Conference Grants, please see Annex 2 in the Annotated Rules for Cost Actions.
- For more information on the application procedure, please consult the Grant Awarding User Guide.
- For more information about displaying relevant ENEOLI COST Action logos and funding statements on all the communication materials, such as presentations and papers, please contact our Science Communication Coordinator (onorina.botezat@gmail.com).