



COST Action CA18215 | China in Europe Research Network (CHERN)

June 2022

ITC Conference Grants

What is a ITC Conference Grant?

The Conference Grants support young researchers and innovators from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC¹) and Near Neighbour Countries (NNC²) for their participation in high-level conferences. Aligned with the objectives of CHERN-CA18215 (c.f. [Memorandum of Understanding](#)), the goal is to foster the career development of junior scholars (PhD students, PhD candidates, and individuals within 8 years from the date they obtained their PhD) through networking, training and integration into ongoing research collaborations. Their participation should also contribute to the visibility of the Action.

Eligibility

The call is open to all social science disciplines and research fields but closely related to the CHERN objectives. Junior scholars, as defined above and employed in an institution located in an ITC, are eligible to apply under the following conditions:

- The applicant must be accepted for an oral/poster presentation at the conference in question; at the time of this grant application, this can be confirmed by the accepted abstract.
- The applicant must be listed in the official conference programme; at the time of this grant application, this can be confirmed by an acceptance letter from the conference.
- The main subject of the conference (paper) presentation must relate to the topic of the Action and preferably be linked to the working group themes of the [CHERN Action](#).
- The conference presentation (e.g. publications/ conference proceedings, PowerPoints, etc.) must acknowledge COST and CHERN according to the relevant guidelines. Contact CHERN's Science Communication Manager for instructions – chernscmanager@gmail.com.

¹ [List of ITCs](#) (p.1)

² [List of NNCs](#) (p.2)

What is covered by the ITC Conference Grant ?

The grant is a fixed financial contribution that takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application by the delegated person(s)³. The maximum grant for face-to-face conferences is 2000 Euro and for virtual conferences 500 Euro. ITC Conference Grants do not necessarily cover all the expenses related to participating in a given conference. The ITC Conference Grant is a contribution for travelling, accommodation, and subsistence expenses, registration fees, scientific poster printing, and overall effort. For detailed funding rules, please consult Annex 2 of the [COST Annotated Rules](#)).

Application

Applications shall be submitted to the E-COST platform and applicants must upload their CVs to their e-COST profile. And the following information needs to be filled in:

- Title of the presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period), and country
- Budget requested
- Attendance Type (face to face or virtual)

The following documents need to be uploaded to E-COST:

- Application form (template available in E-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers

Evaluation and selection

Applications will be assessed by an evaluation panel i.e. ITC Grant Manager and the WG leaders, through the mandate of the Action MC. The evaluation is based on the following criteria:

- Scientific quality.
- Contribution of the participation to the grantee's career development.
- Contribution of the participation to CHERN in achieving its objectives.

Timeline:

- Applications can be submitted at least 6 weeks before the conference.
- The decision will be communicated to the applicant within 3 weeks.

³ i.e. ITC Grant Manager and the WG leaders

Claiming the ITC grant

The required report/documentation for claiming an **ITC Conference Grant** is:

- Report to the Action MC 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
- The certificate of attendance.
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster) of the grantee
- Copy of the given presentation (oral or poster)
- A short blog for the CHERN website (min. 2000-2500 characters space included)

Grants are paid after the completion of the activity and approval of all required documentation.

Contact

CHERN ITC Conference Grant Manager

Anna Lupina-Wegener

anna.lupina-wegener@heig-vd.ch

+41 (0) 76 81 16 53