



Conference Grants Call

COST Action GENOA (CA23121)

Conference attending between **1st July - 30th September 2026**

CALL DEADLINE: June 8th, 23:59 CEST

ANNOUNCEMENT DATE: four working days upon receipt of the applications (deadline: June 12th)

Adding to the continuous call for applications for **dissemination conference grant**, we now open the call for **5 ITC Conference Grants** (ITC = Inclusiveness Target Country) and **2 YRI Conference Grants** (YRI = Young Researcher and Innovator).

Dissemination conference grant provides a financial support to Action participants for their participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party, to present the Action, their activities, and results (oral presentation) and for developing new contacts and potential future collaborations.

ITC conference grant provides a financial support to applicants affiliated in an [Inclusiveness Target Country](#) / [Near Neighbour Country](#) for their participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (oral presentation) and can establish new contacts for future collaborations.

YRI conference grants aim for **young researchers** (< 40 years) who are active members of the Action, to attend important international conferences related to conservation biology and the scope of the Action.

In order to allow for early bird (< June 15) registration at the 7th European Conservation Genetics Meeting in August, a decision will be made before this deadline, if your application is submitted before June 8th (midnight).

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Both ITC and YRI Conference Grants are reserved for PhD students, PhD candidates, and Early Career Investigators; the **ITC Conference Grants** are exclusively reserved for those with a



primary affiliation in an institution located in an **Inclusiveness Target Country** participating in the Action.

The applicant is required to give an oral/poster presentation whose topic falls in the scope of the Action and shall acknowledge COST.

FUNDING

The maximum amount for **ITC grants is € 1,200** and for **YRI it is €1,250**. However, please note that the requested amount can be decreased as the Core Group will define the exact amount for each grant.

A grant can be used for travel, accommodation, subsistence, registration fees, and the printing of scientific posters.

No in advance payments are foreseen. Approved Grants will be paid to the grantee after the Core Group has approved the grantee's report and no later than 15 days from the end of Grant Period.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications are submitted through the e-COST website.

Step 1: Fill out the online form on [e-COST](#)

- Title of your presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period, i.e. no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods), and venue
- Budget requested
- Attendance type (in-person or virtual).

Step 2: Upload the required documents to [e-COST](#)

- **Application Form:** Use the provided template on e-COST to describe how your presentation falls within the scope of the Action.
- **Abstract:** A copy of the abstract for your accepted oral presentation.
- **Acceptance (or invitation) letter/email from the conference organisers.**
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV).**

For more detailed information, please refer to the [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- The evaluation of conference grant applications and selection of grantees is performed by the Action's Grant Awarding Coordinator and Grant Evaluation

Committee, on behalf of the Management Committee (MC) of GENOA COST action.

- The selection of applicants is based on the scientific relevance of the Conference Grant application, which must clearly fit in the Action's scientific objectives.

- The selection also takes into account the COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Young Researchers (under 40 years old) and broadening geographical inclusiveness.

Each proposal will be evaluated according to the following five criteria:

- **Connection to the objectives of GENOA** (as per the topical call) (40%)
- **Scientific quality of presentation** (25%)
- **Motivation:** good motivation for attending and, for YRI, potential for impact on the applicant's career (20%)
- **Relevance to COST policies:** promoting gender balance, enabling Young Researchers and broadening geographical inclusiveness (15%).

Notification about the call's results

Successful STSM Grant Applicants will be informed by an email automatically generated by the e-COST platform. **The results of the evaluation are expected to be known by June 12th.**

If you have any questions related to the Grant and the application procedure, please contact GENOA Grant Awarding Coordinator Joachim Mergeay (email: joachim.mergeay@inbo.be) or WG5 leader Belma Kalamujić Stroil (genoa.costaction@gmail.com).

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