

Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grants COST Action CA15118

1st Call for ITC Grants Applications

COST Action CA15118 "FoodMC" is a project to promote discussion and networking on the use of in-silico and mathematical models in food science and industry, at the European level. A new networking tool has been recently introduced, targeted at Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs): ITC Conference Grants are funding that can be used by PhD students and researchers from participating ITC countries to participate to international conferences. The collection date for this call is **December 15th, 2017**.

Who can apply?

PhD students and Early Career Investigators (post-doctoral or permanent researchers with less than 7 years of experience after obtaining their PhD), from the public sector or industry, **who are members of an institution in a participating ITC Country**. Participating ITC countries in our Action are: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia, and Turkey.

What can be funded?

The grant is a lump sum that can be used to cover travel, accommodation, meal expenses, and conference fees. When asking for a grant amount, the applicant can claim a daily rate for accommodation and meals (dependent on the country of destination, **up to 160 €/day**, see table at the end of this document), and **up to 500 € to cover conference fees. Including the costs for travel, the total amount of a single grant cannot exceed 2,500 €**. Note that the grant is not meant to cover any and all participant's costs, but rather act as a support.

What are the requirements?

The applicant **must make an oral/poster presentation at the conference in question** and must be listed in the official event/conference programme. The main subject of the oral presentation / poster presentation / speech at the approved conference must be on the topic of the Action and must acknowledge COST. Attendance at European conferences is preferred. However, conferences held elsewhere can also be considered. In addition, the conference must end **before April 30th, 2018**.

What are the criteria for the selection process?

Scientific interest of the candidate's work (to be presented at the chosen conference) in the scope of COST Action FoodMC; cooperation with industrial partners.

After being selected: final report and supporting documents

Supporting documents. After the end of the conference, documentary evidence of the conference fee amount must be provided by the applicant.

Final report. After the end of the conference, the grantee is required to submit a 1-page scientific report to the Coordinator **no later than 30 days** after the end date of the conference, for approval. For the specific content of this report, please refer to the COST Vademecum. Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days will effectively cancel the grant. The Coordinator is responsible for approving the scientific report and informing the Grant Holder that the mission has been successfully accomplished. After receipt of the approval by email, the Grant Holder will execute the payment of the grant.

Please note that the reimbursement of grantees will be done **after** the mission is over and the final report and supporting documents are submitted by the participant. Exceptions to this rule cannot be granted. The final report will be uploaded to the FoodMC webpage.

How to apply

The collection date is **December 15th, 2017**. The proposals will be judged by the Core group of the Action. Successful candidates will be notified shortly after the collection date.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. All applicants must carefully read the funding rules detailed in Section 8 of the COST H2020 Vademecum. This document is available at: <http://www.cost.eu/participate> under **Relevant documents** in the menu to the right.
2. ITC Conference Grants applications can be made by clicking on the following link <http://e-services.cost.eu/conferencegrant> where you will be asked to create an e-COST account, or by logging into an already existing e-COST account and clicking on "ITC Conference Grants" from the menu available to the left. All applicants must have an e-COST profile complete with bank account information.
3. All applicants must complete, submit and download their ITC Conference Grant application from the e-COST system.
4. All applicants must send their submitted ITC Conference Grant application form and the relevant supporting documents to **Prof. Francesco Marra**, fmarra@unisa.it (Coordinator) for evaluation before the application submission deadline expires.
5. **Hence, the list of supporting documents to be submitted for the evaluation are:**
 - a. The submitted ITC Conference Grant application form including the budget (downloadable when the online application is submitted - see point 4 above);
 - b. A short C.V. including scientific degrees obtained (with dates), current position, previous work experience/positions, post-graduate courses and a list of academic publications – if applicable.
6. The application will then be assessed by the formally delegated person(s) in the committee against the perceived interest of the conference participation with regards to the scientific objectives outlined in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

7. The applicant will be formally notified of the outcome of their application by **Professor Francesco Marra**, fmarra@unisa.it (Coordinator). The applicant will receive an official invitation with a link to the official grant letter, which must be downloaded and sent to the Coordinator at fmarra@unisa.it before the conference begins, for archiving purposes.
8. Within 30 days from the end date of the conference, the successful applicant must submit a scientific report plus supporting documents to the Coordinator at fmarra@unisa.it
9. Failure to submit the scientific report and supporting documents within 30 days from the end date of the conference will effectively cancel the Grant. The report will be uploaded to the FoodMC homepage upon approval by the Committee.
10. Please note that COST can request additional information to substantiate the information contained within the documents submitted by applicants.

Coordinator

Francesco Marra

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List of Inclusiveness Target Countries

Geographical spread includes less research-intensive COST Member Countries. They are entitled **COST Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)** with current FoodMC members underlined: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

Country specific daily rates (flat rates) for STSMs in FoodMC

| <i>Destinations</i> | | <i>Maximum daily rate in EUR</i> | <i>Destinations</i> | | <i>Maximum daily rate in EUR</i> |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| AT | Austria | 130 | LT | Lithuania | 110 |
| BE | Belgium | 125 | LU | Luxembourg | 135 |
| BG | Bulgaria | 130 | LV | Latvia | 120 |
| HR | Croatia | 115 | MT | Malta | 115 |
| CY | Cyprus | 130 | ME | Montenegro | 125 |
| CZ | Czech Republic | 130 | MK | F.Y.R. of Macedonia | 150 |
| DK | Denmark | 150 | NL | The Netherlands | 145 |
| EE | Estonia | 110 | N | Norway | 160 |
| DE | Germany | 115 | PL | Poland | 125 |
| EL | Greece | 130 | PT | Portugal | 120 |
| ES | Spain | 120 | RO | Romania | 125 |
| FI | Finland | 140 | RS | Serbia | 130 |
| FR | France | 140 | SE | Sweden | 150 |
| HU | Hungary | 125 | CH | Switzerland | 160 |
| IS | Iceland | 140 | SI | Slovenia | 110 |
| IE | Ireland | 140 | SK | Slovakia | 120 |
| IL | Israel | 130 | TR | Turkey | 145 |
| IT | Italy | 135 | UK | United Kingdom | 160 |

