



A European Network to Leverage the Multi-Age Workforce (LeverAge) COST Action CA22120: GP 3 General Call

YRI & ITC Conference Grants

Europe faces one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century – an aging, age-diverse workforce. In response, many projects, including several other COST Actions, addressed aspects of work and/or aging. However, so far no Action has yet tackled the essential psychological and managerial aspects of work and aging. The LeverAge COST Action aims to expand science and practice on work and organizational practices for an age-diverse workforce, successful aging at work for workers of different demographics, knowledge transfer between generations, the integration of age-diverse workers at work, aging and technology at work, and late-careers and retirement.

YRI & ITC conference grants aim to support Action participants that are **Young Researchers or Innovators (YRIs) or Scholars from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)** in establishing a strong network and increasing their visibility in the research community through sharing their work and to gain knowledge, while also contributing to the visibility of the Action.

For more details on the YRI & ITC conference grants, please see “Annex 2” of the [Annotated Rules](#) and the [Grant Awarding Guide](#).

What kind of expenses are covered?

For the current grant period (1.11.2025 to 31.10.2026), COST Action LeverAge will award up to EUR 2500 per grant. The grant provides a contribution for conference registration fees, long-distance travel (101+ km), travel insurance, visa costs (if applicable), accommodation, subsistence (based on country daily allowance rates), and printing of a scientific poster (if relevant). No other expenses are reimbursed. Funding is subject to budget availability.

Double funding from multiple sources is not allowed. Moreover, overlapping or adjacent grants and events (meeting / training school) are considered special cases. For double funding and special cases, please check the [Event Claim Guidebook](#). For more info, kindly contact the Grant Holder Manager (Noura Al Mursi).

Who can apply?

Applicants must be engaged in an official research program as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or employee by or affiliated with an Institution or legal entity, that has within its remit a clear association with performing research. The conference can be held in any part of the world and must not be (co)organized by the COST Action.

For YRI Conference Grants: Any Action participant from [COST Full or Cooperating Member](#) countries or [Near Neighbor Countries](#), who is under the age of 40.

For ITC Conference Grants: Any Action participant from [COST ITC Member](#) countries or [Near Neighbor Countries](#), regardless of age.

When to apply?

Applications for GP2 may be sent in anytime before October 15, 2026. Applications will be collected for processing on the following dates: January 31, March 31, May 30, and July 31. Additional collection dates will be provided thereafter if there are funds remaining.

How to apply?

Applications should be submitted via the e-COST website: [YRI Grant Application Form](#) or [ITC Grant Application Form](#). To create an e-COST account and apply [register](#) here. You may then apply [here](#).

The grant application consists of:

- Project title
- Conference date and country (max. end date 31.10.2026)
- A detailed budget table, based on [country daily allowance rates](#). Only the following budget items are eligible: conference registration fees, long-distance travel (101+ km), travel insurance, visa costs (if applicable), accommodation and subsistence (based on country daily allowance rates), and printing of a scientific poster (if relevant). No other types of expenses are eligible. Double funding from multiple sources is not allowed.
- Relevance of the conference topic to the COST Action (max. 500 words)
- Motivation letter (max. 500 words, double-spaced), describing the potential impact of the conference participation on the applicant's career
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation
- Acceptance letter from the conference organizers
- CV of the applicant

Grant awarding criteria

All incoming grants will be evaluated by the grant awarding committee (consisting of the grant awarding officer and three further members of the Action's core group) based on the following criteria:

1. The applicant fulfills the eligibility criteria (see above)
2. Conference contribution addresses an essential psychological or managerial aspect of work and aging
3. No more than one conference grant by a single applicant per grant period
4. In line with the COST mission of enabling cross-border collaboration, the Action will only grant awards to fund participation in international conferences
5. Geographic diversity and gender balance will be taken into account
6. In case of conflicts of interest, for example, if a grant evaluation committee member is also a grant applicant for a given call, other member(s) of the Action leadership with no conflict of interest will step in as replacement(s) to ensure no conflict of interest in the grant awarding process

Reporting and claiming:

After the conference, make sure that the bank details logged into the e-COST system are correct before proceeding to the report submission.

Then, the grantee must submit a YRI Conference Report (using the COST [YRICG report template](#)) or an ITC Conference Report (using the COST [ITCG report template](#)), containing the outcome of the presentation in terms of the applicant's visibility or establishment of new contacts for future collaborations. The grantee must submit a certificate of attendance, the conference program or book of abstracts (indicating the presentation of the grantee), and a copy of the given presentation (oral or poster).

All documents must be uploaded to e-COST within 30 days of the activity's end. The grant will be paid only after approval of the report.