COST–ICT Domain: Call for Conference Grants for Early Stage Researchers

Deadline: 31 JANUARY 2011

Background:

As part of the COST strategy for Early Stage Researchers (ESR) the COST Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) has introduced a new support measure, the **Conference Grant for Early Stage Researchers**. The ICT Domain offers 3 supporting grants (max. 3000 Euro each) per year for ESRs to participate in an international conference outside of the COST Action activities (COST Strategy for Early Stage Researchers, COST doc. 295/09).

Conditions for Funding:

1. The definition of the term "Early Stage Researchers" is based on the time that elapses between the date of the PhD/Doctorate (or similar experience) and the date of involvement in the COST Action. If this time span is less than 8 years, a person fits the definition of an ESR. Periods of career leave, if any, are added to the 8 year time span. Note that PhD/Doctorate students are also eligible!
2. The applicant has to be part of a running COST Action within the ICT Domain (either as a Management Committee member or as a member of a Working Group/research team involved in the Action).
3. The conference under consideration should take place within 6 months from the Call deadline and not earlier than 1 December 2010 (start date).
4. The Grant can be used to cover travel and subsistence costs, conference fees, and the costs of conference workshops. The maximum amount an applicant can request is Euro 3.000.
5. In order to be eligible for this Grant, an accepted **oral** contribution to the conference under consideration (e.g. presentation, panel discussion, etc.) is required.
6. An Early Stage Researcher can – without exceptions – be funded only once under the *Conference Grant for Early Stage Researchers* scheme.

Application Procedure:

Within the ICT Domain there are three Calls for Conference Grants for Early Stage Researchers per year. The next application deadline is **31.01.2011**.

The application for the Grant must be sent via e-mail by the Chair of the Action's Management Committee to the COST Office (matteo.razzanelli@cost.eu), using the subject line:

'*ICT Call for Conference Grants January 2010 (Action [fill in with Action number])*'

Each Action can submit only one application per Call.
The application must contain the following information:

- Completed Application Form (see attachment)
- Short scientific CV
- Copy of Abstract/Paper Submitted to the Conference
- Proof of Acceptance of Abstract/Paper by the Conference

After an eligibility check by the COST Office, applications will be forwarded to the Domain Committee's Executive Group, which takes the final decision on behalf of the Domain Committee. Management Committee Chairs will then be informed by the COST Office about the outcome of the assessment, within 1 month of the application deadline.

Selection Criteria:

- What is the benefit of the conference for the current research of the ESR?
- How can the conference help to develop the career of the applicant?
- What is the benefit for the COST Action (if any)?

Administration:

1. The Grant is managed by the COST Office as a direct payment to the beneficiary (successful applicant) and is subject to COST reimbursement rules. The beneficiary will receive a Grant letter that must be signed and returned to the COST Office.
2. Within one month after attending the Conference, the beneficiary must provide the COST Office with a written report on his/her participation at the conference.

Questions regarding the application procedure may be addressed to Mr. Matteo Razzanelli — Junior Science Officer, COST Office (matteo.razzanelli@cost.eu).