Action CA23128 - Connecting Landscape Architecture Archives to enhance European landscape practice, research and education (ConnectLAA)

COST
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Call for Applications for ITC Conference Grant – 2025

Overview:

COST Action CA23128, "Connecting Landscape Architecture Archives to Enhance European Landscape Practice, Research, and Education (ConnectLAA)", aims to establish a collaborative network of researchers, practitioners, and heritage professionals to explore, connect, and utilize landscape architecture archives across Europe. By fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and knowledge sharing, ConnectLAA seeks to unlock the rich potential of these archives to inform contemporary landscape practice, research, and education.

The **ITC Conference Grant** supports PhD students and Early Career Investigators (ECIs) in presenting their research at high-level conferences not organized or co-organized by CA23128. The grant promotes visibility for ConnectLAA, in line with COST's Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

Grant details:

- **Number of ITC Grants available:** 1
- **Grant amount:**
  - Up to **EUR 800** for in-person conferences (including registration fees)
  - **EUR 500** for virtual conferences

- **Key dates:**
  - **Open of call:** April 18, 2025
  - **Deadline for application**: May 15, 2025
  - **Evaluation**: June 14, 2025
  - **Conference must take place by:** June 15 - September 15, 2025
  - **Reports submitted due:** October 15, 2025

Eligibility:

- Open to PhD students, postdoctoral fellows or ECIs affiliated with an institution located in an Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) [1], and an e-COST user. The oral presentation must be included in the official conference program and align with the CA23128 topics.
- Participation must be pre-approved by the CA23128 **Grant Awarding Committee**.
- European conferences are preferred, but conferences held elsewhere will also be considered.
- Active participants in CA23128 are strongly encouraged to apply for these grants.

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[1] The following countries are considered ITC: Bosnia-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.

Selection procedure:

In addition to the formal eligibility criteria listed above, all applications will be
assessed against the following criteria of scientific merit using the scale (1 - barely
meets, 2 - middle, 3 - strong alignment):

- Does the conference (and topic of the panel, etc.) fall within the remit of
  CA23128?
- Is the topic proposal within the remit of CA23128, and will it significantly
  contribute to the debates within the Action?
- Is the proposal internally consistent, logically argued, and clearly structured?
- Preference will be given to papers submitted to conferences with competitive
  peer review.

Application Process and Documentation:

1. Apply via the e-COST (https://e-services.cost.eu/user/login) system, ideally, at
   least 45 days before the conference start date. First-time users must create
   an account.

2. Under profile, choose "Apply for a grant".

3. Under "Presentations at conferences organized by third parties - Inclusiveness
   Target Countries Conference (ITCG), choose "Apply".

4. Complete the online application form, including:
   - Attendance Type (face-to-face or online).
   - COST Action number.
   - Title of the presentation.
   - Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period, i.e., no overlap
     across two consecutive Grant Periods), country and url.
   - Amount requested.
   - Bank account.

5. Upload required documents:
   - Grant application form (template available on e-COST). Describe the
     relevance of the conference topic to the CA23128 and provide a
     motivation statement detailing the potential impact on your career.
   - Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral presentation.
   - Acceptance (or invitation) letter from the conference organizer.
   - Conference Agenda (if available)
   - Short CV (including a list of academic publications if applicable).

Grant Payment & Reporting:

- ITC Conference Grant is a fixed financial contribution that considers the applicant's budget request but does not necessarily cover all costs. Applicants to ITC Conference Grants should not apply for different types of conference grants during this period.
- After the conference, grantees must submit a **Scientific Report** via e-COST within 30 days.
- Required documents:
    - Conference certificate of attendance.
    - Conference program or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the grantee.
    - Copy of presentation.
- Upon approval of the report, the grant is reimbursed.

<u>Further information and contacts:</u>

- **CA23128 (ConnectLAA) Website**: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23128/
- **Grant Awarding user guide:** https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf
- **Annotated Rules for COST Actions:** https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/02/COST-094-21-V2.0-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C.pdf
  Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) Conference Grants User Guide: https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2018/11/Inclusiveness-Target-Countries-Conference-Grants-userguide-V2-003-Oct-2018-1.pdf

- **Grant Awarding Coordinator**: Kinga Kimic (kinga_kimic@sggw.edu.pl)