This is a call for applications for ITC Conference Grant in the framework of the COST Action SAGA (CA17131), Grant Period 2 & 3. The call is open from 11 October, 2019 for conferences taking place before April 30, 2021 and has two collection dates:

- First collection date: February 15, 2020
  - For conferences before April 30, 2020
- Second collection date: February 15, 2021
  - For conferences before April 30, 2021

What is an ITC Conference Grant?
Conference Grants are aimed at supporting PhD students & Early Career Investigators (ECI, up to 8 years after PhD) from participating ITC in SAGA to attend international science & technology related conferences not specifically organised by SAGA.

Suggested Conferences

- Conference Methodology and Archaeometry (Zagreb, Croatia, 2 – 3 Dec 2019)
- Conference on Metrology for Archaeology & Cultural Heritage (Florence, Italy, 4 - 6 Dec 2019)
- ICAST 2020, 14, Conference on Archaeological Science and Technology (Rome, Italy, 5-6 Mar 2020)
- Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (Oxford, UK, 14 - 17 Apr 2020)
- EGU 2020 (Vienna, Austria, 3-8 May 2020)
- ISA 2020 (Lisbon, Portugal, 18-22 May 2020)
- World Archaeological Congress WAC-9 (Prague, Czech Republic, 5 – 10 Jul 2020)
- Gordon Research Conference: Integrating Multidisciplinary Approaches for Deeper Characterization, Interpretation and Preservation of Heritage (Les Diablerets, Switzerland, 12-17 Jul 2020)
- Castle Meeting 2020 (Trakošćan, Croatia, 23-29 Aug 2020)
- 26th EAA Annual Meeting (Budapest, Hungary, 26-30 Aug 2020)
- EGU 2021 (Vienna)
- ICAPA 2021: 15, Conference on Archaeometallurgy Processes and Archaeometry (Oslo, Norway, 24-25 Jun 2021)
- 14th International Conference on Archaeological Prospection (France, dates TBC)
- 27th EAA Annual Meeting (Kiel, Germany, 08-11 Sep 2021)
Who can apply?

- Applicants must be a PhD student or an ECI with a primary affiliation in an institution located in a COST Action SAGA participating ITC: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA17131/#tabs|Name:parties.

- Applicants must make an oral/poster presentation at the conference in question and be listed in the official event/conference programme.

- The main subject of the presentation must be on a topic relevant to COST Action SAGA. More details about aim and objectives of SAGA and its Working Groups can be found here: https://riojournal.com/article/31648/

- COST Action SAGA (CA17131) should be acknowledged both in the book of abstracts and in the oral/poster presentation following COST guidelines (Section 10 of the COST Vademecum (https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Vademecum-May-2019.pdf).

- The participation must be pre-approved by SAGA Core Group (i.e. the Grant is for future conferences and not for conferences which have already taken place).

**ITC Countries:** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

How much?

The financial support on offer is a fixed financial contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the participation in a given conference and may not necessarily cover all of the associated expenses.

It takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application.

The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:

1. Up to a max of EUR 2500 in total can be afforded to each successful applicant, including:

2. Up to a max of EUR 160 per day afforded for accommodation and meal expenses

3. Up to a max of EUR 500 for the conference fees

In addition, when meal and accommodation expenses are supported by the hosting institution as part of the provisions offered in their conference package, the amount for subsistence afforded to each eligible participant must be deducted from the Grant.

Documentary evidence of the conference fee amount must be provided by the applicant.
How to apply?

1. Register for an e-COST profile at https://e-services.cost.eu/user/registration/register

2. If applicant is not a COST Action SAGA participant yet, send an explanatory email requesting to become participant to Action Chair:
   - Dr Carmen Cuenca-Garcia: carmen.cuenca-garcia@ntnu.no

3. Follow the steps in e-COST for ITC Conference Grant application, which includes the submission of:
   - CV (max 2 pages)
   - Abstract of the conference contribution
   - Letter/mail of abstract acceptance
   - Short description including:
     - the applicant’s involvement in COST Action SAGA
     - how the topic of the abstract is related with COST Action SAGA
     - link to the general website of the conference
     - link to the scientific program of the conference
     - link to the registration page where the fees are detailed

Nota bene: The definitive pre-approval via e-COST is made in May 2020 concerning ITC grant applications taking place during GP3. However participants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible.

Selection of applicants

The evaluation of applications will be performed by the COST Action SAGA Core Group and the final selection of candidates voted by SAGA Management Committee.

The selection of applicants is based on the following criteria:

1. The scientific scope of the conference contribution must clearly complement the overall objectives of COST Action SAGA.

2. Oral contributions will be given priority over poster contributions.

3. European conferences are preferred, although conferences held elsewhere can be considered.
During the Conference

Take pictures and send them to the Science Communication Manager: Dr Agnese Kukela (agnese.kukela@gmail.com) and the ITC Conference Grant Coordinator: Dr Simo Spassov (simo@meteo.be).

Grantees are encouraged to tweet from their own account during the conference, mentioning:
- #SAGA_COST
- @COSTprogramme
- #ITCConferenceGrants
and any other relevant hashtag.

After the Conference

The Grantee must submit a scientific report through e-COST within 30 calendar days from the end date of the conference in question, and before April 30, 2020, whichever takes place earlier (see note below).

A template for the scientific report can be found in e-COST. The scientific report should include any relevant discussion or feedback for the talk given by the Grantee, information on relevant talks attended at the conference and interesting discussions. Pictures can be included. Length should be max 2 pages.

The Grantee must submit documentary evidence of the paid conference fee to the Grant Holder Manager (Dr Ingrid Salvesen, ingrid.salvesen@ntnu.no), along with any other relevant administrative documents.

Payment of the Grant is subject to the submitted scientific report being approved by SAGA Core Group. Written approval of the submitted scientific report must be sent to the Grant Holder for archiving purposes.

Successful applicants will be asked to submit a brief summary of the ITC Conference Grant outputs for the Action’s website describing the scientific report which will also be made available online.

Nota bene: For this call, submit report and relevant documentation to the ITC CG coordinator after the conference as follows:

- for conferences taking place in GP2
  - within 30 days of end of conference and before April 30, 2020
    (whichever takes place earlier)
- for conferences taking place in GP3
  - within 30 days of end of conference and before April 30, 2021
    (whichever takes place earlier)
Acknowledgement of COST Action SAGA

Oral or poster papers presented in the conference must clearly display the:

• SAGA logo
• SAGA’s website: www.saga-cost.eu
• COST Association and EU logos

Please contact SAGA’s Science Communication Manager (Dr Agnese Kukela: agnese.kukela@gmail.com) for more information and high resolution logo files.

Oral or poster presentations as well as publications resulting from ITC Conference Grant must acknowledge COST Action SAGA using the following:

“This work/Part of this work was supported by the COST Action SAGA - The Soil Science & Archaeo-Geophysics Alliance, CA17131, www.saga-cost.eu.”

Links to key webpages and documents

• SAGA’s website: https://www.saga-cost.eu
• COST Action SAGA proposal: https://riojournal.com/article/31648/
• SAGA’s admin site in COST Association website: https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA17131/#tabs|Name:overview
• MoU (COST Action SAGA): https://www.cost.eu(actions/CA17131/#downloads

• Create e-COST profile: https://e-services.cost.eu/user/registration/register
• Online application form: https://e-services.cost.eu/conferencegrant (this requires of an e-COST profile)

For further information you may contact the ITC Conference Grant Coordinator:
Dr Simo Spassov (simo@meteo.be)
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