**Project Proposal Application Form**

**Deadline: Friday June 28th at 5pm (UTC)**

**Email completed applications to** [**fiona.walsh@dmu.ac.uk**](mailto:fiona.walsh@dmu.ac.uk)

We are inviting teams of ImpleMendez members to submit proposals for projects which will support the overall objective of this COST Action, as well as its secondary objectives, and work towards the production of the Action deliverables.

You can submit a proposal for a project to begin in Year 2 (Nov 2024-Oct 2025) or later in the ImpleMendez 4-year funding period (ending Oct 2027). Projects can run over a number of years within this funding period or may be shorter in duration, but an appropriate timeline must be indicated (with milestones recording expected progress).

In the course of Year 2 (Nov 2024-Oct 2025) there will be separate calls for conference funding (to attend and speak at a high-level conference) and short-term scientific missions. We plan to issue a further call for project proposals in early summer 2025, depending on the needs of the Action and the funding landscape at that point.

If your initial proposal is accepted, we will then ask you to complete Section Two below, to assist us in requesting funding from COST. There is no need to fill that out now, but it is provided for your information. No funding to support these projects is agreed until authorised by the ImpleMendez Management Committee, and COST, and you have been formally notified of such approvals.

**Section One**

1. **Project Title:**
2. **Proposal Team of ImpleMendez Members (include names, institutional affiliation, and country):**
3. **Outline your proposed project (approx. 500-800 words):**
4. **Detailed Timeline of proposed project:**
5. **List the Proposed Project Outputs**
6. **The primary objective/aim of *ImpleMendez* is to “support, enable and progress various countries' developments towards full implementation of the Mendez principles that underpin effective interviews for investigation and information gathering of criminal suspects, victims and witnesses in line with science, law and ethical standards.”**

**How does this proposed project support this primary objective?**

1. **List the main external stakeholders that will be engaged in this project.**
2. **You will need to provide a statement from these stakeholders at the end of the project which will indicate how the project has impacted on their work/practice/policy.**

**How do you expect this project to impact on the listed stakeholders?**

1. **Which ImpleMendez Working Group is most closely aligned with this project? *(Some projects may cross-cut a number of Working Groups. This can be stated here but it is still important to suggest the main alignment with just one Working Group.)***
2. **Tick each of the ImpleMendez secondary objectives which will be satisfied by your proposed project:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Develop a strategic framework for investigation transformation (FIT), underpinning the Mendez Principles that is agreed through collaboration with networks of researchers, practitioners and policy makers including countries yet to fully adopt those principles. |  |
| 2. Develop adapted models of investigative interviewing, jointly with stakeholders that accommodate local contexts/cultures but do not distort the Mendez Principles, and continue to observe law, ethics and science |  |
| 3. Promote the development of Mendez Centres of Interviewing Excellence |  |
| 4. Promote agreed frameworks for investigation transformation (FITs) for implementation of the Mendez principles in place, pathways and the formulation of models of investigative interviewing and involving any required adaptations of the Mendez Principles. |  |
| 5. Disseminate agreed methodologies and tools that are consistent with the Mendez Principles to assist in the implementation of those Principles |  |
| 6. Build a networking structure that creates ‘an ecosystem for learning’ to implement the Mendez Principles, appropriately incorporating legal frameworks, policies that support ethical interviewing, standards that are transparent and accountable, institutional leadership, training, guidance and support, and a research evidence base |  |
| 7. Through development of a matrix of FITs, build and support regional and in-country networks of researchers, practitioners and policy makers that help strengthen the pillars of the ecosystem |  |
| 8. Promote the development and strengthening of capacity building skills and tools to investigators, defense and prosecution lawyers as well as judges, to undertake their roles professionally, while increasing their awareness and understanding of the Mendez Principles and ethical interviewing |  |
| 9. Promote the Mendez Centres of Interviewing Excellence to act as hubs and repositories for resources for multiple and multi-country stakeholders, to share experiences, sustain resilience during and beyond implementation of the Mendez Principles, and help advance science, policy and practice during and beyond the Action |  |
| 10. Provide capacity building opportunities to more stakeholders including existing practitioners, policy makers and research communities, through the implementation of proactive and inclusive network activities. |  |
| 11. Provide capacity building opportunities to more ITCs and NNCs through the implementation of proactive and inclusive network activities that specifically target them. |  |
| 12. Provide capacity building opportunities to more Young Researchers and Innovators (YRIs) through the implementation of proactive and inclusive network activities that specifically target them. |  |
| 13. Encourage and support partners to develop mechanisms aiming at expansion and sustainability of the Action, beyond the Action's lifetime. |  |

1. **Which of the *ImpleMendez* deliverables are supported by the project?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ImpleMendez Deliverables** | **Supported by this project?** |
| Design training materials including podcasts and seminars that are consistent with the Mendez Principles that are held on the website as a repository |  |
| Press releases to advise of developments towards implementation of the Mendez principles |  |
| Author law notes, policy reports and briefings to national, regional and international bodies to advise of progress, pitfalls and opportunities of the implementation of the Mendez Principles |  |
| Co-design with key stakeholders in various countries a Framework for Investigation Transformation (FIT) to include strategy and roadmaps towards their implementation of the Mendez Principles |  |
| Articles for professional publications advising of practical steps and issues towards the implementation of the Mendez Principles |  |
| Author scientific papers in peer reviewed journal that relate to the implementation of the Mendez Principles |  |
| Produce an edited textbook of the challenges and benefits of the implementation of the Mendez Principles |  |

1. **Outline the COST-funded activities that you propose as part of this project, e.g. meetings, training schools… You must include proposed dates and venues; likely numbers of ImpleMendez members in attendance; long distance (100km+) average costs per attendee; details of local organiser costs and refreshment costs.**

*Example:*

|  |
| --- |
| *Training School on Legal Assistance in investigative interviews;* |
| *April 22-24 (2.5 day event);* |
| *KU Leuven, Belgium;* |
| *20 ImpleMendez members (17 trainees and 3 trainers);* |
| *average travel costs (flights, train) = €250;* |
| *Local organiser/refreshment costs estimate €600* |

1. **Any other information** *(include here anything further you wish to add in relation to your proposed project which may be important to those assessing your application)*

**Section Two (only to be completed post-approval of proposed project)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title of the **Meeting** |  |
| Meeting Type(s) |  |
| Grant Period Goal(s) it will address |  |
| Description |  |
| Output(s) |  |
| Location |  |
| ITC (Yes/No) |  |
| Start Date |  |
| End Date |  |
| Duration |  |
| Attendance Type (Virtual/Face to Face) |  |
| Total number of expected participants |  |
| Number of participants expected to be reimbursed from COST funds |  |
| Daily allowance (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Average number of daily allowances per participant |  |
| Average Long-Distance Costs (EUR) |  |
| Average reimbursement (per participant) (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Total Travel, Accommodation and  Subsistence Costs (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Total unique participants to be accounted for LOS grant |  |
| Local Organiser Support (EUR) |  |
| Total Cost | *For office use* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title of the **Training School** |  |
| Grant Period Goal(s) it will address |  |
| Description |  |
| Output(s) |  |
| Location |  |
| ITC (Yes/No) |  |
| Start Date |  |
| End Date |  |
| Duration |  |
| Attendance Type (Virtual/Face to Face) |  |
| Total number of expected participants (indicate number of trainers and number of trainees - *example 3 trainers and 20 trainees*) |  |
| Number of participants expected to be reimbursed from COST funds |  |
| Daily allowance (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Average number of daily allowances per participant |  |
| Average Long-Distance Costs (EUR) |  |
| Average reimbursement (per participant) (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Total Travel, Accommodation and  Subsistence Costs (EUR) | *For office use* |
| Total unique participants to be accounted for LOS grant |  |
| Local Organiser Support (EUR) |  |
| Total Cost | *For office use* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Dissemination and Communication Products**  *Examples include scientific publications, books, white papers, policy briefs, flyers, presentations, videos, podcast, webinars.*  *Funding for Open Access fees, proof reading, editing, translation and layout costs can be sought, so long as certain criteria are fulfilled.[[1]](#footnote-1)* |  |
| Title: |  |
| Description: |  |
| Total (EUR): (without VAT) |  |

1. The publication must be the result of the work of the Action, and be authored by

   Action participants from at least 3 different COST Members; or

   Action participants from at least 2 different COST Members and 1 NNC; or,

   Action participants from at least 2 different COST Members if resulting from an STSM funded by the Action.

   The publication must be peer-reviewed and with a renowned publisher. It must be a high impact publication. Impact of the publication is to be assessed along the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)3 of the considered academic journal. Any journal that is situated in the first three quartiles Q1-Q3 is considered of sufficient impact, while journals in the last quartile Q4 or journals not contained in the SCOPUS database need an assessment by the responsible Science Officer; the SJR and quartile (Q1, Q2, Q3 or Q4) for each journal contained in SCOPUS can be obtained from the SCImago webpage (accessible at <https://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php>). The publication must appropriately acknowledge COST funding (see further [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2023/11/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V1.4-Final-.pdf)). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)