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Supplement of

Survey on early career travel support shows geographic, career stage, and indigenous status inequality in access to polar science events

Alice Bradley et al.

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APECS Survey on Early Career Travel Support

This survey is meant to gauge the level of availability of travel support for early career researchers around the world. We hope that the information you provide can help inform organizations offering travel support for early career researchers: APECS itself does not have a budget to support ECR travel for events.

This survey will ask about your current position and funding support, how you would attend a hypothetical meeting, and about how you funded your attendance at the last three events (conferences/workshops/etc) that you went to related to your research. The information provided will be used to provide a detailed view of the current funding landscape for ECRs from around the world. Individually identifying information will not be shared.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete.

* Required

1. In which country do you currently work/study? *

2. What is your current career stage? *
   
   Mark only one oval.
   
   - Undergraduate
   - Masters student
   - PhD student
   - Postdoc
   - Faculty or permanent research position
   - Other: ____________________________

3. Are you an Indigenous/northern community member?  
   
   Mark only one oval.
   
   - Yes
   - No
4. **How is your current position funded?** *
   *Mark only one oval.*
   - Research grant (your own)
   - Research grant (you work for a PI)
   - Fellowship (national/international)
   - Fellowship (your institution)
   - Paid by institution (i.e., TA or teaching position, staff scientist, etc)
   - Self-funded
   - Other: ____________________________

5. **How many of the following types of events have you attended outside of your immediate local area in the past two years?** *
   If an event meets more than one of these definitions, pick the primary reason you were there.
   *Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>more than 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field schools/field courses unaffiliated with your institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific conference (meeting primarily composed of research presentations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science workshop (thematically focused event with interactive component)</td>
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<td>Career development event</td>
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<td>Scientific community meeting (i.e., ASSW business meetings, APECS World Summit)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other work-related travel</td>
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6. **List any ‘Other work-related travel’ events you identified above**

   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
7. In general, which of the following travel funding sources do you believe are available to support your work-related travel?

If you select other, please use the box below to describe the source of travel funding. **Mark only one oval per row.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Highly Competitive</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional travel grant</td>
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<td>National funding body travel grant</td>
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<td>Private foundation travel grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your personal funds (only check this if you expect to and are willing to spend personal money on attending research- or polar-science related events for which you do not expect to be reimbursed)</td>
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</table>

8. Which of these statements regarding partial travel funding for an event do you most agree with? **Check all that apply.**

- [ ] Partial funding is helpful, as supplementary support is available so that my travel is fully funded.
- [ ] Partial funding is helpful: I pay for travel out of personal funds, so every bit counts.
- [ ] Partial funding is not helpful: I do not have additional funding available, so if I only receive partial funding I am not able to attend.
- [ ] Partial funding is not very helpful: I have limited travel funding available, so partial funding means I am not able to attend other meetings/events.
- [ ] Other: ________________________________
9. **What does your internal (institution, research grant, research fellowship or similar) funding support typically cover?**
   Check all that apply
   *Check all that apply.*
   
   - [ ] Everything
   - [ ] Registration fees
   - [ ] Poster printing
   - [ ] Flights and/or train
   - [ ] Local transportation
   - [ ] Lodging (hotel room)
   - [ ] Lodging (shared accommodation)
   - [ ] Meals (individual meal amounts)
   - [ ] Meals (per diem)
   - [ ] Alcohol
   - [ ] Visa costs
   - [ ] Incidental costs
   - [ ] Travel insurance
   - [ ] Childcare
   - [ ] Nothing
   - [ ] Other: ____________________________

10. **How many conferences/events/training opportunities per year will your university/institution pay for you to attend?**
    Please specify how many of each type. If none, please write 'none'.

    ____________________________
    ____________________________
    ____________________________
    ____________________________

11. **Is there a geographical restriction on events that are funded by your university/institution?**
    *Mark only one oval.*
    
    - [ ] My university/institution does not fund any travel
    - [ ] I can only attend events in my country
    - [ ] I can only attend events in nearby countries
    - [ ] My travel will only be partially funded if I travel outside my country
    - [ ] My travel will be fully funded to any destination
    - [ ] Other: ____________________________
12. Is there a monetary limit to the travel funds your university/institute will provide?
   Mark only one oval.
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

13. If you answered "yes", then please state the amount (in euros).

Hypothetical travel support
In this section, we'll ask about traveling to a hypothetical meeting that is highly relevant to your research area. It would be an excellent place to present your recent research and meet with other experts in your field.

14. For a hypothetical meeting in Europe that is highly relevant to your research, how much (in euros) would you estimate that it would cost you travel (transport costs) to the meeting location?

15. How much external travel funding support (in euros) would you need to be able to attend this meeting?

16. For a hypothetical meeting in the US that is highly relevant to your research, how much would you estimate (in euros) that it would cost you travel (transport costs) to the meeting location?

17. How much external travel funding support (in euros) would you need to be able to attend this meeting?
18. For a meeting like this, how important would it be to have access to a travel advance (being able to receive all or some of the travel funds ahead of time) in order to not have to front the full cost of attending out of pocket?

Mark only one oval.

☐ Not necessary.
☐ I would be able to attend without a travel advance, but it would put me in a difficult financial situation.
☐ I would not be able to attend without a travel advance.
☐ Other: ____________________________

19. Do you have any comments on how you would seek funding to travel to a meeting like this?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

In the following sections, you’ll be asked to describe each of your last three travel experiences for research-related travel excluding field work that is exclusively for research purposes (field schools still count). If you have less than three travel experiences to report, please just click ‘none’ for the remainder to continue to finish the survey.

20. What was the last event/activity/meeting/conference you attended?

Mark only one oval.

☐ None (I have not attended an event/activity/meeting/conference in the last 3 years)  
  Skip to question 53.
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Other: ____________________________

Skip to question 20.

**Travel experience 1**

21. Was this international travel?

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes
☐ No
22. **Approximately how much (in euros) was spent in support of this travel?**
   Include transportation costs, hotels, per diem, registration fees if applicable

23. **Approximately how many km did you travel to get to this event?**

24. **Were you presenting (oral or poster) or did you have some sort of formal organizational role (i.e., convener or a position within the organization) at this event?**
   *Mark only one oval.*
   - Yes, it was required for travel funding
   - Yes, it was not required for travel funding
   - No

25. **Were you volunteering at this event?**
   *Mark only one oval.*
   - Yes, it was required for travel funding
   - Yes, it was not required for travel funding
   - No

26. **Where did this funding come from?**
   *Check all that apply.*

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional travel grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>National funding body travel grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your personal funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>

27. **Description for 'Other' if you selected it above**
28. **What other travel funding was available to you?**  
*Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provided travel support</th>
<th>Guaranteed</th>
<th>Possible</th>
<th>Highly Competitive</th>
<th>Not available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research grant or fellowship (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<td>Organizational support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</td>
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<td>Institutional travel grant</td>
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<td>National funding body travel grant</td>
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<td>Private foundation travel grant</td>
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<td>Your personal funds (only check this if you were willing to spend personal money on attending research- or polar-science related events for which you do not expect to be reimbursed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>

29. **Description for 'Other' if you selected it above**

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30. **Why did you choose to go to this particular event?**  
*Check all that apply.*

- [ ] Only one where funding was available
- [ ] Best fit for my research area
- [ ] Supports my educational goals
- [ ] Required for an organizational role
- [ ] Fun location
- [ ] Nearby location
- [ ] Cost of attendance
- [ ] People who would be there
- [ ] Side events
- [ ] My supervisor told me to attend
- [ ] Other: _____
31. If you have another travel experience to describe, what was the event/activity/meeting/conference?
   If you do not have another event/meeting/conference to describe, please click none and proceed to the final part of the survey
   Mark only one oval.

   - None (I do not have another experience to describe)    Skip to question 53.
   - Prefer not to say
   - Other: ____________________________

Travel experience 2

32. Was this international travel?
   Mark only one oval.

   - Yes
   - No

33. Approximately how much (in euros) was spent in support of this travel?
   Include transportation costs, hotels, per diem, registration fees if applicable

34. Approximately how many km did you travel to get to this event?

35. Were you presenting (oral or poster) or did you have some sort of formal organizational role (i.e., convener or a position within the organization) at this event?
   Mark only one oval.

   - Yes, it was required for travel funding
   - Yes, it was not required for travel funding
   - No

36. Were you volunteering at this event?
   Mark only one oval.

   - Yes, it was required for travel funding
   - Yes, it was not required for travel funding
   - No
37. **Where did this funding come from?**
   *Check all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<td>Organization support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</td>
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<td>Institutional travel grant</td>
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<td>National funding body travel grant</td>
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<td>Your personal funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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38. **Description for ‘Other’ if you selected it above**

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39. **What other travel funding was available to you?**
   *Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Guaranteed</th>
<th>Possible</th>
<th>Highly Competitive</th>
<th>Not available</th>
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<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<td>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<td>Organizational support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</td>
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<td>National funding body travel grant</td>
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<td>Private foundation travel grant</td>
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<td>Your personal funds (only check this if you were willing to spend personal money on attending research- or polar-science related events for which you do not expect to be reimbursed)</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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40. **Description for ‘Other’ if you selected it above**

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41. **Why did you choose to go to this particular event?**
   Check all that apply.

   - Only one where funding was available
   - Best fit for my research area
   - Supports my educational goals
   - Fun location
   - Nearby location
   - Cost of attendance
   - People who would be there
   - Side events
   - My supervisor told me to attend
   - Other: __________________________

42. **If you have another travel experience to describe, what was the event/activity/meeting/conference?**
   If you do not have another event/meeting/conference to describe, please click none and proceed to the final part of the survey.

   - None (I do not have another experience to describe)  
   - Prefer not to say
   - Other: __________________________

**Travel experience 3**

43. **Was this international travel?**
   Mark only one oval.

   - Yes
   - No

44. **Approximately how much (in euros) was spent in support of this travel?**
   Include transportation costs, hotels, per diem, registration fees if applicable

45. **Approximately how many km did you travel to get to this event?**
46. Were you presenting (oral or poster) or did you have some sort of formal organizational role (i.e., convener or a position within the organization) at this event?  
Mark only one oval.  
☐ Yes, it was required for travel funding  
☐ Yes, it was not required for travel funding  
☐ No

47. Were you volunteering at this event?  
Mark only one oval.  
☐ Yes, it was required for travel funding  
☐ Yes, it was not required for travel funding  
☐ No

48. Where did this funding come from?  
Check all that apply.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Event-provided travel support</th>
<th>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</th>
<th>Organization support for ECR rep travel (i.e., IASC Fellows)</th>
<th>Institutional travel grant</th>
<th>National funding body travel grant</th>
<th>Your personal funds</th>
<th>Other</th>
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</table>

49. Description for 'Other' if you selected it above
50. **What other travel funding was available to you?**

*Mark only one oval per row.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Guaranteed</th>
<th>Possible</th>
<th>Highly Competitive</th>
<th>Not available</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event-provided travel support</td>
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<td>Research grant (the one that funds you or related projects)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your personal funds (only check this if you were willing to spend personal money on attending research- or polar-science related events for which you do not expect to be reimbursed)</td>
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51. **Description for 'Other' if you selected it above**

____________________

52. **Why did you choose to go to this particular event?**

*Check all that apply.*

- [ ] Only one where funding was available
- [ ] Best fit for my research area
- [ ] Supports my educational goals
- [ ] Fun location
- [ ] Nearby location
- [ ] Cost of attendance
- [ ] People who would be there
- [ ] Side events
- [ ] My supervisor told me to attend
- [ ] Other: ______________________

*Skip to question 53.*

Thank you for helping us learn about how early career researchers fund their work-related travel!
53. In the last two years, have you decided not to attend a meeting or event that would have been particularly beneficial to your research because the cost of attendance (registration and/or travel) was too high?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

54. Do you have additional comments on the availability of travel support for your own research-related travel?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________