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Frequently Asked Questions

General

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- [What is COST?](#)
- [What does COST do?](#)
- [What does COST fund?](#)
- [What is COST's budget?](#)
- [Where does COST get its budget from?](#)

On COST Actions

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- [How can I propose a COST Action?](#)
- [How can I join an Action?](#)
- [Where can I find the contact details of the National Coordinators?](#)
- [There is no National Coordinator in my country, who do I contact?](#)
- [How can I become Member of a working group of an Action?](#)
- [How can I participate as an "invited expert" to specific events of an Action \(meetings of the MC, WG, workshop participation etc.\)?](#)

Open Call

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- [When can I apply for COST funding?](#)
- [Can two or more departments of the same institution submit a joint proposal?](#)
- [What can I do before I submit my proposal?](#)
- [COST networks 'nationally-funded research' but I am funded by a charity/a devolved administration. Can I still apply for COST funding?](#)
- [Do I need to lobby for my proposal?](#)
- [How is my proposal evaluated?](#)
- [What are the assessors looking for?](#)
- [Do I have to demonstrate that I already have funding?](#)
- [Any style tips for my proposal?](#)
- [Some of the sections laid down in the guidelines are repetitive - can I cross-reference, or must I repeat them?](#)
- [Where can I find detailed information on how a COST Action works?](#)
- [What areas need attention for a successful proposal?](#)
- [Will my name and institution's details be made visible when my proposal is assessed?](#)
- [Will I get feedback on my proposal if it is not successful? Will I get guidance on how to improve it for next time?](#)
- [Will my proposal be made public anywhere if it is not selected? I would not want anyone to steal my ideas.](#)
- [If I am not successful, can I re-apply?](#)

COST-ESF relations

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- [What is the European Science Foundation?](#)
- [Why are some of your events called 'COST-ESF' events?](#)

- ▶ [What does the sentence 'ESF provides the COST Office through a European Commission contract' on your website mean? What does 'implementing agent for COST' mean?](#)
- ▶ [Who decided on the implementing agent for COST?](#)
- ▶ [When will ESF end its period as implementing agent for COST? When will COST and the European Science Foundation separate?](#)
- ▶ [What if the European Science Foundation's structure changes before the end of FP7?](#)
- ▶ [Who will be the implementing agent for COST in the next programming period?](#)

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The Council of the European Union provides the COST Secretariat

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