

# **COST CSO Meeting [24 03 2010]**

- **Since the COST CSS2007, a trans-disciplinarity approach has been introduced by COST. Specific questions on TDP were, therefore, developed in the COST CSS2010.**
- **There is a clear need for greater definition and clarity about Trans Domain proposals, particularly for Applicants, not only with regard to their purpose, but also as to how the multi-disciplinarity aspects are to be reflected in the outputs of a TD proposal.**
- **Facilitators are even more confused than Applicants.**

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- **The following recommendations are made:**
  - **The fact that the majority see COST as a mechanism to handle TDP, and feel that the domains and the reason for an inter/trans-disciplinary approach need to be spelt out by proposers, should be used to adjust policies governing TDP.**
  - **A tutorial guide is needed to ensure that applicants have a better understanding of the concepts related to trans-disciplinarity (TD) approaches.**
  - **For the majority of applicants the purpose of their TD approach needs to be communicated in the proposal.**
  - **The COST Office should insist on a format specifying clearly what has to be delivered in the full proposal regarding how TD will be reflected in the outputs of the Action.**
  - **To consider a change of name from TDPs to multi-disciplinary proposals to clarify the definition of the TDP concept and avoid the idea that it is a competing domain.**

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**Successful TDP actions since creation: 13**

- **On the 13 successful actions, only 6 were allocated to TDP by the proposers! This is an issue to be addressed**
- **BMBS and CMST appear 8 times [often in pairs]**
- **MPNS 6 times, often combined with one or two of the previous domains**
  - **BMBS, CMST and MPNS should be the core of TDP!**
- **Other domains are ISCH & ESSEM (3 times), FA & ICT (twice) and TUD (once). FPS is absent.**

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- **In the last call [OC 2009-2], it was striking that many proposed actions allocated to ISCH were TDP!**
  
- **For example, in the 6 ISCH proposals presented at the DCCCCM, 4 contained the words « disease or bio-objects or post-coma patients or hospital » while one TDP (ISCH BMBS) was named cancer and work**
  - **This should be taken into consideration to clarify TD**
  
- **TD meetings regrouping the different domain committees members are a sort of lottery when a vote is occurring; allocation to clusters may afterwards become a bargaining exercise**
  - **This should be changed!**