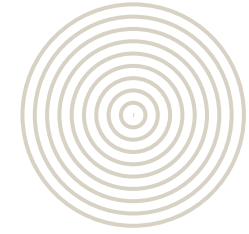


# COST INFO DAY ALBANIA

18 January 2024



Dr Anusha Panjwani, Head of Science Department  
Mrs Salomé Moezzi-Gacon, Governance Officer  
Dr Emiljano Kaziaj, Science Officer

# European Cooperation in Science & Technology



## MISSION

COST provides networking opportunities for researchers and innovators in order to strengthen Europe's capacity to address scientific, technological and societal challenges

## VISION

*Europe's most empowering research programme*

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

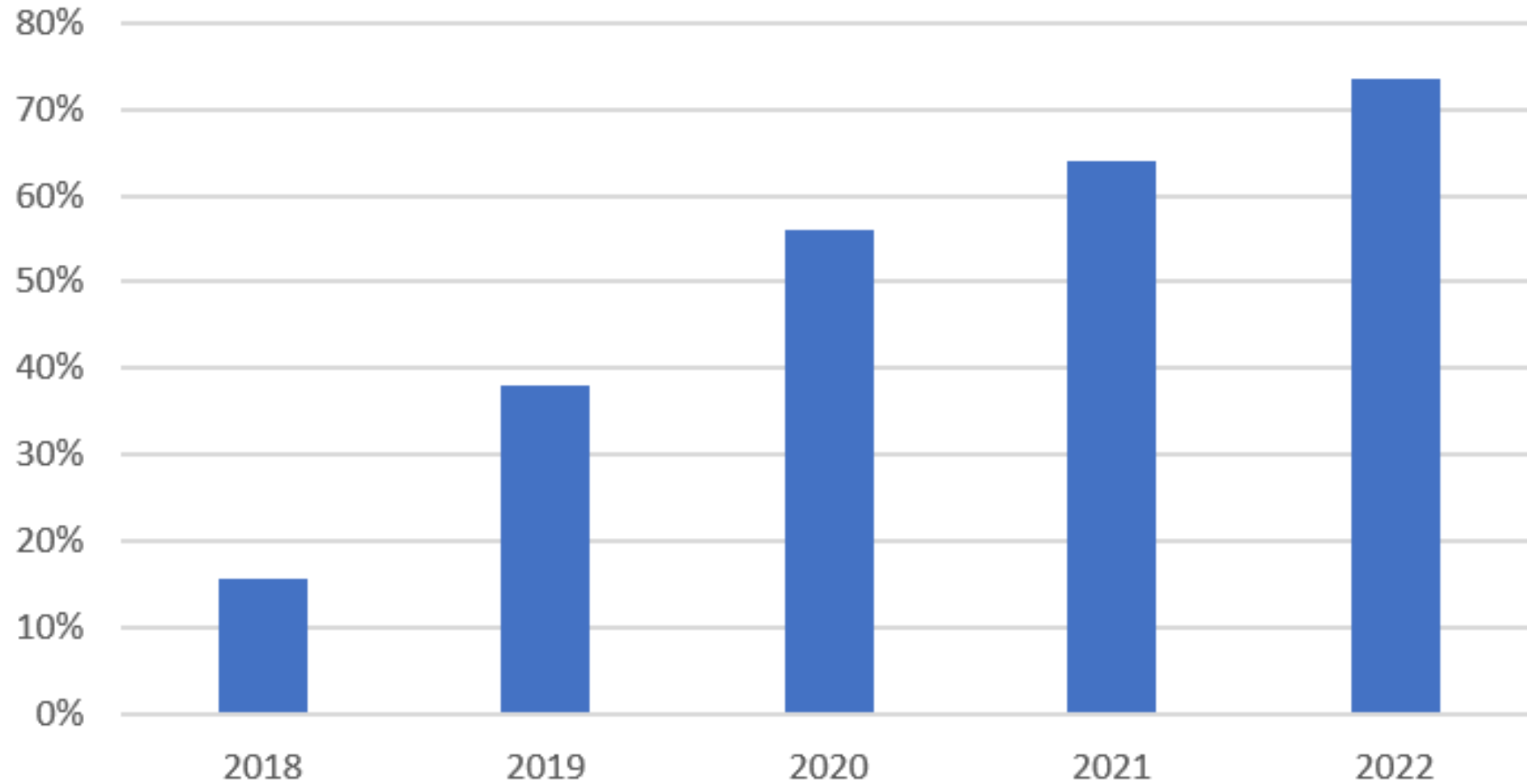
Promoting and spreading excellence

Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science

Empowering and retaining young researchers

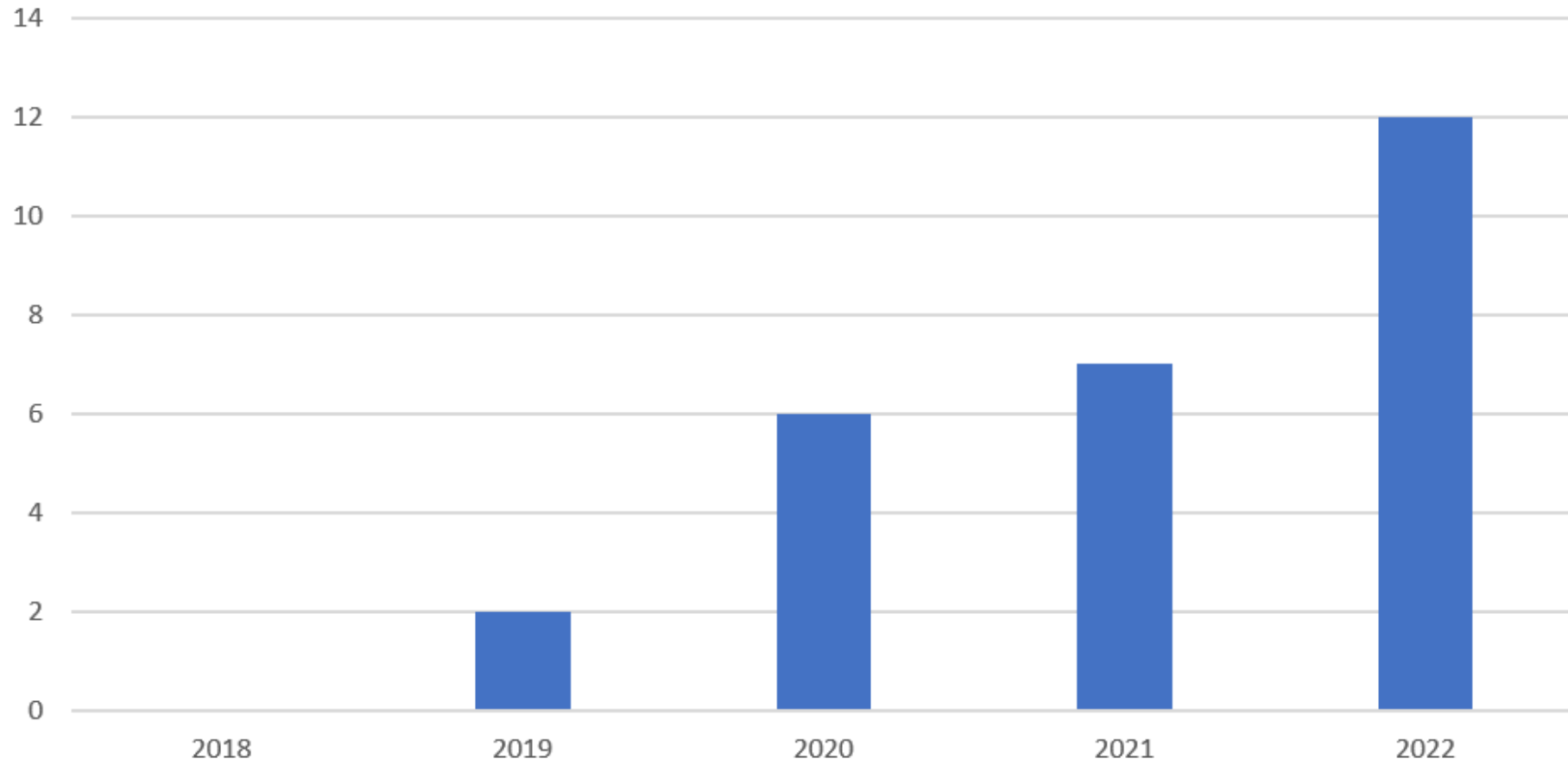


## Representation of Albania in COST Actions



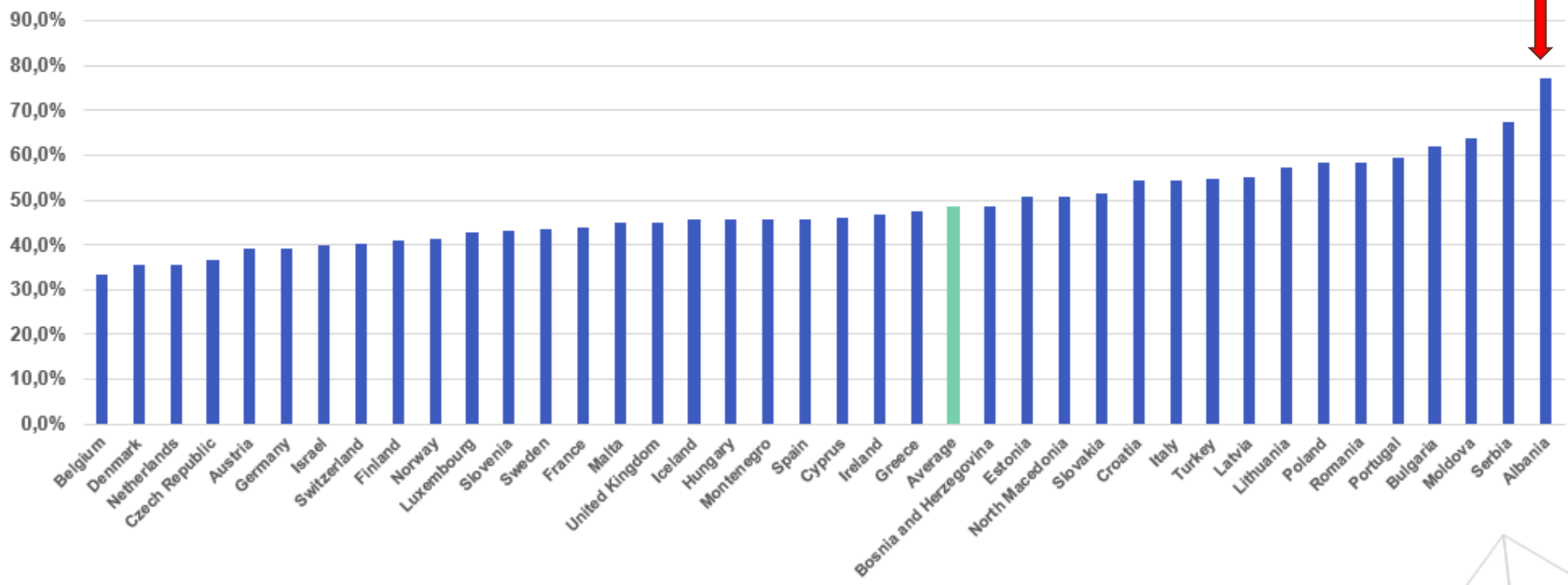


## Albania: leadership positions in COST Actions

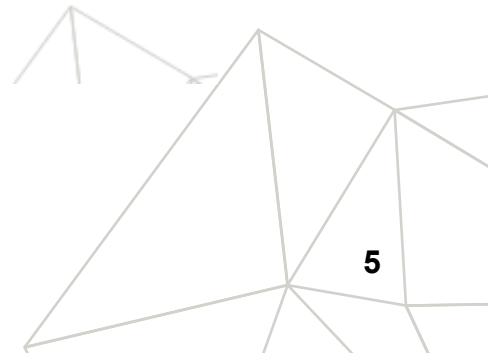




# Percentage of women among MC members

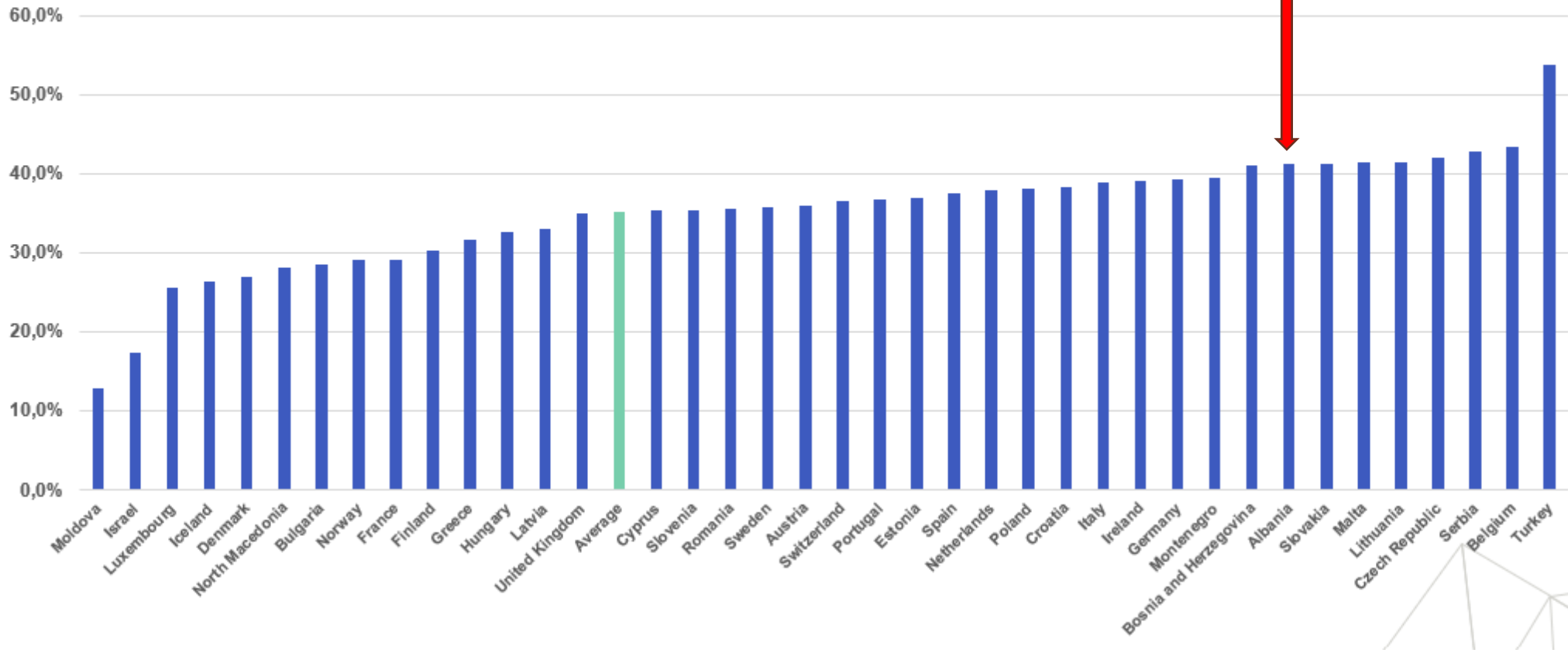


2022

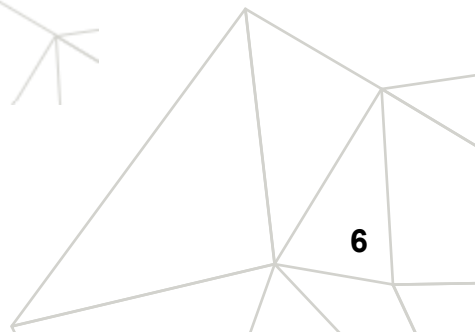




# Mobilisation of young researchers in Actions



2022



# About COST & Strategic Priorities



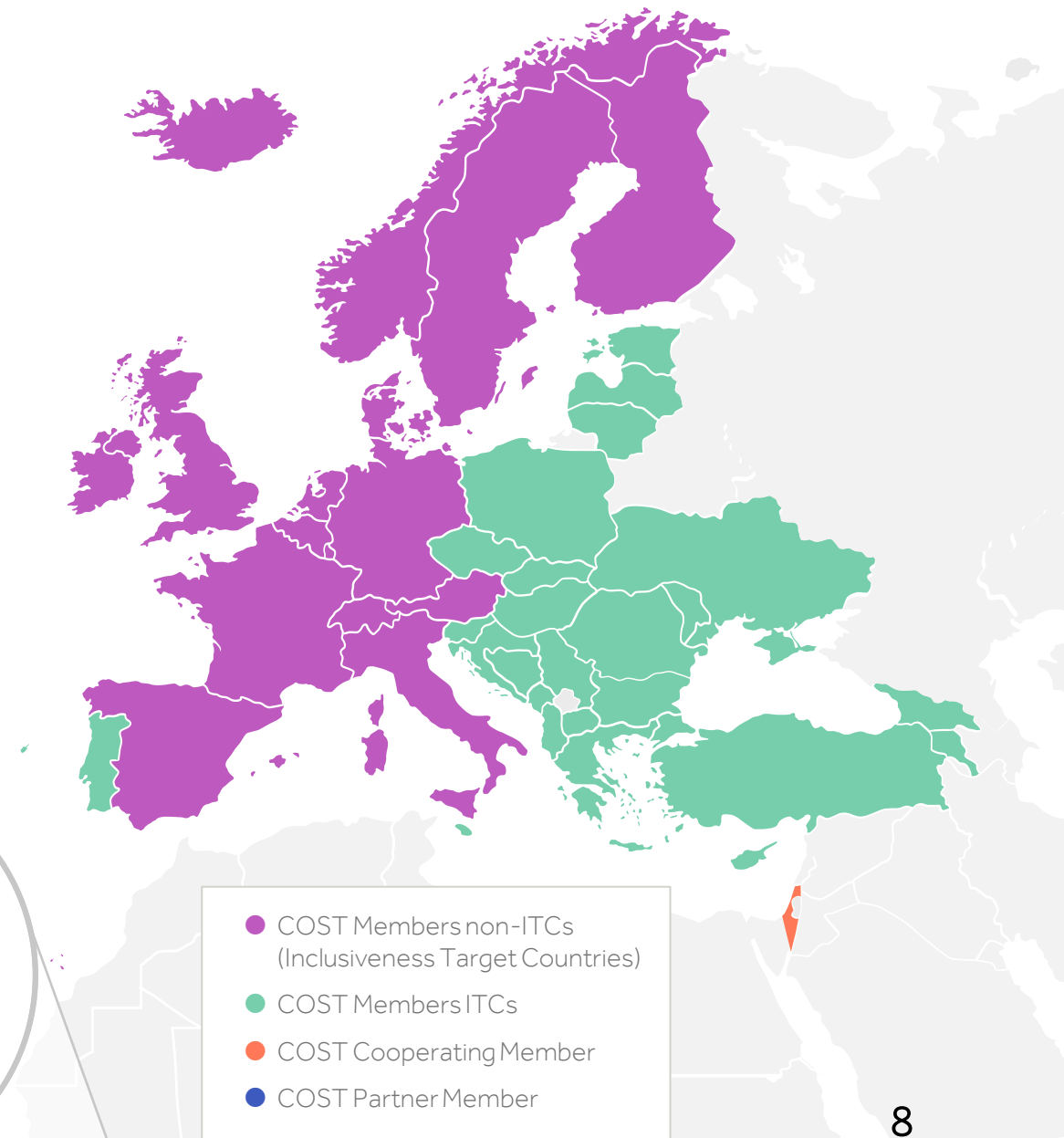
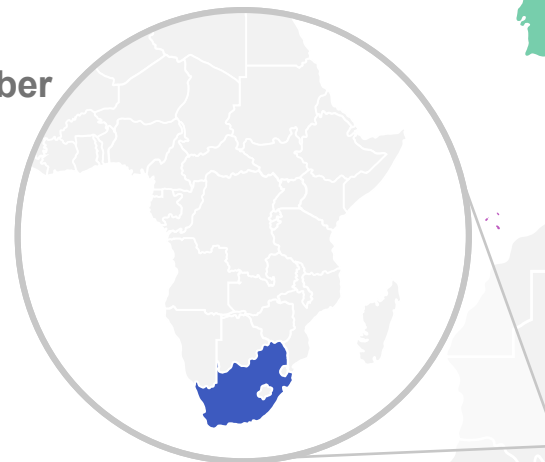
# COST Membership

## 41 COST Members

- |                          |                                   |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| ● Albania                | ● Germany                         | ● Norway         |
| ● Armenia                | ● Greece                          | ● Poland         |
| ● Austria                | ● Hungary*                        | ● Portugal       |
| ● Belgium                | ● Iceland                         | ● Romania        |
| ● Bosnia and Herzegovina | ● Ireland                         | ● Serbia         |
| ● Bulgaria               | ● Italy                           | ● Slovakia       |
| ● Croatia                | ● Latvia                          | ● Slovenia       |
| ● Cyprus                 | ● Lithuania                       | ● Spain          |
| ● Czech Republic         | ● Luxembourg                      | ● Sweden         |
| ● Denmark                | ● Malta                           | ● Switzerland    |
| ● Estonia                | ● The Republic of Moldova         | ● Türkiye        |
| ● Finland                | ● Montenegro                      | ● Ukraine        |
| ● France                 | ● The Netherlands                 | ● United Kingdom |
| ● Georgia                | ● The Republic of North Macedonia |                  |

**1** Cooperating Member  
● Israel

**1** Partner Member  
● South Africa

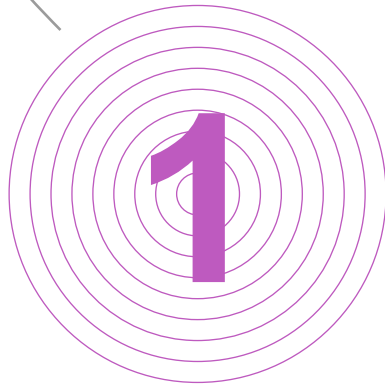




# Role of COST in the ERA



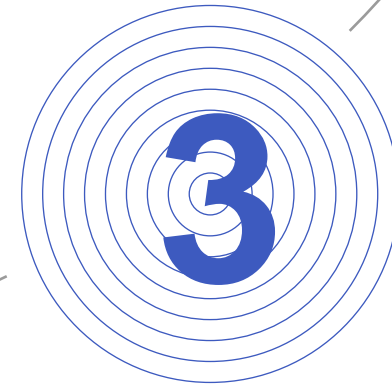
## 3 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Promoting and spreading **excellence**



Fostering **interdisciplinary** research for breakthrough science



Empowering and retaining **young researchers**



# COST in Horizon Europe



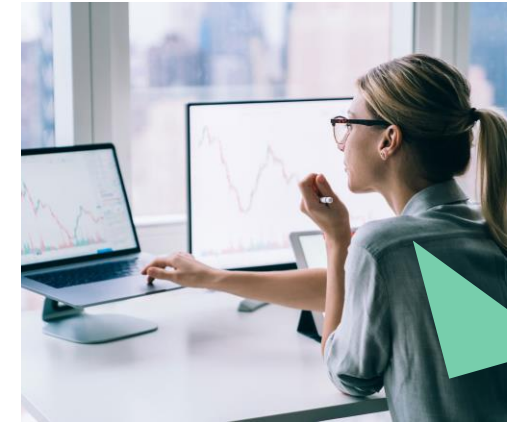
## Horizon Europe =

Widening participation  
and strengthening the European  
Research  
Area pillar



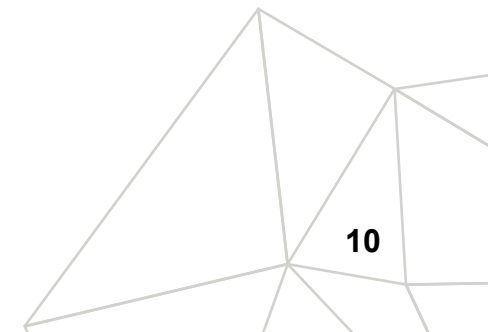
## COST activities

are implemented by the  
COST Association, under a  
Framework Partnership  
Agreement and Specific  
Grant Agreements with  
the European Commission



## COST Actions

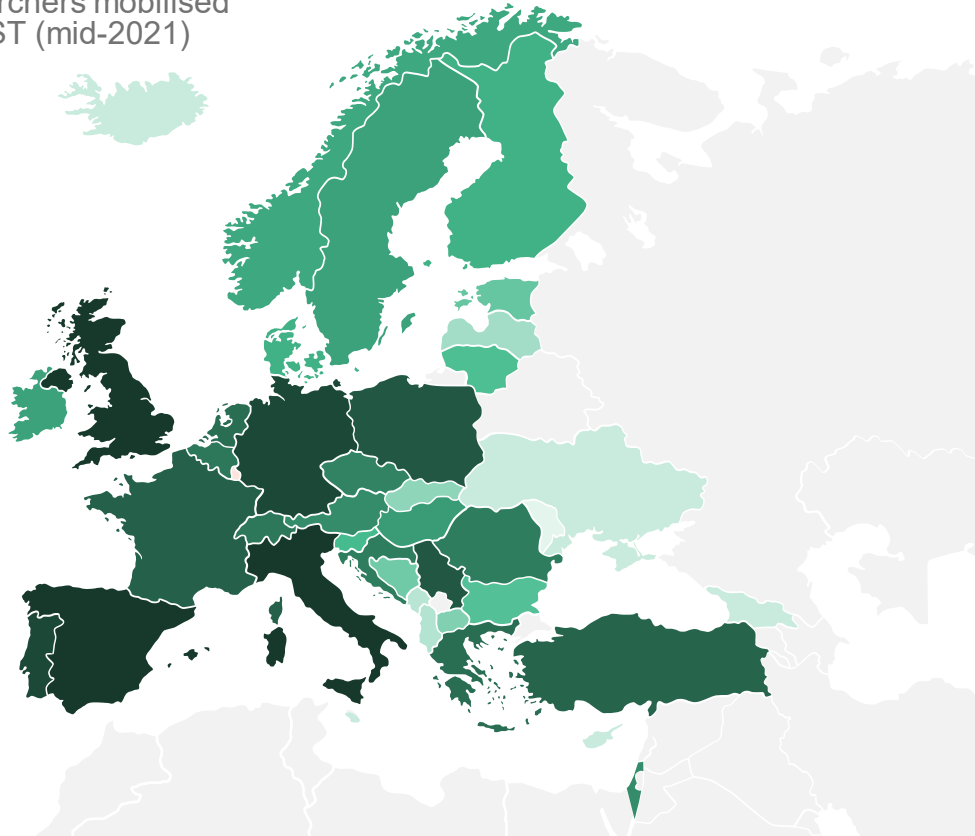
receive budget under  
Third Party Funding



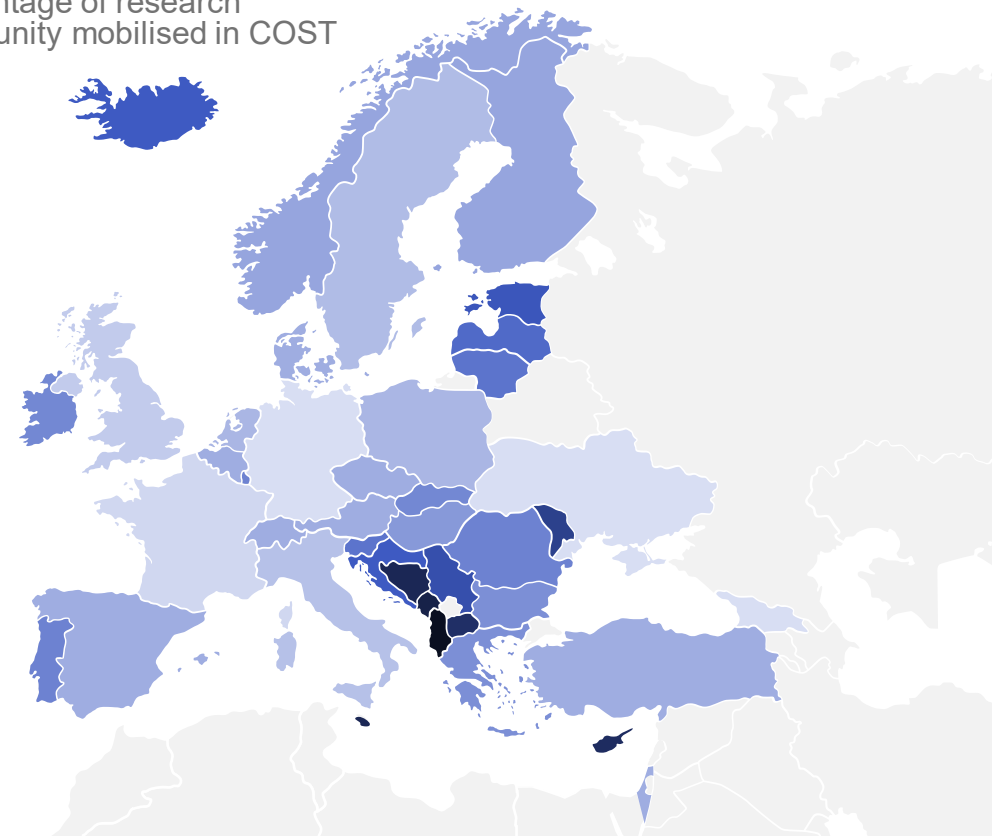
# Priority 1

## PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

Researchers mobilised  
in COST (mid-2021)

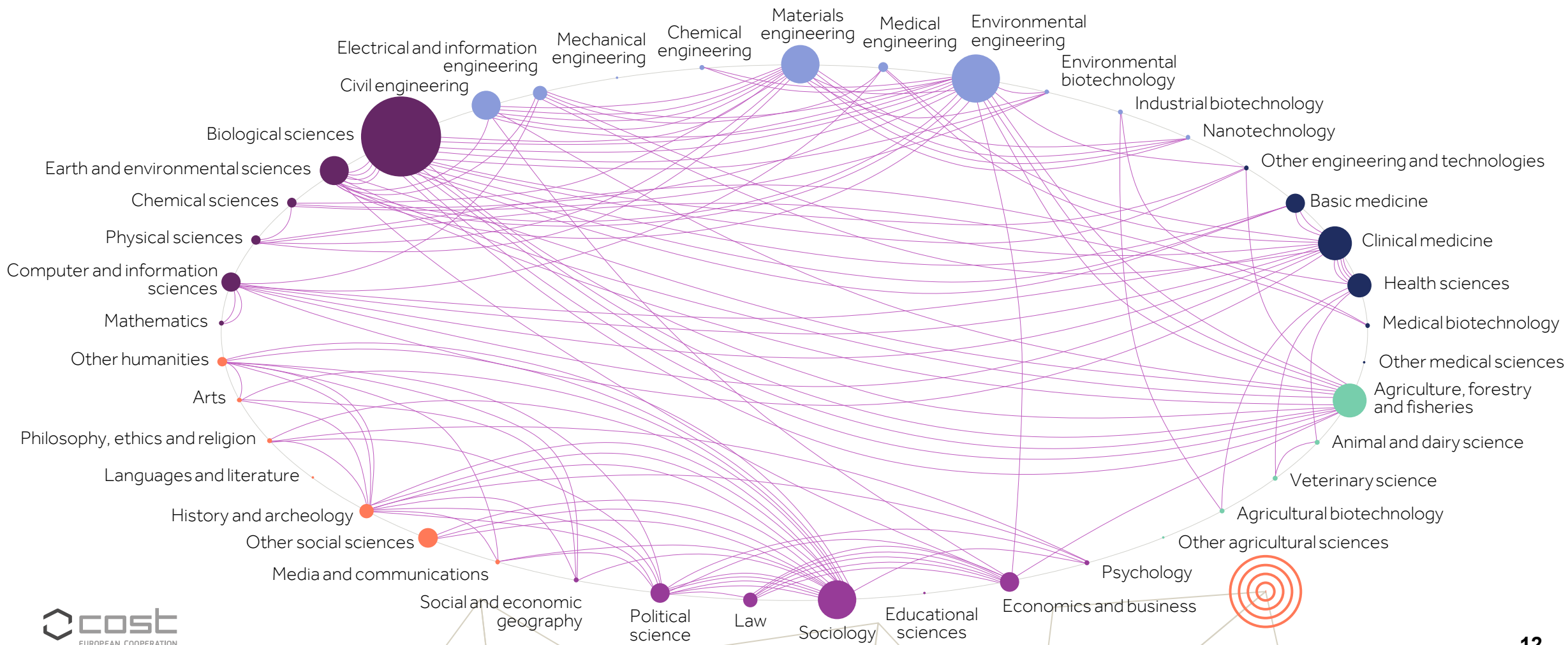


Percentage of research  
community mobilised in COST



# Priority 2

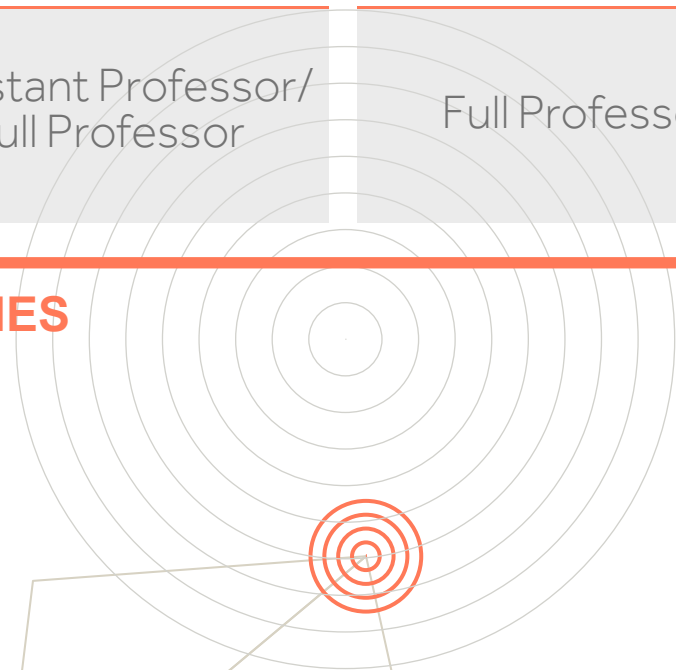
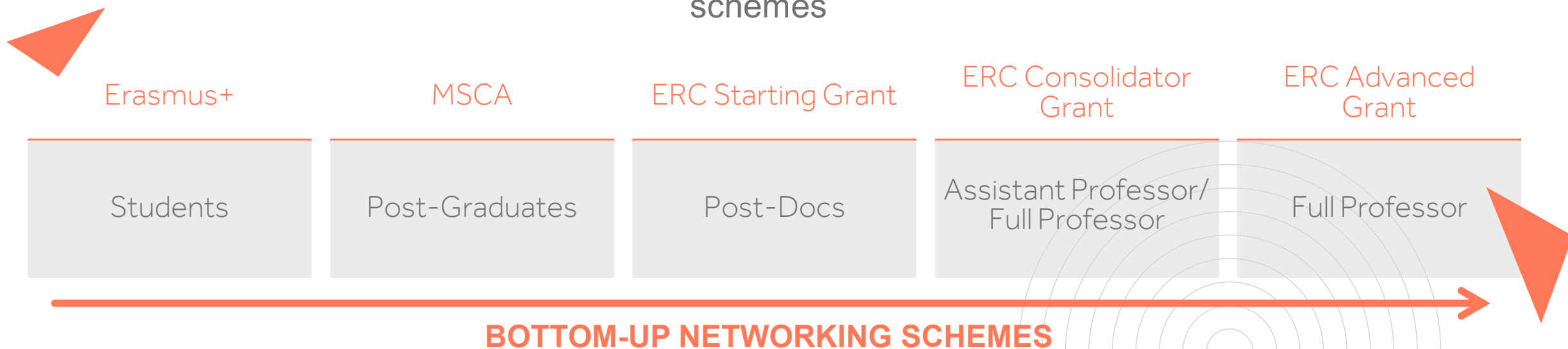
FOSTERING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE



# Priority 3

BOOSTING CAREERS OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Researchers' career development and complementary funding schemes



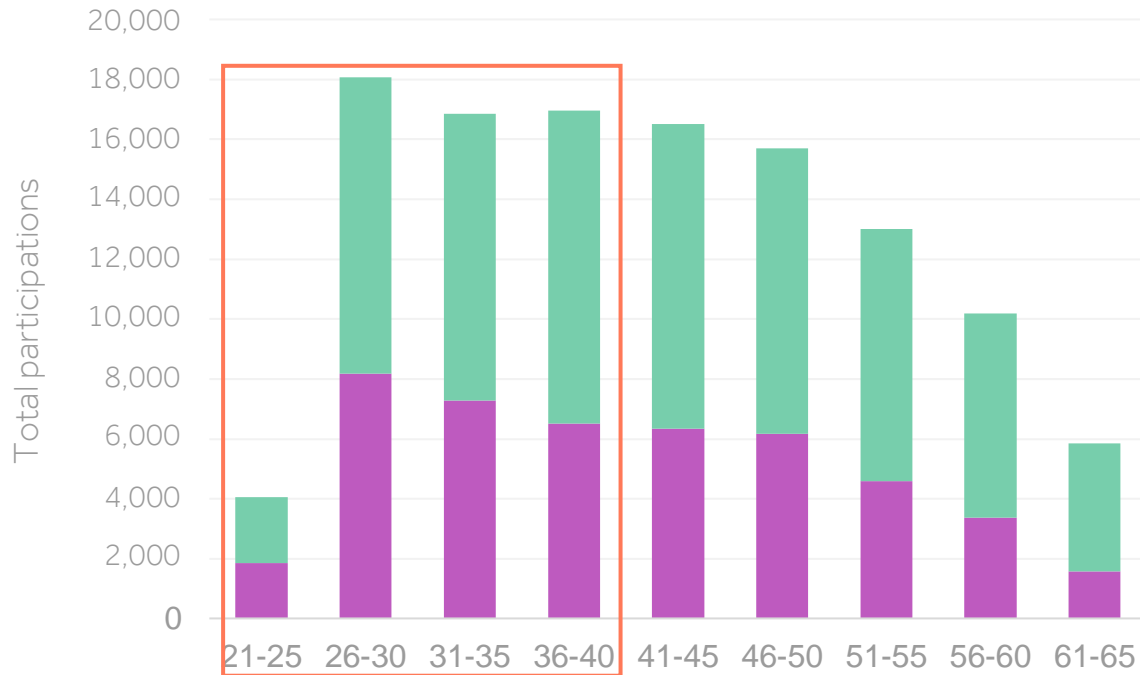


# Priority 3

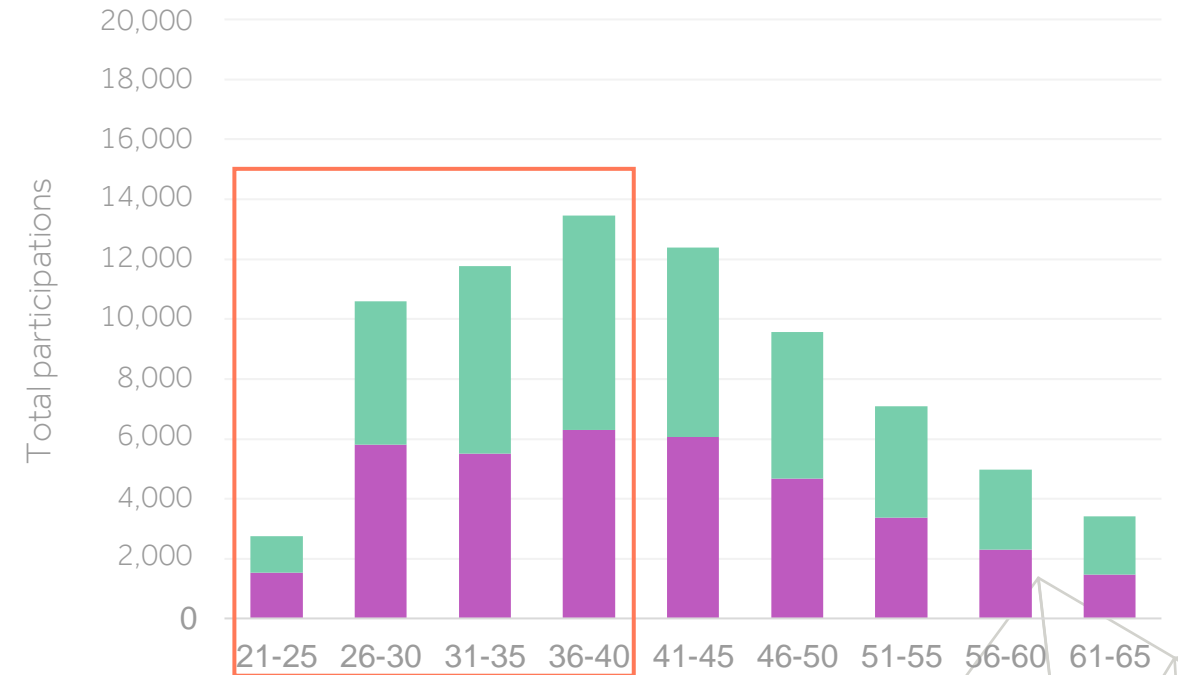
EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Data from Horizon 2020 (2014-2021)

### Other Countries



### Inclusiveness Target Countries



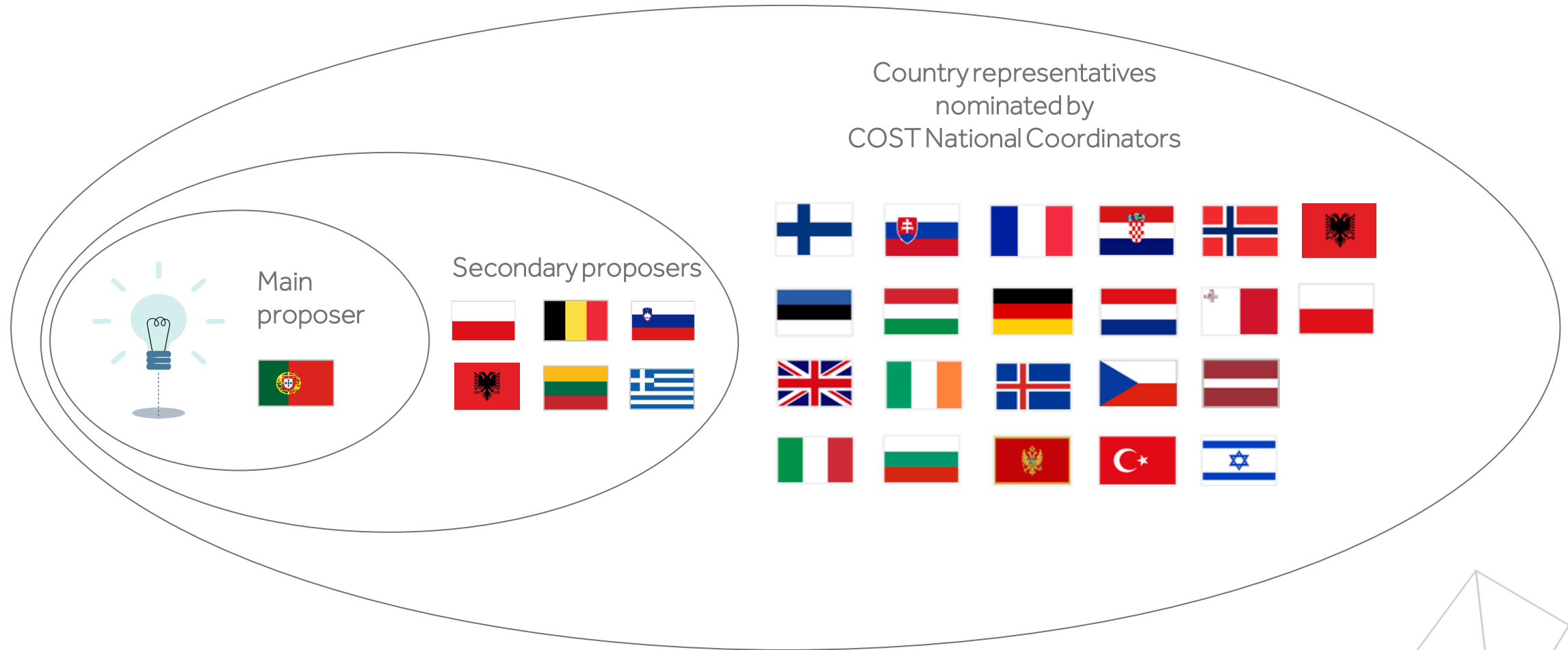
# Priority 3

## EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

- COST Inclusiveness policy
- ICT conference Grant
- Training for leadership positions to encourage Young Researchers to take leadership positions at the MC1 meeting

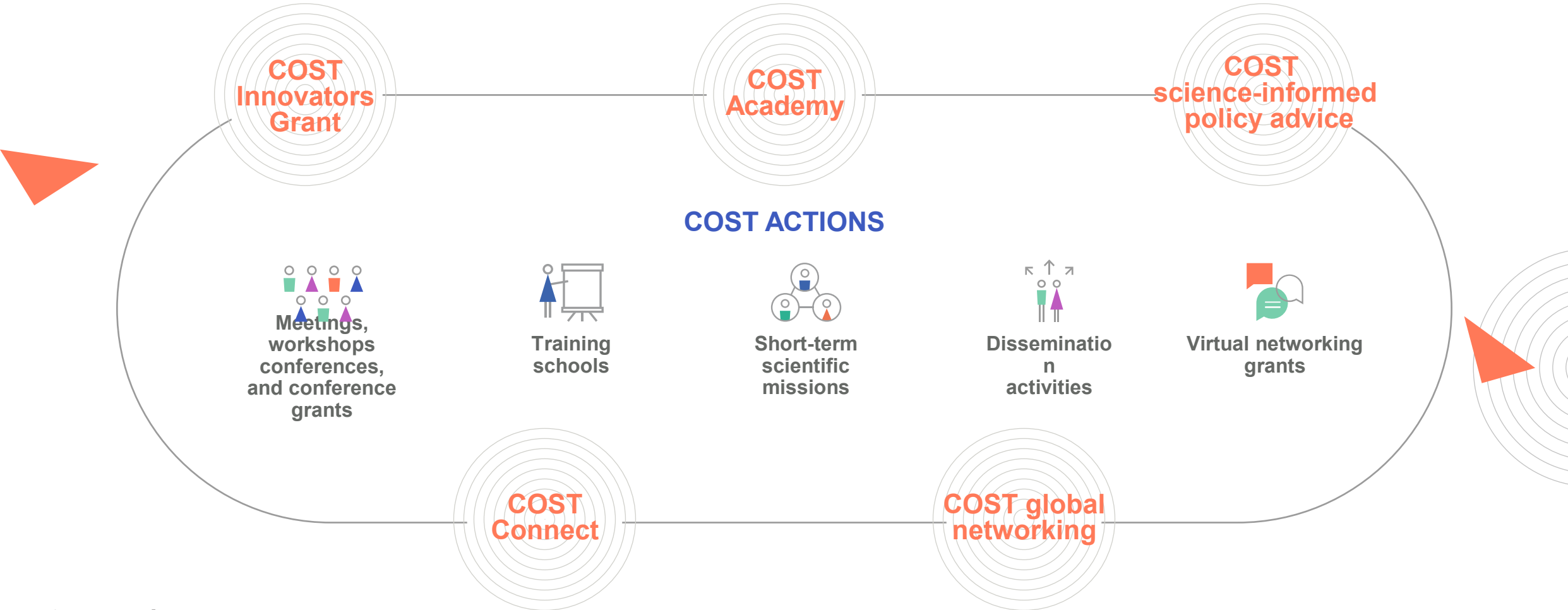


# How it works?



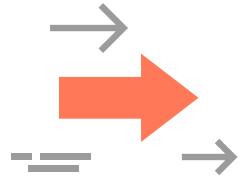


# Implementing COST's strategic priorities



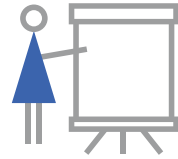


# Key figures



**292**

Running Actions



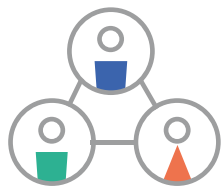
**228**

Training schools



**€134,500**

Average annual budget  
of a COST Action



**1,425**

Short-term  
scientific missions



**45,000**

Researchers involved  
in COST Actions



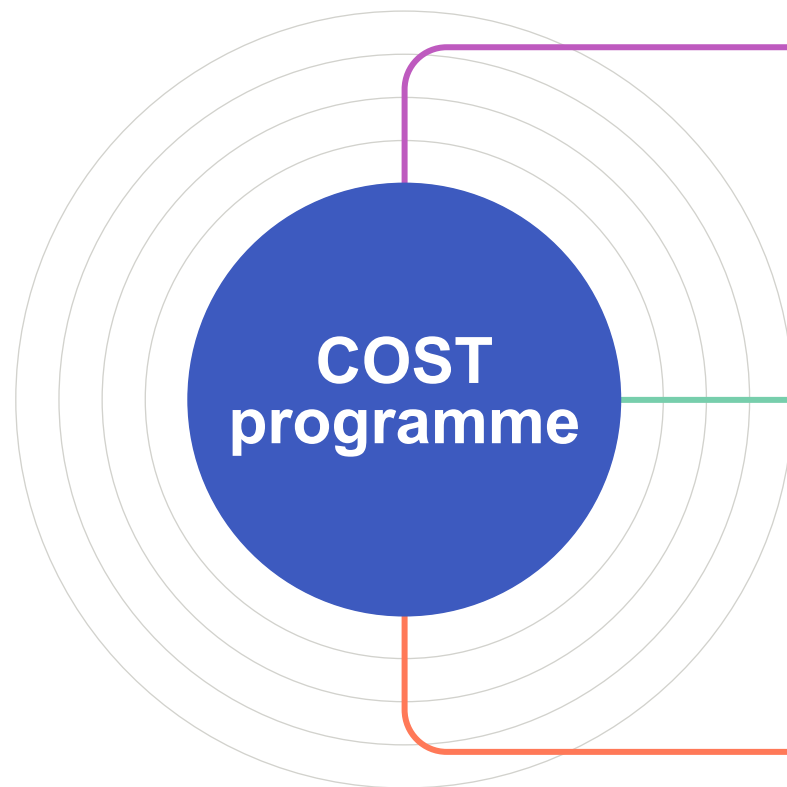
**€153 million**

COST budget  
(in Horizon Europe for a 3-year period)

# The value of networking

## Participation in COST Actions

Follow-up proposals have a success rate of more than **37%**



**60 Actions**  
end every year  
(on average)



**€5.8 million spin-off**  
funding per Action  
(on average)



**€2.6 billion across**  
Horizon 2020

# Examples of COST Actions:



- CA20140 – The European Network for **Stem Cell** Core Facilities
- CA22124 - EU **Circular Economy** Network for All: Consumer Protection through reducing, reusing, repairing (ECO4ALL)
- CA18113 - Understanding and exploiting the impacts of low pH on **micro-organisms** (EuroMicropH)
- CA22121 - Rising **nationalisms, shifting geopolitics** and the future of European higher education/research openness (OPEN)
- CA22146 - Harnessing the potential of underutilized crops to promote sustainable *food production* (DIVERSICROP)
- CA21135 – Modelling immunotherapy response and toxicity in **cancer**

COST Actions

# An efficient networking tool

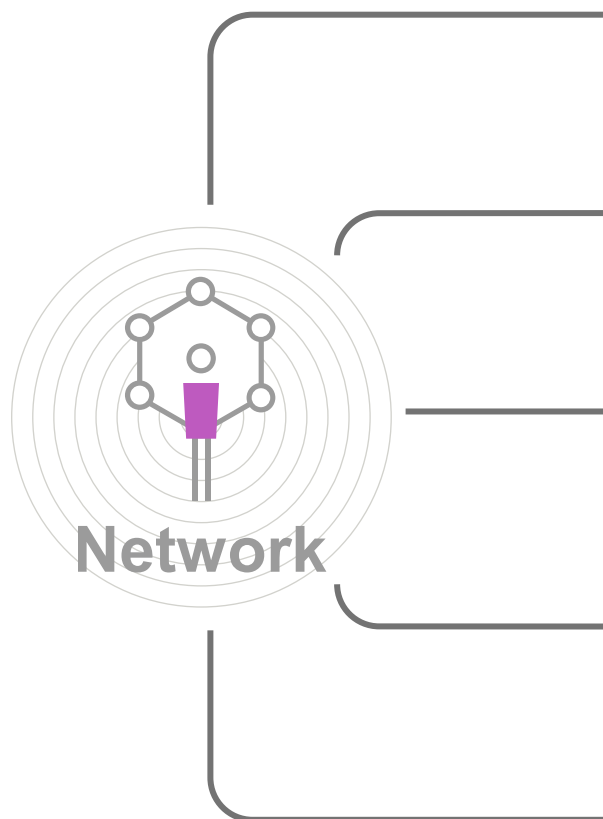


# COST Actions

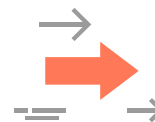
AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

**COST provides funding** for research coordination and capacity building activities

COST is not funding research itself, but pooling resources and research results by networking



Memorandum of Understanding



4 years



Min 7 countries, average participation 30 countries



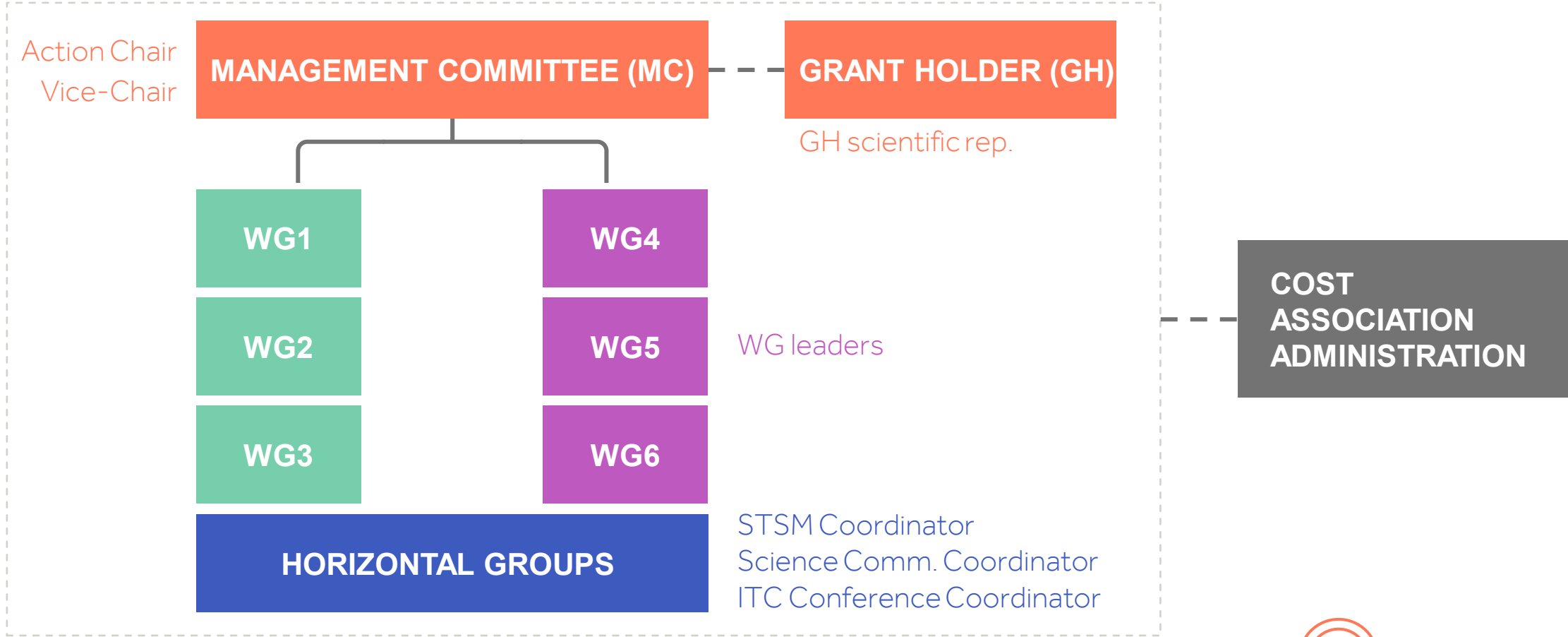
Research coordination and capacity building activities

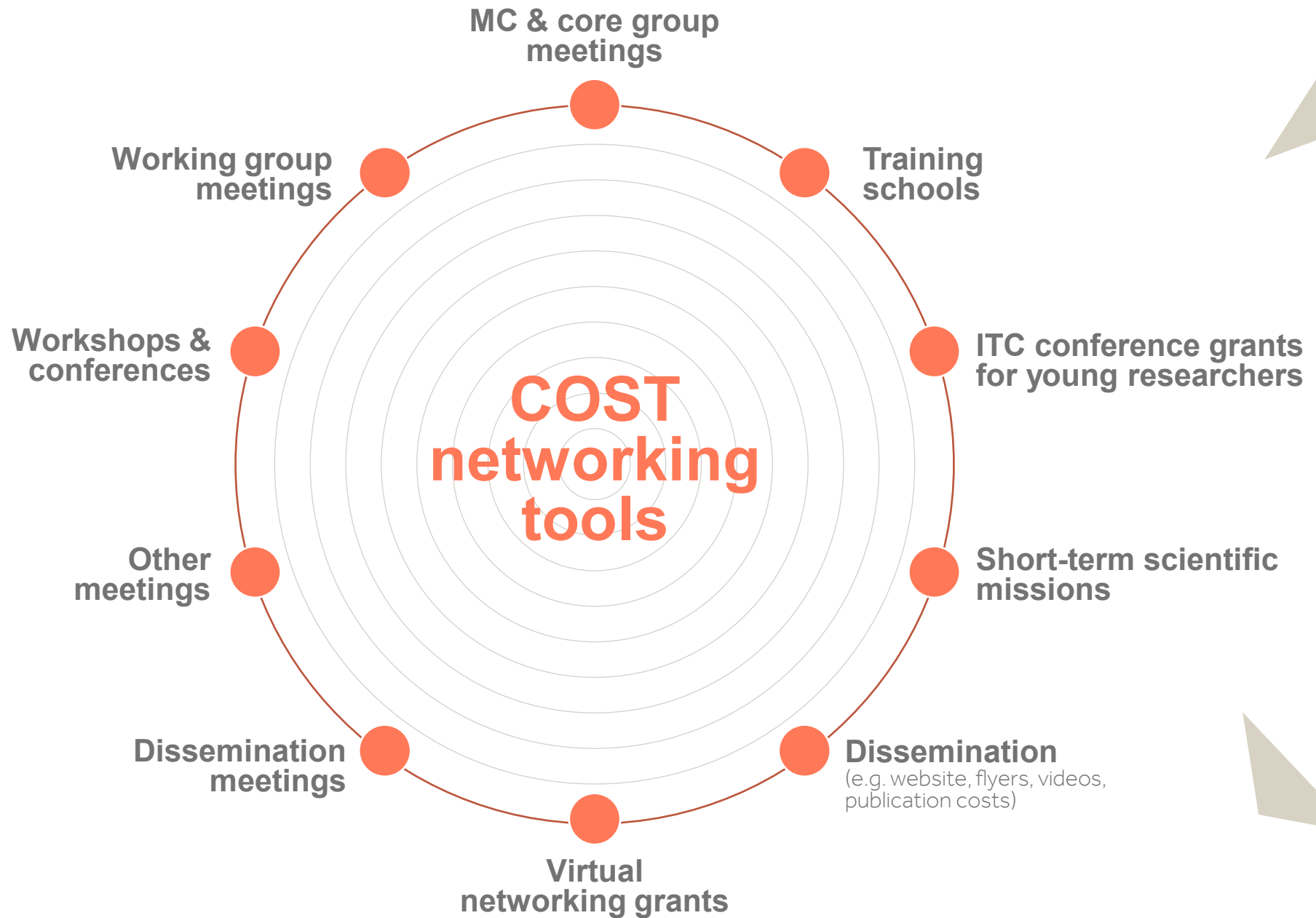


~ €600,000 over lifetime

# COST Action structure

## LEADERSHIP POSITIONS









# Funding offered by COST

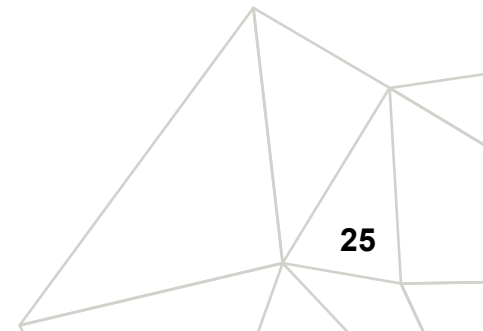
- **Meetings**

Travel reimbursement of the meeting participants

- ✓ Daily allowance (accommodation, meals, local transport)
- ✓ Long distance travel expenses (on face value)

- **Local Organiser Support**

- ✓ Face to face or virtual events





# Funding offered by COST

- ✓ **Dissemination of research activities**
  - ✓ ITC Conference Grants
  - ✓ Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)
  
- **Dissemination Conference Grants**
  - ✓ Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)
  
- **Dissemination activities**
  - ✓ Open Access publications, books, websites, etc.



# Funding offered by COST

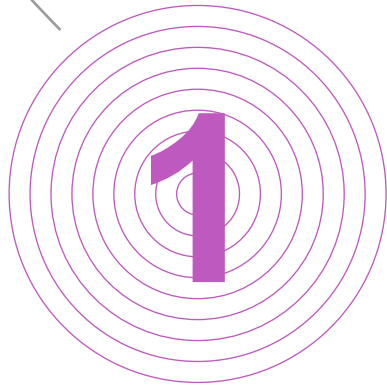
- **Mobility of researchers**
  - ✓ Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)
  - ✓ Up to 4000 EUR
  
- **Virtual Mobility Grants**
  - ✓ Up to 1500 EUR

# How to engage with COST?





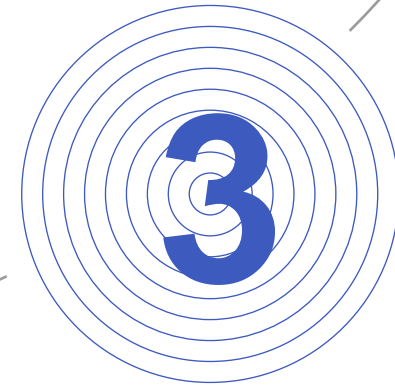
# How to engage with COST?



As a **participant**  
of a running Action

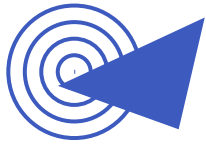


As a **proposer**  
of a new COST Action



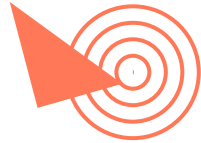
As **expert** to evaluate  
submitted proposals

# 1. As a participant in a running Action (1/2)



## FIND THE ACTION IN YOUR FIELD

of interest on the COST website



**READ THE PROJECT PLAN (MoU)** – identify your potential contribution



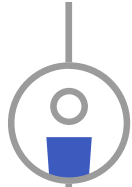
**BROWSE THE ACTION'S OWN WEBSITE** – check their activities



**IDENTIFY THE OPPORTUNITIES** to join the Action and your contact person



# 1. As a participant in a running Action (2/2)



**AS A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MC) MEMBER** (contact the COST National Coordinator)



**AS A WORKING GROUP (WG) PARTICIPANT**  
(contact the WG leader)



**AS A PARTICIPANT IN ACTION ACTIVITIES**  
short-term scientific mission, ITC conference grant, training school, workshop/conference, ...  
(check the Action's website, contact the chair or the national MC member)

# Management committee member

The role of the Action MC shall be to:

- Take necessary actions to meet the aims and objectives of the COST Action by assuring all relevant aspects of the management of the network, stakeholder engagement and dissemination of results;
- Contribute to the COST mission and strategic priorities.
- Represent the COST Member State's national community of researchers and innovators on the Action's topic.

Action MC Members or Observers shall:

- Actively participate to the work of at least one WG;
- Serve and represent their COST Member or Specific Organisation's community in order to:
  - coordinate the input to the Action at national level or inside a Specific Organisation;
  - disseminate opportunities arising within the Action at national level or inside a Specific Organisation; and
  - report to the Responsible for nomination as required.



# Working group member

Working Group members and individuals with an affiliation to a legal entity anywhere in the world.

- The objectives of Working Groups (WG) are to perform the tasks required for a COST Action to fulfil its scientific objectives in line with those objectives defined in the MoU.
- WG members shall actively participate to the WG activities and coordination of research efforts.

# Browse Actions

[Home](#) > [COST Actions](#) > Browse Actions

Action or Innovators Grant number or text

Search

Search in Title Only

More filters ▾



**CA22124** | 07/11/2023 - 06/11/2027

EU Circular Economy Network for All: Consumer Protection through reducing, reusing, repairing (ECO4ALL)



**CA22165** | 06/11/2023 - 05/11/2027

Redressing Radical Polarisation: Strengthening European Civil Spheres facing Illiberal Digital Media (DepolarisingEU)



**CA22136** | 06/11/2023 - 05/11/2027

Pan-European Network of Green Deal Agriculture and Forestry Earth Observation Science (PANGEOS)



**CA22103** | 30/10/2023 - 29/10/2027

A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK AGAINST BRAIN CANCER (Net4Brain)



**CA22152** | 26/10/2023 - 25/10/2027

Supporting emerging care economy, empowering caregivers to provide safe care at home (BetterCare)



**CA22118** | 26/10/2023 - 25/10/2027

Radionuclide theragnostics for personalised medicine (RATIONALE)

# Becoming a member of a Working Group (WG)

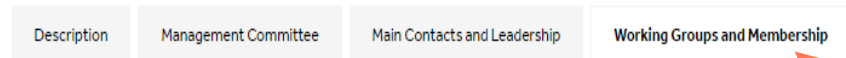
Apply via the COST website - MC members as well

WG preference, Scientific Background, Motivation, WG contribution

Approved WG members will appear on the Action page of the COST website



[Home](#) > [Browse Actions](#) > Establishing Networks to Implement the Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations (IMPLEMENDEZ)



## Working Groups

Number	Title	Leader
1	Investigation, Interviewing, Interrogation Themes	TBA
2	Law, Human Rights, Criminal Justice Themes	TBA
3	Vulnerability Themes	TBA
4	Institutional and Governmental Leadership Themes	TBA

Express your interest to join any of the working groups by applying below.

It is required to have an e-COST profile to submit your application. If needed, [create it first](#) and then click 'Apply'.



### Action Details

- MoU - 038/23
- CSO Approval date - 12/05/2023
- Start date - 05/10/2023
- End date - 04/10/2027

### How can I participate?

- Read the Project Description [MoU](#)
- Inform the Main Proposer/Chair of your interest ([email](#))
- [Apply](#) to join your Working Groups of interest
- Please note, Management Committee nominations are carried out through the [COST National Contact Points](#)

# Participant in Action Activities

➤ Short-term scientific mission

➤ ITC conference grant

**Apply for new Grant**

### Mobility of researchers and innovators

**Short-Term Scientific Mission grant**  
Visit of a host organization located in a different country than the country of affiliation by a Researcher or Innovator for the specific work to be carried out and for a determined period of time. The grantee receives funding for implementing a project with an international team and gains new knowledge or access to equipment or techniques not available in the home institution.

[Continue](#)

**Virtual Mobility grant**  
Financial support for Researchers or Innovators (with a primary affiliation to an institution located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or from a COST Near Neighbour Country) to foster collaboration in a virtual setting, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc.

[Continue](#)

### Presentations at conferences organised by third parties

**Dissemination Conference grant**  
Financial support to Action participant for their participation in high-level conferences to present the Action, their activities, and results (oral presentation) and for developing new contacts and potential future collaborations.

[Continue](#)

**ITC Conference grant**  
Financial support for Young Researchers and Innovators affiliated in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country for their participation in high-level conferences. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (poster/oral presentation) at a conference and can establish new contacts for future collaborations.

[Continue](#)

### Virtual Networking Support

**Virtual Networking Support grant**  
Assessing and supporting the new forms of collaboration in a virtual and hybrid settings. This aims to be a complement to traditional ways of collaboration within the research and innovation communities and among the members of a given Action.

[Continue](#)

# 2. As proposer of a new COST Action

COST OPEN CALL

One-stage **online submission** of proposals (e-COST)

**Proposal should focus on** S&T Excellence, Networking Excellence, Impact and Implementation

**Up to 70 COST Actions** approved per collection

**Main** proposer + **secondary** proposer

**Collection date:**  
23 October  
2024 12:00 CET

[www.COST.eu](http://www.COST.eu)  
[opencall@cost.eu](mailto:opencall@cost.eu)

# Tips for submitting a winning COST Action proposal



[watch the video](#)

# Open Call for proposals – how to apply

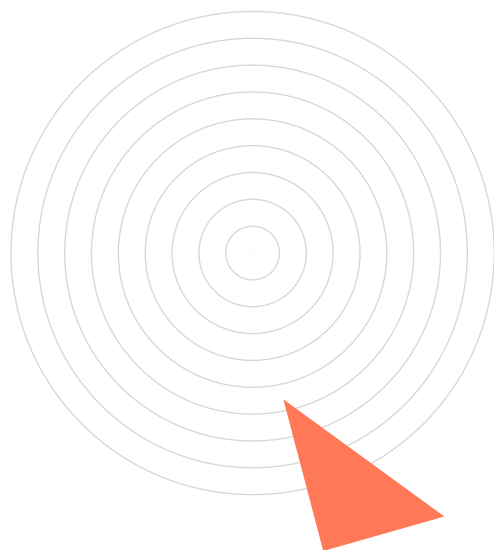
E-COST



1

Create a COST account:

<https://www.cost.eu/ecost>



2

> Open Call

Open Call  
COST Actions

> Proposals

Calendar  
Proposals  
Evaluations

> Create new proposal

Create New Proposal

3

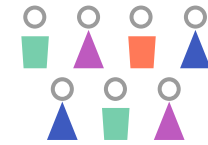
Online registration  
and submission:  
General information  
+ Technical Annex



# Proposals



**GENERAL  
FEATURES**



**NETWORK  
OF  
PROPOSERS**



**TECHNICAL  
ANNEX**

([www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu))

1. S&T Excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation



**COST EXCELLENCE AND  
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY  
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**







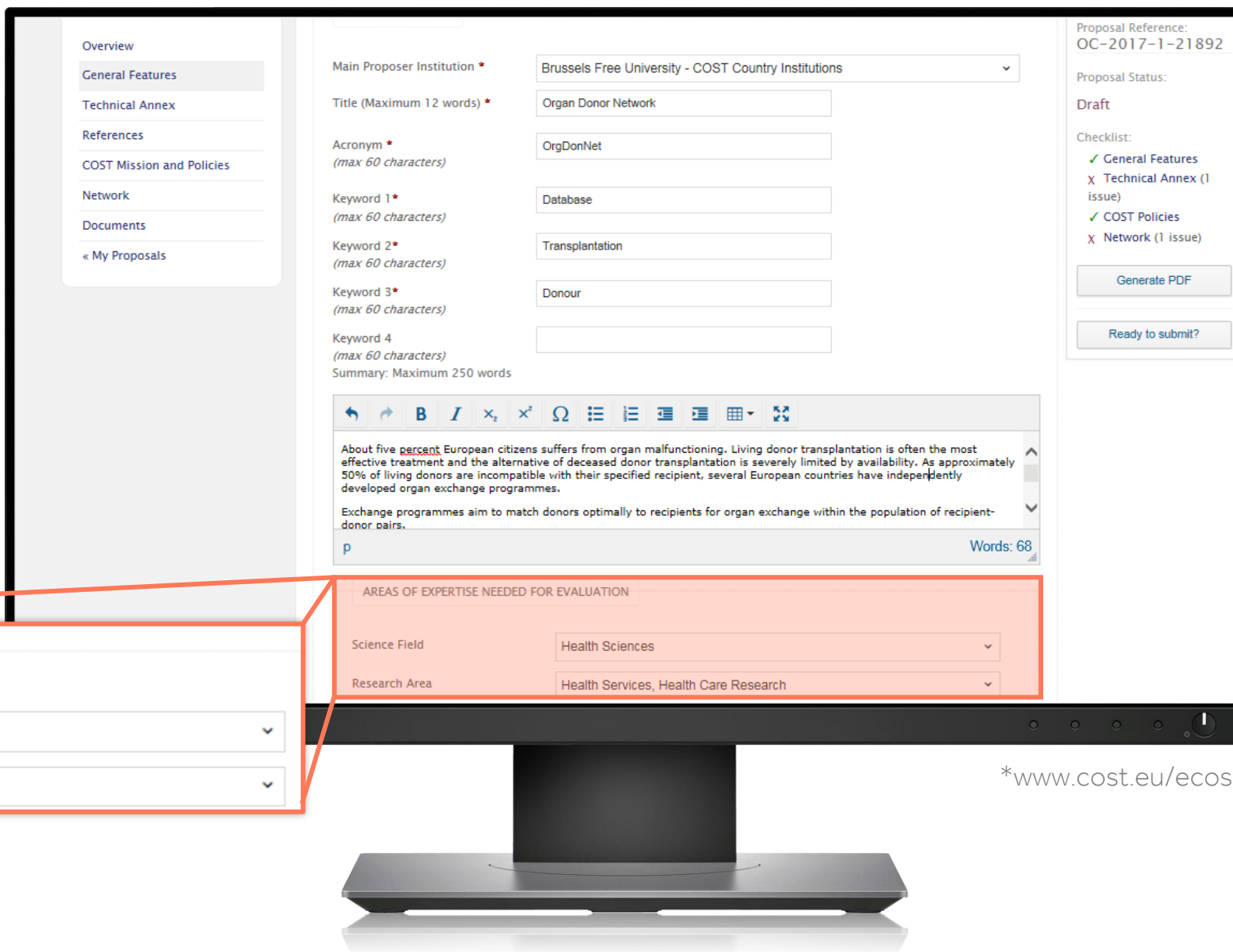
# Proposals



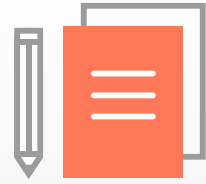
**GENERAL  
FEATURE  
S**



# Online submission tool (e-COST)\*



\*[www.cost.eu/ecost](http://www.cost.eu/ecost)



# Proposals



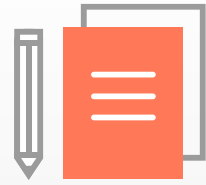
GENERAL  
FEATURE  
S



**TECHNICAL  
ANNEX**

([www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu))

1. S&T Excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation



# Proposals



GENERAL  
FEATURE  
S



## TECHNICAL ANNEX

([www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu))

1. S&T Excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation

Funding ▾ COST Actions ▾ Ad

> How to get funding

- How to apply
- Open Call
- Evaluation, selection and approval
- [Documents and guidelines](#)

# Open Call for proposals

TECHNICAL ANNEX



## SECTIONS

---

**1.** S&T EXCELLENCE

---

**2.** NETWORKING  
EXCELLENCE

---

**3.** IMPACT

---

**4.** IMPLEMENTATION

## SUB-SECTIONS

---

**1.1** Soundness of the challenge  
**1.2** Progress beyond the state-of-the-art

---

**2.1** Added value of networking in S&T excellence  
**2.2** Added value of networking in impact

---

**3.1** Impact to science, society and competitiveness,  
and potential for innovation/breakthroughs  
**3.2** Measures to maximise impact

---

**4.1** Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

- Downloadable Word template
- Max. 15 pages
- Diagrams and figures accepted





# Proposals

**GENERAL  
FEATURES**



**TECHNICAL  
ANNEX**

1. S&T excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation

**COST EXCELLENCE AND  
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY  
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**



# COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

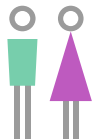
## PROMOTING



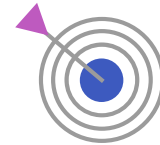
**GEOGRAPHICAL  
BALANCE** (ITC)



**AGE BALANCE**  
(young researchers)



**GENDER BALANCE**  
throughout its activities



## OBJECTIVES

**1.**

**Identifying excellence**  
in science and technology  
across Europe

**2.**

**Increasing research  
communities'** access  
to funding and infrastructures

**3.**

**Triggering structural changes**  
in COST Members' national  
research systems



# Proposals

GENERAL  
FEATURES

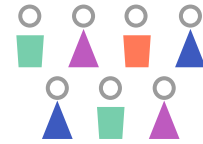


TECHNICAL  
ANNEX

1. S&T excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation

COST EXCELLENCE AND  
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY  
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

NETWORK  
OF  
PROPOSERS





# Evaluation

SESA



## ELIGIBILITY!

- Anonymous
- Minimum 50% ITC
- Peaceful purpose
- Format
- English

**STE**

①

**P**  
**EXTERNAL**  
**REMOTE**  
**EVALUATION**

- 3 Independent External Experts
- Technical Annex

**STE**

②

**P**  
**REVISION AND**  
**QUALITY CHECK**  
**BY REVIEW**  
**PANELS**

**STE**

③

**P**  
**SELECTION**  
**BY THE SCIENTIFIC**  
**COMMITTEE**

COST policy  
and objectives

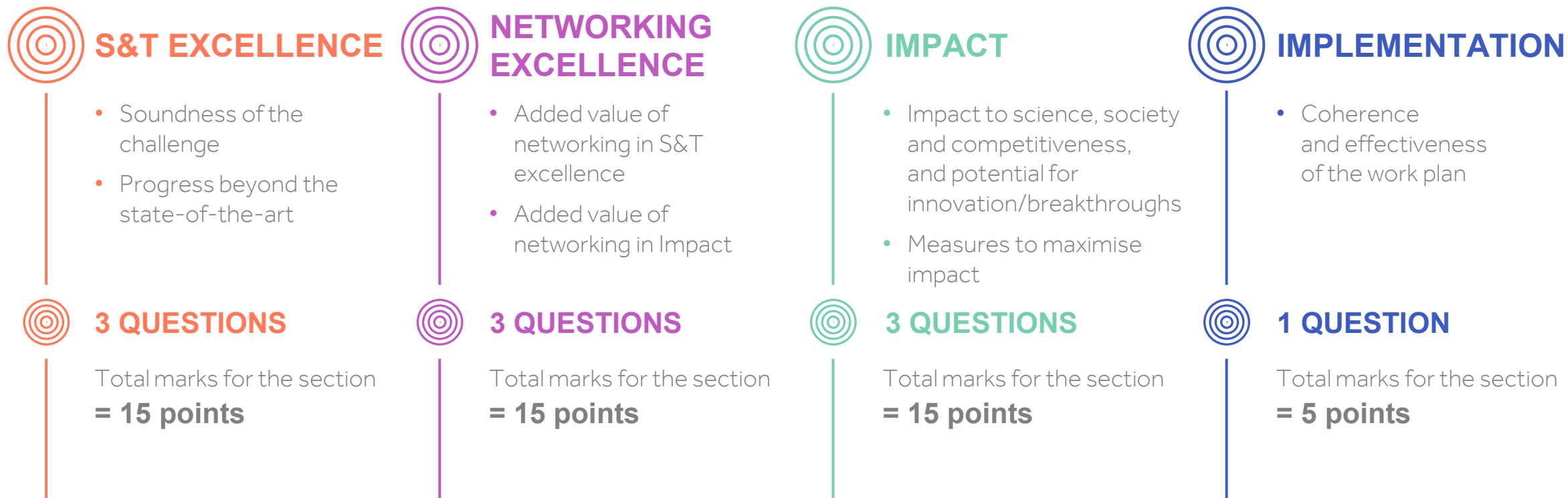
**STE**

④

**P**  
**APPROVAL BY**  
**COST COMMITTEE**  
**OF SENIOR**  
**OFFICIALS**

Results 7-8 months  
after submission

# Evaluation criteria



**TOTAL MARKS AWARDED = 50 points - OVERALL THRESHOLD = 34 points**

# How to apply in a nutshell



Read the official  
announcement

Online registration  
and submission (e-  
COST)

Helpdesk:  
[opencall@cost.eu](mailto:opencall@cost.eu)

Read the SESA  
Guidelines

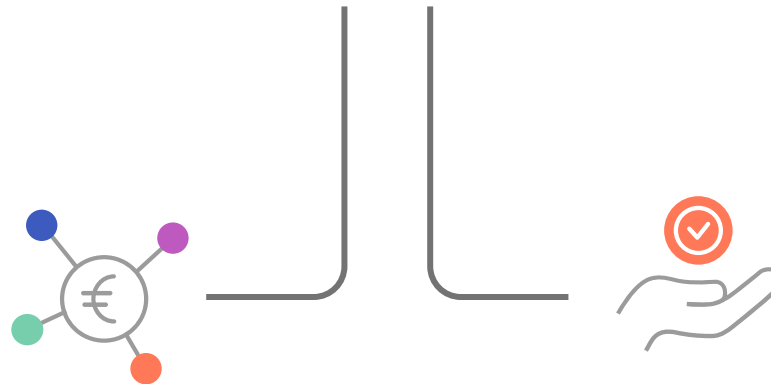
Technical Annex template  
(Documents and Guidelines  
repository on the COST website)



# 3. As external expert

**As a COST Expert,**  
you will have the opportunity to

**Contribute** to the  
evaluation of COST  
Open Call proposals



**Participate** in the  
assessment of Action  
results and outcomes



# Online COST Info Day

27 March 2024

10:00-11:30 CET

# THANK YOU!

