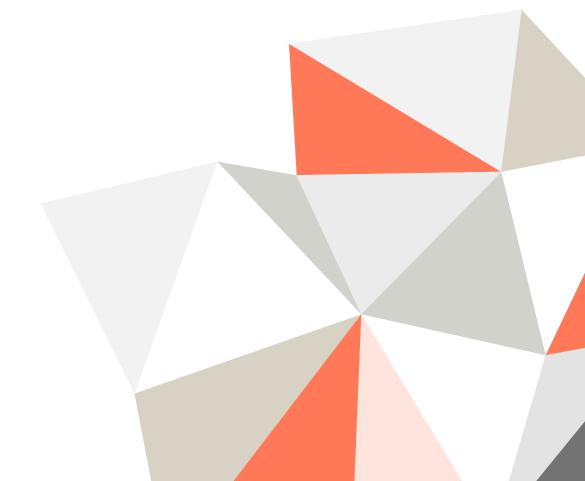


ONLINE COST INFO DAY

27 March 2024







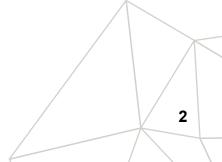




Practicalities

- The webinar is being recorded and the live streaming can be viewed on COST's YouTube channel (@costoffice)
- The recording will be available on COST's YouTube channel after the webinar
- The slides will be made available on the event page after the webinar https://www.cost.eu/cost-events/online-cost-info-day-2024/
- Questions during the session?
 - Zoom attendees can post their questions on the webinar chat
 - YouTube viewers can post their questions on the live streaming chat
- Questions after the session? Contact us at <u>events@cost.eu</u>







Programme

- 10:00 Welcome and introduction about COST Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association
- 10:10 What is COST and how to participate in a COST Action? Ms Salomé Moezzi-Gacon, COST Governance Officer
- 10:30 How to submit an application?
 Dr Angelo Basteris, Science Officer
- 10:50 Which networking activities are funded within COST Actions? Ms Carmencita Malimban, COST Administrative Officer
- 11:00 What are the benefits of participating in COST?

 Dr Ciaran Mac Donncha, University of Limerick, COST Action representative
- 11:15 **Q&A**
- 11:30 End of the session





Introduction about COST

Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association



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



Promoting and spreading excellence

Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science

Empowering and retaining young researchers

VISION

Europe's most empowering research programme





COST Members 41 FULL COST Members

- Albania
- Armenia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia

- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary*
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- The Republic of Moldova
- Montenegro
- The Netherlands
- The Republic of North Macedonia

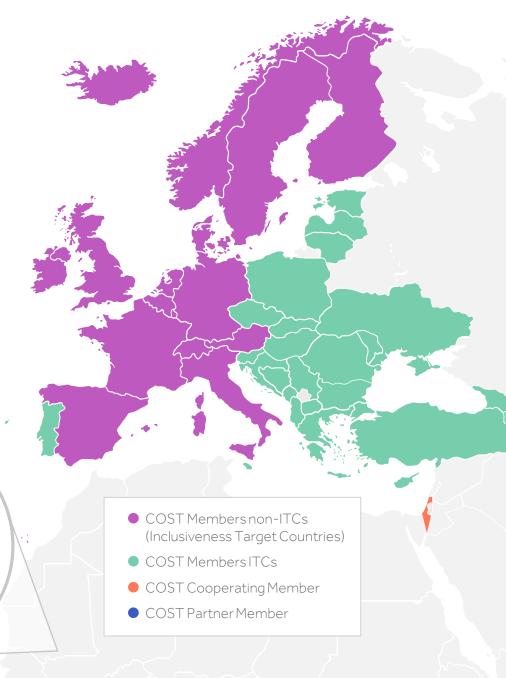
- Norway
- Poland
- PortugalRomania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Türkiye
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

1 Cooperating Member

Partner Member

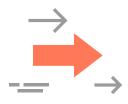
South Africa





Key figures





292 Running Actions



275 Training schools



€155,500 Average annual budget of a COST Action



2,113Short-term scientific missions



50,000Researchers involved in COST Actions



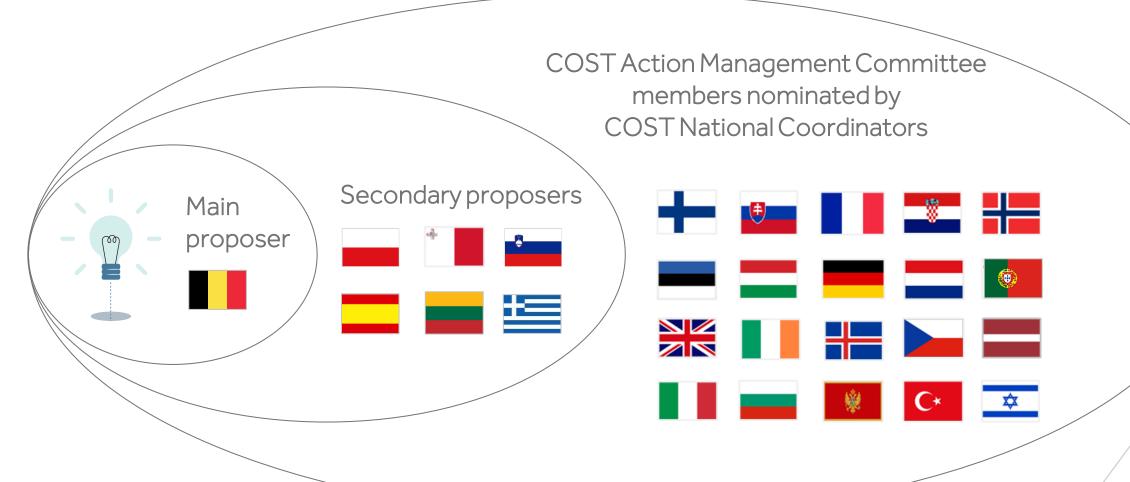
€153 million
COST budget
(in Horizon Europe for a 3-year period)







How does it work?







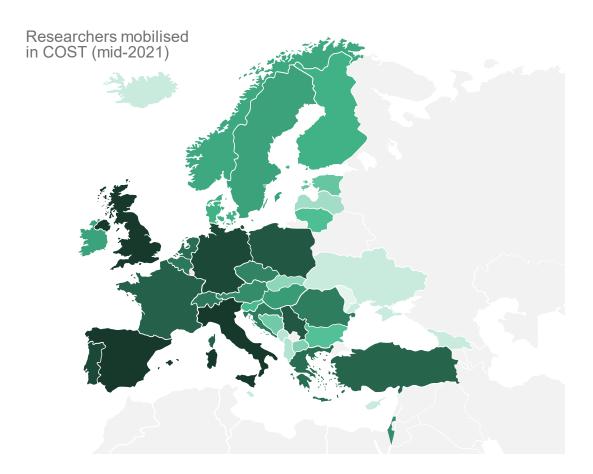
COST and the Strategic Priorities

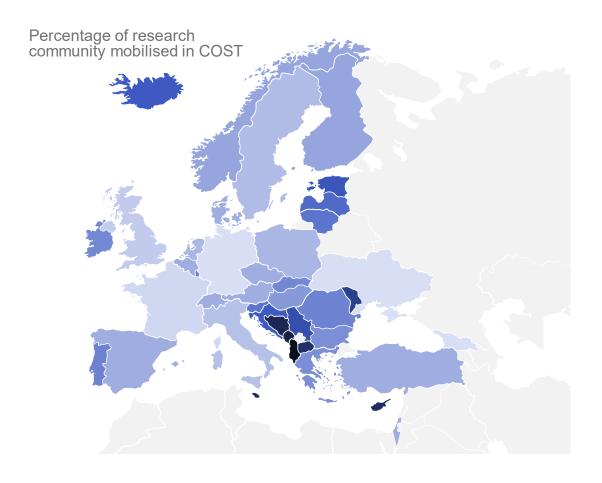


for breakthrough science

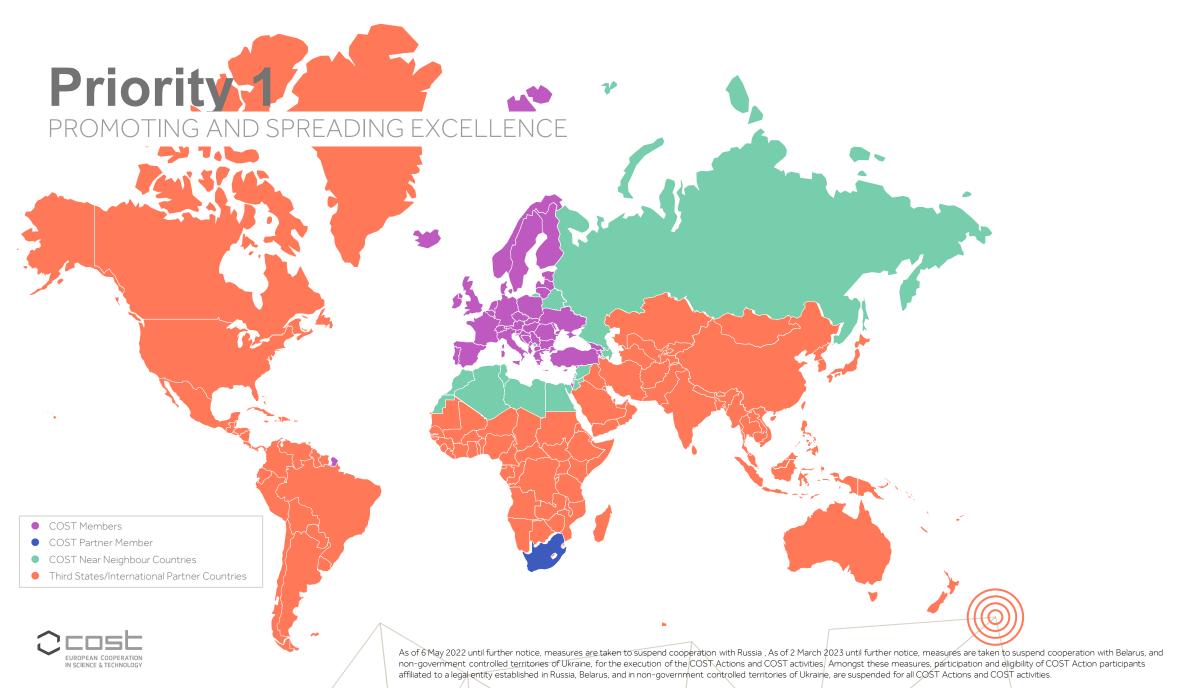


Priority 1 PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE



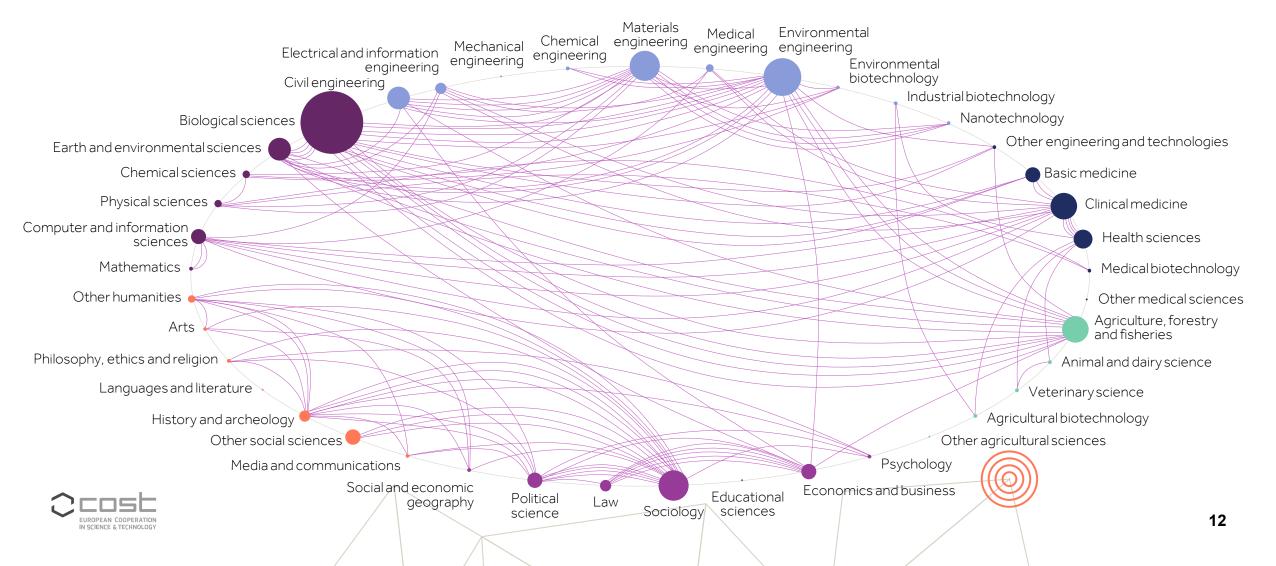






Priority 2

FOSTERING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE

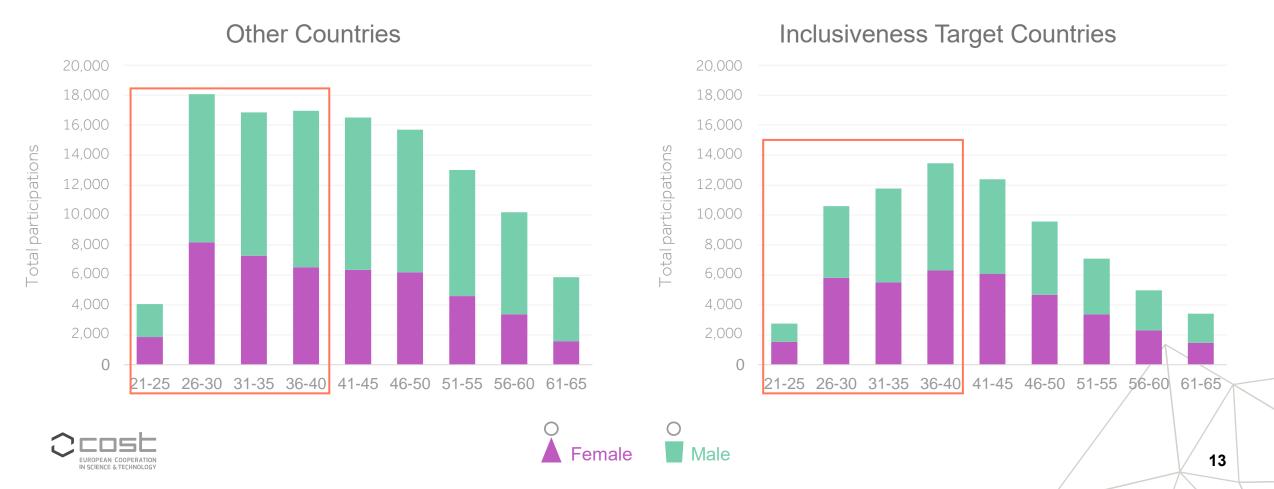




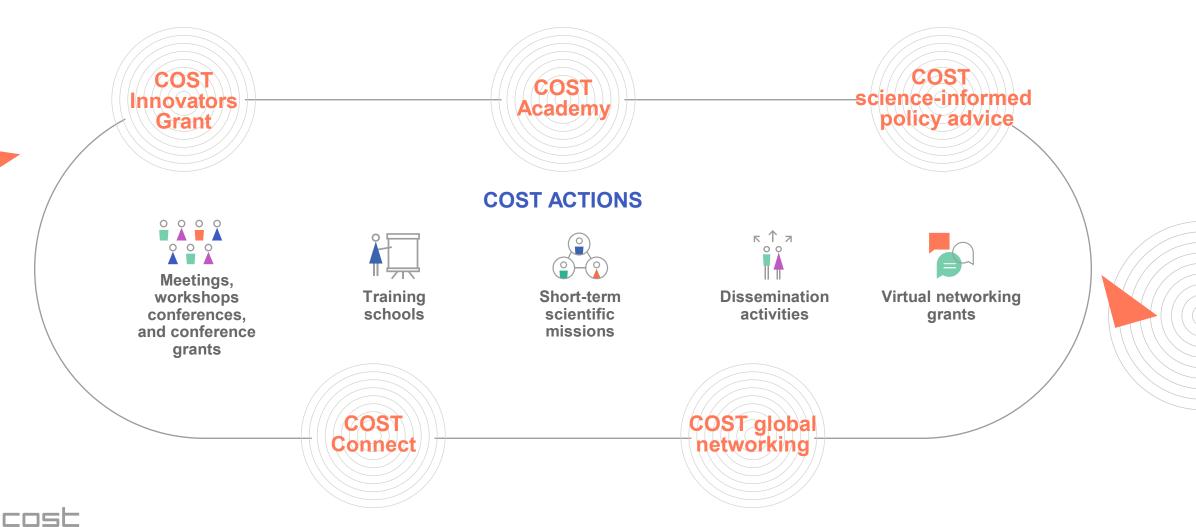
Priority 3

EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Data from Horizon 2020 (2014-2021)



Implementing COST's strategic priorities



Impact



Scientific and societal impact

• Scientific discoveries and breakthroughs, development of new research infrastructures, adoption of common standards, technological applications in the form of products and services, etc.



Research careers

• 85% of researchers participating in COST Actions indicate that participation has led to career advancement



Follow-up funding

 Horizon 2020 reported success rate: 39% (on a yearly basis, around €450 million of approved common research projects spin off from ending Actions)



Co-Publications

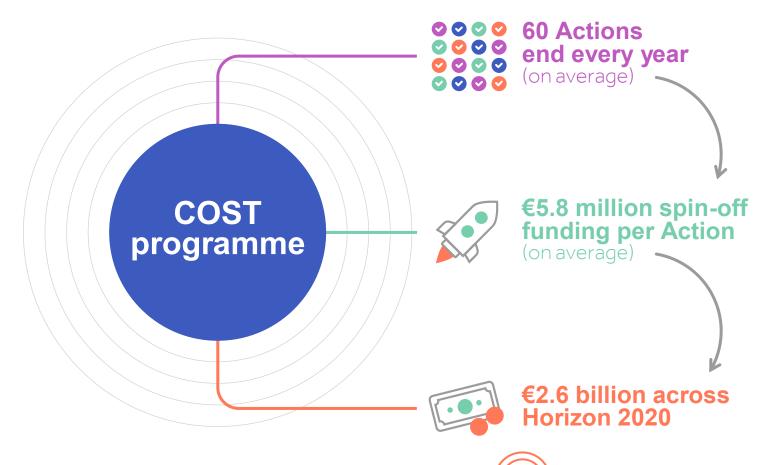
• Co-publications between active COST Action participants see an increase of about 55% compared to general co-publications



The value of networking

Participation in COST Actions

Follow-up proposals have a success rate of more than 39%







What is COST and how to participate in a COST Action? Ms Salomé Moezzi-Gacon, Governance Officer



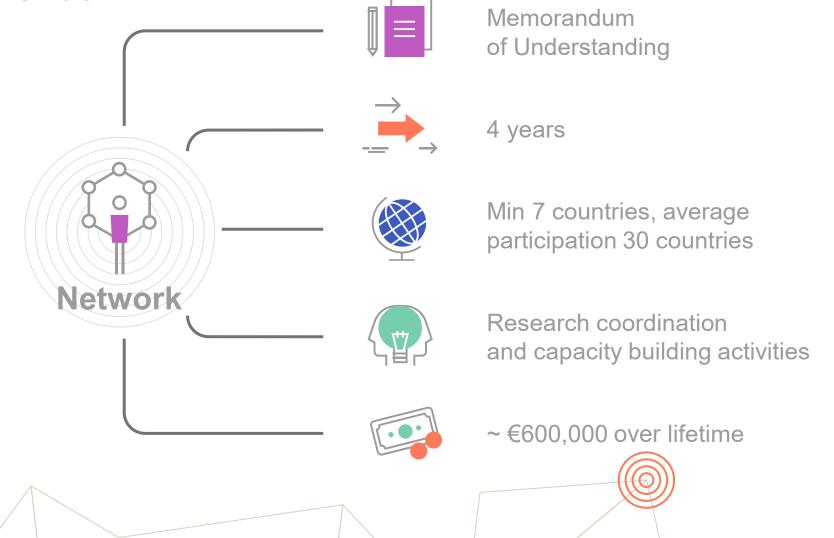
COST Actions

AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

COST provides funding

for research coordination and capacity building activities

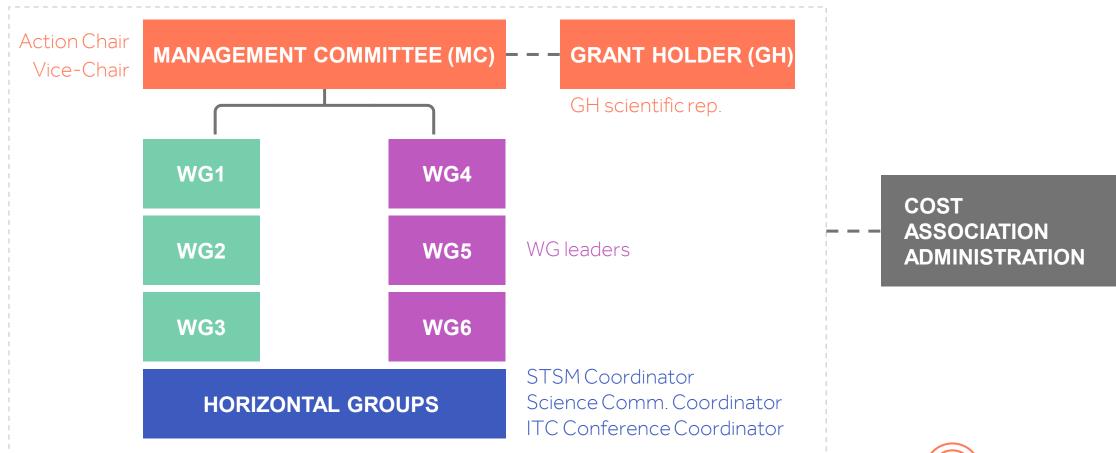
COST is not funding research itself, but pooling resources and research results by networking





COST Action structure

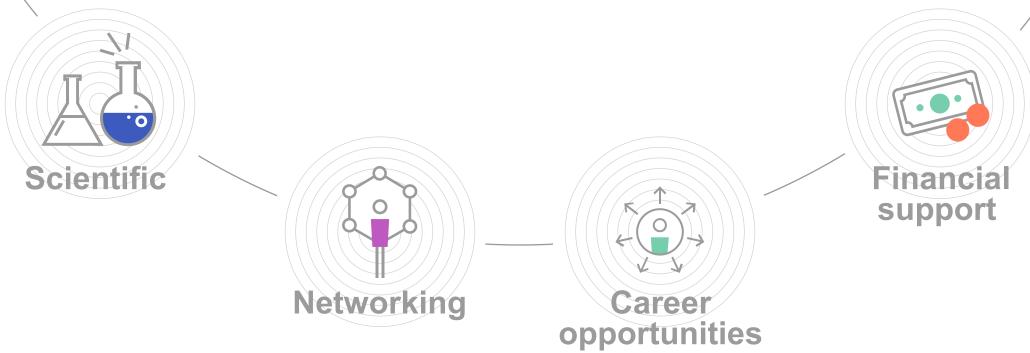
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS





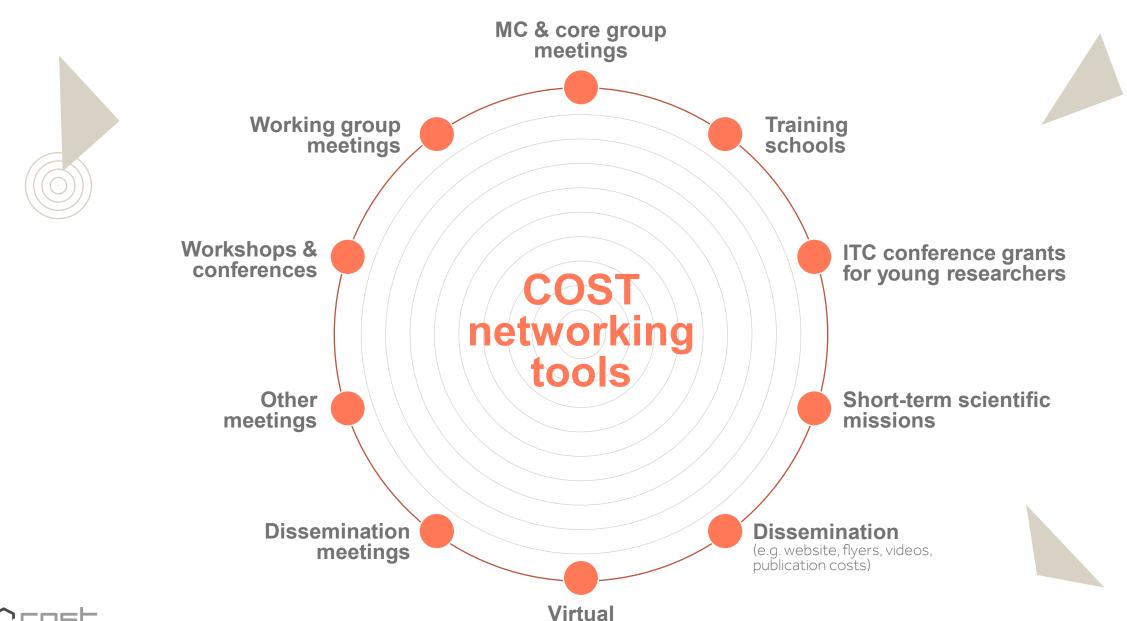












networking grants













More information: www.COST.eu







More information: <u>www.COST.eu</u>

As a participant in a running Action



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



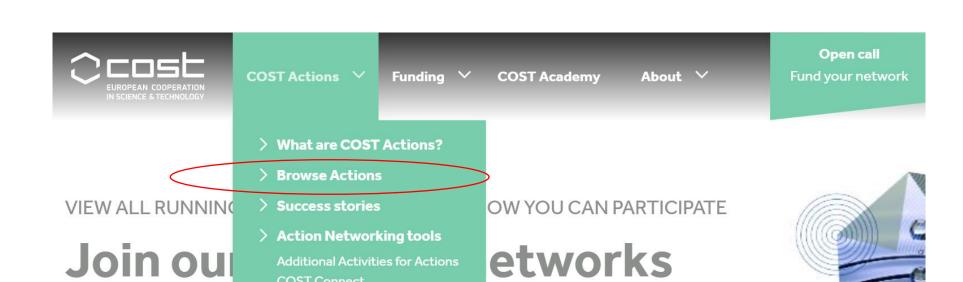
IDENTIFY THE OPPORTUNITIES

to join the Action and your contact person













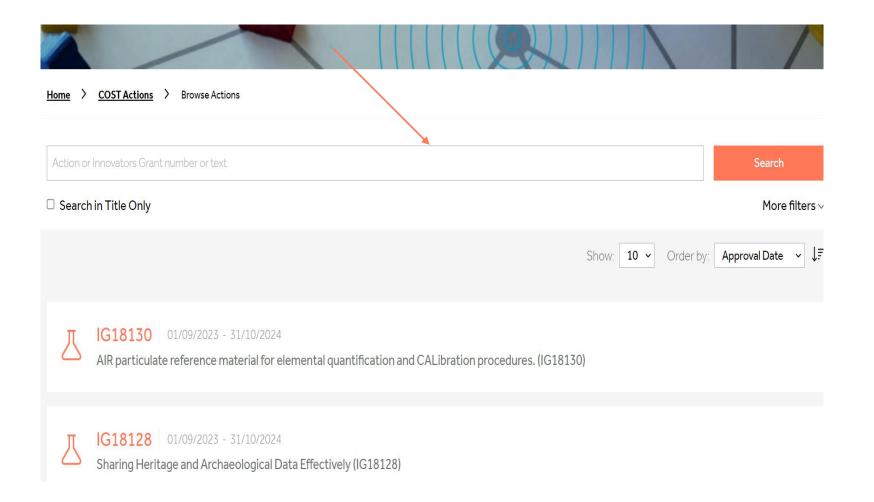
COST Connect

Download this new publ

> COST Innovators Grant

> Become an external expert









1. As a participant in a running Action



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

- 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.





Becoming a member of a Working Group

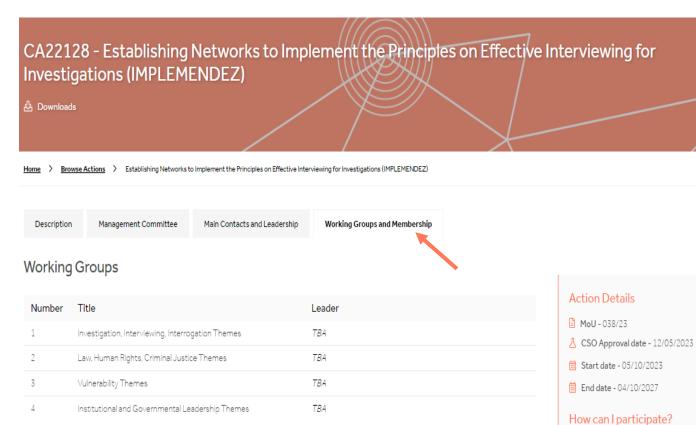
Express your interest to join any of the working groups by applying below.

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

Apply via the COST website - MC members as well

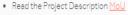
WG preference, Scientific Background, Motivation, WG contribution

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









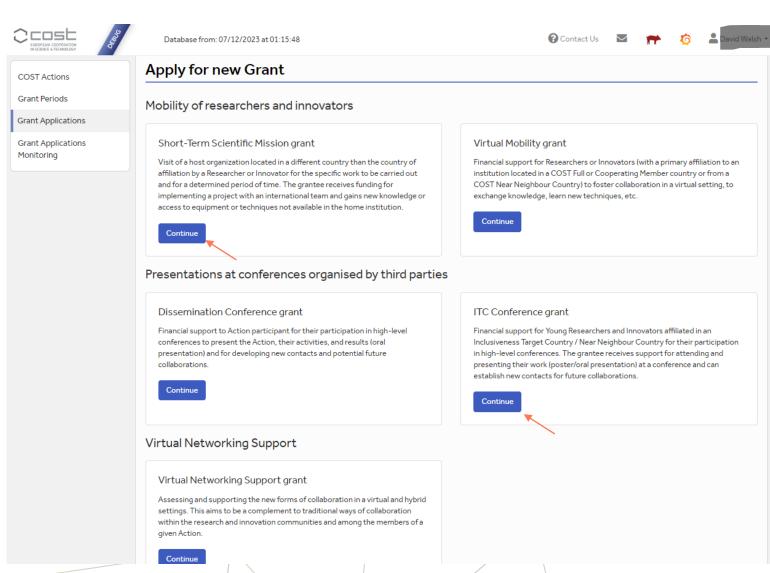
- Inform the Main Proposer/Chair of your interest (email)
- <u>Apply</u> to join your Working Groups of interest
- Please note, Management
 Committee nominations are
 carried out through the COST

tional Contact Point

Participant in Action Activities

- Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM)
- > ITC conference grant
- Dissemination
 Conference Grant





How to submit an application?







35



More information: www.COST.eu

Eligibility criteria

COST Action proposals must:

Represent a Network of Proposers from at least 7 different COST Full or Cooperating members (at least 50% shall be from Inclusiveness Target Countries)



Be original and on peaceful purposes



Make use of the Technical Annex template and respect word and page limits



Be written in English



Be anonymous













TECHNICAL ANNEX

(www.cost.eu)

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















Open Call for proposals

TECHNICAL ANNEX



- 1. S&T EXCELLENCE
- 2 NETWORKING EXCELLENCE
- 3. IMPACT
- 4. IMPLEMENTATION

SUB-SECTIONS

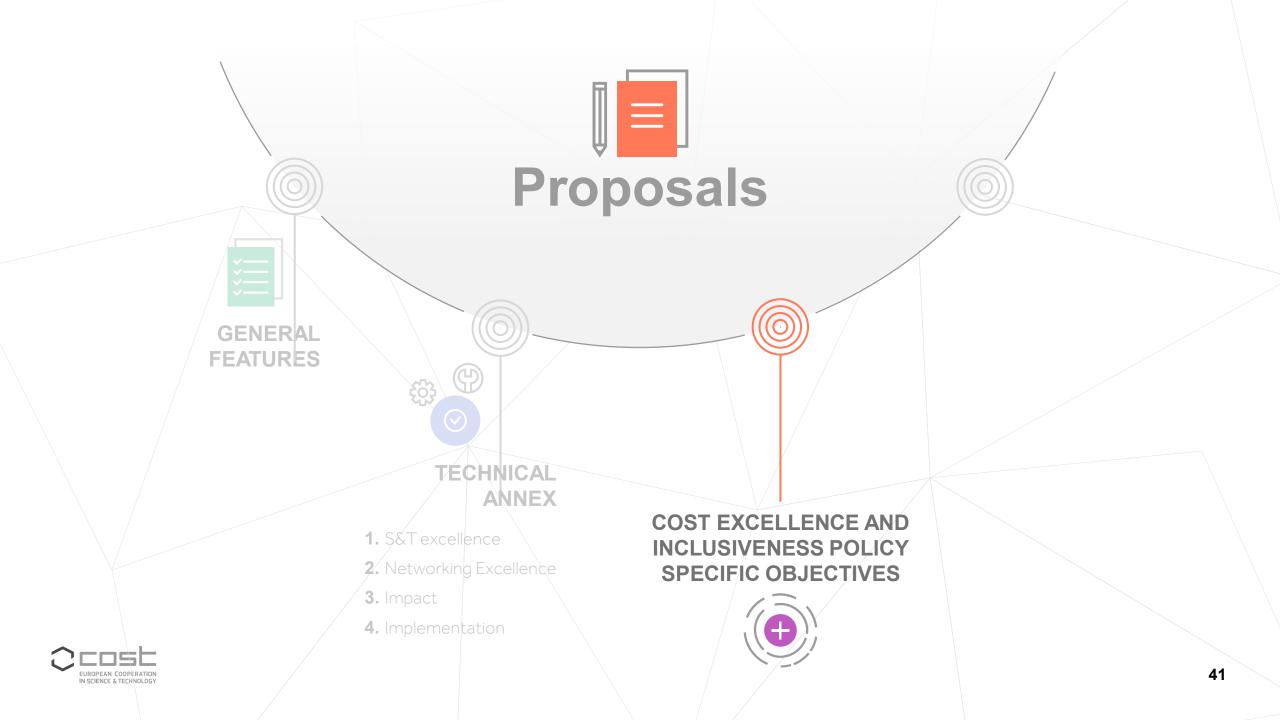
- **1.1** Soundness of the challenge
- **1.2** Progress beyond the state-of-the-art
- 2.1 Added value of networking in S&T excellence
- **2.2** Added value of networking in impact
 - Impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/breakthroughs
- **3.2** Measures to maximise impact
- Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan



- Max. 15 pages
- Diagrams and figures accepted
- References in an e-COST section (outside of the Technical Annex)







COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

PROMOTING



GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE (ITC)



AGE BALANCE

(young researchers)



GENDER BALANCE throughout its activities



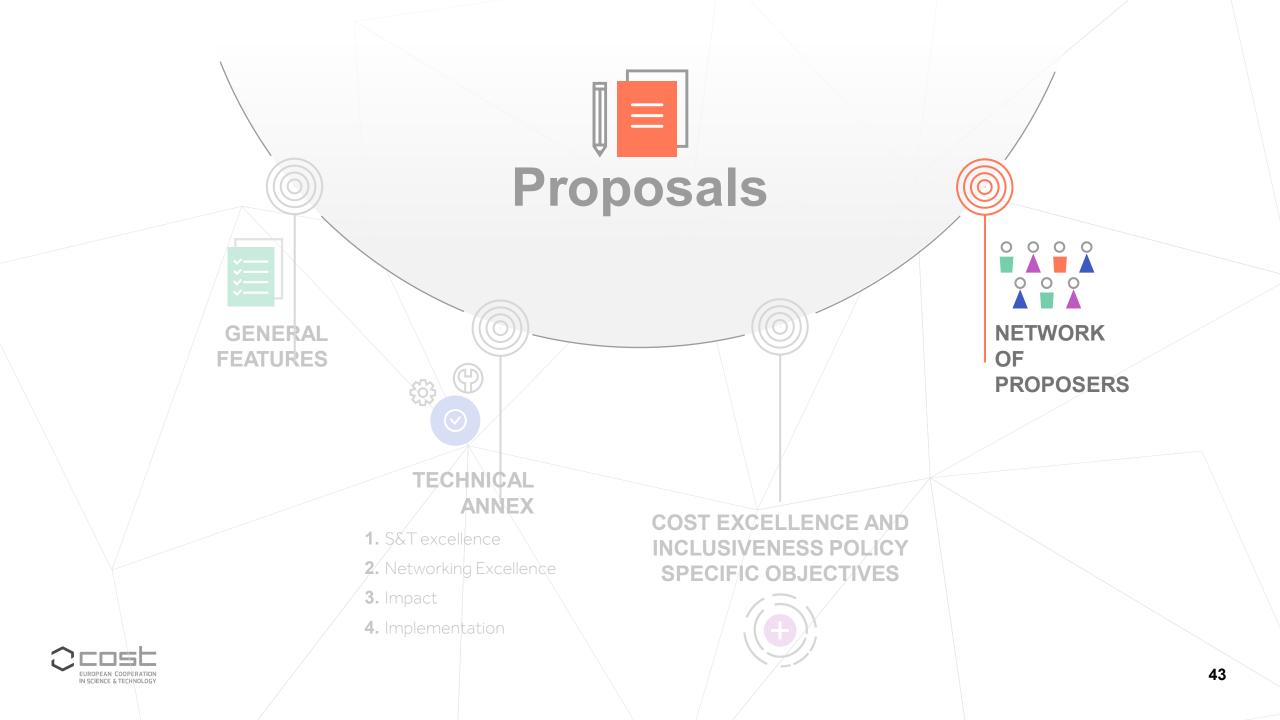
OBJECTIVES

- Identifying excellence
 in science and technology
 across Europe
- Increasing research communities' access to funding and infrastructures
- Triggering structural changes in COST Members' national research systems



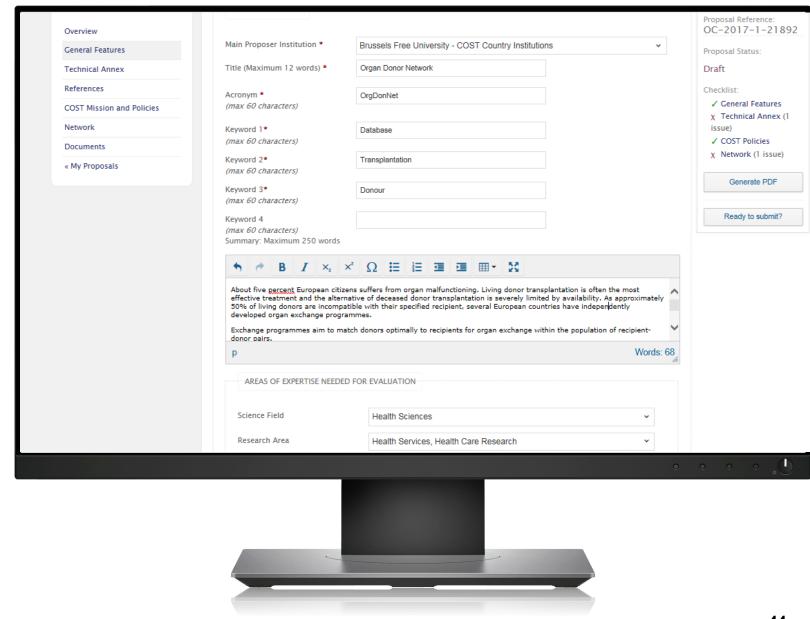






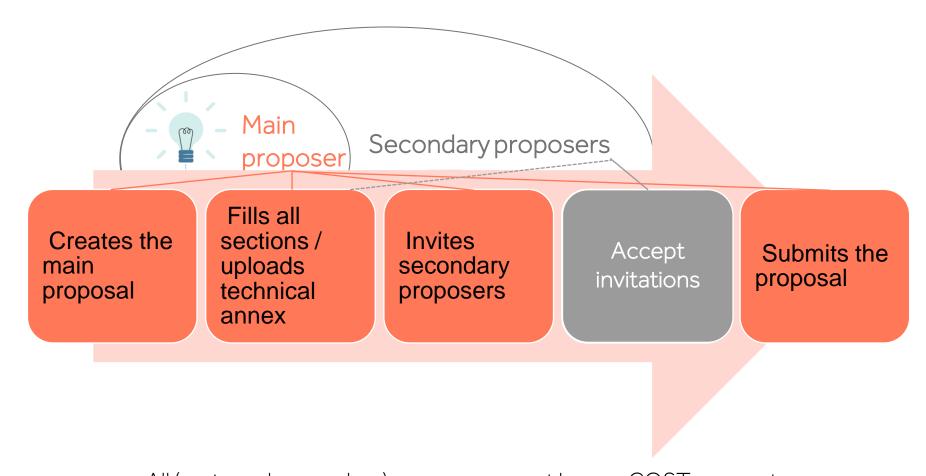
Submission is through e-COST

https://www.cost.eu/ecost





Main and secondary proposers





All (main and secondary) proposers must have a COST account: https://www.cost.eu/ecost

Evaluation and Selection

SUBMISSION **E**VALUATION **S**ELECTION APPROVAL



EXTERNAL REMOTE EVALUATION

- 3 Independent External Experts
- Technical Annex



REVISION AND
QUALITY CHECK
BY REVIEW
PANELS



SELECTION
BY THE SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE

COST policy and objectives



Evaluation criteria



- Soundness of the challenge
- Progress beyond the state-of-the-art



NETWORKING EXCELLENCE

- Added value of networking in S&T excellence
- Added value of networking in Impact



IMPACT

- Impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/breakthroughs
- Measures to maximise impact



 Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan



3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section

= 15 points



3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section

= 15 points



3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section

= 15 points



1 QUESTION

Total marks for the section

= 5 points

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



47

47

Approval

SUBMISSION EVALUATION SELECTION APPROVAL



EXTERNAL REMOTE EVALUATION

- 3 Independent External Experts
- Technical Annex



REVISION AND
QUALITY CHECK
BY REVIEW
PANELS



SELECTION
BY THE SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE

COST policy and objectives



APPROVAL BY
COST COMMITTEE
OF SENIOR
OFFICIALS
Results 7-8
months after
submission

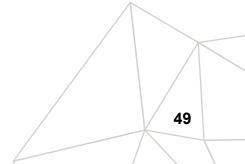






The next collection date will be 23 October 2024 at 12.00 (noon) CEST





Some tips

No budget draft/information is needed in the proposal

The following collection date is expected in Autumn 2025

Proposers are individuals (and not their entities of affiliation)

Use and don't change the template

(Documents and Guidelines on the COST website)

Every Open Call has a new template – proposers who submit for a second year shall adapt the proposal to the new template

Be careful about anonymity (check what is and what is not an anonymity breach)

e-COST allows resubmission

(submit draft days in advance, check submission and resubmit as update if needed)



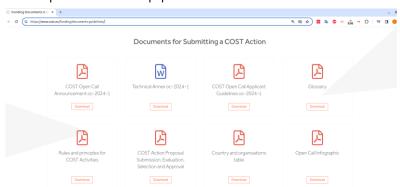
Resources

How to apply https://www.cost.eu/how-to-apply

Documents and guidelines

https://www.cost.eu/funding/documents-guidelines/

- Open Call Announcement
- Technical Annex template
- Open Call Applicant Guidelines







How to engage with COST?





of a new COST Action



More information: www.COST.eu



As external expert

As a COST Expert,

you will have the opportunity to





Participate in the assessment of Action results and outcomes





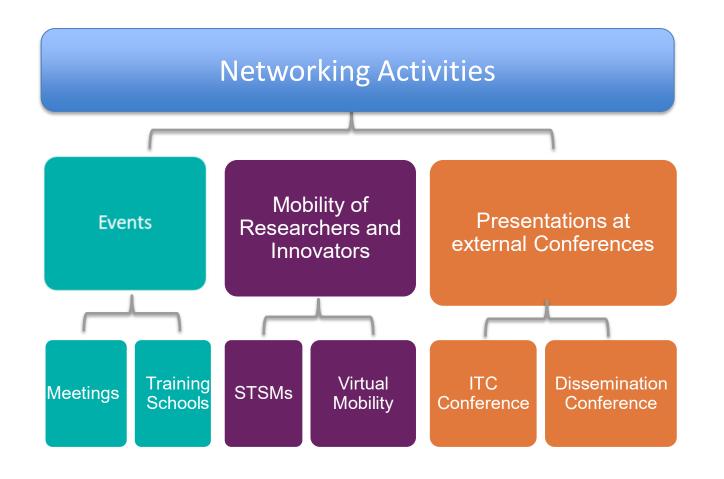


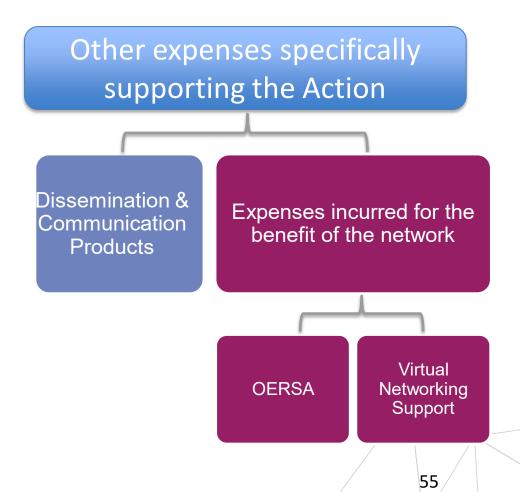
Which networking activities are funded within COST Actions?

Ms Carmencita Malimban, COST Senior Administrative Officer







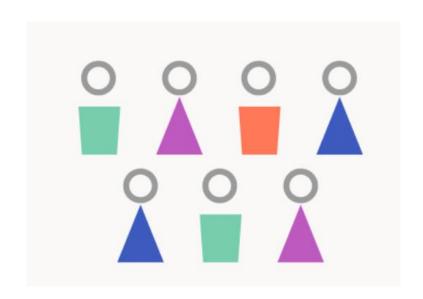


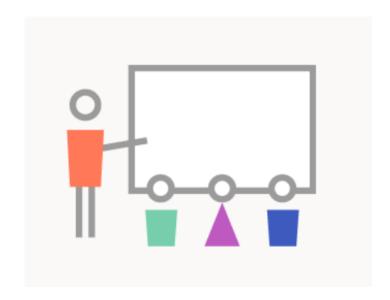




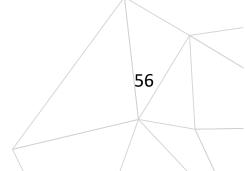
Local Organiser Support

• Financial contribution to organize Meetings and Training Schools









Events



 MC and WG members, Invited Speakers, ad hoc members



Travel reimbursement of the expenses incurred for attending COST events

Training Schools

Trainers / Trainees



Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM)



WHAT:

- Exchange visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, strengthening existing networks, fostering collaboration between COST Action participants
- Build capacity
- More than 90% of STSMs take place in COST countries, but can take place anywhere in the world

WHERE:

To a host organisation located in a different country than the country of affiliation

Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 4000 EUR, paid after report approval (after the STSM)



ITC Conference Grants

WHAT:

- Presentation of the own work given by a Young Researcher (age below 40) affiliated in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country for their participation in high-level conferences
- ITC Conference Grants support Young Researchers, establish a strong network and increase the visibility of the Action

WHERE:

To a high-level conference not organised by the Action itself anywhere in the world.

Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 2000 EUR or 500 EUR (virtual), paid after report approval





Dissemination Conference Grants

WHAT:

- Presentation of the results of the Action in high-level conferences as Invited Speaker
- To increase the visibility of the Action

WHERE:

To a high-level conference not organised by the Action itself anywhere in the world

Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 2000 EUR or 500 EUR (virtual), paid after report approval



Virtual Mobility (VM) Grant



WHAT:

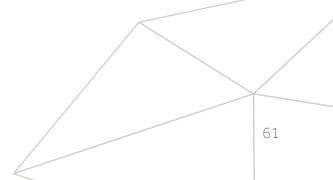
A collaboration in a virtual setting among Action researchers or innovators to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc.

Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 1500 EUR, paid after report approval (after the VM)









COST Info Day
CA19101 - DEPASS
March 27th, 2024
10.00 - 11.30 (CET)

Prof Ciaran Mac Donncha, University of Limerick, Ireland









DEPASS – DEterminats of Physical ActivitieS in Settings



Benefits of COST Actions – Illustrated by:



- Nature of Challenge value of COST Action Network
- Research co-ordination and capacity building objectives
- Nature of WG and breath of deliverables
- Action networking tools range, flexibility, value and impact
- Action outputs and key achievements
- Insights, opportunities and challenges
- DEPASS legacy phase

Background of the Action



- Action: At proposal (Sept 2019) 35 Countries and 104 proposers. Today: 40 Countries, 36/42 COST Members (21/25 ITCs); 4 NNC/IPCs; 300+.
- Proposal 2nd attempt, feedback hugely valuable, multidisciplinary, gender, ITCs, policy makers, existing networks
- November 2020 October 2024; Budget Approx: €160K/yr
- DEDIPAC State of the Art 2017, articulated needs and gaps, build on momentum and unique focus
- Why COST Network, Research Harmonisation & Sustainability
- Challenge: Establish a network of multidisciplinary stakeholders
 (scientists and policy-makers) who will identify, effectively measure and
 further understand setting specific factors which promote, maintain or
 inhibit lifespan physical activity behaviours. Meaningful knowledge
 transfer to policy makers is an essential characteristic.



DEPASS







Research Co-ord & Capacity Building Objs



- Use a settings approach (home, school, work etc.) to bridge the knowledge and translation gap;
- 2. Enact a multidisciplinary, Pan-European, international network of established, young researchers and innovators (YRIs) and policy makers;
- Exploit, consolidate and further integrate existing relevant expertise, evidence, resources and influence;
- 4. Develop capacities and careers for YRIs;
- 5. Provide a new European PABs conceptual framework, a best evidence statement and implementation guidelines for policy makers;
- 6. Define and standardise European measurement protocols;
- Provide proof of concept of harmonised European data collection of PABs and their determinants and
- Define an evidenced based and aspirational Pan-European research harmonisation and implementation strategy.

Action Structure



Management Committee - 2 members from each partner country

Core Group Board - Action Chair, Action Vice-Chair, WG 1-4 Leaders, Science Communication Managers, Grant Coordinators, Training School Coordinator, Grant Holder Manager

Implementation Group – CGB, WG and Deliverable Leaders

WG 1: Overall Management, Capacity Building, Dissemination and Exploitation

WG 2: Evidence Translation - Framework, Consensus and Guidelines

WG 3: PABs Determinant Profile Measurement Toolkit

WG 4: European Harmonisation of Data Collection

Action Deliverables



- D1.3 To define & promote a European research, harmonisation & implementation strategy which is both evidenced based & aspirational.
- D1.4 DE-PASS Summary of key findings, impact analysis, recommendations and conclusions (Manuscript).
- D2.1 Consensus, concept mapping and best evidence statement (BESt) methodologies (Training School 1).
- D2.2 Best evidence knowledge translation to physical activity behaviour intervention and policy design (TS2).
- D2.3 Provide a new and updated EuropeaN Physical Activity Determinants (EN-PAD) consensus framework (Publication).
- D2.4 To formulate European guidelines on how the five highest ranked setting specific determinants can be modified & translated into effective public policies & interventions
- D2.5 Prepare Best Evidence Statement of high quality research on the determinants of physical activity behaviours (PABs) (Publication).
- D3.1 To develop and validate the EuropeaN Physical Activities Determinants Toolkit EN-PADT (Publication).
- D3.2 To provide a valid online PABs determinant profile measurement toolkit that optimally predicts PABs across the life course, socioeconomic groups and in different nations and settings (Online toolkit).
- D3.3 To articulate a consensus statement on consistent terminology and the effective measurement of the determinants of PABs (Pub)
- D3.4 Measuring physical activity behaviour determinant profiles using validated methodologies and best evidence (TS 3).
- D4.1 Research harmonisation and designs, challenges and opportunities, FAIR principles, data collection, integration, linkage and federated analysis procedures (TS 4).
- D4.2 To establish and report on the extent that the collection of data on the determinants of PABs can be harmonised across countries.
- D4.3 Optimal prediction of physical activities behaviours applying advanced statistical techniques to determinant profile data (TS 5)
- D4.5 To provide proof of concept of data collection harmonisation and subsequently develop predictive models which will illuminate the complex interactions among determinants and with PABs (Manuscript).

Action Networking Tools – Implementation



Networking Tool "Meetings": MC Meeting - 2 online, 1 F2F in Porto Portugal; F2F Implementation Group Meeting, Malta; F2F Final Event in planning for Oct 2024 in Prague; CGB – 8 online, 2 F2F

"Training Schools": 1 Online, 2 F2F, Significant Training School incorporated into Final Event

"Short Term Scientific Missions" and "Virtual Mobility Grants": 17 STSMs, 50 VMs.

"ITC Conference Grant" & "Dissemination Grants": 16 ITCs, 3 DG

Outputs: 1 full publication, many abstracts, 6 full publication submissions, 6 additional publication outputs planned, 2 key reports.

Key Achievements: MSCA DN spin off funding, 2.7m, "INtervention on the DEterminants of, and Expertise in, Physical activity behaviours" (INDEEP)

Action Outputs & Key Achievements



Outputs: Website, Promotional Video: https://depass.eu/

1 full publication, many abstracts, 6 full publication submissions, 6 additional publication outputs in process, 2 key reports.

Key Achievements:

- Capacity building and Training approx. 40% of members are ECI or PG
- MSCA DN spin off funding, 2.7m, "INtervention on the DEterminants of, and Expertise in, Physical activity behaviours" (INDEEP)
- Best Evidence Statements on the determinants of physical activity behaviours
- To develop and validate the EuropeaN Physical Activities Determinants Toolkit
- Proof of concept of data collection harmonisation
- DEPASS Legacy New Research Harmonisation Network and road map to research funding

Insights, Opportunities, Challenges



- ✓ Significant effort to develop strong proposal COST excellence & inclusiveness policy
- ✓ COST outstanding networking tool; outstanding capacity building tool,
- √ The VM is a new and excellent addition to the COST Networking tools.
- ✓ Training schools are/can be very impactful
- ✓ Support from COST is excellent and the eCOST platform is an effective tool.
- ✓ Flexibility within and across budget items
- ✓ DEPASS is a large Action with many countries & participants Meaningful involvement of all members is challenging careful planning at WG & Deliverable level is required
- ✓ Focus must be on networking and capacity building research objectives must be tempered within network tools and funding structures available.
- ✓ Yes, I would recommend to a friend!

DEPASS Legacy Phase



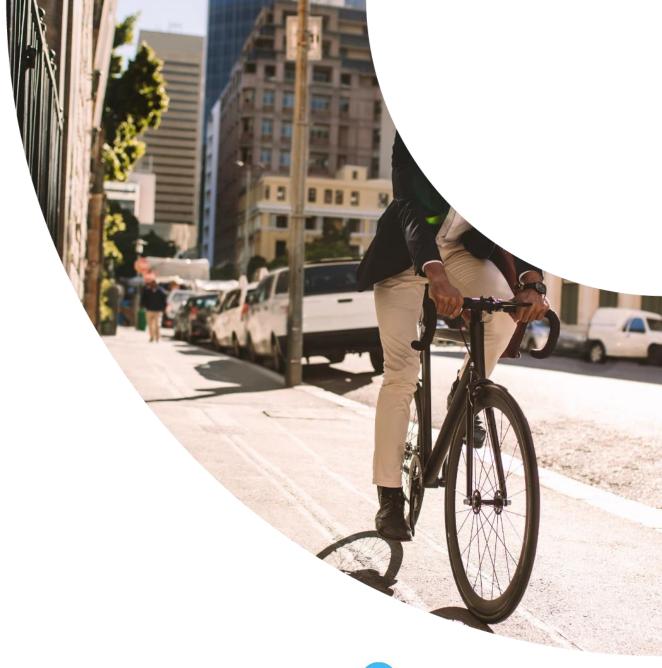
Context for new "DE-PASS Research Harmonisation Network"

- ✓ The defining ambition of DEPASS is to establish and sustain the new "**DE-PASS Research** Harmonisation Network".
- ✓ DEPASS will define and map a **future research harmonisation and implementation strategy** (2025-2030).
- ✓ By signing the realted MoU members will support this strategy relative to the resources available to them. The MoU will recognise what is possible with existing resources and a systematic plan to gain new resources and/or diverting existing resources to support implementation.
- ✓ **Potential members:** 1) DEPASS member nations who are willing to join the new "DE-PASS Research Harmonisation Network"; 2) DEPASS member nations who have contributed to proof of concept; 3) the leadership of large European cohort studies and/or national PA surveillance systems 4) Others





Thank you for listening

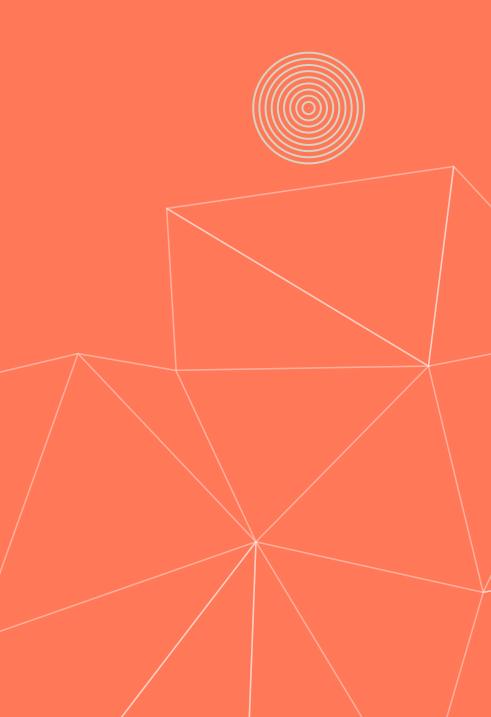






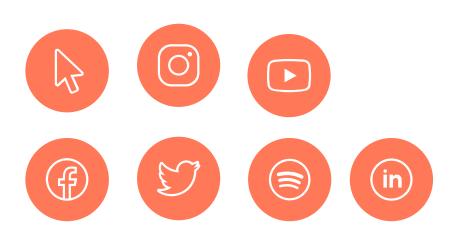
Contact email: events@cost.eu





How to follow us

COST newsletter: www.cost.eu









Subscribe to the COST newsletter

Subscribe to the COST newsletter Join our mailing list to receive updates from the COST Association





Thank you!



