



Growing
ideas
through
networks

COST

European Cooperation in Science and Technology

Introduction to the COST Framework Programme



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme
of the European Union

Outline

- What is COST and how does it work?
- What are the COST Actions and how to participate in them?
- How to prepare a successful proposal?

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What is COST and how does it work?



What is COST?

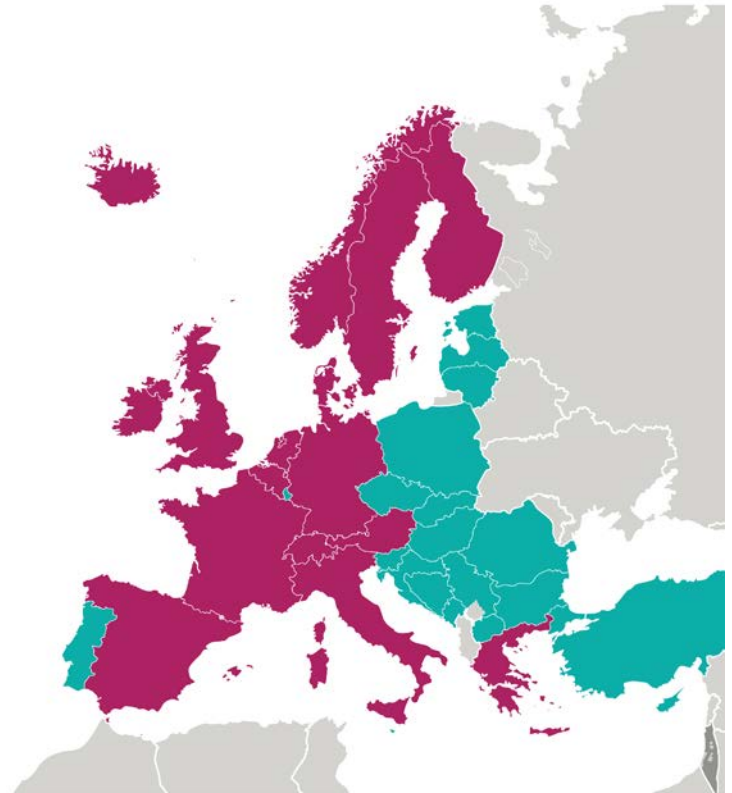
COST (CO-operation in Science and Technology) is the longest-running European framework supporting cooperation among researchers, engineers and scholars by enabling them to jointly develop their own ideas and new initiatives across all fields in science and technology, including social sciences and humanities.

COST – 45 years of research collaboration

- 36 COST Members

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- 1 Cooperating Member
Israel

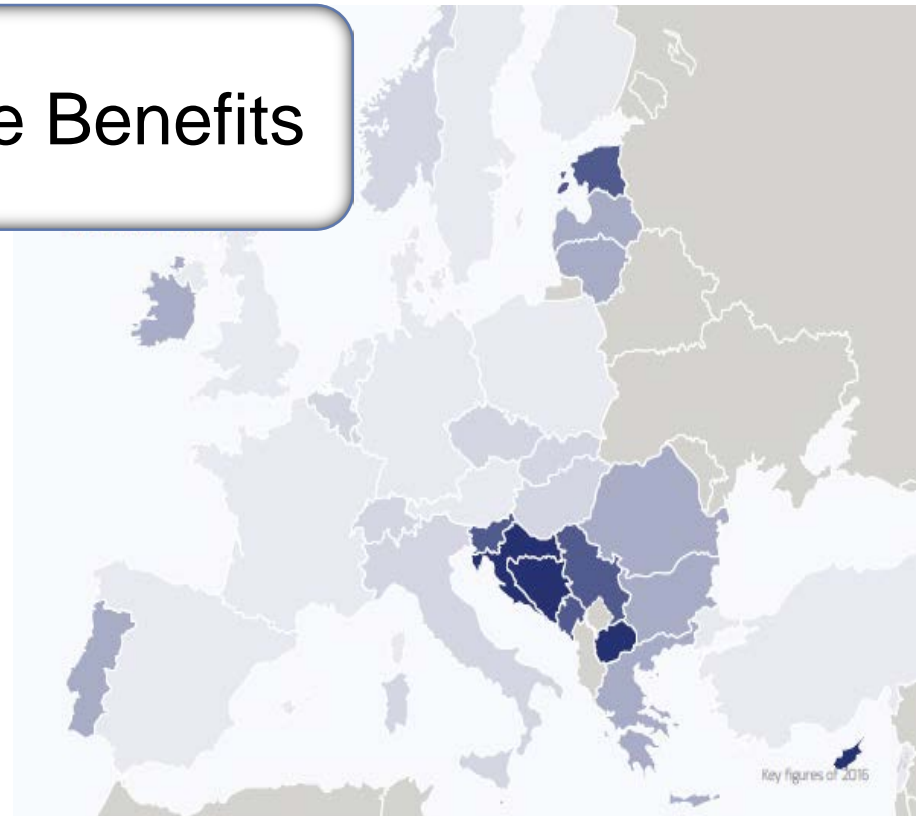
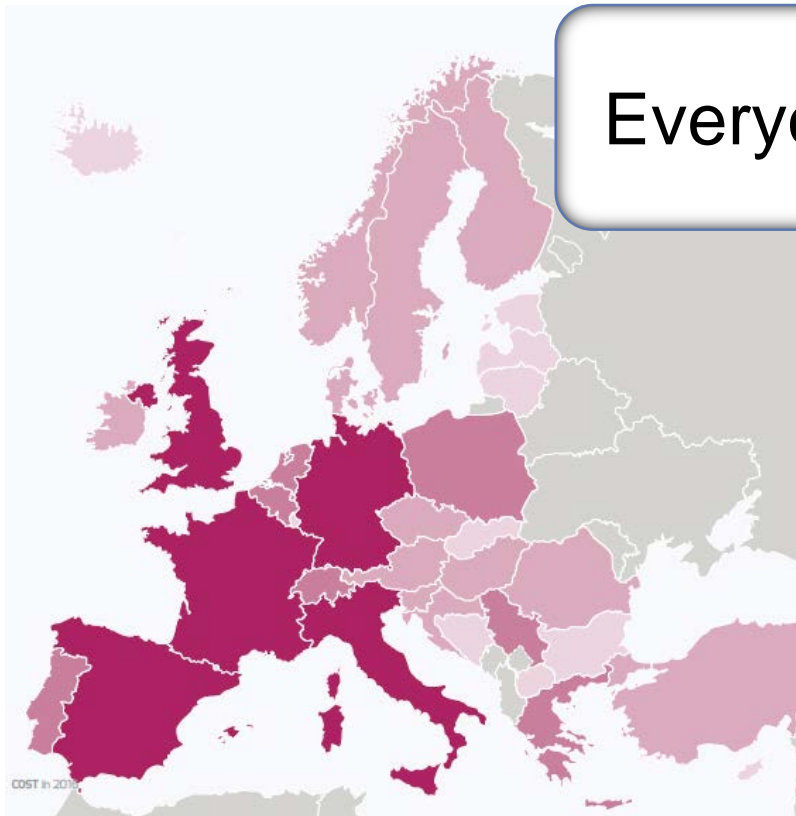


Role of COST in the ERA – 3 Strategic Priorities

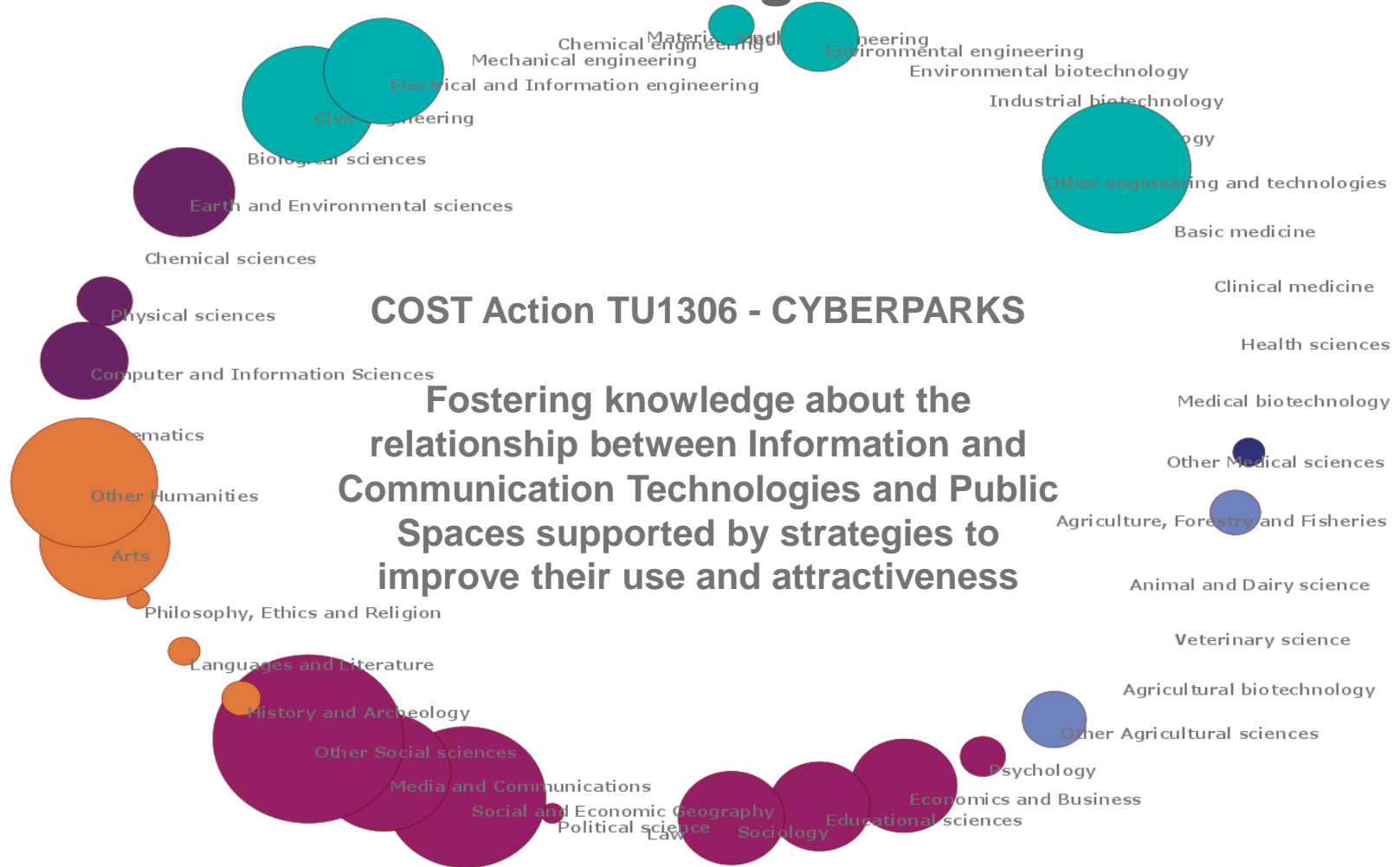
- 1 Promoting and spreading excellence
- 2 Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science
- 3 Boosting careers young researchers

Priority 1. Promoting and spreading excellence

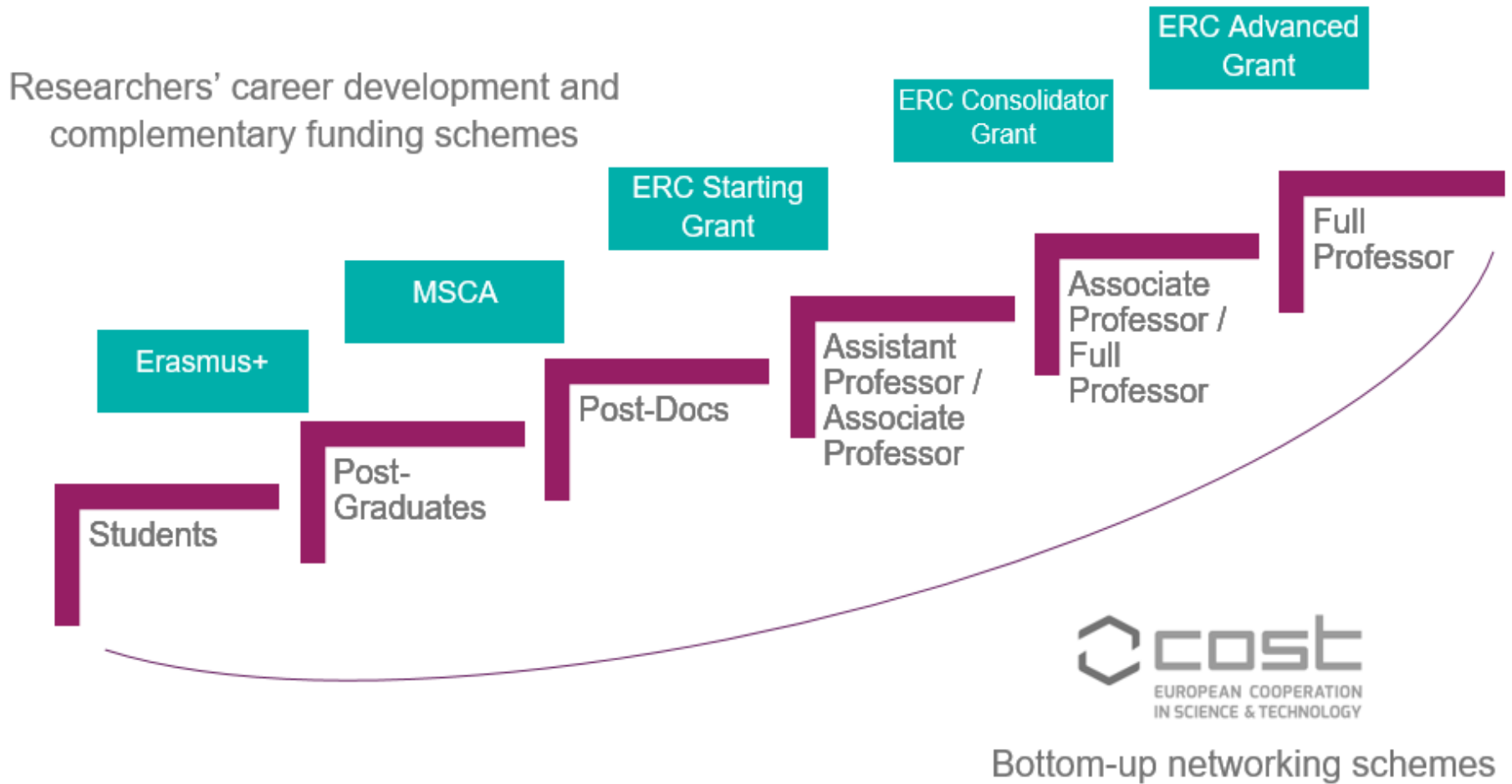
Everyone Benefits



Priority 2. Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science



Priority 3. Boosting careers of young researchers





Open Space where ideas and people can grow

- Create / join a community of practice
- Access to data and information
- Provide experience and career opportunities
- Increase visibility and make an impact
- Complementary to research projects



Why Networks?

- Knowledge sharing leads to...
 - Common understanding of problems at hand
 - Coordinated activities
 - Pooling resources
 - Reduced risks
 - Synthesis and re-combination of spread pieces of knowledge
 - Innovation
 - Synergies ($1+1>2$)

Core policies



Excellence and inclusiveness (widening the European research base)

- Strengthening the excellence through cross-border networking of researchers
- Promoting geographical, age and gender balance throughout its activities and operations

Specific objectives

- International cooperation (mutual benefit, NNC,...)
- Industrial dimension (dedicated dissemination and exploitation activities)



COST Inclusiveness Target Countries

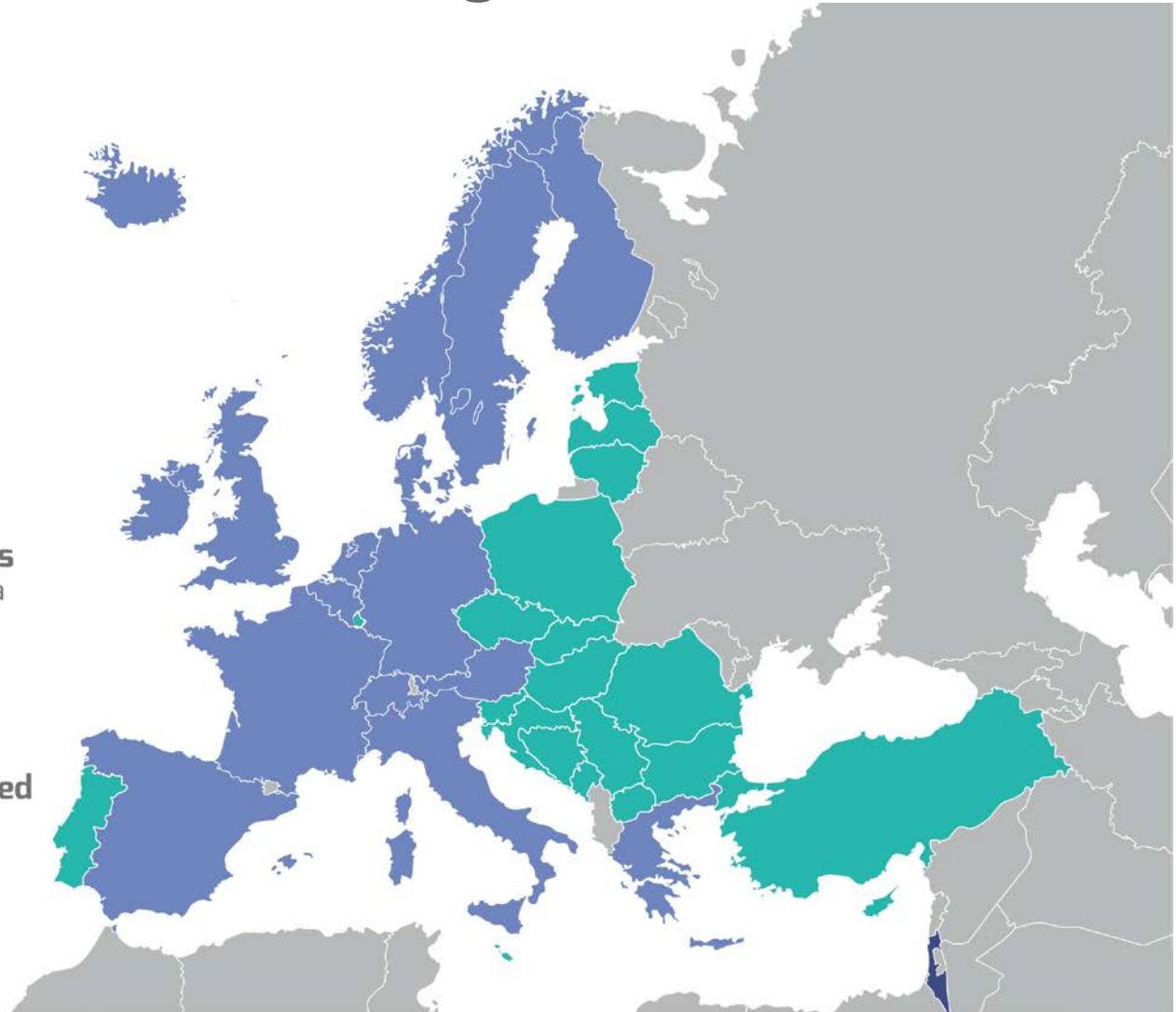
- **EU 13**
 - Bulgaria
 - Croatia
 - Cyprus
 - Czech Republic
 - Estonia
 - Hungary
 - Latvia
 - Lithuania
 - Malta
 - Poland
 - Romania
 - Slovakia
 - Slovenia

EU Candidates and Potential Candidates

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- fYR Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Republic of Serbia
- Turkey

EU countries targeted by the European Commission:

- Luxembourg
- Portugal

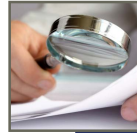


Dedicated measures for active ITC participation



COST Info Days

- Targeted to ITC
- combined with high-level meeting ITC government, including NCP



Proposals

- Eligibility
- External experts
- Inclusiveness policy



COST Actions

- COST Action Leadership
- Conference grant for PhD students and young researchers
- Pre-payment for STSM



COST Academy

- Leadership workshop
- Finance/Admin workshop
- Science Communication training
- Mentoring GH
- Mentoring Chair

COST key figures

352



Running Actions

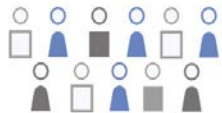
258

Training schools



2,705

Short-term scientific missions



48,000

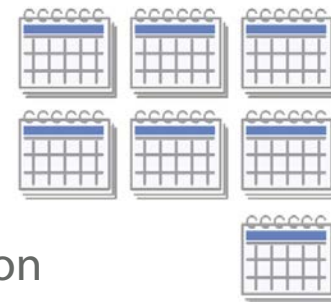
Researchers involved



€129,000

Average annual budget of a COST Action

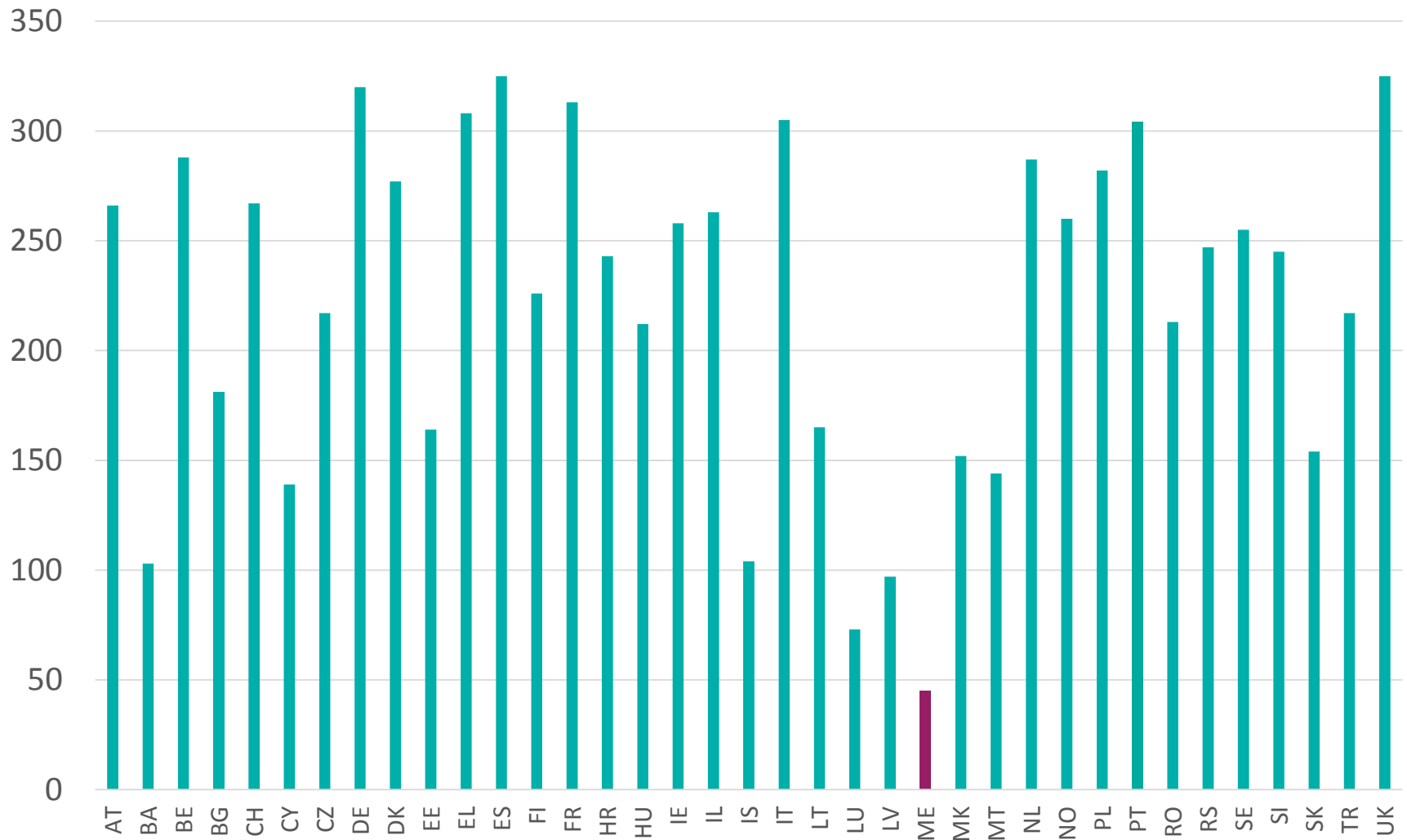
COST budget
(from Horizon
2020 for a
7-year period)



€300 million

*Data throughout the year 2016

COST members' Action participation in 2016

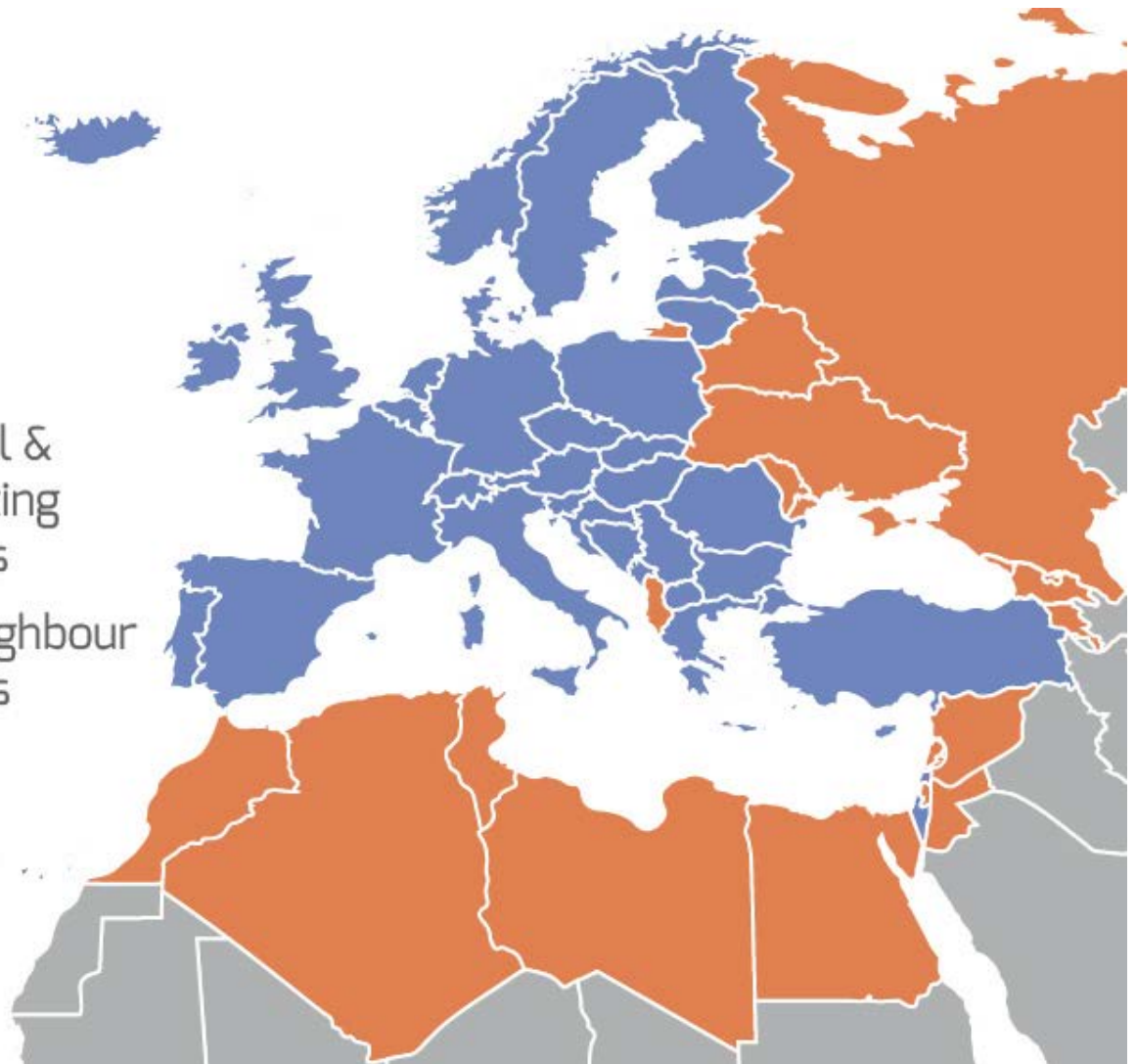




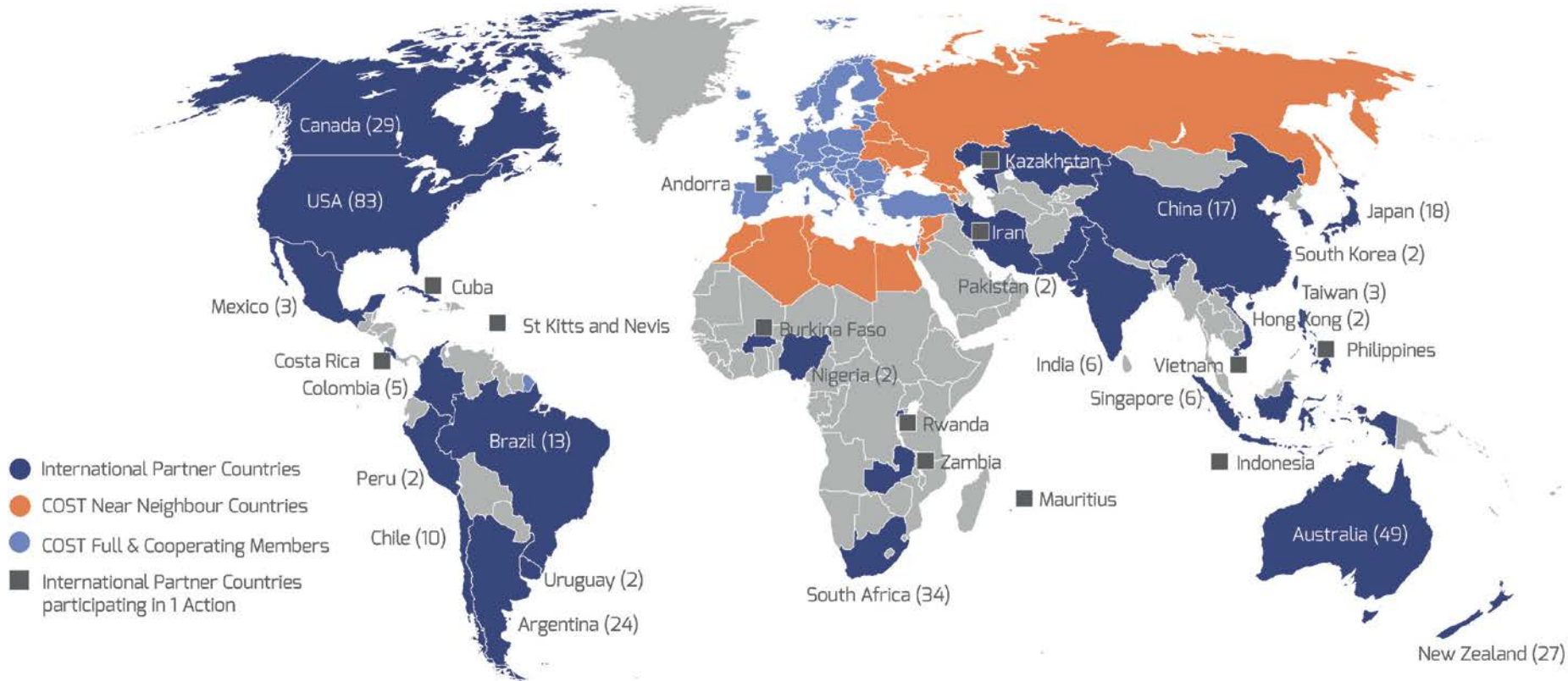
Near Neighbour Countries

- Albania 33
- Algeria 5
- Armenia 17
- Azerbaijan 1
- Belarus 8
- Egypt 10
- Georgia 6
- Jordan 6
- Lebanon 2
- Morocco 5
- Palestinian Auth 6
- Moldova 12
- Russia 62
- Tunisia 16
- Ukraine 54

-  COST Full & Cooperating Members
-  Near Neighbour Countries



International Partner Countries



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What are COST Actions?





Action Features

- **Open and expandable participation**

Open to all stakeholders, type of institutions, career levels, countries, at any time

- **Bottom-up approach**

researcher driven, any topic/ multiple topics

- **Flexible and light administration**

adaptable research and activities, light reporting

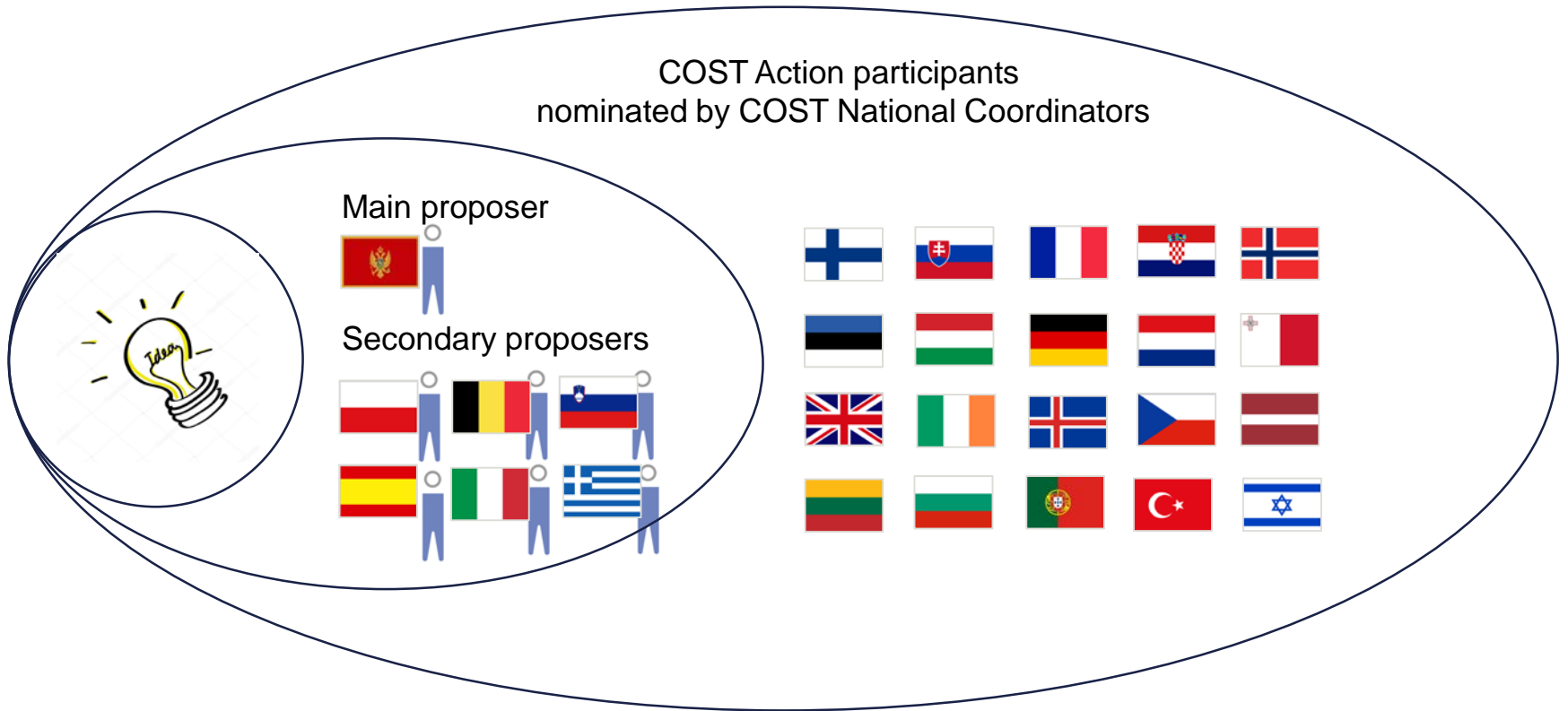
- **Output and impact oriented**

open science, wide sharing of knowledge and results, open access, open innovation

COST Actions

How do they start?

COST Action participants
nominated by COST National Coordinators



COST Actions

Network



Memorandum of Understanding



4 years



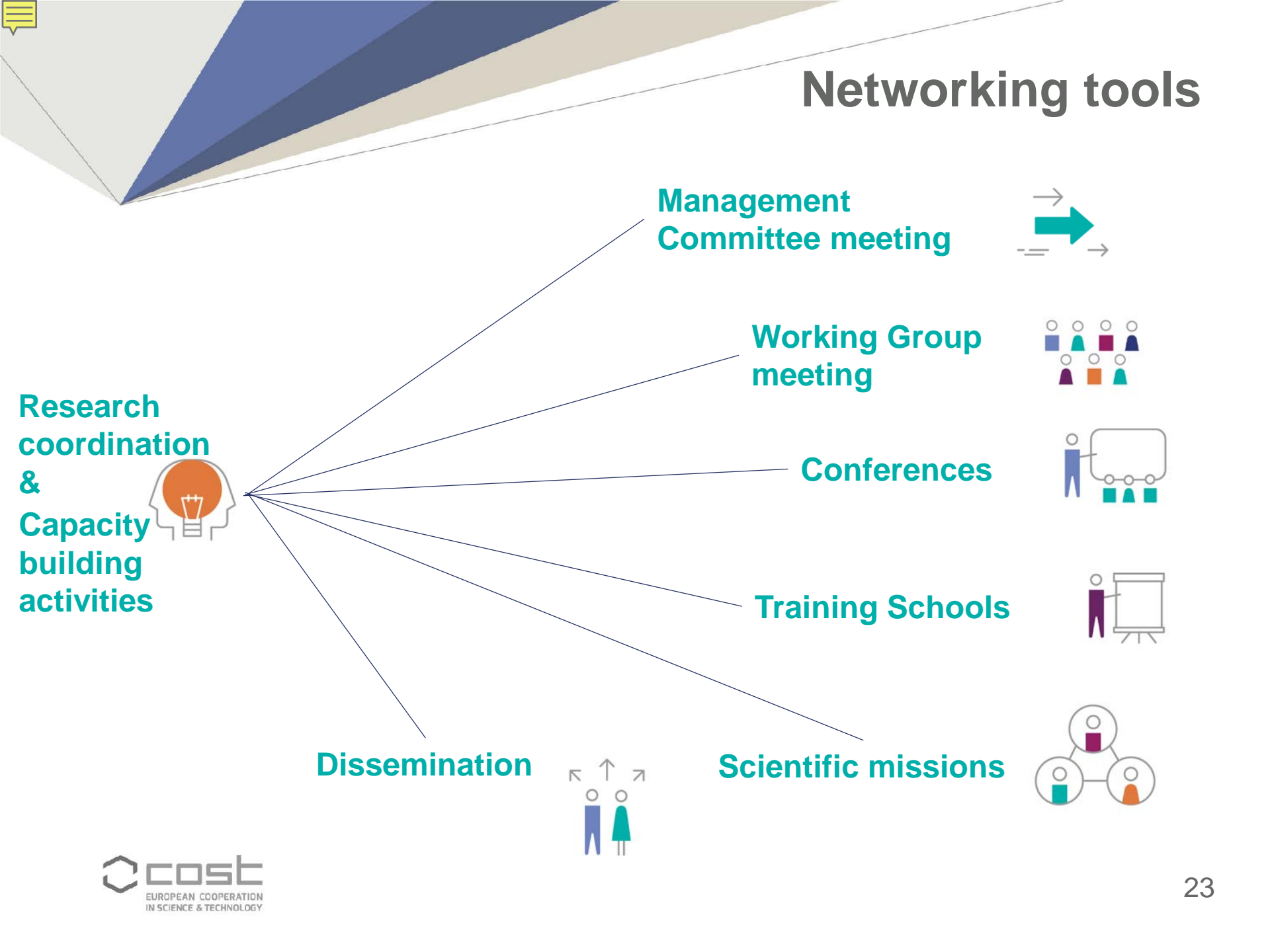
Min 7 countries

€ ~500 000 euros over lifetime



Research coordination and capacity building activities

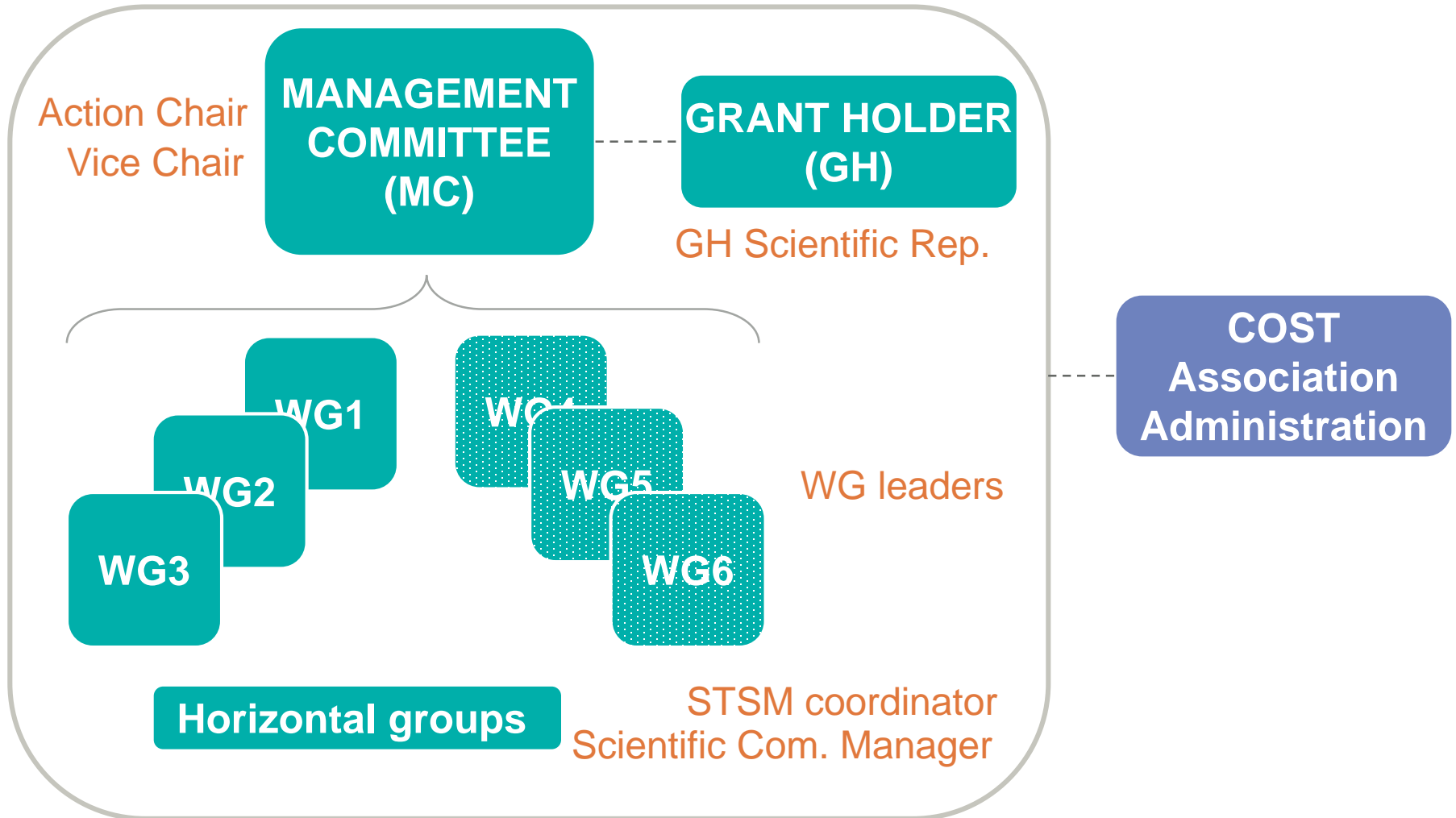
Networking tools



COST Action Structure



Leadership Positions



How to engage with COST?



1. As **participant** of a running COST Action
2. As **proposer** of a COST Action
3. As **expert** to evaluate submitted proposals

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Engage as participant of a running COST Action



How to find the relevant COST Action?

Full text search

 search in title only

Approval Year

 e.g. 2010

Action number

 only Action Chairs
 from [Inclusiveness Target Countries](#)

Open Call Collection Date

 e.g.
 Sta

Home | COST Actions |

Home | COST Actions | Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST) | CM1404 | Management Committee

All Actions

This section gives an overview of all COST Actions directly. Click on the Action number to go to the Action page.

Search tips:
 Type a single keyword in the search box.

To search for Actions in a specific Domain under "Action Number" "CM" for CMST, "ES" for ESTP, "TU" for TUD).

[show all Actions on one page](#)

Search for COST Action

Full text search

 search in title only

Action number

 only Action Chairs
 from [Inclusiveness Target Countries](#)

Page 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

[show all Actions on one page](#)

Home | COST Actions | Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST) | CM1404

CMST COST Action CM1404 Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST)

The primary aim of the project is to create a network of world leading academic and industrial partners in order to increase fuel efficiency and production and to support a sustainable approach to accomplish the development of smart energy carriers. On the other hand, the intended exploitation of the project will support the development of smart energy carriers together fundamental/advanced research to improve the understanding of the formation of smart energy carriers. On the other hand, the intended exploitation of the project will support the development of smart energy carriers together fundamental/advanced research to improve the understanding of the formation of smart energy carriers.

(Descriptions are provided for all Actions)

CMST COST Action CM1404

Management Committee

MC Chair	▶ Dr Mara DE JOANNON (IT)
MC Vice Chair	▶ Dr George SKEVIS (EL)

Working Group Leaders

WG Leader	▶ Dr Frédérique BATTIN-LECLERC
WG Leader	▶ Prof Maria U. ALZUETA
WG Leader	▶ Dr Stefan VOSS
WG Leader	▶ Dr Edward S. BLUROCK
WG Leader	▶ Prof Alessandro PARENTE

■ Data registration in e-COST pending subject to online registration and nomination acceptance by nominee.

COST Participants

Country	MC Member
Austria	▶ Prof Franz WINTER
Austria	▶ Dr Peter PRIESCHING
Belgium	▶ Prof Kevin VAN GEEM
Belgium	▶ Prof Alessandro PARENTE
Bosnia and Herzegovina	▶ Prof Petar GVERO
Bulgaria	▶ Prof Iliyana NAYDENOVA

Websites*

Action website:
<http://www.smartcats.eu>

Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies COST Action CM1404

- ▶ [Description](#)
- ▶ [Parties](#)
- ▶ [Management Committee](#)

General Information*

Chair of the Action:
[Dr Mara DE JOANNON \(IT\)](#)

Vice Chair of the Action:
[Dr George SKEVIS \(EL\)](#)

Science officer of the Action:
[Dr Lucia FORZI](#)

Administrative officer of the Action:
[Ms Svetlana VOINOVA](#)

Downloads*

Action Fact Sheet
[Download AFS as .RTF](#)

Memorandum of Understanding
[Download MoU as PDF](#)

Join an Action

- As a Management Committee (MC) member
- As a Working Group (WG) participant
- As grantee of a Short Term Scientific Mission
- As grantee of a ITC Conference grant
- As trainer / trainee of a Training school
- As attendee of a Workshop/Conference
- ...

Advice

- Read the MoU and identify your interest / potential contribution
- Browse the Action's own website – check their activities

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Engage as proposer of a COST Action



COST Open Call

When?

Collection every 9 months
Next: 25 April 2018 – 12:00 CET

What?

One stage online submission of proposals
eCOST account

Who?

Main proposer
(and secondary proposers)

How many?

25 – 40 Actions approved
per collection

Online submission tool (e-COST)*

Overview

General Features

Technical Annex

References

COST Mission and Policies

Network

Documents

« My Proposals

Main Proposer Institution *

Title (Maximum 12 words) *

Acronym *
(max 60 characters)

Keyword 1 *
(max 60 characters)

Keyword 2 *
(max 60 characters)

Keyword 3 *
(max 60 characters)

Keyword 4
(max 60 characters)

Summary: Maximum 250 words

About five percent European citizens suffers from organ malfunctioning. Living donor transplantation is often the most effective treatment and the alternative of deceased donor transplantation is severely limited by availability. As approximately 50% of living donors are incompatible with their specified recipient, several European countries have independently developed organ exchange programmes.

Exchange programmes aim to match donors optimally to recipients for organ exchange within the population of recipient-donor pairs.

p Words: 68

AREAS OF EXPERTISE NEEDED FOR EVALUATION

Science Field

Research Area

Proposal Reference:
OC-2017-1-21892

Proposal Status:

Draft

Checklist:

- ✓ General Features
- ✗ Technical Annex (1 issue)
- ✓ COST Policies
- ✗ Network (1 issue)

Generate PDF

Ready to submit?



Proposals



General features

- Technical Annex**
1. S&T excellence*
 2. Impact
 3. Implementation



COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy
Specific objectives



Network of proposers



Eligibility!

- Anonymous***
- Min ITC**
- Format**
- Peaceful purpose**
- English**



Evaluation - SESA

Step 1: External remote evaluation

3 independent external experts
Technical Annex

**Step 2: Revision and quality
check by Review Panels**

**Step 3: Selection by the Scientific
Committee
COST policy and objectives**

**Step 4: Approval by COST
committee of Senior Officials -
Results 7-8 months after submission**

Open Call for proposals – key documents

e-COST

e-COST is a portal for COST Action participants' registration and financial reporting

▶ Link to e-COST portal

Source: cost.eu/opencall

- Online submission
- Guidelines
- Proposal template

Key Documents

▶ COST Open Call – Submission, Evaluation, Selection and Approval (SESA) Guidelines (PDF, 236 kB)

▶ Technical Annex (DOCX, 176 kB)

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- Contact: opencall@cost.eu
- Join us on our social networks:



www.facebook.com/COST.Programme/



<https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/1050548/>



[@COSTprogramme](https://twitter.com/COSTprogramme)



<https://www.youtube.com/user/COSTOffice>

“ *The opportunity for science lies in creating an unlimited space where crossovers between ideas and people can change the world for the better.* ”