



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

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What is COST?



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme
of the European Union

What is COST?

COST (CO-operation in Science and Technology) is the longest-running EU funded programme enabling

researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond.

COST creates open spaces where ideas and people grow, unlocking the full potential of science.

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What are COST Actions?



Action Features

- Bottom-up approach
- Open and expandable participation

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

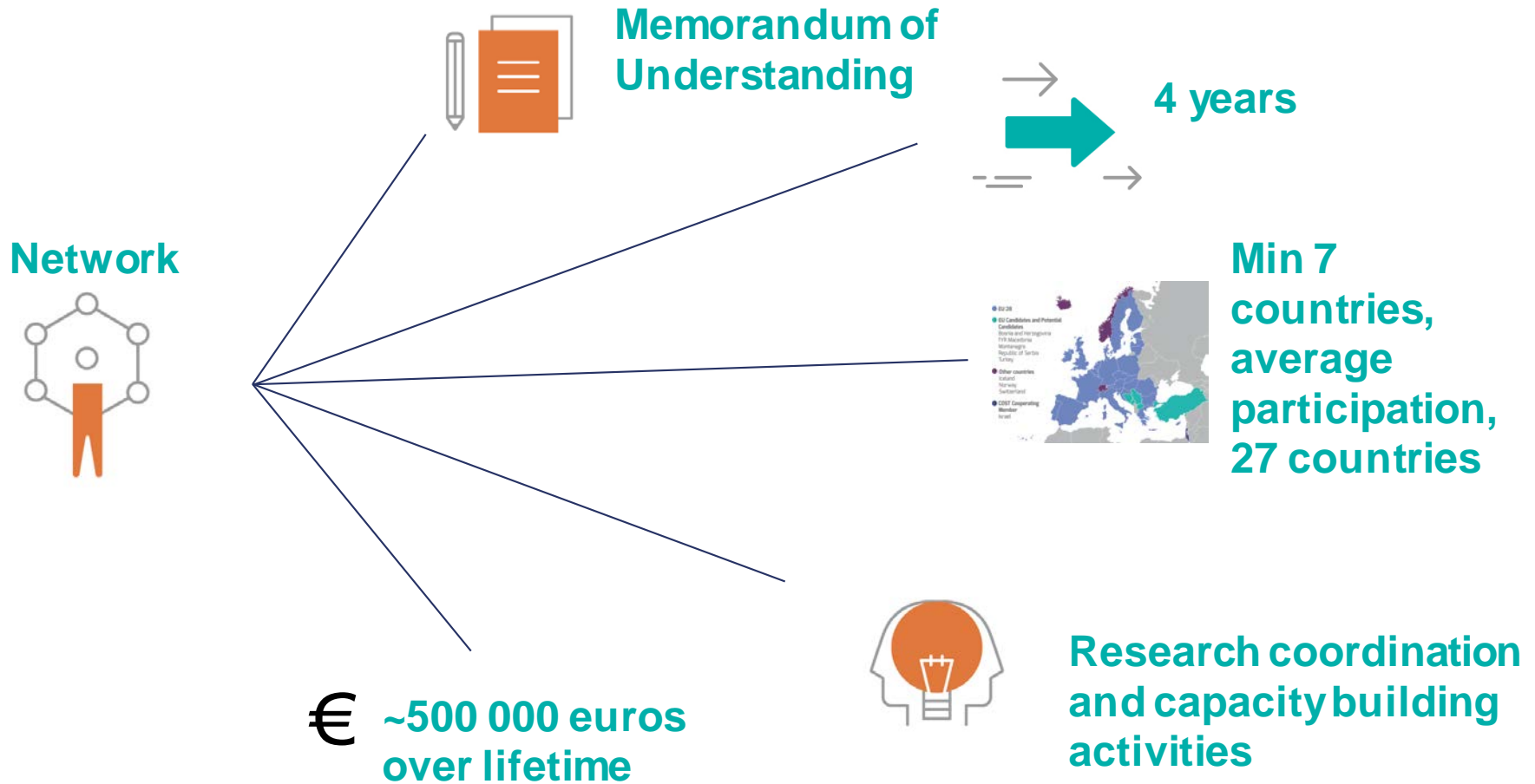
- Flexible and light administration

adaptable research and activities, light reporting

- Output and impact oriented

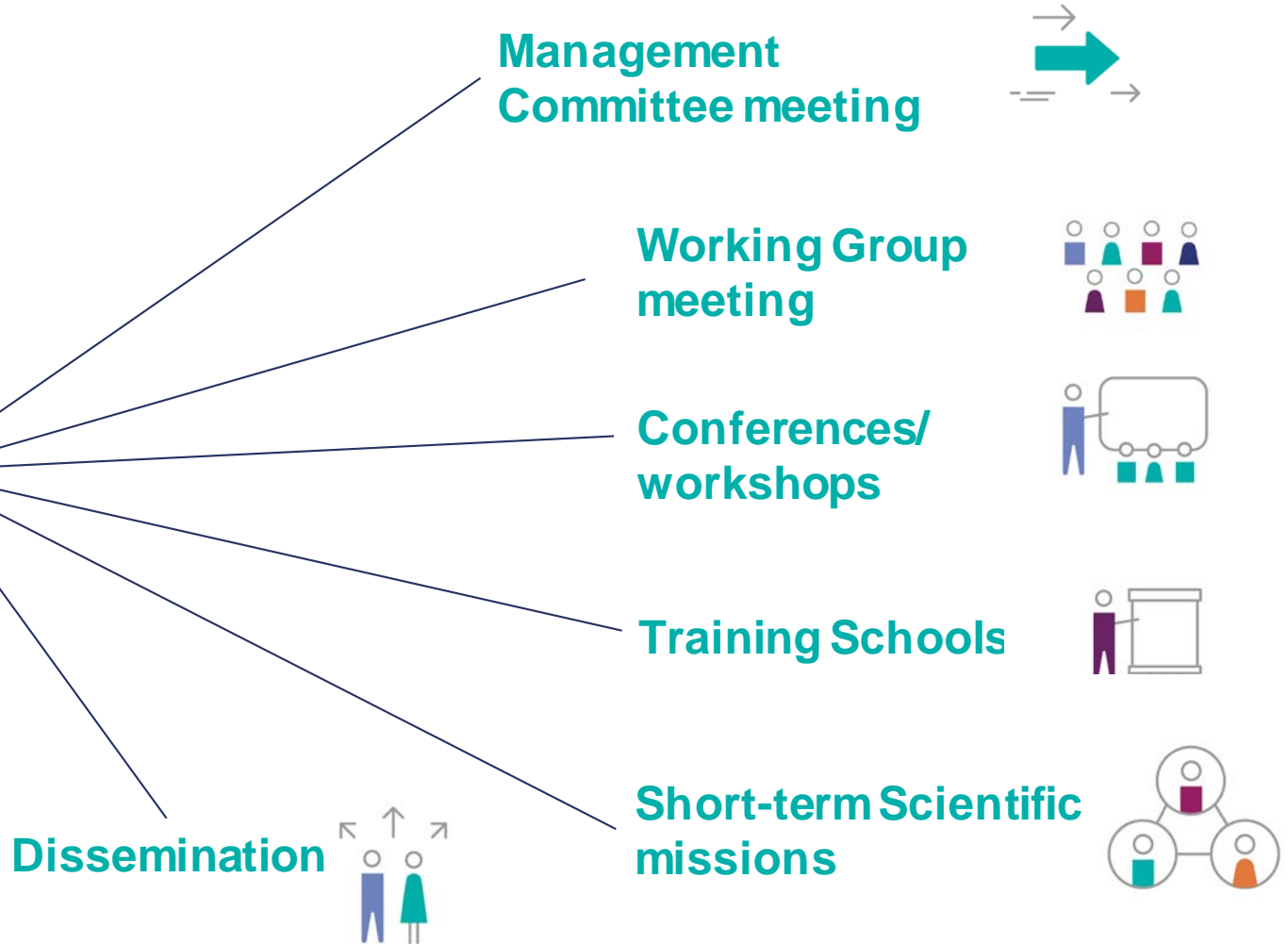
open science, wide sharing of knowledge and results, open access, open innovation

COST Actions



Networking tools

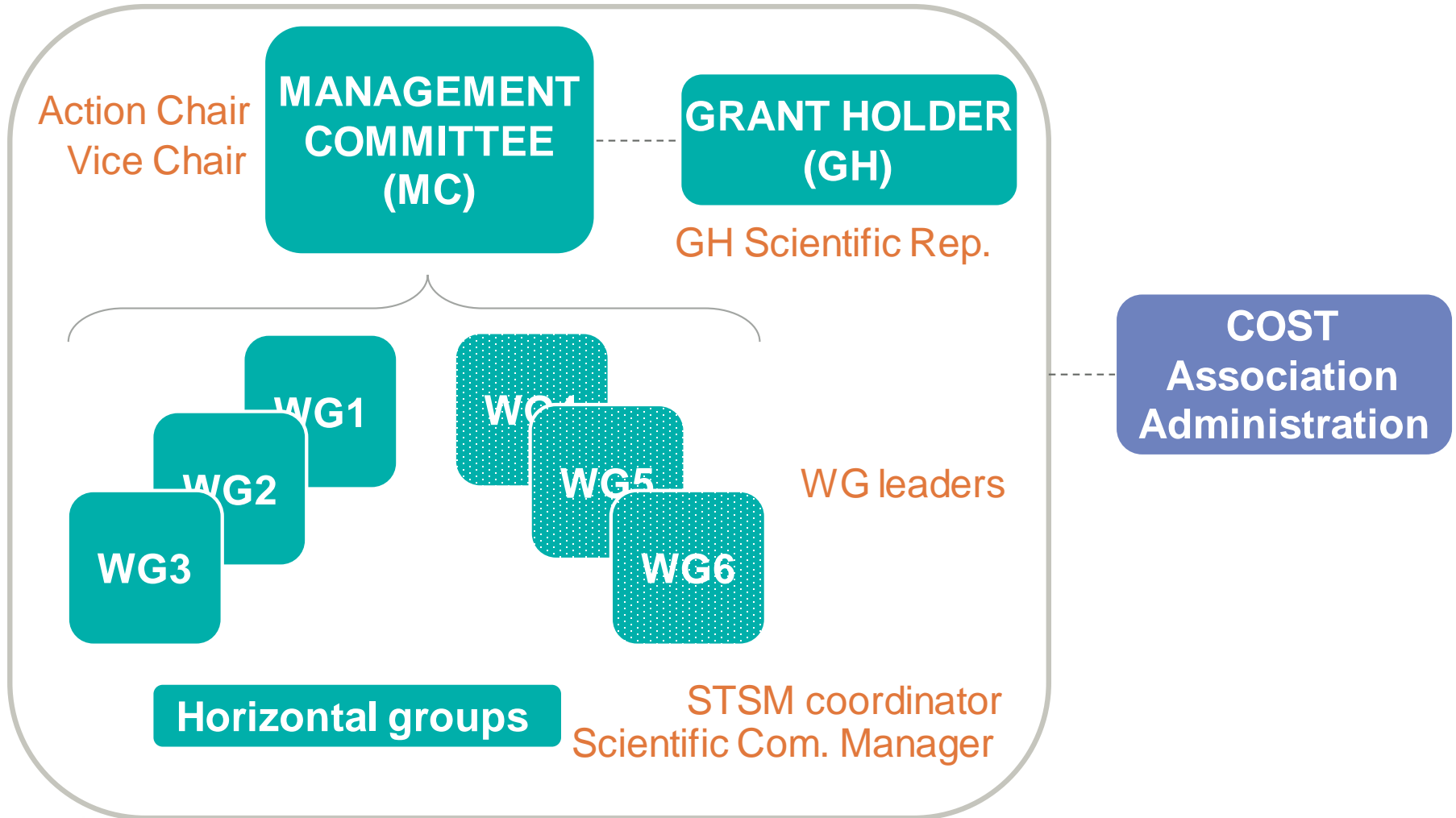
Research coordination & Capacity building activities



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



Engaging in a running COST 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

How to find the relevant COST Action?

The screenshot shows the COST website interface. At the top left is the COST logo: a hexagon with a stylized 'c' inside, followed by the text 'cost' in a bold, lowercase font, and 'EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY' in a smaller font below it. To the right of the logo is a navigation bar with links for 'News', 'Events', 'Multimedia', 'Publications', 'Contact us', and 'e-COST'. A search bar is located to the right of these links. Below the navigation bar, there are four main menu items: 'Who we are', 'Funding', 'COST Actions', and 'Academy'. The 'COST Actions' menu is expanded, showing a list of options: '> What are COST Actions?', '> Participate in an ongoing Action', '> Become an external expert', '> Browse Actions' (highlighted with a mouse cursor), '> Action networking tools' (with a sub-link 'Additional activities for Actions'), '> Success stories', and '> Action participant directory'. Below the navigation is a 'Browse Actions' section with a search box labeled 'Action number or Text', a checkbox for 'Search in Title Only', and a 'More Filters' button. The main content area displays a list of actions, each with a flask icon, an action number, a date range, and a title. The actions listed are: CA18127 (International Nucleome Consortium), CA18125 (Advanced Engineering and Research of aeroGels for Environment and Life Sciences), and CA18111 (Genome editing in plants - a technology with transformative potential). At the top right of the list, there are filters for 'Actions Limit: 10' and 'Sort By: Start Date'.

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

News Events Multimedia Publications Contact us e-COST

Who we are Funding COST Actions Academy

> What are COST Actions?
> Participate in an ongoing Action
> Become an external expert
> Browse Actions
> Action networking tools
Additional activities for Actions
> Success stories
> Action participant directory

Browse Actions

Home > Browse Actions

Action number or Text

Search in Title Only

Actions Limit: 10 Sort By: Start Date

- CA18127 | 13/05/2019 - 12/05/2023
International Nucleome Consortium
- CA18125 | 30/04/2019 - 29/04/2023
Advanced Engineering and Research of aeroGels for Environment and Life Sciences
- CA18111 | 25/04/2019 - 24/04/2023
Genome editing in plants - a technology with transformative potential

Join an Action as...

- 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 national MC member)

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Engage as proposer of a COST Action



COST Open Call

When?

Collection every 9 months
Next: 29 April 2020 – 12:00 CET

What?

One stage online submission of proposals
e-COST account

Who?

Main proposer
(and secondary proposers)

How many?

40 – 45 Actions approved
per collection

General features

Proposals



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

Rich text editor toolbar with icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, subscript, superscript, link, list, indent, outdent, table, and refresh.

Text content:
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.

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)

Proposals



General features

- ### Technical Annex
1. S&T excellence*
 2. Networking Excellence
 3. Impact
 4. Implementation



Open Call for proposals – Technical Annex

Sections	Sub-sections
1. S&T EXCELLENCE	1.1 soundness of the challenge 1.2 progress beyond the state-of-the-art
2. NETWORKING EXCELLENCE	2.1 added value of networking in S&T excellence 2.2 added value of networking in impact
3. IMPACT	3.1 impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/breakthroughs 3.2 measures to maximise impact
4. IMPLEMENTATION	4.1 coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

Proposals



General features

Technical Annex

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



COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy Specific objectives





COST Mission and Policy

- What is the COST mission?

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



COST Mission and Policy

- What is the COST Policy?

- COST Policy on Excellence and Inclusiveness

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

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



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



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**

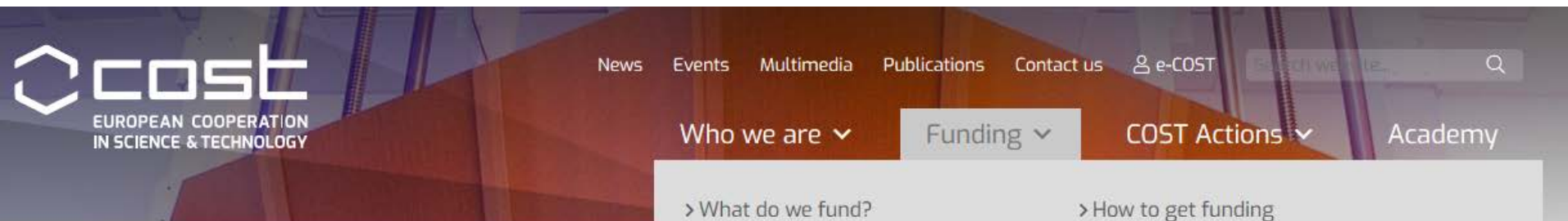
Step 1: External Remote Evaluation

- Proposals are evaluated **only** on the basis of the **evaluation criteria**

S&T EXCELLENCE	NETWORKING EXCELLENCE	IMPACT	IMPLEMENTATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soundness of the Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added value of networking in S&T Excellence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/break-throughs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress beyond the state-of-the-art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added value of networking in Impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures to maximise impact 	
Total marks for the section = 15 points	Total marks for the section = 15 points	Total marks for the section = 15 points	Total marks for the section = 5 points
TOTAL MARKS AWARDED = 0 - 50 points OVERALL THRESHOLD = 34 points			

COST Open Call

<https://www.cost.eu>



Open Call: A simple one-step ap

Home > Funding > How to get funding > Open Call

Participants are invited to submit COST Action proposals contributing to the scientific, technological, economic, cultural or societal knowledge advancement and development of Europe. Multi- and interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged.

The Open Call Action proposal submission, evaluation, selection and approval (SESA) procedure is fully science and technology-driven and will ensure a simple, transparent and competitive proposal evaluation and selection process, reflecting the bottom-up, open and inclusive principles of COST.

Participants planning to submit a proposal for a COST Action will need to refer to the SESA guidelines on the [Documents and Guidelines page](#).

The results of the second 2018 collection were announced in June 2019, while the results of the first 2019 collection will be published in March 2020.

For any questions related to the open call and how to get funding, please contact opencall@cost.eu

> How to get funding

How to apply

Open call

Evaluation, selection and approval

Documents and guidelines



The next collection date is planned for **29 April 2020 at 12:00 noon (CET)**.

A second collection date is planned for **Autumn 2020**.



Find out how to join an existing COST Action



e-COST

Open Call for proposals – how to apply

- Read the official announcement
- Read the SESA Guidelines
- Online registration and submission (e-COST)
- Technical Annex template
- Helpdesk: opencall@cost.eu

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Engage 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**

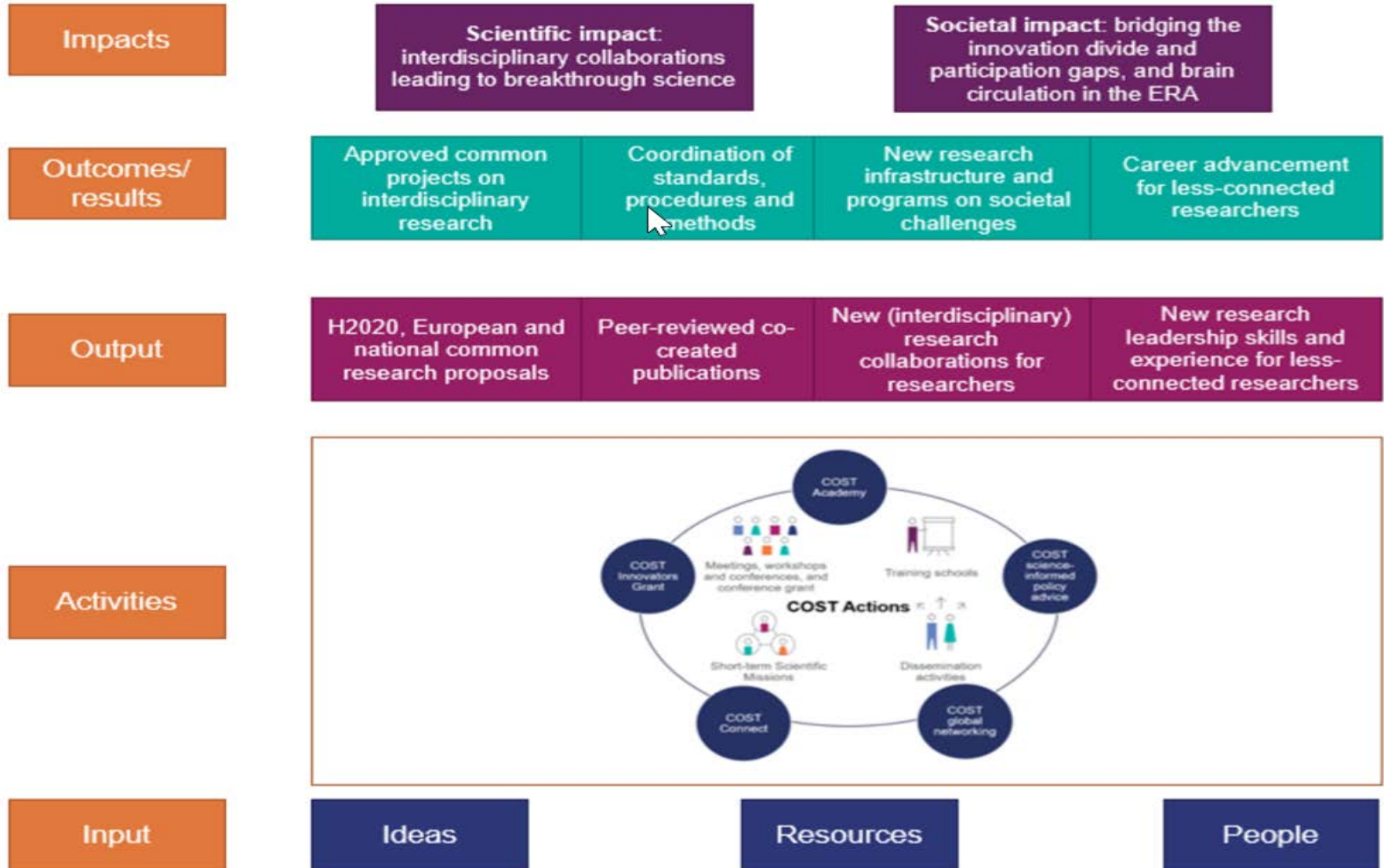
www.cost.eu/cost-actions/participate-external-expert/



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Outputs, Results and Impact of COST Actions

Visual representation of COST impact philosophy



Contact and engage with us

- Sign up to our news: www.cost.eu/subscribe
- 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.* ”