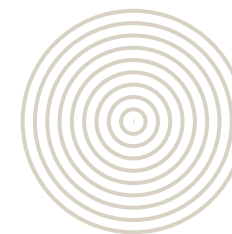
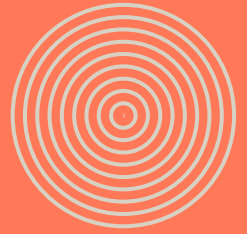


COST INFO DAY - BELGIUM

17 May 2024



SESSION 1





COST: Promoting and Spreading Research
Excellence in Europe and beyond

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

VISION

Europe's most empowering research programme

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Promoting and spreading excellence

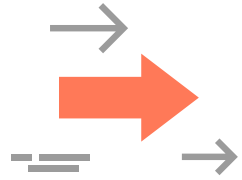
Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science

Empowering and retaining young researchers

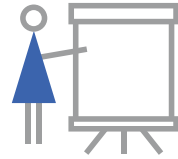




Key figures



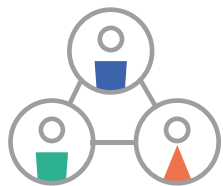
292
Running Actions



275
Training schools



€155,500
Average annual budget
of a COST Action



2,113
Short-term
scientific missions



50,000
Researchers involved
in COST Actions

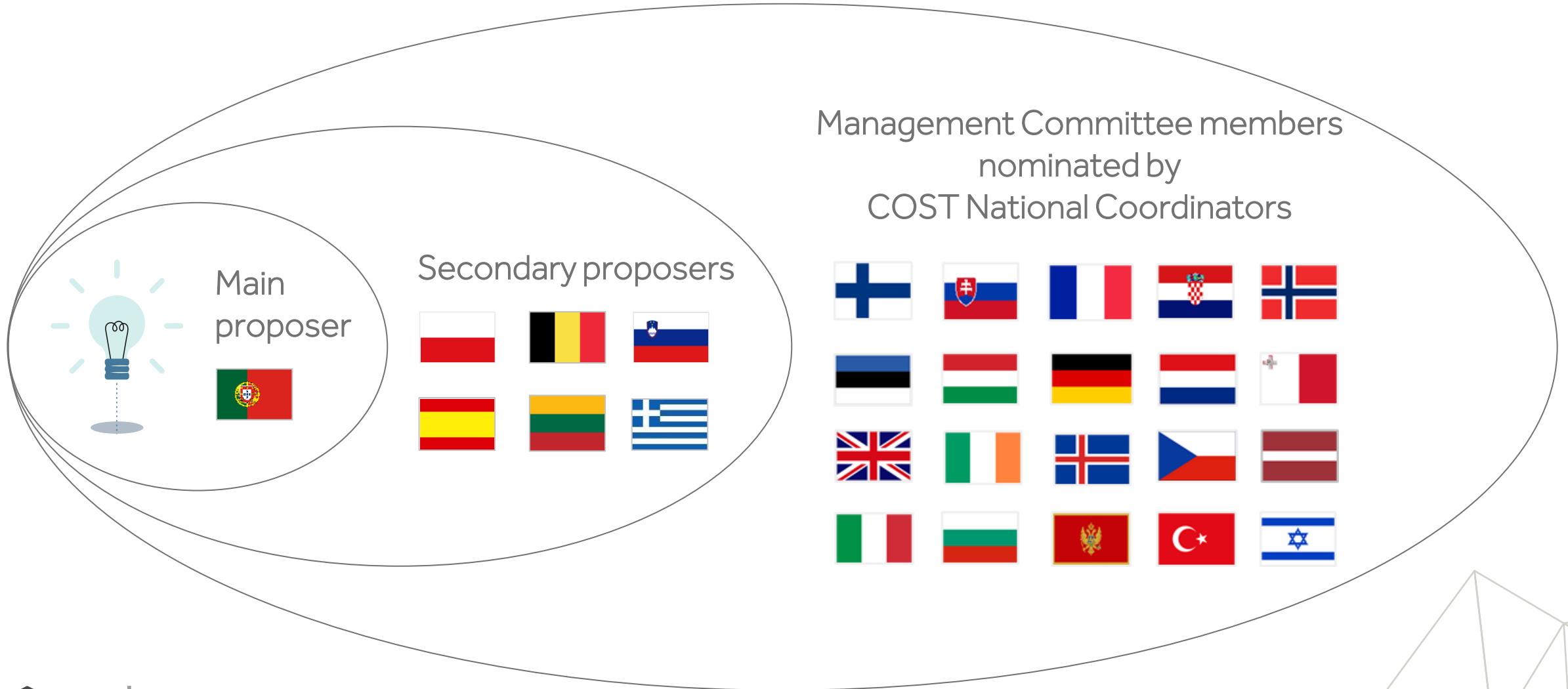


€153 million
COST budget
(in Horizon Europe for a 3-year period)





How it works?

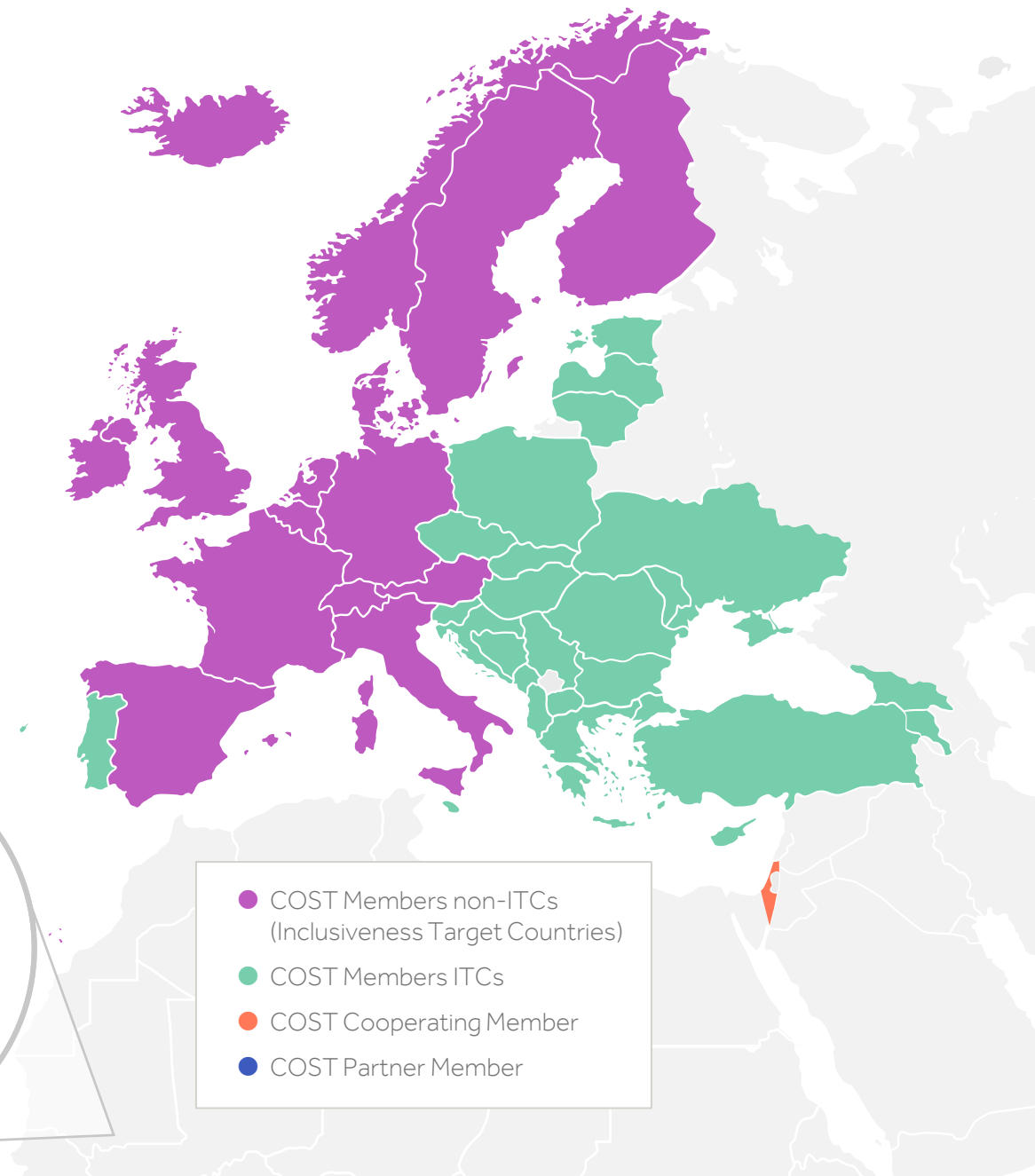


COST

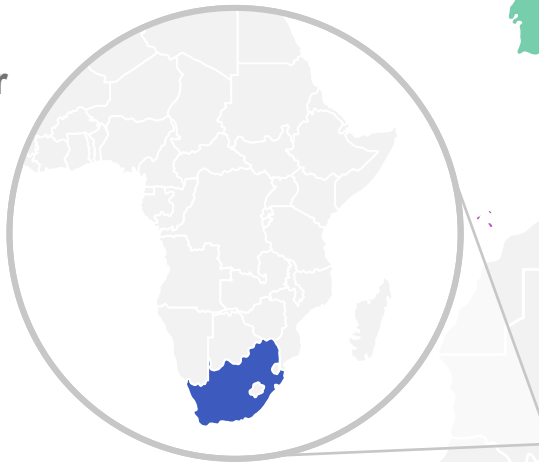
Membership

41 Full 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 **1** Partner Member
- Israel
 - South Africa

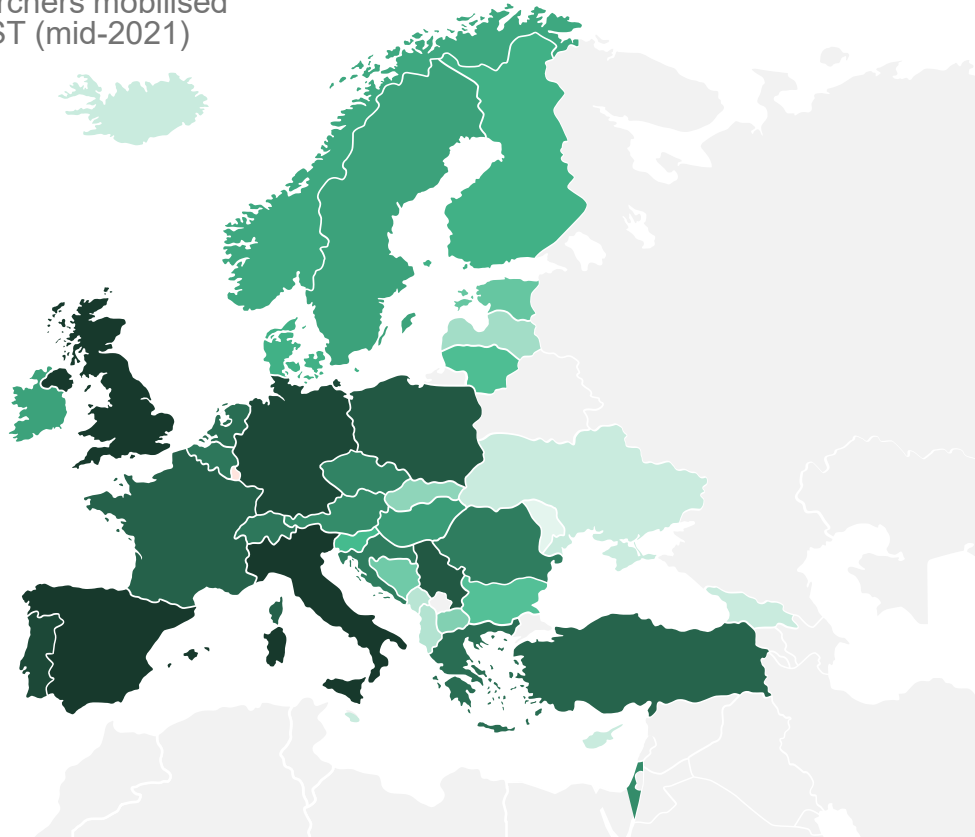


- COST Members non-ITCs (Inclusiveness Target Countries)
- COST Members ITCs
- COST Cooperating Member
- COST Partner Member

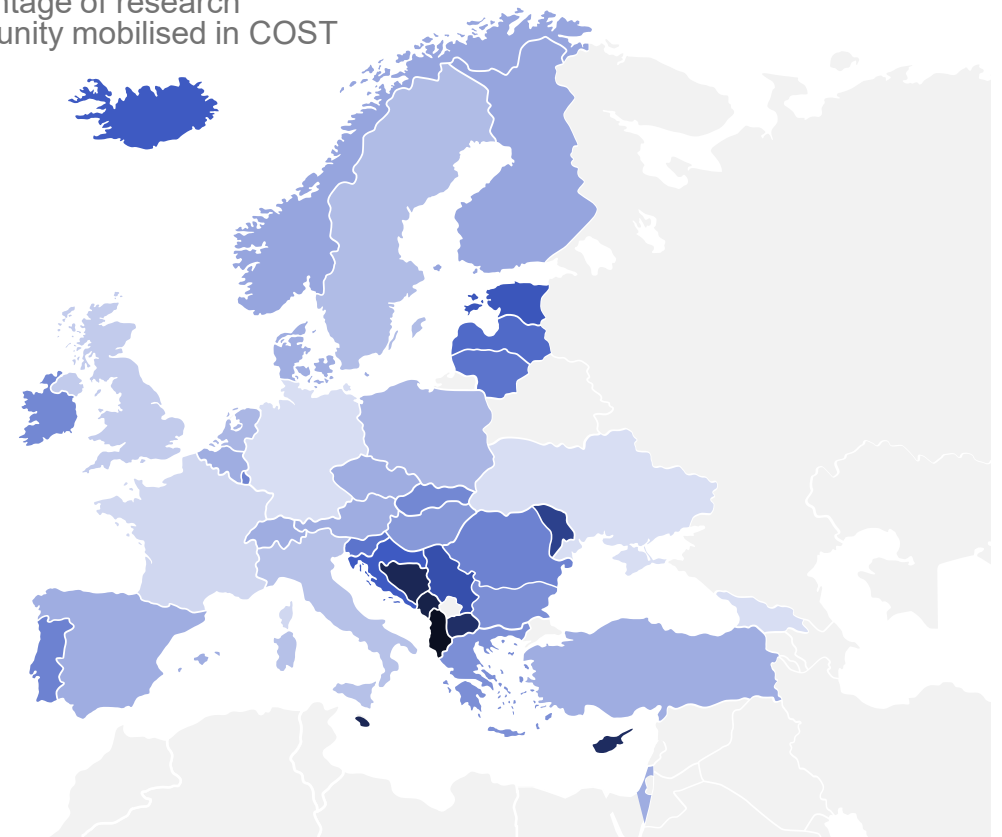
Priority 1

PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

Researchers mobilised
in COST (mid-2021)

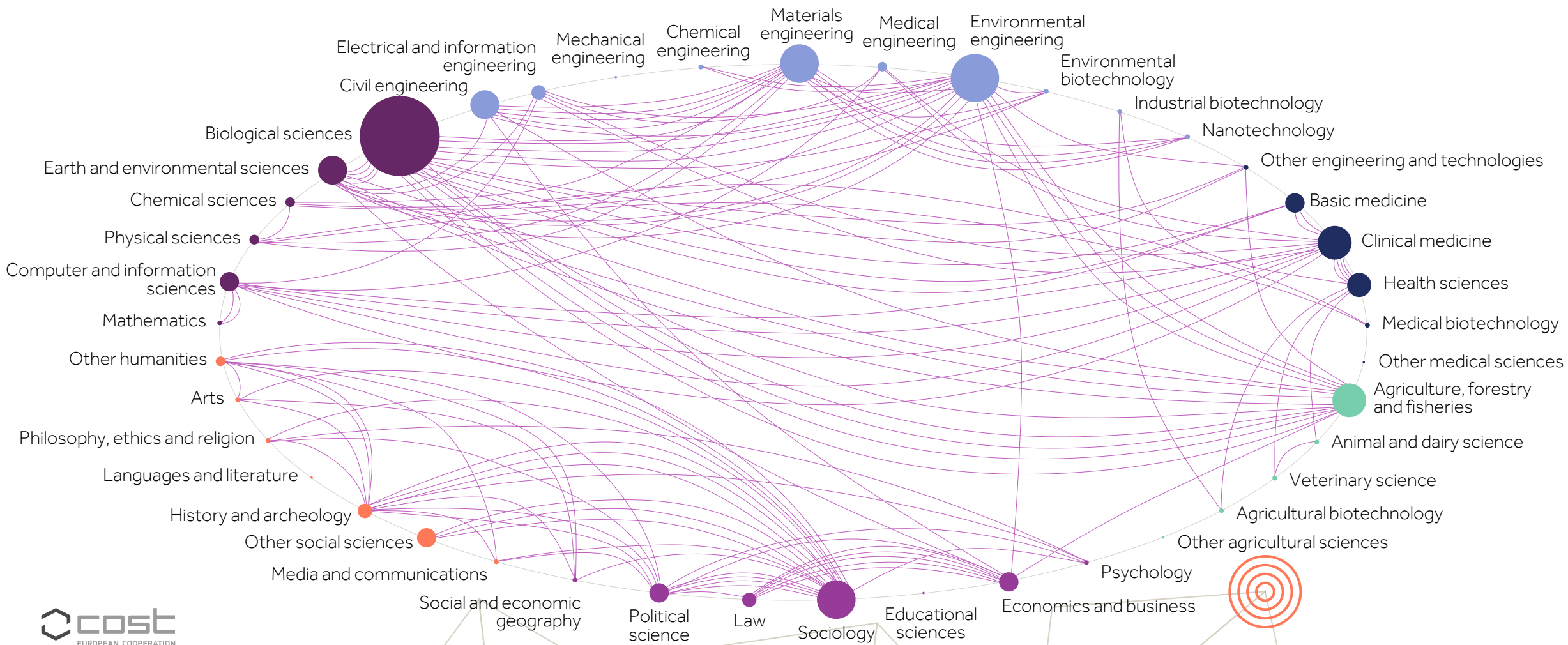


Percentage of research
community mobilised in COST



Priority 2

FOSTERING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE



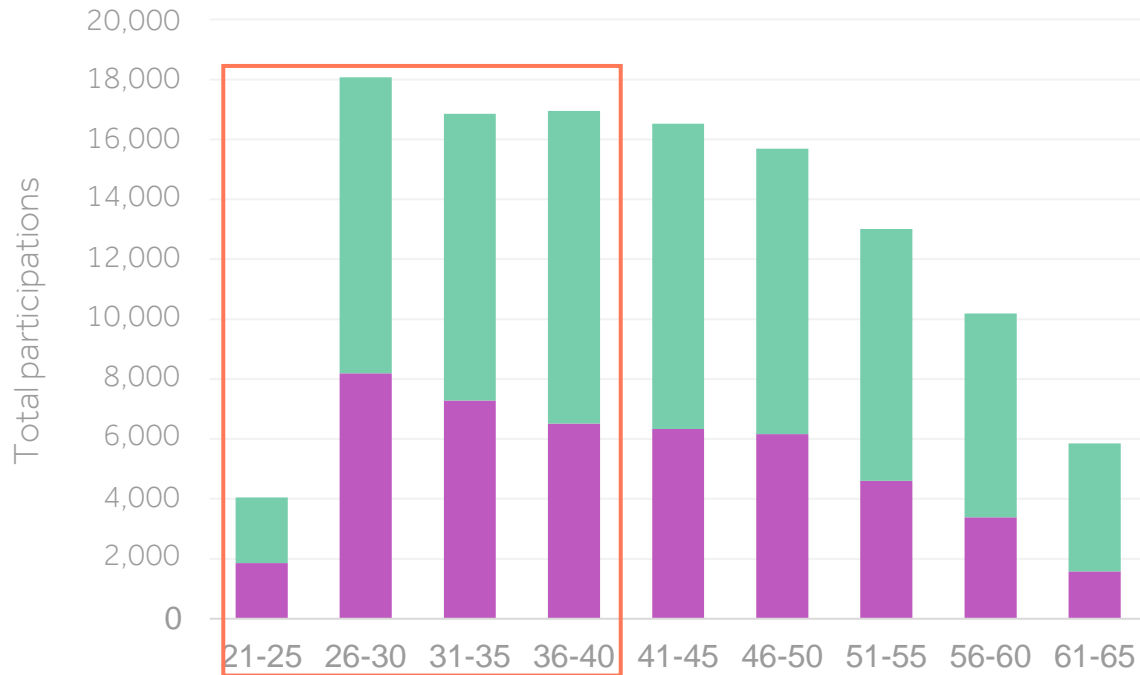


Priority 3

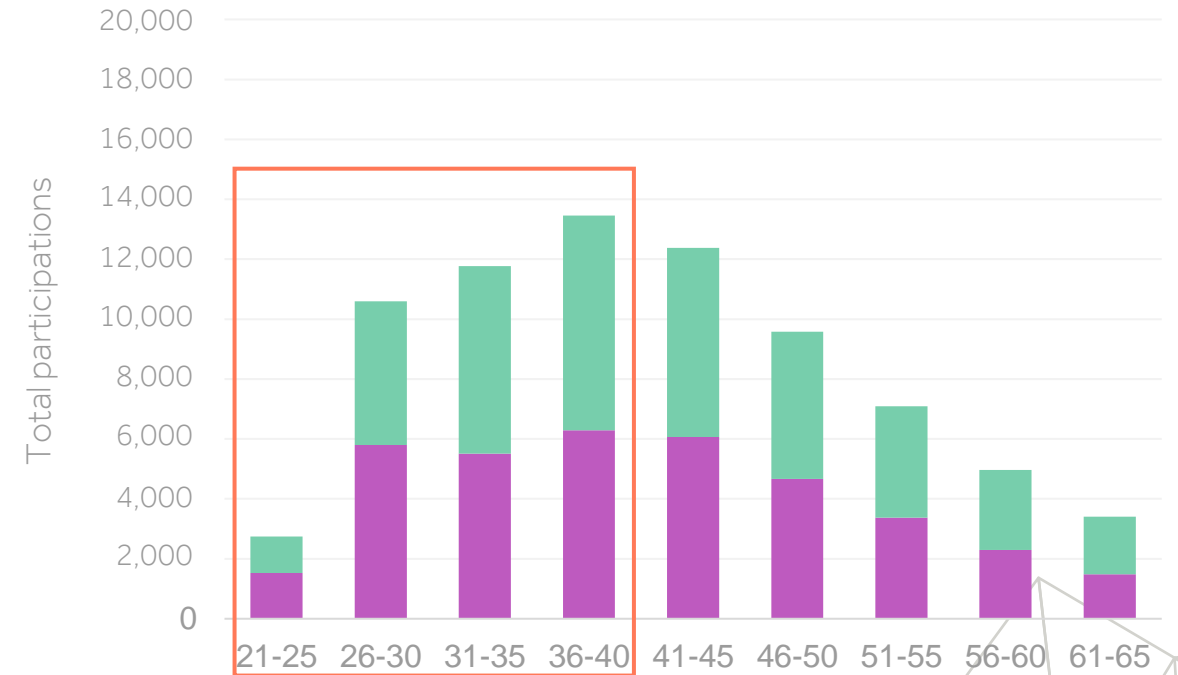
EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Data from Horizon 2020 (2014-2021)

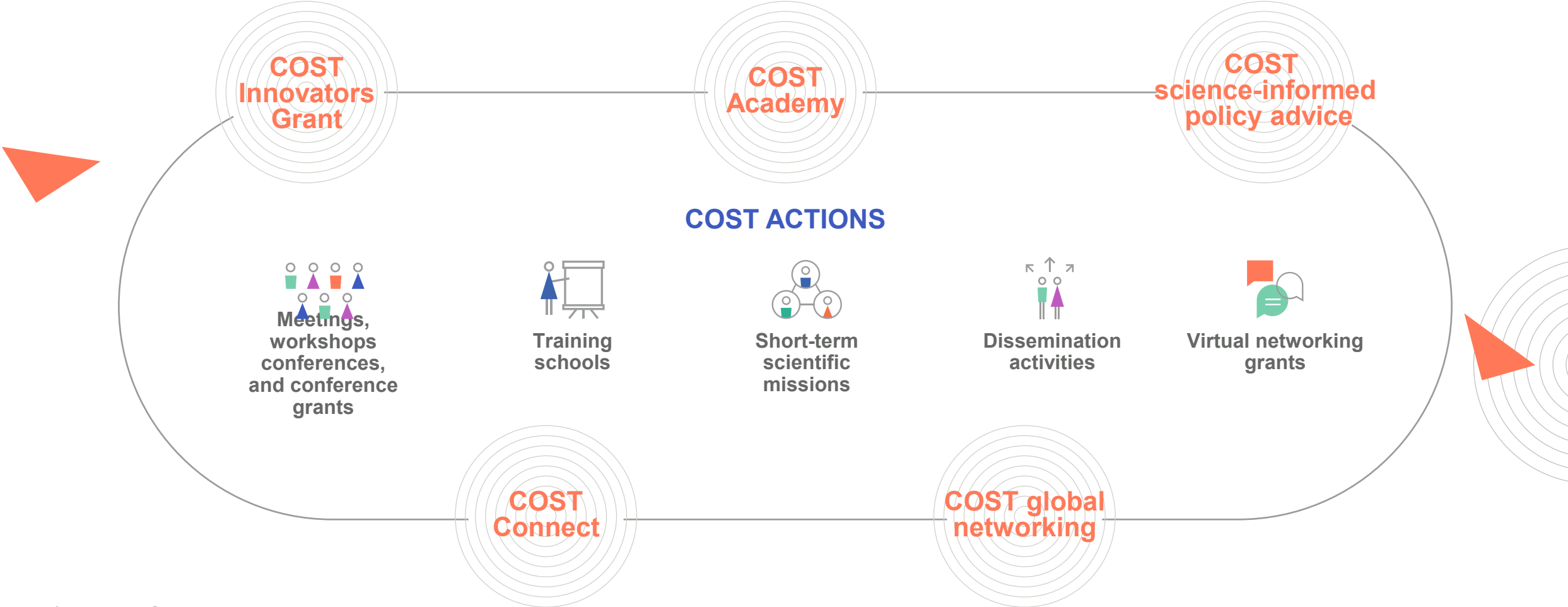
Other Countries



Inclusiveness Target Countries



Implementing COST's strategic priorities

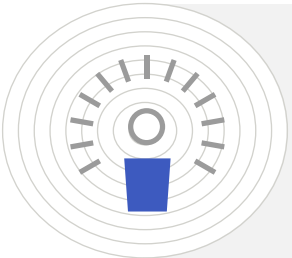


Impact



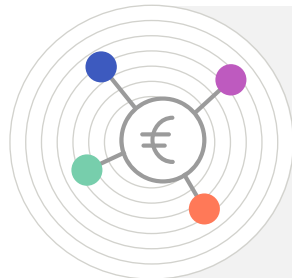
Scientific and societal impact

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



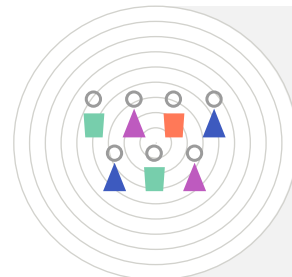
Research careers

- 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



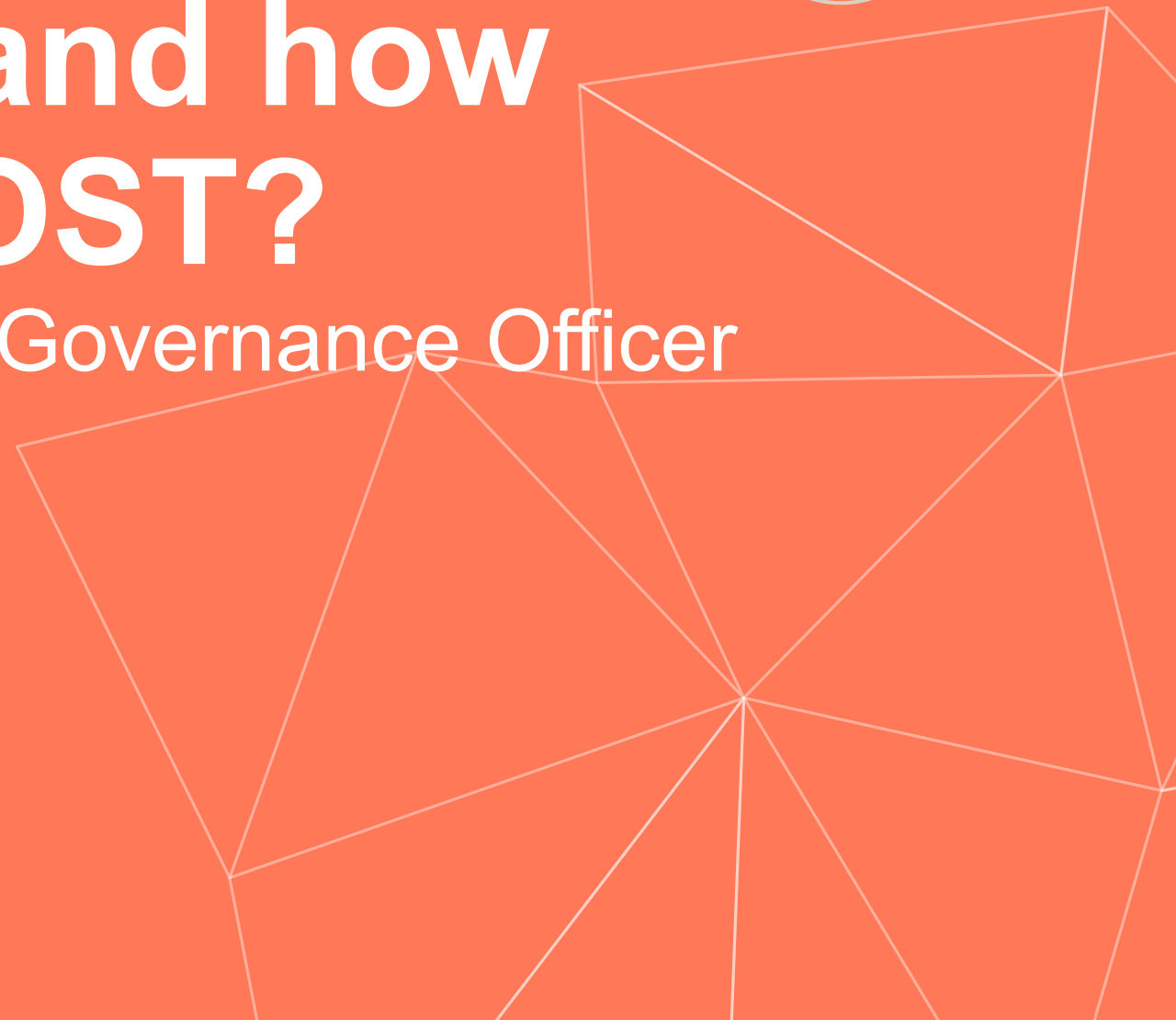
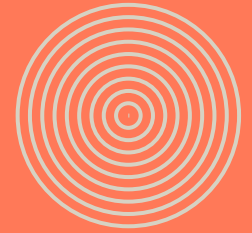
Belgium in COST Actions

- Belgian researchers participate currently in almost 90% of the running COST Actions.
- 72 Belgian researchers are currently active in leadership positions.
- In 2023, almost 702 researchers were reimbursed for their participation in networking activities. Around 52% of them were young researchers.



What is COST and how engage with COST?

Ms Salomé Moezzi-Gacon, Governance Officer

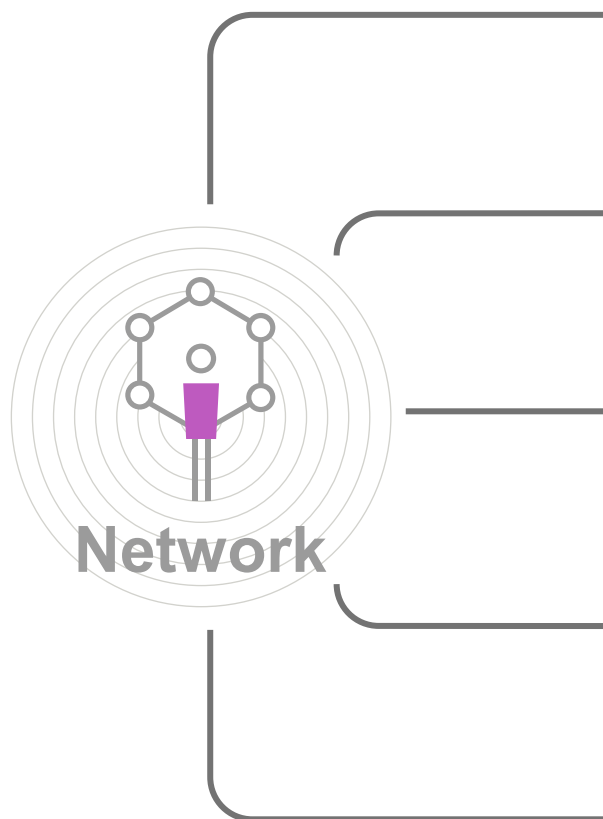


COST Actions

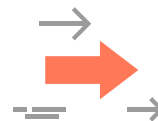
AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

COST provides funding for research coordination and capacity building activities

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



Memorandum of Understanding



4 years



Min 7 countries, average participation 30 countries



Research coordination and capacity building activities

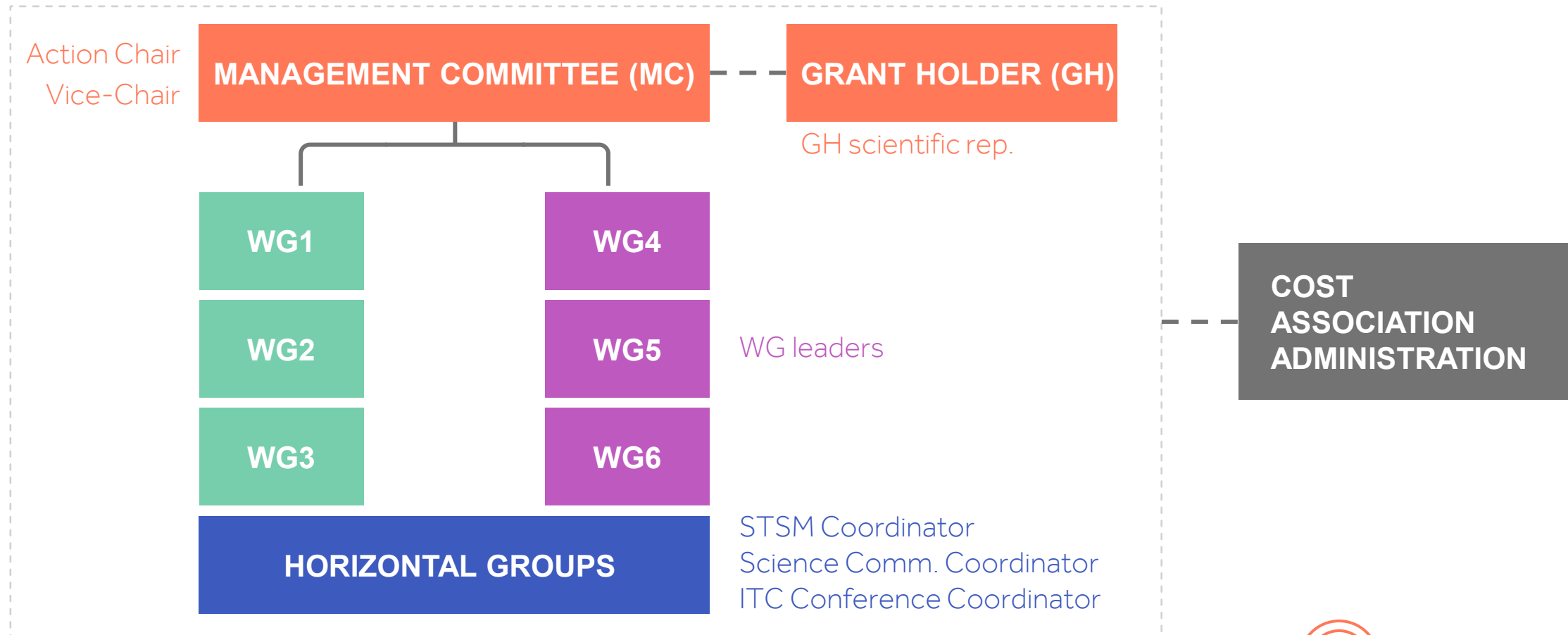


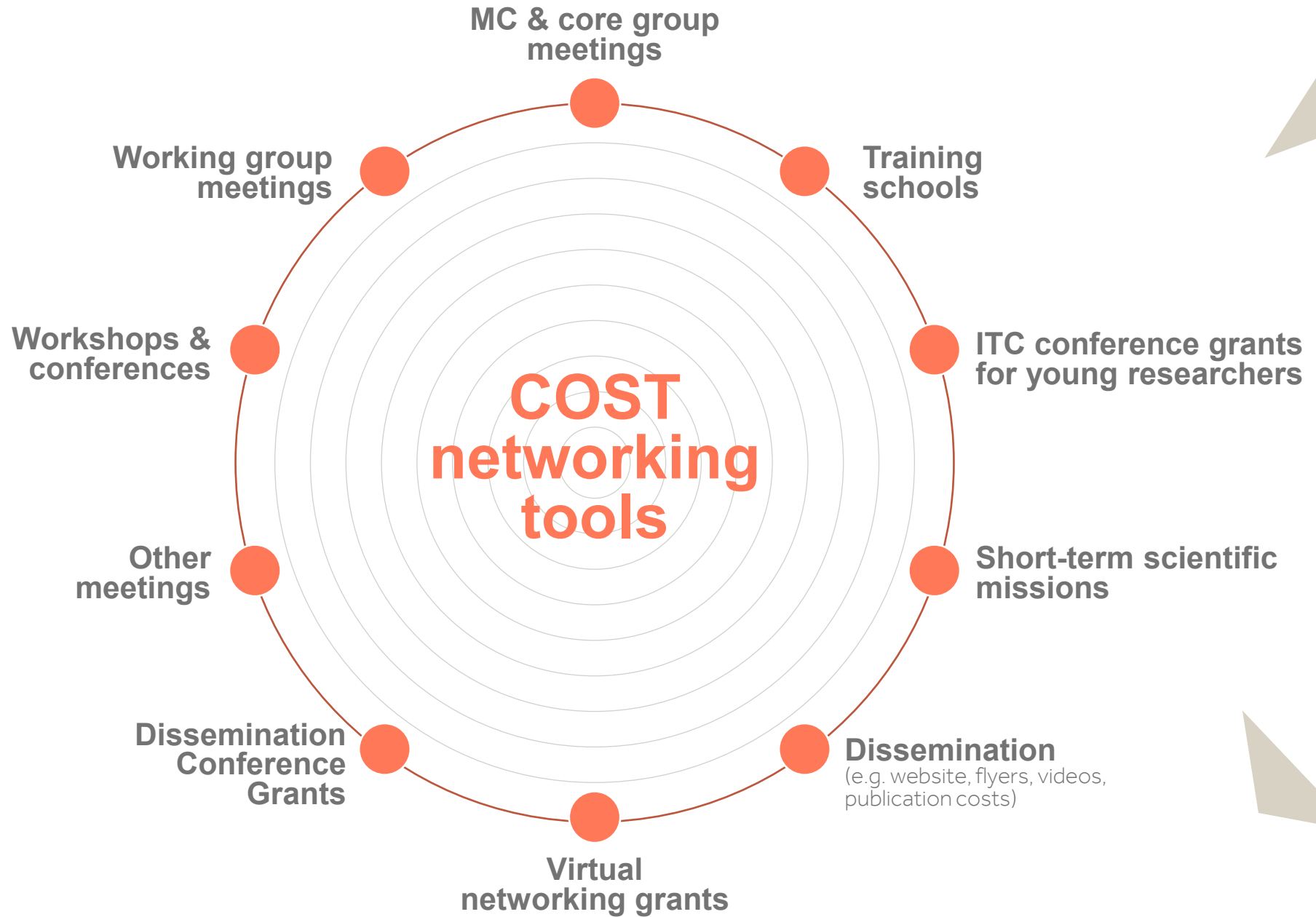
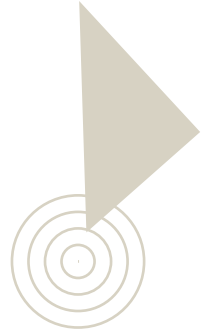
~ €600,000 over lifetime



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

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

- **Virtual Mobility Grants**
 - ✓ Up to 1500 EUR





Funding offered by COST

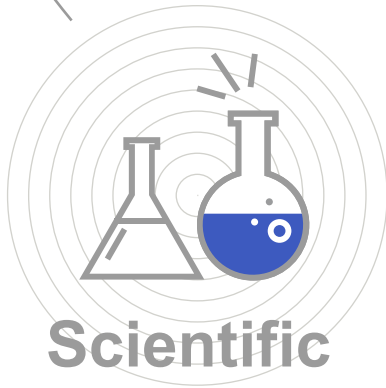
- ✓ **Dissemination of research activities**
 - ✓ ITC Conference Grants
 - ✓ Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)

- **Dissemination Conference Grants**
 - ✓ Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)

- **Dissemination activities**
 - ✓ Open Access publications, books, websites, etc.



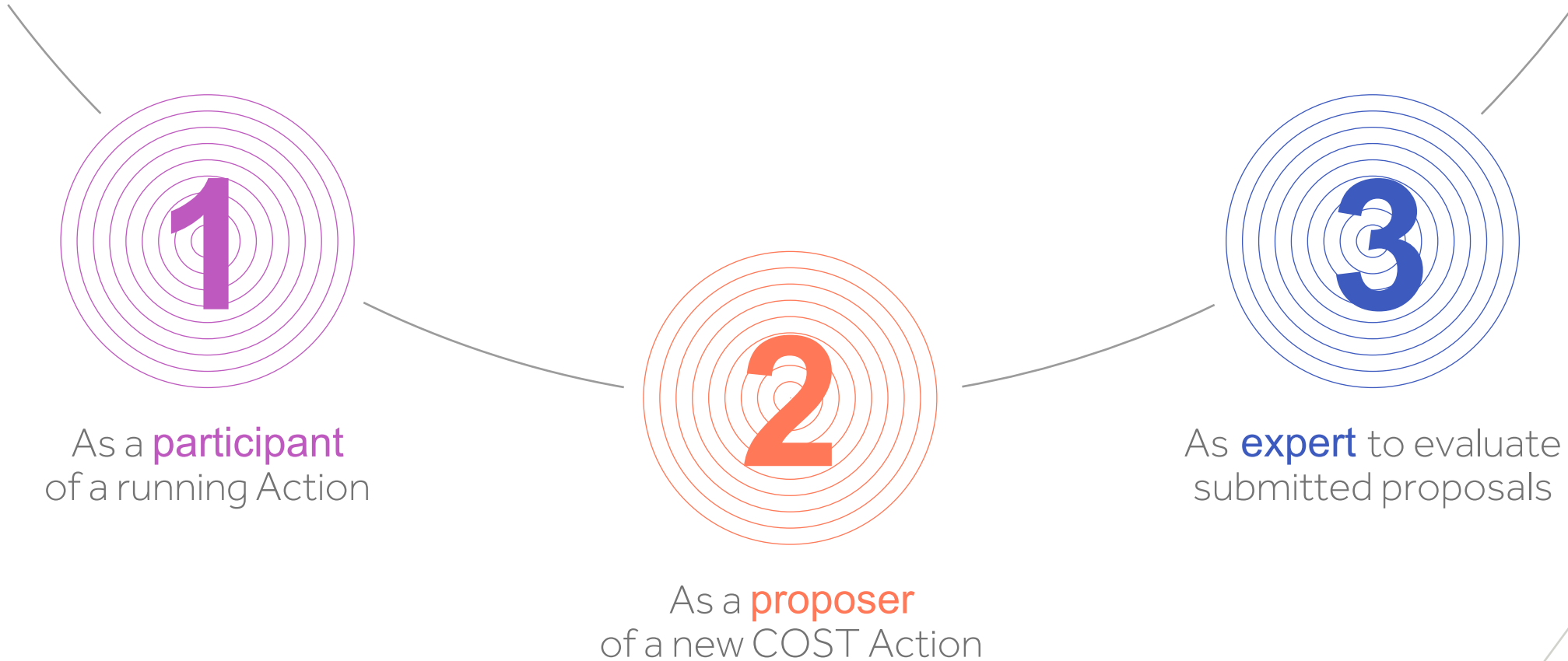
Benefits of participating in a COST Action



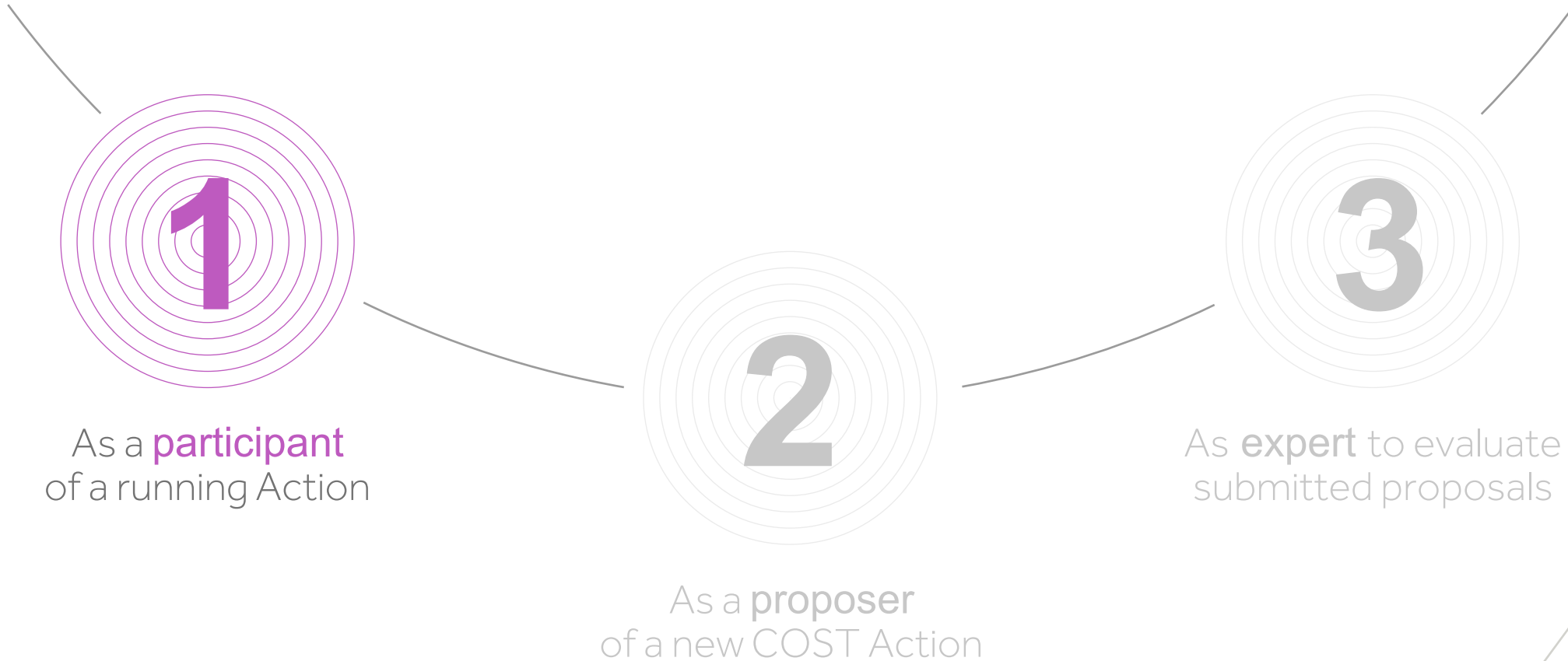
How to engage with COST?



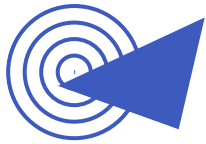
How to engage with COST?



How to engage with COST?

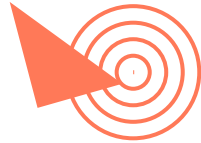


As a participant in a running Action

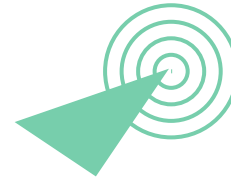


FIND THE ACTION IN YOUR FIELD

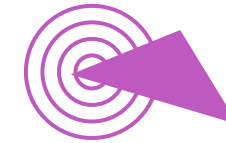
of interest on the COST website



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



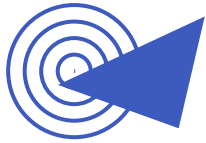
BROWSE THE ACTION'S OWN WEBSITE – check their activities



IDENTIFY THE OPPORTUNITIES to join the Action and your contact person

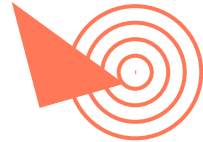


1. As a participant in a running Action

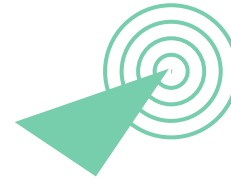


FIND THE ACTION IN YOUR FIELD

of interest on the COST website



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

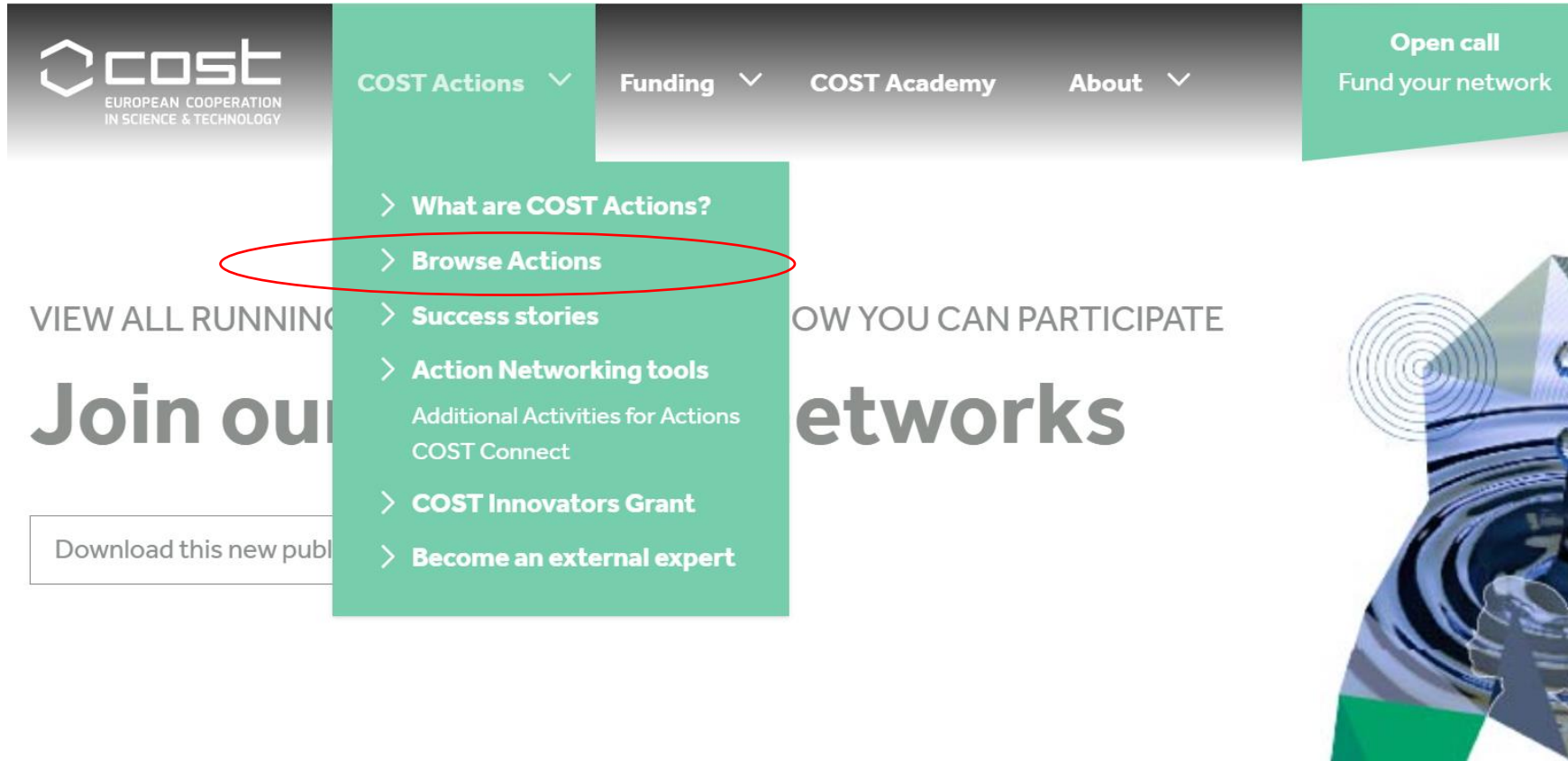


BROWSE THE ACTION'S OWN WEBSITE – check their activities



IDENTIFY THE OPPORTUNITIES to join the Action and your contact person





The image shows a screenshot of the COST website's navigation menu. The menu is located at the top of the page and includes the following items: **COST Actions** (with a dropdown arrow), **Funding** (with a dropdown arrow), **COST Academy**, and **About** (with a dropdown arrow). To the right of the main navigation is a green button labeled **Open call** with the subtext **Fund your network**. The **COST Actions** dropdown menu is open, showing a list of options: **What are COST Actions?**, **Browse Actions** (circled in red), **Success stories**, **Action Networking tools** (with subtext: **Additional Activities for Actions** and **COST Connect**), **COST Innovators Grant**, and **Become an external expert**. The background of the website features a large image of a gear and a target icon, with the text **Join our networks** and **HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE** visible.

Browse Actions

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

Action or Innovators Grant number or text

Search

Search in Title Only

More filters ▾

Show: ▾ Order by: ▾ ↓



CA20116 - European Network for Innovative and Advanced Epitaxy (OPERA)

Downloads

[Home](#) > [Browse Actions](#) > [European Network for Innovative and Advanced Epitaxy \(OPERA\)](#)

Description

Management Committee

Main Contacts and Leadership

Working Groups and Membership

Description

The world is now facing challenges affecting our daily-life that include, among the most acute, health care, energy, telecommunications, sustainable industry, smart cities and climate action. The successful response to these challenges lies on our ability to solve technological roadblocks related to the development of advanced devices.

Material science is at the heart of technological developments. Especially, epitaxy has always been the most powerful technique to fabricate/ manufacture materials while controlling their properties at nanoscale, enabling the development of advanced devices. Today, material development becomes more vital than ever. To break down the barriers limiting the development of more efficient devices, continuous innovation is essential.

To build the foundation of new epitaxial and material science solutions, a European-level structure in epitaxy is today crucial to enhance knowledge sharing at wide scale thanks to cross-community discussions and exchanges.

The COST Action "European Network for Innovative and Advanced Epitaxy", named OPERA, will build a new and innovative European Network composed of expert communities in epitaxial growth focusing on different materials classes: conventional semiconductors, oxides and 2D materials. It aims to bridge the gap between traditionally separated scientific communities, both academic and industrial, having the common goal to combine complementary knowledge, push further the material maturation, and exploit epitaxial combinations of the different material classes in order to unveil new properties and produce new functionalities. Based on this organization, the OPERA COST Action will foster interdisciplinary collaborative research activities allowing maintaining European epitaxy at the topmost worldwide level of research and innovation.

Action keywords

Epitaxy - Material science - Hybrid material systems - Multi-functionalities

Action Details

- MoU - 056/21
- CSO Approval date - 25/05/2021
- Start date - 27/09/2021
- End date - 26/09/2025
- <https://cost-opera.eu>

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](#)

Action documents

Memorandum of Understanding

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 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.



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 \(IMPEMENDEZ\)](#)

[Description](#) [Management Committee](#) [Main Contacts and Leadership](#) [Working Groups and Membership](#)

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'.

Apply

Action Details

- MoU - 058/23
- 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 (STSM)
- 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](#)

Participant in Action Activities : openness

Any individual affiliated to a legal entity in the world and willing to contribute can participate!

Participation can be of different types (MC member; WG member; ad-hoc participant)

Participation does not necessarily mean reimbursement!

Affiliation = Any form of recognised relationship between the individual and a legal entity (example : work contract academia or private sector; enrolment in a research performing study program as PhD/Post-Doctoral; Emeritus professorship)

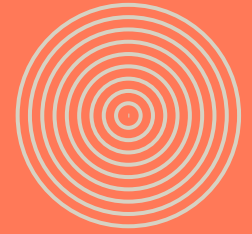
It is based on affiliation not nationality! Always ensure your e-cost profile is up-to-date!

(see Annotated rules for eligibility for reimbursement)



How to submit an application?

Dr Sara Silvestre, Science Officer



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

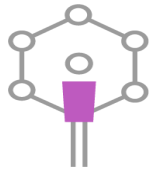
Main proposer + **secondary** proposer (s)

Collection date:
23 October 2024
12:00 (noon) CET

www.COST.eu
opencall@cost.eu



Eligibility Criteria



Network of
proposers:

at least **7**
different COST
Full or
Cooperating
Members (**min.**
50% ITC)



Fundamental
Ethical
Principles:

Emphasis on
originality and
peaceful
purposes



Technical Annex
template:

respects **word**
and **page limits**



Language:
English



Evaluation
double-blind
principle:

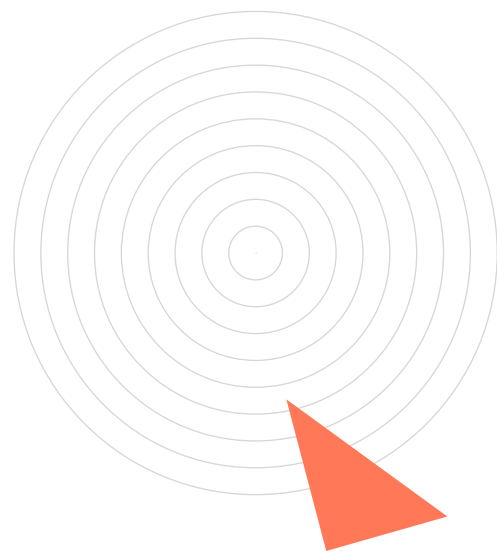
Anonymous

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

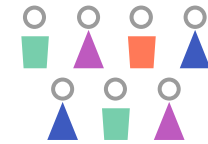




Proposals



**GENERAL
FEATURES**



**NETWORK
OF
PROPOSERS**



**TECHNICAL
ANNEX**

www.cost.eu

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



**COST EXCELLENCE AND
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**





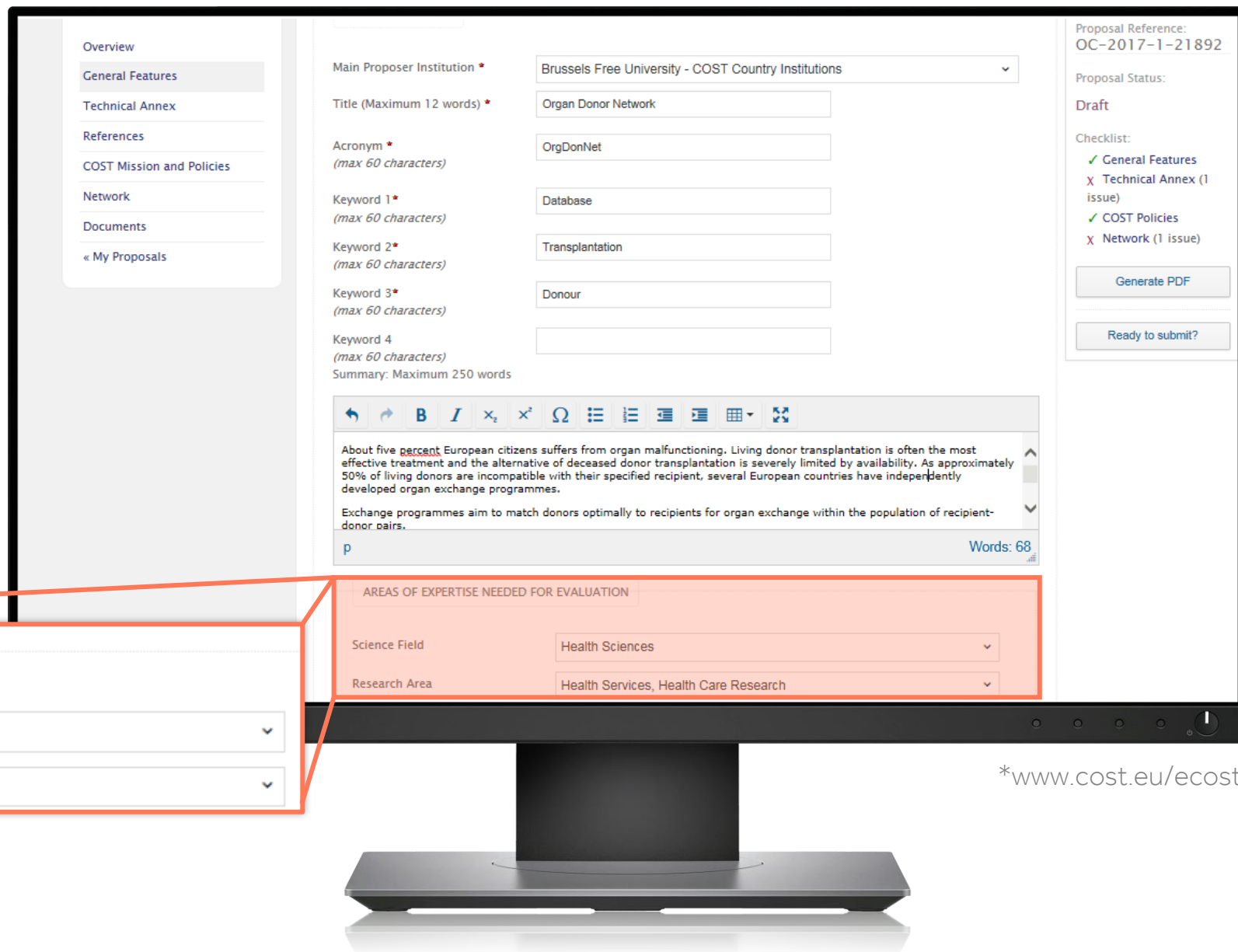
Proposals



**GENERAL
FEATURES**



Online submission tool (e-COST)*



*www.cost.eu/ecost



Proposals



GENERAL FEATURES



TECHNICAL ANNEX

(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

- 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

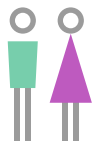
PROMOTING



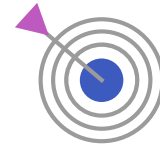
**GEOGRAPHICAL
BALANCE** (ITC)



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**

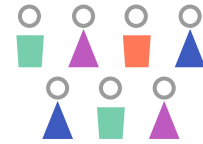


**TECHNICAL
ANNEX**

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

**COST EXCELLENCE AND
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

**NETWORK
OF
PROPOSERS**



Main and secondary proposers

✓ Only one Main Proposer

✓ At least 7 different COST Full or Cooperating Countries (minimum 50% ITC)

Table 1: Eligibility to participate in the Network of Proposers by Affiliation

Proposers affiliated in	Eligible as	
	Main Proposer	Secondary Proposer
A legal entity in a COST Full/Cooperating member	✓	✓
A legal entity in a COST Partner Member	✗	✓
A legal entity in a Near Neighbour Country (NNC)	✗	✓
A legal entity in a Third State (IPC)	✗	✓
EU Institutions, Bodies, Offices and Agencies (EC/EU)	✓	✓
European RTD	✓	✓
International Organisations	✗	✓

✓ = Yes

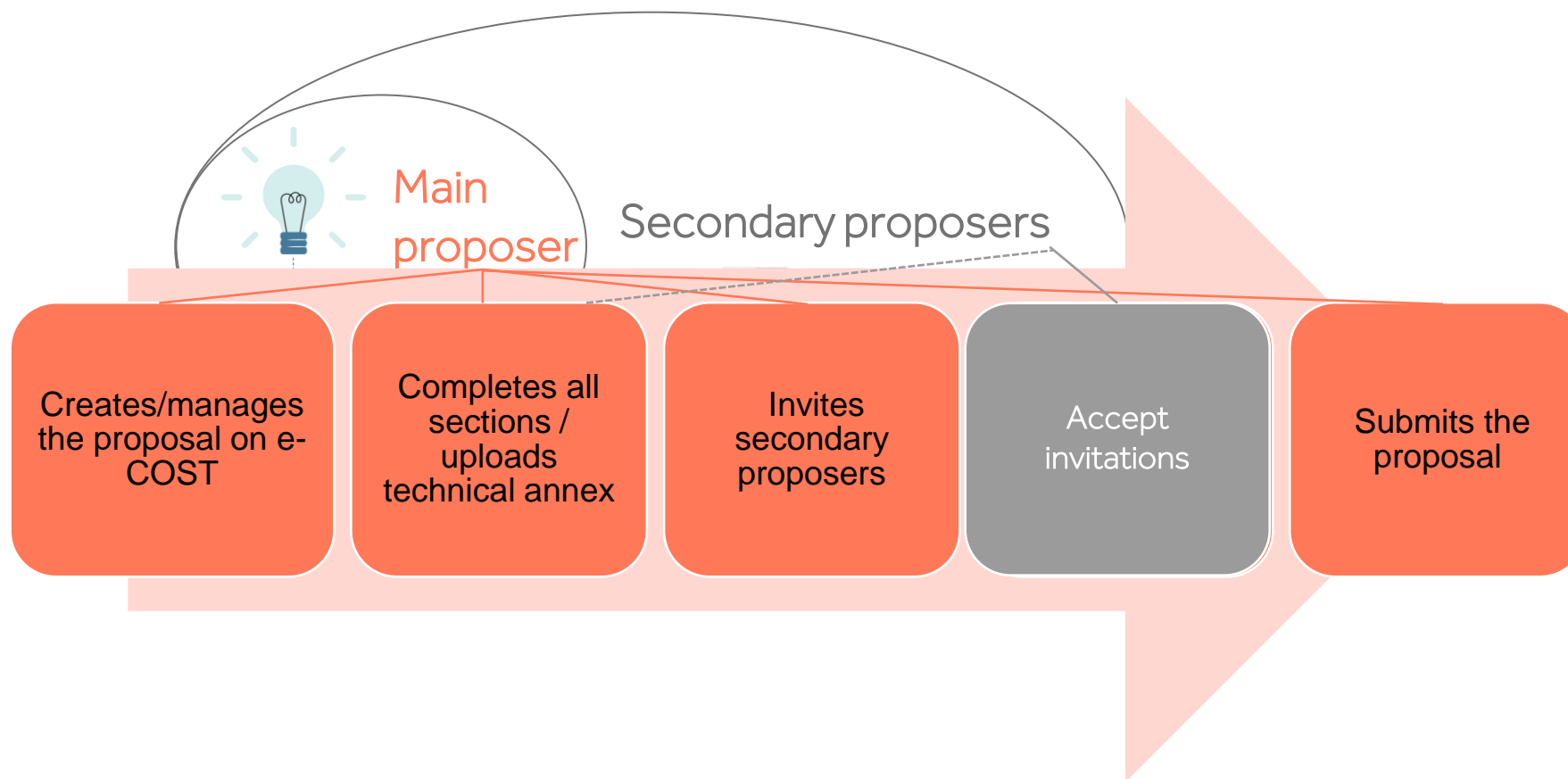
✗ = No

Independent workers are ineligible as Main or Secondary Proposer.

Table 9: Required minimum number of COST Inclusiveness Target Countries per number of COST Full or Cooperating Members represented in a proposal.

Number of COST Full or Cooperating Members	Minimum number of ITC
7	4
8	4
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33	17
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37	19
38	19
39	20
40	20
41	21
42	21

Main and secondary proposers



All (main and secondary) proposers must have a COST account:

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

Resources



How to apply

<https://www.cost.eu/how-to-apply>

Documents & Guidelines

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

- Open Call Announcement
- Open Call Applicant Guidelines
- Proposal Submission, Evaluation, Selection and Approval
- Rules and Principles for COST Activities
- Technical Annex
- Annotated Rules for COST Actions



How to apply in a nutshell



Read the official
announcement

Online registration
and submission (e-COST)

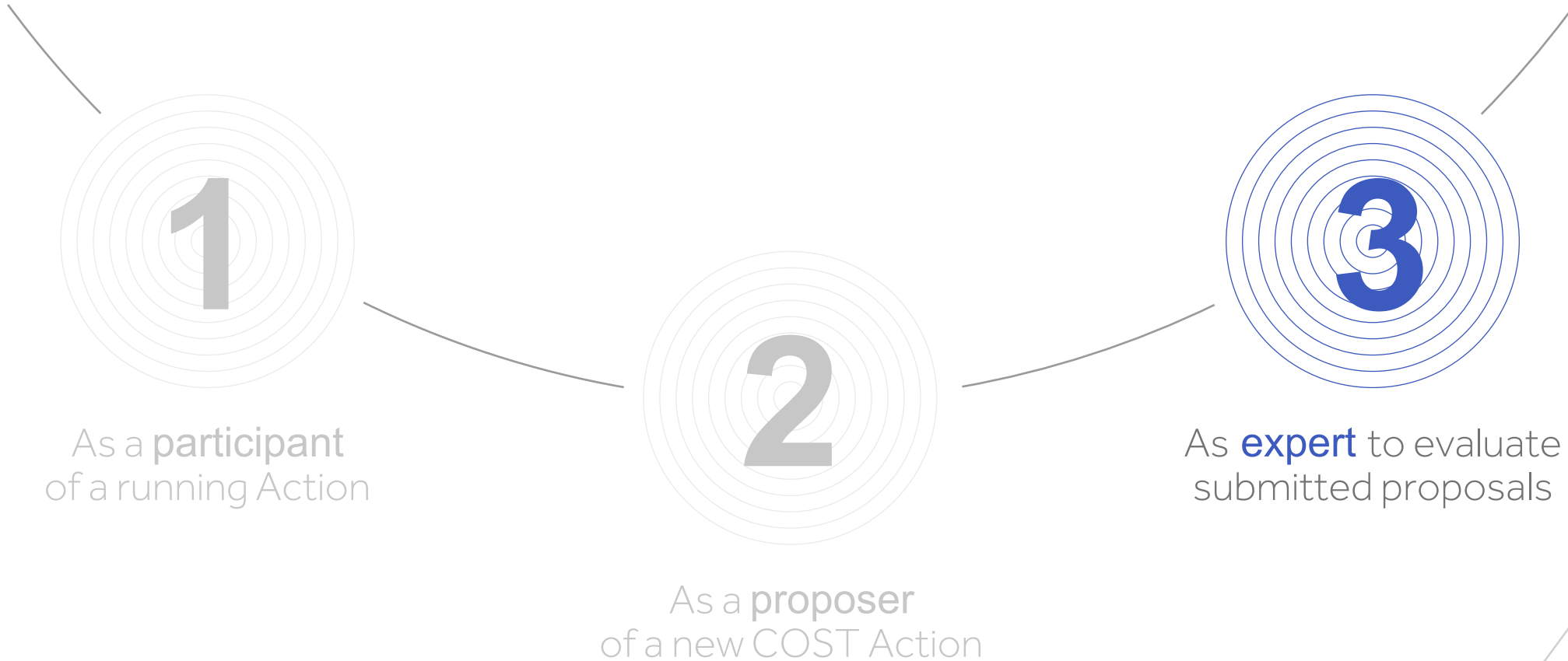
Helpdesk:
opencall@cost.eu

Read the reference
documents and
guidelines (e.g. SESA
Guidelines)

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



How to engage with COST?





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



How to follow us

COST newsletter: www.cost.eu









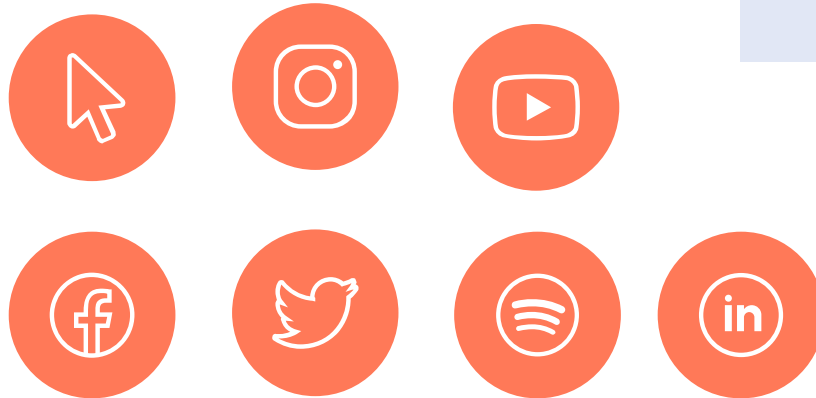
Stay connected

Enter your email address...

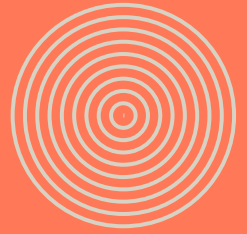
I agree to receive the newsletter and know that I can easily unsubscribe at any time.

Subscribe

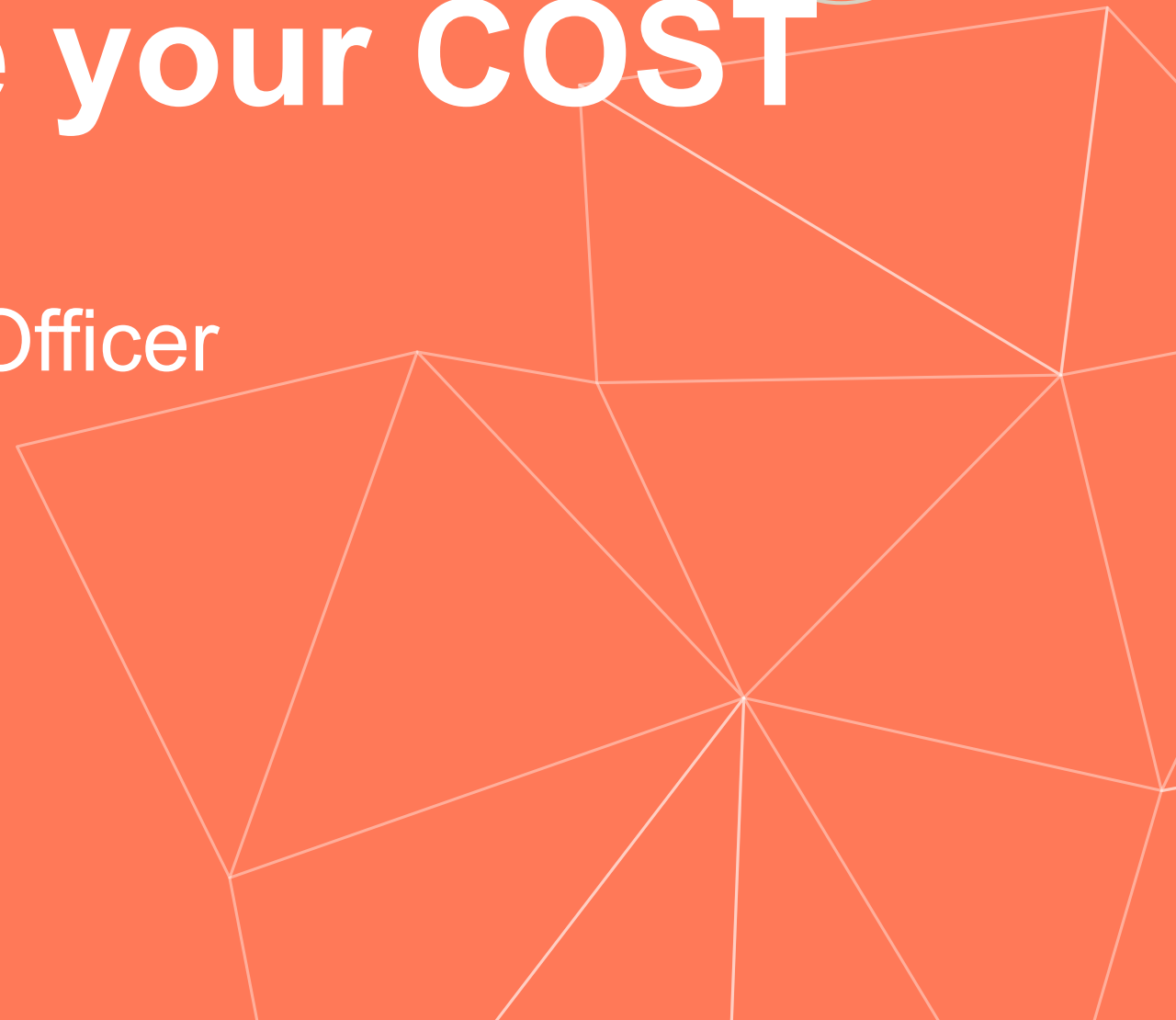
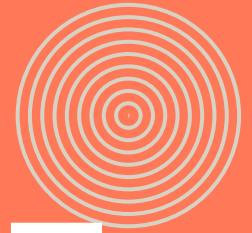


SESSION 2

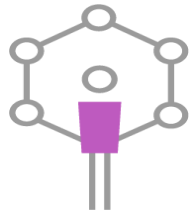


How to prepare your COST proposal?

Dr Sara Silvestre, Science Officer



What sets COST apart?



Funds **networking opportunities** for researchers and innovators



Bottom-up approach (all areas of science and technology)



Open



Inclusive





Proposals



GENERAL FEATURES

1. Acronym
2. Summary
3. Keywords
4. Areas of expertise for evaluation



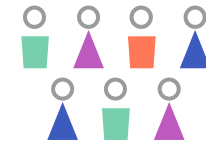
TECHNICAL ANNEX

(www.cost.eu)

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



COST EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSIVENESS POLICY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES



NETWORK OF PROPOSERS

at least 7 different COST Full or Cooperating Members (min. 50% ITC)



Proposals



GENERAL FEATURES



TECHNICAL ANNEX

(www.cost.eu)

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



- ✓ Max. 15 pages
- ✓ Template sections and format must not be modified
- ✓ Diagrams and figures accepted
- ✓ Anonymity criterion must be respected

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





TECHNICAL ANNEX

1. S&T EXCELLENCE

1.1. SOUNDNESS OF THE CHALLENGE

1.1.1. DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE OF THE ART

Text

1.1.2. DESCRIPTION OF THE CHALLENGE (MAIN AIM)

Text

1.2. PROGRESS BEYOND THE STATE-OF-THE-ART

1.2.1. APPROACH TO THE CHALLENGE AND PROGRESS BEYOND THE STATE OF THE ART

Text

1.2.2. OBJECTIVES

1.2.2.1. *Research Coordination Objectives*

Text

1.2.2.2. *Capacity-building Objectives*

Text





1. S&T Excellence

Soundness of the challenge

Q1. Does the proposal demonstrate a comprehensive command of the state of the art in the field(s) and present a relevant and timely challenge?

Progress beyond the state-of-the-art.

Q2. Does the proposal describe an innovative approach to the challenge that advances the state of the art in the field(s)?

Q3. Are the objectives presented relevant to the challenge, clear and ambitious?





Some key concepts (1/2)

Research Coordination Objectives

- development of a common understanding/definition of the subject matter;
- coordination of information seeking, identification, collection and/or data curation;
- coordination of experimentation or testing;
- comparison and/or performance assessment of theory/ model/ scenario/ projection/ simulation/ narrative/ methodology/ technology/ technique;
- development of knowledge needing international coordination: new or improved theory/ model/scenario/ projection/ simulation/ narrative/ methodology/ technology/ technique;
- achievement of a specific tangible output that cannot be achieved without international coordination (e.g. due to practical issues such as database availability, language barriers, availability of infrastructure or know-how, etc.);





Some key concepts (2/2)

Capacity-building objectives

- fostering knowledge exchange and the development of a joint research agenda around a topic of scientific and/or socio-economic relevance;
- fostering knowledge exchange and the development of a joint research agenda around a new or emerging field of research;
- bridging separate fields of science/disciplines to achieve breakthroughs that requires an interdisciplinary approach;
- acting as a stakeholder platform or trans-national practice community (by area of socioeconomic application and/or market sector);
- involving specific target groups (e.g. newly established research groups, Young Researchers and Innovators, the under-represented gender, teams from countries/regions with less capacity in the field of the Action).





2. NETWORKING EXCELLENCE

2.1. ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING IN S&T EXCELLENCE

2.1.1. ADDED VALUE IN RELATION TO EXISTING EFFORTS AT EUROPEAN AND/OR INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Text

2.2. ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING IN IMPACT

2.2.1. SECURING THE CRITICAL MASS, EXPERTISE AND GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE WITHIN THE COST MEMBERS AND BEYOND

Text

2.2.2. INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS

Text





2. Networking Excellence

Added value of networking in S&T Excellence

Q4. Does networking bring added value in tackling the challenge in relation to existing efforts at the European and/or international level?

Added value of networking in Impact

Q5. Does the proposed network contain, or present a credible plan for securing, the critical mass and range of expertise for achieving the objectives and thus addressing the challenge?

Q6. Does the proposal identify the most relevant stakeholders and present a clear plan to involve them as Action participants?





3. IMPACT

3.1. IMPACT TO SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND COMPETITIVENESS, AND POTENTIAL FOR INNOVATION/BREAK-THROUGHS

3.1.1. SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND/OR SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS (INCLUDING POTENTIAL INNOVATIONS AND/OR BREAKTHROUGHS)

Text

3.2. MEASURES TO MAXIMISE IMPACT

3.2.1. KNOWLEDGE CREATION, TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Text

3.2.2. PLAN FOR DISSEMINATION AND/OR EXPLOITATION AND DIALOGUE WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC OR POLICY





3. Impact criteria

Impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/breakthroughs

Q7. Does the proposal clearly identify relevant and realistic impacts for science, society and/or competitiveness (including potential innovations and/or breakthroughs)?

Measures to maximise impact

Q8. Does the proposed networking clearly contribute to knowledge creation, transfer of knowledge and career development?

Q9. Is the plan for dissemination and/or exploitation of results clear and attainable and does it contribute to the dialogue between science and the general public or policy?





4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. COHERENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORK PLAN

4.1.1. DESCRIPTION OF WORKING GROUPS, TASKS AND ACTIVITIES

Text

4.1.2. DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME

Text

4.1.3. RISK ANALYSIS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

Text

4.1.4. GANTT DIAGRAM

Text





4. Implementation criteria

Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

Q10. Is the work plan (WGs, tasks, activities, timeframe, deliverables and risk analysis) appropriate to ensure the achievement of the objectives?





Anonymity criterion

May not contain any direct or indirect reference to people and/or their institutions participating in the Network of Proposers (Main or Secondary Proposers)



Anonymity criterion - Examples

Statements resulting in ineligibility

"Several members of the proposers' network have been involved in previous FP7 projects, like ATTPS and ADAPTIWALL, and institutions/organisations/networks/COST Actions, such as FP0901" (direct reference)

Eligible statements

"The Action will seek contact with / reach out to / draw on the expertise of / build on / ... previous FP7 projects, like ATTPS and ADAPTIWALL, and institutions/organisations/networks/COST Actions/..., such as FP0901."



Anonymity criterion - Examples

Statements resulting in ineligibility

"The Network of Proposers has already generated some output¹", with in the footnote a link to a YouTube video or webpage in which secondary proposers can be identified (indirect reference, potentially identifiable)

Eligible statements

"The Network of Proposers has already generated some output", without links to a YouTube video or webpage in which secondary proposers can be identified



Anonymity criterion - Examples

Statements resulting in ineligibility

"Among government-run public services we have the Department of Health of Catalonia on board"
(direct reference)

Eligible statements

"The Network of Proposers already includes a / several government-run public service(s)."



References



References

- Non mandatory
- Max. 500 words
- Free text section to list relevant references on the topic of the proposal further demonstrating your awareness on the state of the art of the given field(s). The list of references is displayed to the evaluators, but not assessed during the evaluation.



COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

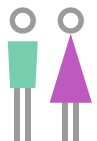
PROMOTING



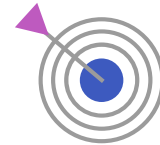
**GEOGRAPHICAL
BALANCE** (ITC)



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



COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

E-COST SECTION



N.B.: The content of this section will be assessed at the selection phase by the Scientific Committee.

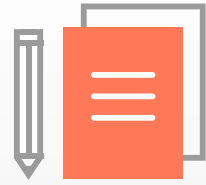
COST Mission and Policy

- Mandatory
- Max. 1000 words
- This is a free text section to explain how the Action proposal will address the COST Policy with regard to:
 1. ensuring a geographical balance, and involving participants from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC);
 2. Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI);
 3. addressing Gender balance¹⁴.
- The proposal should describe the plans (what and how) for each of these three specific targets.

✓ Example for COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy addressing ITC: ITC researchers' full involvement through leadership roles in COST Actions.

✓ Tip: Annotated Rules (I. LEVEL A: COST PRINCIPLES)





Proposals

GENERAL
FEATURES

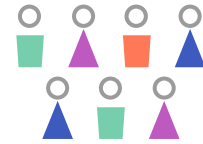


TECHNICAL
ANNEX

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

COST EXCELLENCE AND
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

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PROPOSERS



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✓ = Yes

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37	19
38	19
39	20
40	20
41	21
42	21

All (main and secondary) proposers must have a COST account:

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

Budget

Proposal stage:

- No budget draft/information is needed in the proposal

After approval:

- Start of the Action = **MC1**
- Grant Periods:

GP	Duration	Budget
1	1 November 2024 – 30 October 2025	approximately 125 000 EUR
2	1 November 2025 – 30 October 2026	Depending on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ COST countries in the WGs▪ Action performance▪ Availability of budget
3	1 November 2026 – 30 October 2027	
4	1 November 2027 – 4 years from MC1	



Evaluation

SESA



ELIGIBILITY!

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

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

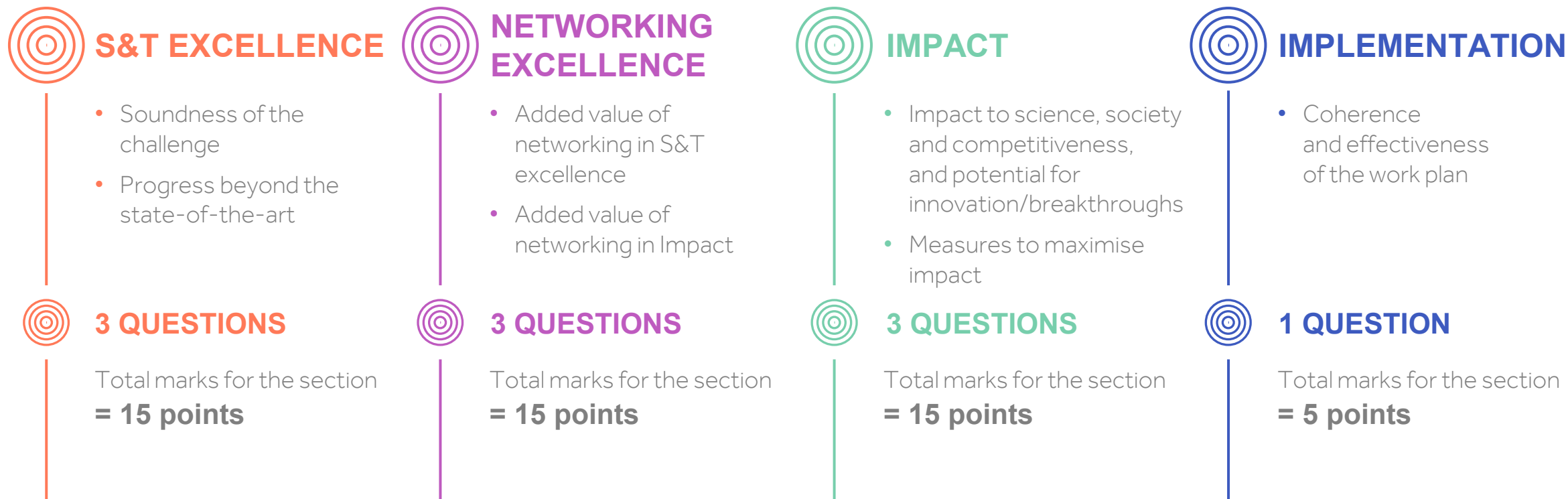
STEP ④

APPROVAL BY COST COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

Results 7-8 months
after submission



Evaluation criteria



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





THANK YOU!

