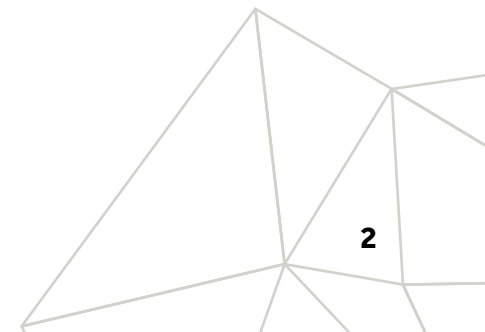# COST INFO DAY

Croatia, 24/03/2022

Agenda

1. How to engage in a COST Action – Dr Gordana Kregar, Science Officer at the COST Association

2. Which activities are funded? – Ms Jeannette Nchung Oru, Administrative Officer at COST Association

3. How to prepare an Action proposal – Mr Christer Halen, Policy Administrator at the COST Association
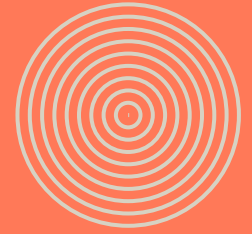
Session I

How to engage in a COST Action

Dr Gordana Kregar, Science Officer

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The COST Programme

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

COST
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

European Cooperation in Science & Technology

COST

ALL FIELDS OF S&T
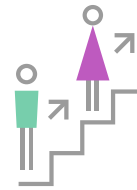(mono- or interdisciplinary,
new and emerging fields)

ALL PARTNERS
(academia, public organisation, industry,
NGO, International Organisations)

BOTTOM-UP APPROACH

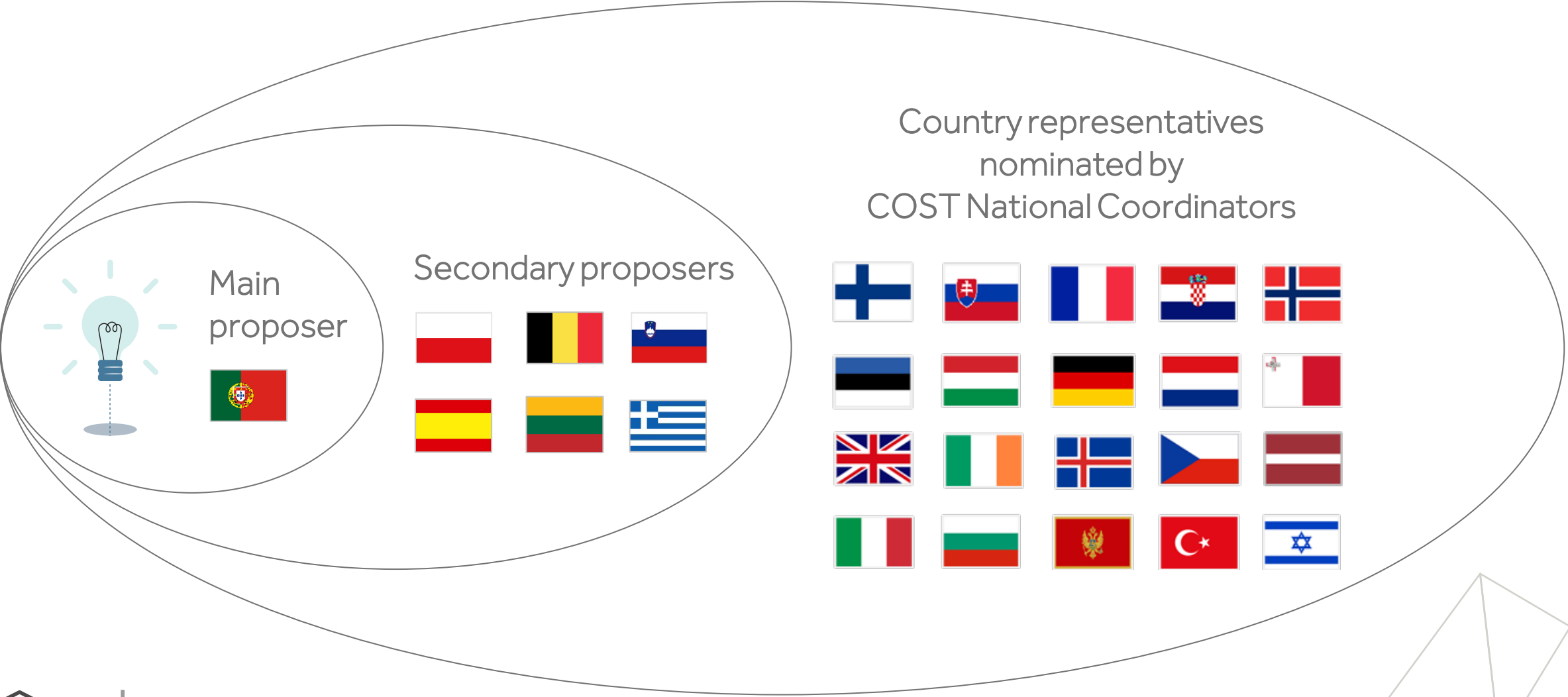**ALL CAREER STAGES**
(young and experienced researchers)

ALL COUNTRIES

- 38 COST Members
  + 1 Cooperating Member
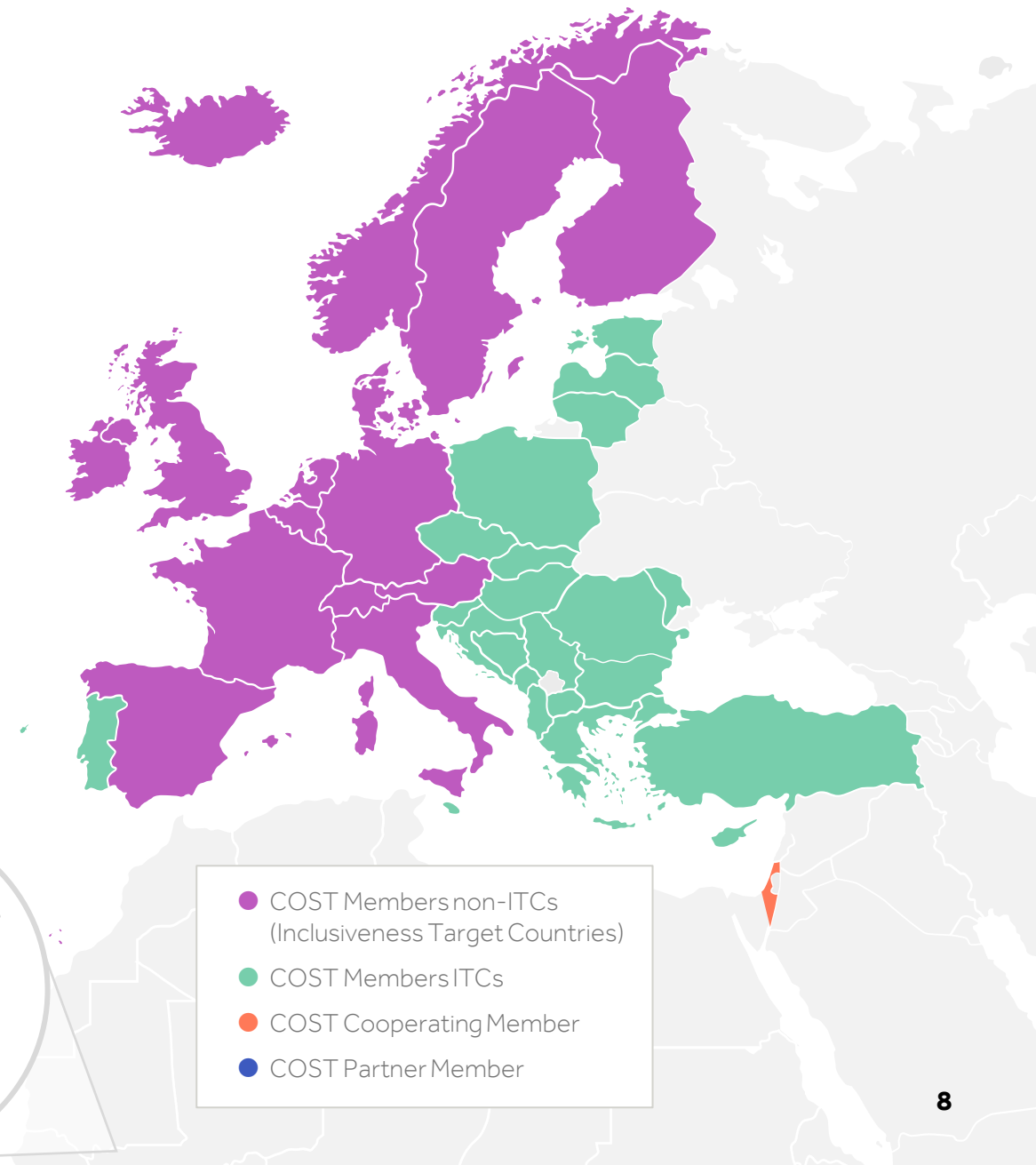- 16 Near Neighbour Countries
- Global cooperation

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How it works?

Country representatives nominated by
COST National Coordinators

Main proposer

Secondary proposers

COST membership

38 Members

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

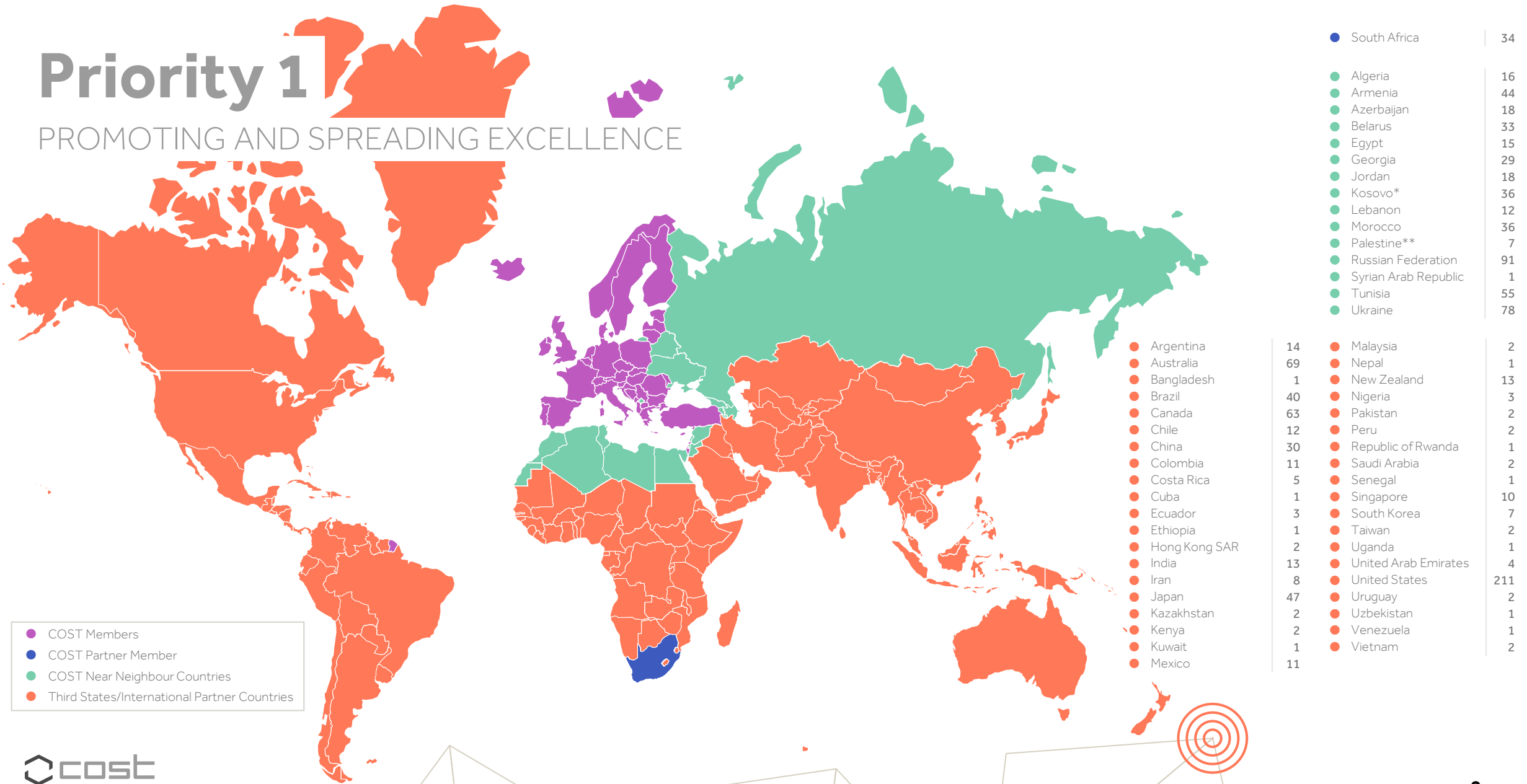**1 Cooperating Member**

- Israel

1 Partner Member

- South Africa

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

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Priority 1

PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

South Africa	34

Algeria	16
Armenia	44
Azerbaijan	18
Belarus	33
Egypt	15
Georgia	29
Jordan	18
Kosovo*	36
Lebanon	12
Morocco	36
Palestine**	7
Russian Federation	91
Syrian Arab Republic	1
Tunisia	55
Ukraine	78

Argentina	14	Malaysia	2
Australia	69	Nepal	1
Bangladesh	1	New Zealand	13
Brazil	40	Nigeria	3
Canada	63	Pakistan	2
Chile	12	Peru	2
China	30	Republic of Rwanda	1
Colombia	11	Saudi Arabia	2
Costa Rica	5	Senegal	1
Cuba	1	Singapore	10
Ecuador	3	South Korea	7
Ethiopia	1	Taiwan	2
Hong Kong SAR	2	Uganda	1
India	13	United Arab Emirates	4
Iran	8	United States	211
Japan	47	Uruguay	2
Kazakhstan	2	Uzbekistan	1
Kenya	2	Venezuela	1
Kuwait	1	Vietnam	2
Mexico	11		

Legend:
- COST Members
- COST Partner Member
- COST Near Neighbour Countries
- Third States/International Partner Countries

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COST in Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe =
Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area pillar
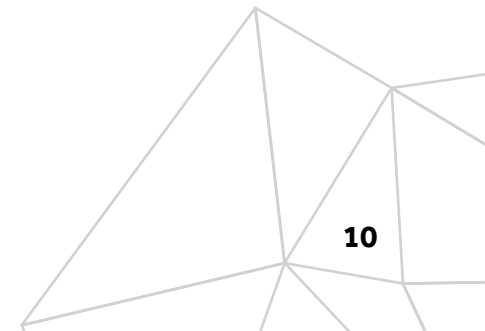
COST activities
are implemented by the COST Association, under a Framework Partnership Agreement and Specific Grant Agreements with the European Commission
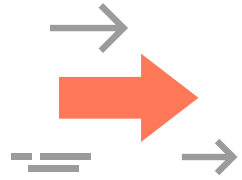
COST Actions
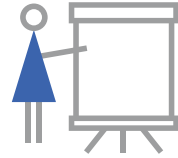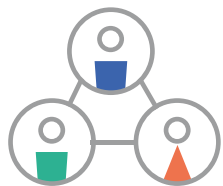receive budget under Third Party Funding

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
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Key figures

292
Running Actions

203
Training schools

€134,500
Average annual budget
of a COST Action

2,320
Short-term
scientific missions

45,000
Researchers involved
in COST Actions

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

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IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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.
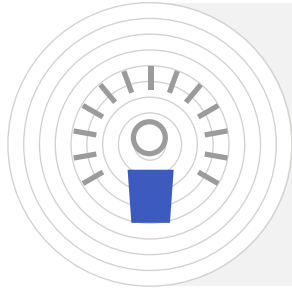
Research careers

- 95% of researchers participating in COST Actions indicate that participation has led to career advancement
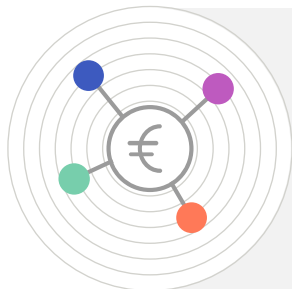
Follow-up funding

- Horizon 2020 reported success rate: 37% (on a yearly basis, around €390 million of approved common research projects spin off from ending Actions)

COST Actions

An efficient networking tool

COST Actions

AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

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

COST provides funding for research coordination and capacity building activities

Network
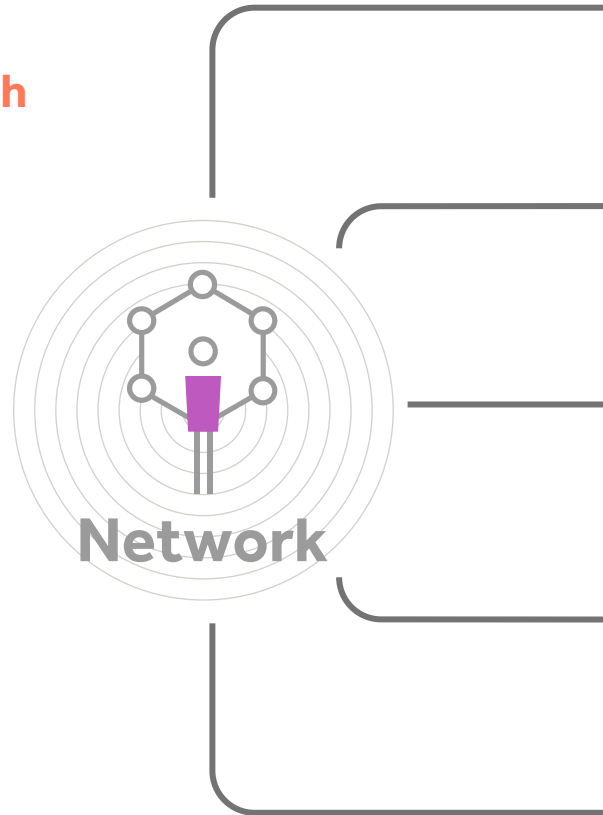
Memorandum of Understanding
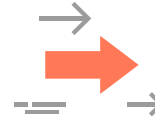
4 years

Min 7 countries, average participation 30 countries

Research coordination and capacity building activities

~ €500,000 over lifetime

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LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

✓ **COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy !**

Action Chair
Vice-Chair

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MC) - - - **GRANT HOLDER (GH)**

GH scientific rep.

WG1	WG4
WG2	WG5
WG3	WG6

WG leaders

HORIZONTAL GROUPS

Grant Awarding Coordinator
Science Comm. Coordinator

COST ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION

✓ **Annotated Rules for COST Actions**

Networking Activities & Other Expenses

- MC & Core Group Meetings
- Training Schools
- ITC Conference Grants for Young Researchers
- Short-Term Scientific Missions
- Dissemination & Communication Products
- Virtual Networking Grants
- Dissemination Conference Grant
- Other Expenses (LOS, OERSA)
- Workshops & Conferences
- Working Group Meetings

cost
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16

Implementing COST's strategic priorities

COST Innovators Grant

COST Academy

COST science-informed policy advice

COST ACTIONS

Meetings, workshops conferences, and conference grants

Training schools

Short-term scientific missions

Dissemination activities

Virtual networking grants

COST Connect

COST global networking

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
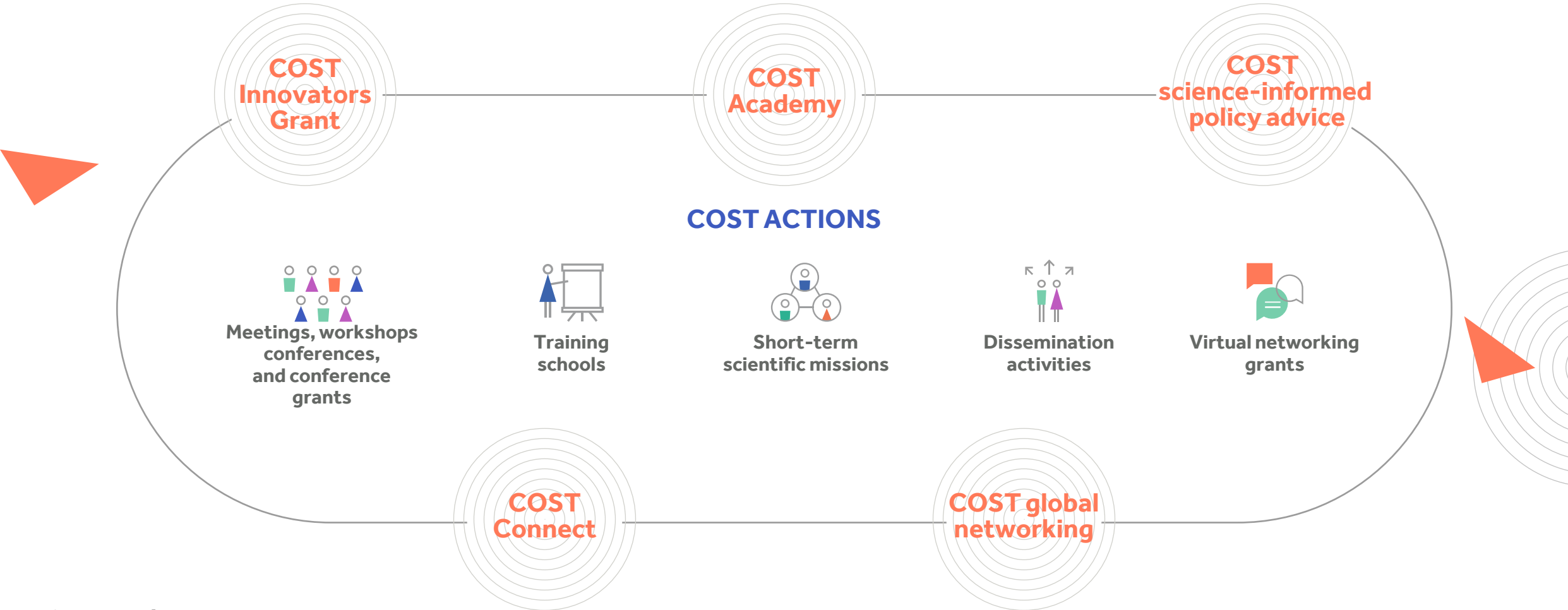
COST Actions Monitoring Requirements

| Type	Time (months)	Focus	Referent
PR1	12	Implementation of SC Recommendations & COST Policies	Scientific Committee
PR2	24	• Progress • Impacts and successes • Dissemination & Exploitation • Urgent needs for improvement	Action Rapporteur
FA	48	• MoU Achievements • Expected Impact & Successes • Dissemination & Exploitation • Added value of the networking • Lessons for the future and success stories • Emerging themes/ potentially important future developments	Action Rapporteur

Life after COST ?

Opportunities:

- ➢ Structure already exists
- ➢ Apply for a new grant
- ➢ Link to other COST Actions
- ➢ Establish a future structure (legal entity e.g. Society, Association)
- ➢ Contact with an existing society to develop a stream (subsection) within

How to engage with COST?

1
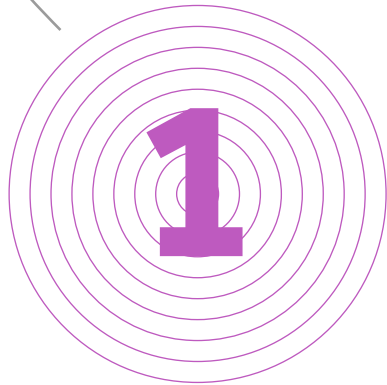
As a **participant**
of a running Action

2

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

3

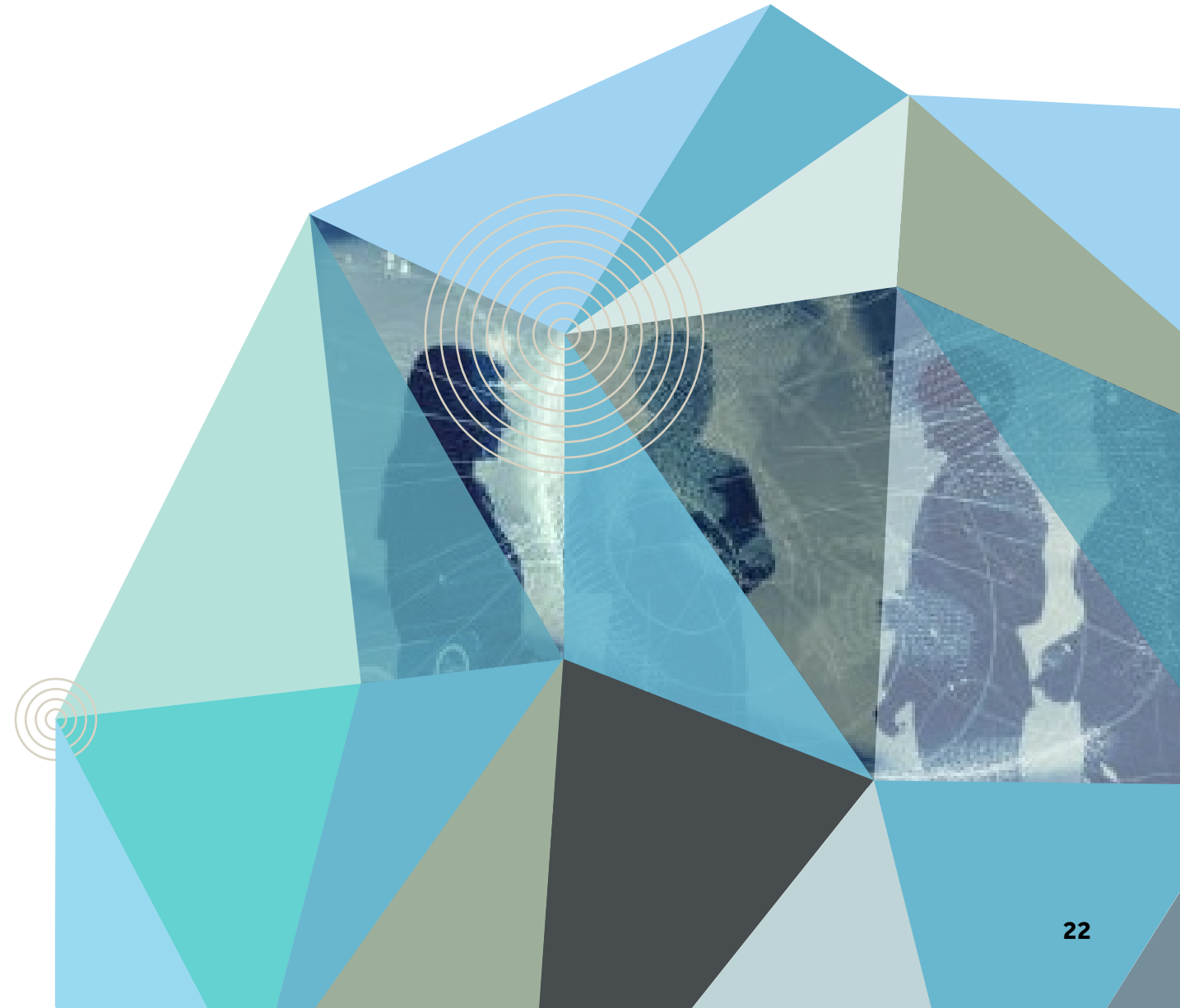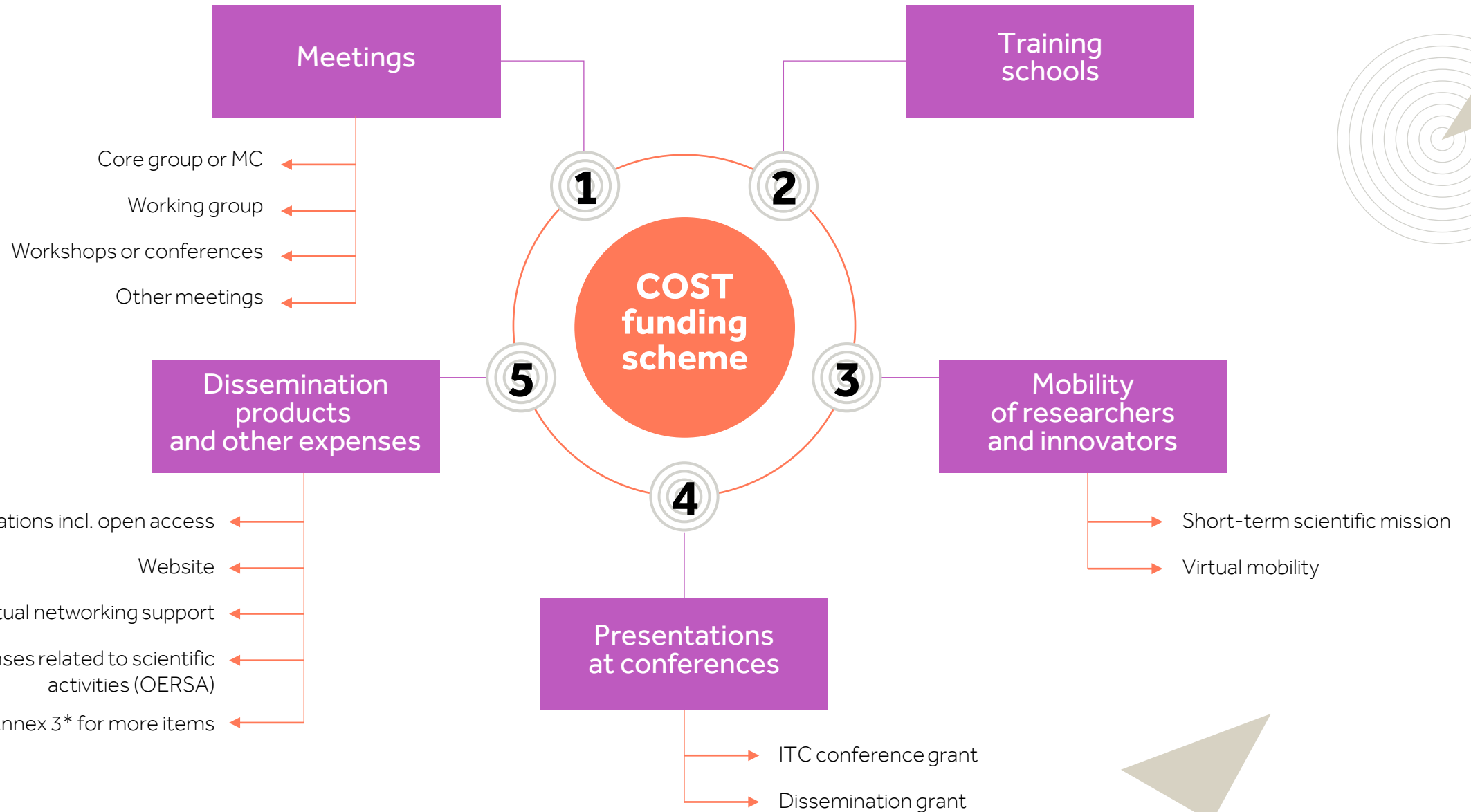As **expert** to evaluate
submitted proposals

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THANK YOU!
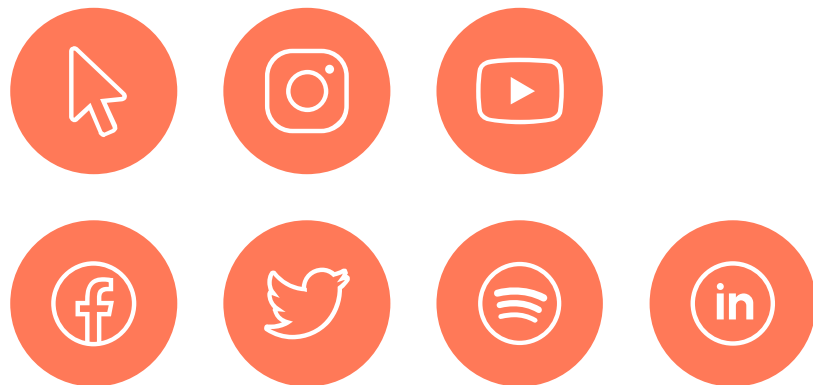
Session II

Which activities are funded?

Ms Jeannette Nchung Oru – Administrative Officer

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IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

COST funding scheme

1 Meetings
- Core group or MC
- Working group
- Workshops or conferences
- Other meetings

2 Training schools

3 Mobility of researchers and innovators
- Short-term scientific mission
- Virtual mobility

4 Presentations at conferences
- ITC conference grant
- Dissemination grant

5 Dissemination products and other expenses
- Publications incl. open access
- Website
- Virtual networking support
- Expenses related to scientific activities (OERSA)
- See Annex 3* for more items

* See Annotated Rules for COST Actions

3 funding schemes

1. Daily Allowance
2. Grants
3. Invoices

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IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

3 funding schemes

1. Daily Allowance: Reimbursement for Meetings and Training Schools

Daily Allowance (DA) covers:

✓ Accommodation
✓ Meals
✓ Short distance travel : up to
   100 km
 each way

No receipts required (to be
uploaded)

Daily Allowance (DA)

✓ Daily Allowance is based on the country of the event (Meeting or Training School)

✓ MC can decide to lower the amount of the DA

✓ Training Schools: trainers and trainees can have different DA

Country	DA
Iceland	196
Ireland	200
Israel	185
Italy	190
Latvia	181
Lithuania	172
Luxembourg	194
Malta	183
Moldova	170
Montenegro	172
Netherlands	200
Norway	203
Poland	184
Portugal	185
Romania	177
Serbia	181
Slovakia	179
Slovenia	177
Spain	182
Sweden	188
Switzerland	198
the Republic of North Macedonia	181
Turkey	181
United Kingdom	210
Any other country	210

Long distance travel

- ✓ Any travel > 100 km to/from participant's place of affiliation and the meeting location
- ✓ Paid based on face-value
- ✓ Limited to plane, train, bus, car, and ferry
- ✓ Maximum of 1500 EUR for all travel

Plane	Train/Bus/Ferry	Car
E-ticket receipt - passenger name, dates and time, full itinerary, price	Receipt - dates, full itinerary, price	Proof of distance - 0.35 EUR per km, - max 2000 km on return

Travel <u>cancellation</u> insurance is eligible!

! The Action MC may decide to reduce the maximum amount.

LOS (Local Organiser Support)

Is a fixed **grant**, dependent on 3 factors:

- ✓ **Format:** Virtual/Online, Hybrid or Face to Face (F2F)
- ✓ **Number of people participating** based on the signed attendance list (F2F) and attendance logs (Online)
- ✓ **Duration** of the activity
- ✓ Grant is paid to an Institutional account and not to an individual

GRANT = No receipts required,

Grant Holder and LO follow their national and institutional rules

3 funding schemes

2. Reimbursement for Mobility of Researchers and Innovators and Presentations at Conferences Organized by 3rd parties : Grants

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Reimbursement for Mobility of Researchers and Innovators : Grants

Mobility of Researchers and Innovators

- STSMs
- Virtual Mobility

Presentations at external Conferences

- ITC Conference
- Dissemination Conference

-Poster/oral
-ITC/NNC aged below 40 years

-strictly oral presentation as Invited Speaker

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What is the maximum grant amount for each type?

- STSM
  - ✓ Up to **4000 EUR**

  - request to prepay 50% is possible but decision lies with GH Institution

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

- ITC Conference Grants and Dissemination Conference Grants
  - ✓ Up to **2000 EUR** per grant for face to face conferences
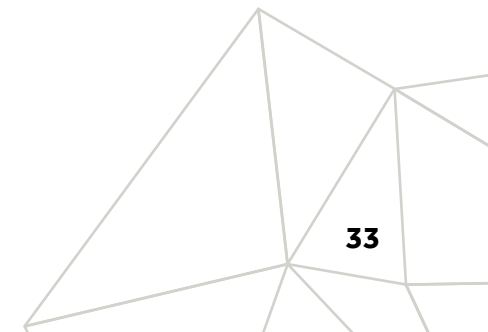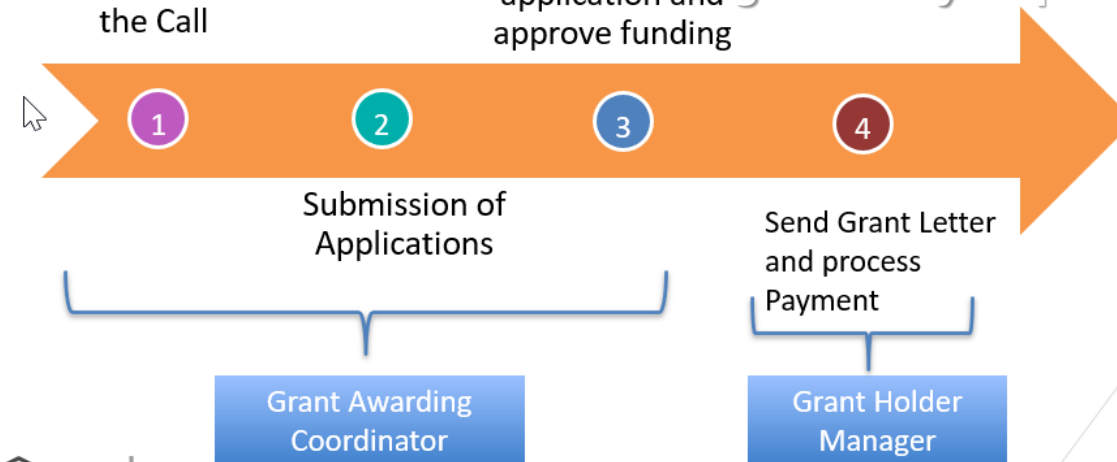
  OR

  - ✓ Up to **500 EUR** for virtual conferences

Virtual Networking Support

- Promoting and supporting virtual and hybrid collaboration as a complement to traditional ways of collaboration within the research and innovation communities

- **Individual Grant (EUR 4000 per grant). Follow on e-COST the Grant Awarding Process.**

  - Selected by Open Call or identification of relevant participant.

3 funding schemes

3. Reimbursement based on Invoices: Dissemination and Communication Products

Dissemination and Comm. Products: Eligible expenses (based on invoices)

- Action Website
- Action logo
- Dissemination Materials
- Multimedia Content
- Information Materials
- Booth at a Conference or Commercial exhibition

Reimbursement of individuals

Affiliation to		Meetings		Training Schools			Other networking activities	
		Invited individual	Local Organiser	Trainer	Trainee	Local Organiser	ITC Conf Grant*	All others
COST Members	Legal entity in COST F/C Member	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COST Members	Legal entity in CPM	At COST Partner Member's costs (dedicated budget line)						
Specific Organisations	EC/EU	At EC, EU body, office or agency cost (minimisation of cascade funding)						
Specific Organisations	Eur. RTD Org.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Specific Organisations	IO	Once in the lifetime of the Action	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
NNC	Legal entity in a NNC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IPC / Third States	Legal entity in an IPC	Once in the lifetime of the Action	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗

* ITC Conference Grants are limited to Young researchers and innovators from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries and NNC.
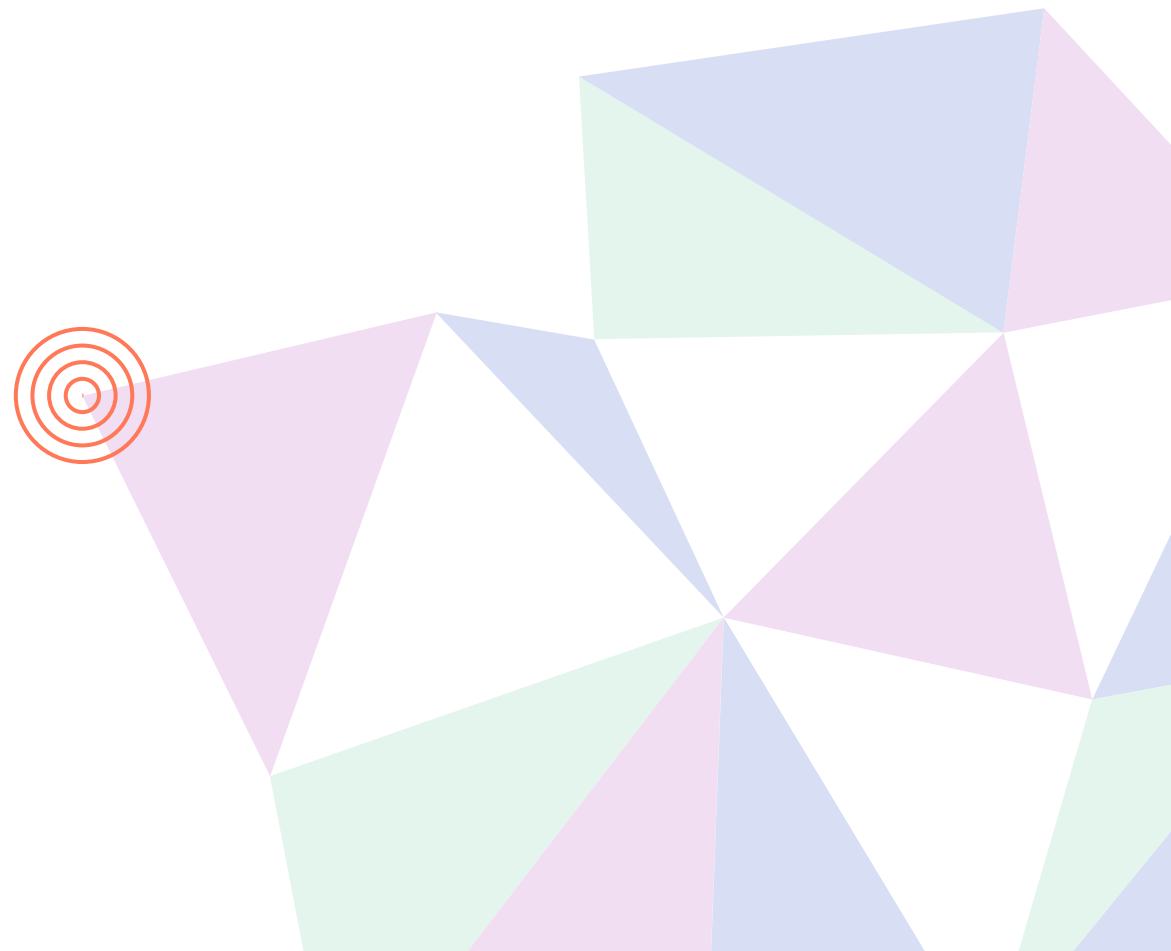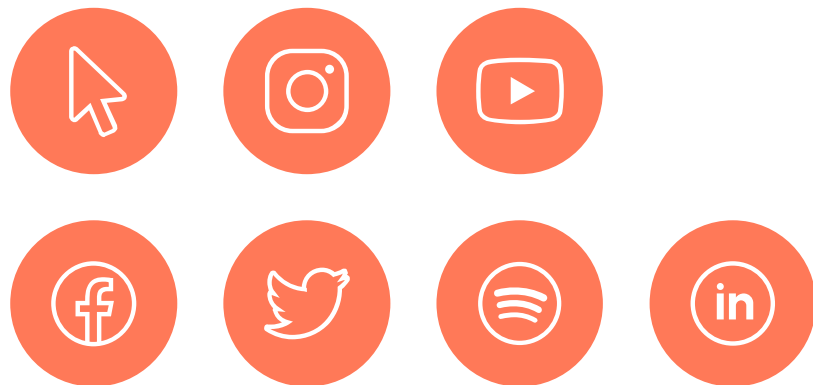
Location of Activities

	Meetings	Training Schools and other networking activities
Virtual Environment	✔	✔
COST Members — Full or Cooperating Members	✔	✔
COST Members — Partner Member	✖	✔
NNC	✔	✔
IPC/Third State	✖	✔
Specific Organisations	Rule applicable to territory where it is vested	
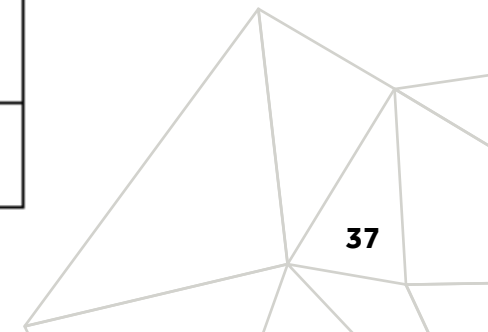
THANK YOU!

Session III

How to prepare an Action proposal

Mr Christer Halen – Policy Administrator

Main Features

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

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

70 COST Actions approved per collection

Main proposer + **secondary** proposer

Collection date: 20 October 2022 12:00 CET

www.COST.eu
opencall@cost.eu
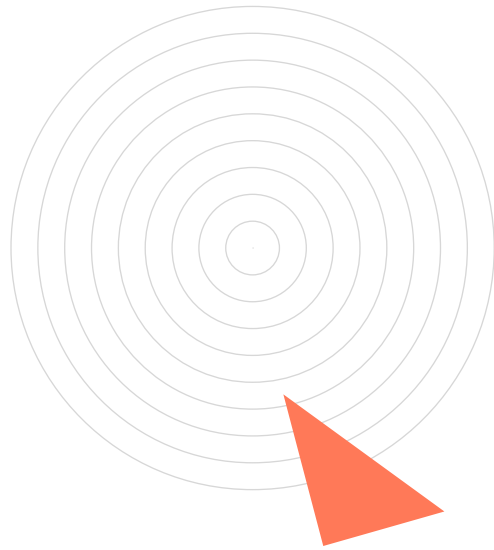
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Open Call for proposals – how to apply

E-COST

1

Create a COST account:
https://www.cost.eu/ecost

2

> Open Call

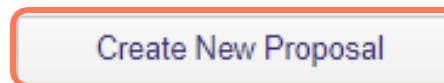| Open Call |
| COST Actions |

> Proposals
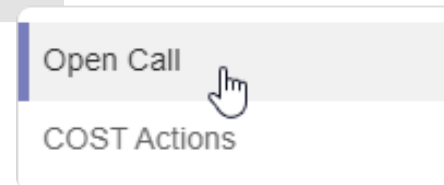
| Calendar |
| Proposals |
| Evaluations |

> Create new proposal
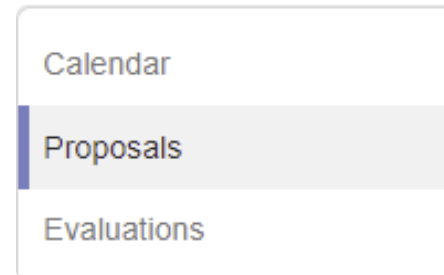
Create New Proposal

3

Proposal preparation
and submission:
Online information
+ Technical Annex
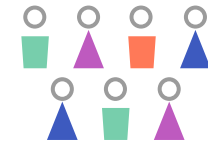
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Proposals

GENERAL FEATURES

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

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42

Proposals

GENERAL FEATURES

Online submission tool (e-COST)*

Overview

General Features

Technical Annex

References

COST Mission and Policies

Network

Documents

« My Proposals

Main Proposer Institution *   Brussels Free University - COST Country Institutions

Title (Maximum 12 words) *   Organ Donor Network

Acronym *
(max 60 characters)   OrgDonNet

Keyword 1*
(max 60 characters)   Database

Keyword 2*
(max 60 characters)   Transplantation

Keyword 3*
(max 60 characters)   Donour

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

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?

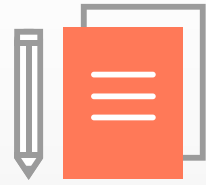AREAS OF EXPERTISE NEEDED FOR EVALUATION

Science Field   Health Sciences

Research Area   Health Services, Health Care Research

AREAS OF EXPERTISE NEEDED FOR EVALUATION

Science Field   Health Sciences

Research Area   Health Services, Health Care Research

*www.cost.eu/ecost

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Proposals

GENERAL FEATURES

TECHNICAL ANNEX

(www.cost.eu)

1. S&T Excellence

2. Networking Excellence

3. Impact

4. Implementation

Funding ∨   COST Actions ∨   Ac

vities

> How to get funding

How to apply

Open Call

Evaluation, selection and approval

Documents and guidelines

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Open Call for proposals
TECHNICAL ANNEX

SECTIONS

1. S&T EXCELLENCE

2. NETWORKING EXCELLENCE

3. IMPACT

4. IMPLEMENTATION

SUB-SECTIONS

1.1 Soundness of the challenge

**1.2** Progress beyond the state-of-the-art

2.1 Added value of networking in S&T excellence

2.2 Added value of networking in impact

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

3.2 Measures to maximise impact

4.1 Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

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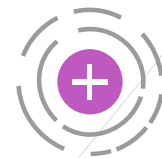- Diagrams and figures accepted
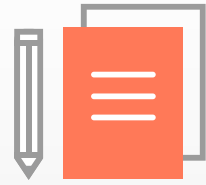
Proposals

GENERAL FEATURES

TECHNICAL ANNEX

1. S&T excellence

2. Networking Excellence

3. Impact

4. Implementation

COST EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSIVENESS POLICY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
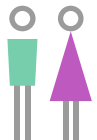
COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

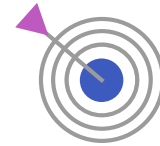## PROMOTING THROUGHOUT ITS ACTIVITIES

GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE (ITC)

AGE BALANCE (young researchers)

GENDER BALANCE

OBJECTIVES

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

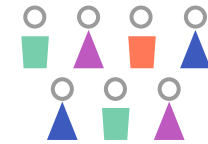**2.** **Increasing research communities'** access to funding and infrastructures

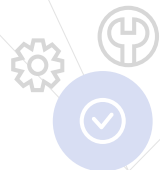**3.** **Triggering structural changes** in COST Members' national research systems

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Proposals

GENERAL FEATURES

TECHNICAL ANNEX

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

COST EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSIVENESS POLICY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

NETWORK OF PROPOSERS

Evaluation

SESA

ELIGIBILITY!

- Anonymous
- Minimum 50% ITC

- Peaceful purpose
- Format

- English

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

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Evaluation criteria

S&T EXCELLENCE

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

3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section
= 15 points

NETWORKING EXCELLENCE

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

3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section
= 15 points

IMPACT

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

3 QUESTIONS

Total marks for the section
= 15 points

IMPLEMENTATION

- Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

1 QUESTION

Total marks for the section
= 5 points

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

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How to apply in a nutshell

Read the official
announcement

Online registration
and submission (e-COST)

Helpdesk:
opencall@cost.eu

Read the SESA
Guidelines

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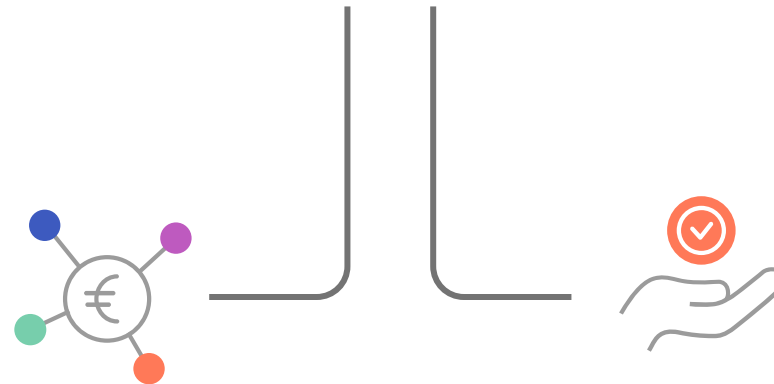repository on the COST website)

All documents can be found on : https://www.cost.eu/funding/how-to-get-funding/documents-guidelines

Become an 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

Register to the expert database: https://www.cost.eu/ecost

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THANK YOU!