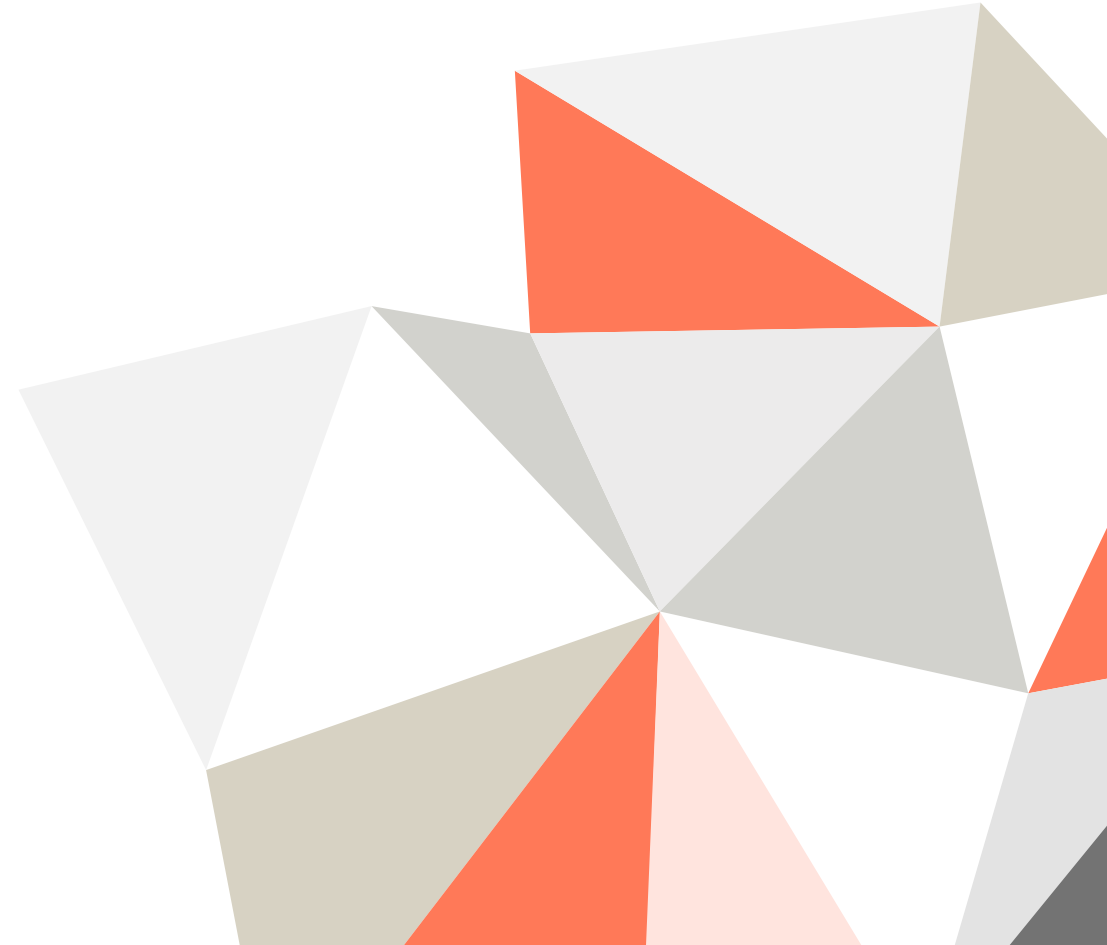


# COST ONLINE INFO DAY

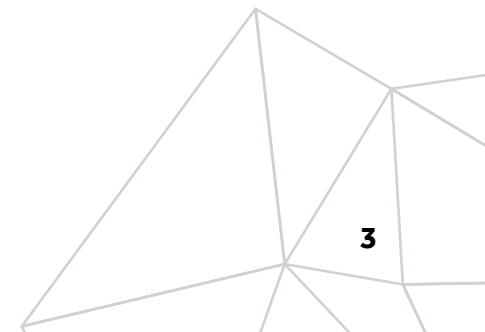
## 18.02.2025





# Practicalities

- The webinar is being **recorded** and the **live streaming** can be viewed on COST's YouTube channel ([@costoffice](#))
- The recording will be available on COST's YouTube channel after the webinar
- The slides will be made available on the COST **event page** after the webinar  
<https://www.cost.eu/cost-events/online-cost-info-day-2025/>
- Questions during the session?
  - Zoom attendees can post their questions on the webinar chat at the end of COST presentations
  - YouTube viewers can post their questions on the live streaming chat
- Questions after the session? Contact us at [events@cost.eu](mailto:events@cost.eu)





# Programme

- 10:00 **Welcome words**  
Ms Salomé Moezzi-Gacon, COST Governance Officer
- 10:05 **Introduction about COST**  
Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association
- 10:20 **How to participate in a COST Action and how to submit an application ?**  
Dr Emiljano Kaziaj, COST Science Officer
- 10:50 **Which activities are funded ?**  
Ms Carmencita Malimban, COST Administrative Officer
- 11:05 **What are the benefits of participating in COST ?**  
Dr Ariel Thomas, University of Malta - COST Action Chair – CA21112
- 11:25 **Q&A**
- 11:40 **Conclusion and end of the session**



# Introduction about COST

Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association

# European Cooperation in Science & Technology



# COST Membership

## 41 Full COST Members

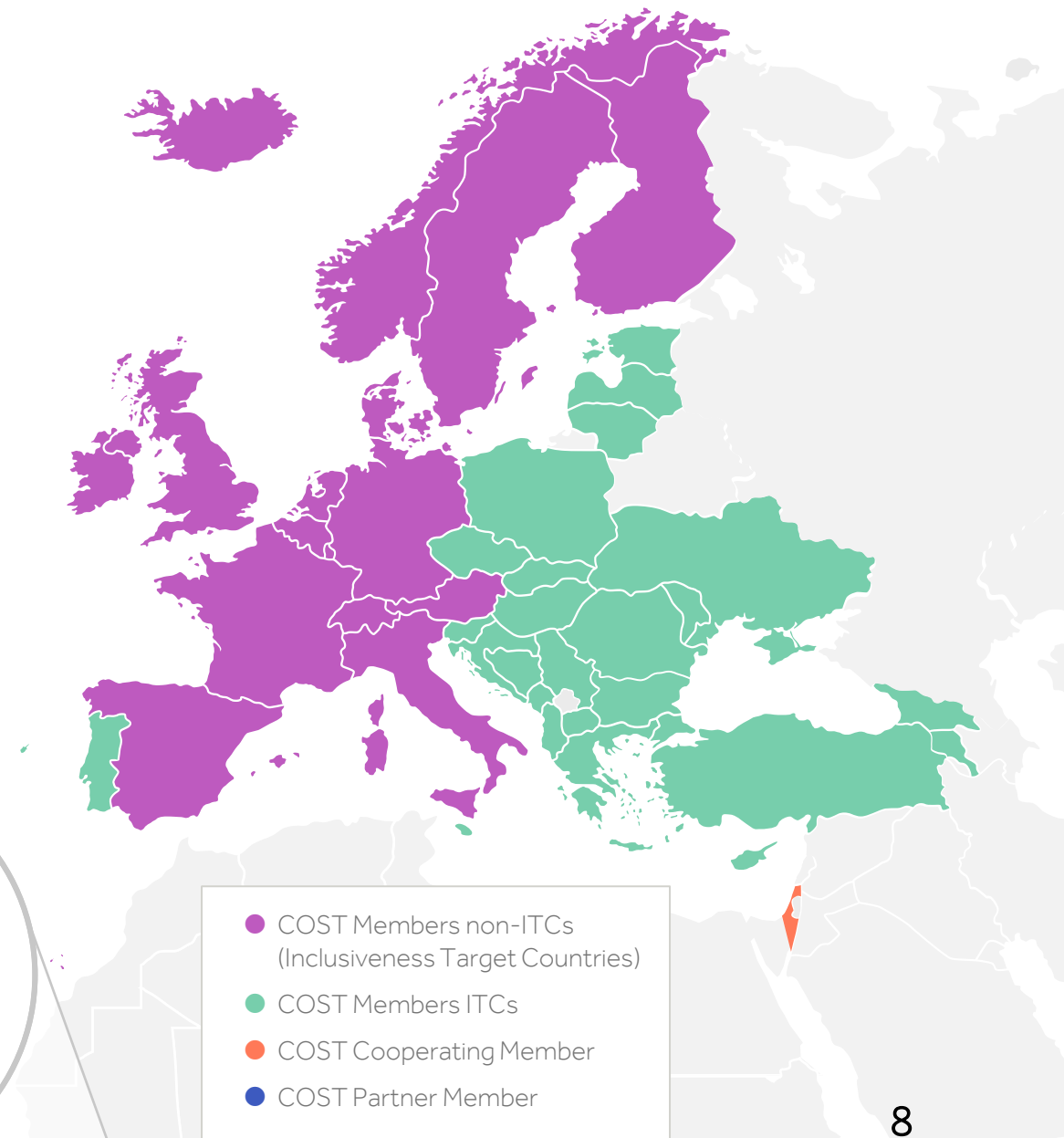
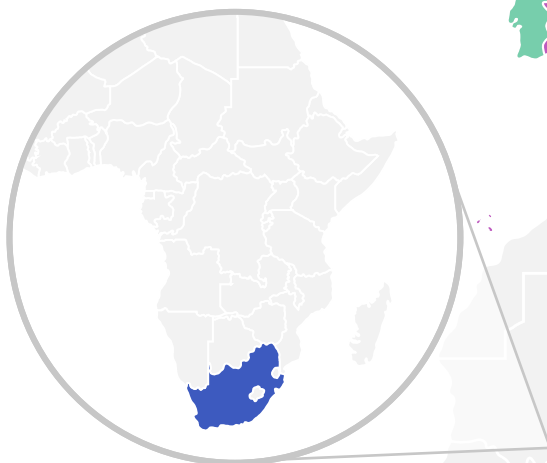
- |                          |                                   |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| ● Albania                | ● Germany                         | ● Norway         |
| ● Armenia                | ● Greece                          | ● 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

- Israel

## 1 Partner Member

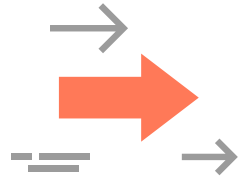
- South Africa



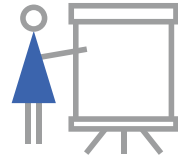
- COST Members non-ITCs (Inclusiveness Target Countries)
- COST Members ITCs
- COST Cooperating Member
- COST Partner Member



# Key figures



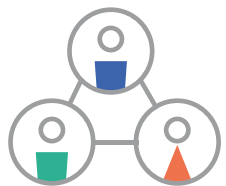
**324**  
Running Actions



**262**  
Training schools



**€183,000**  
Average annual budget  
of a COST Action



**2,150**  
Short-term  
scientific missions



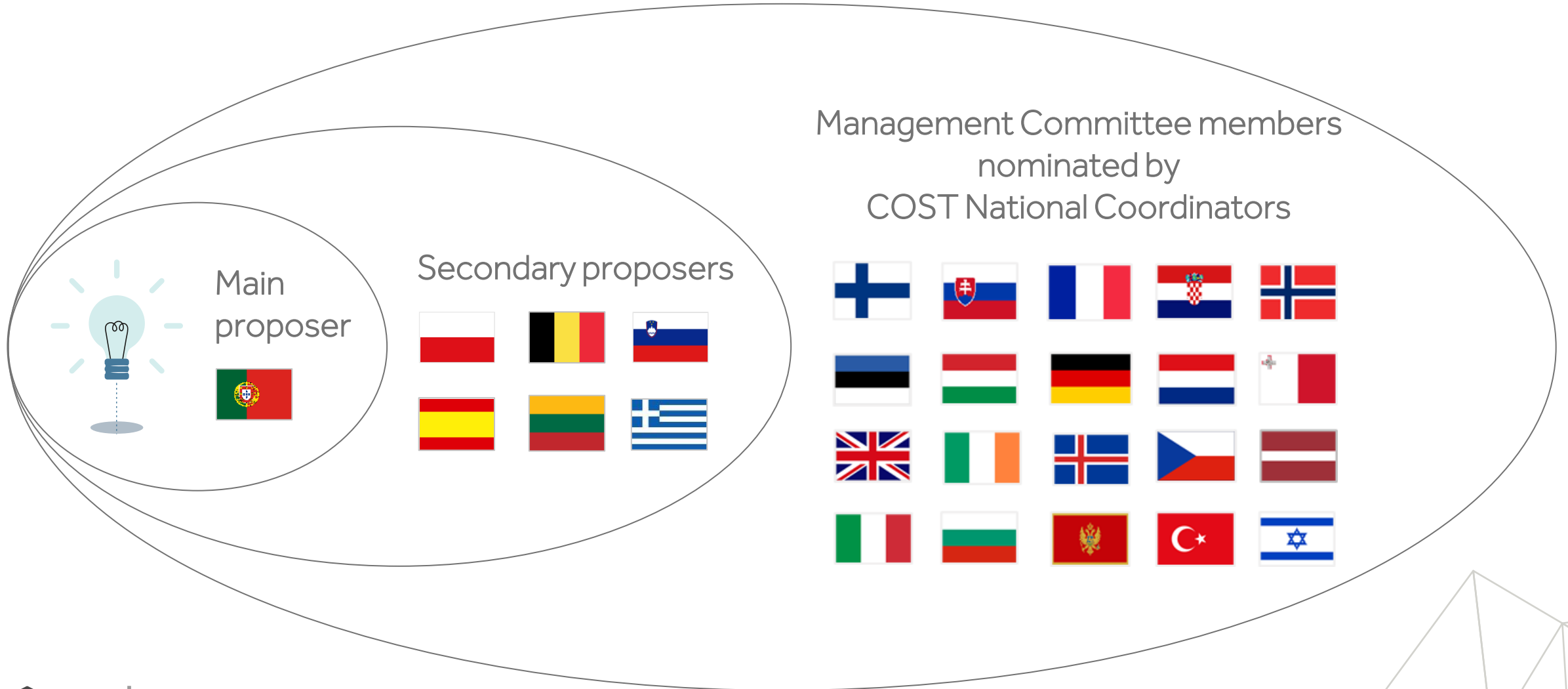
**60,000**  
Researchers involved  
in COST Actions



**€273 million**  
COST budget  
(in Horizon Europe for a 5-year period)



# How it works?





# Role of COST in the ERA



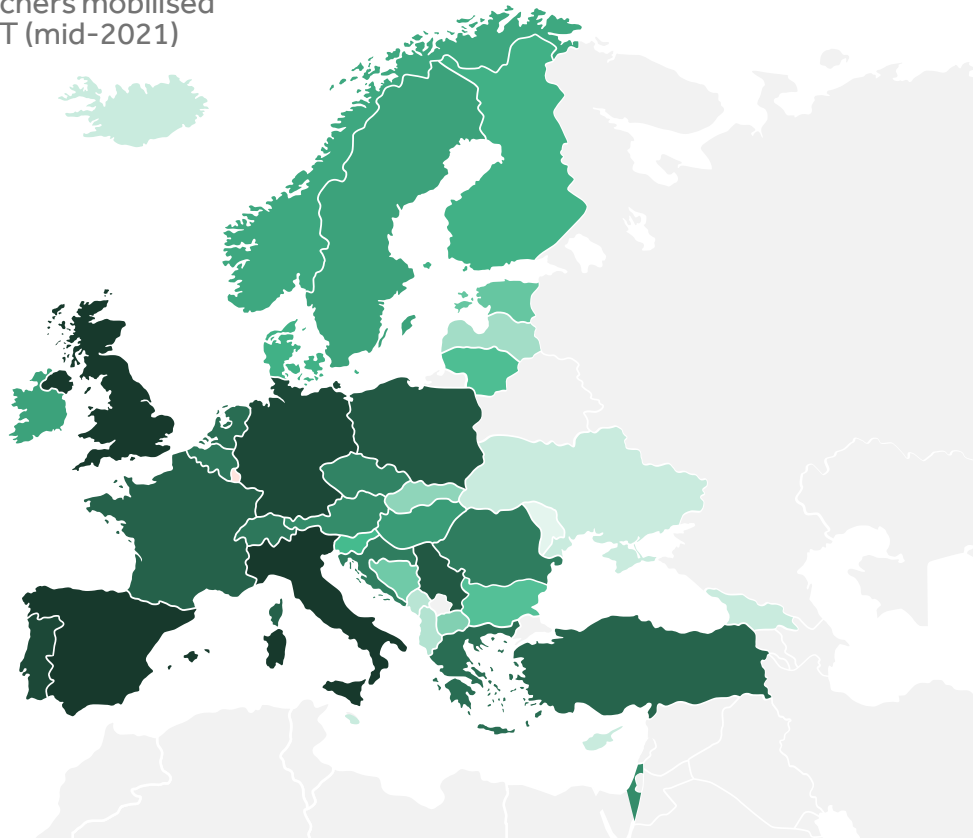
## 3 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



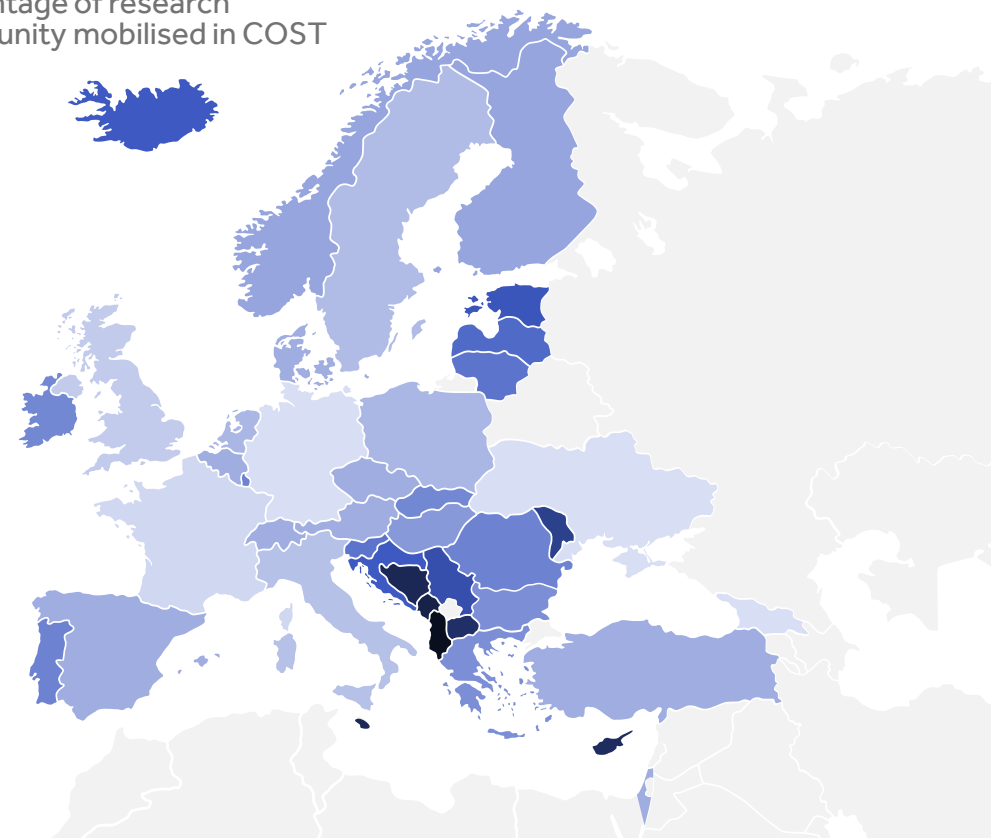
# Priority 1

## PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

Researchers mobilised  
in COST (mid-2021)

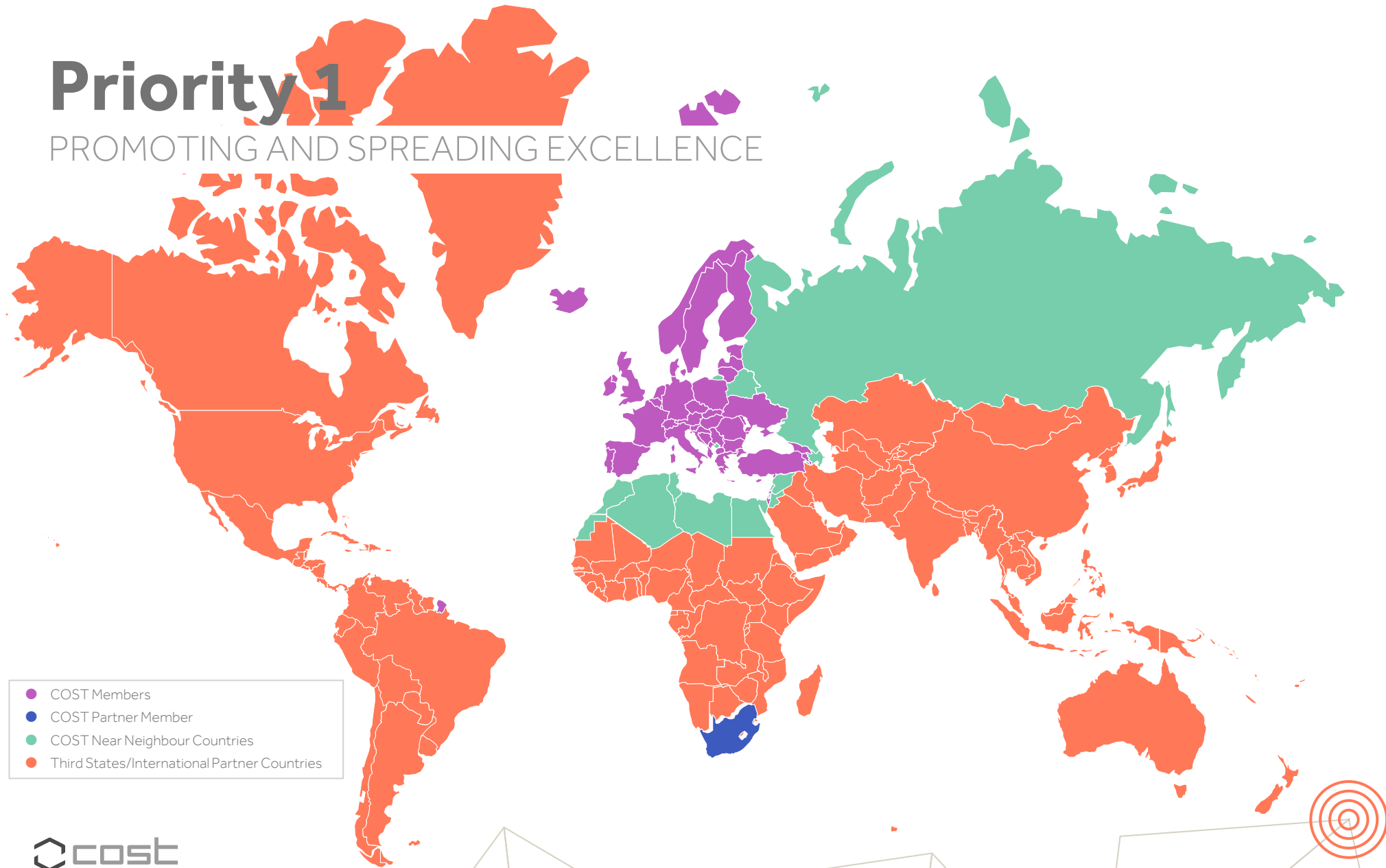


Percentage of research  
community mobilised in COST



# Priority 1

PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

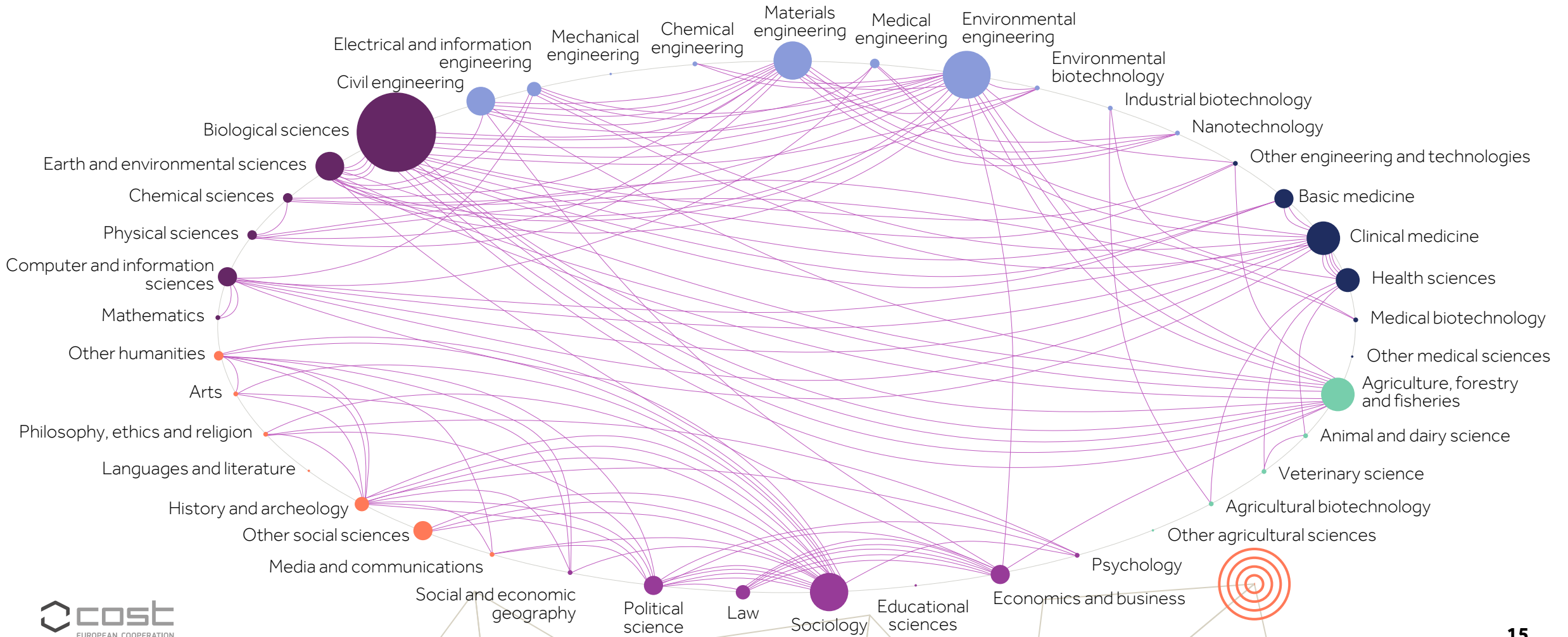


- COST Members
- COST Partner Member
- COST Near Neighbour Countries
- Third States/International Partner Countries



# Priority 2

FOSTERING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE



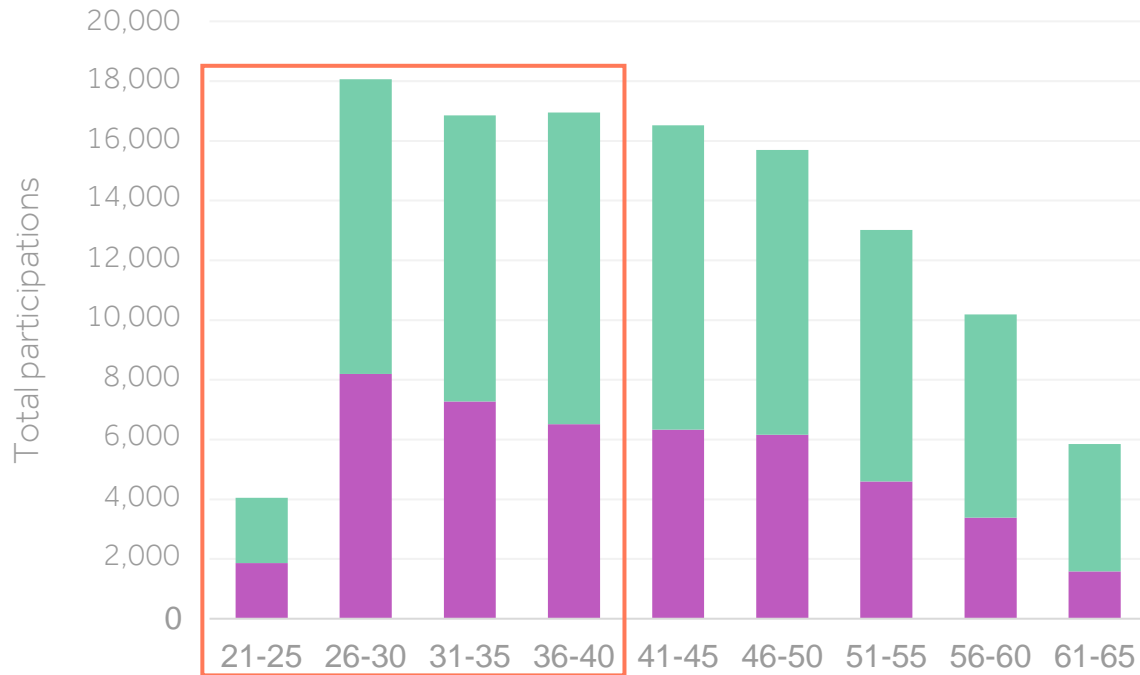


# Priority 3

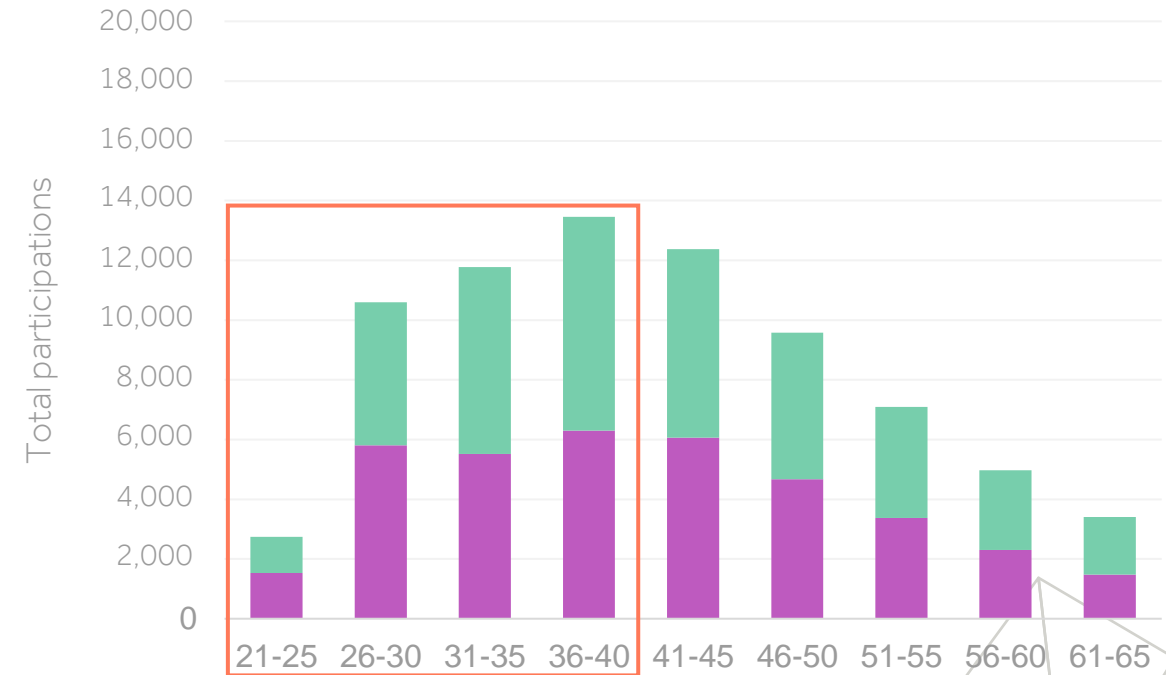
## EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

### Data from Horizon 2020 (2014-2021)

#### Other Countries



#### Inclusiveness Target Countries



## COST Academy

- **New** Young Researchers module
- **More** leadership training sessions



## COST Actions, communication, impact and monitoring

- New rule: **one YRI leadership position**
- **Promotion** within the Actions of the importance of engaging YRIs across all Action activities
- New **monitoring** of YRIs by networking tool
- **Impact assessment** focused on career development for YRIs
- **External communication activities** will have an increased focus on COST opportunities for young talents and next generation of leaders

## Dedicated events

- Develop a **Cross-Cutting Activity** on career development for YRIs
- Organise specific **COST Connect** events for YRIs

## Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

- **New KPI** to have at least one YRI in a leadership position
- **Increased target for share of YRI in:**
  - **COST Actions** (40% ↗ 45%)
  - **Leadership positions** (20% ↗ 25%)

## COST Actions networking tools

- **New** Young Researcher conference grants
- **Refocused** ITC conference grant

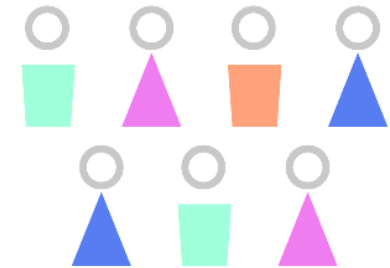
# Gender Equality Plan for COST Activities

## This GEP outlines guiding targets that help to promote gender balance in:

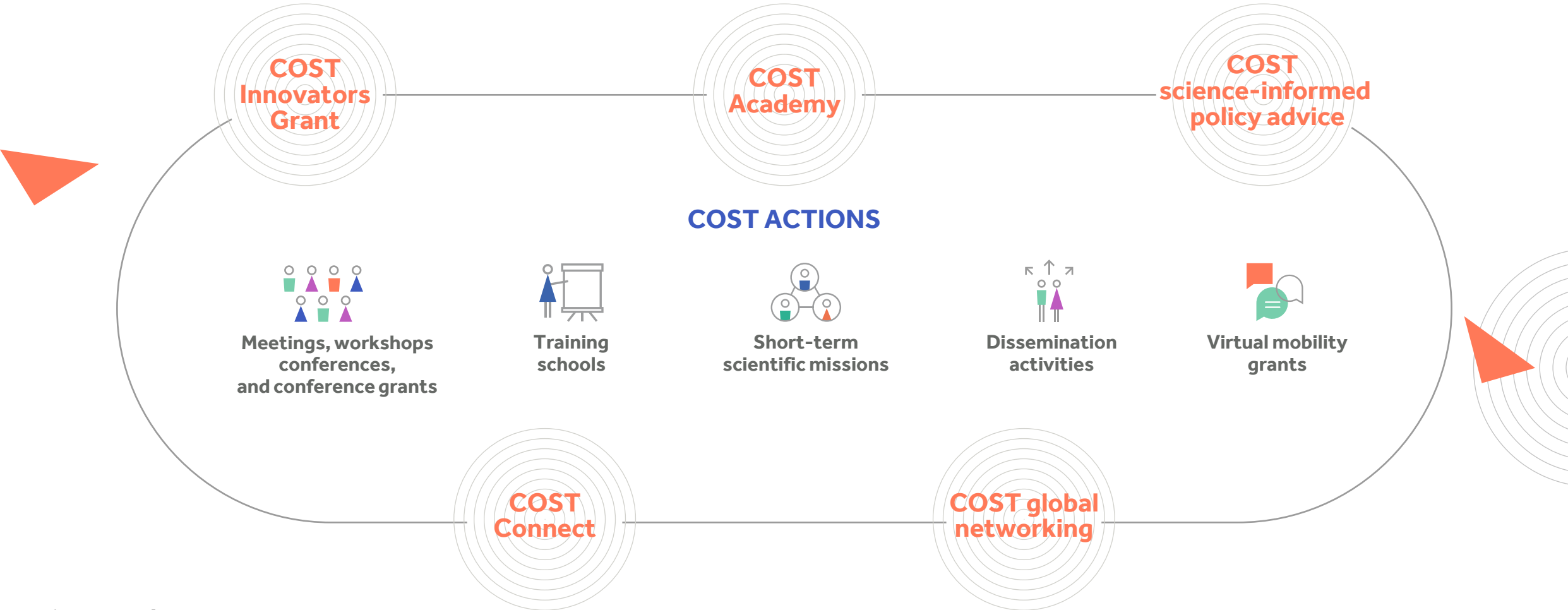
- Participation in COST Actions for both ITC and non-ITC participants and Young Researchers;
- COST Action leadership positions.

## What is expected from a COST Action?

- Monitor gender balance in the research networks;
- Identify and invite participants from the under-represented groups;
- Nominate a Gender Equality Advisor;
- Develop a COST Action Gender Equality Plan;
- Organise Action events with a gender focus;
- Use gender inclusive language in all network communications;
- Participate in gender equality events organised by COST e.g. COST Academy and COST Connect.



# Implementing COST's strategic priorities



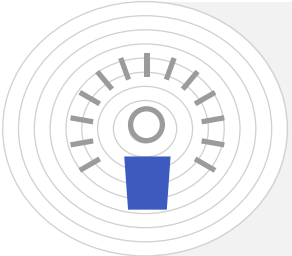


# Impact



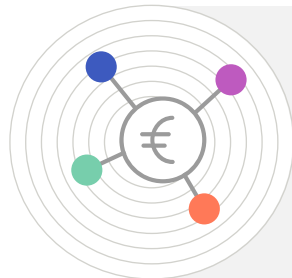
## Scientific and societal impact

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



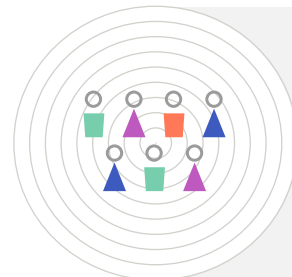
## Research careers

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



## Follow-up funding

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



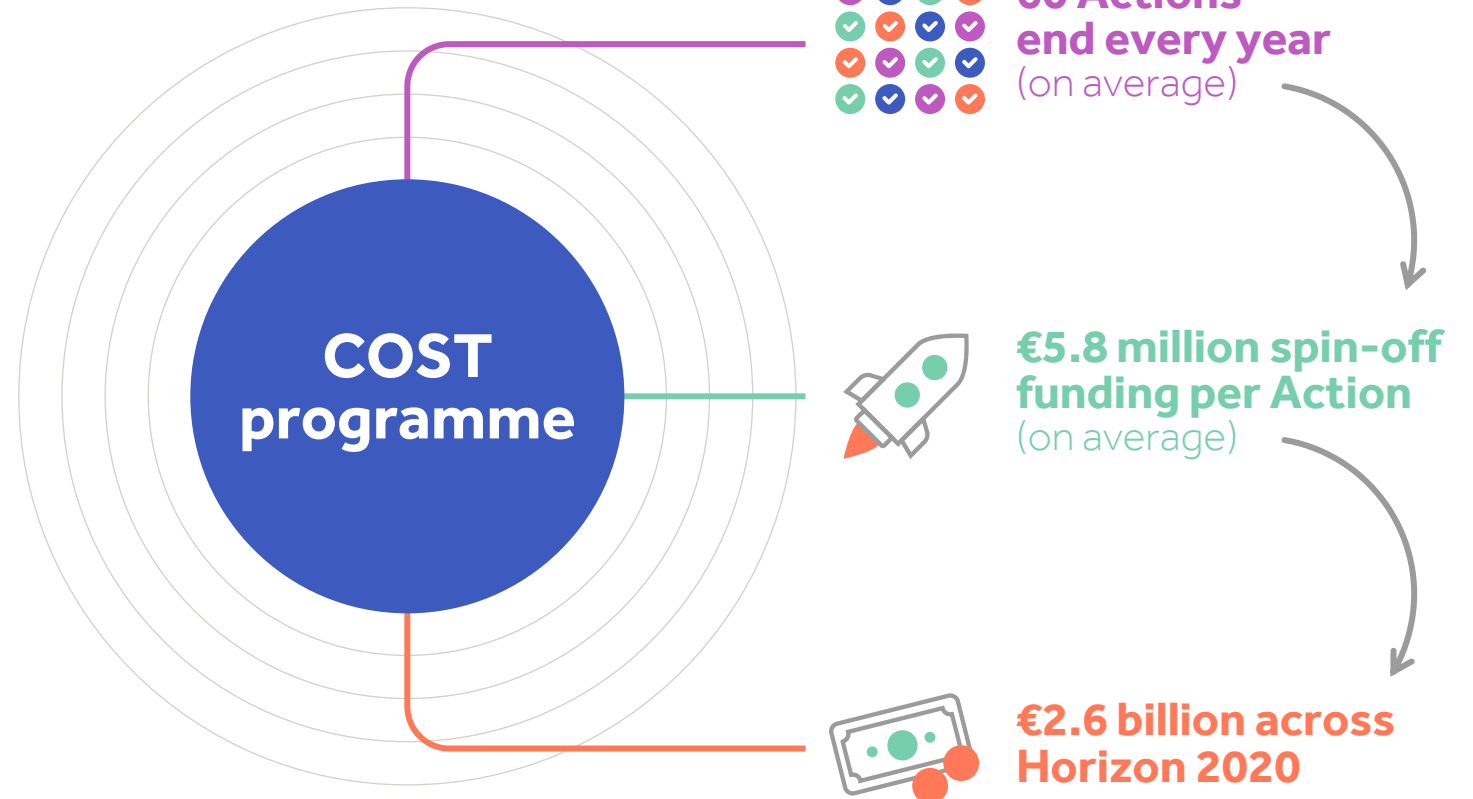
## Co-Publications

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

# The value of networking

## Participation in COST Actions

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





# How to participate in a COST Action and how to submit an application ?

Dr Emiljano Kaziaj, COST Science Officer



COST Actions

# An efficient networking tool

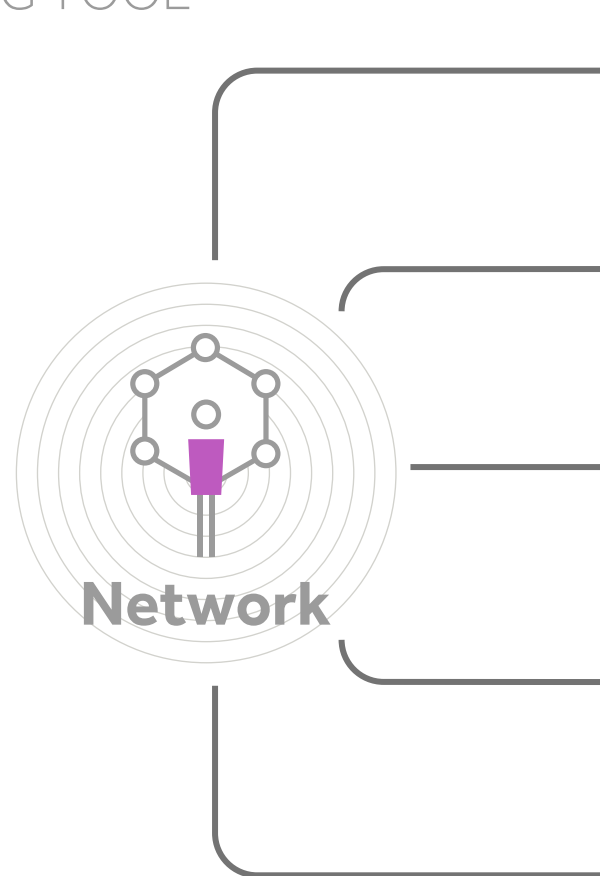


# COST Actions

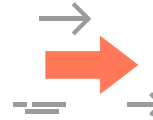
AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

**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 34 countries



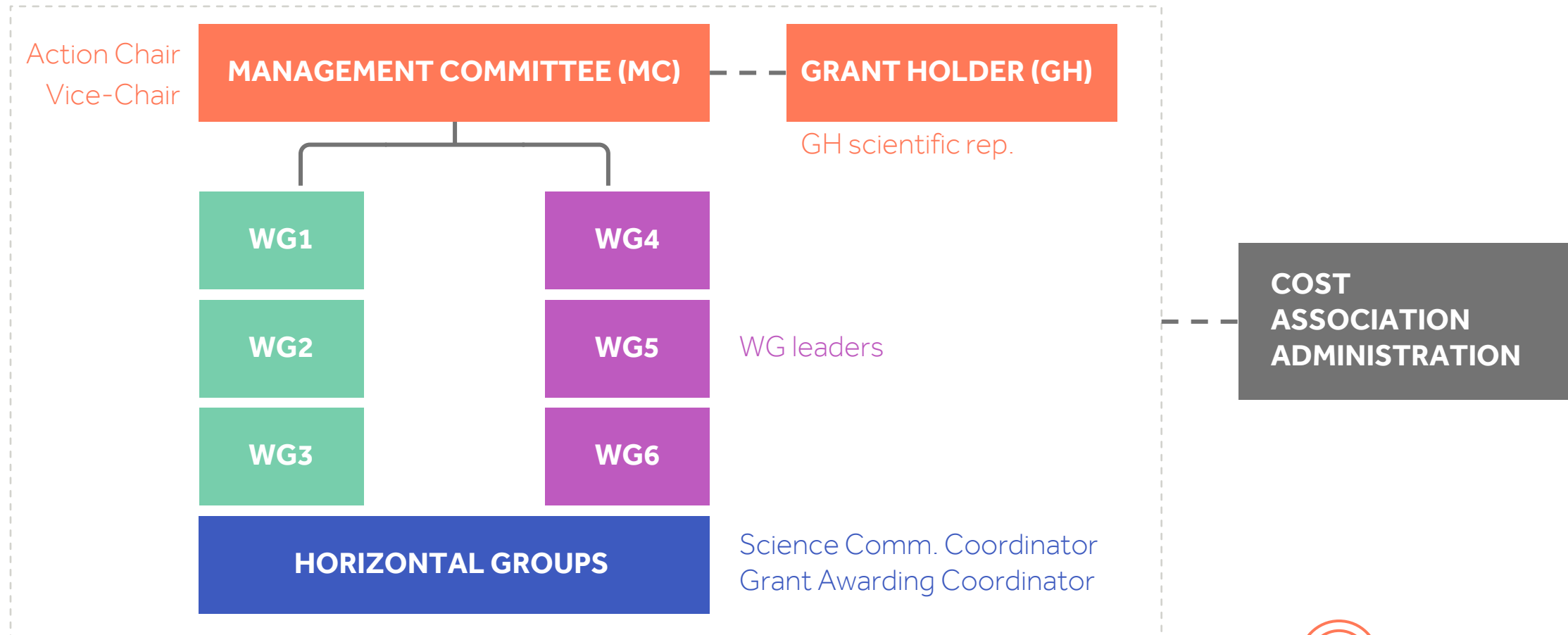
Research coordination and capacity building activities

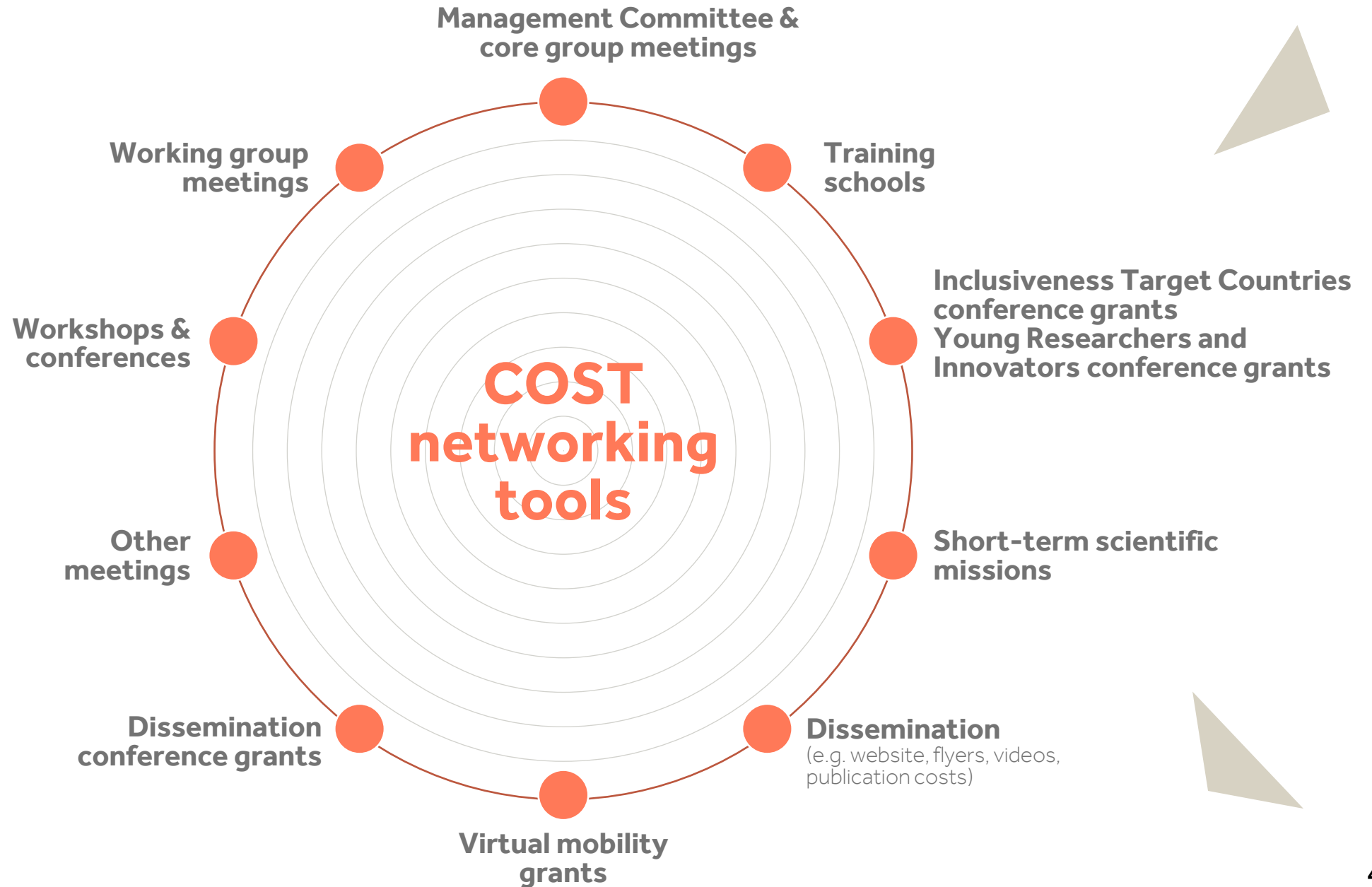
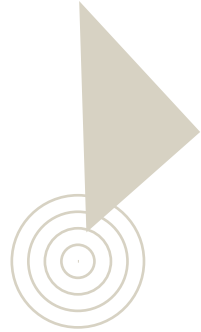


~ €680,000 over lifetime

# COST Action structure

## LEADERSHIP POSITIONS





# Open Research Europe

- ORE is the EC's Open Access publishing platform for scientific outputs stemming from EU funding;
- COST Actions can submit directly to this publishing venue, free of charge;
- ORE is a reliable peer-reviewed publishing service of high scientific quality, with swift publication times;
- Submitted publications must be original, not be submitted anywhere else for publication, and stem from COST Actions. ORE accepts articles in all fields of science;
- Please note that this is complementary to the existing Open Access expenses covered by the COST rules.



For more info visit the ORE website: <https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/>

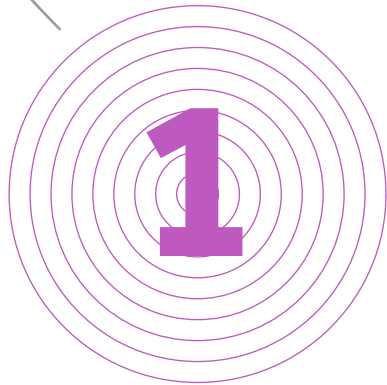


# Engaging with COST





# How to engage with COST?



As a **participant**  
of a running Action



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

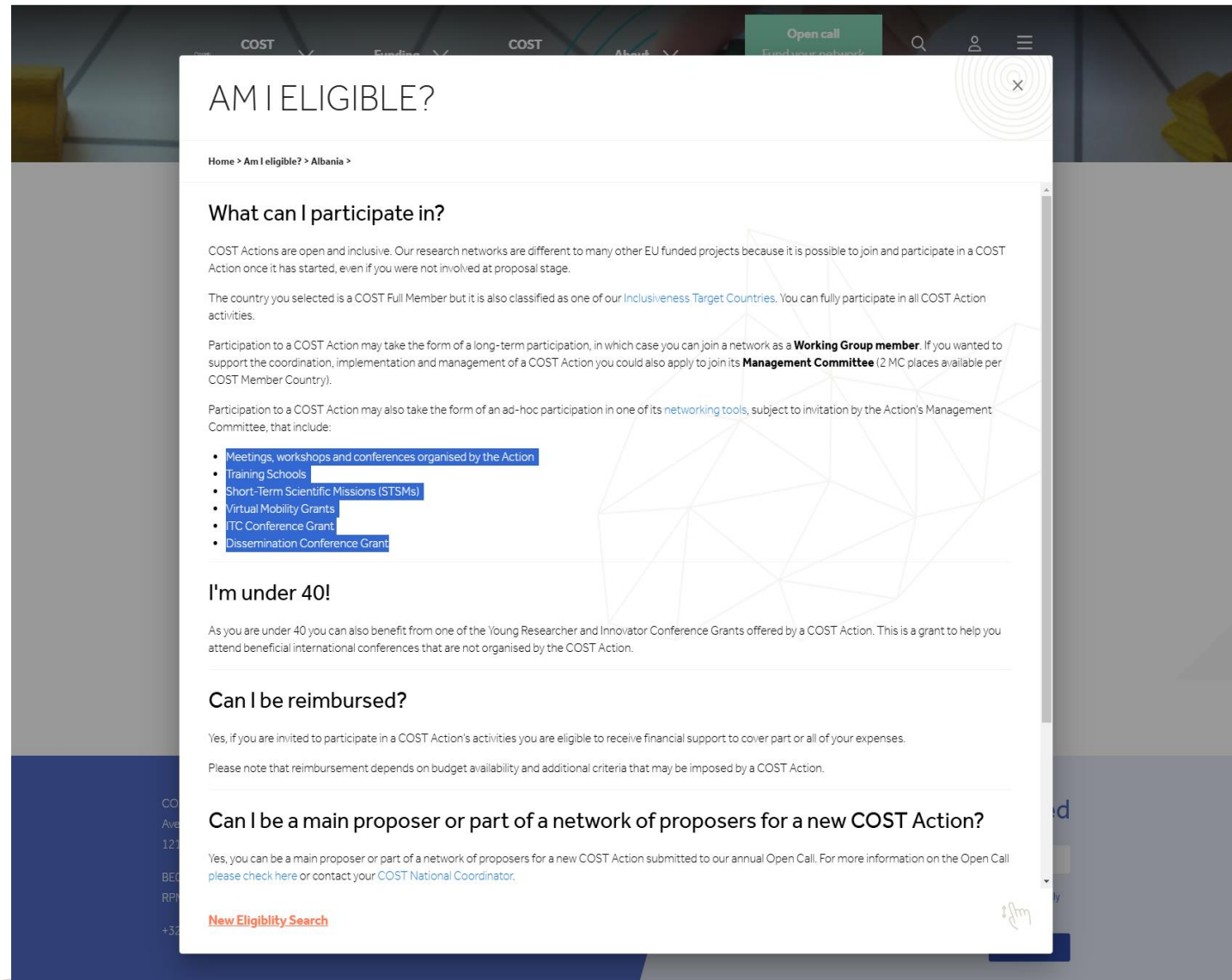
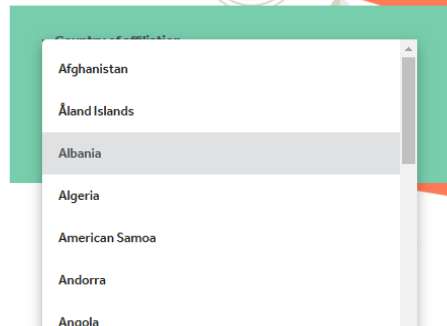


As **expert** to evaluate  
submitted proposals

# Am I eligible?

COST Actions are open to all participants, not only to COST Full Members but also to peers from around the world. Find out what opportunities are available depending on your location:

## AM I ELIGIBLE?



A screenshot of the COST website's 'AM I ELIGIBLE?' page. The page is titled 'AM I ELIGIBLE?' and has a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Am I eligible? > Albania >'. The main content is organized into sections with headings: 'What can I participate in?', 'I'm under 40!', 'Can I be reimbursed?', and 'Can I be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action?'. The page includes a list of networking tools and a 'New Eligibility Search' button. The background features a geometric pattern of triangles and circles.

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

Home > Am I eligible? > Albania >

### What can I participate in?

COST Actions are open and inclusive. Our research networks are different to many other EU funded projects because it is possible to join and participate in a COST Action once it has started, even if you were not involved at proposal stage.

The country you selected is a COST Full Member but it is also classified as one of our [Inclusiveness Target Countries](#). You can fully participate in all COST Action activities.

Participation to a COST Action may take the form of a long-term participation, in which case you can join a network as a **Working Group member**. If you wanted to support the coordination, implementation and management of a COST Action you could also apply to join its **Management Committee** (2 MC places available per COST Member Country).

Participation to a COST Action may also take the form of an ad-hoc participation in one of its [networking tools](#), subject to invitation by the Action's Management Committee, that include:

- [Meetings, workshops and conferences organised by the Action](#)
- [Training Schools](#)
- [Short-Term Scientific Missions \(STSMs\)](#)
- [Virtual Mobility Grants](#)
- [IYC Conference Grant](#)
- [Dissemination Conference Grant](#)

### I'm under 40!

As you are under 40 you can also benefit from one of the Young Researcher and Innovator Conference Grants offered by a COST Action. This is a grant to help you attend beneficial international conferences that are not organised by the COST Action.

### Can I be reimbursed?

Yes, if you are invited to participate in a COST Action's activities you are eligible to receive financial support to cover part or all of your expenses.

Please note that reimbursement depends on budget availability and additional criteria that may be imposed by a COST Action.

### Can I be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action?

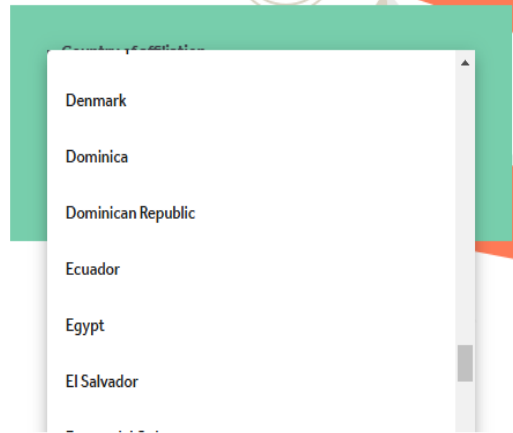
Yes, you can be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action submitted to our annual Open Call. For more information on the Open Call [please check here](#) or contact your [COST National Coordinator](#).

[New Eligibility Search](#)

# Am I eligible?

COST Actions are open to all participants, not only to COST Full Members but also to peers from around the world. Find out what opportunities are available depending on your location:

## AM I ELIGIBLE?



Country of affiliation

- Denmark
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

Home > Am I eligible? > Denmark >

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- [Virtual Mobility Grants](#)
- [Dissemination Conference Grant](#)

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### Can I be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action?

Yes, you can be a main proposer or part of a network of proposers for a new COST Action submitted to our annual Open Call. For more information on the Open Call [please check here](#) or contact your [COST National Coordinator](#).

### Disclaimer

- This tool is not binding and is for simulation purposes only.
- Participation and reimbursement is based on country of affiliation, not nationality. Please note you must also have an organisation of affiliation in that country.
- COST defines a Young Researcher or Innovator as someone under the age of 40. You can still benefit from measures introduced for Young Researchers and Innovators during the duration of the year you turn 40.
- If you work for an EU Institution or an International Organisation then participation in COST Action activities is possible. Please consult the [Country and Organisation Table \(Annex 1\)](#) for more information.
- For more information, please consult the [COST Annotates Rules](#) and the [Open Call Applicant Guidelines](#).

[New Eligibility Search](#)

# 1. As a participant in a running Action (2/2)



## **AS A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MC) MEMBER**

(contact the COST National Coordinator)



## **AS A WORKING GROUP (WG) PARTICIPANT**

(contact the WG leader)



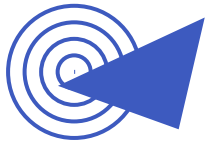
## **AS A PARTICIPANT IN ACTION ACTIVITIES**

Short-term scientific mission, conference grant, training school, workshop/conference,...

(check the Action's website, contact the chair or the national MC member)

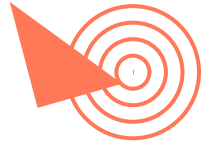


# 1. As a participant in a running Action (1/2)



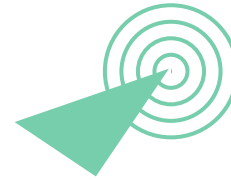
## **FIND THE ACTION IN YOUR FIELD**

of interest on the  
COST website



## **READ THE PROJECT PLAN**

(MoU) – identify  
your potential  
contribution



## **BROWSE THE ACTION'S 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 header includes the COST logo (European Cooperation in Science & Technology) and several menu items: 'COST Actions', 'Funding', 'COST Academy', and 'About'. A green button labeled 'Open call' with the subtext 'Fund your network' is also visible. A dropdown menu is open under 'COST Actions', listing several 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 features a large graphic of interlocking gears and a target symbol.



# Browse Actions

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

Action or Innovators Grant number or text

Search

Search in Title Only

[More filters](#) ▾



**CA22124** | 07/11/2023 - 06/11/2027

EU Circular Economy Network for All: Consumer Protection through reducing, reusing, repairing (ECO4ALL)



**CA22165** | 06/11/2023 - 05/11/2027

Redressing Radical Polarisation: Strengthening European Civil Spheres facing Illiberal Digital Media (DepolarisingEU)



**CA22136** | 06/11/2023 - 05/11/2027

Pan-European Network of Green Deal Agriculture and Forestry Earth Observation Science (PANGEOS)



**CA22103** | 30/10/2023 - 29/10/2027

A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK AGAINST BRAIN CANCER (Net4Brain)



**CA22152** | 26/10/2023 - 25/10/2027

Supporting emerging care economy, empowering caregivers to provide safe care at home (BetterCare)



**CA22118** | 26/10/2023 - 25/10/2027

Radionuclide theragnostics for personalised medicine (RATIONALE)



# Working group member

Working Group members are 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.

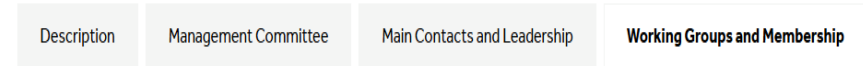


# Becoming a member of a Working Group (WG)

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

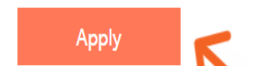


## Working Groups

| Number | Title   | Leader |
|--------|---|--------|
| 1      | Mental health impacts of climate change   | ✓      |
| 2      | The adaptive strategies and treatment possibilities for affected groups and individuals | ▼      |
| 3      | Short-term goals of community of practice: shifting societal behaviour                  | ▼      |
| 4      | Long-term strategies of community of practice: enabling sustainability                  | ▼      |

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'.*



## Membership

### Action Details

- MoU - 026/24
- CSO Approval date - 17/05/2024
- Start date - 29/10/2024
- End date - 28/10/2028

### How can I participate?

- Read the Action 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 Coordinators](#)

# Participant in Action Grants

- Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM)
- ITC Conference Grant\*
- Young Researcher and Innovator Conference Grant\*
- Dissemination Conference Grant
- Virtual mobility

The screenshot shows a web interface for applying for grants. On the left is a navigation menu with 'COST Actions', 'My Grant Applications', and 'Grant Applications Monitoring'. The main content area is titled 'Apply for new Grant' and is divided into several sections:

- Mobility of researchers and innovators**
  - Short-Term Scientific Mission**: 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**: 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**
  - Young Researcher and Innovator Conference**: Financial support for Young Researchers and Innovators for their participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (poster/oral presentation) and can establish new contacts for future collaborations. [Continue](#)
  - Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference**: Financial support to applicants affiliated in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country for their participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (oral presentation) and can establish new contacts for future collaborations. [Continue](#)
  - Dissemination Conference**: Financial support to Action participants for their participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party, to present the Action, their activities, and results (oral presentation) and for developing new contacts and potential future collaborations. [Continue](#)
- Virtual Networking Support**
  - Virtual Networking Support**: 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](#)

# 2. As a 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

**Collection date:**  
21 October 2025  
12:00 CEST

[www.COST.eu](http://www.COST.eu)  
[opencall@cost.eu](mailto:opencall@cost.eu)

# Open Call: How to apply?

E-COST

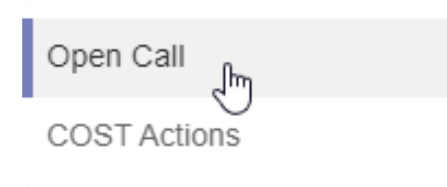


1

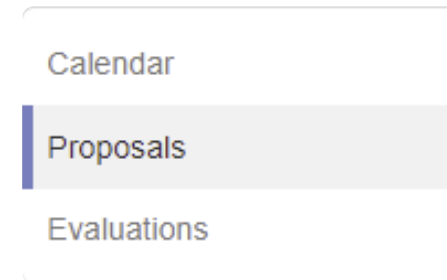
Create a COST account:  
<https://www.cost.eu/ecost>

2

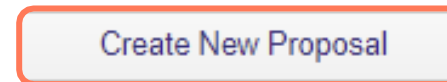
> Open Call



> Proposals

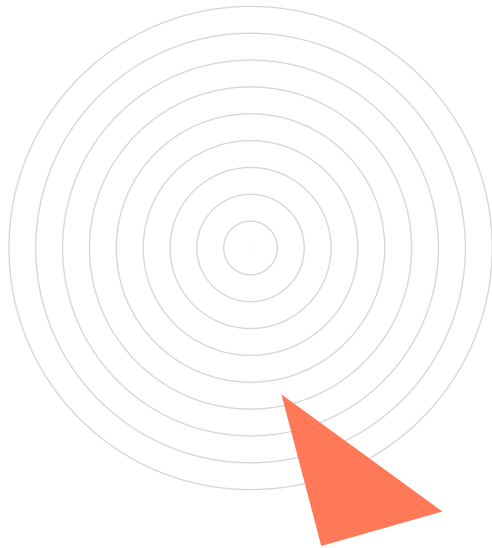


> Create new proposal



3

**Online registration  
and submission:**  
General information  
+ Technical Annex

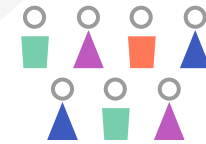




# Proposals



**GENERAL  
FEATURES**



**NETWORK OF  
PROPOSERS**



## **TECHNICAL ANNEX**

<https://www.cost.eu/Technical-Annex-Facsimile> )

1. Excellence in S&T and Networking
2. Impact
3. Implementation



**COST EXCELLENCE AND  
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY  
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**





# 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 \*

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

AREAS OF EXPERTISE NEEDED FOR EVALUATION

Science Field Health Sciences

Research Area Health Services, Health Care Research

Proposal Reference: OC-

Proposal Status: Draft

Checklist:

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

Generate PDF

Ready to submit?

Words: 68

\*[www.cost.eu/ecost](http://www.cost.eu/ecost)





# Proposals



**GENERAL  
FEATURES**



## **TECHNICAL ANNEX**

(<https://www.cost.eu/Technical-Annex-Facsimile> )

1. Excellence in S&T and Networking
2. Impact
3. Implementation



# Proposals

## GENERAL FEATURES



## TECHNICAL ANNEX

(<https://www.cost.eu/Technical-Annex-Facsimile>)

1. Excellence in S&T and Networking
2. Impact
3. 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.** EXCELLENCE in  
S&T and  
NETWORKING

## SUB-SECTIONS

---

- A. Main challenge
- B. Objectives
- C. State-of-the-art
- D. Rationale for choosing networking to address the main challenge
- E. Critical mass of the network

**2.** IMPACT

- A. Impact related to objectives
- B. Involvement of stakeholders
- C. Communication, dissemination and valorisation

**3.** IMPLEMENTATION

- A. Action Structure
- B. Work plan (tasks, activities and timeframe)
- C. Deliverables
- D. Gantt chart

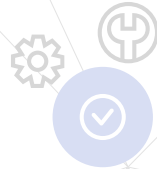
- Downloadable Word template
- Max. 15 pages
- Diagrams and figures accepted



# Proposals



## GENERAL FEATURES



## TECHNICAL ANNEX

1. Excellence in S&T and Networking
2. Impact
3. Implementation

## COST EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSIVENESS POLICY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES



# COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy

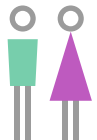
## PROMOTING



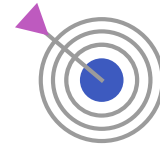
**GEOGRAPHICAL  
BALANCE** (ITC)



**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**

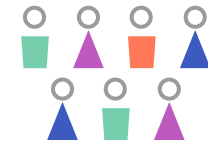


**TECHNICAL  
ANNEX**

1. Excellence in S&T and Networking
2. Impact
3. 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

# Evaluation criteria



## EXCELLENCE IN S&T AND NETWORKING

- Soundness of the challenge
- Research coordination and capacity-building objectives.
- Progress beyond the state-of-the-art
- Added value of networking in S&T excellence
- Critical mass of the network



## IMPACT

- Impact on science, society, policy, or any other relevant area, and short-, medium- or long-term.
- Involvement of stakeholders, their role and added-value.
- Plans for communication, dissemination and valorisation of results and target audience



## IMPLEMENTATION

- Coherence of the Action structure and effectiveness of the work plan



## 5 QUESTIONS

Range of marks: 0–5  
Threshold: 3



## 3 QUESTIONS

Range of marks: 0–5  
Threshold: 3



## 1 QUESTION

Range of marks: 0–3



# How to apply in a nutshell



Read the official  
announcement

Online registration  
and submission (e-COST)

Helpdesk:  
[opencall@cost.eu](mailto:opencall@cost.eu)

Read the SESA  
Guidelines

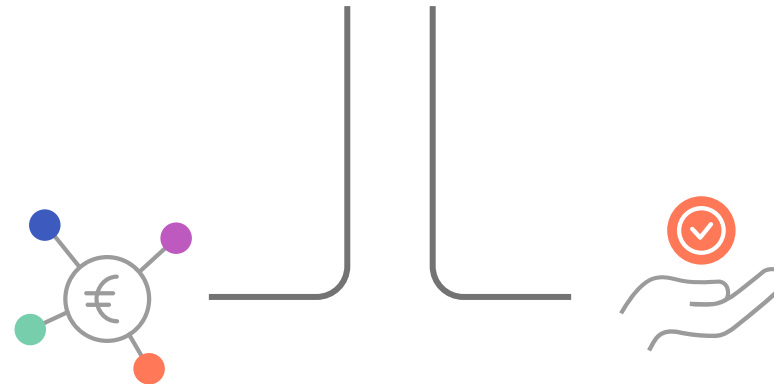
Technical Annex template  
(Documents and Guidelines on  
the COST website)



# 3. 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

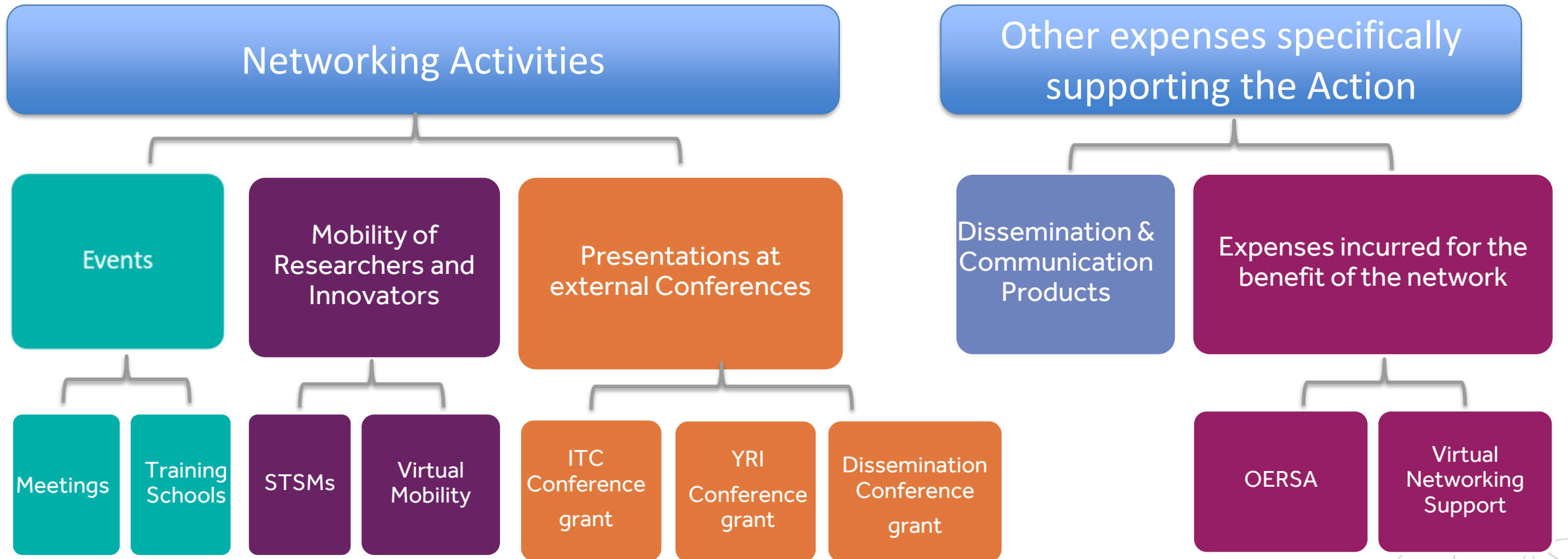


# Which networking activities are funded within COST Actions ?

Ms Carmencita Malimban, COST Senior Administrative Officer



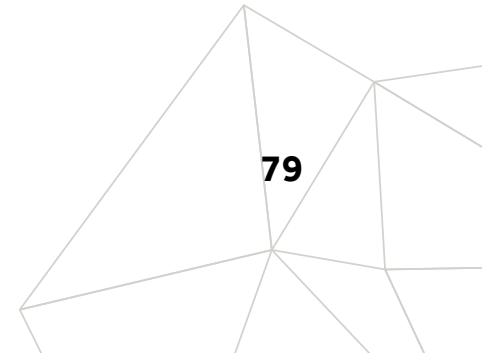
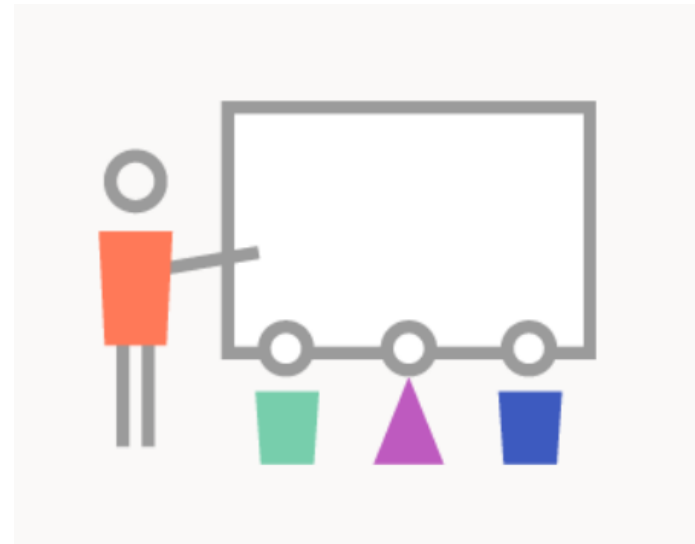
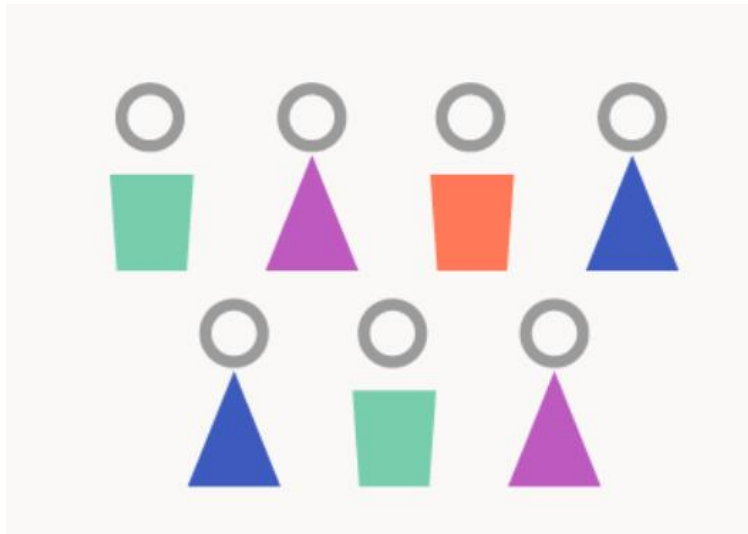
# What can be funded by COST?





# Local Organiser Support

- Financial contribution to organize Meetings and Training Schools



# Events

**Funding**

## Meetings

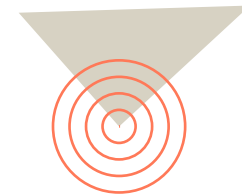
- Management Committee and Working Group members, Invited Speakers, ad hoc members

## Training Schools

- Trainers / Trainees

Travel reimbursement  
of the expenses  
incurred for attending  
COST events

# Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM)



## WHAT:

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



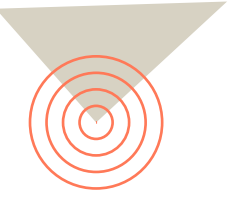
## WHERE:

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

## Grant AMOUNT:

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

# Young Researcher and Innovator Conference Grants



## WHAT:

- Poster or oral Presentation of their own work within the scope of the Action given by a Young Researcher (age below 40)
- Conference Grants support Young Researchers, establish a strong network and increase the visibility of the Action

## WHERE:

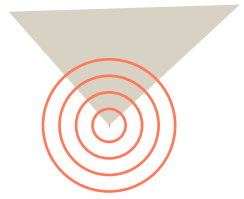
To a high-level conference  
not organised by the Action itself  
anywhere in the world.

## Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 2500 EUR or 500 EUR (virtual),  
paid after report approval



# Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) Conference Grants



## WHAT:

- Oral Presentation of the own work by a Researcher affiliated in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country for their participation in high-level conferences as Invited Speaker
- ITC Conference Grants supports Researchers, establish a strong network and increase the visibility of the Action

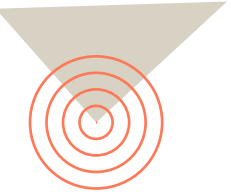
## WHERE:

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

## Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 2500 EUR or 500 EUR (virtual),  
paid after report approval

# Dissemination Conference Grants



## WHAT:

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

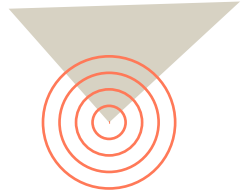
## WHERE:

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

## Grant AMOUNT:

Up to 2500 EUR or 500 EUR (virtual),  
paid after report approval

# Virtual Mobility (VM) Grant

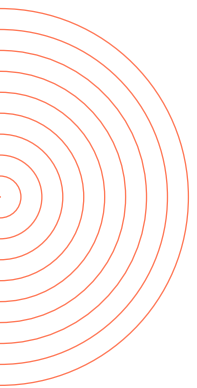


## WHAT:

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

## Grant AMOUNT:

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



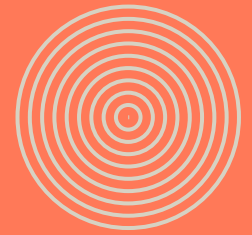
# Dissemination and Communication Products



- Scientific publication in Open Access
- Action website
- Action Logo
- Dissemination Materials
- Information materials for external events
- Multimedia Content
- Conference booth in a conference (3<sup>rd</sup> party)

# What are the benefits from participating in COST?

Dr Ariel Thomas, University of Malta  
COST Action Chair – CA21112





# Unlocking Opportunities

A Young Researcher's Experience in the EU COST Network

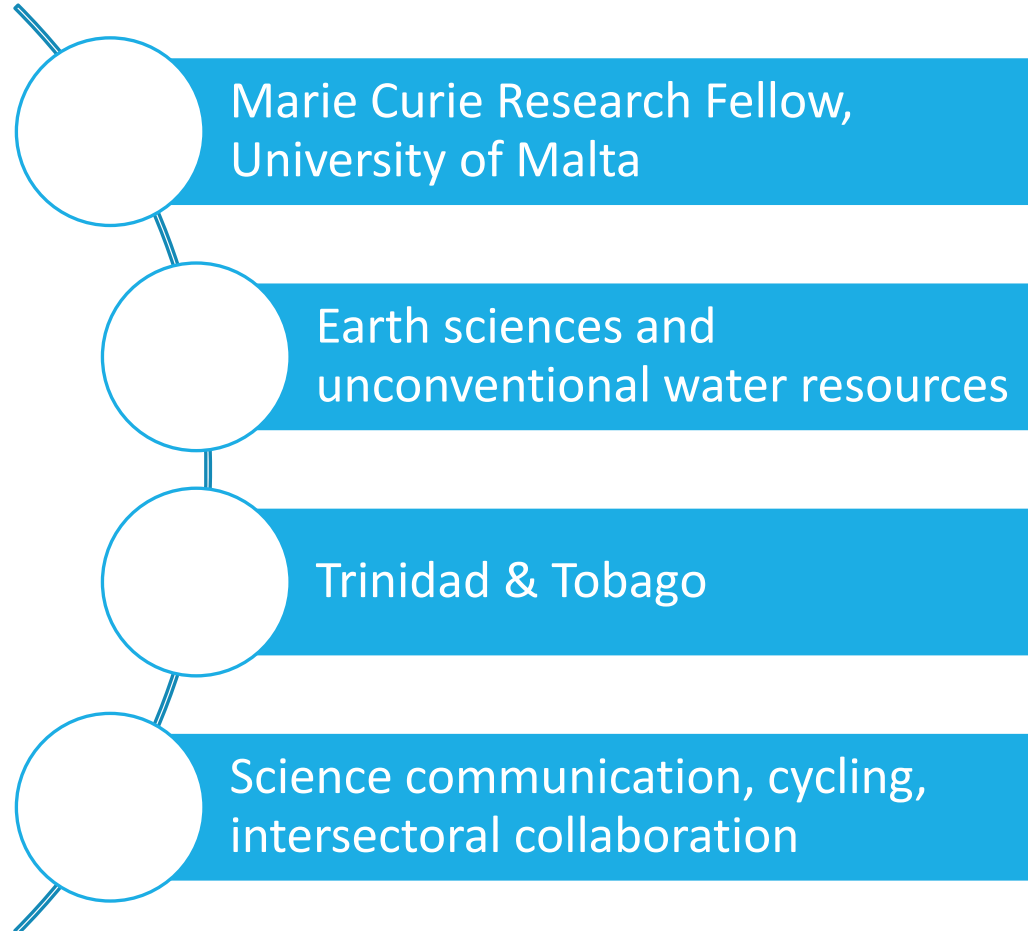
Dr. Ariel T. Thomas



L-Università  
ta' Malta



# My name is Ariel



# Introduction to offshore freshened groundwater (OFG)

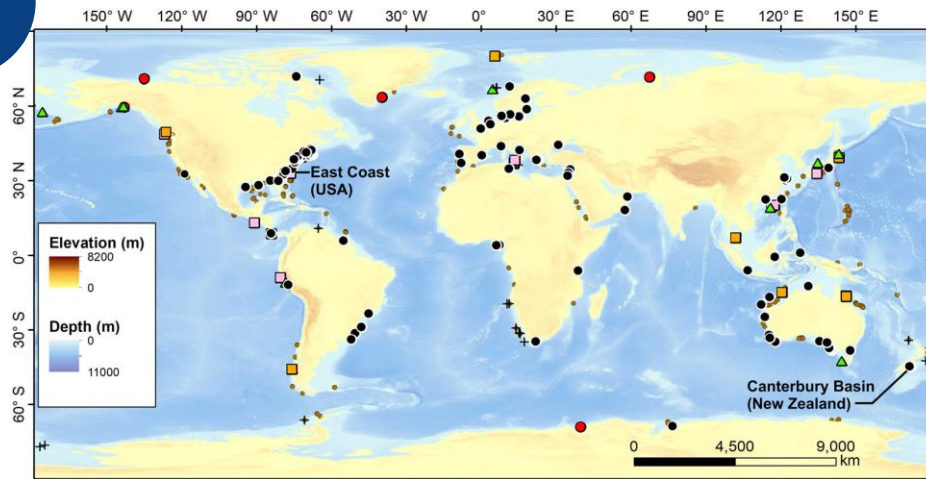
## What

Water stored in pores of sediments and fractures of rocks in the sub-seafloor and with a total dissolved solid (TDS) concentration below that of seawater.

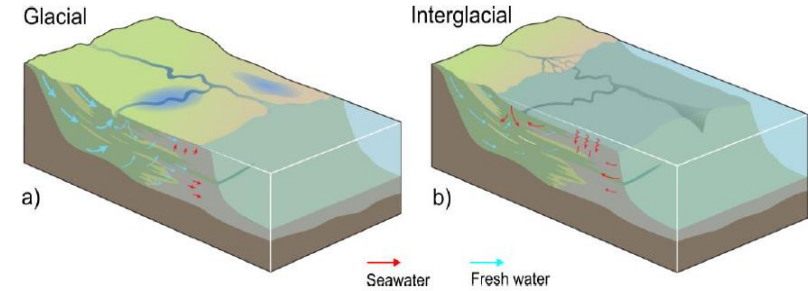
## Why

OFG systems are classified as an *unconventional groundwater resource*, which can fit into an array of solutions to mitigate water stress.

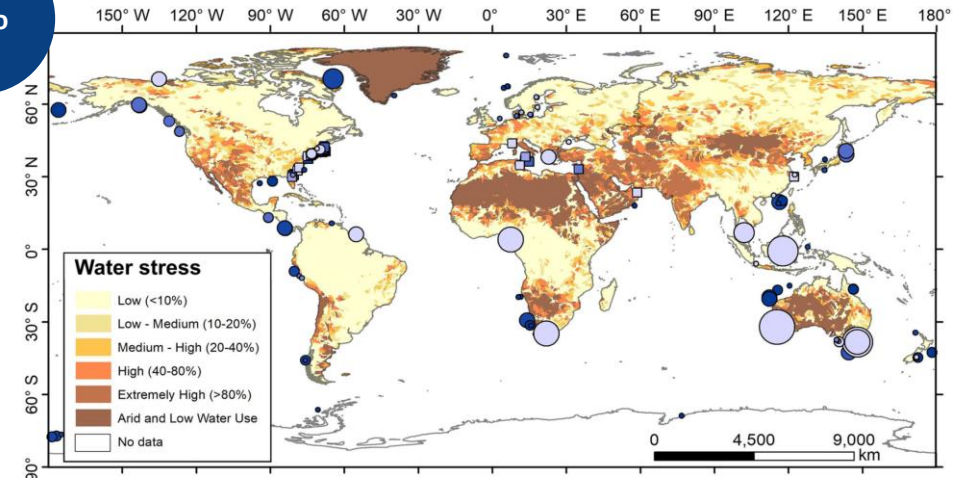
## Where



## How/ When



## Who





## Offshore freshened groundwater: An unconventional water resource in coastal regions?

The COST Action (OFF-SOURCE) aims at creating a new scientific network that will address if and how OFG can be used as an unconventional source of potable water in coastal regions.

**149**

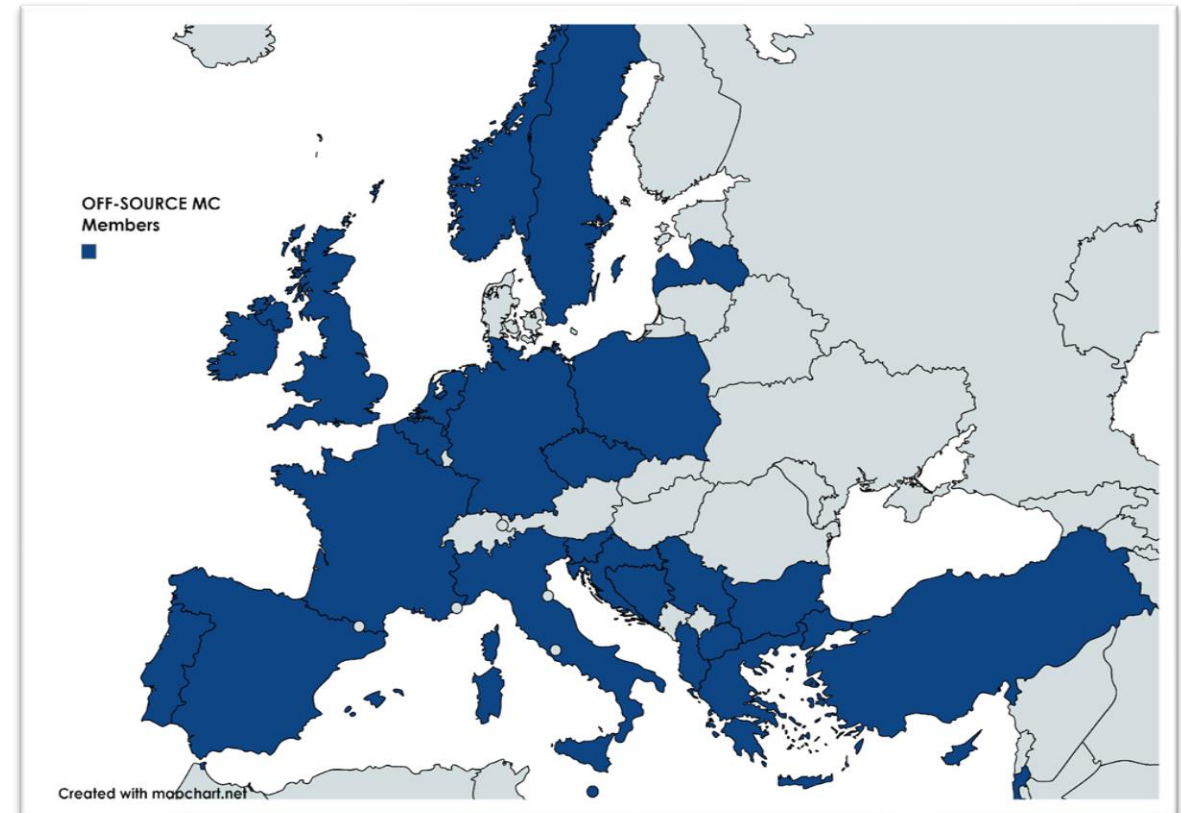
Members

**38**

Countries

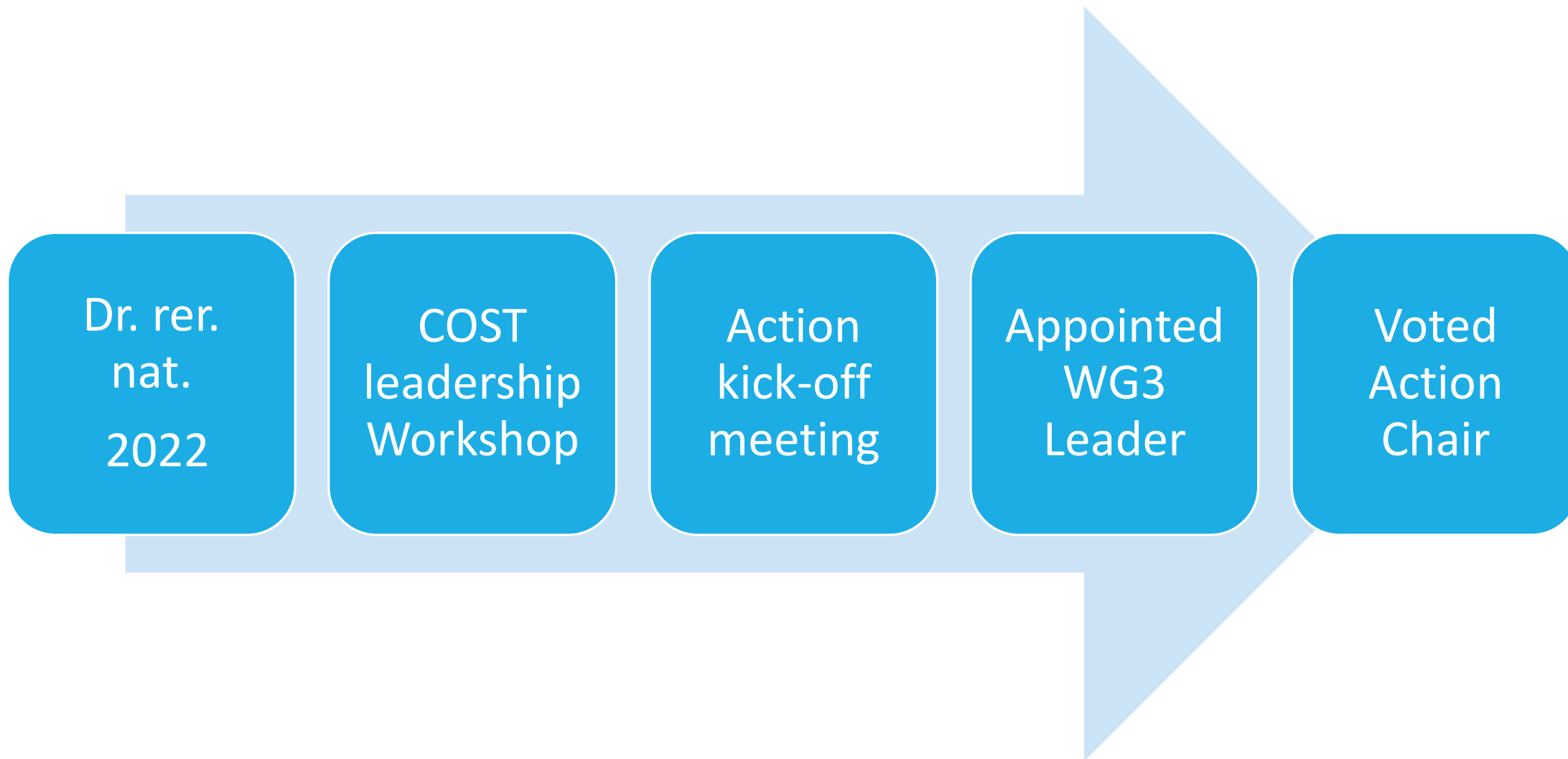
**5**

Working  
Groups



Map highlighting EU countries with OFF-SOURCE Management Committee (MC) members.

# My journey into OFF-SOURCE



# The COST effect

---

Networking

Career  
development

Training

Relationship

# Expanding your network



OFF-SOURCE hosted a workshop with 27 persons from 17 countries including experienced oil and gas industry professionals, hydrogeologists and water treatment engineers to discuss OFG feasibility.

# Expanding your network

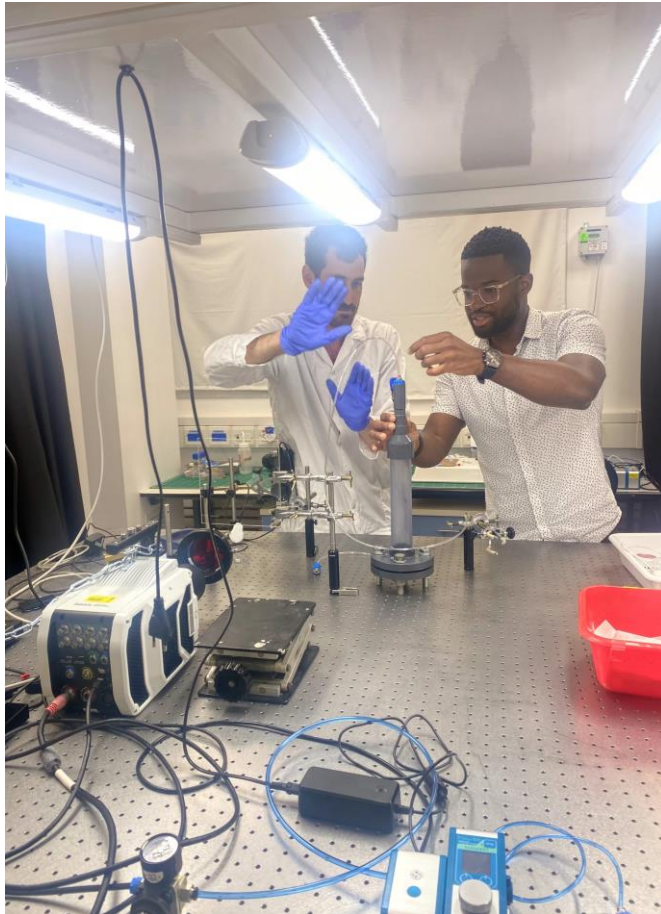


Photo-op at a tour of laboratory facilities at Technion



Presenting the action and OFG research to group of mostly engineers at the Grand Water Institute at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa



“

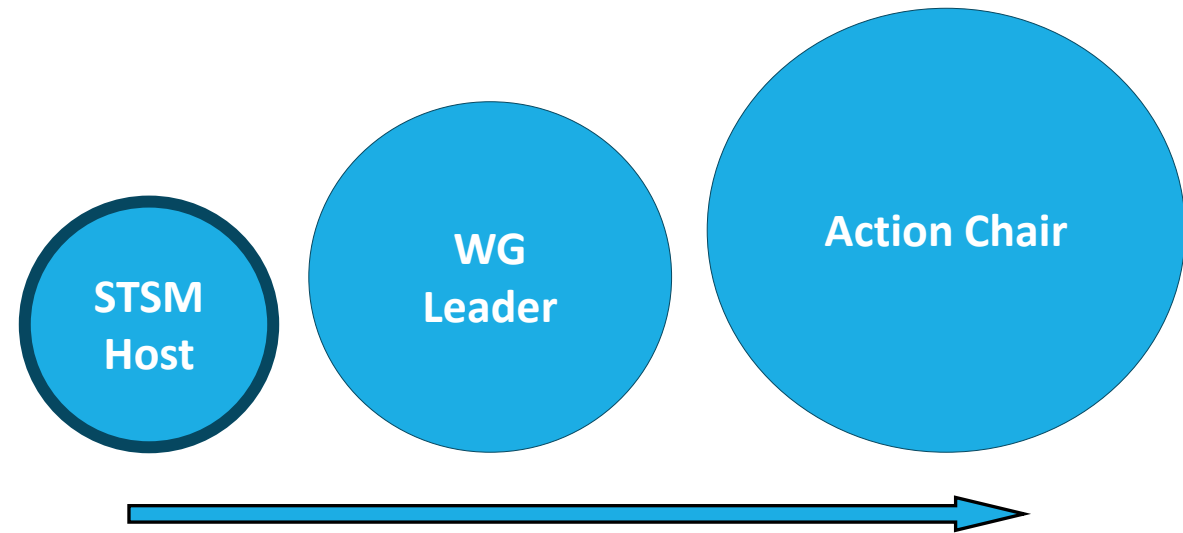
**COST isn't just about attending meetings—it actively facilitates real, long-term professional relationships across disciplines and countries.**

”

# Career development



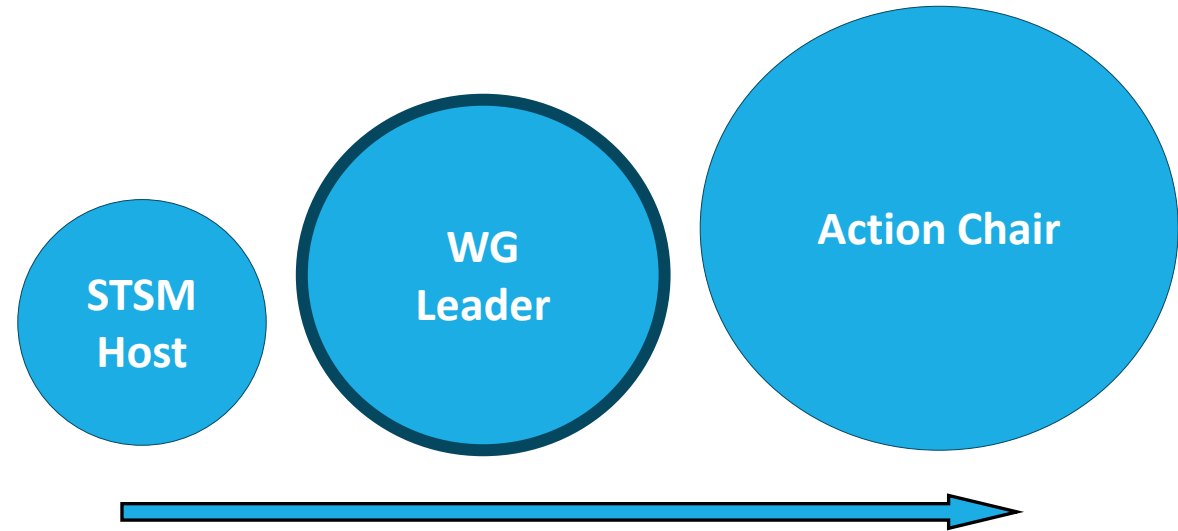
Site visit to the *Għar Lapsi* Desalination Plant in Malta as part of a Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM)



# Career development



Working group 3 workshop held in Valletta, Malta

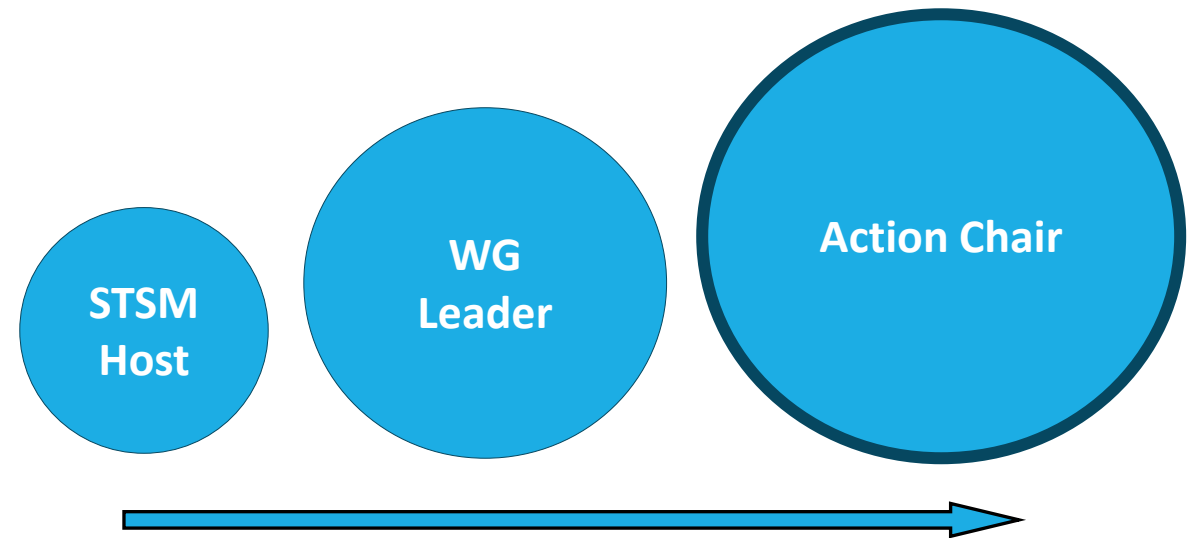




# Career development



JPI Oceans Scoping Workshop on Offshore Freshened Groundwater







cost  
EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Funded by  
the European Union

TRAINING SCHOOL  
**Numerical modelling and  
characterization of Offshore  
Freshened Groundwater (OFG) systems**

7 – 9 June 2023  
09:00 – 16:00

Utrecht University  
Vening Meinesz Building A,  
Princetonlaan 8a,  
3584 CB Utrecht,  
The Netherlands



INSTRUCTORS



Shubhangi Gupta



Ariel Thomas



Daniel Zamrsky



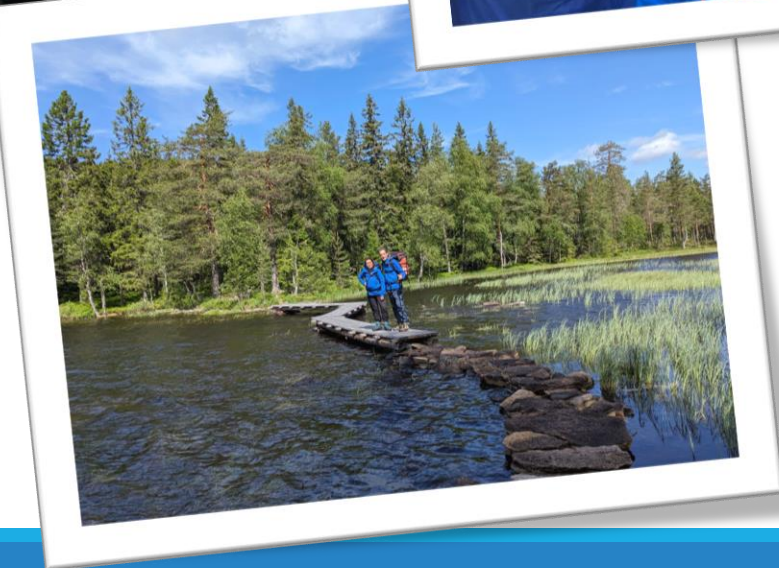
“

**COST empowers young researchers with leadership roles early in their careers, accelerating their professional growth.**

”



# Relationship building



# Key takeaways

---



**Career growth is faster with COST**

**Leadership opportunities can come early**

**COST is an accelerator for young researchers**

**Networking & relationship building is a game-changer**



Thank you for  
your attention



Connect with me on LinkedIn



[info@off-source.eu](mailto:info@off-source.eu)

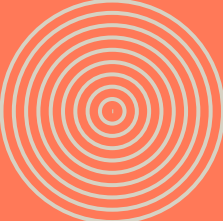


<https://off-source.eu>



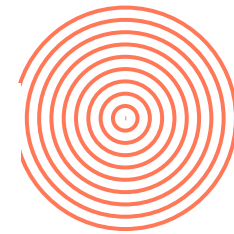
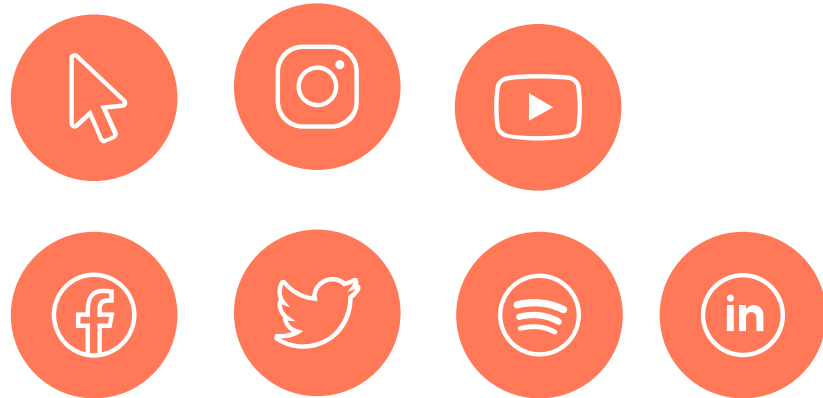
This publication is based upon work from CA21112 Offshore freshened groundwater: An unconventional water resource in coastal regions? (OFF-SOURCE), supported by the COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

# Q & A



# How to follow us

COST newsletter: [www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu)



PAGE

## Subscribe to the COST newsletter

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







# Practicalities

- The webinar is being **recorded** and the **live streaming** can be viewed on COST's YouTube channel ([@costoffice](#))
- The recording will be available on COST's YouTube channel after the webinar
- The slides will be made available on the COST **event page** after the webinar  
<https://www.cost.eu/cost-events/online-cost-info-day-2025/>
- Questions after the session? Contact us at [events@cost.eu](mailto:events@cost.eu)
- Feedback survey will be sent to a sample of participants

# Thank you!

