



Action CM1404

Chemistry of Smart Energy Carriers and Technologies (SMARTCATS)

1st Management Committee Meeting

Dr Lucia Forzi

Science Officer

Brussels, 06/03/2015



COST Emergency Instructions



First Aider at COST

What is a 'first aider'?

In relation to the workplace, a first aider is someone who has passed and is in receipt of a valid 4-day, First Aid approved training course for carrying out First Aid at work.

Who is 'first aider' at COST?

15th floor:

- ***Leatitia Malone:** leatitia.malone@cost.eu – 43800
- **Mario Moreira Cabral:** mario.cabral@cost.eu - 3863

21st floor:

- **Tamsin Reniers:** tamsin.reniers@cost.eu – 3825
- ***Nathalie Warengnien:** nathalie.warengnien@cost.eu – 43860
- **Cassia Azevedo Zezzi:** Cassia.Azevedo@cost.eu – 3844
- **Jeannette Nchung Oru:** Jeannette.NchungOru@cost.eu – 3850
- **Teresa Oliveros Martinez:** Teresa.Oliveros@cost.eu – 3835
- **Silvia Alexe :** Silvia.Alexe@cost.eu - 3854
- **Rossella Magli :** Rossella.Magli@cost.eu - 3833
- **Svetlana Voinova :** Svetlana.voinova@cost.eu - 3848
- **Maria Victoria Serrano Blazquez:** Mariavictoria.Serrano@cost.eu - 3857

First Aid boxes  are located at both Receptions

Fire Marshall at COST

What is a 'Fire Marshall'?

In relation to the workplace, a fire Marshall is a person who is responsible for the prevention and investigation of fires

Who is 'Fire Marshall' at COST?

15 th floor:

- Leatitia Malone: Leatitia.Malone@cost.eu – 3800
- Florin Petre: Florin.Petre@cost.eu – 3855
- Dafna Rothschild: Dafna.Rothschild@cost.eu - 3838

21st floor:

- Barbara Bottiau: Barbara.Bottiau@cost.eu - 3811
- Christer Halen: Christer.Halen@cost.eu – 3807
- Radka Jekova: Radka.Jekova@cost.eu - 3828
- Jeannette Nchung Oru: Jeannette.NchungOru@cost.eu – 3850
- Teresa Oliveros Martinez: Teresa.Oliveros@cost.eu - 3835
- Tamsin Reniers: Tamsin.Reniers@cost.eu – 3880
- Svetlana Voinova: Svetlana.Voinova@cost.eu - 3848
- Nathalie Warengnien: Nathalie.Warengnien@cost.eu – 3860

Office Evacuation

Who is responsible of the office evacuation?

15th floor: COST Reception*




- *Leatitia Malone: Leatitia.Malone@cost.eu – 43800
- *Dafna Rothschild: Dafna.Rothschild@cost.eu - 43838
- Florin Petre: Florin.Petre@cost.eu – 3855
- Administrative and Science Officers responsible of the meeting

21st floor:

- Barbara Bottiau: Barbara.Bottiau@cost.eu – 3811
- *Nathalie Warengnien: Nathalie.Warengnien@cost.eu – 43860
- Christer Halen: Christer.Halen@cost.eu – 3807
- Jeannette Nchung Oru: Jeannette.NchungOru@cost.eu – 3850
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Evacuation Instructions

In case of fire alarm*:

- Stop all activity
- Try to stay calm, do not run
- Do not lose time in retrieving personal belongings
- Follow the evacuation signals  
- Emergency exits  are located in front of the toilets both sides of the building
- Do not use the elevators!
- Join the meeting point, outside of the building, which is located on the right, at the parking space in the middle of the Avenue Louise facing the children shop « TINOK »
- Be careful when crossing the road for the TRAM!
- The Fire Marshall will proceed with the counting of those present

***Fire alarm test: every 1st Friday of the month at noon!**





COST Association Contact Point Action CM1404

Science Officer

Dr Lucia Forzi

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Administrative Officer

Ms Svetlana Voinova

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Tel: +32 (0)2 533 38 48



Agenda

1. Welcome to participants
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Status of the COST Action
4. Tour de table / introduction of the MC members
5. Establishment of quorum
6. General information on COST mechanism and on the funding and reporting of coordination activities:
 - COST Overview
 - COST Policies
 - COST Structure
 - COST Action Participation
 - COST Actions
 - COST Actions Administrative Rules and Guidelines
7. Information on the Rules of Procedure for COST Action Management Committees
8. Election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Selection of the Grant Holder Institution and its Scientific Representative

Minutes are prepared by COST



Agenda

9. Workplan for the implementation of the COST Action (based on the Memorandum of Understanding – Presentation of the Action by the elected Chair)
 - MoU Objectives and working programme
 - Working method - organisation and management (including Working Groups)
 - Distribution of tasks
 - Strategy for Implementing COST policies: Excellence and Inclusiveness, International Cooperation and SME and Industry Cooperation
10. Appointment of horizontal roles
 - Appointment of Working Group (WG) Leaders
 - Any other horizontal roles (e.g. STSM Coordinator, Website Host Institution, Composition of Core Group (CG))
11. Draft Work and Budget (W&B) Plan for the first Grant Period (GP)
 - Grant Period Goals and Tasks
 - Approval of the FSAC (%) for the Grant Holder Institution
12. Any Other Business (AOB)
13. Closing

Minutes are prepared by the MC



CM1404: Chemistry of Smart Energy Carriers and Technologies (SMARTCATS)

CSO approval: 13/11/2014

Start of Action: 06/03/2015

End of Action: 05/03/2019

Duration: 4 years

Parties: Currently 21

MC Chair: to be nominated at the 1st MC Meeting

MC Vice Chair: to be nominated at the 1st MC Meeting

Tour de table

http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/cmst/Actions/CM1404?parties

[About COST](#)
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[Media](#)
[e-COST](#)

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CMST COST Action CM1404

Parties

Action details

MoU	Draft: oc-2014-1-18366
CSO Approval date	13/11/2014
Start of Action	06/03/2015
End of Action	05/03/2019

Participations

Country	Date	Status
Austria	26/11/2014	Confirmed
Belgium	20/01/2015	Confirmed
Bulgaria	08/12/2014	Confirmed
Cyprus	19/11/2014	Confirmed
Czech Republic	02/03/2015	Confirmed
Denmark	05/12/2014	Confirmed
France	25/11/2014	Confirmed
Germany	28/11/2014	Confirmed
Greece	16/12/2014	Confirmed
Hungary	19/12/2014	Confirmed
Ireland	09/12/2014	Confirmed
Israel	18/11/2014	Confirmed
Italy	05/12/2014	Confirmed
Netherlands	16/02/2015	Confirmed
Norway	28/11/2014	Confirmed
Portugal	02/02/2015	Confirmed
Slovenia	29/12/2014	Confirmed
Spain	25/11/2014	Confirmed
Sweden	15/01/2015	Confirmed
Switzerland	16/01/2015	Confirmed
United Kingdom	18/11/2014	Confirmed

Total: 21

Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies COST Action CM1404

Description

Parties

Management Committee

General Information*

Proposer of the Action:
[Dr. Mariarosaria DE JOANNON](#)

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

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

Downloads*

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

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

Websites*

Domain website:
<http://www.cost.eu/cmst>

* content provided by e-COST.
Data is synchronised once per night.



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COST OVERVIEW





What is COST?

Founded in 1971, COST is the oldest and widest European intergovernmental framework for transnational Cooperation in Science and Technology.

COST has been supporting networking of research activities across all 35 Member countries and beyond for more than **40 years**.

COST is open to all disciplines, to all novel and ground-breaking S&T ideas, to all categories of partners where mutual benefit is real.



COST Mission

COST enables breakthrough scientific developments leading to new concepts and products.

It thereby contributes to **strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacities.**



A word cloud graphic featuring the following terms: 'technology' (dark grey), 'future' (maroon), 'inclusiveness' (purple, oriented vertically), 'inspiration' (purple, oriented vertically), 'science' (orange, oriented vertically), 'concepts' (blue), and 'innovation' (dark grey, oriented horizontally at the bottom).

COST Key Principles

- ❑ Inclusiveness and excellence
- ❑ Highest quality in Science and Technology (S&T)
- ❑ Bottom-up – Open Call
- ❑ Targeting Early Career Investigators (ECI)
- ❑ COST funding is used to leverage funding from nationally and regionally funded projects



COST Strengths and Key Features

COST supports the networking of researchers through science and technology networks called 'COST Actions' and is open to:

- ❑ Any novel and original idea (innovative)
- ❑ All fields of S&T (including interdisciplinary, new and emergent fields)
 - ❑ Transdisciplinarity
- ❑ Flexible participation – join in at any time
- ❑ All partners (public and private, big and small)
- ❑ All career stages (young and senior researchers)
 - ❑ Capacity building
- ❑ All countries (small and big, leader and follower countries)
 - ❑ Global cooperation on the basis of mutual interest





COST Budget in H2020

EUR 300 million for 7 years from two H2020 work programmes:

- ❑ Challenge 6 “Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies”
- ❑ “Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation”





COST POLICIES



COST Policies



Excellence and Inclusiveness

Implementation Strategy by the MC

The Action should have a plan towards inclusiveness (**Geographical Coverage, Early Career Investigator involvement and Gender Balance**) that is revised and updated at every MC meeting and develop a strategy to attract researchers and stakeholders

SOME EXAMPLES:

- ❑ Leadership roles
- ❑ Organising and locating Action meetings and events
- ❑ Benefiting from COST networking tools
- ❑ Promoting STSMs
- ❑ Action Think Tank for Early Career Investigators

ECI = PhD + up to 8 years

Inclusiveness Target Countries

Originated from:

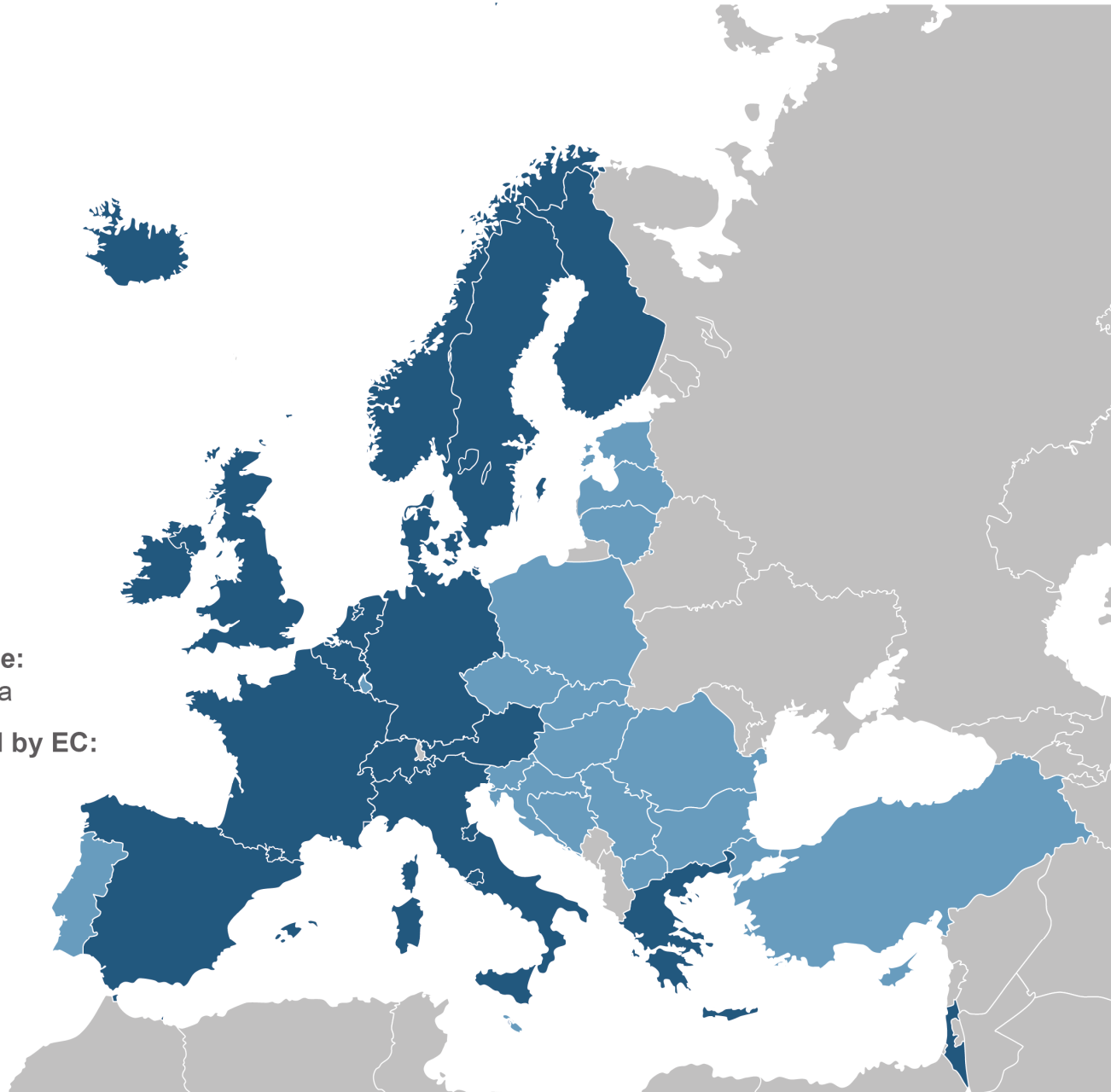
- ❑ The political context of the Innovation Union (Horizon 2020)
- ❑ The intergovernmental context of the COST Member Countries

With the aim to:

- ❑ **Encourage and enable researchers from less research-intensive countries across the COST Member Countries to set up and/or join COST Actions and get more intensively involved in all COST activities**
- ❑ Counterbalance research communities unequal access to knowledge infrastructures, funding and resources distribution
- ❑ Connect “pockets of excellence” in science and technology operating from diverse locations in Europe

COST Inclusiveness Targeted countries

- **EU 13:**
 - Bulgaria
 - Croatia
 - Cyprus
 - Czech Republic
 - Estonia
 - Hungary
 - Latvia
 - Lithuania
 - Malta
 - Poland
 - Romania
 - Slovakia
 - Slovenia
- EU Candidates:**
 - fYR Macedonia
 - Republic of Serbia
 - Turkey
- EU Potential Candidate:**
 - Bosnia and Herzegovina
- EU Countries targeted by EC:**
 - Luxembourg
 - Portugal



International Cooperation

Implementation Strategy by the MC

Aiming to support the involvement of researchers from **Near Neighbour** and **International Partner Countries** in COST Actions on the basis of mutual benefit

SOME EXAMPLES:

- ❑ Approved IPC and NNC Institutions can host STSMs
- ❑ Researchers from approved IPC and NNC Institutions can be Trainers when Training Schools are organised
- ❑ Researchers from approved NNC Institutions can:
 - ❑ Apply for STSMs
 - ❑ Attend Training Schools

SME and Industry Cooperation

Implementation Strategy by the MC

Aiming to facilitate/ encourage industry participation

SOME EXAMPLES:

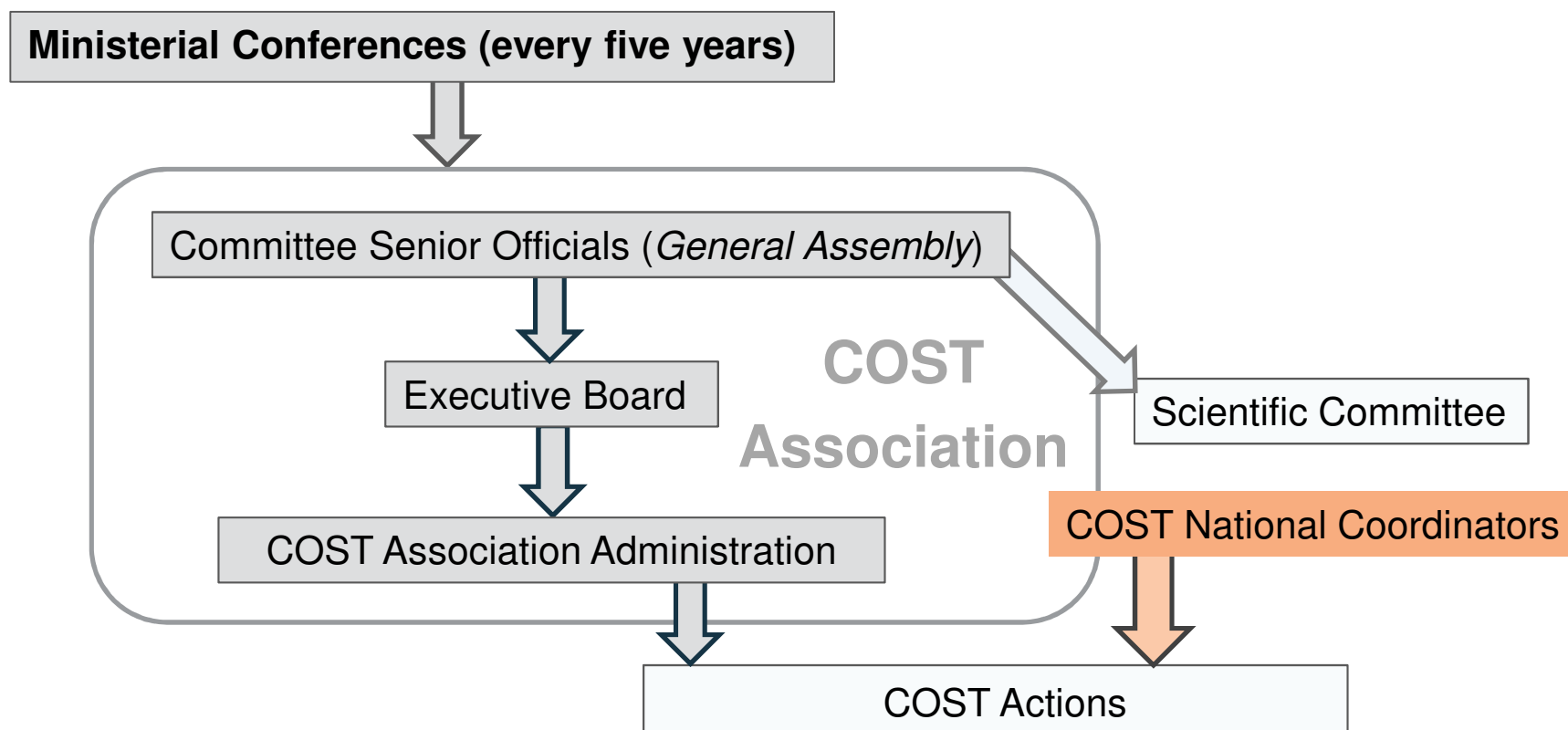
- ❑ Session dedicated to industrial participation at Action events
- ❑ Roundtable discussions with industrial partners at Action events
- ❑ STSMs with industry acting as home/ host institution



COST STRUCTURE



COST Association organisation and relation with other actors



See: http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/who



COST Association organisation and relation with other actors

Committee Senior Officials

Constitution:

- 2 representatives per COST Country

Responsibilities:

- the overall strategy and steering of COST
- deciding on the launching of individual Actions
- approving participation of institutes from countries which are not COST countries
- approving the extension of Actions

See: http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/who



COST Association organisation and relation with other actors

Scientific Committee

Constitution:

- 36 high-level experts (1 per COST country)

Responsibilities:

- Selection of the proposals for COST Actions to be approved by the CSO
- Quality control of procedures for the evaluation of proposals, monitoring of COST Actions and any other scientific activities
- Impact assessment of the finished COST Actions
- Contribution to COST S&T strategy development.



COST ACTION PARTICIPATION



Who can participate?

Researchers affiliated to the following INSTITUTIONS:

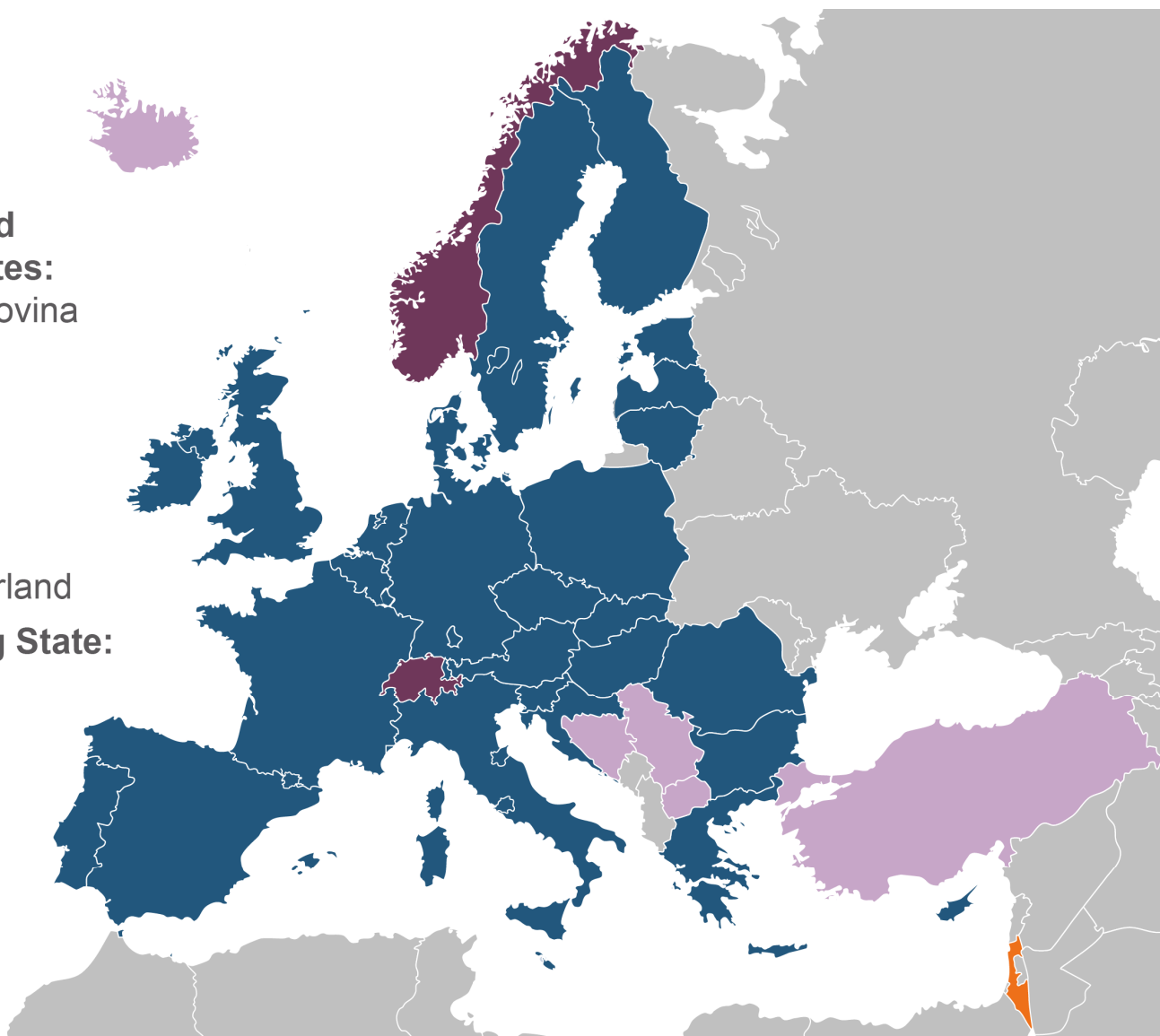
- **Institutions from COST Member Countries, Near Neighbour Countries and International Partner Countries.**
- **European Commission and EU Agencies.**
- **European RTD Organisations** (CERN, EFDA JET, EMBL, ESA, ESO, ESRF, European XFEL, ILL).
- **International Organisations** (examples: UNESCO, IOCD, WHO, EFI, CABI, Marie Curie Fellows Association, European Centre for Women and Technology).

<http://www.cost.eu/participate>



COST Countries

- **EU 28**
- **EU Candidates and Potential Candidates:**
Bosnia and Herzegovina
fYR Macedonia
Iceland
Serbia
Turkey
- **Other Countries:**
Norway and Switzerland
- **COST Cooperating State:**
Israel



How COST Countries join an Action

Before Action Starts and <1 year after CSO Approval



If new COST Countries join the Action



International dimension of COST

The participation of Institutions from Near Neighbour Countries (NNC) and International Partner Country (IPC) is welcome and is based on *mutual benefit*

❑ **Institutions in Near Neighbour Countries (NNC):**

Balkan countries (Albania and Montenegro),

Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Syria and Tunisia)

Eastern European Countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine)

❑ **Institutions in all other International Partner Countries (IPC)**

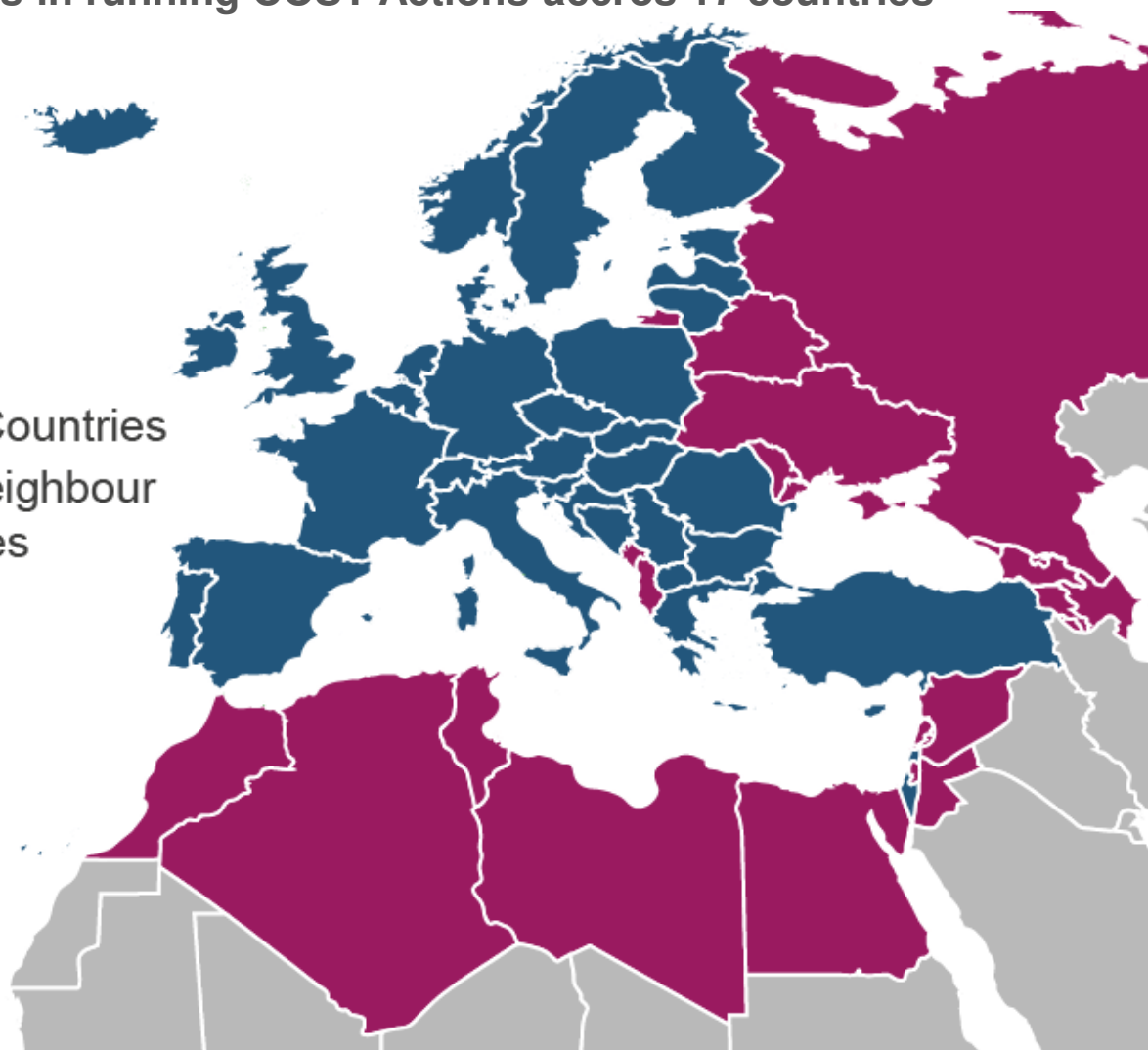


COST Near Neighbour Countries

231 participations in running COST Actions accross 17 countries

- Albania (19)
- Algeria (6)
- Armenia (10)
- Azerbaijan (5)
- Belarus (5)
- Egypt (10)
- Georgia (4)
- Jordan (2)
- Lebanon (4)
- Moldova (5)
- Montenegro (15)
- Morocco (16)
- Palestinian Authority (4)
- Syrian Arab Republic (2)
- Russia (58)
- Tunisia (16)
- Ukraine (50)

● COST Countries
● Near Neighbour Countries



October 2014 data

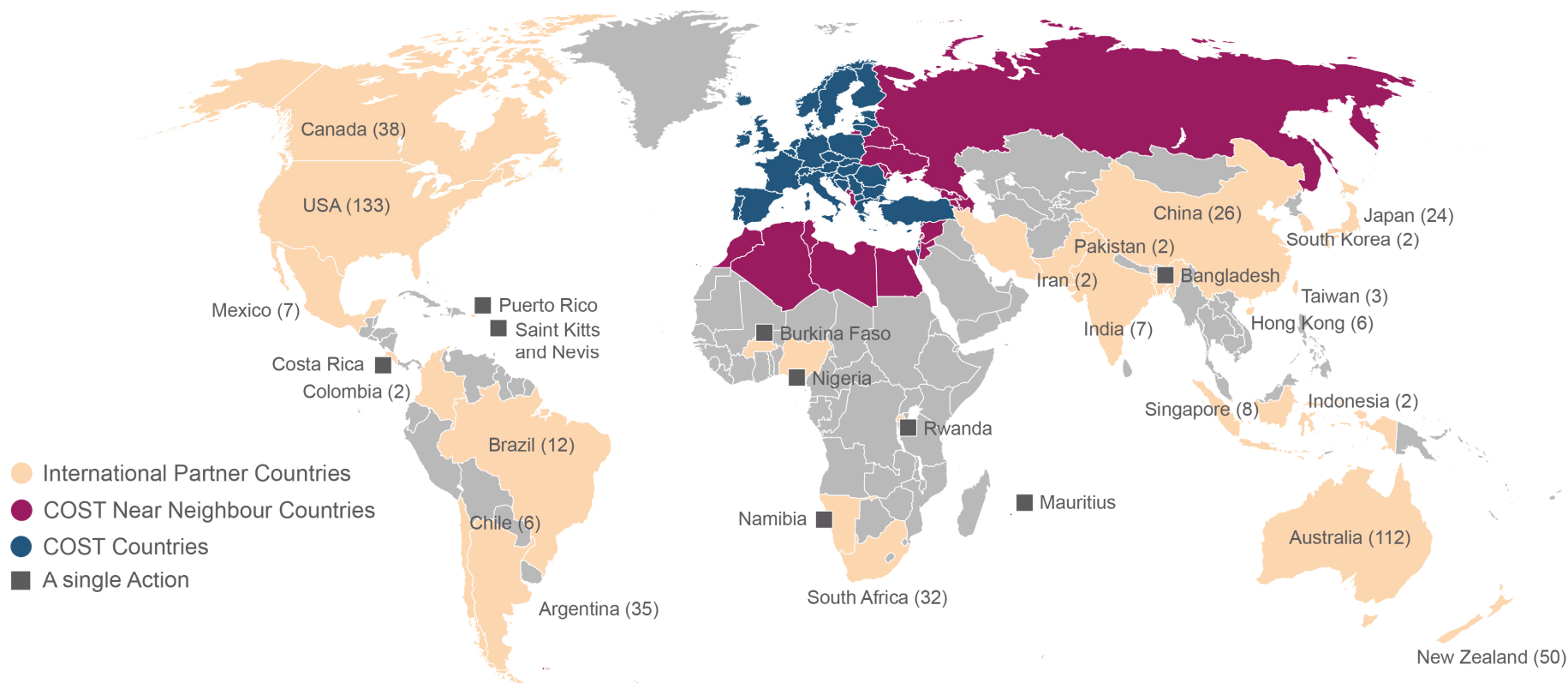


EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



International Partner Countries

519 participations in running Actions across 29 countries



October 2014 data



How IPCs, NNCs and Specific Organisations join an Action

OPTION 1: NNC & IPC already included in the proposal = FOUNDERS

- ❑ Chair selects the applicant in e-COST
- ❑ MC approves

OPTION 2: NEW NNC & IPC

- ❑ Chair encodes applicant's details in e-COST
- ❑ Applicant and Chair complete application form in e-COST
- ❑ MC approves
- ❑ COST Association approves through e-COST

Once the Institution is approved the applicant becomes a MC Observer



COST ACTION

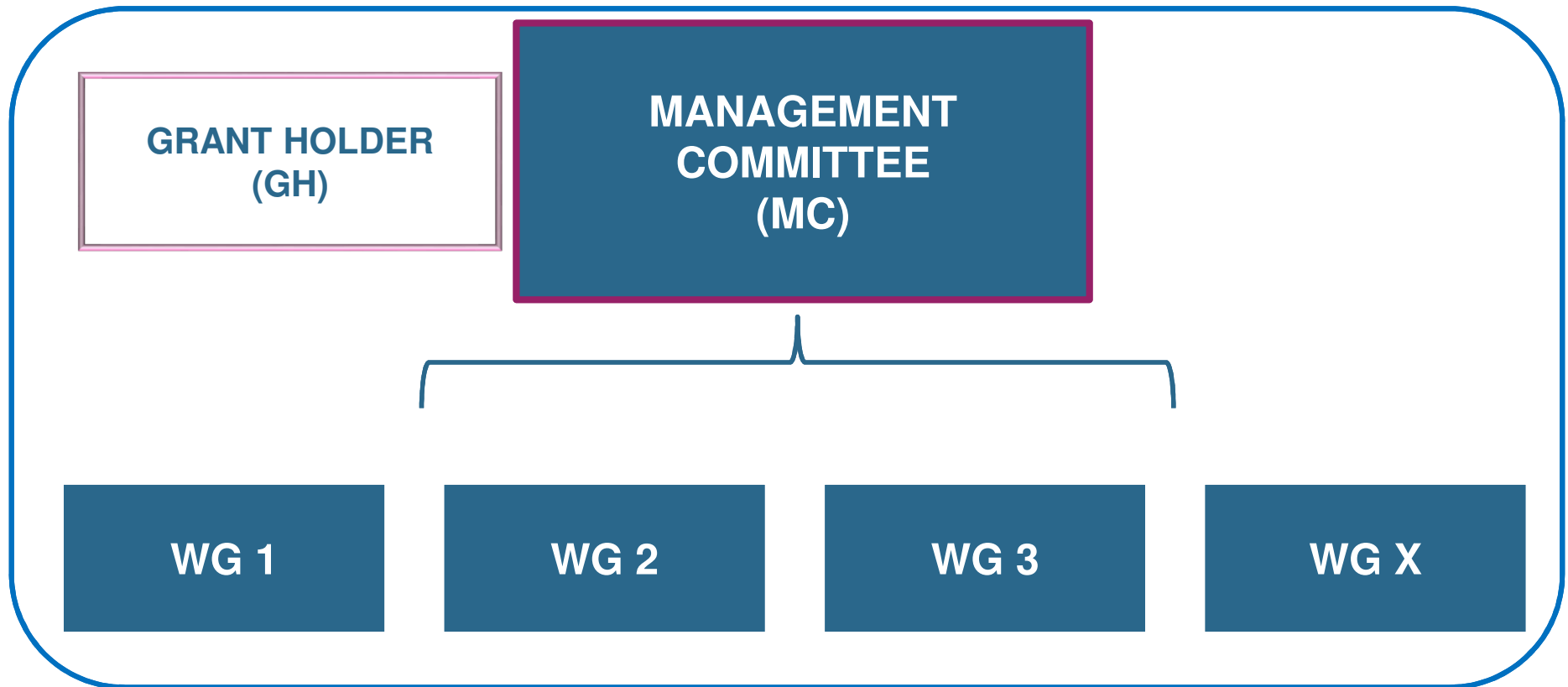


COST Action

- ❑ A network of researchers with nationally funded research pursuing the fulfilment of the objectives and deliverables described in the approved proposal (MoU)
- ❑ Based on a joint work programme for 4 years
- ❑ In fields that are of interest to at least 5 COST Countries (average 20 countries)
- ❑ Selected via a COST Open Call

Action Structure

**COST
Association**



Management Committee

DECISION MAKING BODY

Coordination, Implementation, and Management of an Action

Supervising the appropriate allocation and use of funds

Achieving the Action's MoU objectives

COMPOSED OF

Delegates nominated by their respective COST National Coordinator (CNC)

Up to 2 representatives per Participating COST Country



Management Committee

KEY ROLES in order to ORGANISE THE WORK

ACTION CHAIR

ACTION VICE CHAIR

WG LEADERS

GRANT HOLDER Scientific Representative

And other horizontal roles



CORE GROUP:

Prepare MC decisions



Management Committee

MAIN TASKS TO BE PERFORMED by the MC

Action Strategy

Work & Budget Plan

Dissemination & Exploitation Strategy

Memberships

Implementation of COST Policies

Approval of new Countries and Organizations

Reporting

Supervising the appropriate use of funds

Management Committee

DECISION TAKING PROCEDURE

MC MEETINGS

Minimum once a year in a participating COST Country

Typical duration ½ day

Decisions only valid if at least 2/3 of the Participating COST Countries are represented

Simple majority vote of MC Members with **1 vote / Participating COST Country**

MC decision must be minuted and sent to COST Association

E-VOTE

Initiated and managed by the MC Chair

All MC members are in the e-mail list

Vote open for 7 days

Simple majority vote of MC Members with **1 vote / Participating COST Country**

MC decision must be minuted and should be included in the official MC minutes of the following MC Meeting



Working Groups

PRODUCTION & EXCHANGE OF RESEARCH

Achieving the scientific objectives as defined in the MoU

WG Leaders must be MC Members

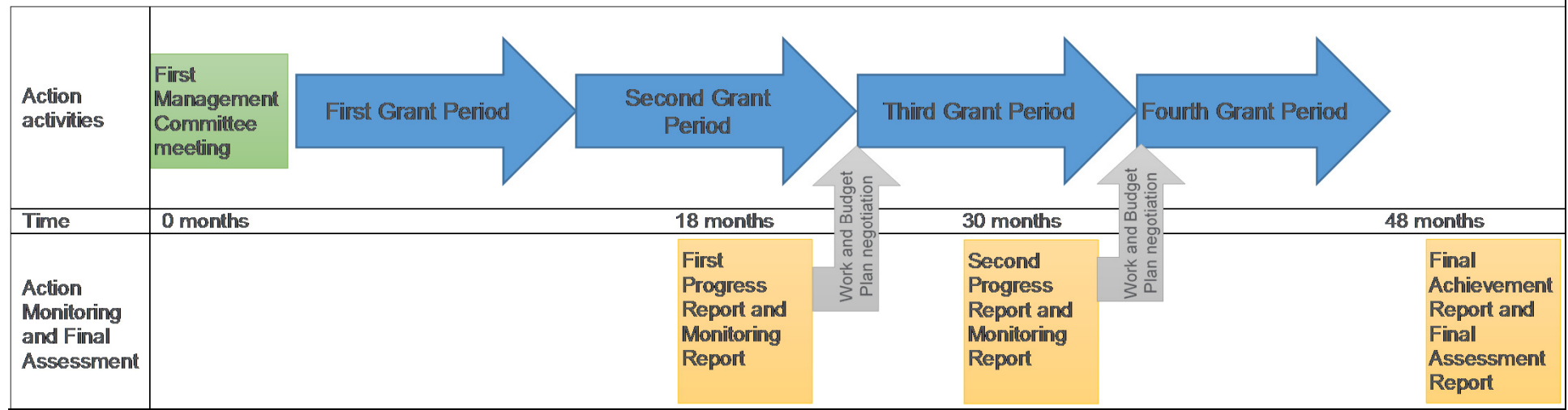
COMPOSED BY

Researchers from Participating COST Countries

MC members (all MC members should become members of WGs)

MC Observers from approved NNC, IPC, Specific Organisations

Monitoring and Final Assessment of Actions



First Progress and Monitoring Report – 18 months
 Second Progress and Monitoring Report – 30 months
 Final Achievement Report – 48 months (end of Action)

Action Rapporteur
 (independent external
 expert) reports remotely



Monitoring and Final Assessment of Actions

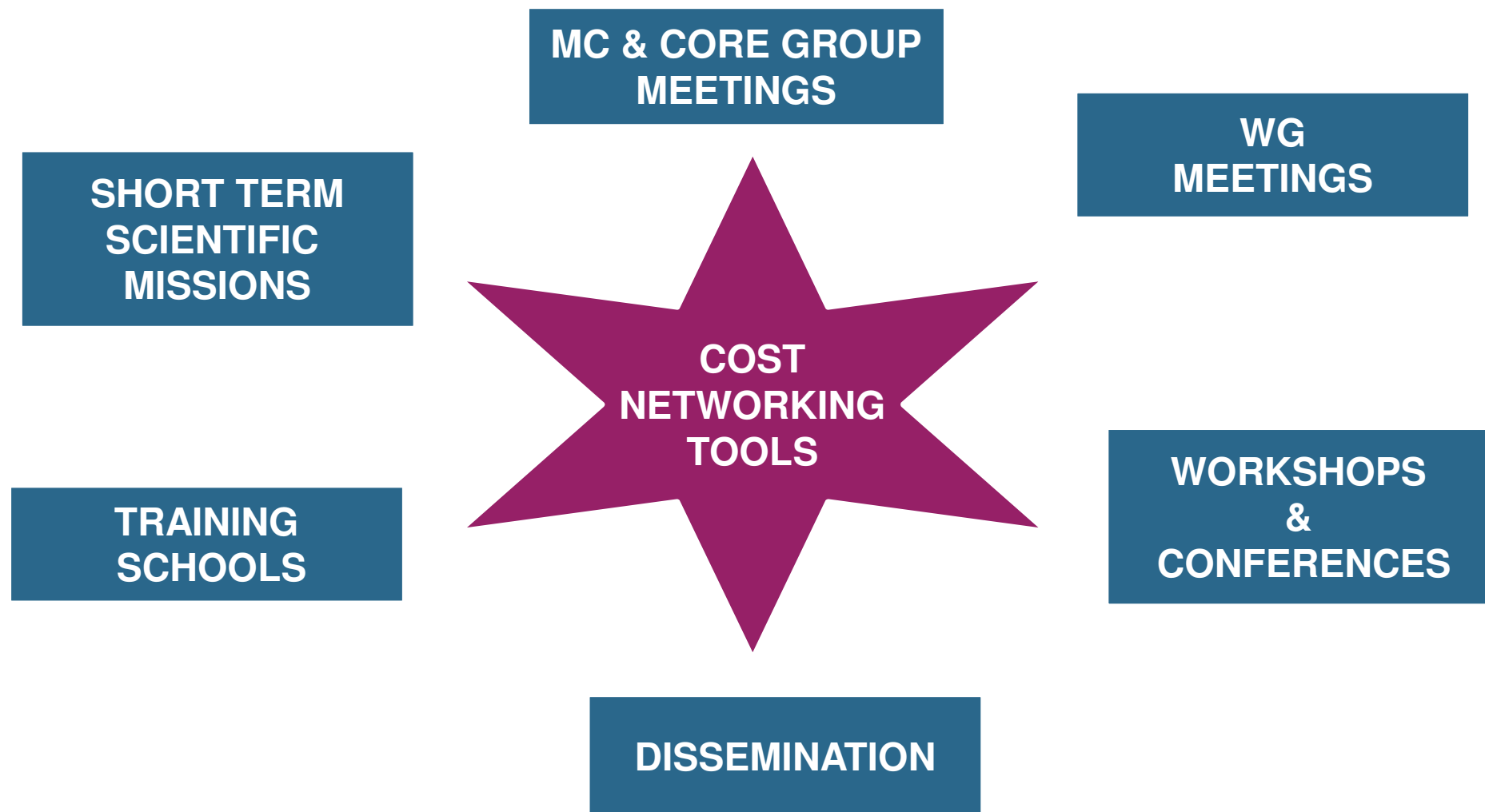
Element	Purpose and features
Progress Review 1 Month 18	Monitors progress to date
	Identifies any specific interventions needed
	Input for Work and Budget Plan for Year 3
	Starts with e-COST providing quantitative data, Action Chair providing qualitative data and explanation of quantitative data, Rapporteur assessing and/or validating Chair report
Progress Review 2 Month 30	Monitors progress to date
	Identifies specific interventions needed to achieve MoU/ implement COST policies satisfactorily by the end of COST Action
	Input for Work and Budget Plan for Year 4
	Specific interventions on planning and reviewing dissemination plans

Final Assessment

Element	Purpose and features
Final Assessment Month 48	Identify how well the Action has reached the defined MoU objectives and deliverables
	Information on initiation of any follow-up activities and its impact on R&D activities in the area covered by the Action
	Collects data for:
	COST Association reporting to EC
	Impact Analyses
	Identifying success stories
	Identifying 'early weak signals' (or emerging issues)



COST Networking Tools



COST Networking Tools: **Meetings**

MC, CORE GROUP, WG MEETINGS, WORKSHOP and CONFERENCES

- ❑ **Internal Meetings:** Management Committee (MC), Core Group (CG) and Working Group (WG) Meetings
- ❑ **Workshops and Conference:** serve the Action's objectives and act as a showcase for the activities of the Action
- ❑ **Dissemination Meetings:** to showcase an Action at relevant conference in the field (oral presentation); max 2 MC Members are eligible to be reimbursed per GP

SPECIFICS

- ❑ Location: Participating COST country (except Dissemination meetings)
- ❑ Approved by the MC (in the Work and Budget plan)
- ❑ MC determines among participants who are entitled for reimbursement

COST Networking Tools: STSM, TS

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS (STSMs)

- ❑ Exchange visits fostering collaboration, contributing to the scientific objectives of the Actions and allowing participant to learn new techniques, to have access to data/instruments/methods not available in their own institution

TRAINING SCHOOLS (TS)

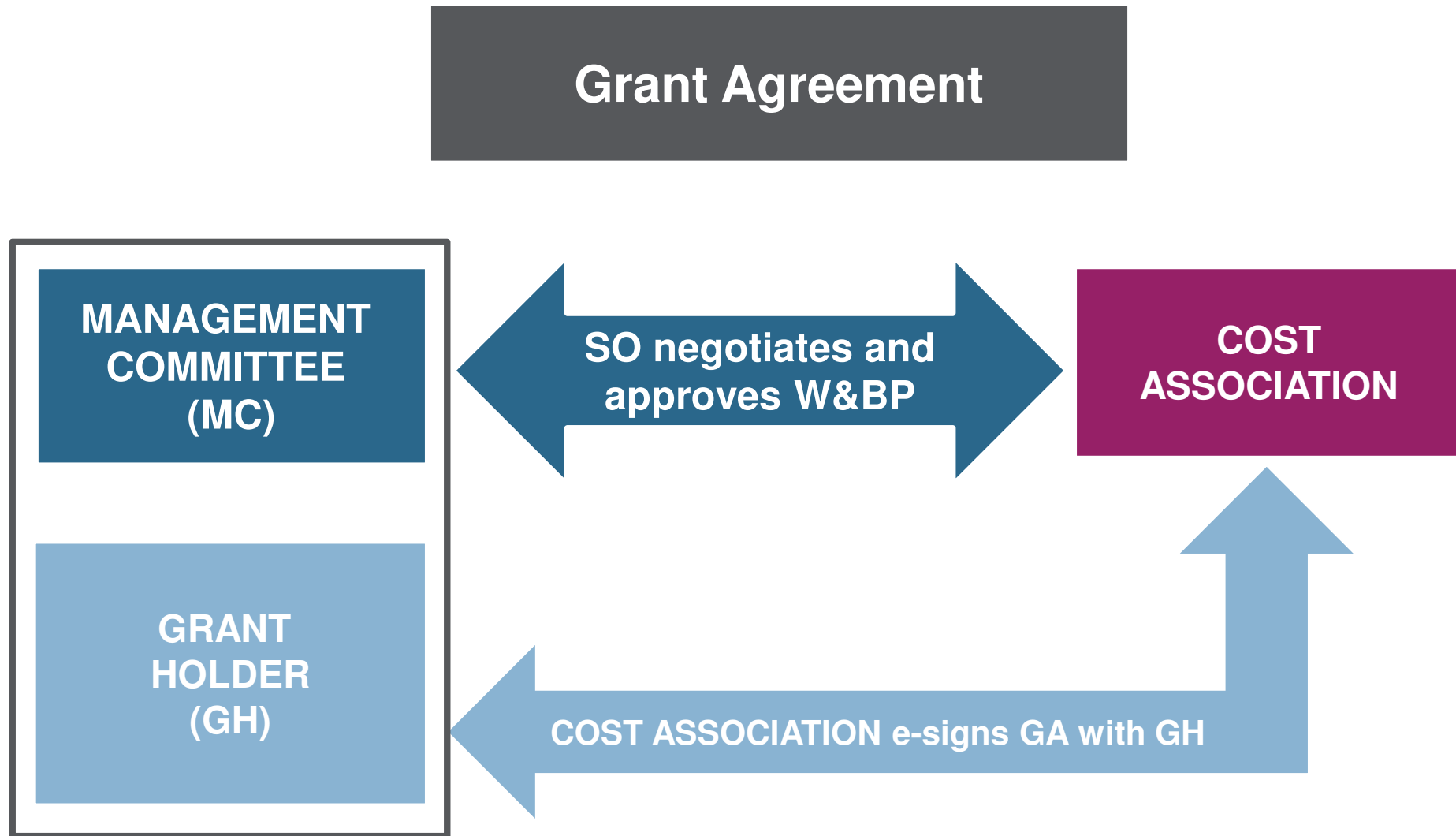
- ❑ Provide intensive training on a subject that contributes to the aim of the Action (new or emerging subject)
- ❑ If applicable, offer familiarization with unique equipment or know-how in one of the laboratories of the Action

COST Networking Tools: Dissemination

DISSEMINATION MATERIAL

- ☐ Website, material for display or distribution (flyers, posters,...), Publications (journal, books,...), Multimedia content, Distribution costs,...
- ☐ Must reflect the Action's objectives
- ☐ Should be made available to the widest audience (Open access)

How are COST Actions funded?





e-COST Action Management Tool (eCAMT)

- ❑ Work and Budget Plan (WBP) drafting, negotiation and approval
 - ❑ Once the WBP has been approved by the COST Association e-COST will automatically launch an **online MC vote** for approval of the WBP
- ❑ Grant Agreement e-signature

Work and Budget Plan



COST Action CM1404 Chemistry And Molecular Sciences And Technologies
Chemistry of Smart Energy Carriers and Technologies (SMARTCATS)

Workplan Status: AGA WBP Draft

Overview

Add GP Goals

GP Start Date

2015-06-01

GP End Date

2016-05-31

OVERVIEW OBJECTIVES

+ Action Objectives(click to toggle)

#	Objective Number	Objective Description
1	Aim/Primary objective	The main objective of the Action is to create a European-wide network for addressing the "grand challenge" of matching the most promising Smart Energy Carriers with the advanced technologies for fuel flexible, low-carbon intensity and distributed energy generation strategies.
2	Secondary objective 1	Improvement of kinetic models: Extend experimental databases (elementary reaction rate and validation data) over unconventional conditions typical of innovative combustion processes. Extend the detailed chemistry and thermochemistry oxidation knowledge from fossil toward unconventional and bio-based energy carriers. Optimize chemical kinetic models for simulation of SECs combustion processes (high-pressure, high inlet temperature, massive dilution, multi-component fuels, etc.)
3	Secondary objective 2	Improvement and development of new diagnostic tools: Develop/optimize innovative diagnostic tools and procedures for identification and quantification of chemical intermediate/markers in SECs combustion. Adapt advanced diagnostics to complex systems (e.g. engines, furnaces, household applications, etc.).
4	Secondary objective 3	Pollutants monitoring and control: Compile inventories of pollutants emitted from the combustion of SECs in practical systems. Increase understanding of the kinetics of combustion by-product for a sustainable use of SECs. Assess control strategies for the mitigation of pollutant formation and emission. Develop tools to detect and quantify chemical, physical and morphological properties of combustion-generated pollutants, particularly of particulate matter.
5	Secondary objective 4	Data collection, sharing and use: Define specific set of prerequisites and goals for the establishment of an efficient and scalable architecture of a combustion chemistry, experimental and numerical database. Identify a widely accepted, from both experimentalists and modellers, set of "model experiments" and measurables to be assumed, after a detailed side-by-side experimental and numerical validation procedure, as a representative dataset. Define widely accepted criteria for objective evaluation of accuracy and reliability levels of combustion chemistry datasets.
6	Secondary objective 5	Knowledge transfer towards technology application: Integrate detailed kinetic mechanisms in large scale numerical simulations. Develop reliable, widely applicable and affordable turbulence/chemistry interaction models. Develop methodologies to constructively couple simulations and experiments, to provide estimates of the uncertainty related to numerical predictions.
7	Secondary objective 6	Scientific Cooperation: bring together the leading European research groups across combustion-related disciplines.
8	Secondary objective 7	Strong Industrial Cooperation: on the ground of strong industrial participation in the Action, ensure an intense knowledge transfer between the

Budget and Workplan

GRANT AGREEMENT PERIOD GOALS

+ Action Grant Period Goals(click to toggle)

No GP goals have been set yet.

Add GP Goal

How the GP goals activities relate to the MoU aim and objectives

NETWORKING TOOLS DETAILS

+ Action Grant Period Tools(click to toggle)

Please note that a Grant Period Goal should be added before a networking tool can be added.

How the networking activities relate to the GP goals

Work and Budget Plan

- **GP goals (to be identified *in collaboration* with the WG Leaders)**
 - must be specific to the Action (avoid general comments)
 - should enable the i) fulfilment of the foreseen objectives and ii) achievement of the foreseen deliverables as outlined in the MoU
 - key tasks per WG included already in the MoU – good starting point for defining the GP goals

Please note: organisation of a conference is not a GP goal is a networking activity

- ★ e.g. have at least one meeting in an Inclusiveness Country

Work and Budget Plan

- COST Actions **cannot sponsor** external events
- If COST Actions **co-organise** activities with an external event the Action must be fully integrated into the scientific programme of the organising committee
 - COST must be visible (COST logo, Action number and title) as co-organiser on the event 's website and the publication/dissemination materials



Budget

- 1st Grant period: *01/06/2015 – 31/05/2016*
- Allocated budget: **129 000 EUR** (including FSAC, excluding this meeting)

For calculations (meetings):

Based on COST rules **160 Euros / night** plus **350 Euros for travel**
(higher for remote places)

Overview of the WBP

A - COST Networking Tools	
(1) MEETINGS	- €
(2) TRAINING SCHOOLS	- €
(3) SHORT-TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS	- €
(4) DISSEMINATION, PUBLICATIONS	- €
(5) OERSA (Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities)	- €
B - TOTAL SCIENCE EXPENDITURE (sum of (1) to (5))	- €
C - FSAC (Financial and Scientific Administration a (max. of 15% of B.)	To be decided by MC Up to 15% SE: 16 826 €
D - TOTAL EXPENDITURE (B+C)	129 000 €



How to reduce management expenses in terms of money and time

- **Have a deadline for accepting the invitation sent by the Grant Holder**

participants have max. **X** days (to be decided by MC) to accept the official invitations otherwise the GH can cancel them (handle with care... reminder before cancellation)

➤ **better idea of the meeting expenditure**



Obligations

- **WG and MC meetings minutes to be sent to the SO and AO and uploaded in e-COST**



Agenda

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 - COST Overview
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COST ACTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND GUIDELINES





Content

1. How are COST Actions funded?
2. COST Grant System
3. The Grant Holder
4. How is the Grant paid?
5. Networking Tools:
 - a) Meetings- category, eligibility and reimbursement rules
 - b) Local organizer support
 - c) Short Term Scientific Missions
 - d) Training Schools
 - e) Dissemination
6. Communication with COST Association

How are COST Actions funded?

- ❑ **1st MC Meeting** is administered and paid directly by COST Association (out of the Action's budget)
- ❑ **After the 1st MC Meeting** all approved Action's activities are administered by the Grant Holder and are funded through COST Grant System (CGS)



COST GRANT SYSTEM

- ❑ Funds are administered by a selected **Grant Holder**
- ❑ **Grant Agreement** determines the obligations of the Grant Holder to COST
- ❑ Strict adherence to the administrative rules and guidelines set out in the **COST Vademecum**
- ❑ Annex A of the Action Grant Agreement is drawn from a Work and Budget plan
- ❑ The use of e-COST is mandatory

The Grant Holder

- ☐ Institution with Management Committee (MC) affiliation
- ☐ Must be a legal entity. It cannot be an individual
- ☐ Solvent and must be financially stable
- ☐ Must be able to abide by COST rules and guidelines (according to COST Vademecum) and comply with local taxation scheme
- ☐ Must be able to accept electronically signed documents



The Grant Holder

Must have



Capacity to support the coordination of the Action in line with **MC decisions**



Capacity to follow the administrative rules and guidelines set out in **COST Vademecum**

Responsibilities

Must ensure **4 positions:**



- Legal representative
- Financial Representative
- Grant Manager
- Scientific Representative

Grant Manager Tasks

- ☐ Support the Action when organizing meetings (ie. sending out invitations, the attendance list, writing minutes when asked, etc)
- ☐ Collect, verify and archive administrative documents required to process reimbursements and payments in line with the rules in the COST Vademecum
- ☐ Ensure separation of powers and avoid conflict of interest
- ☐ Archive documents up to 2 years after the end of H2020

Financial Support for the Grant Holder

- ❑ The Financial, Scientific, Administration and Coordination (**FSAC**) budget line is a fixed percentage contribution
- ❑ Can never represent more than 15% of the incurred eligible scientific expenditure and is defined in the approved Work and Budget Plan
- ❑ At the end of each grant period, the final FSAC amount is calculated by applying the initially defined and approved FSAC percentage to the actual eligible scientific expenses



Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)

 Bank charges

CGS- Grant Allocation and Payments

- ❑ First Grant Payment: 65% of the allocated Grant amount
- ❑ Second Grant payment: up to 35% on request
- ❑ There is no carryover of underspending from the previous Grant period. Any unspent funds will be deducted from the first payment of the allocated Grant amount in the subsequent Grant period.
- ❑ Activities are governed by **Multiple Grant Agreements / Work and Budget Plans** for each Grant Period specifying the maximum financial contribution provided by COST (namely the Grant Amount)

COST Networking Tools

- ☐ Meetings
- ☐ Training Schools
- ☐ Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)
- ☐ Dissemination

Meeting Types

Management Committee Meetings

- Up to 2 MC members per meeting per country can be reimbursed
- Should not last more than 1 day
- Maximum 2 meetings per year

Core Group Meetings

- Should not last more than 1 day

Meeting Types

Working Group Meetings, Workshop Conference

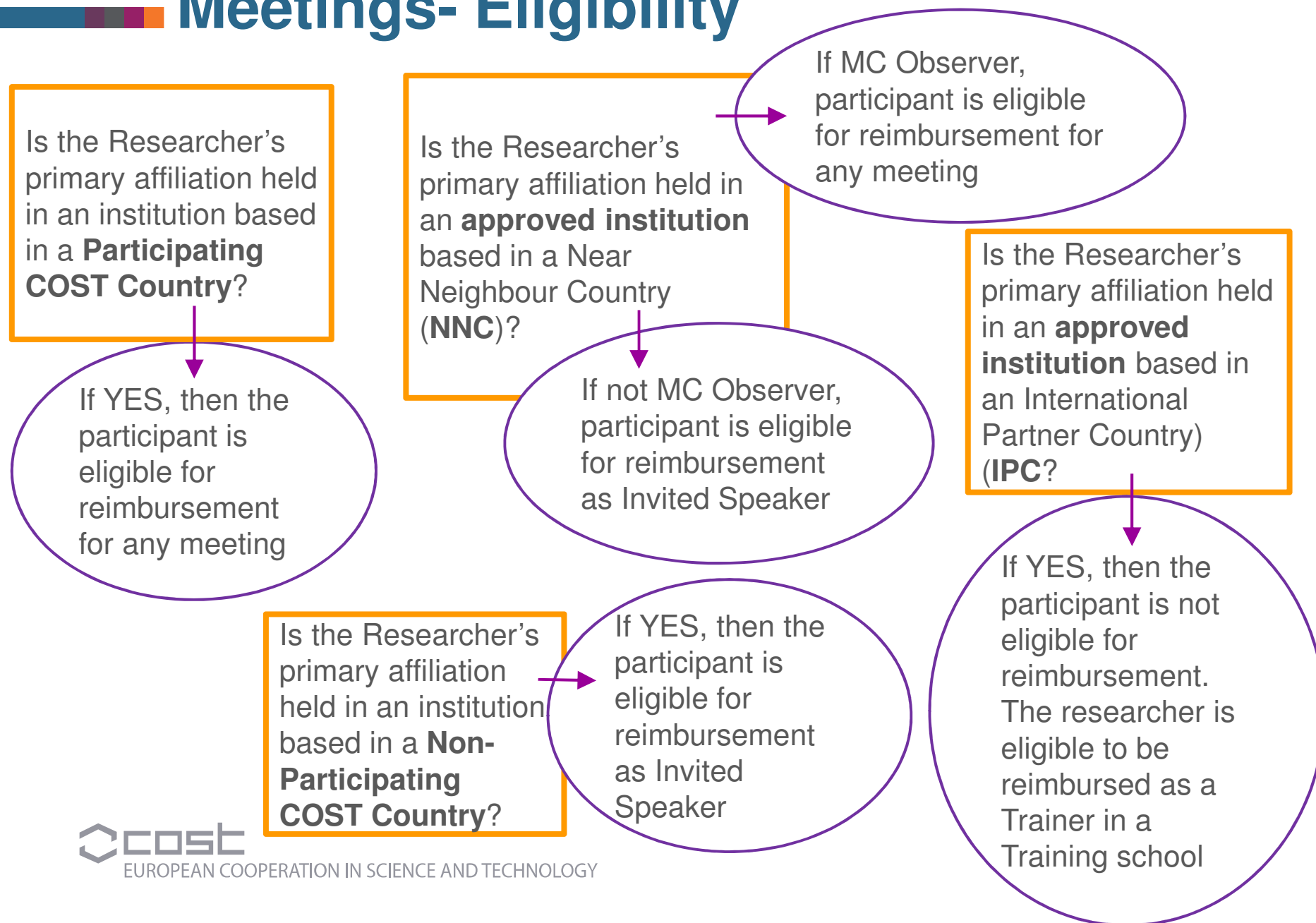
- Up to a Maximum of 4 Invited Speakers can be reimbursed per meeting
- The Invited Speaker can be invited only once during the lifetime of an Action

Meeting Types

Dissemination Meeting

- A maximum of two MC members per Grant **Period** are eligible to be reimbursed at dissemination Meetings
- The Speaker must be listed in the official programme of the conference representing the respective COST Action
- Up to EUR 500 can be claimed by eligible participants for conference fees on top of their travel expenses and their accommodation and meal allowances

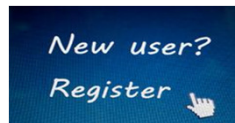
Meetings- Eligibility



What must all eligible participants do to be reimbursed under the COST Grant System?

1 - On-line registration of personal and bank details:

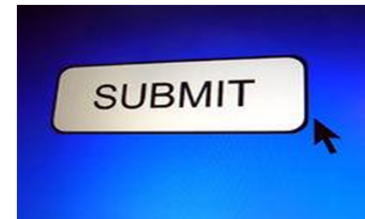
<https://e-services.cost.eu/user/login>



2 - Accept the invitation sent out via e-cost and sign the relevant attendance list during the meeting – No signature means no reimbursement (except Dissemination Meetings)



3 - Complete online all expenses after the meeting (claim available through the link contained within the invitation e-mail)



- ❑ **Any derogation** from the eligibility rules requires explicit **prior written agreement from COST Association**
- ❑ **Deadline for claim form submission = 30 days** from end date of meeting



Travel expenses - What can be claimed?

Flight expenses:

Economy class flight tickets can be reimbursed up to the value of EUR 1200. Full itinerary is required, including booking class.

Car travel expenses:

Up to a maximum distance of 2 000 km at EUR 0.20 per km can be claimed by eligible participants and EUR 0.30 per km can be claimed when 2 or more eligible participants are travelling to the approved COST activity. Only the driver can be reimbursed. Proof of distance is required.

Train or Bus expenses:

From home country to the approved COST meeting and return. First and second class train tickets are eligible to be reimbursed (Supplements for fast trains and sleepers are eligible expenses).

Travel expenses - What can be claimed?

Local transport expenses

Transport costs
(including bus, train, metro, and trams)
incurred travelling
between the
following
points:

- Home to Airport / train station
- Airport / train station to meeting venue / hotel
- Hotel to meeting venue
- Meeting venue to hotel
- Meeting venue / hotel to airport / train station
- Airport/train station back to home

If the claimed amount is less than EUR 25 for the entire journey no receipts are required to be submitted for reimbursement.

If the claimed amount exceeds EUR 25 for the entire journey receipts justifying the total amount claimed are required

Travel expenses - What can be claimed?

Taxi Expenses

- The use of taxi is allowed when no other means of public transport is available or when travel is required between 10pm and 7am on the dates of travel
- Up to a maximum of EUR 80 is eligible for the entire journey when the above conditions have been met.

Travel expenses - What can be claimed?

Other Eligible Expenses:

- Ferry
- Visa fees relevant to attending the approved Action meetings
- Luggage fees
- Parking fees (i.e. airport or train station) must always be justified with a receipt

Accommodation expenses - What can be claimed?

- ❑ **Accommodation expenses** based on flat rates only = up to a max of EUR 120 / person / night (breakfast included). No receipts required.
- ❑ **Maximum number of nights** can be claimed = the number of attended meeting days as confirmed by the daily signed attendance list + 1 night
- ❑ The MC **can decide to reduce** the accommodation flat rate for any given meeting. All eligible participants must receive the same flat rate allowance

Meal Allowance – How does it work?

- ❑ Expenses based on flat rates only = maximum of EUR 20 / person / **meal**. No receipts required.
- ❑ Allowance depends on the participants travel times
- ❑ Meals provided by the Local Organiser have to be deducted from the participant's meal allowance
- ❑ The MC **can decide to reduce** the meal allowance flat rate for each given meeting. All eligible participants must receive the same flat rate allowance

Meeting Participation - Non-eligible expenses

Registration, honorarium or lecture fees (Except for approved Dissemination Meetings – conference fees are eligible)

Printing costs, postage expenses

Wi-Fi-telephone, internet and minibar consumption

Life and medical insurance
Travel cancelation insurance
Luggage insurance

Overnight stay during a trip by car, fuel costs, road tolls and car rental costs

Regional or national taxation fees, stamp duty expenses

Transportation expenses associated with travelling to an embassy or consulate to obtain a visa

(LOS) Local Organiser Support

Eligible Expenses:

- ☐ Rental of room & technical equipment;
- ☐ Photocopying, printing of programmes, book of abstracts, proceedings, etc.;
- ☐ Phone, fax, mailing for announcements;
- ☐ Support of administrative cost - up to a maximum 15% of the total LOS amount claimed;
- ☐ Transportation (i.e. field trips if relevant to the topic of the meeting and scientifically justified);

(LOS) Local Organiser Support

Eligible Expenses:

- ☐ Coffee breaks and light refreshments including light lunches (such as sandwiches), which will have to be deducted from the daily allowance of the reimbursed participants;
- ☐ One single networking meal (lunch or dinner) for the entire meeting duration, which will have to be deducted from the daily allowance of the reimbursed participants;
- ☐ Consumables purchased for Training Schools such as laboratory materials, rental of scientific equipment. The quantity purchased shall be coherent with the number of participants.

(LOS) Local Organiser Support - 1

Non-Eligible Expenses:

- ☐ VAT and other indirect taxes
- ☐ Any meal exceeding the one single networking dinner limit
- ☐ Hotel group reservations
- ☐ Translation expenses
- ☐ Field trip expenses without relevant scientific justification
- ☐ Purchase of technical equipment and IT devices (e.g. Mobile phones, computers, printers...)
- ☐ Any additional expenses not listed in the list of eligible expenses

(LOS) Local Organiser Support - 3

2 modalities for claiming the LOS

A lump sum of 20 EUR per participant/per each day can be claimed as evidenced by the signed attendance list for each day the participant attends the approved meeting

A Local Organiser can claim against the actual eligible expenses incurred minus VAT

☐ Up to a maximum of EUR 5 000 no invoices are required

☐ Up to a maximum of EUR 10 000 can be claimed
☐ Invoices must be uploaded onto e-cost

☐ A final breakdown of expenses must be submitted
☐ Only to be considered if the eligible expenses cannot be covered by the lump sum modality

Final considerations: Optimise your Budget

- ☐ Consider the availability of cheap public transport in the locality of the meeting and the availability of low cost airlines that service the meeting destination
- ☐ Send Invitations to eligible participants as early as possible
- ☐ Meetings can be also held at COST Association premises
- ☐ Co-located meetings can claim for one Local Organizer Support including Training Schools
- ☐ Derogations from the rules require COST approval prior to the expense being incurred

Short Term Scientific Mission - STSM

- ❑ Financial support is only a **contribution**:
 - Allowance per day: maximum of EUR 160
 - Travel costs: maximum of EUR 500
 - In total a maximum of **EUR 2500** for up to 90 days
- ❑ Duration: *minimum 5 working days, maximum 90 days*
- ❑ Provision: **Early Career Investigators** (PhD + 8 years) can claim up to maximum **EUR 3500** between **91 days** and **180 days**
- ❑ All STSM activities must occur in their entirety within one Grant Period
- ❑ Selection of Grantees: direct responsibility of the MC

STSM – from where to where?

From a Participating COST country:

- To another Participating COST country
- To an approved NNC institution
- To an approved IPC institution
- To an approved specific organization

From an approved NNC institution

- To a participating COST country

From an approved European RTD Organisation

- To a Participating COST country

Training Schools

Recommended Duration: Normally between 3 days and 2 weeks

Recommended Ratio: 3 Trainees per 1 Trainer

Support for:

- ☐ **Trainers:** Same as the COST reimbursement rules for meetings (travel expenses, accommodation and meals allowance), no honoraria or lecture fees
- ☐ **Trainees:** fixed grants – maximum Grant EUR 1500
- ☐ **Organisational expenses:** Local Organiser Support (LOS) can be claimed

Location: Can be held in a Participation COST Country or in an approved NNC Institution

Training Schools - Eligibility

Trainers eligible for reimbursement:

- ☐ From Participating COST Countries
- ☐ From approved NNC Institutions
- ☐ From approved IPC Institutions
- ☐ From approved European RTD Organisations
- ☐ Up to a Maximum of 4 invited speakers can be invited as Trainers for any individual Training School

Trainees eligible for funding:

- ☐ From all COST Countries
- ☐ From approved NNC Institutions
- ☐ From approved European RTD Organisations

Dissemination

Eligible expenses:

- ☐ Website
- ☐ Material for display or distribution (flyers, posters)
- ☐ Multimedia content
- ☐ Publications (peer-reviewed journal papers, book of abstracts, handbooks, guideline, etc)
- ☐ Open access licenses or the purchase and distribution of a fixed number of copies of high-quality publications produced by a renowned publisher (usually books or journals) relating to the production of approved publications
- ☐ Proofreading, editing, production and distribution expenses

Dissemination

Non-Eligible expenses:

- ☐ Creation of databases meant for dissemination purposes
- ☐ Sponsorship for COST Action booths at Conferences or other events
- ☐ VAT Amounts listed on invoices cannot be reimbursed

Communication with COST

- ☐ Communicate only outcomes of MC decisions to COST
- ☐ Do not include COST in internal discussions
- ☐ Always indicate the Action number in every correspondence



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References

Document COST 134/14:

“COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment”, *Annex I: Rules of Procedure for COST Action Management Committees*

Available for download at:

<http://www.cost.eu/participate>



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Agenda

9. Workplan for the implementation of the COST Action (based on the Memorandum of Understanding – Presentation of the Action by the elected Chair)
 - MoU Objectives and working programme
 - Working method - organisation and management (including Working Groups)
 - Distribution of tasks
 - Strategy for Implementing COST policies: Excellence and Inclusiveness, International Cooperation and SME and Industry Cooperation
10. Appointment of horizontal roles
 - Appointment of Working Group (WG) Leaders
 - Any other horizontal roles (e.g. STSM Coordinator, Website Host Institution, Composition of Core Group (CG))
11. Draft Work and Budget (W&B) Plan for the first Grant Period (GP)
 - Grant Period Goals and Tasks
 - Approval of the FSAC (%) for the Grant Holder institution
12. Any Other Business (AOB)
13. Closing



Acknowledging COST

- ❑ All COST funded material needs to respect corporate branding:
 - ❑ COST logo
 - ❑ EU emblem
 - ❑ Disclaimer (the views expressed in the dissemination material belongs solely to the Action and should not in any way be attributed to COST)
- ❑ See instructions at www.cost.eu/visualidentity

IPC Institution participation request

Final MC approval needed (**2 requests** listed in the approved proposal):

1. University of Science and Technology of China National Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory, China
2. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA

COST Action CM1404

http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/cmst/Actions/CM1404

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▶ **Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST)**

→ Actions

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▶ Food and Agriculture (FA)

▶ Forests, their Products and Services (FPS)

▶ Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health (ISCH)

▶ Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

▶ Materials, Physics and Nanosciences (MPNS)

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▶ Trans-Domain Proposals

▶ COST Action Networking Tools

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CMST COST Action CM1404

Chemistry of Smart Energy Carriers and Technologies (SMARTCATS)

Descriptions are provided by the Actions directly via e-COST.


The primary aim of the proposed Action is to create a Europe-wide network of world leading academic and research institutions and key industries to promote the use of smart energy carriers on a large scale in order to increase fuel flexibility and carbon efficiency of energy production and to support distributed energy generation strategies. The approach to accomplish this aim is twofold. On the one hand, academic/research organizations will devote strong efforts to bring together fundamental/advanced numerical and diagnostic tools to improve the understanding of combustion kinetics and by-products formation of smart energy carriers at micro/meso-scale levels. On the other hand, the intended exchange between academic and industrial partners will support the optimization of tools developed in the Action exploiting the way that smart energy carriers could be utilised at the macro-scale in advanced combustion technology devices. This interaction will lead to the identification of standards and criteria for development of a searchable database and Internet tool devoted to integration of experimental and numerical combustion chemical/physical data which will provide an easy access to such information relevant to smart energy carrier components.

Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies COST Action CM1404

▶ Description

▶ Parties

▶ Management Committee



General Information*

Proposer of the Action:
[Dr. Mariarosaria DE JOANNON](#)

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

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


Downloads*

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

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

Websites*

Domain website:
<http://www.cost.eu/cmst>


EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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COST: Important documents

<http://www.cost.eu/participate>

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▶ Join an Existing COST Action

▶ Become a COST Expert

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Participate

Scientists and researchers from the 35 COST Member Countries and the Cooperating State can participate in science and technology networks known as COST Actions by:



- Submitting a proposal for a new COST Action
- Joining an existing COST Action
- Becoming involved in specific COST Action activities
- Becoming a COST Expert

What are COST Actions?

COST Actions are bottom-up science and technology networks, open to researchers and stakeholders with a duration of four years. They are active through a range of [networking tools](#), such as workshops, conferences, training schools, short-term scientific missions (STSMs), and dissemination activities. **COST does not fund research itself.**

COST prides in its support for high-risk, innovative and emerging research themes. However, **COST does not set any research priorities.**

COST Actions can also pave the way to or establish synergies with [EU-funded research projects](#). Moreover, collaboration within research projects can also lead to new [Actions](#), thus enhancing the networking potential of such consortia.

COST Implementation Rules

- ▶ A. Rules for Participation in and Implementation of COST Activities (132/14) (PDF, 335 kB)
- ▶ B.1. COST Action Proposal Submission Evaluation and Approval (133/14) (PDF, 267 kB)
- ▶ B.2. COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment (134/14) (PDF, 341 kB)
- ▶ B.3. COST International Cooperation and Specific Organisations Participation (135/14) (PDF, 214 kB)
- ▶ SESA Guidelines (PDF, 1 MB)

Vademecum

- ▶ COST Vademecum (PDF, 3 MB)

COST Action Template Centre

- ▶ Final Achievement Report - MC Chair (DOCX, 210 kB)
- ▶ Grant Agreement Template (PDF, 310 kB)
- ▶ e-COST Action Management Tool User Guide (eCAMT) (PDF, 2 MB)

Key Documents

- ▶ Open Call for Proposals (PDF, 162 kB)
- ▶ Technical Annex (DOCX, 113 kB)

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