



Growing
ideas
through
networks

COST Action: A comprehensive tool for networkers

INSECTA 2017

Berlin, 08/09/2017



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme
of the European Union

Mafalda Quintas
Science Officer

mafalda.quintas@cost.eu

What is COST?

- ❑ A programme that supports open networks of people working together on a research and innovation topic
- ❑ The first initiative for bringing together European researchers and is governed by Member Countries

Science is about people!



COST Actions: spaces where ideas and people can grow without limits

- A **truly open** system
 - Welcoming any novel and original idea; all fields of S&T; all partners (public and private, big and small); all career stages; all COST Countries and fostering international participation.
- Selected via a **competitive** COST Open Call
- Based on a joint work plan **solving a R&I question**
- A **network of research and innovation actors** with their own funded research
- Minimum participation - 7 COST Countries

“The trick to having good ideas is not to sit around in glorious isolation and try to think big thoughts. The trick is to get more parts on the table.”

Steven Johnson, Where Good Ideas Come From: The Natural History of Innovation



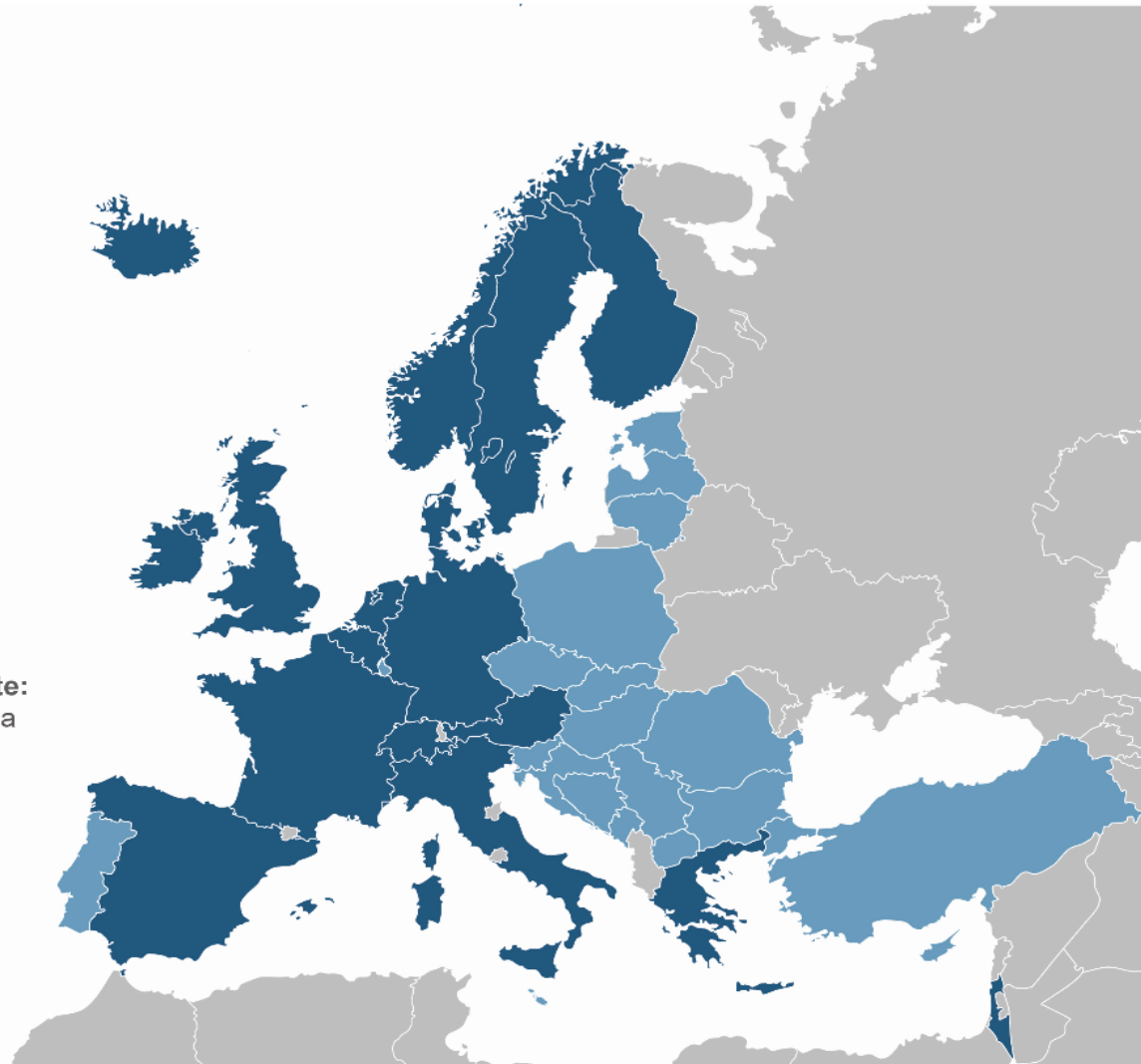
COST Countries

● **EU 13:**
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Estonia
Hungary
Latvia
Lithuania
Malta
Poland
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia

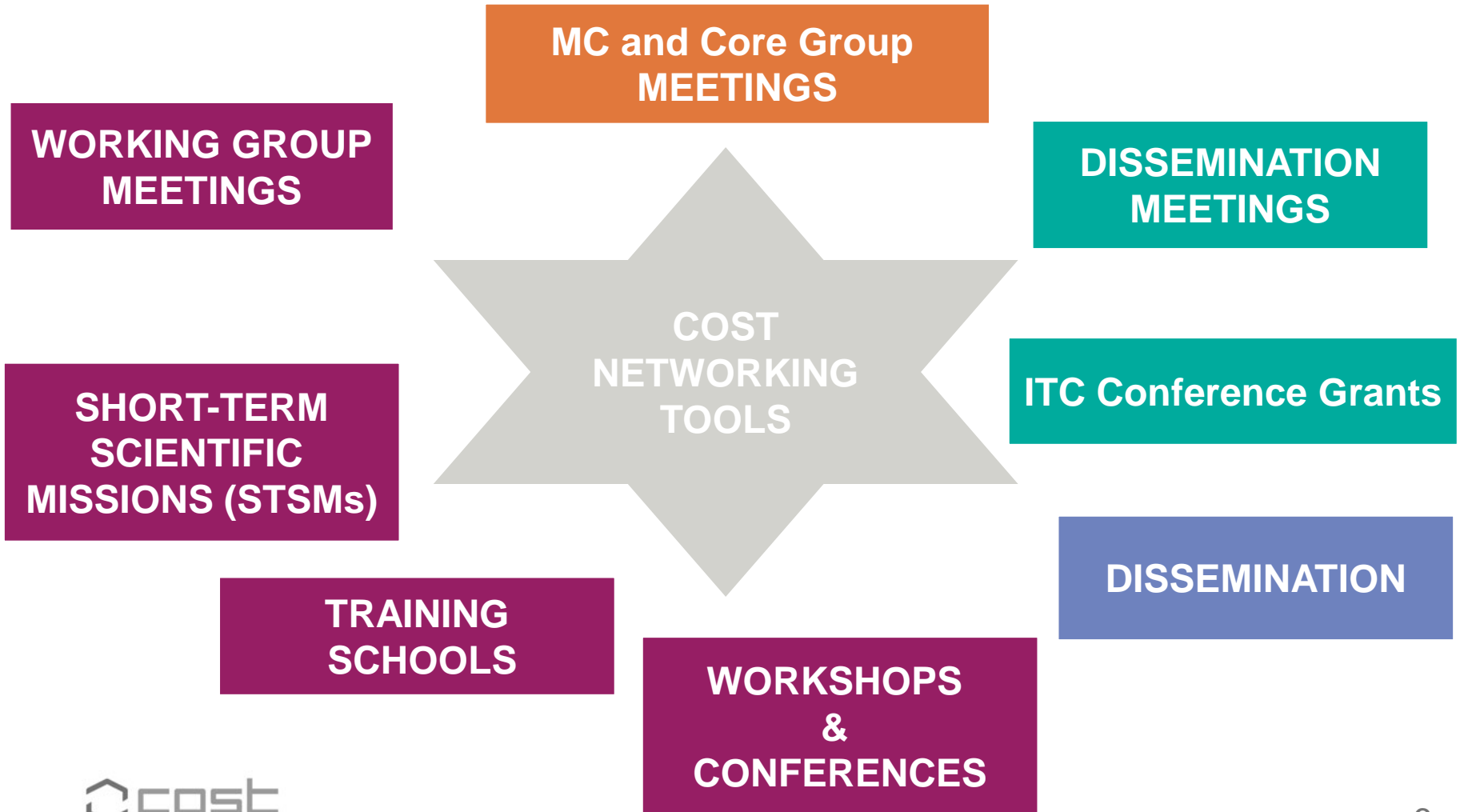
EU Candidates:
fYR Macedonia
Montenegro
Republic of Serbia
Turkey

EU Potential Candidate:
Bosnia and Herzegovina

EU Countries targeted by EC:
Luxembourg
Portugal



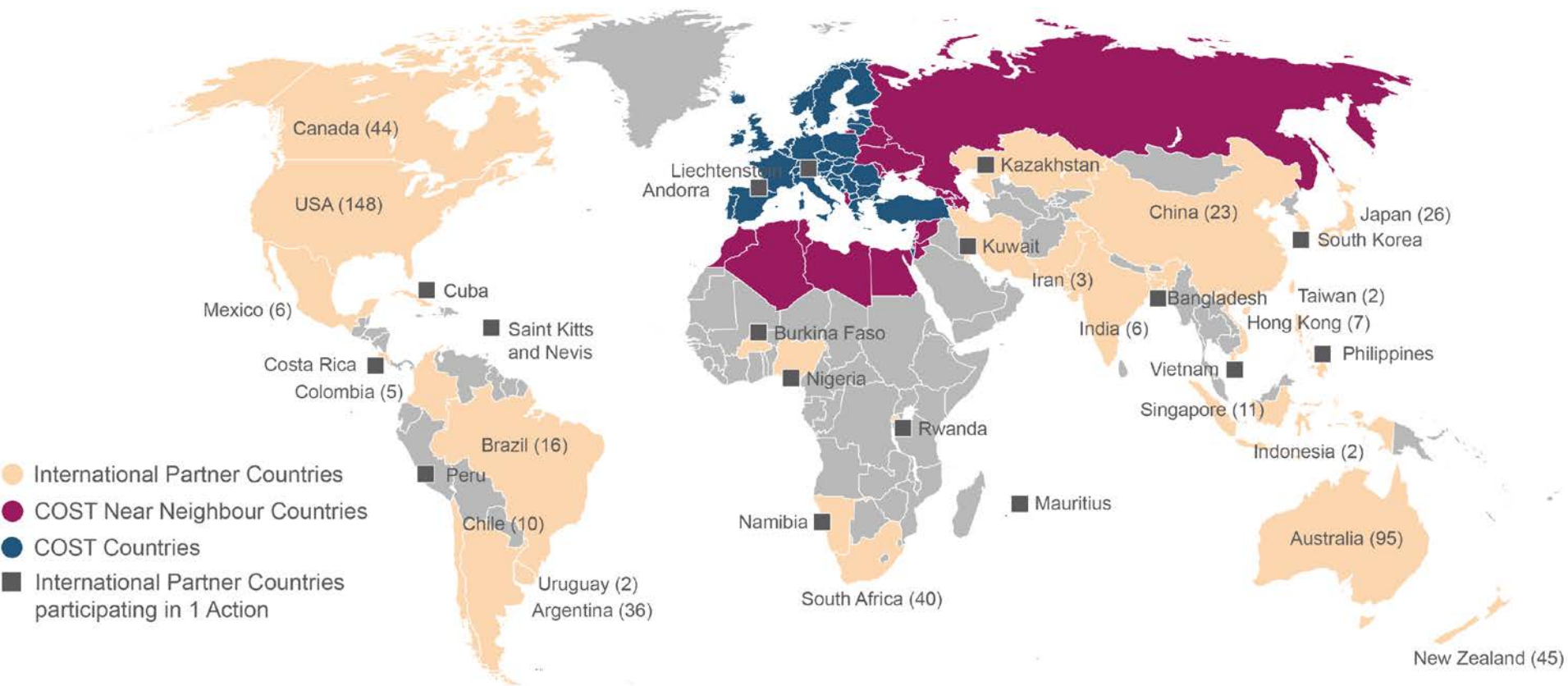
What is funded by a COST Action?



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
- International Organisations



How to Participate?

1. Join a running Action

- Find an Action on the topic of your research :
http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/all_actions
- Read the MoU available on the COST website and learn about the WGs, tasks and activities.
- Contact the Action Chair and/or the MC member of your country
- Ask to be nominated MC (if places available) or participate as WG member.
 - MC nomination is done by the COST National Coordinators
 - WG participation is approved by the MC of the Action

How to Participate?

2. Submit a proposal to COST Open Call

- **SUBMISSION:** One-stage submission process (via e-COST)
- **EVALUATION:**
 - **Step 1:** External Remote Evaluation by **independent External Experts**
 - **Step 2:** Revision and Quality Check by **ad hoc Review Panels**
- **SELECTION:** **COST Scientific Committee (SC)**
- **APPROVAL:** **COST Committee of Senior Officials (CSO)**

**NEXT COLLECTION DATE:
25 April 2017**

Open Call Tips & Tricks

Proposal Submission

SECTION		
GENERAL FEATURES	Online tool Mandatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Expertise needed for Evaluation
TECHNICAL ANNEX	PDF Mandatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anonymity
REFERENCES	Online tool Optional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anonymity
COST MISSION & POLICIES	Online tool Mandatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COST mission and Policy for Excellence and Inclusiveness
NETWORK of PROPOSERS	Online tool Mandatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 7 researchers from 7 COST Member Countries and/or Cooperating State. Min for participation of ITC Statistical Information that will be used for evaluation

Open Call Tips & Tricks

Proposal Submission - Technical Annex

SECTIONS	SUB-SECTIONS
S&T EXCELLENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Challenge ▪ Objectives ▪ Progress beyond the State-of-the-art and Innovation Potential ▪ Added value of networking
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expected Impact ▪ Measures to Maximise Impact ▪ Potential for Innovation versus Risk Level
IMPLEMENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Description of the Work Plan ▪ Management Structures & Procedures ▪ Network as a whole

Open Call Tips & Tricks

- **Read the Rules and Guidelines😊!**
- **The Technical Annex of successful proposals is the MoU that is available on the COST website (look for Actions with codes CAXXXXX)**
- **Be specific in what you want to achieve – focus on your research question**
- **Show how you will use the Networking tools to achieve your objectives and deliverables**

INSECTS IN COST

**FA1402 : Improving Allergy Risk Assessment Strategy for new food proteins (ImpARAS)
08 December 2014 - 08 December 2018**

- ▶ Submit your COST Action proposal
- ▶ Join an Existing COST Action
- ▶ Become a COST Expert

Home | Participate

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

- ▶ Rules for Participation in and Implementation of COST Activities (COST 132-14) (PDF, 352 kB)
- ▶ Action Proposal Submission Evaluation Selection and Approval (COST 133-14) (PDF, 286 kB)
- ▶ Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment (COST 134-14) (PDF, 355 kB)
- ▶ International Cooperation and Specific Organisations Participation (COST 135-14) (PDF, 220 kB)

Vademecum

- ▶ COST Vademecum (PDF, 3 MB)

COST Action Template Centre

- ▶ COST Grant Agreement Template (PDF, 121 kB)
- ▶ Final Achievement Report Template - MC Chair (DOCX, 177 kB)
- ▶ Final Assessment Report Template - Action Rapporteur (DOCX, 138 kB)
- ▶ Monitoring Progress Report Template - MC Chair (DOCX, 171 kB)
- ▶ Monitoring Progress Review Template - Action Rapporteur (DOCX, 134 kB)
- ▶ Final Action Dissemination Grant request form (DOCX, 117 kB)
- ▶ e-COST Action Management Tool User Guide (eCAMT) (PDF, 2 MB)

Follow and engage with us on social media



Thank you