

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA GRANTS WEEK

COST Info Day



Venue: University of Malta

Date: 21 March, 2022



Funded by the Horizon 2020
Framework Programme
of the European Union



Programme

10:00 - 10:05	Welcome to COST! Welcome address by Prof. Janet Mifsud, COST CNC CSO Malta
10:05 - 10:20	COST: Promoting and Spreading Research Excellence Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association
10:20 - 10:40	What are COST Actions and how to participate in them? Mr Bart Veys, Policy Officer, COST Association
10:40 - 11:00	<i>Short break</i>
11:00 - 11:15	National participation in COST - data and nomination procedures Prof. Janet Mifsud, COST CNC CSO Malta
11:15 - 12:00	What is the added value and impact of participating in a COST Action? Examples of experience and best practice Chair: Dr Melchior Cini, former COST Deputy CNC CSO Panel: Prof. Luciano Mule Stagno, President COST Scientific Committee; Prof. Jean Calleja Agius, COST action Coordinator; Dr Melissa Formosa, COST MC member; Prof. Charles Galdies, COST MC member; Dr Sebastiano D'Amico, COST MC member
12:00 -12:15	Practical aspects for organising a COST event hosted by the University of Malta Ms Veronica Barbara, Conference Unit, University of Malta
12:15 - 12:30	Q&A
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch (to be settled at own expense)</i>
14:00 - 14:45	Group work : How to prepare and coordinate a successful proposal and host a COST event in Malta? Group 1: Moderator: Mr Bart Veys, COST Association; Panel: Dr Lourdes Farrugia, COST action Coordinator; Dr Melissa Formosa COST MC Member; Group 2: Moderator: Prof. Luciano Mule-Stagno, President COST Scientific Committee; Panel: Dr Sue Vella, COST MC Member; Dr Sebastiano D'Amico, COST MC Member
14:45 - 15:30	Presentation of outcomes from group work: Moderator: Mr Stephen Borg, Deputy COST CNC CSO
15:30	End of the day - announcements for the next day schedule

COST: Promoting and Spreading Research Excellence

Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director of the COST Association



What are COST Actions and how to participate in them?

Mr Bart Veys, Policy Officer, COST Association



National participation in COST - data and nomination procedures

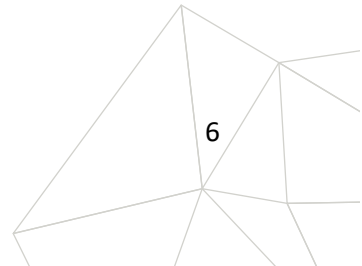
Prof. Janet Mifsud, COST CNC CSO Malta



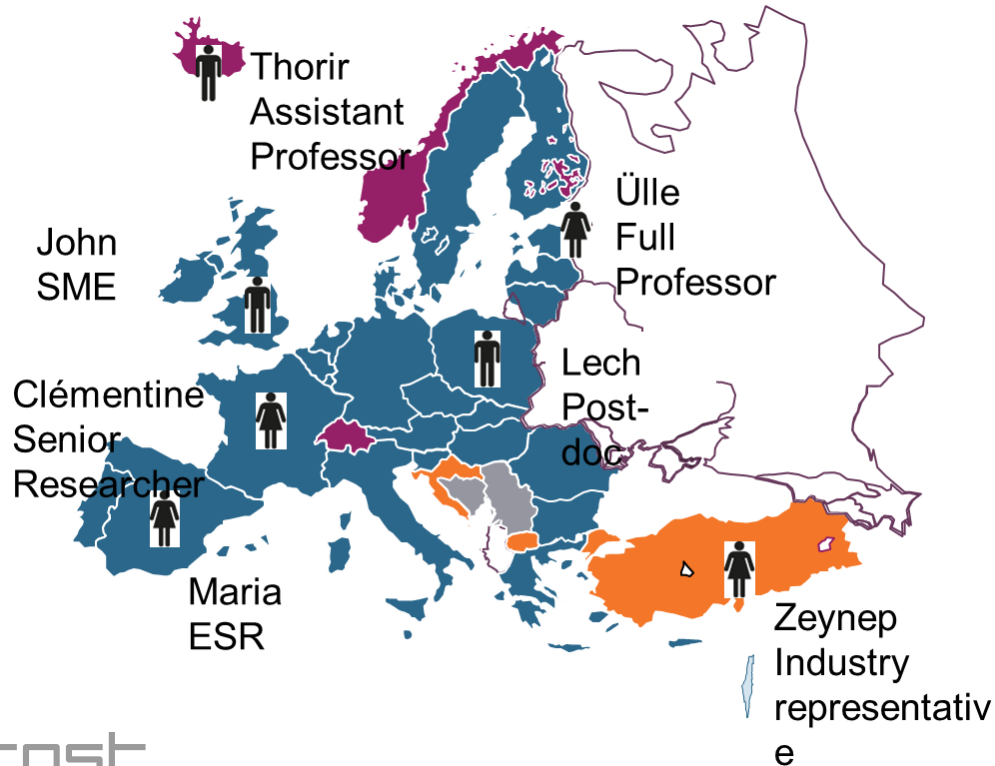
What is a COST action?



- **COST Actions are networks** integrating externally funded research, with a minimum of 5 participating COST countries. They receive a financial contribution based on a 4-year joint work programme for:
 - **Scientific/Working Group meetings**
 - **Workshops and Seminars**
 - **Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)**
 - **Training Schools**
 - **Dissemination activities**



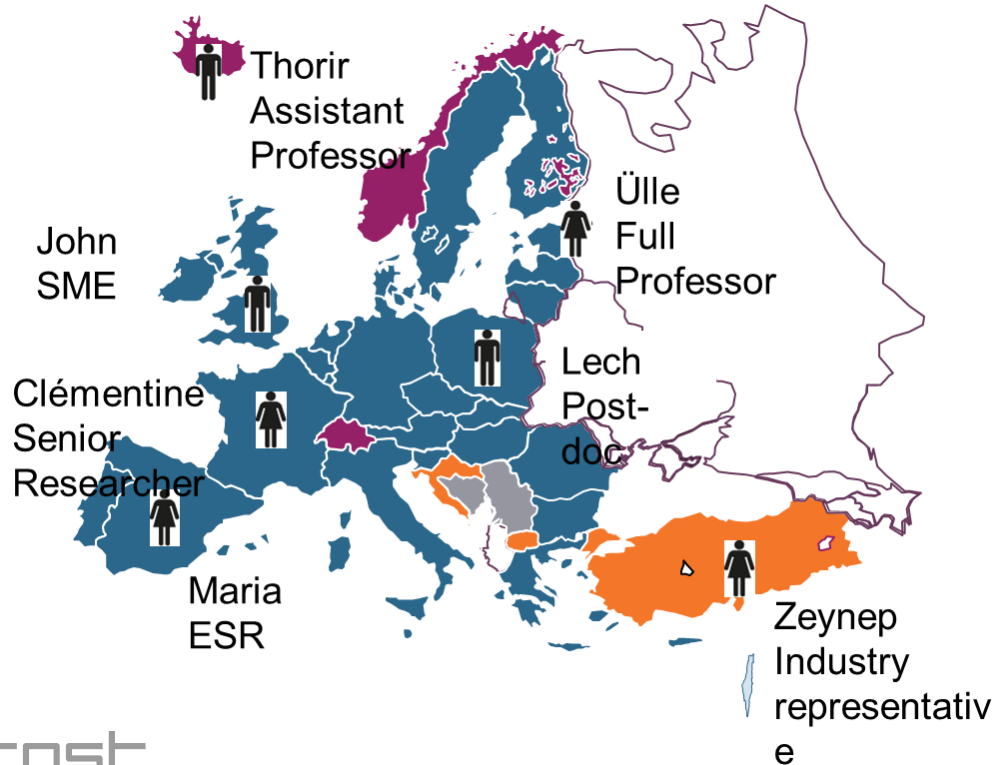
How is a COST action set up?



**Main proposer
contacts potential
secondary proposers
to join the COST
proposal....**

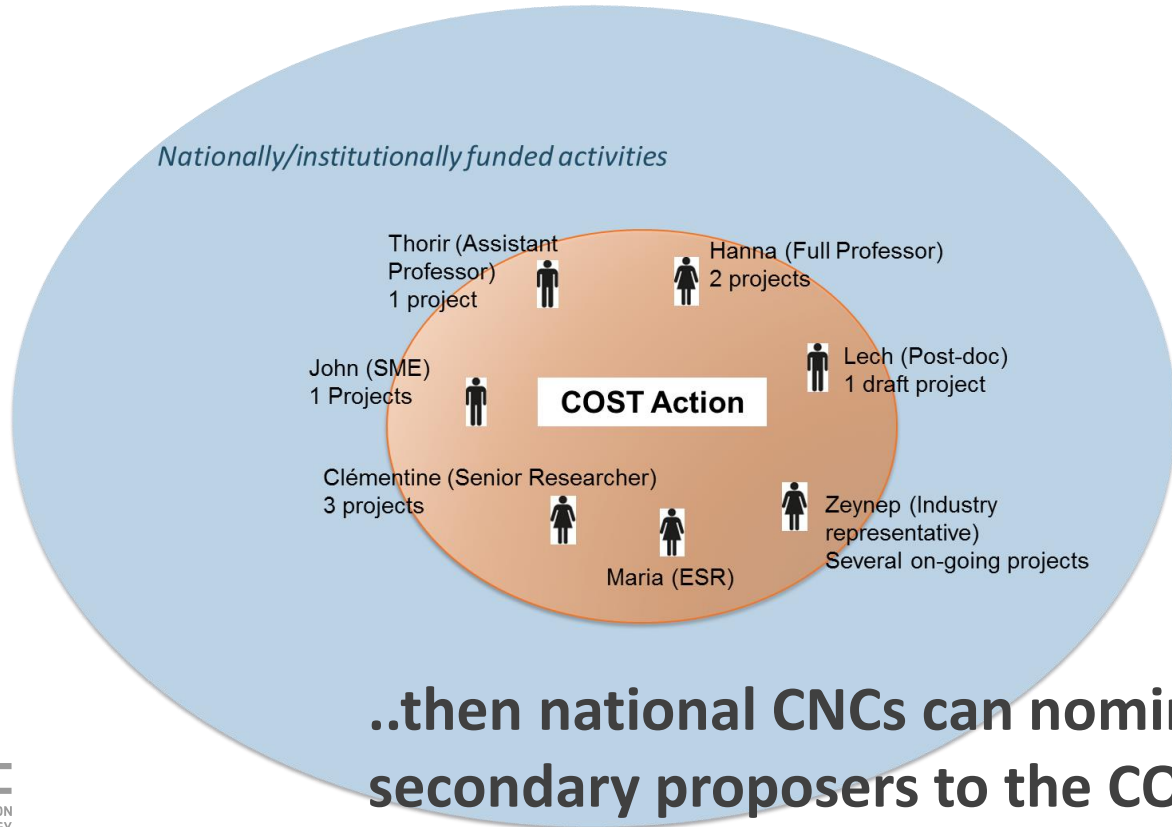
**With a focus on
inclusion of ITC
countries**

Evaluation of COST actions...

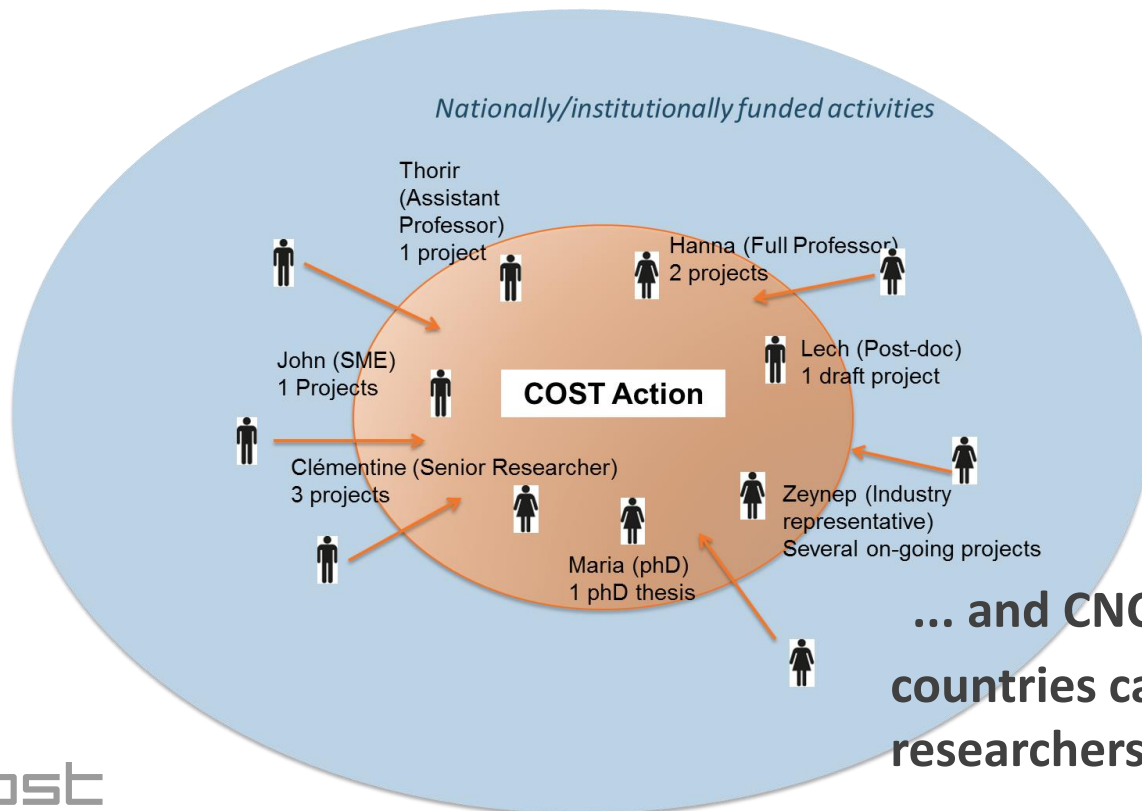


This is coordinated by the COST scientific committee who appoint experts and reviewers.

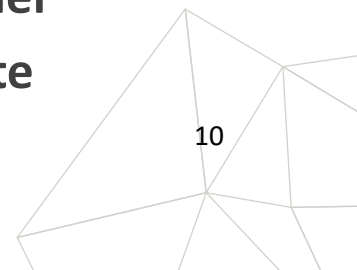
If a COST action is approved..



Joining an approved COST action



... and CNCs from other countries can nominate researchers too...





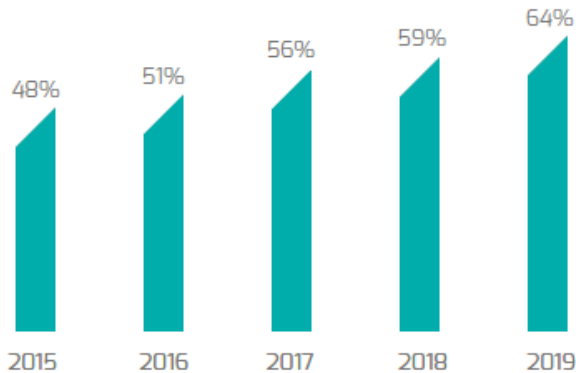
Bottom-up and open networking instrument:

- networking of researchers
- all fields of S&T (including interdisciplinary, new and emergent fields)
- any novel and original idea (innovative)
- all partners (public and private, big and small)
- all career stages (young and senior investigators)
- all countries

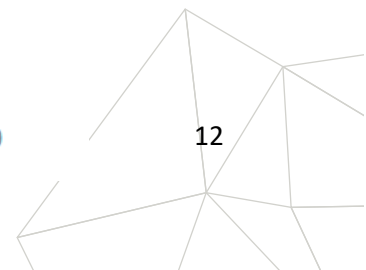
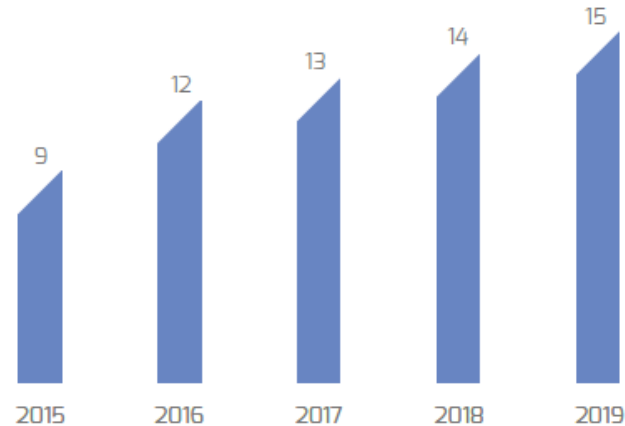


Since 2010, Malta's participation in COST continued to increase several times fold. In 2020, Malta participated in 200 Actions out of 291 Actions running at any time of the year (69%).

COUNTRY REPRESENTATION IN COST ACTIONS

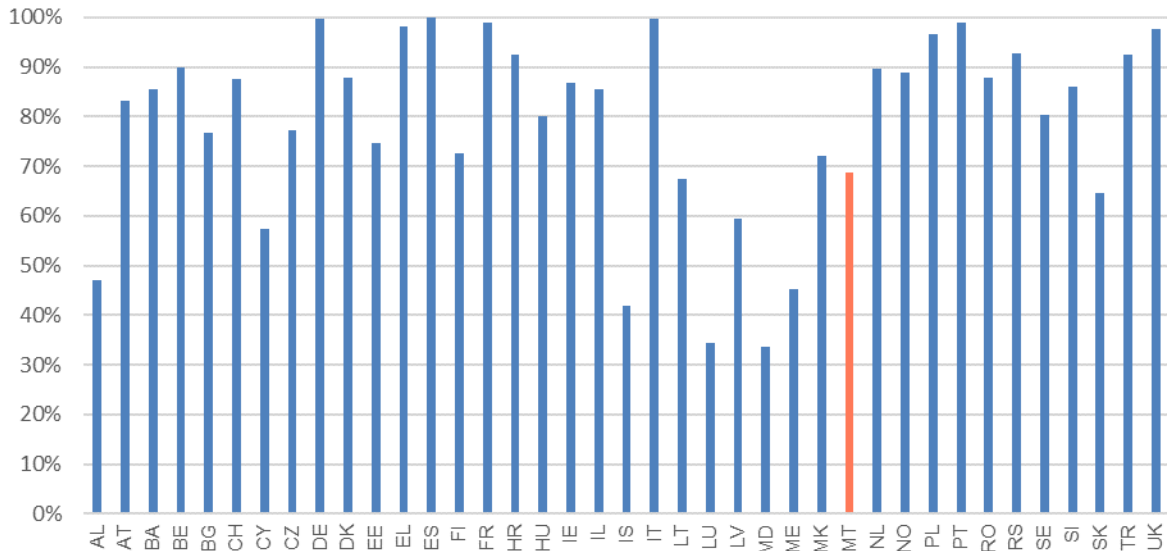


LEADERSHIP POSITIONS IN COST ACTIONS



COST in Malta

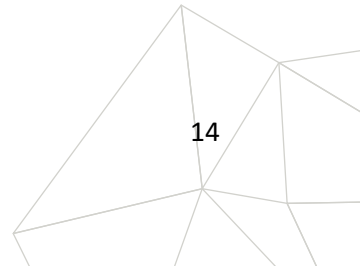
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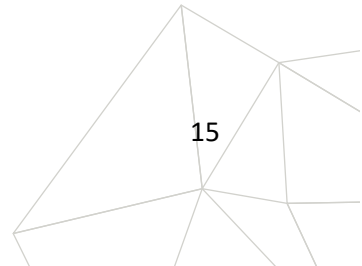
How can I participate in COST?



- Each country has different procedures
- But basically each nomination is on a country basis made by the CNC, on behalf of the COST managing authority, usually the Science Council. In Malta this is MCST.



How to start? www.cost.eu

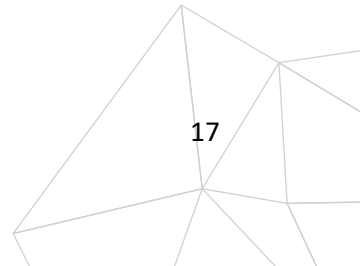


How to start?



- Go to www.cost.eu
- Click on search facility
- Click on All actions
- Put in a key word
- Look for actions which are just approved (preferably)
- For more details on action check MOU

Or join the MCST mailing list....



How to join?



- Check the start date of the action
- Check if Malta already has two MC representatives in that action
- If not contact CNC
- Fill in application form
- Submit soft scanned signed copy (only please...)

Local procedures for applications

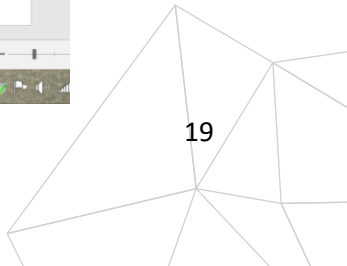


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6 words English (United Kingdom)





- MCST Application for COST
- CV is important (2 pages only please)
- Application checked by CNC
- Applicant must show how the action is relevant to his/her area of interest and expertise
- If more than 2 applicants, then priority is given to applicants from different institutes/departments to ensure the interdisciplinarity of COST actions

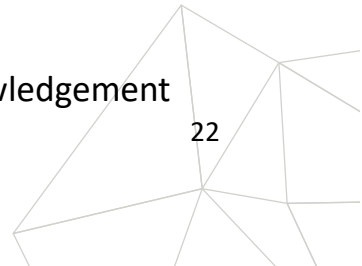


- Recommendation forwarded to MCST board for approval
- CNC informs applicant of approval
- CNC uploads applicant details on e-COST website
- Applicant receives link to accept nomination and upload details on e-COST
- Whole process takes, on average, around 2 weeks

Examples of COST actions..last published



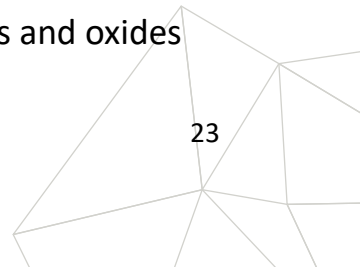
- CA20101 Plastics monitoring detection remediation recovery
- CA20102 Marine Animal Forest of the world
- CA20103 Biosecurity enhanced through training, evaluation and raising awareness
- CA20104 Network on evidence-based physical activity in old age
- CA20105 Slow Memory: Transformative Practices for Times of Uneven and Accelerating Change
- CA20106 Tomorrow's 'wheat of the sea': Ulva, a model for an innovative mariculture
- CA20107 Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity
- CA20108 FAIR Network of micrometeorological measurements
- CA20109 Modular energy islands for sustainability and resilience
- CA20110 RNA communication across kingdoms: new mechanisms and strategies in pathogen control
- CA20111 European Research Network on Formal Proofs
- CA20112 Platform of policy evaluation community for improved EU policies and better acknowledgement
- CA20113 A sound proteome for a sound body: targeting proteolysis for proteome remodelling
- CA20114 Therapeutical applications of Cold Plasmas



Examples of COST actions



- CA20115 European network on international student mobility: connecting research and practice
- CA20116 European Network for Innovative and Advanced Epitaxy
- CA20117 Converting molecular profiles of myeloid cells into biomarkers for inflammation and cancer
- CA20118 Three-dimensional forest ecosystem monitoring and better understanding by terrestrial-based technologies
- CA20119 European andrology network– research coordination, education and public awareness
- CA20120 Intelligence-Enabling Radio Communications for Seamless Inclusive Interactions
- CA20121 Bench to bedside transition for pharmacological regulation of NRF2 in noncommunicable diseases
- CA20122 Harmonizing clinical care and research on adrenal tumours in European countries
- CA20123 Intergovernmental Coordination from Local to European Governance
- CA20124 Maximising impact of multidisciplinary research in early diagnosis of neonatal brain injury
- CA20125 Applications for zoosporic parasites in aquatic systems
- CA20126 Network for research, innovation and product development on porous semiconductors and oxides



Examples of COST actions



- CA20127 Waste biorefinery technologies for accelerating sustainable energy processes
- CA20128 Promoting Innovation of fermented foods
- CA20129 Multiscale irradiation and chemistry driven processes and related technologies
- CA20130 European MIC Network – New paths for science, sustainability and standards
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- CA20131 Efficient Justice for All: Improving Court Efficiency through EU Benchmarking
- CA20132 Urban Tree Guard - Safeguarding European urban trees and forests through improved biosecurity
- CA20133 Cross-border transfer and development of sustainable resource recovery strategies towards zero waste
- CA20134 Traces as Research Agenda for Climate Change, Technology Studies, and Social Justice
- CA20135 Improving biomedical research by automated behaviour monitoring in the animal home-cage
- CA20136 Opportunistic precipitation sensing network
- CA20137 Making Early Career Researchers' Voices Heard for Gender Equality
- CA20138 Network on water-energy-food nexus for a low-carbon economy in Europe and beyond
- CA20139 Holistic design of taller timber buildings
- CA20140 CorEuStem: The European Network for Stem Cell Core Facilities

Recent changes in COST



MC members: changes to nomination process

- Up to **2 representatives** per COST Full or Cooperating Member, nominated by CNC following application
- Nominations now must be done by CNC **before** the first Management Committee meeting (MC1)
- After MC1 there needs to be tacit approval by the MC. To be given within 4 weeks of request
- Everyone who wants to join an Action (including the MC candidate) as from now for the new Actions, should register for WGs in a specific COST action.
- The **MC Chair, Vice-Chair and Grant Holder Scientific Representative** need to be MCs

Substitution of MC Members

- On 1st November, MC substitutes will be removed from the Action website and e-COST and applications for permanent substitutes for COST MC members **will no longer be possible**.
- There may be substitutes nominated for **a limited time** or specific meeting.
- Among the WG members affiliated in the same COST Member or Specific Organisation.
- They can **be nominated by the MC directly** when necessary, without the need to go through the relevant country COST CNC.
- If substitutes are involved in a Working Group (WG), as from 1st November they will be transferred to that WG and will appear on the Action website (as WG member).

Working group (WG) members: changes in role

- Researchers who are not MC members may request to apply as Working Group (WG) experts. This is done directly from the COST Action webpage.
- Researchers can apply from now as WG experts for the new Actions (**but please note that these applications will only be reviewed after the first MC meeting**).
- The researcher applies directly without the need to go through the relevant country COST CNC, using the following steps.
- NB: A WG member is not reimbursed for participating in COST Action activities. This remains a decision of the MC under the COST eligibility framework.

Working group (WG) members: how to apply

- Open the relevant COST action webpage from www.cost.eu
- Click on the “apply” button on the Action webpage



[Home](#) > [Browse Actions](#) > Network on evidence-based physical activity in old age

Description			Management Structure			Working Groups		
Number	Title				Leader			
1	Implementation and development of standards from evidence-based medicine (EBM).				TBA			
2	Data for utilising biomarkers and behavioural markers as well as environmental factors.				TBA			
3	Research methodology for technology-assisted PA and exercise interventions in old age.				TBA			
4	Network development, sustainability and dissemination of network results.				TBA			

Express your interest to join any of the working group by applying below.

It is required to have an e-COST profile to submit your application. If needed, [create it first](#) and then click 'Apply'.

Apply 

Working group (WG) members: how to apply



- Fill in the online application. This will be reviewed by the Management Committee after the first MC meeting.
- Please note that you need to create an e-cost profile to be able to fill in this form.
- The form also gives the option to declare your availability to join the MC or act as a substitute if needed for a short period of time.

cost
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Contact Us

Home / COST Actions / CA20103 / WG Applications

Working Group application

COST Action CA20103
Biosecurity Enhanced Through Training Evaluation and Raising Awareness (BETTER)

Please note that the Action Management Committee will decide on your application within 3 months after the 1st Management Committee Meeting (2021/2021).

Applicant profile details

Working Group 1

Scientific Background

Motivation

Working Group Contribution

Submit

New position: Grant Awarding Coordinator



- New position to coordinate the opening of calls, evaluation procedures and grants to support the following networking activities:
 - Mobility of researchers and innovators
 - Attendance of conferences organised by 3rd parties:
 - Capacity building (limited to young researchers and innovators from ITC or NNC)
 - Dissemination meeting related to COST Actions' work and results. **(NEW)**

Reimbursement of individuals



- **MC Meeting:**
 - Open to any relevant participant (even if not MC member) as attendee.
 - MC can decide to reimburse only 1 MC member per country.
- **Invited Speakers:**
 - No more limit of 4 per event
 - Concept substituted by ad hoc participant

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

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

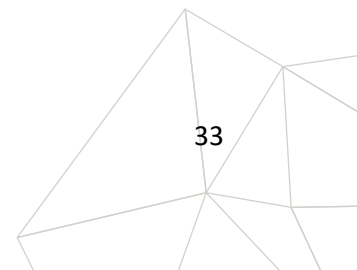


Location of Activities



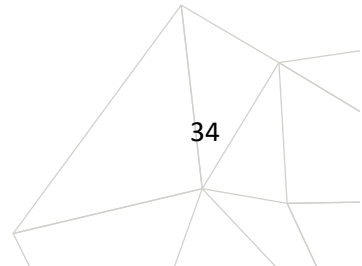
		Meetings	Training Schools and other networking activities
Virtual Environment		✓	✓
COST Members	Full or Cooperating Members	✓	✓
	Partner Member	✗	✓
NNC		✓	✓
IPC/Third State		✗	✓
Specific Organisations		Rule applicable to territory where it is vested	

✓ MC meeting: can be organised using virtual means.





Thank you



What is the added value and impact of participating in a COST Action? Examples of experience and best practice



Chair:

Dr Melchior Cini, former COST Deputy CNC CSO

Panel:

Prof. Luciano Mule Stagno, President COST Scientific Committee

Prof. Jean Calleja Agius, COST action Coordinator

Dr Melissa Formosa, COST MC member

Prof. Charles Galdies, COST MC member

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Practical aspects for organising a COST event hosted by the University of Malta

Ms Veronica Barbara, Conference Unit, University of Malta





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15:30	End of the day - announcements for the next day schedule

Group work : How to prepare and coordinate a successful proposal and host a COST event in Malta?

Group 1:

Moderator:

Mr Bart Veys, COST Association

Panel:

Dr Lourdes Farrugia, COST action Coordinator; Dr Melissa Formosa COST MC Member

Group 2:

Moderator:

Prof. Luciano Mule-Stagno, President COST Scientific Committee;

Panel:

Dr Sue Vella, COST MC Member; Dr Sebastiano D'Amico, COST MC Member



Presentation of outcomes from group work:

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