European Cooperation in Science & Technology

COST provides networking opportunities for researchers and innovators in order to strengthen Europe’s capacity to address scientific, technological and societal challenges.

**VISION**
Europe’s most empowering research programme

**MISSION**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**
- Promoting and spreading excellence
- Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science
- Empowering and retaining young researchers

Europe’s most empowering research programme
Key figures

- **270** Running Actions
- **203** Training schools
- **€155,000** Average annual budget of a COST Action
- **2,320** Short-term scientific missions
- **45,000** Researchers involved in COST Actions
- **€153 million** COST budget (in Horizon Europe for a 3-year period)
Spain in COST Actions (2022)

- Researchers participate in 100% of the running COST Actions

- 198 researchers are active in leadership positions

- In 2022, more than 1500 researchers were reimbursed for their participation in networking activities. 50% of them were young researchers.
How it works?

Main proposer

Secondary proposers

COST Action participants nominated by COST National Coordinators

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95% of researchers participating in COST Actions indicate that participation has led to career advancement.

In the course of the Actions, co-publications between active COST Action participants see an increase of about 55% compared to general co-publications.

Horizon 2020 reported success rate lies at 38%. Yearly, around €390 million of approved common research projects spin off from ending Actions.
EXAMPLES OF COST ACTIONS ON HEALTH/BIOMEDICAL SECTOR

• CA22114 – Maternal Perinatal stress and adverse outcomes in the offspring: maximizing infants' development
• CA22103 – A comprehensive network against brain cancer
• CA22170 – Tendon Regeneration Network
• CA21135 – Modelling immunotherapy response and toxicity in cancer
• CA22169 – European network to tackle metabolic alterations in Heart failure
• CA22125 - Precision medicine in biliary tract cancer
• CA22159 – National, International and Transnational Histories of healthcare 1850-2000
• CA21140 Interception of oral cancer development
An efficient networking tool
COST Actions
AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

COST provides funding for research coordination and capacity building activities.

COST is not funding salaries or infrastructures itself, but pools resources and research results by networking.

Network

- Memorandum of Understanding
- 4 years
- Min 7 countries, average participation 30 countries
- Research coordination and capacity building activities
- ~ €600,000 over lifetime
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Action Chair
- Vice-Chair

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MC)
- WG1
- WG2
- WG3

HORIZONTAL GROUPS
- WG4
- WG5
- WG6

GRANT HOLDER (GH)
- GH scientific rep.

WG leaders

COST ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION

Grant Awarding Coordinator
Science Comm. Coordinator
Networking Activities & Other Expenses

- MC & Core Group Meetings
- Working Group Meetings
- Training Schools
- Workshops & Conferences
- Virtual Networking Grants
- ITC Conference Grants for Young Researchers
- Dissemination Conference Grant
- Dissemination & Communication Products
- Other Expenses (LOS, OERSA)
- Working Group Meetings
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How to engage with COST?
How to engage with COST?

1. As a participant of a running Action
2. As a proposer of a new COST Action
3. As expert to evaluate submitted proposals
1. As a participant in a running Action (1/2)

- **FIND THE ACTION IN YOUR FIELD**
  of interest on the COST website
  ([www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu))

- **READ THE PROJECT PLAN** (MoU) –
  identify your potential contribution

- **BROWSE THE ACTION’S OWN WEBSITE** –
  check their activities

- **IDENTIFY THE OPPORTUNITIES**
  to join the Action and your contact person
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, ITC conference grant, training school, workshop/conference,…
(check the Action’s website, contact the chair or the national MC member)

CNC Noelia Romero
+34 91 4250909
[cost.coordinacion@ciencia.gob.es](mailto:cost.coordinacion@ciencia.gob.es)
2. As 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

70 COST Actions approved per collection

Main proposer + secondary proposer

Collection date: 25 October 2023 12:00 CET

www.COST.eu opencall@cost.eu
Open Call for proposals
TECHNICAL ANNEX

SECTIONS

1. S&T EXCELLENCE
   1.1 Soundness of the challenge
   1.2 Progress beyond the state-of-the-art

2. NETWORKING EXCELLENCE
   2.1 Added value of networking in S&T excellence
   2.2 Added value of networking in impact

3. IMPACT
   3.1 Impact to science, society and competitiveness, and potential for innovation/breakthroughs
   3.2 Measures to maximise impact

4. IMPLEMENTATION
   4.1 Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

• Downloadable Word template
• Max. 15 pages
• Diagrams and figures accepted
Evaluation
SESA

ELIGIBILITY!

- Anonymous
- Peaceful purpose
- Minimum 50% ITC
- 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
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