



# COST INFO DAY

8 June 2022, Brussels



Funded by  
the European Union

# European Cooperation in Science & Technology



## MISSION



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*

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Promoting and spreading excellence

Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science

Empowering and retaining young researchers



# COST Membership

## 40 Members

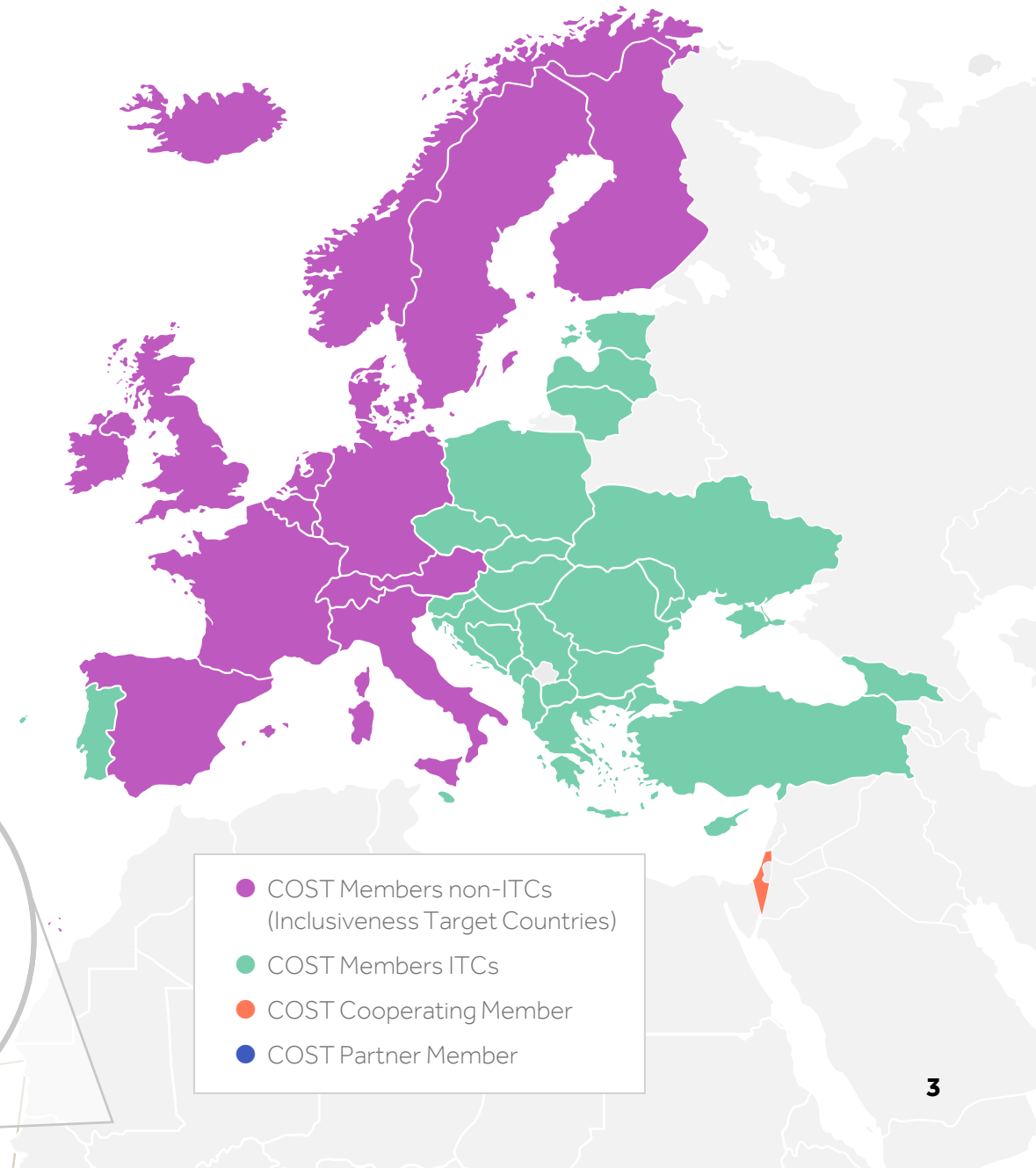
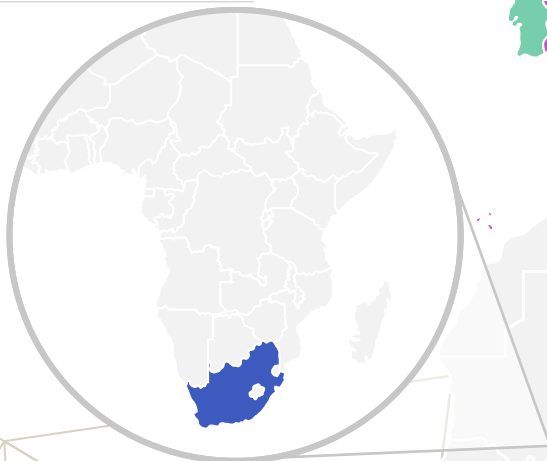
- |                          |                                   |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| ● Albania                | ● Greece                          | ● Norway         |
| ● Austria                | ● Hungary                         | ● Poland         |
| ● Belgium                | ● Iceland                         | ● Portugal       |
| ● Bosnia and Herzegovina | ● Ireland                         | ● Romania        |
| ● Bulgaria               | ● Italy                           | ● Serbia         |
| ● Croatia                | ● Latvia                          | ● Slovakia       |
| ● Cyprus                 | ● Lithuania                       | ● Slovenia       |
| ● Czech Republic         | ● Luxembourg                      | ● Spain          |
| ● Denmark                | ● Malta                           | ● Sweden         |
| ● Estonia                | ● The Republic of Moldova         | ● Switzerland    |
| ● Finland                | ● Montenegro                      | ● Turkey         |
| ● France                 | ● The Netherlands                 | ● Ukraine        |
| ● Georgia                | ● The Republic of North Macedonia | ● United Kingdom |

## 1 Cooperating Member

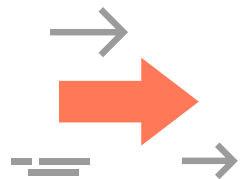
- Israel

## 1 Partner Member

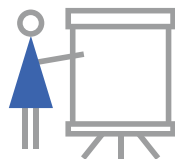
- South Africa



# Key figures



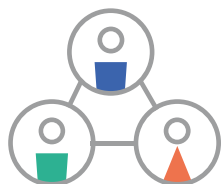
**292**  
Running Actions



**203**  
Training schools



**€134,500**  
Average annual budget  
of a COST Action



**2,320**  
Short-term  
scientific missions



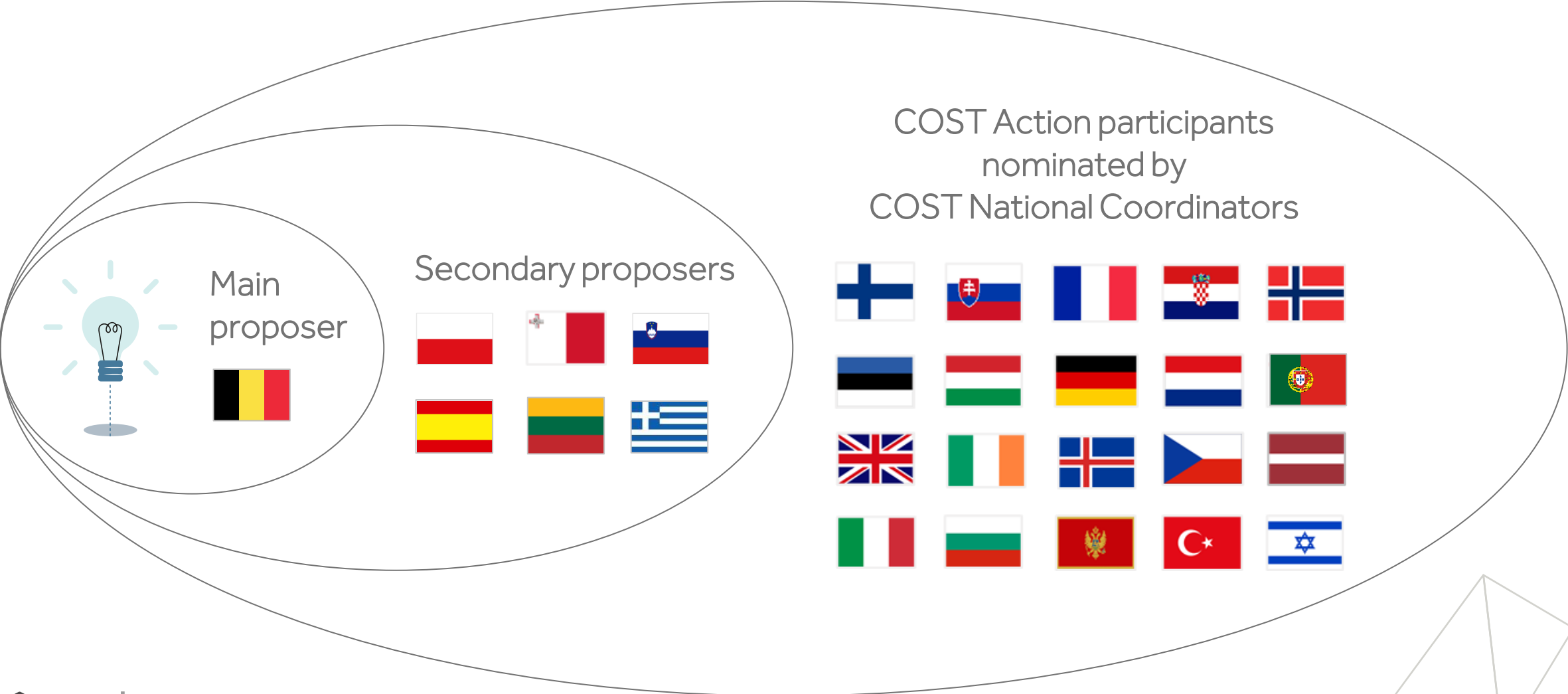
**45,000**  
Researchers involved  
in COST Actions



**€153 million**  
COST budget  
(in Horizon Europe for a  
3-year period)



# How it works?



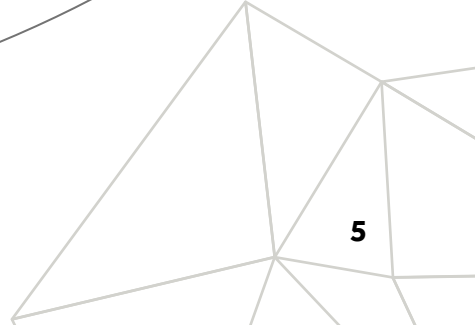
Main proposer



Secondary proposers



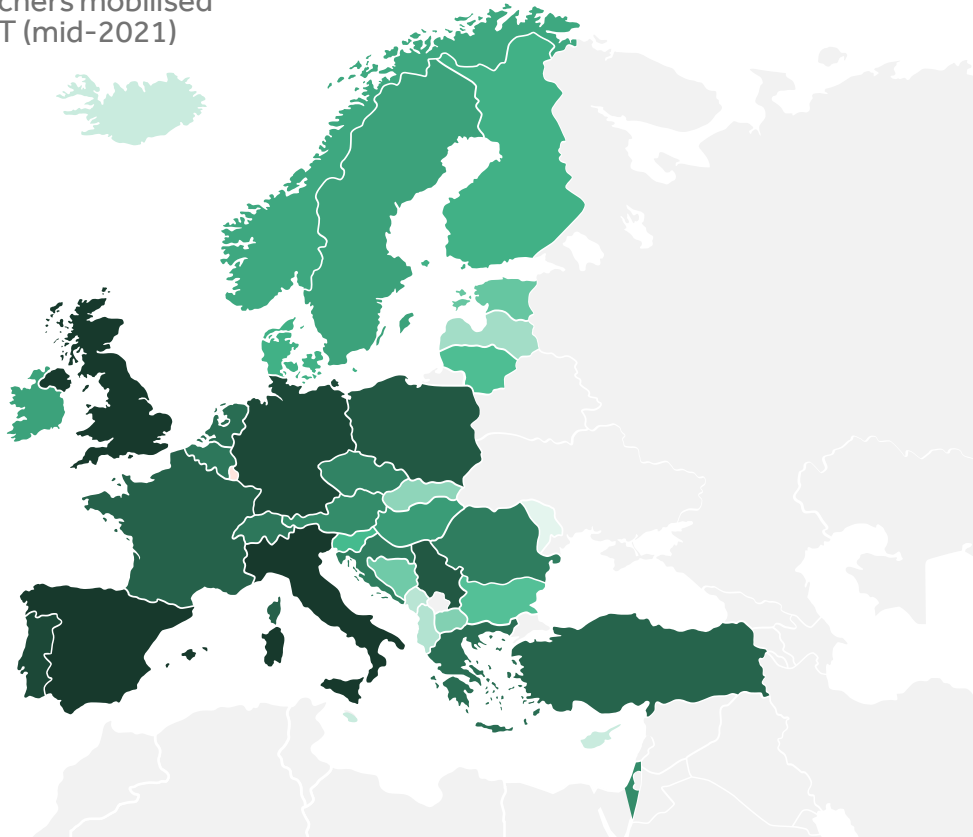
COST Action participants nominated by COST National Coordinators



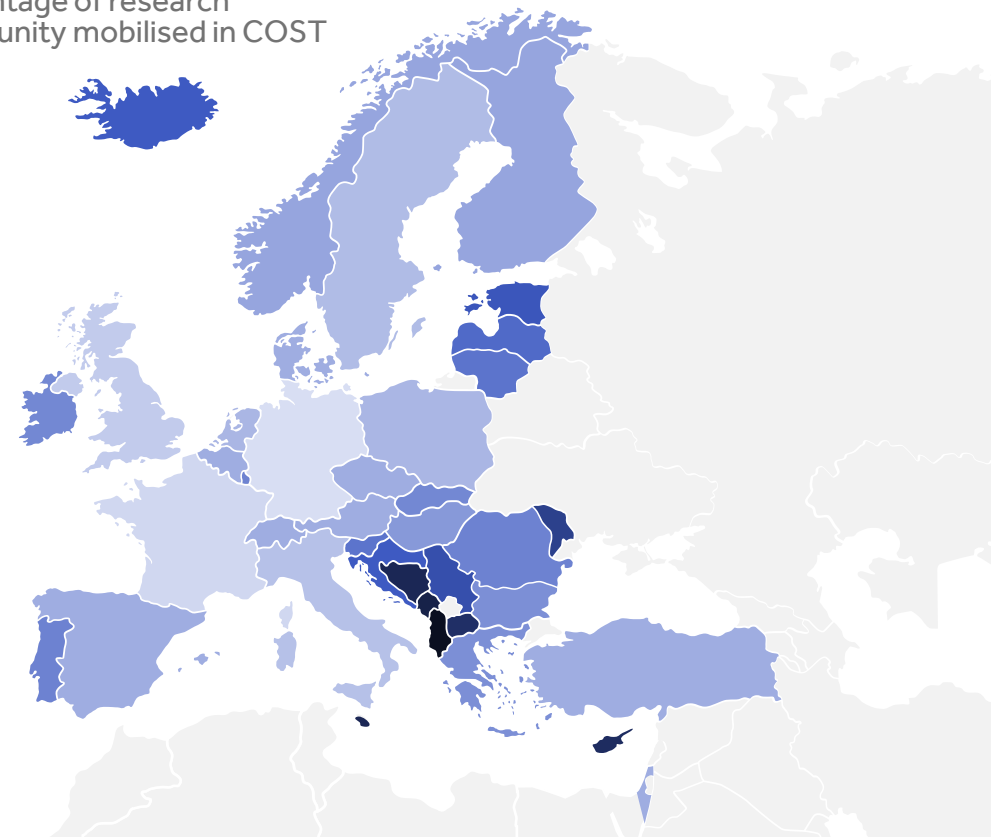
# Priority 1

## PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE

Researchers mobilised  
in COST (mid-2021)

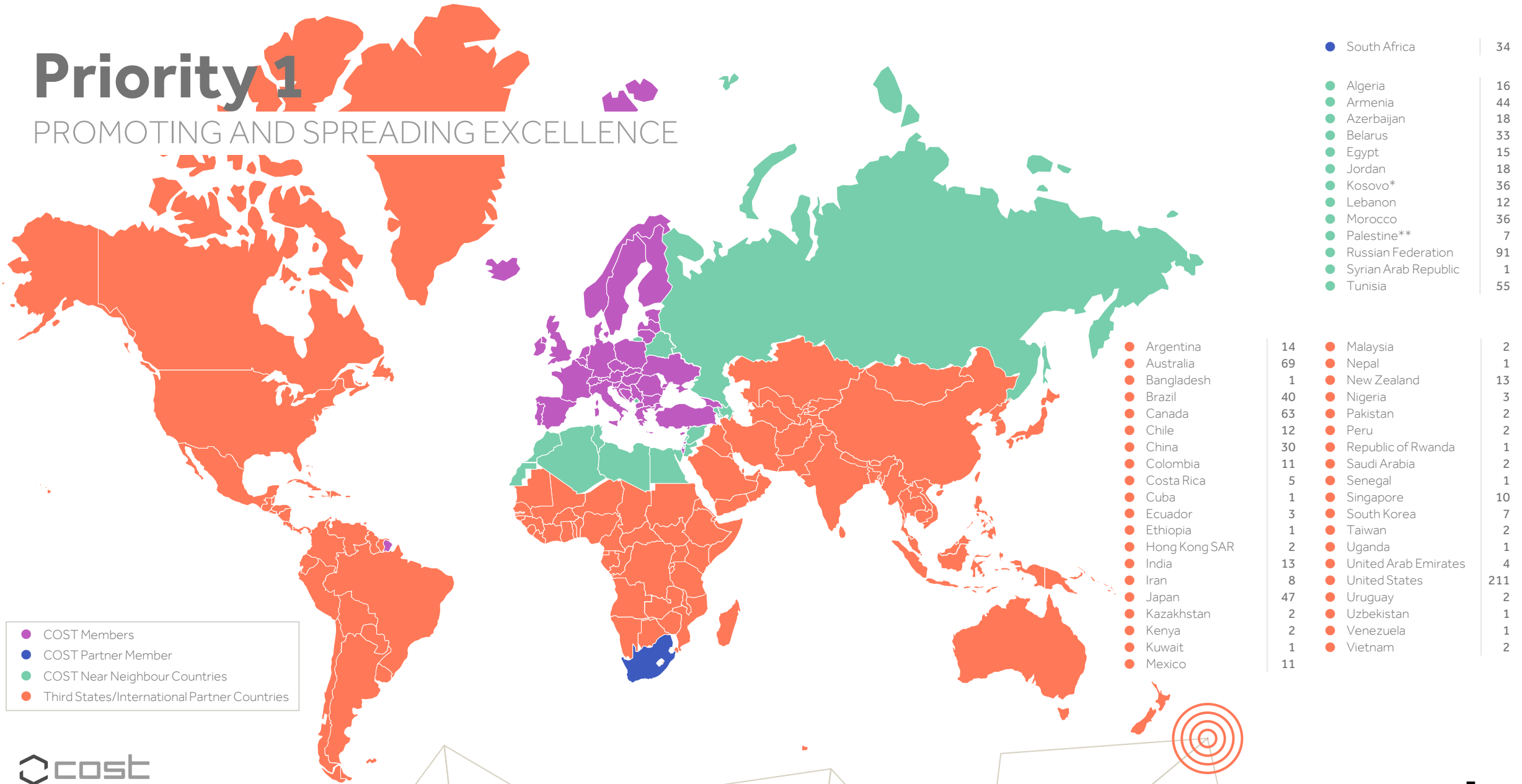


Percentage of research  
community mobilised in COST



# Priority 1

PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE



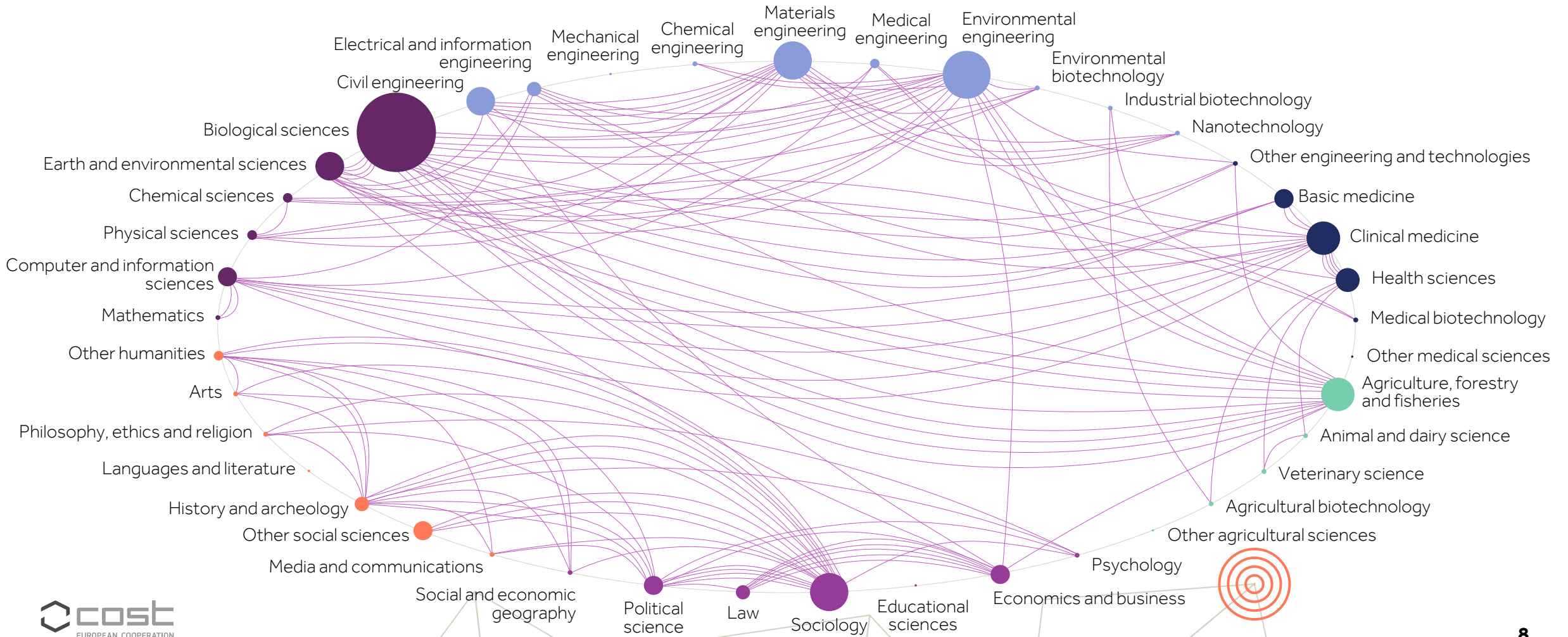
- COST Members
- COST Partner Member
- COST Near Neighbour Countries
- Third States/International Partner Countries

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> South Africa	34
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Algeria	16
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Armenia	44
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Azerbaijan	18
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Belarus	33
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Egypt	15
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Jordan	18
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Kosovo*	36
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Lebanon	12
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Morocco	36
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Palestine**	7
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Russian Federation	91
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Syrian Arab Republic	1
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Tunisia	55

<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Argentina	14	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Malaysia	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Australia	69	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Nepal	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Bangladesh	1	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> New Zealand	13
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Brazil	40	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Nigeria	3
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Canada	63	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Pakistan	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Chile	12	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Peru	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> China	30	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Republic of Rwanda	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Colombia	11	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Saudi Arabia	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Costa Rica	5	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Senegal	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Cuba	1	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Singapore	10
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Ecuador	3	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> South Korea	7
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Ethiopia	1	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Taiwan	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Hong Kong SAR	2	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Uganda	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> India	13	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> United Arab Emirates	4
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Iran	8	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> United States	211
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Japan	47	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Uruguay	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Kazakhstan	2	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Uzbekistan	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Kenya	2	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Venezuela	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Kuwait	1	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Vietnam	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Mexico	11		

# Priority 2

FOSTERING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE

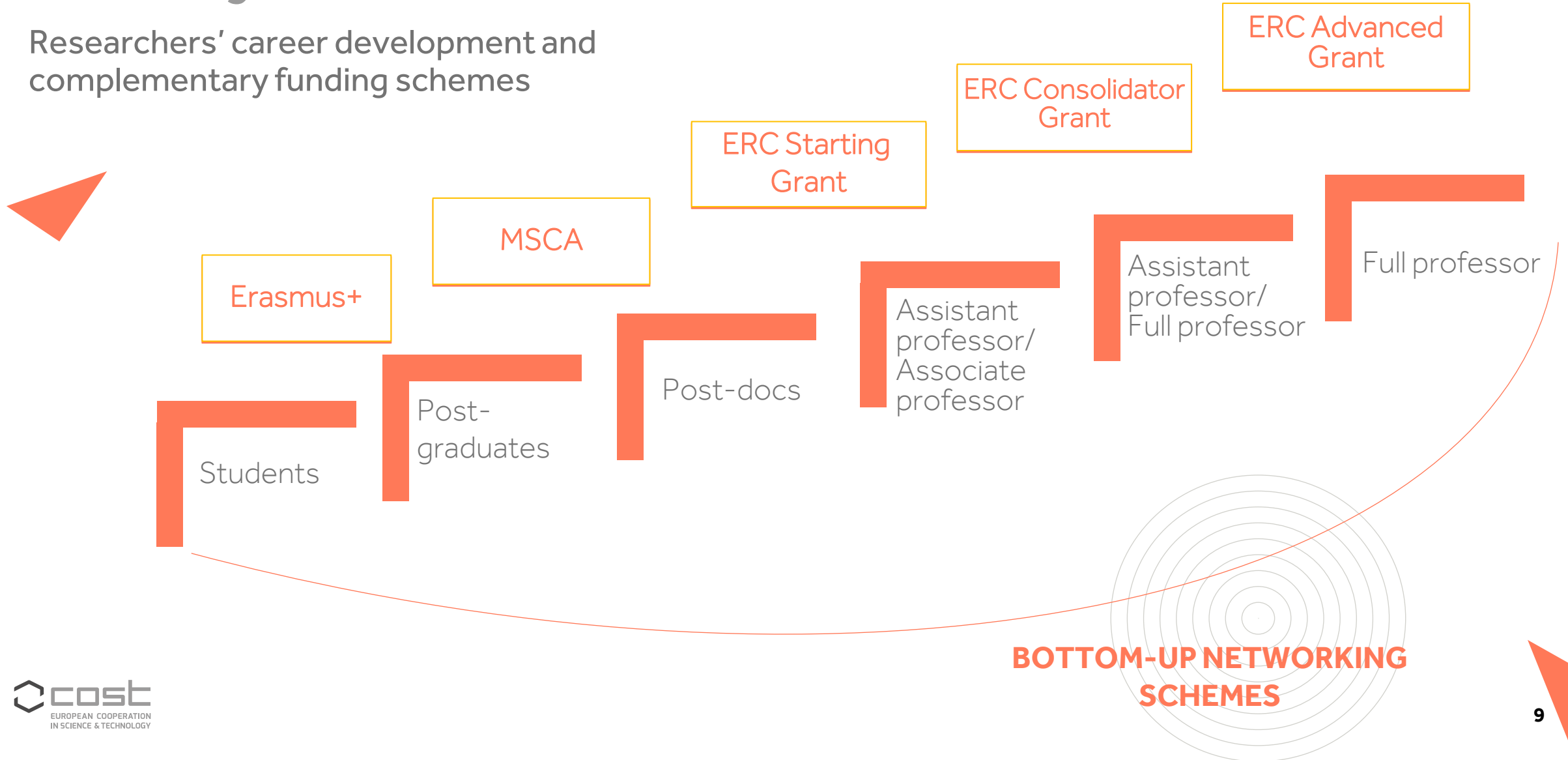




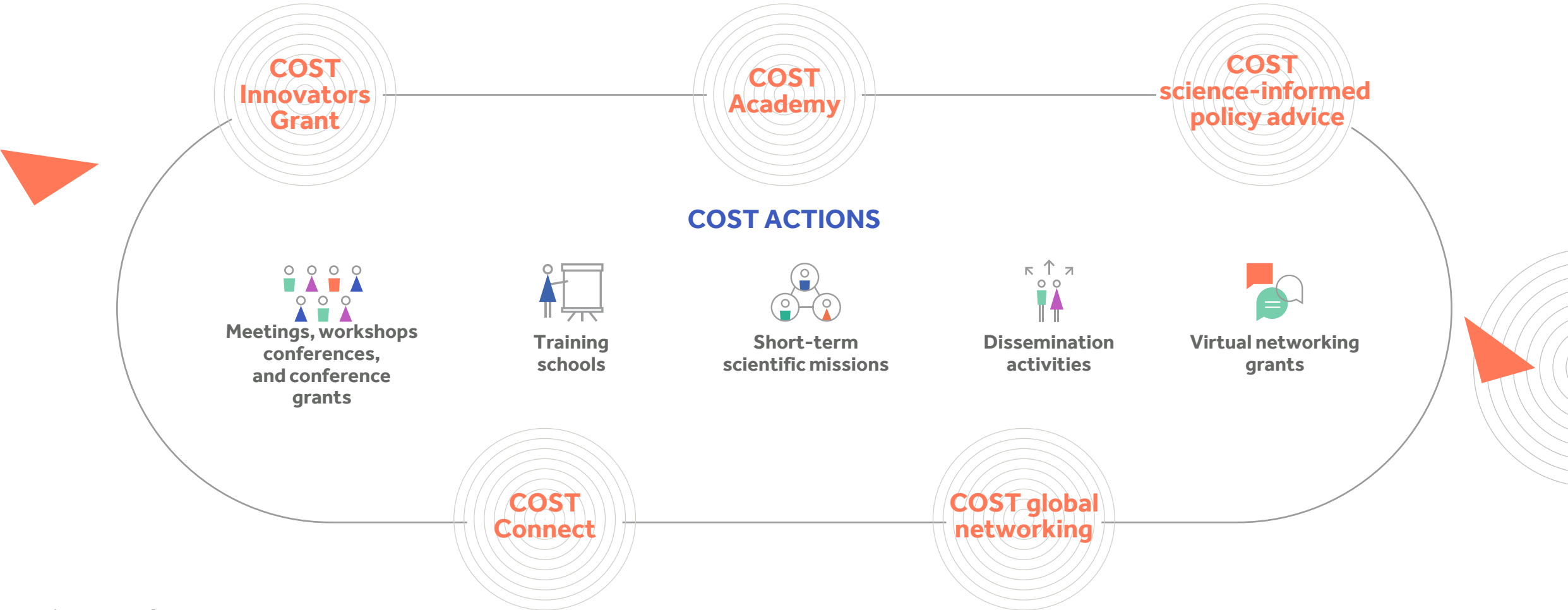
# Priority 3

EMPOWERING AND RETAINING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Researchers' career development and complementary funding schemes



# Implementing COST's strategic priorities



# Examples of COST Success Stories



- COST Action MP1304
- Running from 16/05/2013 - 24/11/2017
- **NewCompStar** - Exploring fundamental physics with compact stars
- On 10 April 2019, the world discovered the first-ever picture of a black hole in stunning detail



“Neutron stars like to become black holes,” says **Action Chair Prof. Luciano Rezzolla** of Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany, who also played a prominent role in the collaboration that had presented the **first-ever image of a black hole**. “The two have a lot in common, and so the expertise that was developed and nurtured in NewCompStar also provided fertile ground for this imaging work.”



# Career Advancement

"I truly believe that my experience as a COST Action Chair helped me with achieving my permanent position in Portugal".

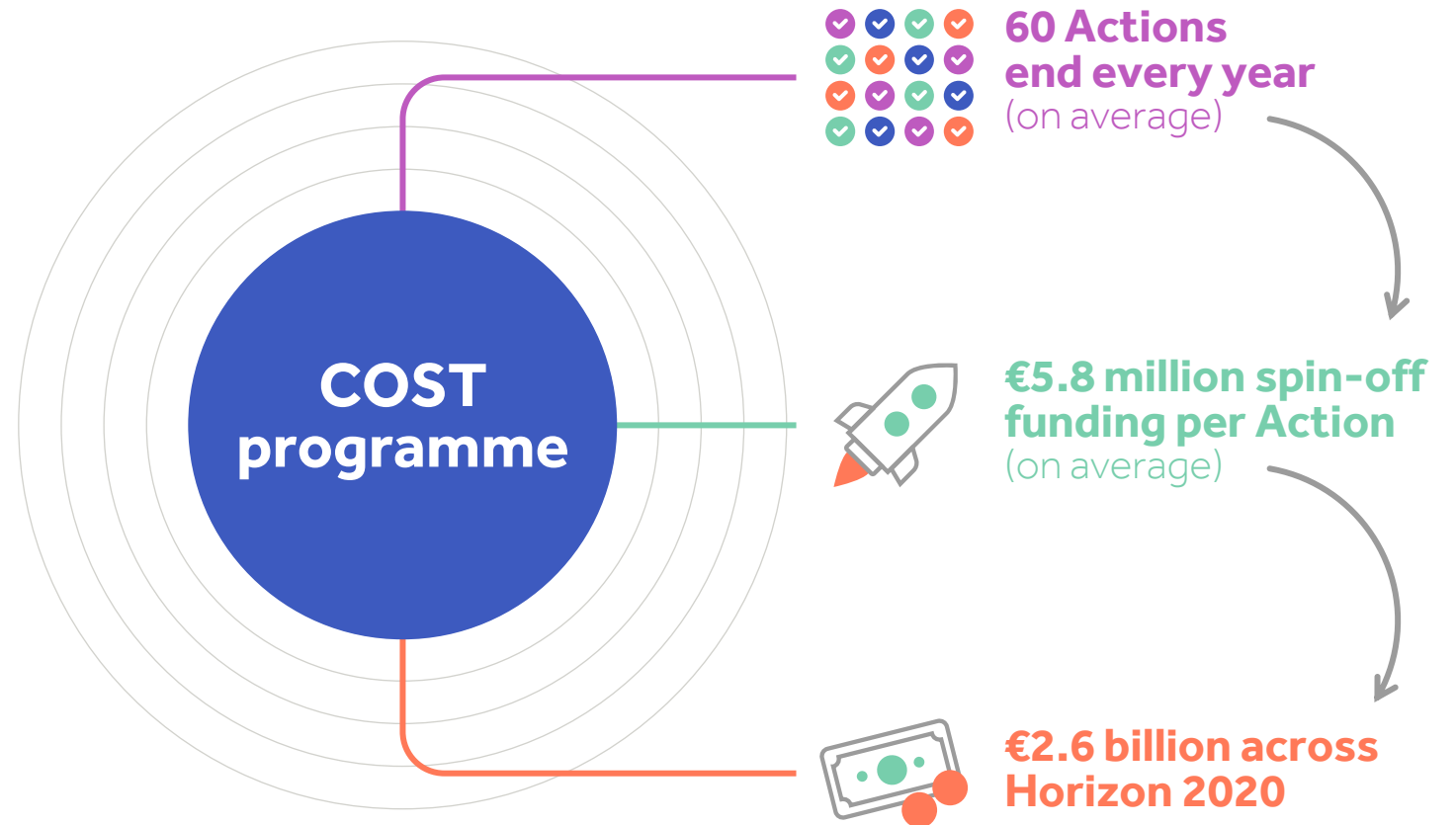
Dr Raquel Conceição, University of Lisbon,

88% of researchers participating in COST Actions indicate that participation has led to career advancement. Moreover, 95% of researchers participating in COST Actions would recommend their colleagues to join a COST Action

# The value of networking

## Participation in COST Actions

Follow-up proposals have a success rate of more than **37%**



COST Actions

# An efficient networking tool

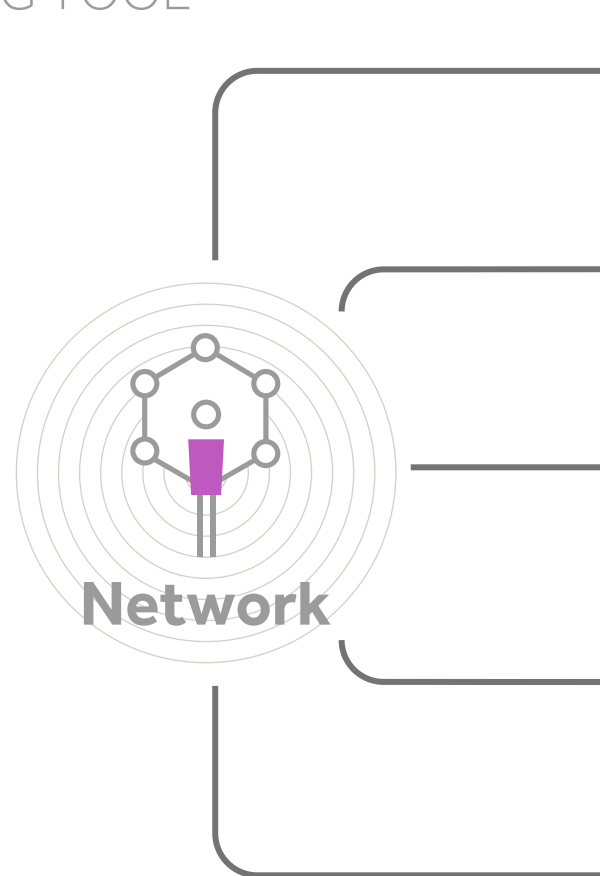


# COST Actions

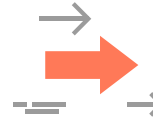
AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

**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 30 countries

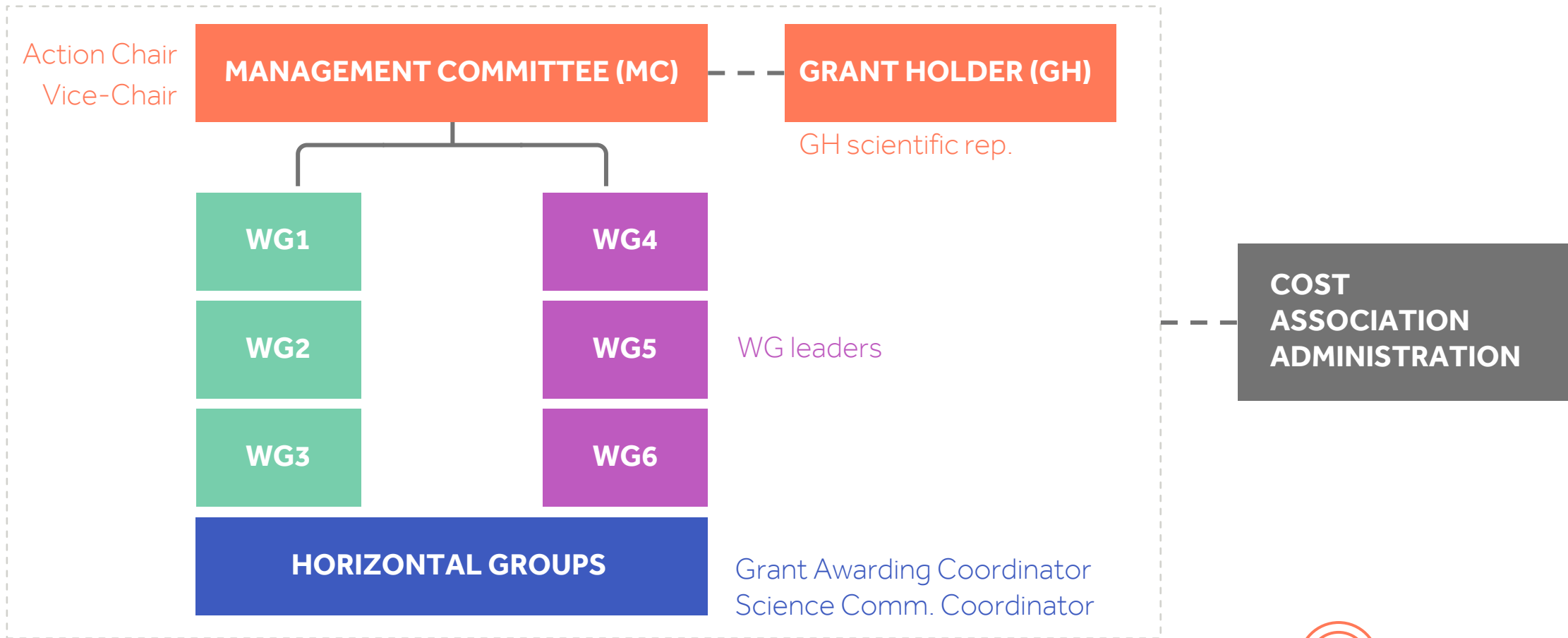


Research coordination and capacity building activities

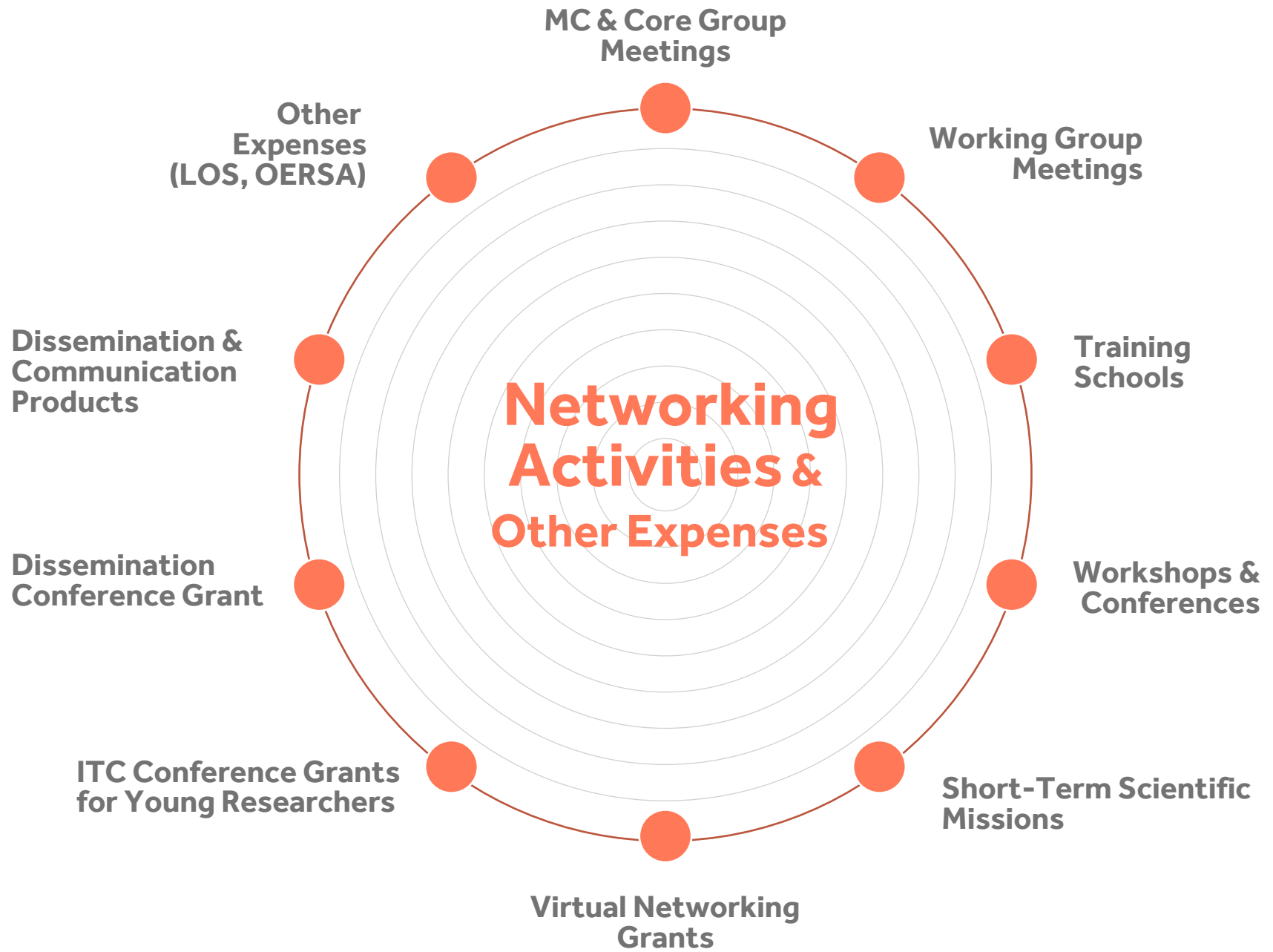
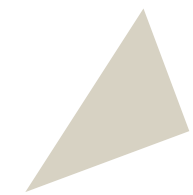


~ €600,000 over lifetime

# LEADERSHIP POSITIONS









# Funding offered by COST

## Meetings

- Travel reimbursement of the meeting participants
  - Daily allowance (accommodation, meals, local transport)
  - Long distance travel expenses (on face value)
- Local Organiser Support
  - Face to face or virtual events



# Funding offered by COST

## Mobility of researchers

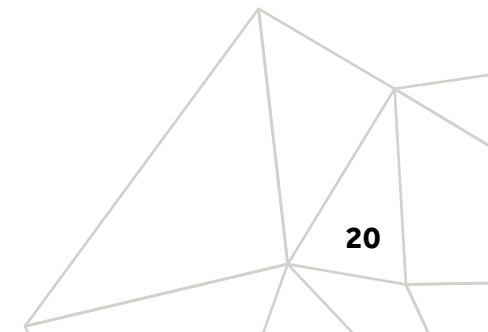
- Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)
  - Up to 4000 EUR
  
- Virtual Mobility Grants
  - Up to 1500 EUR



# Funding offered by COST

## Dissemination of research activities

- ITC Conference Grants
  - Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)
- Dissemination Conference Grants
  - Up to 2000 EUR (500 EUR for virtual events)
- Dissemination activities
  - Open Access publications, books, websites, etc.

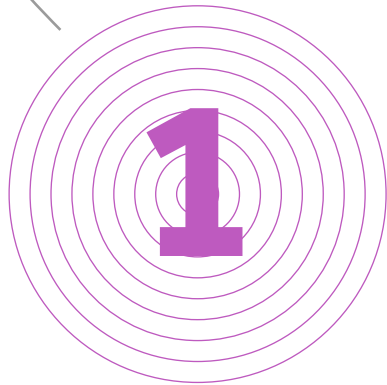


# How to engage with COST?





# How to engage with COST?



As a **participant**  
of a running Action

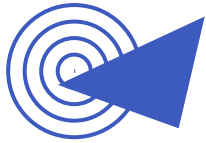


As a **proposer**  
of a new COST Action



As **expert** to evaluate  
submitted proposals

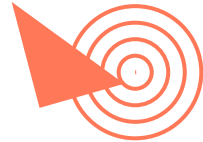
# 1. As a participant in a running Action (1/2)



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

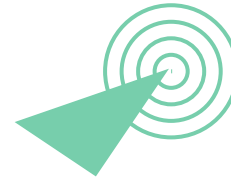
of interest on the  
COST website

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



## **READ THE PROJECT PLAN**

(MoU) – identify  
your potential  
contribution



## **BROWSE THE ACTION'S OWN WEBSITE**

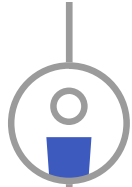
– check their  
activities



## **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)



# 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:**  
20 October 2022  
12:00 CET

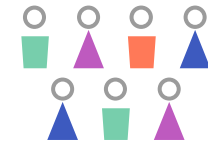
[www.COST.eu](http://www.COST.eu)  
[opencall@cost.eu](mailto:opencall@cost.eu)



# Proposals



**GENERAL  
FEATURES**



**NETWORK OF  
PROPOSERS**



**TECHNICAL  
ANNEX**

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

1. S&T Excellence
2. Networking Excellence
3. Impact
4. Implementation



**COST EXCELLENCE AND  
INCLUSIVENESS POLICY  
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**



# Open Call for proposals

TECHNICAL ANNEX



## SECTIONS

**1.** S&T EXCELLENCE

**2.** NETWORKING  
EXCELLENCE

**3.** IMPACT

**4.** IMPLEMENTATION

## SUB-SECTIONS

**1.1** Soundness of the challenge  
**1.2** Progress beyond the state-of-the-art

**2.1** Added value of networking in S&T excellence  
**2.2** Added value of networking in impact

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

**4.1** Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

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



# 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



# 3. As external expert

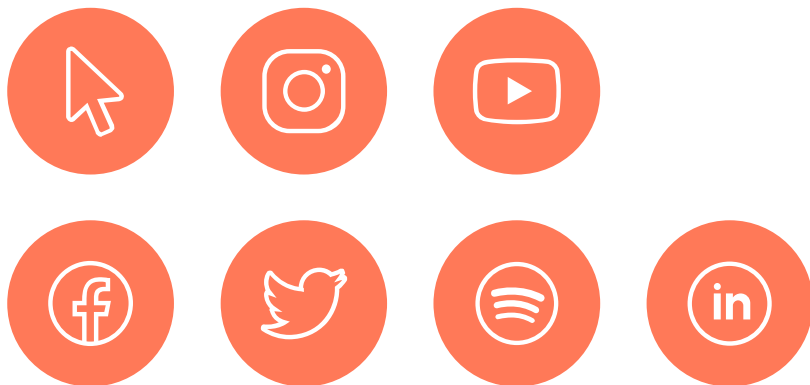
**As a COST Expert,**  
you will have the opportunity to

**Contribute** to the  
evaluation of COST  
Open Call proposals



**Participate** in the  
assessment of Action  
results and outcomes

# THANK YOU!



Contact and engage with us!

