

**Added value and benefits by Prof. Claude Saegerman
from ULiège and WG leader in the COST action
CA20103 (BETTER) “Biosecurity Enhanced Through
Training Evaluation and Raising Awareness”**

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Funded by
the European Union



Added value and benefits by a WG leader in the COST action BETTER

- 1) Aims of the COST action BETTER?**
- 2) Added value?**
- 3) Benefits as WG leader?**
- 4) Conclusions and perspectives**



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BETTER – COST ACTION CA20103

Biosecurity Enhanced Through Training Evaluation and Raising Awareness

The **BETTER** COST Action will evaluate how biosecurity is currently used and will use participative approaches to understand motivators and barriers for biosecurity implementation.



BETTER

<https://better-biosecurity.eu/>

WORKING GROUPS

WG1

Mapping biosecurity measures applied on farms and transport across Europe

WG3

Methods for evaluation of biosecurity and benefits of its implementation

WG2

Scaling-up the knowledge and experience of stakeholders

WG4

Training and dissemination



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Added value (~ importance)

- **#1 - Development of international scientific networks**

- ✓ Collaboration with researchers from all over Europe (and beyond).
- ✓ Possibility of joining thematic working groups.- Establishment of long-term, cross-disciplinary partnerships.



- **#2 - Visibility and recognition**

- ✓ Increased visibility for the researcher and his/her institution on a European scale.
- ✓ Access to joint publications, conferences and international events.
- ✓ Strategic positioning in a field of research.





Added value

- **#3 - Access to expertise and resources**

- ✓ Sharing data, equipment, infrastructure and know-how.
- ✓ Access to cutting-edge practices and innovative methodologies.
- ✓ Opportunity to interact with experts in various fields.



- **#4 - Capacity building and career development**

- ✓ Participation in Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM).
- ✓ Funded training courses, workshops, seminars, webinars and summer schools.
- ✓ Development of cross-disciplinary skills (leadership, project management, scientific communication).
- ✓ Learning opportunities for young researchers and PhD students.





Added value

- **#5 - Stimulation of collaborative and interdisciplinary research**

- ✓ Funding for networking activities (not direct research).
- ✓ Encourages interdisciplinary approaches and disruptive innovations.
- ✓ Flexibility in the organisation of group work.



- **#6 - Access to additional funding**

- ✓ Support for missions, meetings, publications and dissemination.
- ✓ Possibility of using COST as a springboard for obtaining other European funding (e.g. Horizon Europe).





Added value

- **#7 - Inclusiveness and diversity**

- Promoting the participation of countries with low research performance (Inclusiveness Target Countries).
- Increased support for the participation of young researchers, women and under-represented groups.

- **#8 - Experience in managing European projects**

- ✓ Possible involvement in the management of the project: coordination, scientific secretariat, etc.
- ✓ Valuable experience in preparing other European projects.





Added value

- **#9 – Transfer and dissemination**

- ✓ Tools and support for sharing research results beyond the academic world.
- ✓ Interaction with stakeholders (industry, policy-makers, civil society).



05.

BETTER in Numbers



48

Countries participating

36

Full COST Members

03

Near Neighbor Countries:
Jordania, Kosovo and Tunisia

07

International Partner Countries:
Australia, Argentina, Burkina Faso, Canada,
Cameroon, India and New Zealand

01

COST Partner Member: Israel

380

Members participating in the Working Groups

55

Management Committee members

21

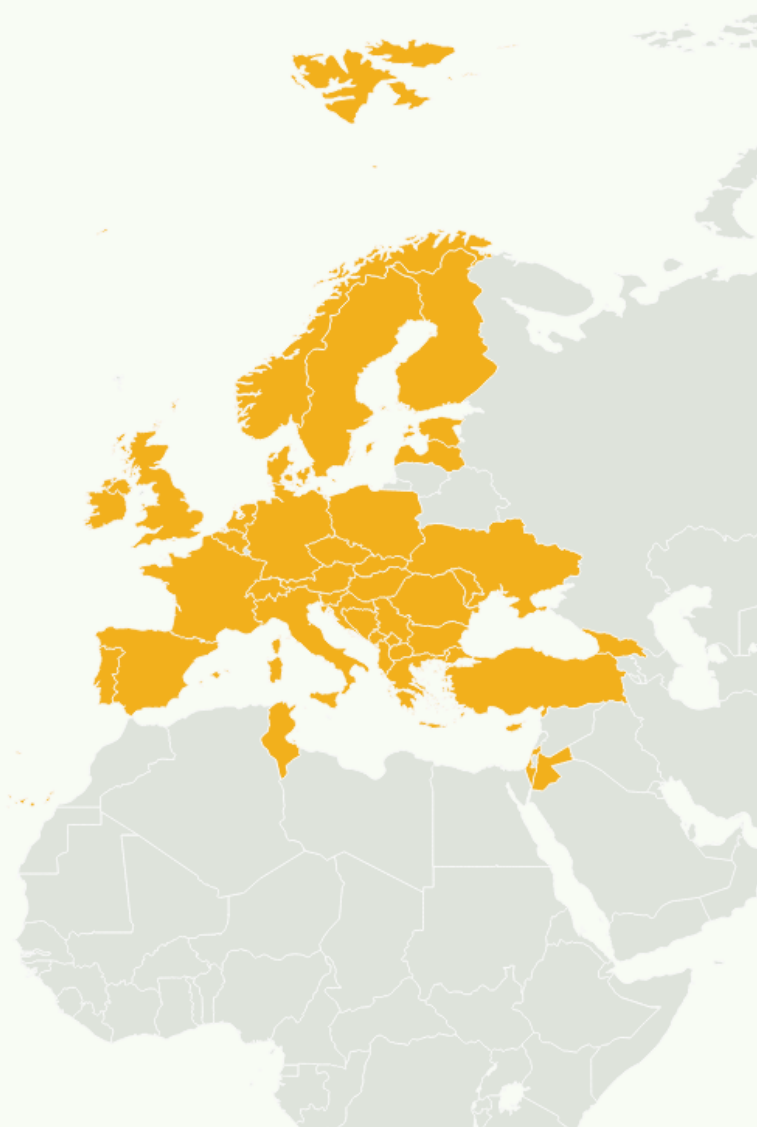
16 Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM)
and 5 Virtual mobility grants conducted.

12

2 Training schools and 10 webinars
conducted.

02

Papers published.



BETTER - COST ACTION CA20103 - NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 1 - AUGUST 2022

02.

Recent Event Update: Training School

(14th - 18th of November 2022)



A training school has been performed in ULiege (Belgium). The training lasted 4 days and covered aspects related to the design, implementation, and assessment of biosecurity standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

Hindawi
Transboundary and Emerging Diseases
Volume 2024, Article ID 6743691, 11 pages
<https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/6743691>

WILEY | Hindawi

Research Article

Scanning European Needs and Expectations Related to Livestock Biosecurity Training by Using the World Café Method

Claude Saegerman¹, Jarkko K. Niemi,² Nancy De Briyne,³ Wiebke Jansen,³
Alain Cantaloube,⁴ Marcel Heylen,⁵ Tarmo Niine,⁶ Julia Gabrielle Jerab,⁷
Alberto Allepuz,⁸ Ilias Chantziaras,⁷ Maria Rodrigues da Costa,⁹ Marie-France Humblet,¹⁰
and Maria Eleni Filippitzi¹¹

> Front Vet Sci. 2025 Mar 19;12:1562648. doi: 10.3389/fvets.2025.1562648. eCollection 2025.

Stakeholders' perspectives on communicating biosecurity to encourage behavior change in farmers

Sebastian Moya¹, Kate Lamont², Marnie L Brennan¹, Giovanna Ciavarino³, Maria Costa²,
Alberto Allepuz³, Lena-Mari Tamminen⁴, Carla Correia-Gomes⁵, Helena De Carvalho Ferreira⁶,
Mehmet Murat Dogusan⁷, Teresa Imperial³, Daniele De Meneghi⁸, Miroslav Kjosovski⁹,
Ilias Chantziaras¹⁰, Alison Burrell⁵



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(~ gains realized by your organisation)

- **#1- Strengthening international scientific collaboration**

- ✓ Networking with researchers from all over Europe (and beyond).
- ✓ Access to complementary and multidisciplinary expertise.
- ✓ Creation of consortia for future EU projects (e.g. Horizon Europe, ERC).



- **#2 - Financing mobility and exchanges**

- ✓ Funding for Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM).
- ✓ Payment of travel expenses for conferences, workshops and scientific meetings.
- ✓ Subsidies for training courses and thematic schools.





- **#3 - Support for young researchers**

- ✓ Easier access to research networks for doctoral and post-doctoral students.
- ✓ Specific funding for young researchers.
- ✓ Opportunities for mentoring and skills development.



- **#4 - Greater visibility for your work**

- ✓ Better dissemination of scientific results within a European network.
- ✓ Opportunities for collaborative publication.
- ✓ Participation in high-level international events.





- **#5 - Interdisciplinary or personal development**

- ✓ Interaction between disciplines, often encouraged in COST Actions.
- ✓ Exploration of new fields of research thanks to the diversity of the members.



- **#6 - Institutional strengthening**

- ✓ Institutional recognition of participation in a COST network.
- ✓ Better preparation for European calls for projects.
- ✓ Raising the institution's profile internationally.





- **#7 - Access to industrial and non-academic partners**
 - ✓ Collaboration with companies, NGOs, international body's, political decision-makers, etc.
 - ✓ Valorisation of applied or translational research.
- **#8 - Impact on your scientific career**
 - ✓ Expansion of your professional network.
 - ✓ Strengthening of your CV for funding or job applications.
 - ✓ Positioning you as an expert in an emerging field.





- **#9 - Opening up to cooperation outside Europe**

- ✓ Possible participation of partner countries (non-EU), including Africa, North America, etc.
- ✓ Building scientific bridges beyond European borders.



- **#10 - Access to shared scientific resources**

- ✓ Shared databases, instruments and research infrastructures.
- ✓ Shared methodologies and best practices.



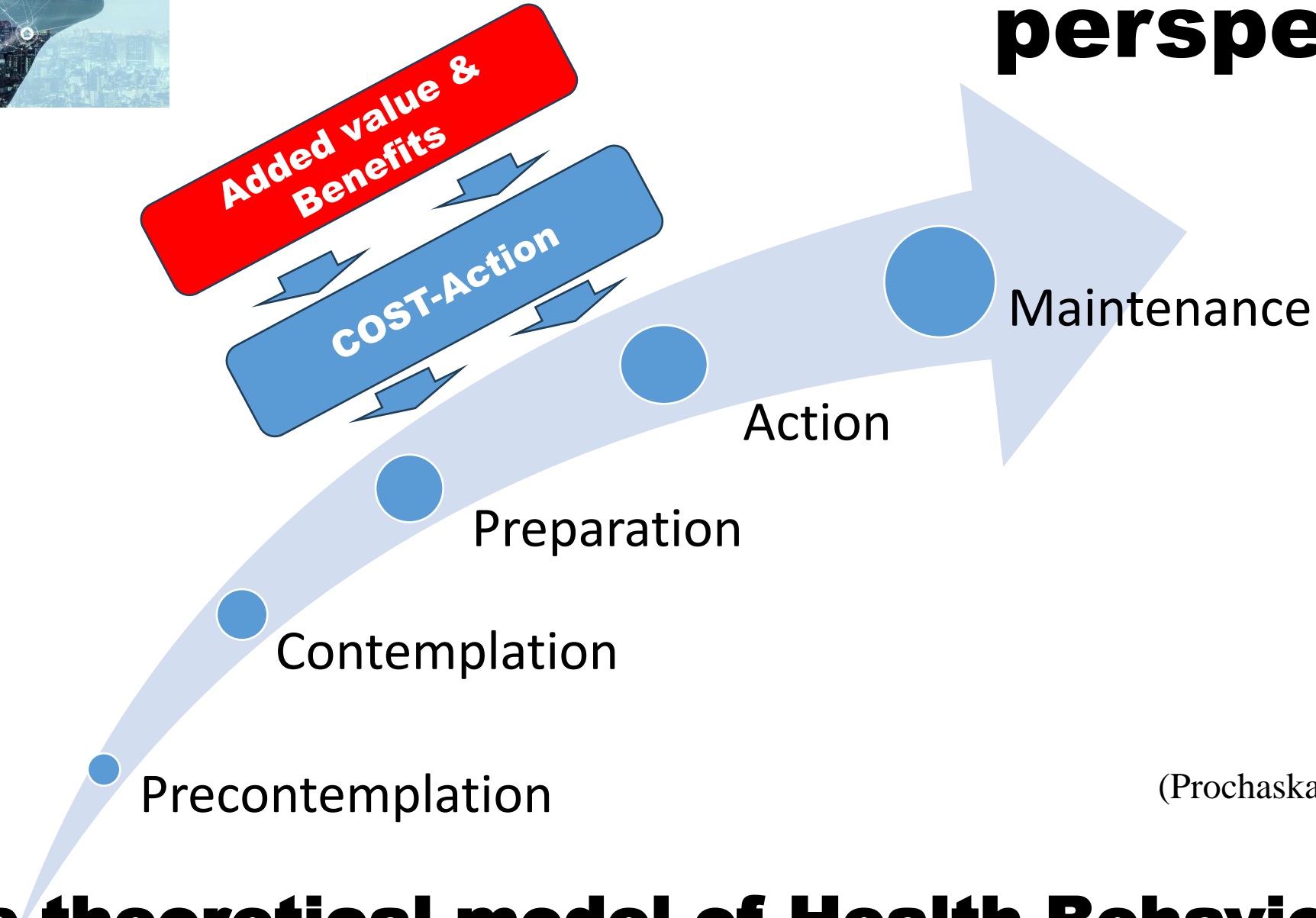


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Conclusion et perspectives



(Prochaska & Velicer, 1997)

Trans-theoretical model of Health Behaviour Change



Thank you for your attention