

Widening, COST

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NKFIH Nemzetközi Főosztály



Improved access to excellence



- **Expected impact:**
- Increased science and innovation capacity for all actors in the R&I system in Widening countries;
- Structural changes leading to modernised and more competitive R&I systems in eligible countries;
- Reformed R&I systems and institutions leading to increased attractiveness and retention of research talents;
- Mobilisation of national and EU resources for strategic investments;
- Higher participation success in Horizon Europe and more consortium leadership roles;
- Stronger links between academia and business and improved career permeability;
- Strengthened role of the Higher Education sector in research and innovation;
- Greater involvement of regional actors in the R&I process;
- Improved outreach to international level for all actors.

Twinning



- Call opening: 25 April 2023
- Deadline: 28 September 2023
- Project budget: 0,8-1,5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 80 + 20
- Type of action: CSA
- Topic A: The (usual) Twinning Bottom-Up
- Topic B: The Twinning Green Deal
- Twinning aims to enhance networking activities between the research institutions of the Widening countries acting as co-ordinators and top-class leading counterparts at European Union level by linking it with at least two research institutions from two different Member States or Associated Countries.
- A **research / innovation component not exceeding 30%** of the total Horizon Europe grant may include a research / innovation project. At least **50% of the budget** for the research / innovation component **must be allocated to the coordinator**.
- The presence of a gender equality plan is an eligibility criterion
- Lump sum

Teaming for Excellence



- **Call opening:** 10 January 2023
- **Deadline:** 12 April 2023 (1st Stage), 7 March 2024 (2nd Stage)
- **Project budget:** 8-15 million EUR
- **Funded projects:** 18
- **Type of action:** CSA
- The Teaming action is designed to support the **creation of new centres of excellence or upgrading the existing ones** in low R&I performing countries
- It is building on **partnerships** between leading scientific institutions in the European landscape and the main beneficiary institutions in low R&I performing countries that display the willingness to engage together for this purpose.
- 1st stage: R&I excellence and the conceptual approach for the centres of excellence will be evaluated
- **Complementary source of funding from a national (or regional or European or private source) is required**

Excellence Hubs



- Call opening: 28 September 2023
- Deadline: 7 March 2024
- Project budget: 2-6 million EUR
- Funded projects: 12
- Type of action: CSA
- Proposals must involve **at least two Widening Country R&I ecosystems**
- Each Widening Country R&I ecosystem must comprise four different categories of actors i.e. a) **academic institutions** (universities and/or non-university research centres or labs), b) **business entities** (active established firms with relevant revenues), c) **public authorities or authorised agencies** operating at regional or local level and d) **societal actors** (civil society organisations, associations, citizens, end users, media, cultural actors etc.)

European Excellence Initiative



- Call opening: 10 January 2023
- Deadline: 12 April 2023
- Project budget: 2-5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 20
- Type of action: CSA
- Applications must be submitted by a consortium including at least **three** but not limited to – **independent legal entities in three different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries**, at least one of which established in a Widening Country
- **Expenditures for research and innovation activities** (such as seed funding for collaborative research projects, activities linked to joint doctoral and postdoctoral research, knowledge valorisation activities, etc.) cannot exceed a **maximum of 20%** of the total budget
- Raise excellence in science and in value creation through deeper and geographically inclusive **cooperation in alliances of higher education institutions**, such as – European Universities alliances selected under Erasmus+, with a particular focus on Widening countries
- **Improve global competitiveness and visibility** of Europe’s higher education institutions, creating critical mass in key areas such as the green transition and Horizon Europe mission areas

European Cooperation in Science & Technology



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



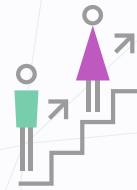
ALL FIELDS OF S&T
(mono- or interdisciplinary,
new and emerging fields)



ALL PARTNERS
(academia, public organisation, industry,
NGO, International Organisations)



BOTTOM-UP APPROACH



ALL CAREER STAGES
(young and experienced
researchers)



ALL COUNTRIES

- 40 COST Members
+ 1 Cooperating Member
- 14 Near Neighbour Countries
- Global cooperation

Role of COST in the ERA



3 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Promoting and spreading **excellence**



Fostering **interdisciplinary** research for breakthrough science

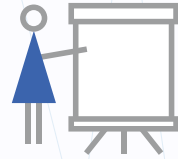


Empowering and retaining **young researchers**

Key figures



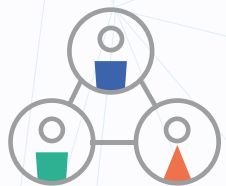
292
Running Actions



203
Training schools



€134,500
Average annual budget
of a COST Action



2,320
Short-term
scientific missions



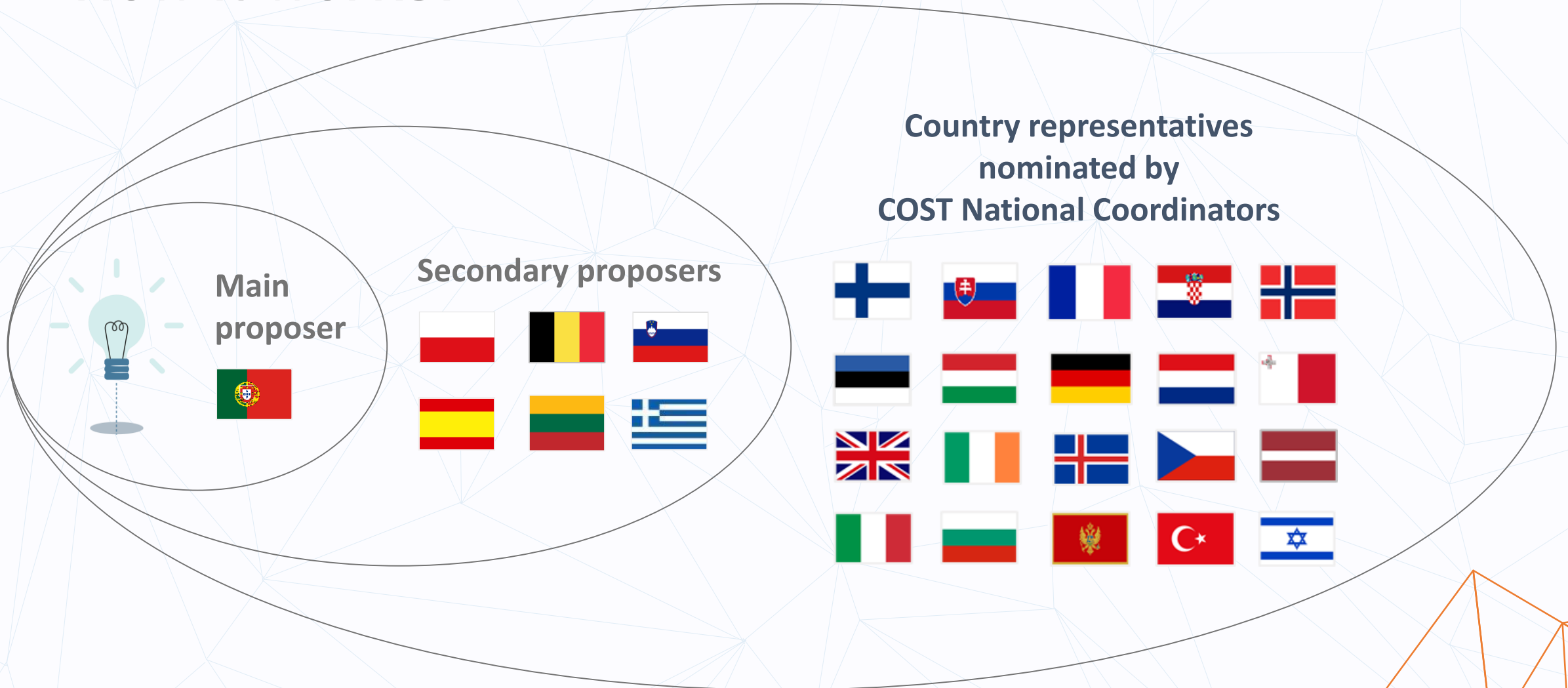
45,000
Researchers involved
in COST Actions



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



How it works?



COST Membership

40 Members

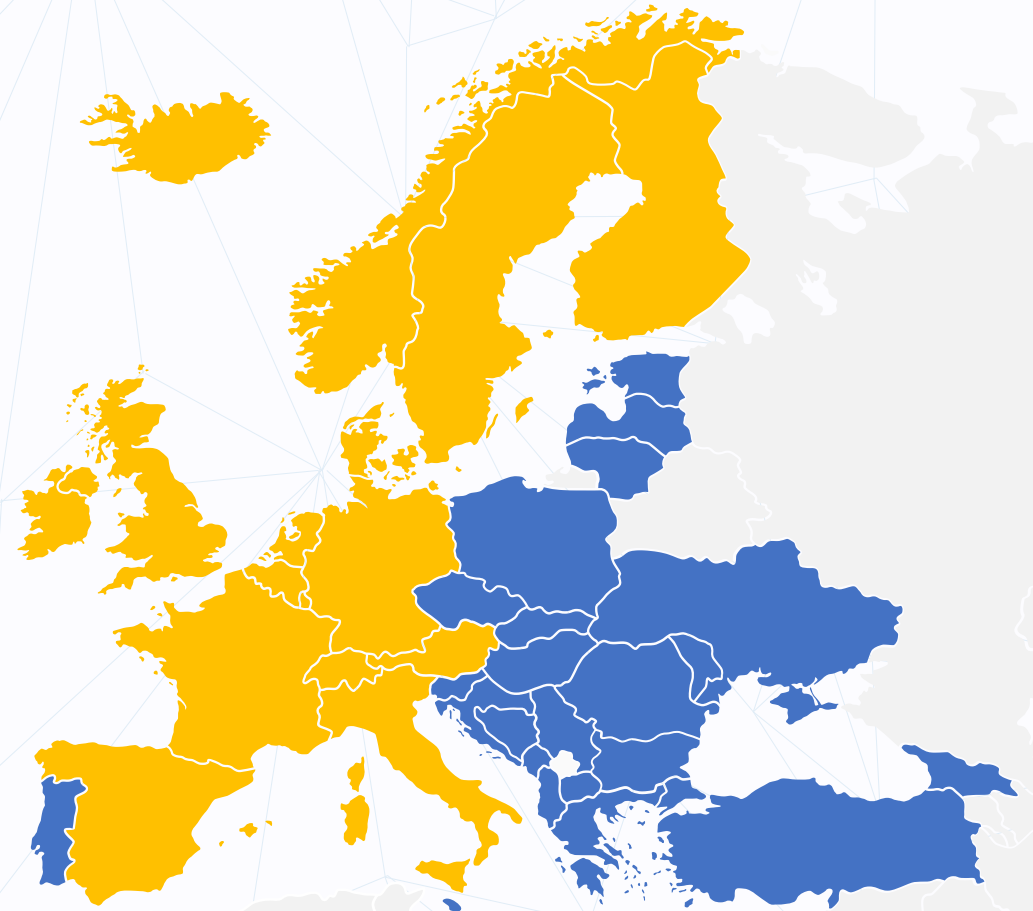
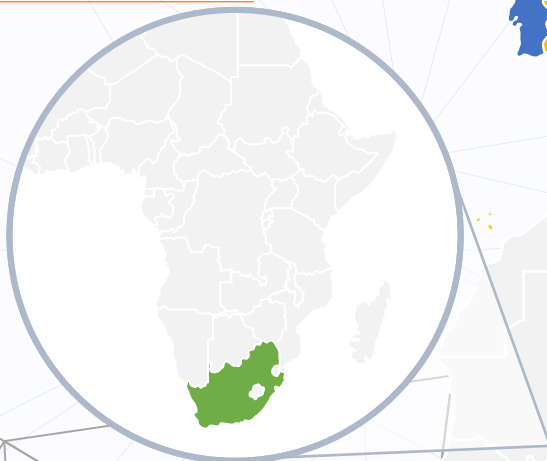
- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- The Republic of Moldova
- Montenegro
- The Netherlands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

1 Cooperating Member

- Israel

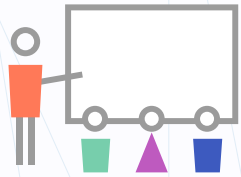
1 Partner Member

- South Africa



- COST Members non-ITCs (Inclusiveness Target Countries)
- COST Members ITCs
- COST Cooperating Member
- COST Partner Member

Dedicated measures for active ITC participation



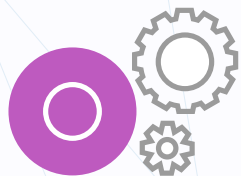
COST Info Days

- Targeted to ITC
- Combined with high-level meeting ITC government, including CNC



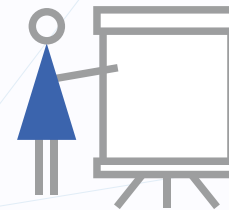
Proposals

- Eligibility
- External experts
- Inclusiveness policy



COST Actions

- COST Action leadership
- Conference grant for PhD students and young researchers
- Pre-payment for STSM



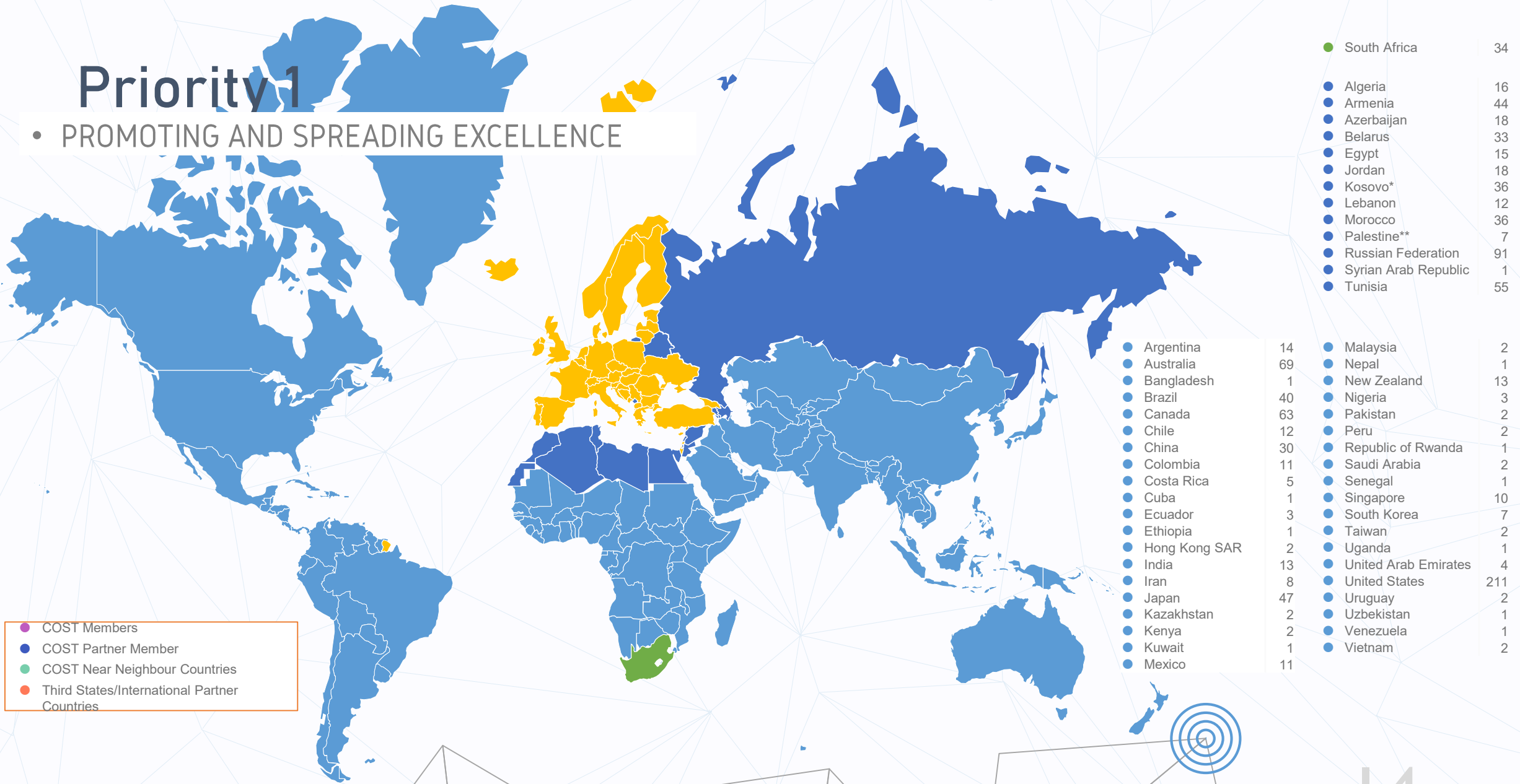
COST Academy

- Leadership workshop
- Finance/admin workshop
- Science communication training
- Mentoring grant holder
- Mentoring chair



Priority 1

• PROMOTING AND SPREADING EXCELLENCE



Benefits of participating in a COST Action

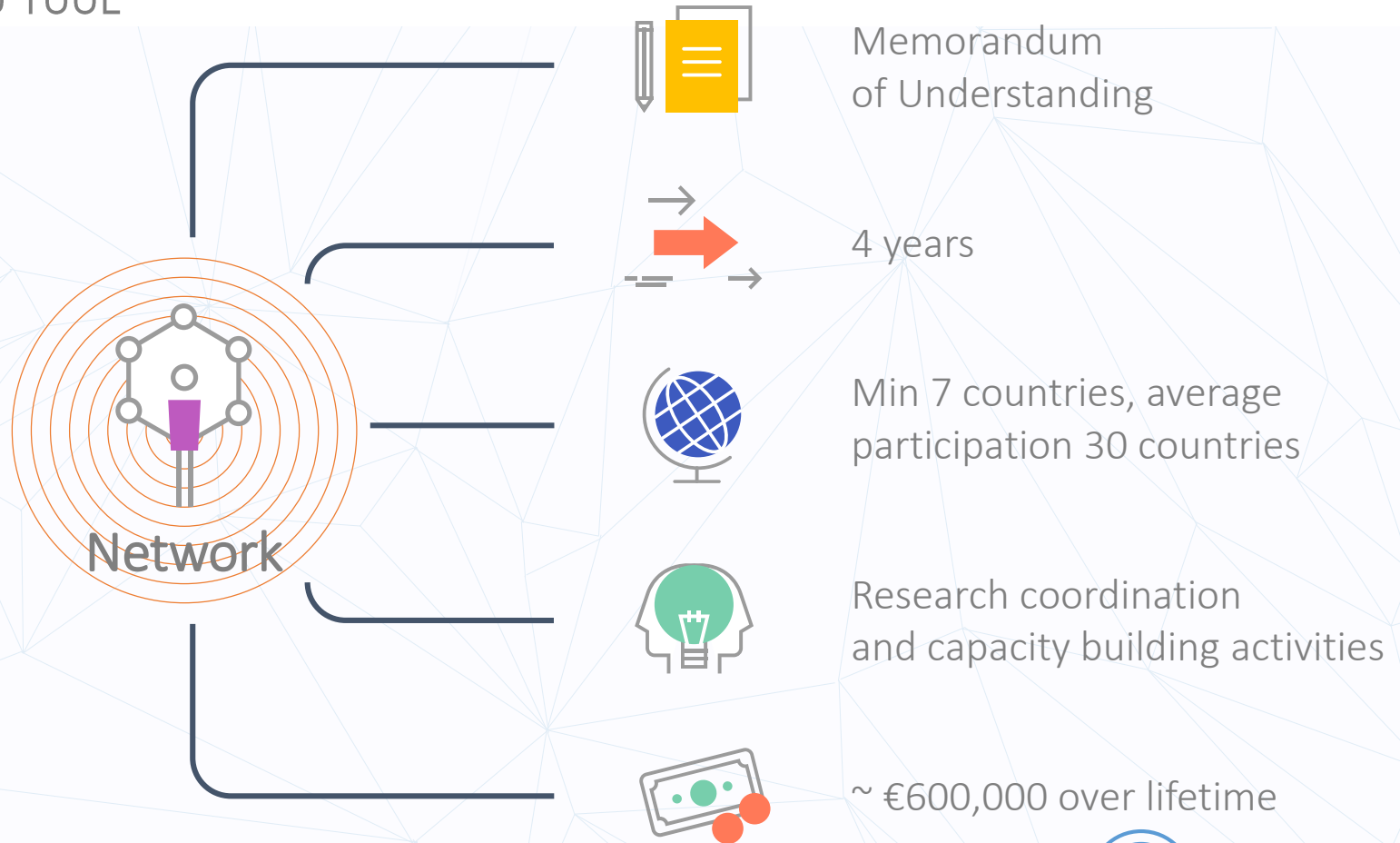


COST Actions

- AN EFFICIENT NETWORKING TOOL

COST provides funding for research coordination and capacity building activities

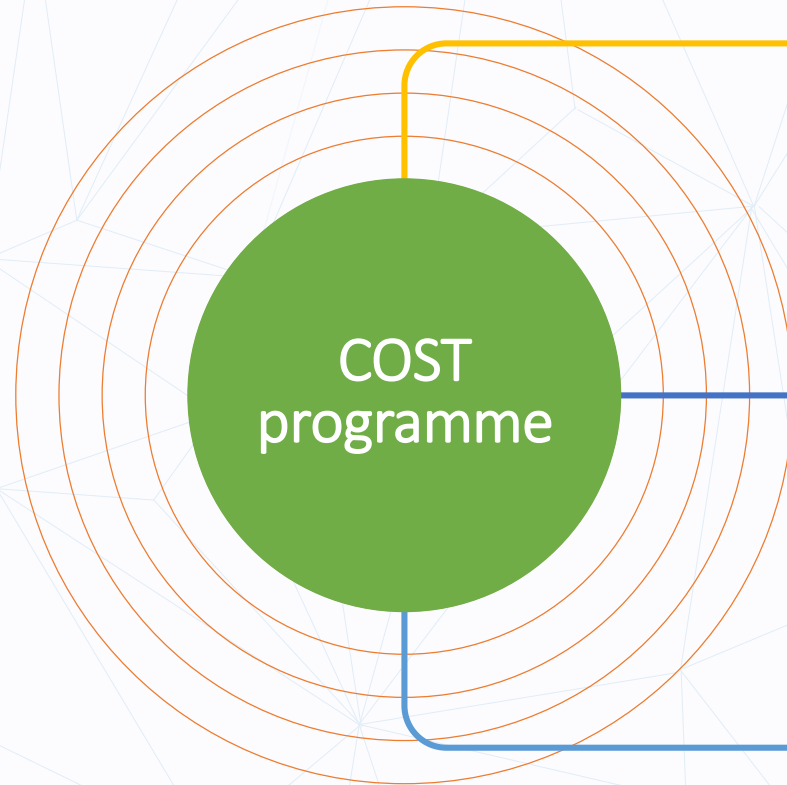
COST is not funding research itself, but pooling resources and research results by networking



The value of networking

Participation in COST Actions

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



60 Actions
end every year
(on average)



€5.8 million spin-off
funding per Action
(on average)



€2.6 billion across
Horizon 2020

Useful links



- <https://www.horizon-europe-infodays2021.eu/event/era-widening>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>
- https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/widening-participation-and-spreading-excellence_en
- <https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/palyazati-hirek/horizont-europa/hop-on-eszkozzel-palyazhato-projektek>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon/hop-on>
- www.cost.eu

Thank you!

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