## **WELCOME CA22123!**



European Materials Acceleration Center for Energy (EU-MACE)

Start Date: 03/10/2023

End Date: 02/10/2027

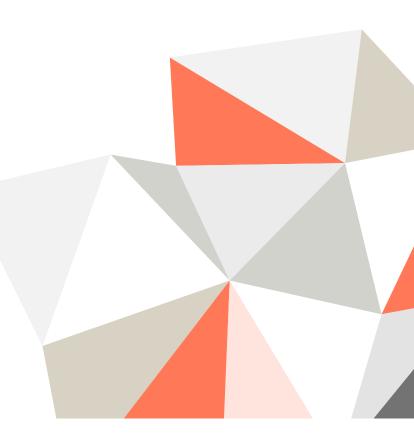


#### Your hosts today:

- Dr Radenka Krsmanovic Whiffen (Science Officer)
- Milena Stoyanova (Administrative Officer)
- Dr Sawako Nakamae (Action Chair Candidate)









#### **Evacuation Instructions**

#### In case of fire alarm\*

- Stop all activity
- Try to stay calm, do not run
- Follow COST staff and the evacuation signals
- Emergency exits are located after the bathrooms at the entrance of the office
- Do not use the elevators!
- Join the meeting point, outside of the building





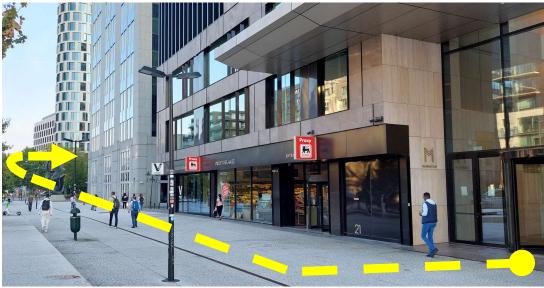
\*Fire alarm test: every 1st Tuesday of the month at 2pm!

#### **Evacuation Instructions**



- You will arrive at the Manhattan reception (ground floor)
- Exit the building and go to the right (Proxy Shop and Vlerick School)
- Turn right of the Manhattan Center and cross the street to Bd Albert II







#### **Evacuation Instructions**





# People with reduced mobility or other health restrictions/issues:

- When you arrive let COST reception know
- Wait for fire marshals to pick you up just inside the entrance door at the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor



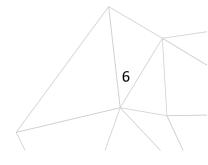


## Please remember to come to reception desk to pay your lunch









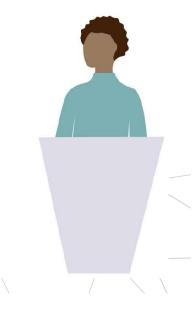


## Who is attending?



- MC members nominated by their COST National Coordinator
- Beneficiaries of the COST Leadership Program
- Candidates for leadership positions
   (not MC members, but agreed WG applicants).







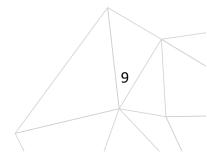
## Purpose of the meeting



- Bring everyone to the same level of knowledge on COST
- Common understanding of the Action challenges and objectives
- ✓ Initiate networking & community building
- ✓ Taking key decisions: Election of mandatory leadership positions
- ✓ Proposal for Work & Budget Plan

- X Detailed explanation of the Annotated Rules
- × Deciding on internal processes





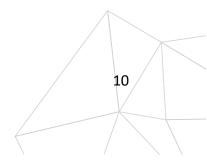
## Agenda: 9:30 – 16:30 (CET)

- Welcome and Frame / Getting to know each other
- COST presentation + Q&A
- Action Chair Candidate presentation + Q&A
  - √ Group Photo / Break (11:00h)
- COST Action Café (parallel discussion sessions)
- Debriefing from the COST Action Café
  - ✓ Lunch (13:15h)
- Election of mandatory leadership positions
- MC Discussion and Decisions (moderated by elected Chair)
  - √ Break (15:15h)
- MC Discussion and Decisions (moderated by elected Chair)







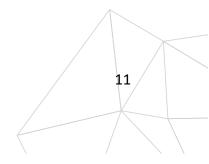


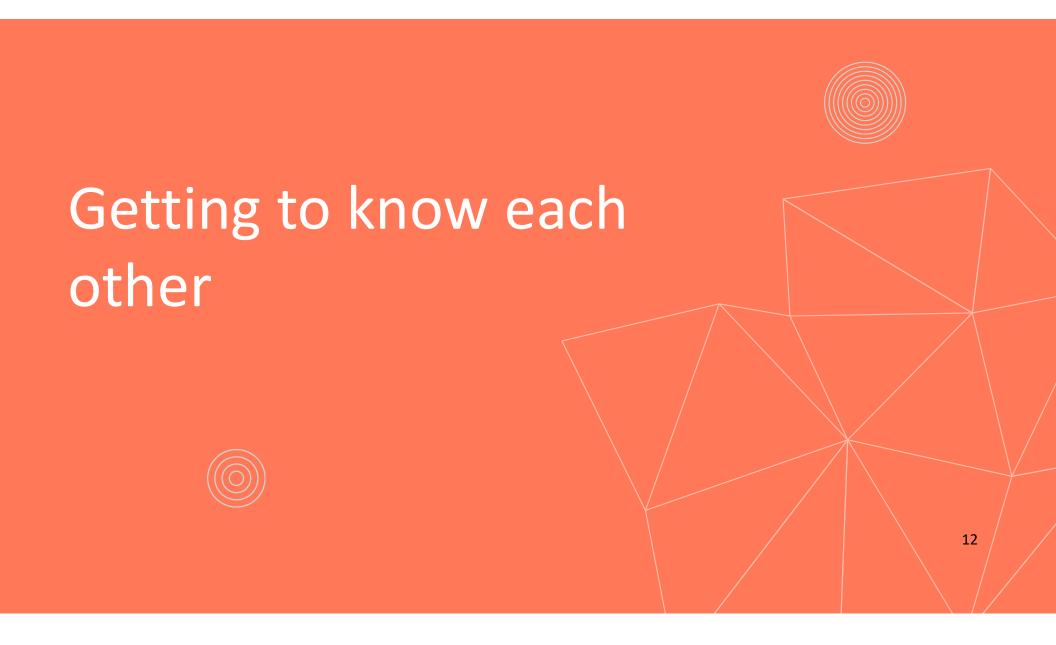
#### House rules

- No recording / pictures to be taken without consent.
- Use this day to engage and interact.
- Keep your statements short and to the point.
- It is not allowed to bring coffee in the room!









## 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



Promoting and spreading excellence

Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science

Empowering and retaining young researchers

#### **VISION**

Europe's most empowering research programme



#### **COST Countries**

#### 41 Members

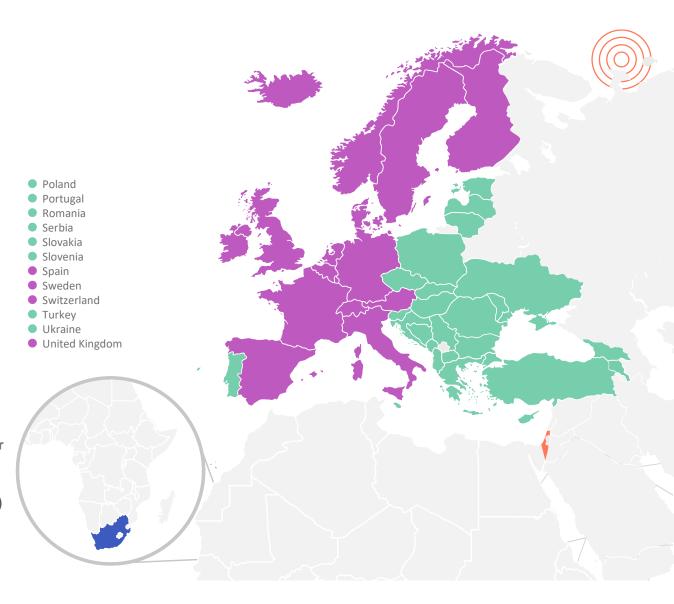
- Albania
- Armenia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia Germany

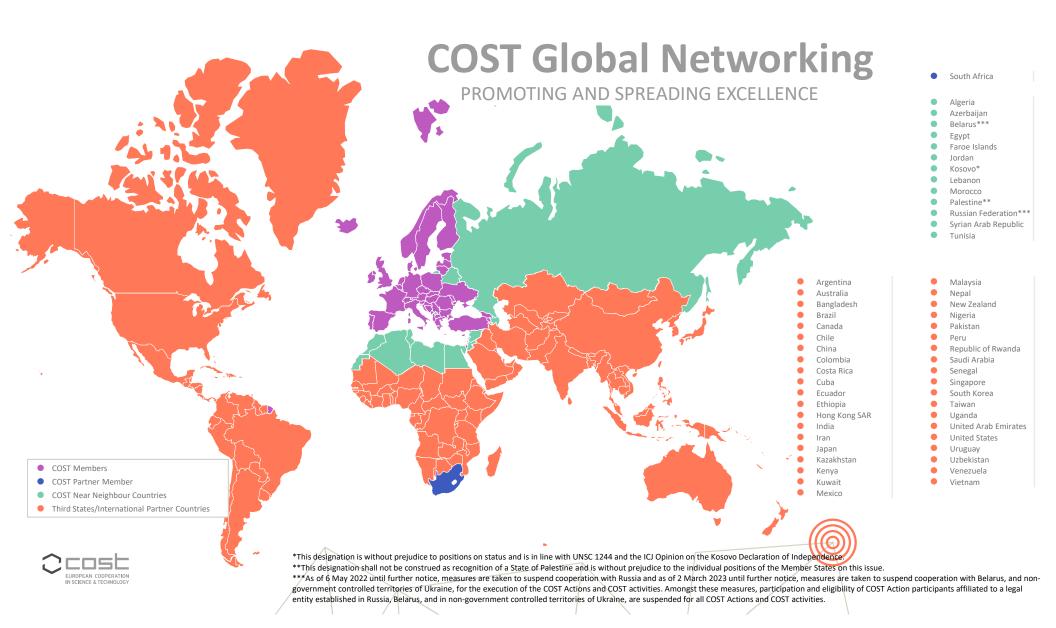
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- The Republic of Moldova
- Montenegro
- The Netherlands
- North Macedonia
- The Republic of
- Norway
- 1 Cooperating Member
  - Israel

- **1** Partner Member
  - South Africa

**Inclussivness Target Countries (ITC)** 







## COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy



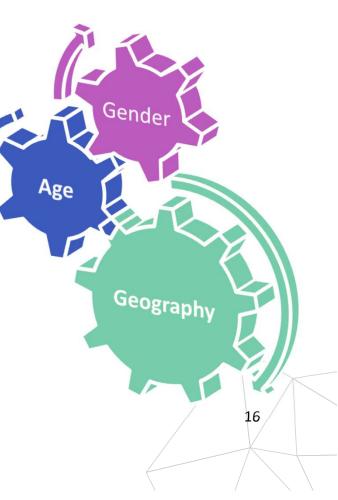
Striving to ensure equal gender participation

Special measures to Young Researchers and Innovators (< 40 years of age)

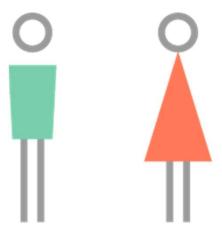
- Special measures to ITCs in Horizon Europe

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine + Outermost regions from Portugal, Spain and France





## Starting with some fun: stand up!









- a. Do you have any COST experience?
- b. Have you worked already with someone in the room?
- c. Are you a Young Researcher?
- d. Are you a researcher in an ITC?







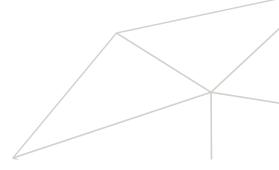




## **COST Actions:**

**Participation and Leadership positions** 





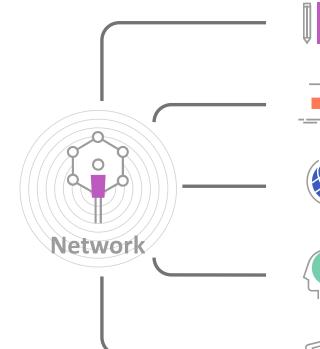
#### **COST Actions**

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 in proposal; currently an average of 31 countries are represented in the MC

Research coordination and capacity building activities







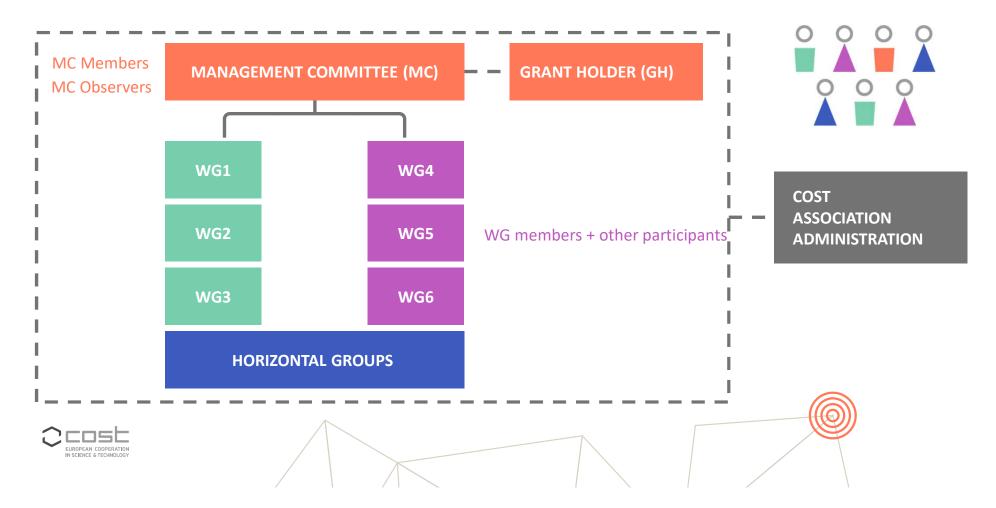


### **COST Action impact**

- In the course of the Actions, co-publications between active COST Action participants see an increase of about 55% compared to general co-publications (data from Actions which ended 2015-2018)
- Initial data indicate that the "Action productivity bonus" last at least 5 years beyond the duration of the Action, but this might even be longer
- Spin-off research proposals to EU Framework Programmes have a success rate of about 30%, beating the general success rate almost threefold
- 88% of researchers in COST Actions say that, in hindsight, participation in the Action led to new professional opportunities

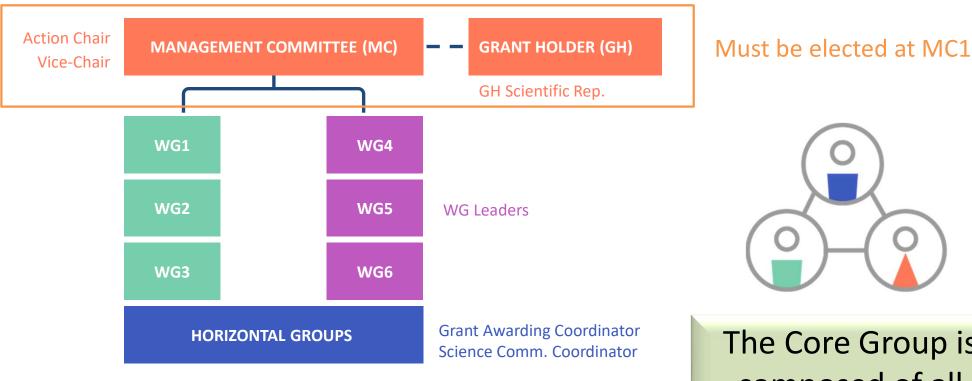


## **Action Structure and Participation**



## **Leadership Positions and Core Group**







The Core Group is composed of all leadership positions

## **Management Committee Members**



26

- The Action Management Committee (MC) is the decision-making body.
- Manage, vote and fulfil obligations regarding:
  - ✓ Content: achievement of MoU objectives and Work and Budget Plan, monitoring (Progress Reports)
  - ✓ People: MC members and Observers, Working Group Members, Leaders
  - ✓ Processes e.g. membership, grant awarding, Communication & Dissemination strategy
- Represent the COST Member State's national community of researchers and innovators on the Action's topic



## Mandatory Leadership Positions



#### Chair

Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Action

#### Vice Chair

 Assists in the Chair and can be a substitute when required or mandated to do so

#### Grant Holder Scientific Representative (GHSR)

 Representative at the MC of the legal entity responsible for the administrative and financial implementation of the COST Action

#### Working Group Leaders

Coordinate the WGs defined by the Action

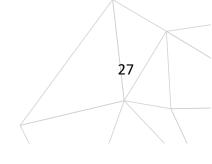
#### Grant Awarding Coordinator

Responsible of Grant awarding process

#### Science Communication Coordinator

 Responsible of the Action dissemination and communication







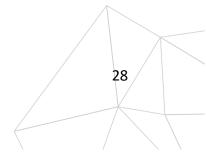
#### WG members





- Contribute to the realisation of the Action's objectives (active participation)
- An individual with an affiliation in a legal entity anywhere in the world approved by the Management Committee (via e-COST)



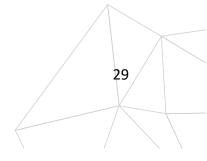


## Note: Working Group members application

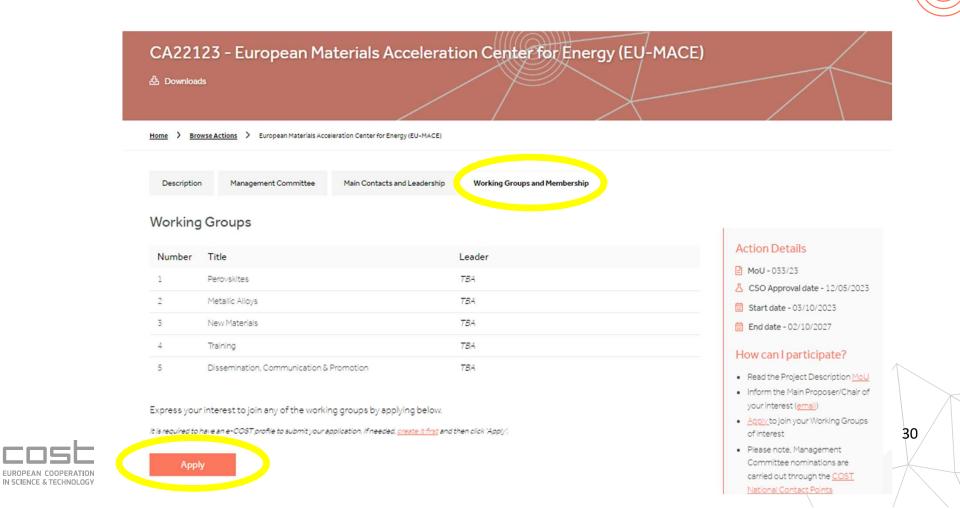


- Apply via the COST website (important: MC members as well!)
  - ✓ WG preference, Scientific Background, Motivation, WG contribution
- Approved applications can be managed via e-COST
  - ✓ Action MC must decide within 3 months (after start of the Action)
- Approved WG members will appear on the Action page of the COST website





#### https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA22123/#tabs+Name:Working%20Groups%20and%20Membership

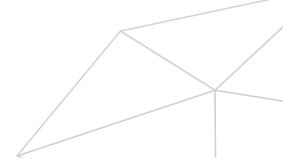




## **COST Actions:**

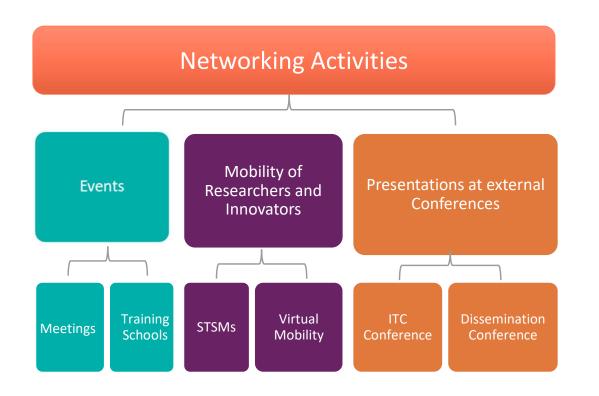
What can be funded?

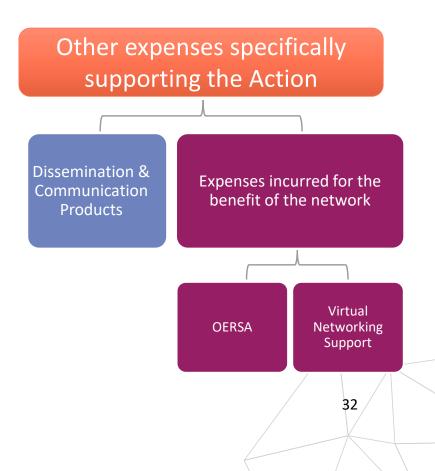




## What can be funded by COST?

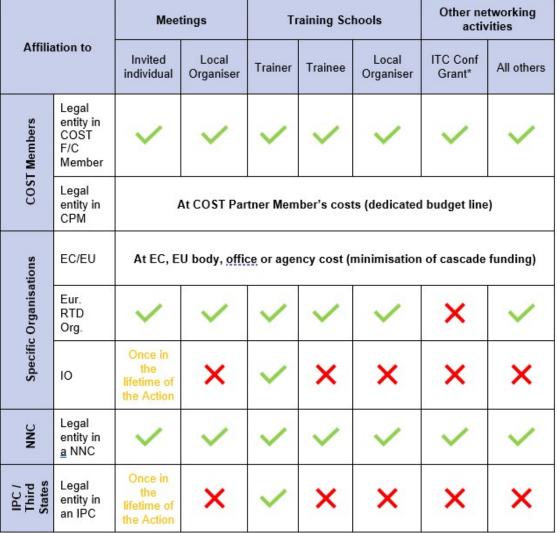








#### Eligibility to receive funding



<sup>\*</sup> ITC Conference Grants are limited to Young researchers and innovators from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries and NNC.







33

## **Location of Activities**



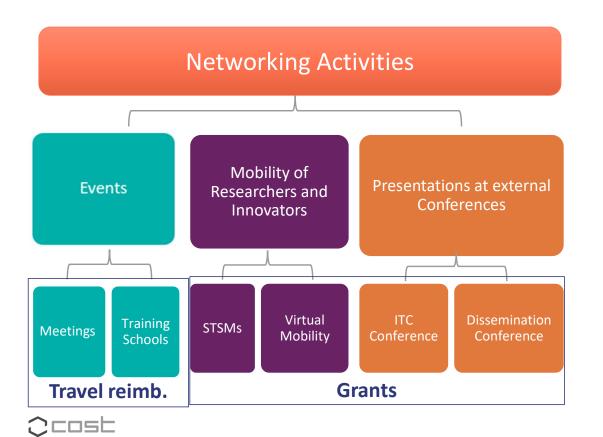
		Meetings	Training Schools and other networking activities
Virtual Environment		~	~
COST Members	Full or Cooperating Members	~	~
	Partner Member	×	<b>~</b>
NNC		~	~
IPC/Third State		×	~
Specific Organisations		Rule applicable to territory where it is vested	

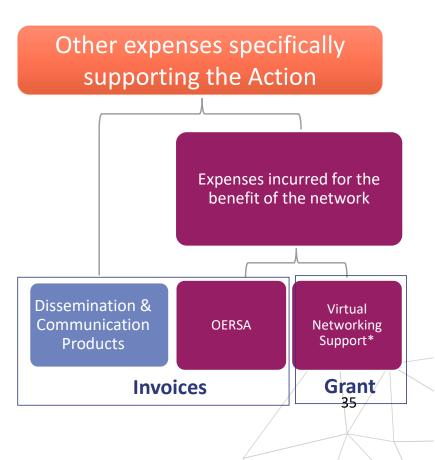


34

#### Reimbursement modalities







#### Travel Reimbursement rules



#### Daily allowance (DA) covers:

- Hotel
- Meals
- Short distance travel (≤100 km one way)

#### Based on:

- Location (meeting country)
- Travel times





- Train, bus
- Plane
- Ferry
- Car limited to 2000 km, 0.35 €/km

#### Others:

- Visa costs
- Travel cancellation insurance

Travel supporting documents required

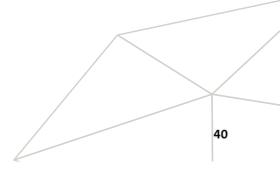


## **Frequent Asked Questions from Participants**



- 1. I will travel from another country to the Meeting/Training School AND/OR from the event I am going to a conference in another country. Can I be reimbursed?
- 2. I will arrive few days before the Meeting/Training School AND/OR I will leave few days after the event. Can I be reimbursed?
  - The answer to both questions is: YES.





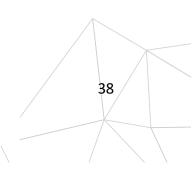
- ✓ Daily Allowance is based on the country of the event (Meeting or Training School)
- ✓ MC can decide to lower the amount of the DA
- ✓ Training Schools: trainers and trainees can have different DA





Country	Daily allowance
Albania	180
Austria	199
Belgium	220
Bosnia and Herzegovina	195
Bulgaria	191
Croatia	191
Cyprus	204
Czech Republic	191
Denmark	209
Estonia	192
Finland	207
France	195
Georgia	191
Germany	212
Greece	193
Hungary	191
Iceland	207
Ireland	211
Israel	195
Italy	201
Latvia	191
Lithuania	182
Luxembourg	205
Malta	193
Moldova	180
Montenegro	182
Netherlands	211
Norway	214
Poland	194
Portugal	195
Romania	187
Serbia	191
Slovakia	189
Slovenia	187
Spain	192
Sweden	199
Switzerland	209
Republic of North Macedonia	191
Turkey	191
Ukraine	191
United Kingdom	222
Any other country	222



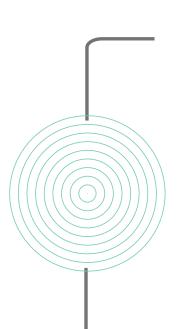


## Local Organiser Support (LOS) Grant



### Grant parameters:

- Format of meeting (F2F, Hybrid or Virtual)
- Number of unique attendees
- Duration



e-COST invitation to all attendees (regardless of eligibility)

Daily attendance list signed daily

Virtual meeting log as generated from virtual platform (e.g. Zoom, Teams, etc)



No invoice required



## Short-term scientific missions (STSM)



### **WHERE:**

To a host organization located in a <u>different</u> country than the country of affiliation

### **Grant AMOUNT:**

(Up to 4000 EUR)
Paid after report approval
(after the STSM)

## ITC or Dissemination Conference Grants

### WHERE:

To high-level conference not organised by the Action itself

### **Grant AMOUNT:**

(Up to 2000 EUR) or 500 EUR (virtual)
Paid after report approval



## Virtual mobility grant



### WHAT:

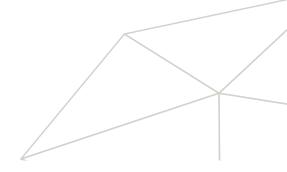
A collaboration in a virtual setting among Action researchers or innovators to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc.

### **Grant AMOUNT:**

**Up to 1500 EUR**Paid after report approval

\*All activities must take place within a Grant Period





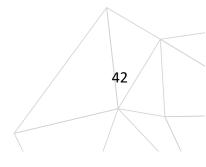
Payment based on receipts and invoices; VAT is not eligible



Dissemination and
Communication Products
(e.g. website, flyers, videos,
publication)
and Expenses incurred for
the benefit of the Action

COST
Networking
Activities





## Double funding

### 1. Principle:

- Double funding is not permitted
- Participants shall declare that they will not receive reimbursement or any allowance from a third party to support their attendance at the approved COST activity for which they are submitting a claim

## 2. Examples:

- Double funding occurs when:
  - DA exceeds 100% when participating in a Meeting followed by a TS
  - A participant applies for an ITC CG for 2 different Actions and present the same presentation
  - Your institution or university pays for your travel expenses, and you submit a claim as well



# Co-located Meeting & Training School Tips to avoid exceeding 100% DA

Meeting 18-19 April
When did you ARRIVE back home?

The answer will be 19 April at 11:00 > the daily allowance will be calculated as 20% \* daily allowance rate.

Training School 20-21 April When did you LEAVE home?

The answer will be 19 April at 20:00 > the daily allowance will be calculated as 80% \* daily allowance rate.

The total DA for the day 19/04 shall not exceed 100%.





## Clarification of affiliation



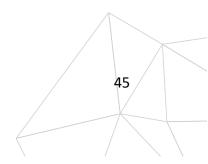
Any form of recognised relationship between the individual and a legal entity.

### **Examples:**

- A work contract;
- Enrolment in a research performing study programme (for example, PhD or Post-Doctoral programme);
- Voluntary service in a NGO;
- Emeritus professorship.







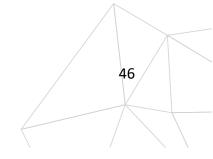
## **COST Actions and GDPR**



- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data
- Pay attention to:
  - ✓ Photos taken and videos made during COST Action meetings and events
  - ✓ Contact details for newsletter and website
  - ✓ Publications of personal data on the website (e.g. ad-hoc contributors' names and emails addresses, pictures of events...)

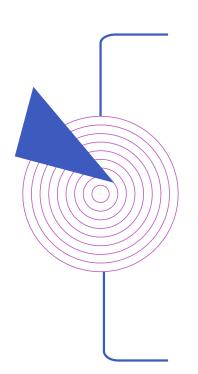
- Provide clear information on the purpose of collection and processing
- Request consent





## **Local Organiser Support (LOS) Grant**





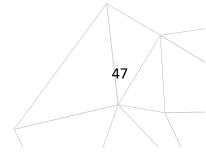
### Face to face events

Ex. Rental for rooms, Refreshments, Collective bus transfer to event venue, Admin support, etc...

### Virtual events

Ex. technical hosting, pre/post-event recordings, etc...





## Local Organiser Support (LOS) Grant



### Level of grant depends on:

- Format of meeting (F2F, Hybrid, or Virtual)
- Number of unique attendees > invited via eCOST
- Duration of event

### Ex.:

Local Organiser Support grant amount for face-to-face and hybrid meetings;

Total unique participants for	LOS grant for a COST face to face / hybrid event lasting:		
the entire duration of the event	1 day	2 days	3 days or more
Min.1-max. 25 participants	EUR 1.000	EUR 2.000	EUR 3.500
26-50 participants	EUR 2.000	EUR 4.000	EUR 6.000
51-100 participants	EUR 4.000	EUR 6.000	EUR 8.500
101-200 participants	EUR 6.000	EUR 8.500	EUR 10.000



48

## Clarification of affiliation

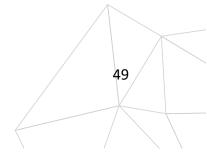


Any form of recognised relationship between the individual and a legal entity.

### **Examples:**

- A work contract;
- Enrolment in a research performing study programme (for example, PhD or Post-Doctoral programme);
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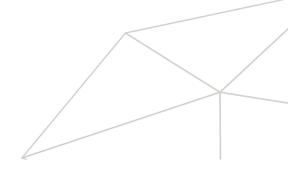




## **COST Actions:**

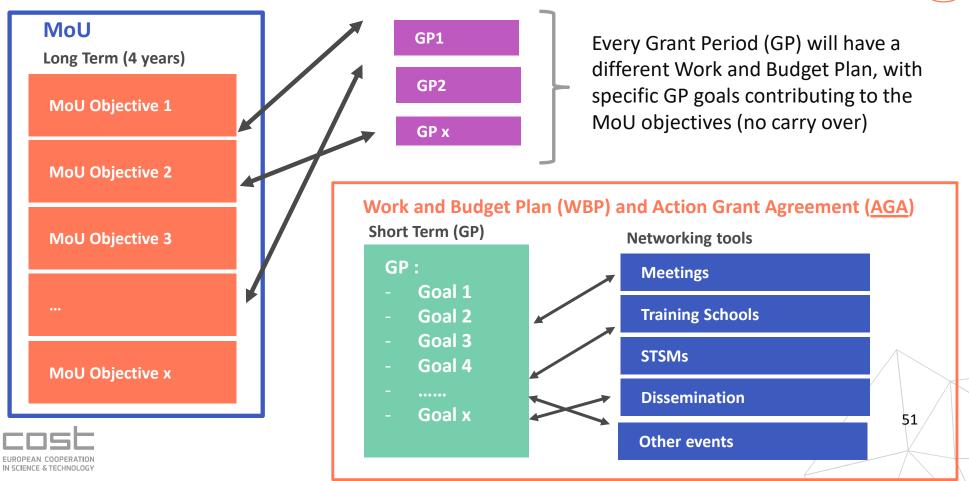
**Grant Periods Work and Budget Plan** 





## MoU and Work and Budget Plan

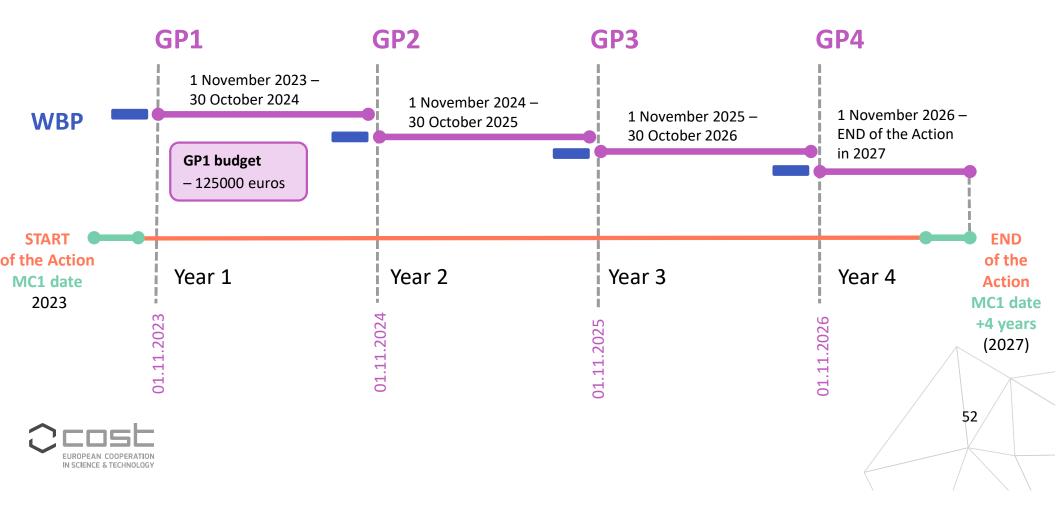




## **Grant Periods and budgets**

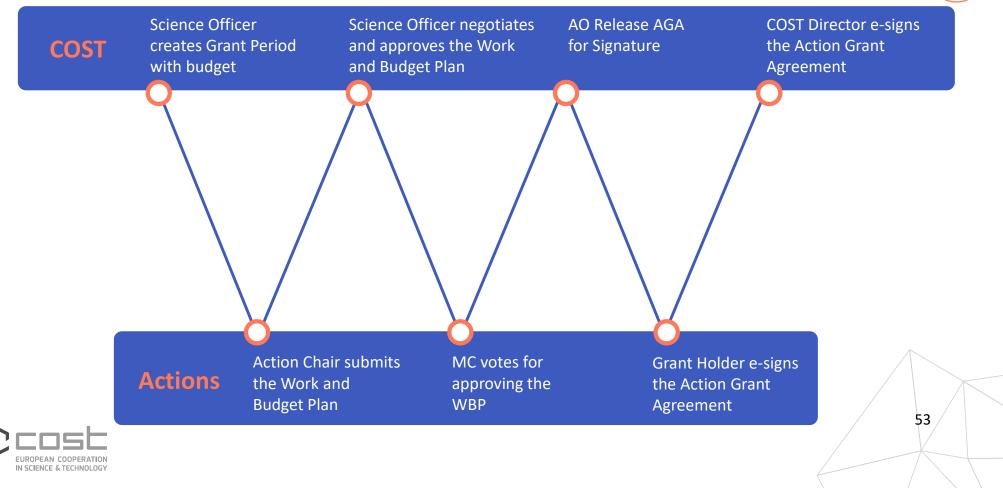
No Budget carry-over from one GP to the following one





## Action Grant Agreement and the Work and Budget Plan





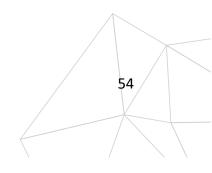






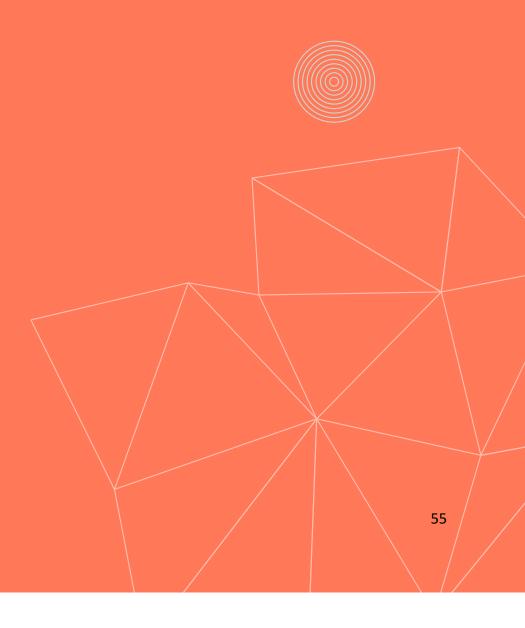
- MoU-Memorandum of Understanding
- the COST Annotated Rules





## Questions

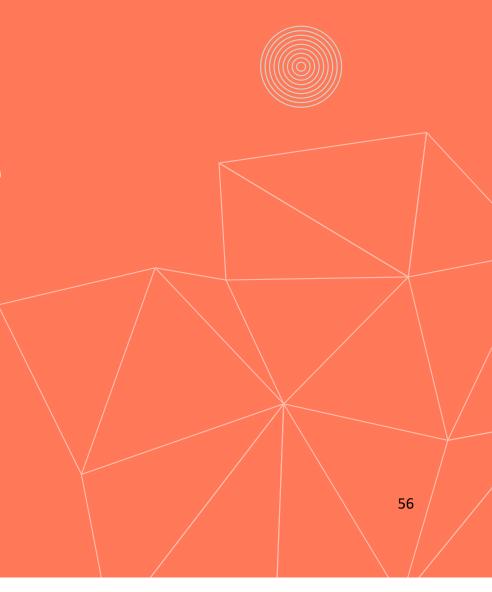




**Action Chair candidate** 

# Presentation of the Action

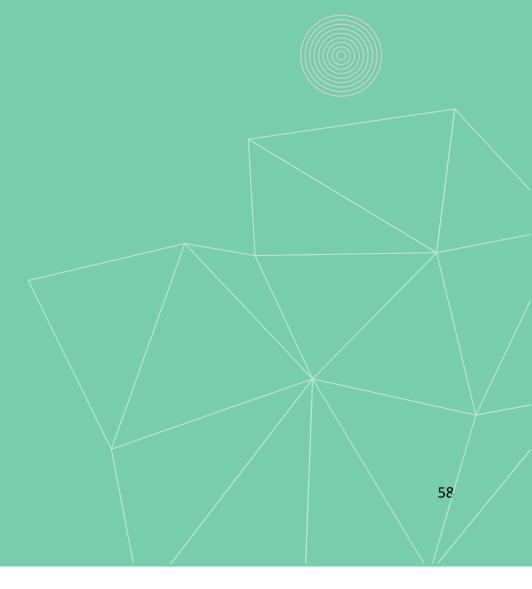






Planning for success with a COST Action Café

## Let's get to work!



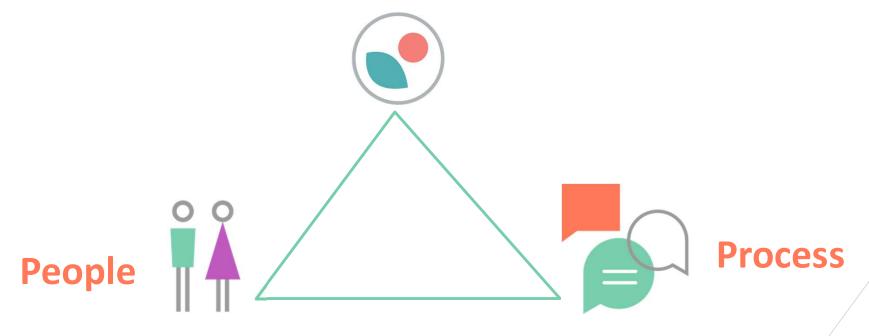


## Key ingredients for a successful COST Action



59

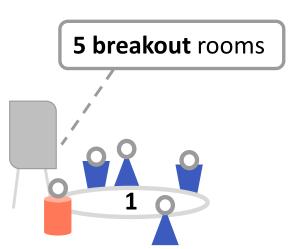


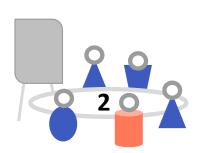




## Structured Discussion: COST Action Café

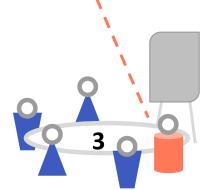


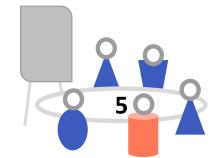


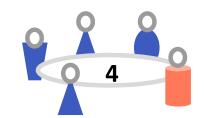


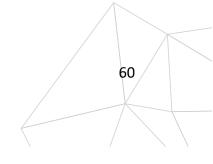
1 Rapporteur in each room













### **Action Number:**

**Room Title:** 

### Rapporteur(s)

## Meeting Participants interested in contributing to the topic:

(Only for the groups discussing Grant Awarding, Science Communication plan and Stakeholder Engagement – WGs information on the e-COST platform.)

What is our main goal?

How can we achieve it?

### Which resources do we needed:

e.g. budget, use of networking tools, different expertise etc.)

What are the next steps:

# Template for the break-out rooms



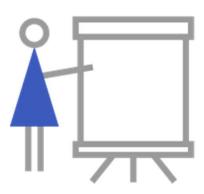
If you don't have the chance to visit the group – please communicate your interest to the Rapporteur



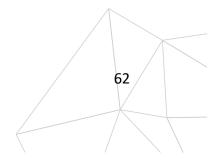
## What will be the topics in each room?



- 1. Task 1 Expert and MAP lists
- 2. Task 2 (4) Materials Integration (+ 1<sup>st</sup> workshop)
- 3. Task 3 (or Task 10) Sustainability (or WG membership)
- 4. Task 5 & 6 (WG4) Training school & ERASMUS+
- 5. Task 9 (WG3) New Materials



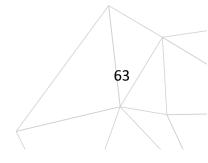






No	Room Topic	Rapporteur
1	Task 1 – Expert and MAP lists	H. Stein and/or J. Jasinski
2	Task 2 (4) – Materials Integration (+ 1 <sup>st</sup> workshop)	K. Malek and/or H. Ihssen (+ S. Nakamae or M. Fabrizio)
3	Task 3 (or Task 10) – Sustainability (or WG membership)	M. Fabrizio (or S. Nakamae)
4	Task 5 & 6 (WG4) – Training school & ERASMUS+	D. Lacroix
5	Task 9 (WG3) – New Materials	A. Bieberle or A. P. Sanjuan



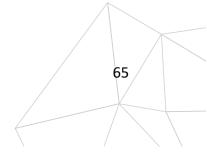






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# Lunch break We resume at 14:15



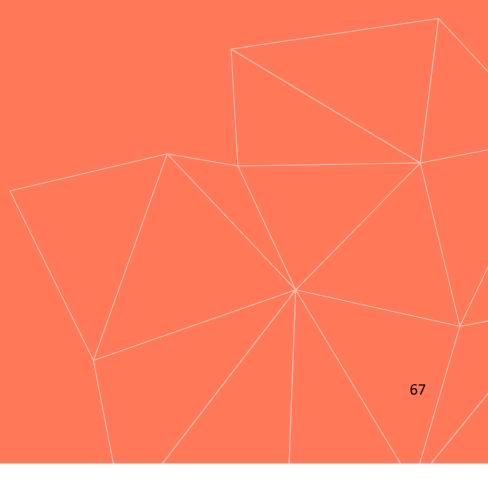


**Action Chair, Vice Chair and Grant Holder Scientific Representative** 



## Elections

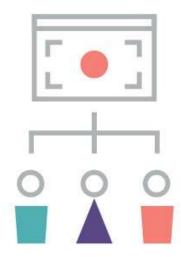




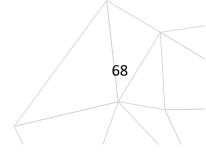
## **COST Action MC Decision Making**

### **MC MEETINGS**

- Minimum once a year.
- Typical duration ½ day.
- Decisions only valid if at least 2/3 of the COST Countries represented in the MC are present.
- Simple majority vote of MC Members with one vote per COST Country represented at the MC.
- MC decision must be minuted and sent to COST Association.

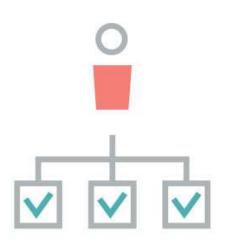






## **COST Action MC Decision Making**



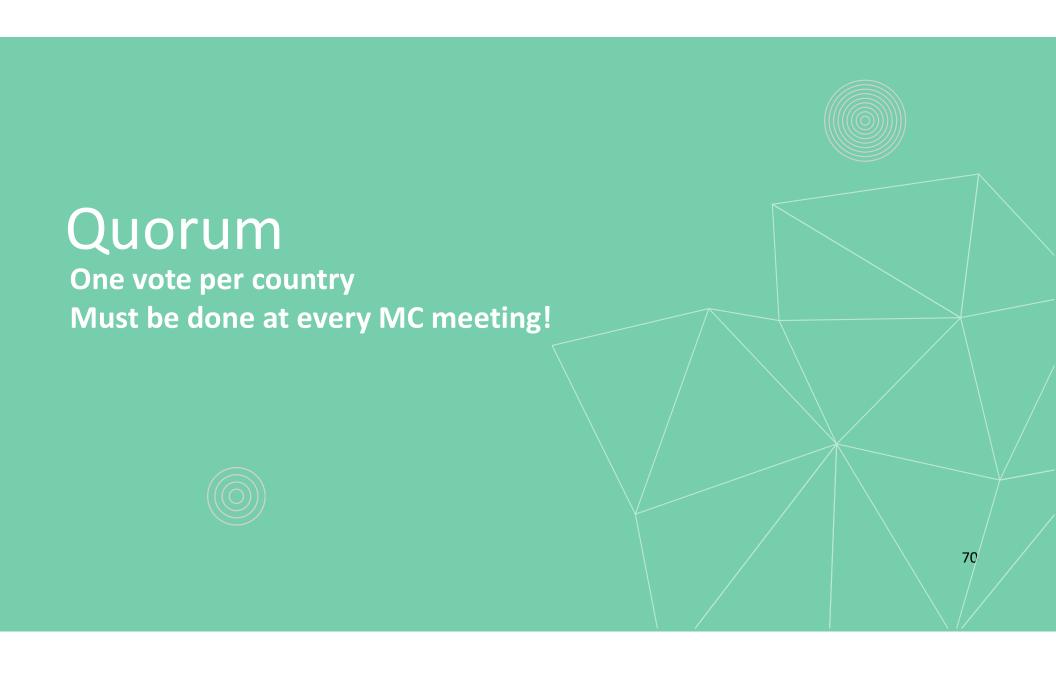


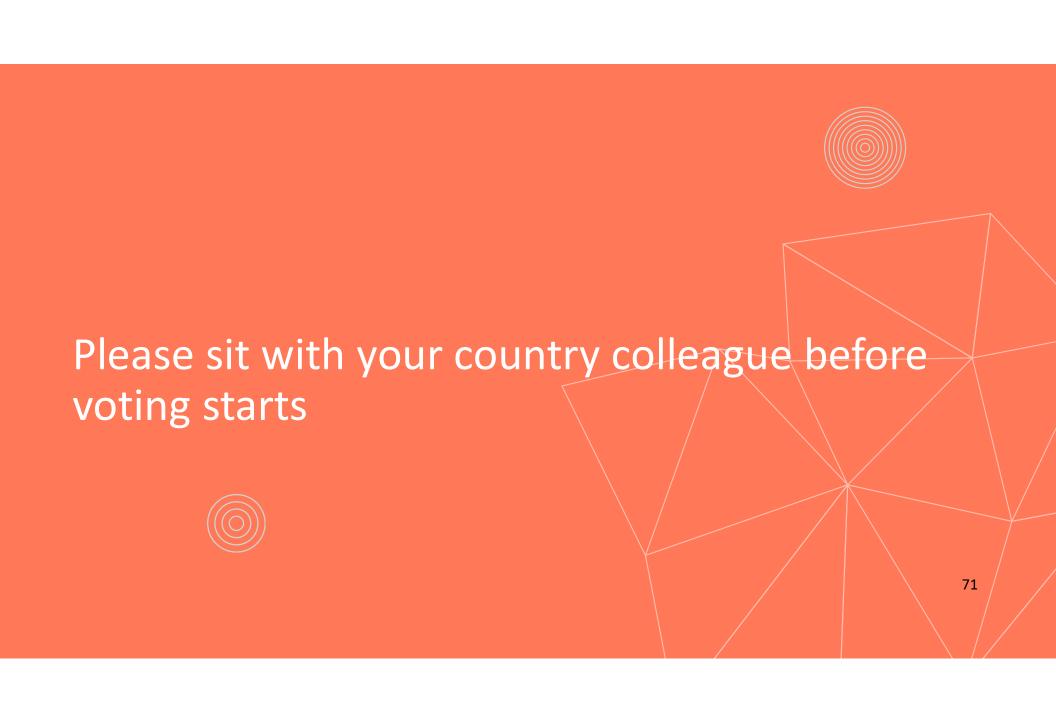
### E-VOTE (in e-COST)

- Initiated and managed by the MC Chair (or Vice Chair if applicable)
- All MC members are automatically included.
- Vote open (7 days).
- Simple majority vote of MC Members with one vote per COST Country represented at the MC
- Abstention means tacit approval.
- MC decision automatically recorded in e-COST.







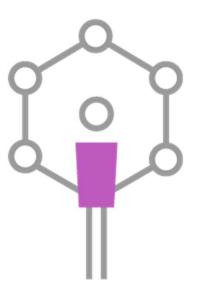


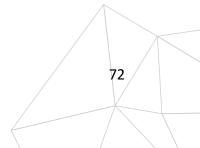
## What are you voting for:

- The Action Chair is responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Action.
- The Vice Chair assists in these activities where requested to do so by the Action Chair and can substitute for the Action Chair when required or mandated to do so.
- Grant Holder Scientific Representative. Grant Holder is the legal entity responsible for the administrative and financial implementation of the COST Action.





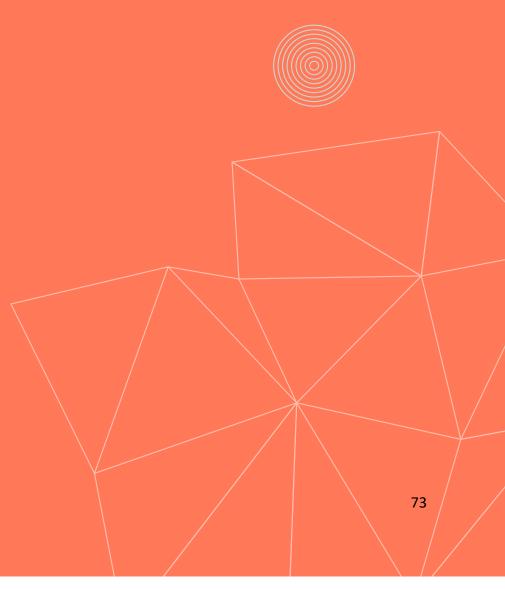




# MC discussion and decisions

**Elected Action Chair** 

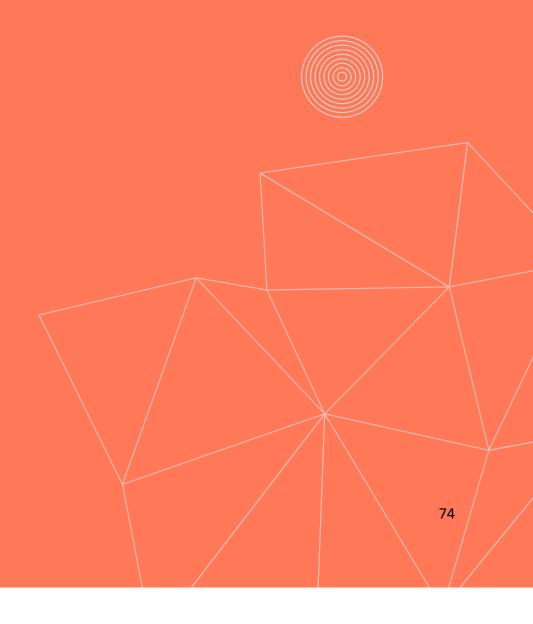




## Action Structure

**Elected Action Chair** 







## Mandatory Leadership Positions



### Chair

✓ responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Action

### Vice Chair

✓ assists in the Chair and can be a substitute when required or mandated to do so

## Grant Holder Scientific Representative (GHSR)

representative at the MC of the legal entity responsible for the administrative and financial implementation of the COST Action

### Working Group Leaders

coordinate the WGs defined by the Action

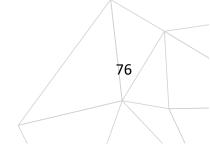
### Grant Awarding Coordinator

Responsible of Grant awarding process

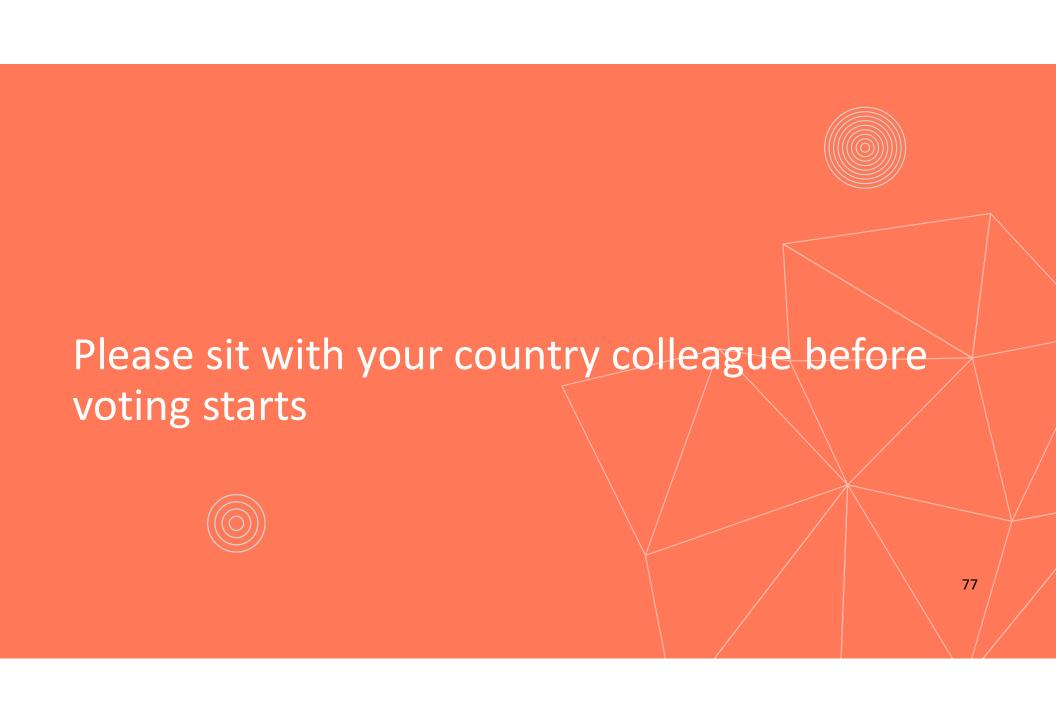
### Science Communication Coordinator

responsible of the Action dissemination and communication











	<b>Decision</b>	Delegation
Action participation	Approve applications to WG membership.  Selection criteria.	Core Group
	To agree on the evaluation and selection criteria.	
	To agree on the evaluation committee composition (if any).	
	To issue calls for Grants.	Grant Awarding
Grants (STSMs, ITC CGs, VM)	To pre-select eligible candidates.	Coordinator (+Core Group)
	To organize the evaluation and ranking of applications.	
	To evaluate the received applications against the agreed evaluation criteria.	
	Approve the applications and decide on the amount of each grant.	





Decision		Delegation
	Decide on invitees and list of reimbursed participants in meetings and trainers in the TS.	
Organising Events (Meetings, Workshops, Training	Decide on the final program (e.g. talks, posters).	Core Group supported by the Local Organiser
Schools)	To decide on logistics of the venue, schedule, and social events of the respective meeting/training school, respecting the allocated budget for LOS (Local Organiser Support).	
Administrative and budget related	To reallocate unspent budget (<10.000 eur) in activities included in the WBP or new.	Core Group
decisions	Cancel invitations not answered in the period agreed by the MC (suggested 15 days).	Action Chair - Grant Holder Manager







**Support to Draft Work and Budget Plan** 

**Elected Action Chair** 





# Proposal for WBP

**Next Grant Period** 

**Elected Action Chair** 



