



The COST programme at a glance

Programme	European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)
Funding agency	COST Office Funding from EU's Framework Programmes (currently: Horizon 2020)
Objective	Strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacities via <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting high-quality scientific communities in Europe and worldwide• Providing networking opportunities for researchers in early career stages• Increasing research impact on policy and decision making as well as on the private sector
Themes	Free choice of research areas (bottom-up), excluding military-related topics
Timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call for proposals: Continuously open call (two-stage procedure)• Proposal submission: Two deadlines a year• Project start: About 7 months after the first stage (short proposal) submission
Consortium	Between 5-10 initial proposers. COST projects ("COST Actions") are open during their lifetime and can grow in size, typically to about 15-25 partners.
Duration	Usually 4 years
Funding rates	Consortium proposes yearly budgets (on average 130,000 euro / year for a 20 partner Action) for networking and training activities. No funding for actual research activities.
Total Funding	On average about € 500'000 over 4 years
Success criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timeliness and relevance of research topic• Need for a network• Specific support for researchers in early career stages (e.g. doctoral students)
Success rate	In recent years approximately 8% at stage 1 and 40% at stage 2
Website	www.cost.eu

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