



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 07 June 2019**

**WK 6986/2019 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**ERAC-GPC**

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From:	GPC Secretariat
To:	ERAC (GPC)
Subject:	COST - Promoting and Spreading Excellence

Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation concerning the item 6 of the GPC plenary agenda of 4 June 2019.



Growing  
**ideas**  
through  
**networks**

# COST - Promoting and Spreading Excellence

Dr Ronald de Bruin, Director COST Association  
GPC meeting, Brussels, 4 June 2019



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme  
of the European Union

# COST - 45 years proven track record in research collaboration

- 38 COST Members

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, 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, and United Kingdom

- 1 Cooperating Member

Israel

- 1 Partner Member

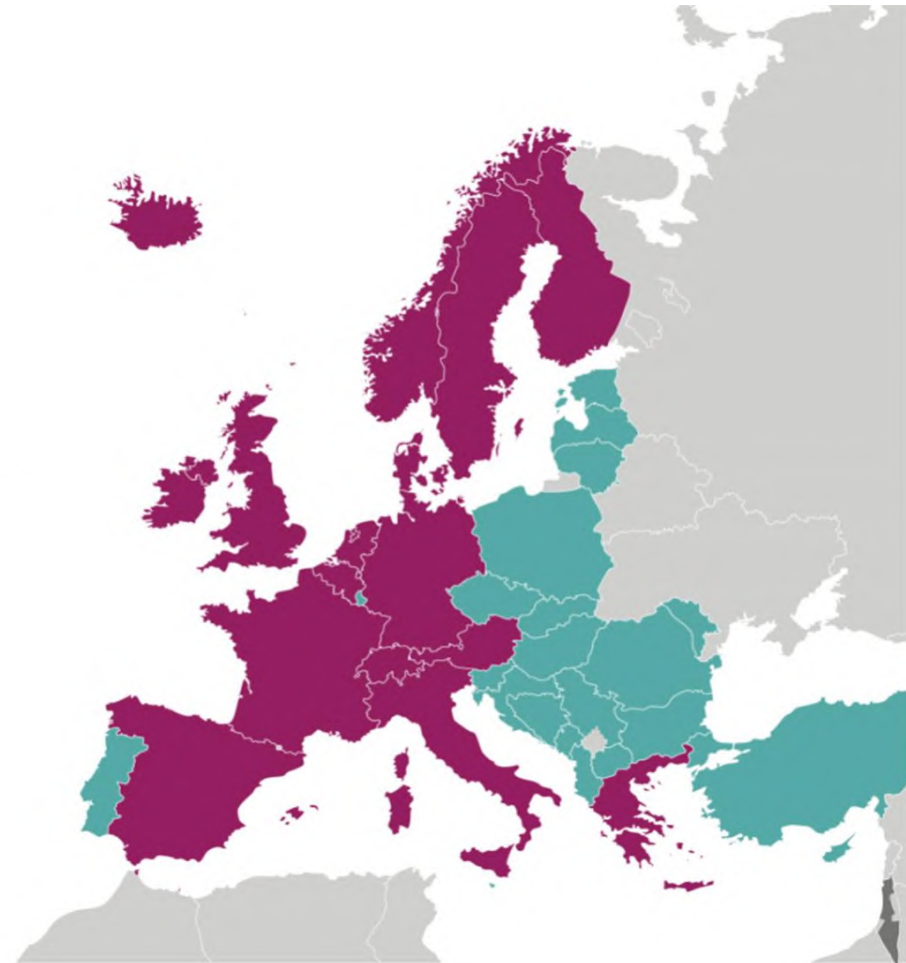
South Africa

- Near Neighbour Countries participation

Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo\*, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine\*\*, Russia, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine


\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

\*\*This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.



- COST Members
- COST Members (ITCs)
- COST Cooperating member

# COST key figures of 2018

291   
Running Actions

213   
Training schools

 €134,500  
Average annual budget  
of a COST Action

 2,457  
Short-term scientific missions

 45,000  
Researchers involved  
in COST Actions

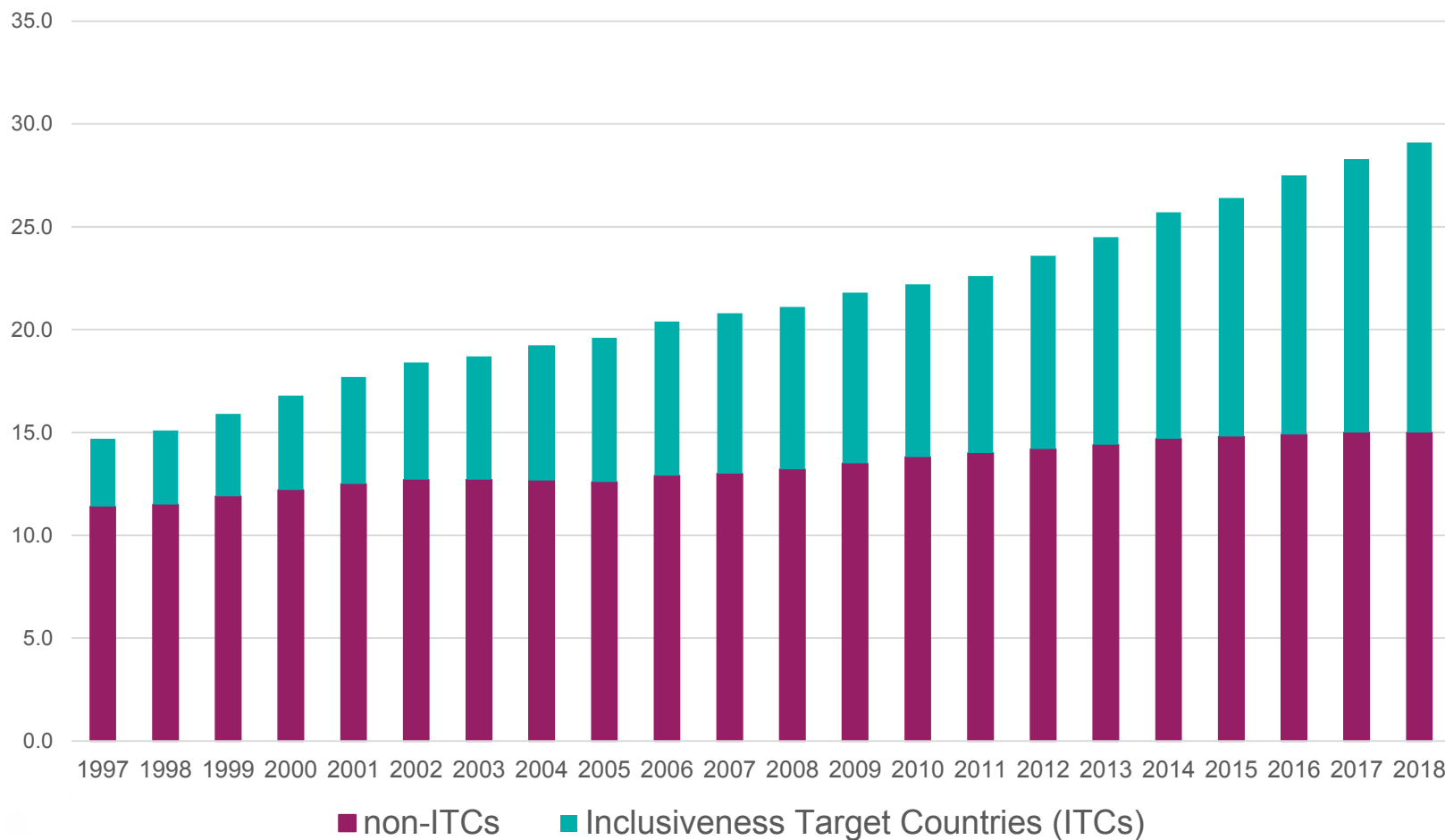
 €300 million  
COST budget (from Horizon  
2020 for a 7 year period)

COST: The networking tool in the ERA and the pre-portal to other ERA funding schemes

# How it works?



## Average participation in COST Actions, ITCs and other countries



# Dedicated measures for active ITC participation



## COST Info Days

- Targeted to ITC
- combined with high-level meeting ITC government, including NCP



## 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 GH
- Mentoring Chair



# Example of COST success stories



- COST Action FP1106
- Running from 23/04/2012 - 22/04/2016
- STReESS - Studying Tree Responses to extreme Events: a Synthesis
- Lead to establishment of new research facility, the DendroLab Novi Sad, Serbia



# Examples of COST Success Stories



“ Innovative ideas will only come if we have a diverse culture. And if we join forces, we will be making bigger progress and deliver something to society. ”

Dr. Andreja Kutnar, Associate Professor, Department of Technology, University of Primorska, Slovenia.

“ I always say that I have learnt more in these 3 years in COST than I would have in 10 years of my career. ”

Dr. Lara Pajewski, Researcher, Engineering Department, "Roma Tre" University, Italy



“ Industry needs to cooperate with academia just like in COST networks. Over there, knowledge transfer and getting results to industry happens in real time. ”

Mark de Boevere, Managing Director, Pulsermaster (SME), The Netherlands



## Example of COST success stories

- Czech Republic, Switzerland, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Turkey provide additional national support to COST Action participants
- Budget is available for
  - Personnel cost of staff assigned to the project (focus on PhD)
  - Cost of new equipment
  - Cost of sub-contracting
  - ...

# Role of COST in the ERA - 3 Strategic Priorities

- 1 Promoting and spreading excellence
- 2 Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science
- 3 Boosting careers young researchers

## COST Acting as a pre-portal for FP funding

### Horizon 2020 applications reported by finished COST Actions

Total Actions with  
finished Final Action  
Report

114

Submitted H2020  
proposals reported

392

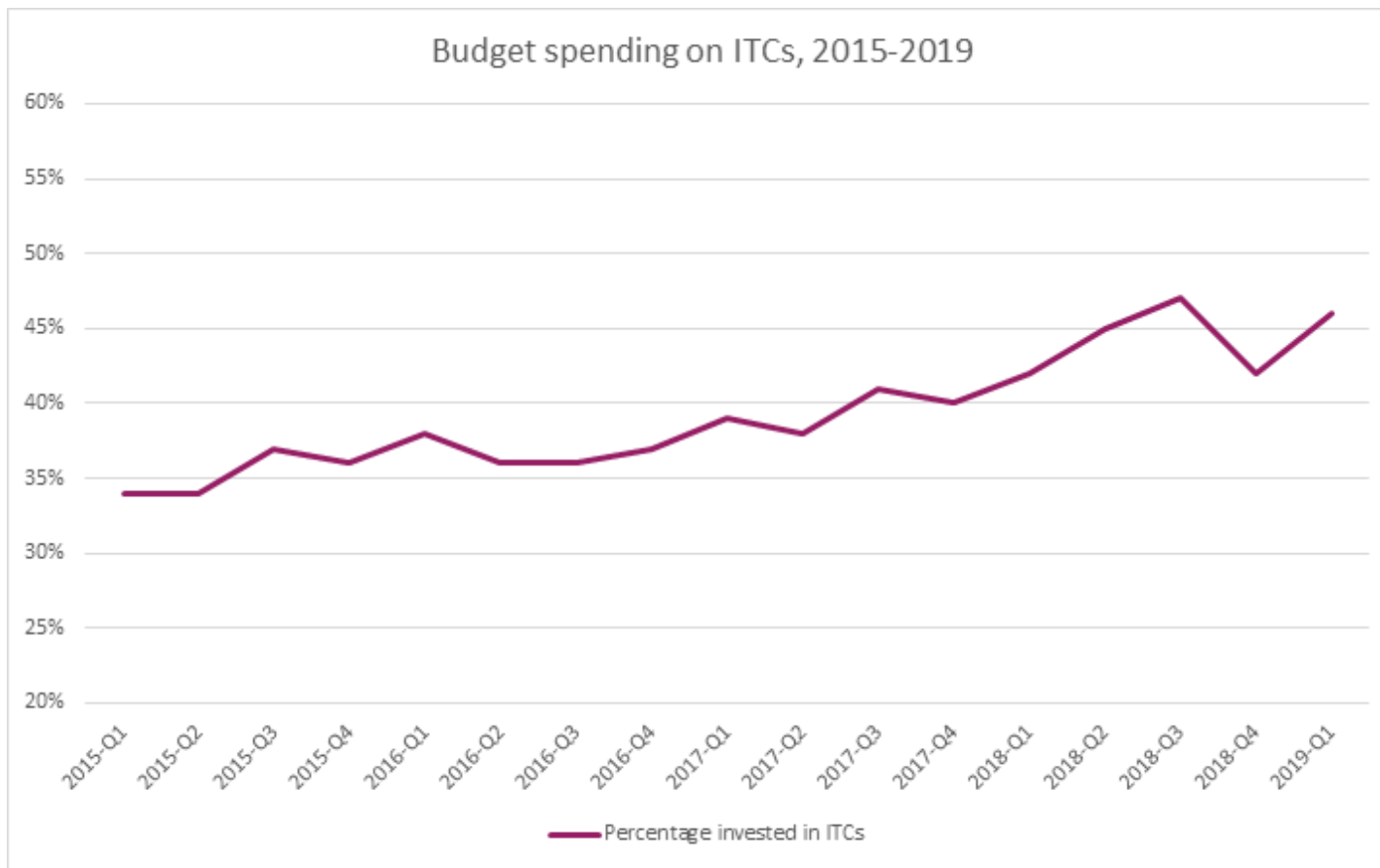
Approved H2020  
projects reported

131

Success rate

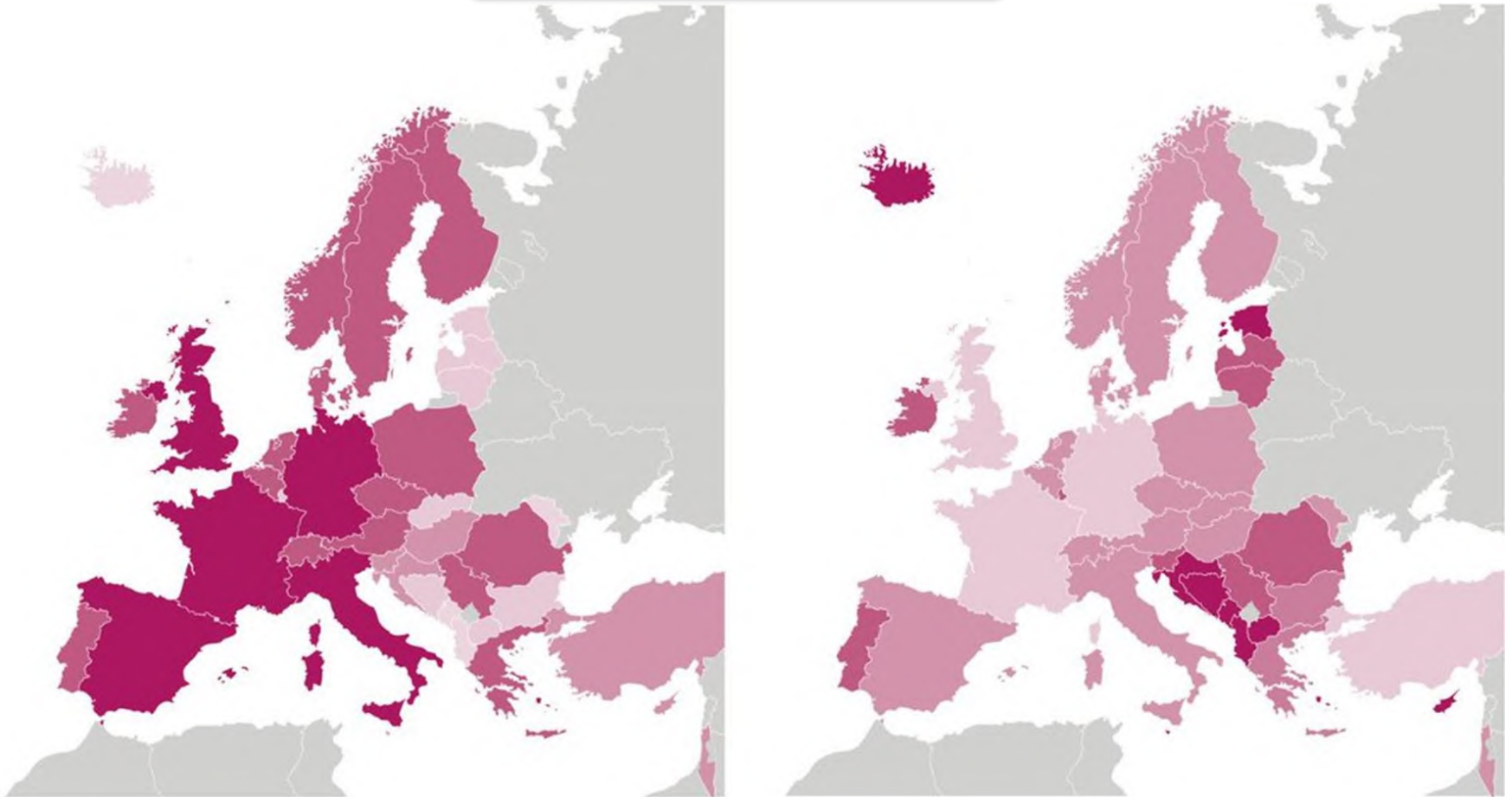
33 %

## Budget spending on ITCs, 2015-2018/2019

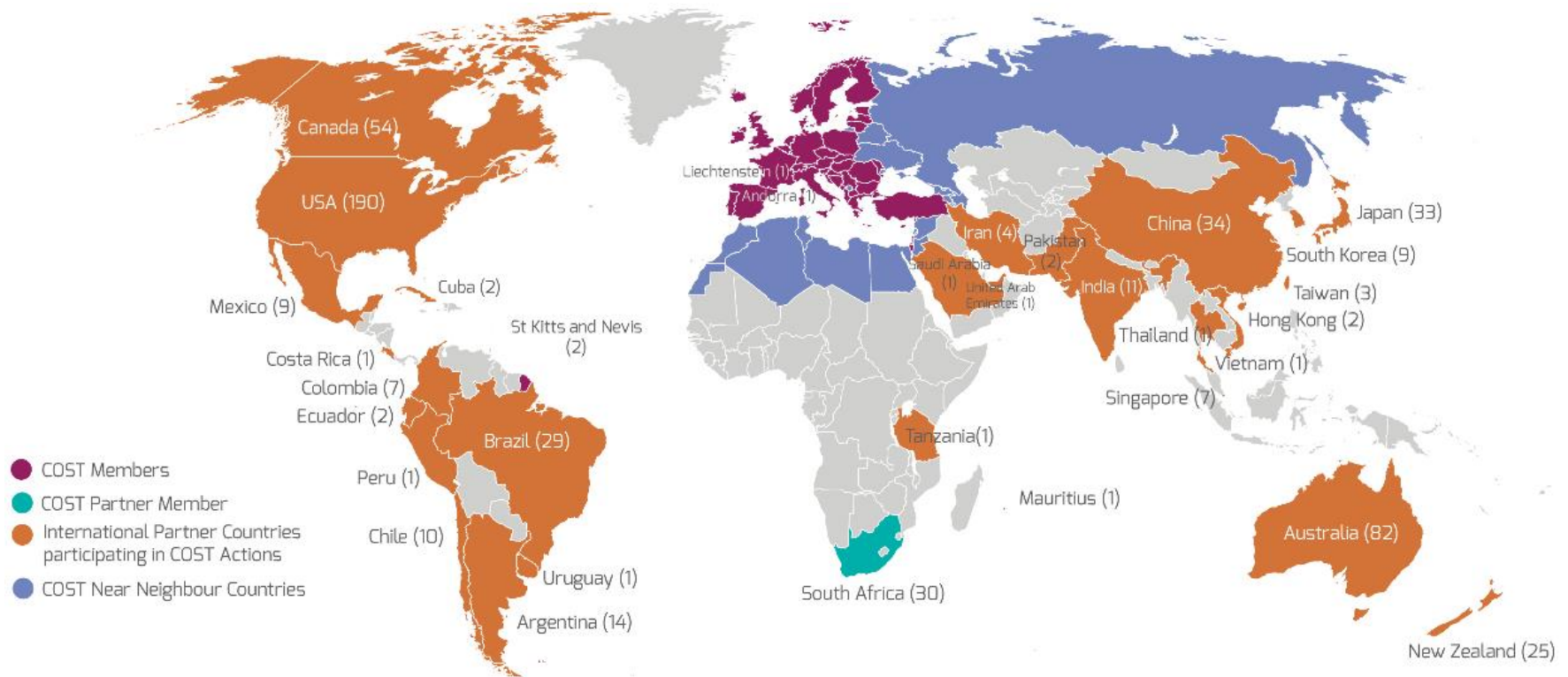


# Priority 1. Promoting and spreading excellence

Everyone Benefits

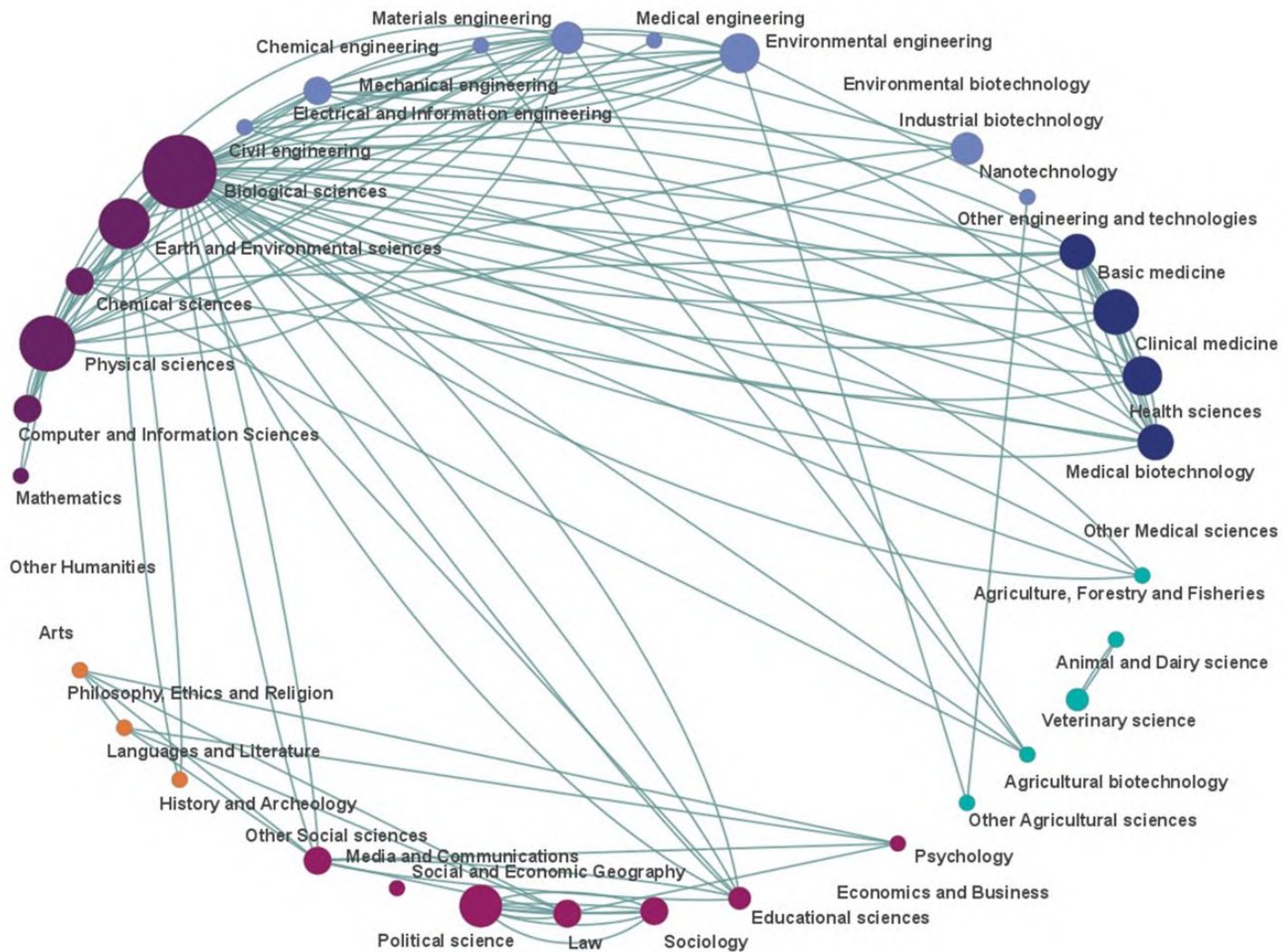


# Priority 1. Promoting and spreading excellence

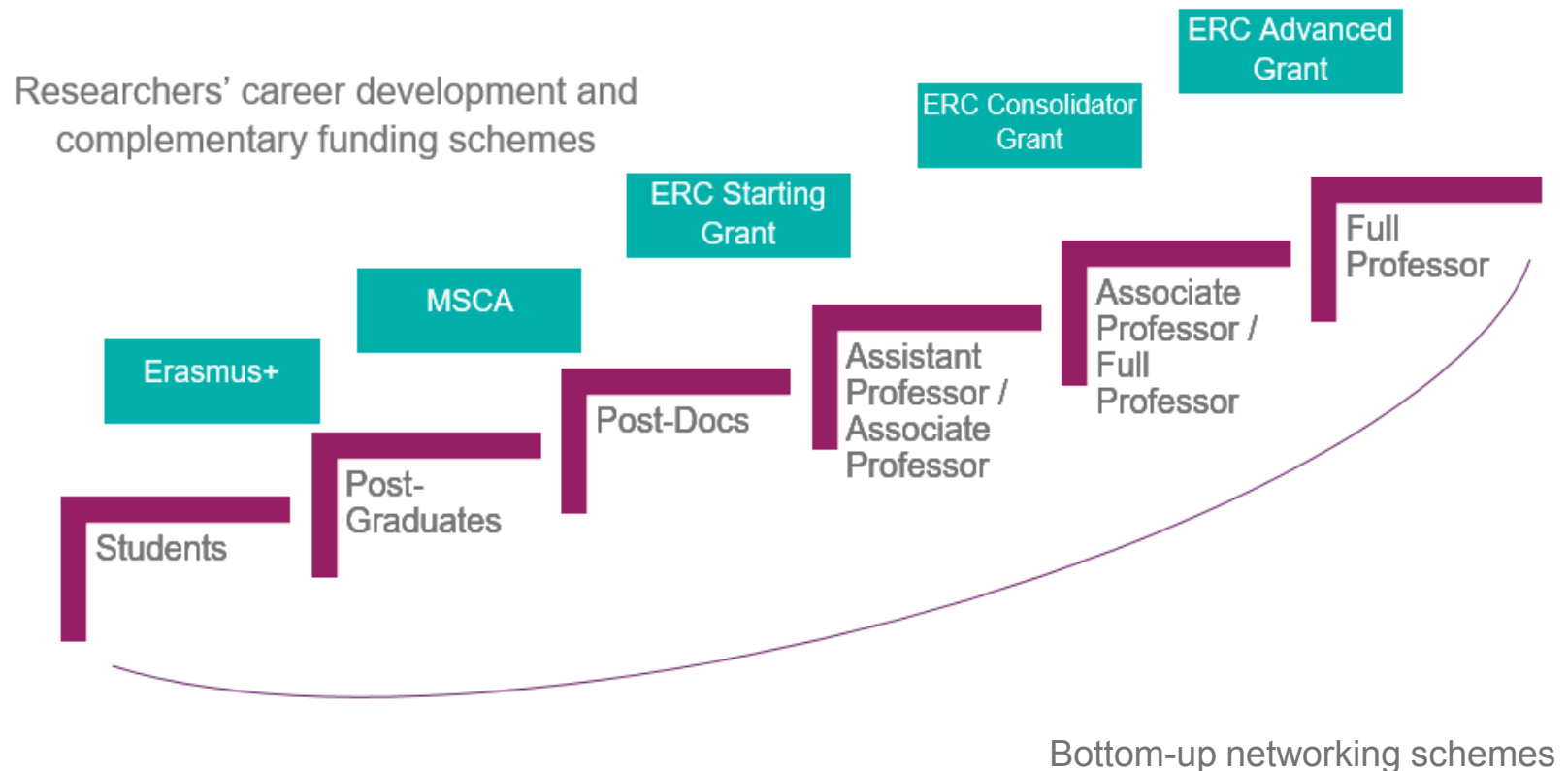




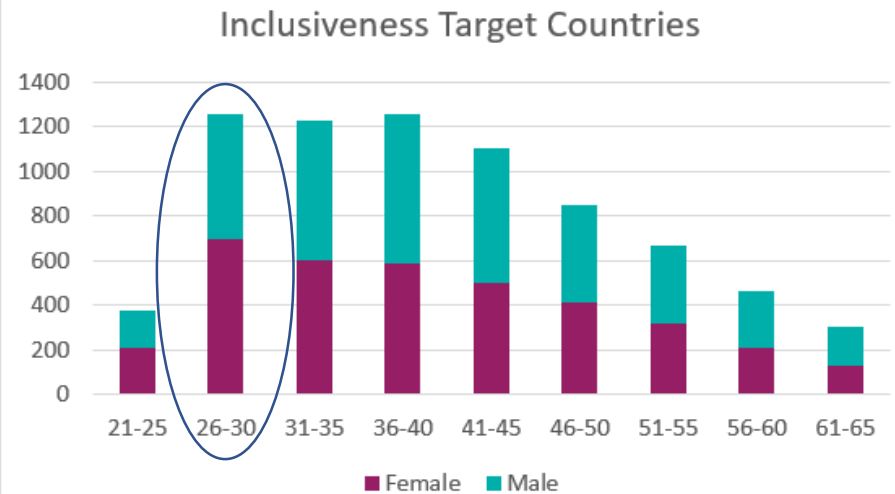
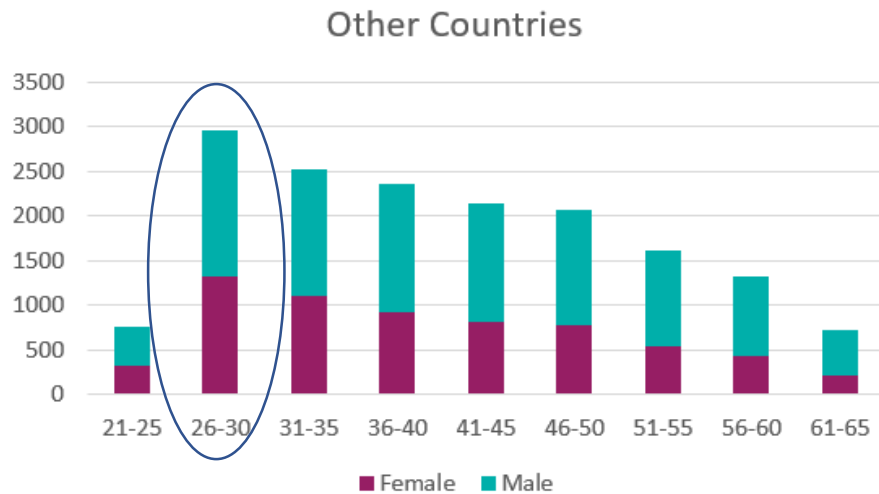
## Priority 2. Fostering interdisciplinary research for breakthrough science



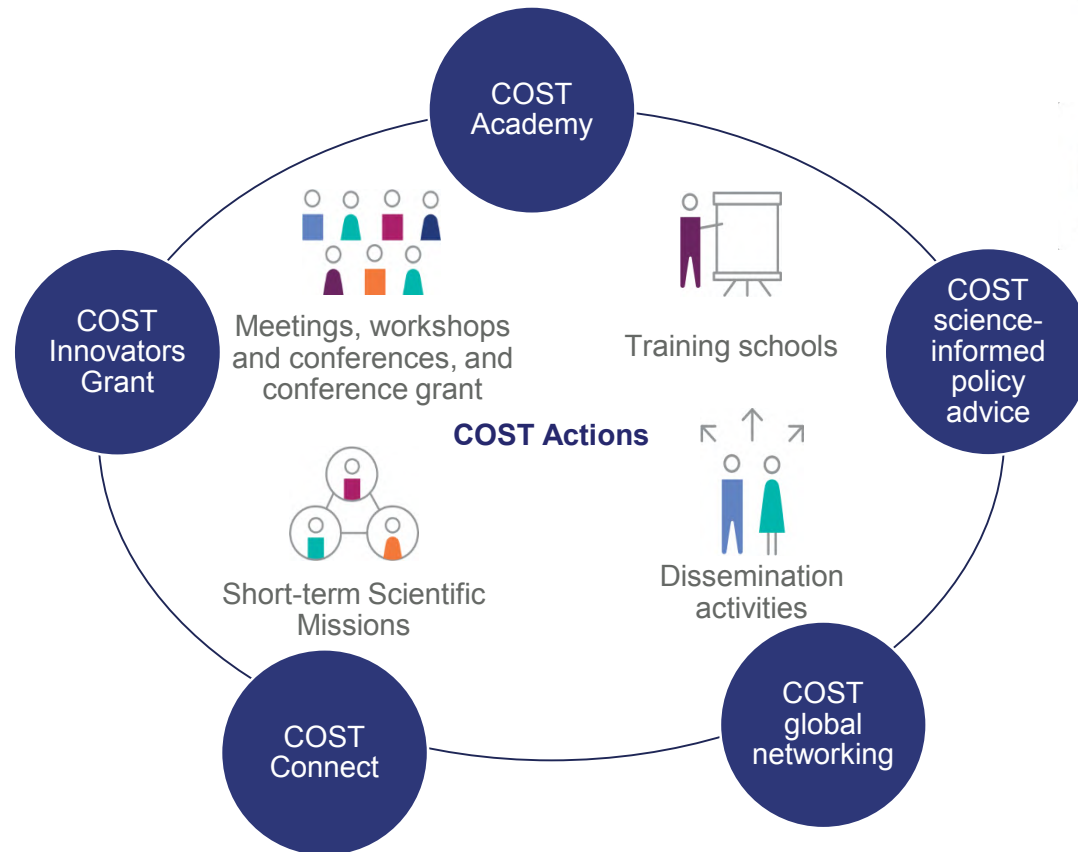
# Boosting careers of young researchers



# Boosting careers of young researchers



# Implementing COST's strategic priorities



# Thank you!

## Contact and engage with us!

 @COST.Programme

 @COSTprogramme

 COST Association

 COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology)

*“ The opportunity for science lies in creating an unlimited space where crossovers between ideas and people can change the world for the better. ”*