



Growing
ideas
through
networks

COST

European Cooperation in Science and Technology

64th meeting of the EFSA Advisory Forum, 9 June 2017, Parma

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Outline

- What is COST?
- How it works?

COST in a nutshell

- **pan-European** Intergovernmental framework
Supported from H2020
- One funding scheme: **Networks** named COST actions
- **New ideas** and **new initiatives** across all scientific disciplines
- **Soft trans-European coordination** of nationally funded research.

37 COST members

- EU 28

- EU Candidates and Potential Candidates

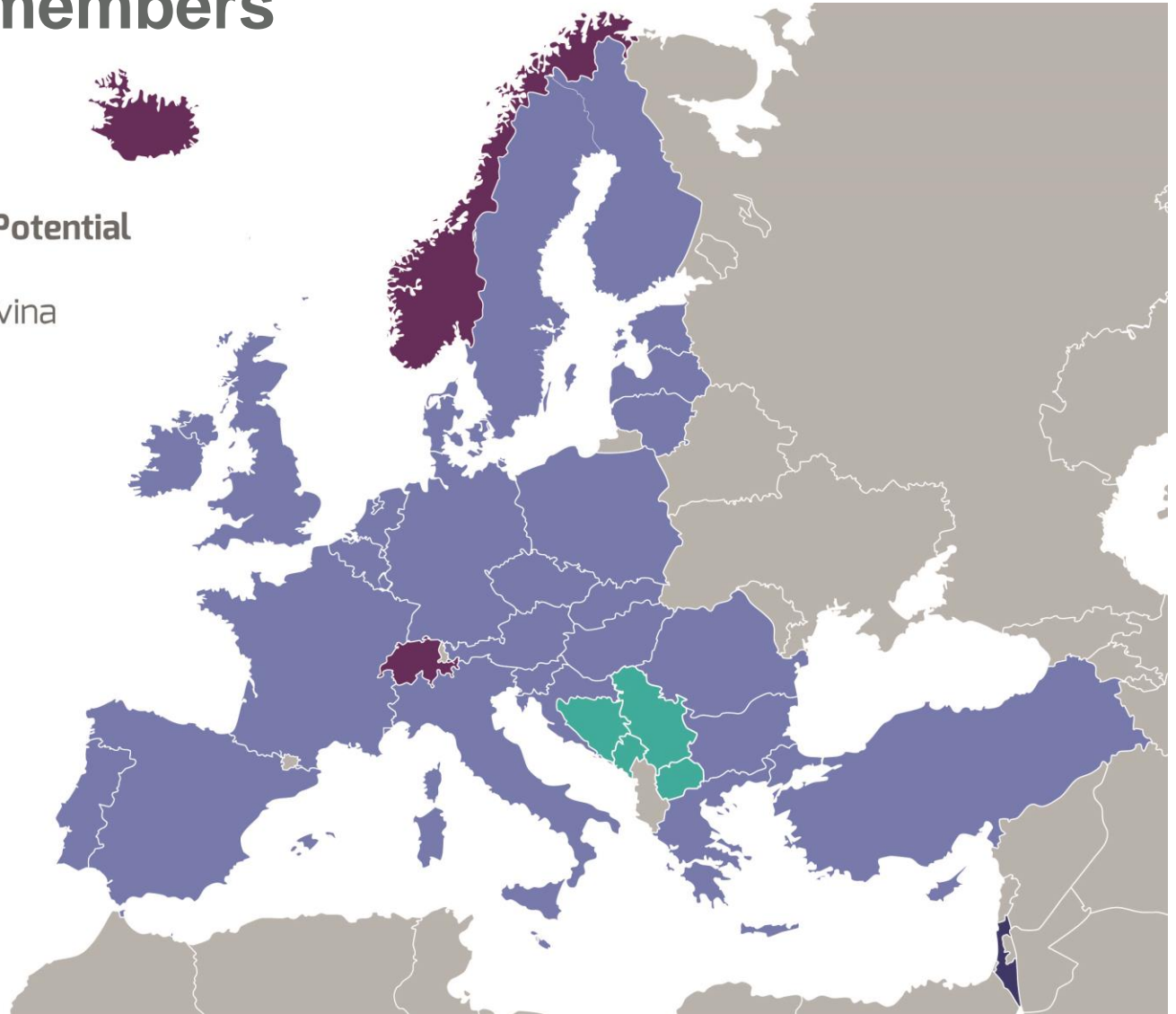
Bosnia and Herzegovina
fYR Macedonia
Montenegro
Republic of Serbia
Turkey

- Other countries

Iceland
Norway
Switzerland

- COST Cooperating Member

Israel



Why networks?

Knowledge sharing for tackling complex problems:

- Common understanding of problems at hand
- Pooling resources
- Reduced risks
- Coordination of activities
- Synthesis and re-combination of spread pieces of knowledge - Synergies ($1+1>2$)
- Innovation

COST Focus

Preparing the future:

People & ideas

Principles

- **Bottom-up** (researcher driven, any topic/multiple topics)
- **Flexible** (adaptable research and activities)
- **Open participation** (involve all stakeholders, type of institutions, career levels, countries, at any time)
- **Output** oriented and risk friendly
- **Efficient and cost-effective**

Open Call for Proposals

- In all S&T fields
- One-stage online submission done by a main Proposer (on behalf of a network)
- Anytime submission- proposals collected every 8 months
- Around 40 Actions approved in each collection, subject to budget availability
- Guidelines and template on **cost.eu/opencall**
- Next collection: 7 Sept 2017

COST Actions – characteristics

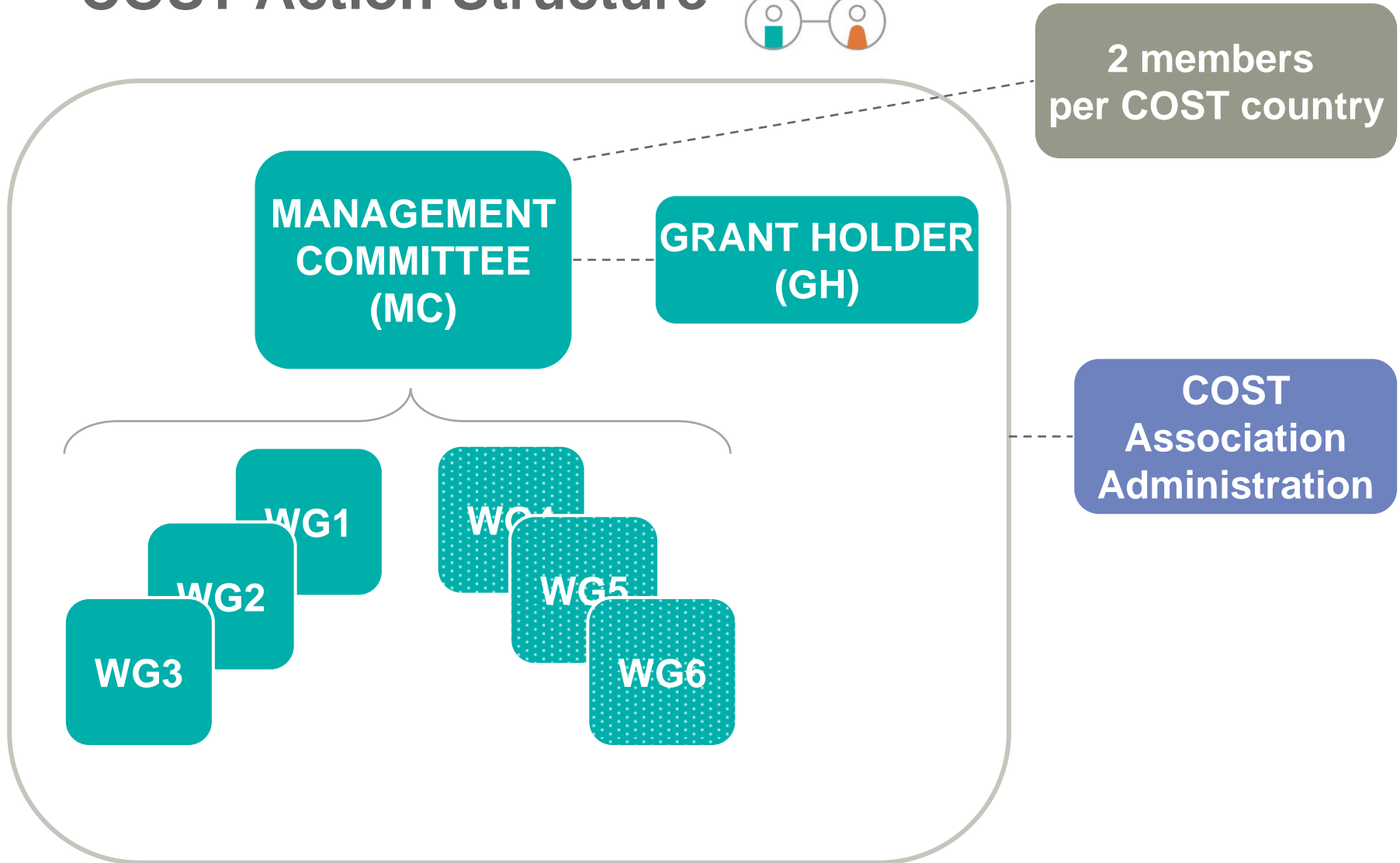
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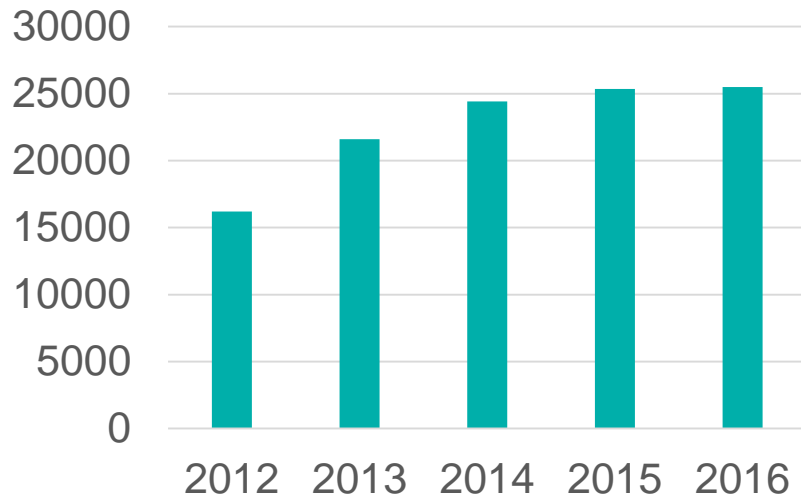
- Duration 4 years
- Defined management structure
- Implemented through a range of networking activities (Meetings, Workshops, Short Term Scientific Missions, Training Schools, etc.)
- Average annual support of EUR 130 000 (for 25 countries participating)

COST Action Structure



Key figures 2016

>25000 supported researchers



2700 Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)
4500 Trainees in Training Schools

How can EFSA participate?

- Propose new COST Actions associated with a minimum number (7) of COST Members
- Join a running COST Action as a Management Committee (MC) observer (no voting rights)
- Participant in a Working Group (WG) of running Actions
- BUT not eligible for reimbursement

EFSA participates in:

- A European Network for Foodborne Parasites (FA1408)
- Industrially Contaminated Sites and Health Network (IS1408)
- Understanding and combating African Swine Fever in Europe (CA15116)
- Modifying plants to produce interfering RNA (CA15223)



How to find us

- Website
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- Who is who
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- COST Newsletter
www.cost.eu/notification
- YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/COSTOffice

Thank you

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