Update from the COST Association to the Management Committee

Dr. Lucia Forzi - Science Officer
COST Member Countries

38 COST Full 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, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the Republic of North Macedonia

The countries in green are the less research-intensive COST countries, also known as Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)

1 Cooperating State:
Israel
EUR 300 million for 7 years from two H2020 work programmes:

- Challenge 6 “Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies”
- “Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation”
Additionally, specific objectives:
- SME and Industry cooperation
- International Cooperation
Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC)

- COST aims to:
  - Connect “pockets of excellence“ in S&T operating from diverse locations in Europe
  - Encourage and enable researchers from less research-intensive countries to get more involved in all COST activities
  - Counterbalance research communities unequal access to knowledge infrastructures, funding and resources distribution
Early Career Investigators & Gender Balance

Early Career Investigators ➔ PhD + up to 8 years
- Strong involvement of Early Career Researchers in the Action

Good gender balance in the Action
- Strong involvement of underrepresented gender in the Action
Implementing COST policy in the Action

The Action should have a plan towards inclusiveness:
- Geographical Coverage (ITC list)
- Early Career Investigator (ECI) involvement
- Gender Balance

How?
- Leadership roles
- Organizing and locating Action meetings and events
- Benefiting from COST networking tools
- Promoting STSMs, Conference Grants
- Action Think Tank for ECI
SME and Industry Cooperation

Aiming to facilitate/ encourage industry participation

- Participation in networking activities
- Session dedicated to industrial participation at Action events
- Roundtable discussions with industrial partners at Action events
- STSMs with industry acting as home/ host institution
International Cooperation

Aiming to support the involvement of researchers from Near Neighbour and International Partner Countries in COST Actions on the basis of mutual benefit.

- Approved IPC and NNC Institutions can host STSMs
- Researchers from approved NNC Institutions can:
  - Apply for STSMs
  - Attend Training Schools
- Researchers from approved IPC and NNC Institutions can be Training School Trainers
NNC and IPC

July 2019
# CA17140: NNCc & IPCs

**COST Action CA17140, COST Association**
Cancer nanomedicine - from the bench to the bedside

The following are MC Observer requests being processed (click on one to see the Detail page).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<td>Université du Québec à Montréal</td>
<td>MC Approval</td>
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Monitoring and Final Assessment of Actions

- Achievement of MoU objectives and deliverables
- Contribution to the COST Mission and implementation of COST policies
- Dissemination and exploitation of COST Action results
## Monitoring and Final Assessment of Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Time  (months)</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assessment / Evaluation by</th>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Review 1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Implementation of SC Recommendations &amp; COST Policy on Excellence and Inclusiveness</td>
<td>Scientific Committee</td>
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</table>
| Progress Review 2           | 24             | • Progress  
• Impacts and successes  
• Dissemination & Exploitation  
• Urgent needs for improvement | Independent External Expert                      |
| Final Assessment             | 48             | • MoU Achievements  
• Expected Impact & Successes  
• Dissemination & Exploitation  
• Added value of the networking  
• Success stories  
• Emerging themes/ potentially important future developments | Independent External Expert                      |
**WBP (GP1)**

**Actions / CA17140 / Period 2 / AGA / Workplan Summary**

COST Action CA17140, COST Association
Cancer nanomedicine - from the bench to the bedside

Workplan status: A0A Signed COST

Assigned Grant Holder: UNIWERSYTET LODZKI (Lodz, Poland)
Manager/Administrative Representative: Ms Joanna Korczyńska

COST Action CA17140 Annex A of the Grant Agreement (not editable) from 2019-05-01 to 2020-04-30

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<th>Networking Tools</th>
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<th>Budget</th>
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<td>Training Schools</td>
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<td><strong>Total Science Expenditure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Grant</strong></td>
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CA17140: Grant Periods

- GP1: From 01/10/2018 to 30/04/2019
- GP2: From 01/05/2019 to 30/04/2020
- GP3: From 01/05/2020 to 30/04/2021
- GP4: From 01/05/2021 to 30/04/2022
- GP5: From 01/05/2022 – 27/09/2022 (Action end date)

No carry over of underspent budget from one GP to the next!
Dissemination

**Action Publication and Dissemination Activities**

COST Action budget and paid by the Grant Holder

- Responsibility of the Management Committee
- Publication and dissemination strategy must be reflected in the Work and Budget plan of the specific Grant Period
- Eligible costs: Vademecum requirements

**Final Action Dissemination (FAD)**

- Material (typically a publication) produced after the 4-years of the Action
- Additional grant (up to max 10,000 EUR) managed directly by Action GH
- Request **6 months** before the official end date of the Action
- Published and Invoice is paid no later than 12 months after the official end of the Action
Dissemination: Supporting Tools

- Eligible costs ➡️ Vademecum
- COST strategy and visual identity: our brand book
- Guidelines for the Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation of COST Action results and outcomes
- Communicating your Action How-to Kit

You can find all documents are on this page: https://www.cost.eu/visual-identity/
Co-organised activities and sessions

- **Co-organised activities: expected**
  - Action participants (especially MC members) to constitute half of the SC of the conference
  - Approx. 50% speakers and session Chairs to be Action participants (especially MC members and active WG members)
  - Good representation of the Action participants in the audience
  - LOS and invited speakers fairly shared between the Action and the external organisation/body/institution
  - In the WBP describe the added benefits of this co-organisation

- **Session in a conference: expected**
  - Only the speakers of the session can be reimbursed
  - Reimbursement must follow the rules of reimbursement based on the duration of the session, not of the conference
COST: Important documents

Reminder

- Any addition/revision of activities not in the approved WBP (Grant Agreement) needs MC and SO approval
- Ensure that total allocated budget is used
- Always send to COST Association (SO and AO) the minutes of the MC meetings and upload them in e-COST
As a COST Expert, you will have the opportunity to:

• contribute to the evaluation of COST Open Call proposals
• participate in the assessment of Action results and outcomes

www.cost.eu/cost-actions/participate-external-expert/
Become an external expert

Call for COST external experts

We invite experts from all scientific areas to participate in the evaluation of proposals for COST Actions collected twice a year through the COST Open Call.

By being available for occasional, short-term assignments, you will contribute to fair, inclusive and fully transparent scientific project assessment at European level.

A COST external expert must not necessarily belong to academic institutions. However, a university degree and considerable scientific or professional experience in the specific areas of expertise are a requirement.

Experts coming from non-COST countries are also welcome.

Why become a COST expert?

As a COST external expert, you will have the opportunity to:

– Contribute to the evaluation of COST Open Call proposals.
– Participate in the assessment of Action results and outcomes.

You will:

– Gain insight into the latest scientific and technological developments put forward by COST scientific communities.
– Build on your reputation in the research community through the recognition of your role as a COST expert.
– Contribute to the impact and success of our COST programme.
Contact and engage with us

- Sign up to our news: www.cost.eu/subscribe
- Join us on our social networks:
  - www.facebook.com/COST.Programme
  - https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/1050548/
  - @COSTprogramme
  - https://www.youtube.com/user/COSTOffice

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