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Trends within EU research

More focus on e.g.:

• Challenges in the society
• Open innovation, open science
• More emphasis on impact
• Collaboration academia – companies – healthcare – authorities – society

=> Networking very important
European Research Funding

A number of research/innovation funding opportunities within EU

Largest funding instrument is Horizon 2020

COST is a complement to H2020 programs => opportunity to create large networks in Europe and beyond
What is COST?

• Networking instrument
• A non-profit association in Belgium
  – Funded by H2020, but not a H2020 program
• Countries involved:
  – 36 COST full members
  – 1 cooperating state (Israel)
• Participation of Near Neighbour Countries is encouraged
37 COST countries

- EU 28
- EU Candidates and Potential Candidates:
- Other Countries
- COST Cooperating State
What is funded by COST?

- Scientific workshops / conferences
- Training Schools
- Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)
  - Opportunity for young scientists
- Dissemination
- Project steering

No research funded
How does it work?

• Bottom-up program (= content proposed by applicants)
• All fields of science covered
• Actions (= “projects”) are expected to involve a number of COST countries
  – At least seven countries whereof 3 from EU13
  – Average 20 countries in an Action
• Proposals are handled by COST, but
• A COST National Coordinator (CNC) decides upon a country participation and nominates 2 persons to the management committee
  – The Swedish CNC is located at Vinnova
Why COST?

- Boost cooperation and interdisciplinary knowledge exchange
  - Open to academia, industry, SMEs, public and private research institutions, institutes, NGO
  - Lead to better use or European resources ("defragmentation")
  - Lead to better research, increased competitiveness, new products etc
  - Improved research/innovation capacity (extra focus on younger researchers)
  - Increase research impact on decision makers

- Find partners for research collaborations
  - Between ongoing projects
  - New applications (to e.g. H2020)
  - Influence the Commission (e.g. future H2020 topics)
How to get involved?

1. Apply for funding
   – About two collection dates per year

2. Join running Action
   – Year 1: all COST countries have the right to join
   – Year 2-4: approval needed from Action management
   – Search for Action at COST web site
   – Contact the CNC to see on what level you could participate (management level or working groups)
COST is an EU-funded programme that enables researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond. We provide funds for organising conferences, meetings, training schools, short scientific exchanges or other networking activities in a wide range of scientific topics. By creating open spaces where people and ideas can grow, we unlock the full potential of science.  

Bilateral tinnitus in men may be hereditary

European researchers have discovered that genetic factors play a role in some cases of tinnitus, particularly in men who have the condition in both ears.

COST – what's in it for researchers?

09 November 2017

World Science Forum 2017: COST President says research networks help spread scientific excellence worldwide and reduce brain drain
More information

• www.cost.eu
• www.vinnova.se/cost/
• Swedish COST National Coordinator (CNC) Birgitta Boman
  – E-mail: cost@vinnova.se
• EU funding advisors at UU

• Register a reviewer (www.cost.eu)