



# European COoperation in Science and Technology

***Promoting scientists' access to research  
networks in Europe***

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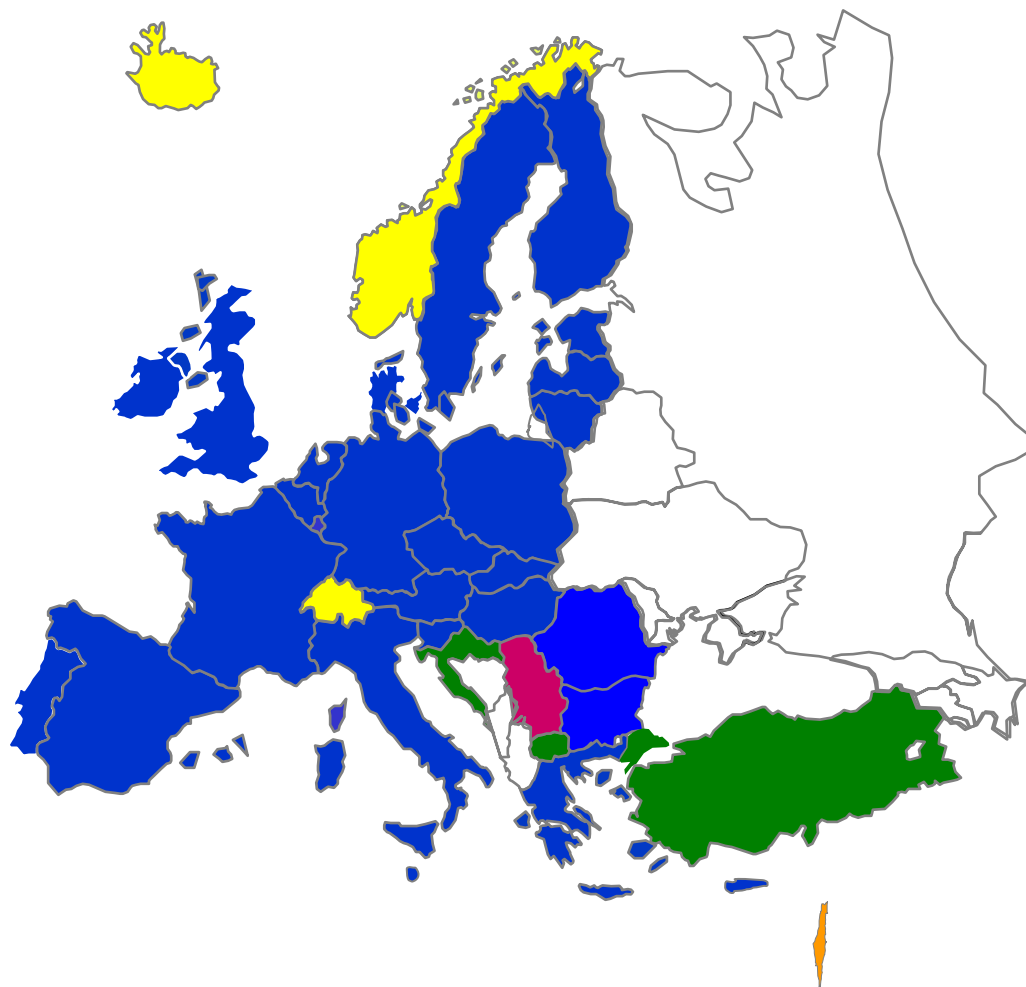
# Agenda

- What is COST
- How does COST function
- COST and Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Next steps



**It was the first and it is one of the widest  
intergovernmental European Network for  
coordination of nationally funded scientific  
and technical research**

# COST Countries: from 19 countries in 1971 to the present 35 countries



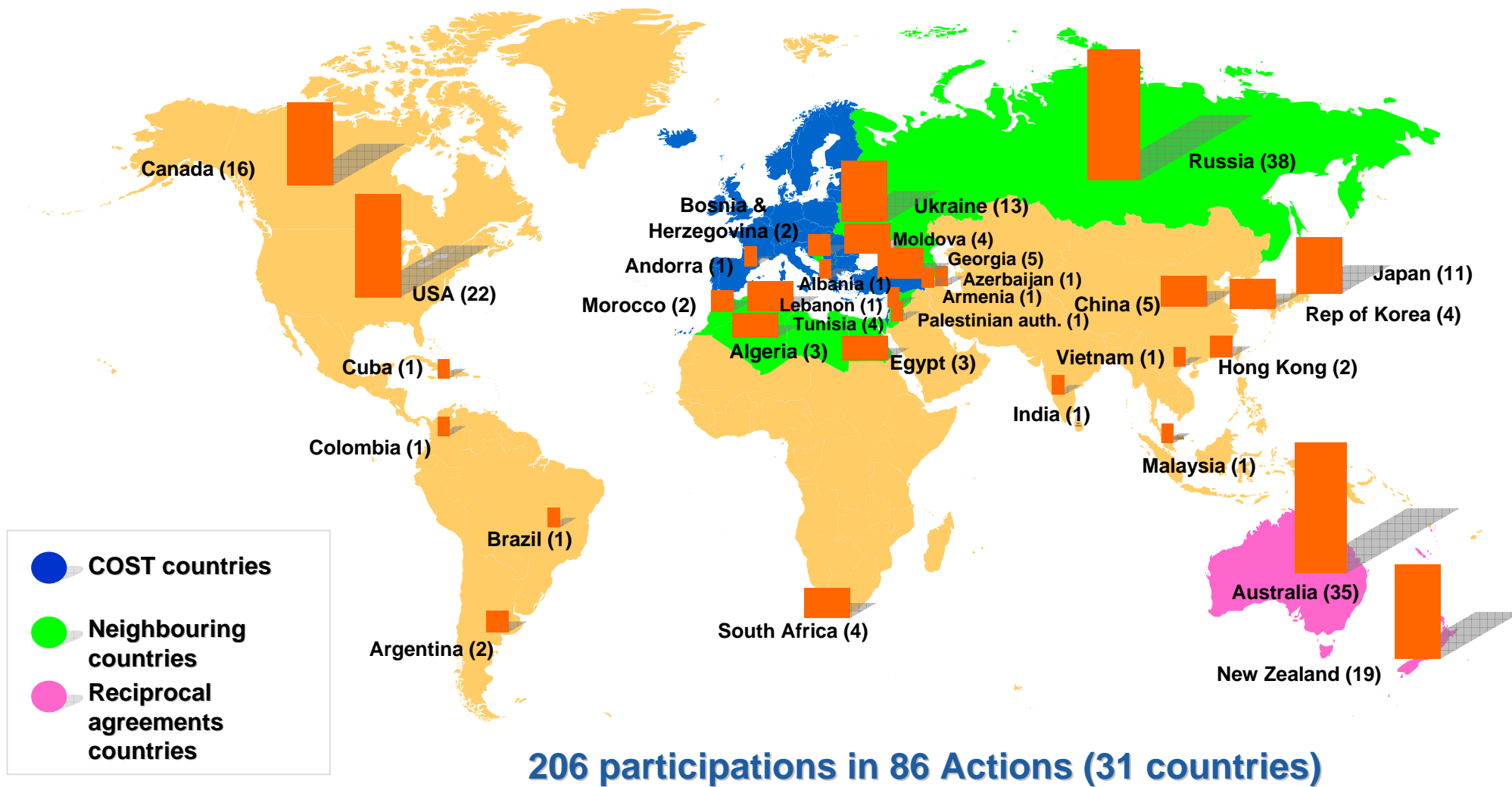
- ◆ The 27 EU Member States
- ◆ EFTA Member States
  - ▶ Iceland
  - ▶ Norway
  - ▶ Switzerland
- ◆ Accessing & Candidate Countries
  - ▶ Croatia
  - ▶ FYR of Macedonia (FYROM)
  - ▶ Turkey
- ◆ Potential Candidate Countries
  - ▶ Republic of Serbia
- ◆ COST Co-operating States
  - ▶ Israel

# COST

**The mission of COST is to be :**

- **a flexible, fast, effective and efficient tool to**
- **network and coordinate nationally funded research activities at project level (Actions)**
- **bringing good scientists together**
- **under light strategic guidance and**
- **letting them work out their ideas**

# COST Actions: global participation in February 2009



# COST scientific & technical Domains

-  **Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences (BMBS)**
-  **Chemistry and Molecular Sciences & Technologies (CMST)**
-  **Earth System Science & Environmental Management (ESSEM)**
-  **Food & Agriculture (FA)**
-  **Forests, their Products and Services (FPS)**
-  **Individuals, Society, Culture & Health (ISCH)**
-  **Information & Communication Technologies (ICT)**
-  **Materials, Physical & Nanosciences (MPNS)**
-  **Transport & Urban Development (TUD)**

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## COST Actions

- **Coordinated** research effort (4 years)
- Participation of representatives from **minimum 5 countries**
- Coordination funded by COST, covering
  - Science management / working group meetings
  - Scientific workshops and seminars
  - Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)
  - Training Schools and Research Conferences
  - Dissemination
- Average funding about **100 000 €** per year per Action

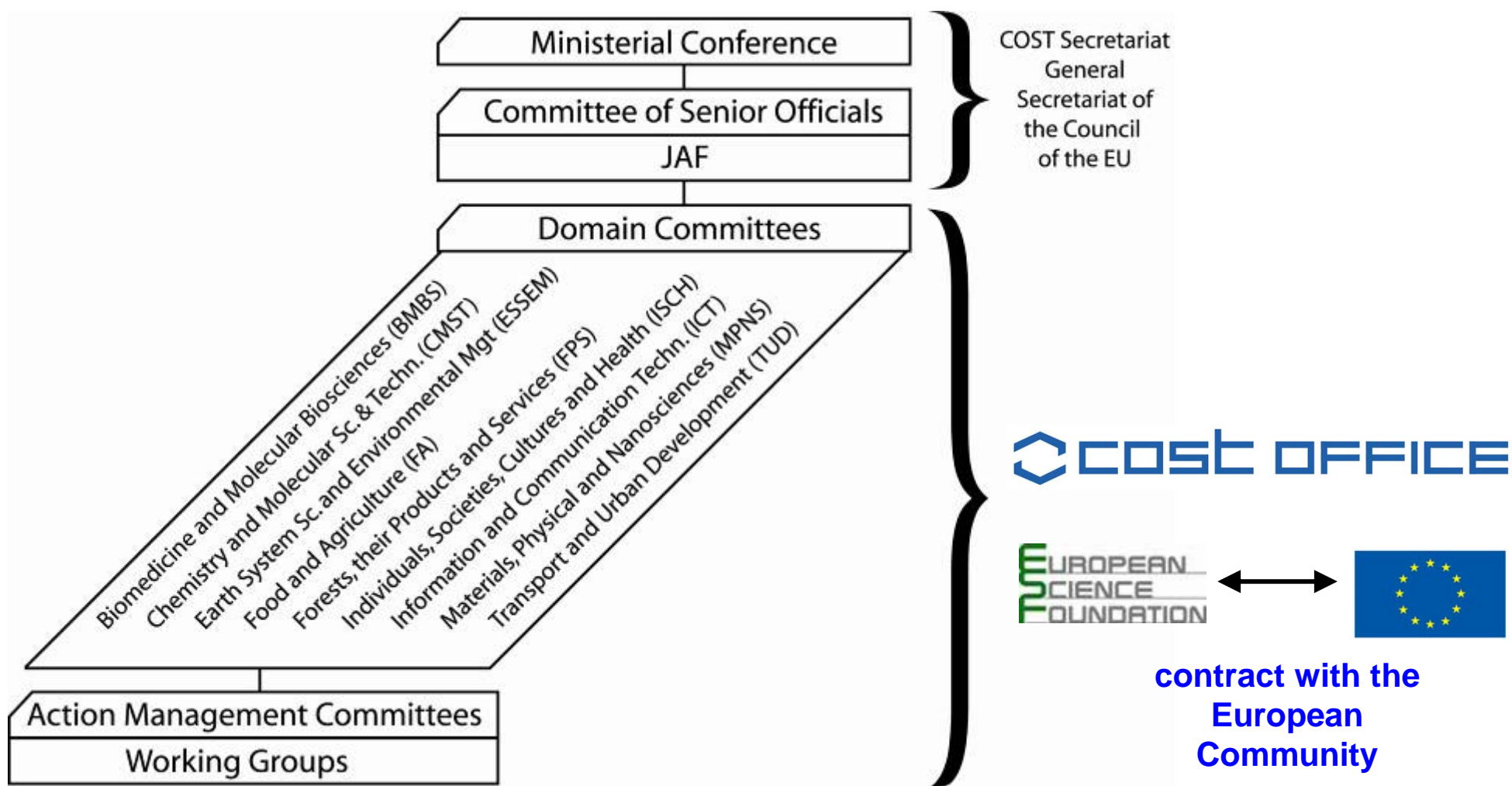
*Research itself funded through national funds*

# The **COST Open Call** = Continuous and thematically open

- Encourages multidisciplinary proposals
  - Improves transparency
  - Ensures quality
  - Furthers competitiveness
  - Emphasis on Early Stage researchers
- Selection criteria are public
  - Specific collection dates (e.g. 25 September 2009)
  - 2-stage process / peer reviewed
  - Typically > 50 new Action pa
  - Successful COST Actions start within 9 months after the collection date

**The next collection date for proposals is 25 September 2009!**

# COST governance and partnership



## COST committees

- **Committee of Senior Officials (CSO):** highest decision-making body is made of representatives of all COST member countries.
- **Domain Committees (DC):** responsible for a particular research domain are formed by representatives of the COST countries.
- **Management Committees (MC):** one for each Action - are formed by national experts of the countries participating in the Action.

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## COST and Bosnia & Herzegovina (BiH)

- **Until now, BiH has been participating as a non-COST country, benefiting from COST near neighbouring scheme**
  - **Past:** Action 'Monitoring of Active Tectonic Structure' (End date: February 2006)  
University of Sarajevo (BA)
  - **On-going:**
    - Greenhouse gas budget of soils under changing climate and land use, Faculty of Forestry, University of Sarajevo
    - Setting a new Central and Eastern European Media Research Agenda, Media Centre, Sarajevo
  - **Envisaged:** Prevention of Honeybee Colony Losses
- **In 2008, BiH applied to become a COST country**

**BiH clearly aiming at strengthening its scientific cooperation**

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## Next milestones

- **Bosnia & Herzegovina to formally become a COST country**

**26-27 May 2009: 174th CSO meeting in Brussels**

- **Invited a representative from BiH to give a presentation on the country's S&T policy**
- **Decision to be taken**
- **Ministry of Civil Affairs and mission of BiH to be informed**

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- **Events**
- **Library**
  - Newsletter
  - [information request form](#)
- **Related Documents**
  - **About COST 2008 (PDF, 1 MB)**
  - **COST Overview - October 2008**
- **Related Links**
  - [EU Research and Innovation - General framework](#)
  - [EU Seventh Framework Programme](#)
  - [Research at the European Commission](#)
  - [European Research Area \(ERA\)](#)
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