



COST is an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in Science and Technology, allowing the coordination of nationally-funded research on a European level. Established by the Ministerial Conference in November 1971, COST is presently used by the scientific communities of 36 European countries.

COST enables break-through scientific developments leading to new concepts and products and thereby contributes to strengthen Europe's research and innovation capacities.

COST is a unique means for European researchers to jointly develop their own ideas and new initiatives across all scientific disciplines through trans-European networking of nationally funded research activities. COST key features are:

- building capacity by connecting high-quality scientific communities throughout Europe and worldwide;
- providing networking opportunities for early career investigators;
- increasing the impact of research on policy makers, regulatory bodies and national decision makers as well as the private sector.

Through its inclusiveness COST supports integration of research communities, leverages national research investments and addresses issues of global relevance.

COST is a building block of the [European Research Area](#)<sup>1</sup>, instrumental for successful innovation strategies and global cooperation.

Website: [www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu)



<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/index_en.htm)