

OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN COST – A SWEDISH PERSPECTIVE



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What is COST?

COST is the oldest and widest European intergovernmental framework for transnational Cooperation in Science and Technology.

For 40 years COST has supported networking of research activities across all its Member countries (36 today) and beyond.

COST is open to all disciplines, to all novel and ground-breaking S&T ideas, to all categories of partners, to the world where mutual benefit is real.

What is the mission of COST?

COST enables breakthrough scientific developments leading to new concepts and products.

It thereby contributes to strengthen Europe's research and innovation capacities.



COST Countries



- The 28 EU Member States
- EU Acceding & Candidate Countries
 - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - Iceland
 - Republic of Serbia
 - Turkey
- Other Countries
 - Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Norway
 - Switzerland
- COST Cooperating Country
 - Israel

Range of Domains within COST



Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences (BMBS)



Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies (CMST)



Earth System Science and Environmental Management (ESSEM)



Food and Agriculture (FA)



Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health (ISCH)



Information and Communications Technology (ICT)



Materials, Physics and Nanosciences (MPN)



Transport and Urban Development (TUD)



Trans-Domain Proposals (TDP)

AND



Forests, their Products and Services (FPS)

Forests, their Products and Services (FPS)

FPS has the mission to promote research along the whole forest wood chain by providing a platform for effectively coordinating nationally-funded research activities in the areas of forestry, wood technology, and pulp and paper.

Key areas:

- Forestry Research
- Forests and Environment
- Wood technology
- Pulp and Paper
- Bioenergy from forests



What a COST Action can offer

- Each COST Action is set up in a way to help promote research and cooperation.
- National experts from each participating country (nominated by national representatives to COST) who act as information providers to their country, ensuring widespread dissemination of information.
- Organising regular workshop conferences and specialised meetings on subjects related to ongoing activities in the Action.
- Provide a range of activities aimed in particular at Early Stage researchers (persons who gained their PhD within 8 years)

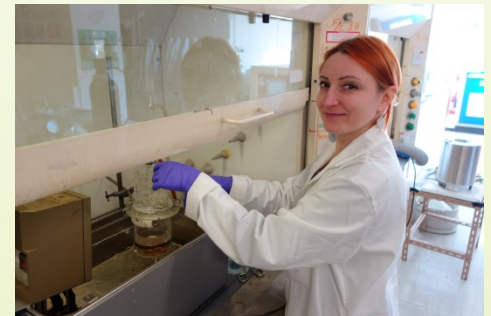
Meetings

- **MC Meetings** – which help define the Action strategy
- **Working Group Meetings** – focussing on the work in the Scientific Objectives of the Action (Action MoU)
- **Core Group Meetings** – which help prepare management committee decisions
- **Action Workshops / Action Conferences** – Open to the scientific community to showcase activities
- **Dissemination meeting (attendance to other conferences)** – a maximum of 2 persons per Grant Period can do this
- **Final Workshop / Conference** – to report the Action achievements and mark the end of the Action



Short term Scientific Missions

- Mainly intended for young scientists
- Theme is to provide researcher with methods, knowledge and facilities not available at home institute
- Evaluated on an individual basis
- Duration can be from one week (5 working days) to 3 months
- Typically grants up to €2500 for travel, accomodation and meals
- Participants must be from a country that has joined the Action
- Participants must go to a centre in a country that has joined the Action
 - Full member country, Near-neighbour country, International Partner Countries



Training Schools

- Provide intensive training on a subject that contributes to the aims of the Action
- Typically Training Schools between 3 days and 2 weeks duration
- Fixed grants paid to trainees (from COST participating countries)
- Normally 20-30 persons in each Training School
- 2-3 invited trainers
- Combination of theory and practical work

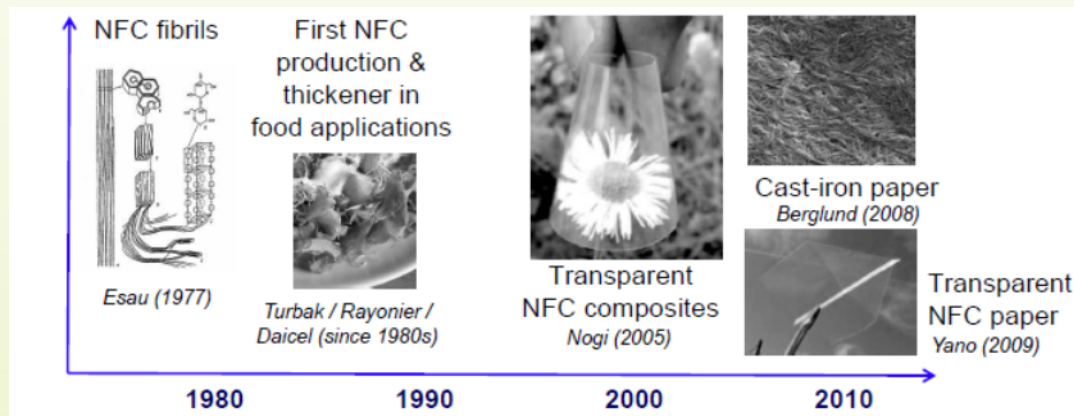


*FP1303 Training School
"Durability studies in the
field". June 2014*

COST FP1205

Innovative applications of regenerated wood cellulose fibres

23 May 2013 - 22 May 2017



Chair of Action
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COST FP1205

Three Working Groups:

WG1: Textile fibre manufacture

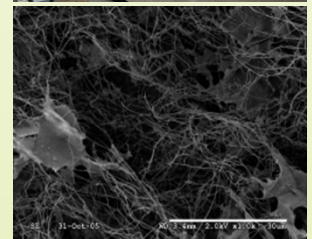
Production of improved textile fibres, enhancing fibre properties by physical and chemical means, the potential of “smart fibres”

WG2: Science and uses of nanocellulose

Manufacture of nanocellulose (crystalline / fibrillated: whiskers / tubes / colloids), composite production, surgical products, fillers/ matrices for food and pharmaceutical industries, other nanoparticulate sciences

WG3: Cellulose foams and films

Preparation of novel products based on regenerated cellulose, application in catalysis, sensors, separation sciences, filtration, bioelectrical devices, medicine and food industry. Studies into biocompatibility and stability



COST FP1303

Performance of BioBased Building Materials

23 October 2013 - 22 October 2017



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*Jones, Östlund and Schmid – Opportunities within COST
WSE10 – Edinburgh 13-14 October 2014*



COST FP1303

Three Working Groups:

WG1: Material capability and enhancement

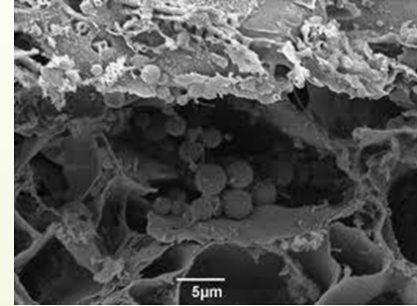
Achieving a better fundamental understanding of substrate decay organism interactions.

WG2: Functionality and performance

Identifying whether a material is fit for purpose, service life performance, specific effects.

WG3: Adaptation and application

Linking preferences of end users with those of manufacturers (stake-holders) through Life Cycle methods; EPD and CE certification; Environmental effects; Converting results into literature; Marketing



COST FP1404

Fire safe use of bio-based building products

Yet to formally start!



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COST FP1404

Overall aim is to provide a networking platform for researchers dealing with combustible building products, performance based design and fire safety engineering.

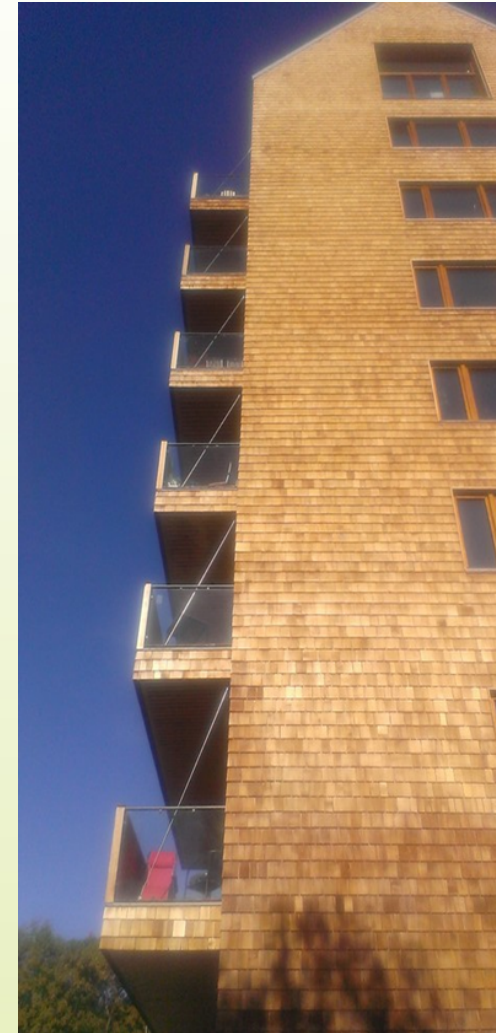
Four Working Groups:

WG 1: Contribution of bio-based materials to the fire development

WG 2: Structural Elements made of bio-based building materials and detailing

WG 3: Regulations for fire safety of bio-based building materials

WG 4: Dissemination



Conclusions

- COST has over the past 20+ years provided an excellent platform for the exchange of ideas and collaboration between researchers
- Relatively easy submission and assessment system
- Need new ideas, not continuations of previous Actions
- Provides tools for experts and young researchers to meet and discuss work

- SP has 3 Actions running within the FPS Domain
- [There are many more!!](#)
- Find out if there is an Action in your area of research
- **If not.... Submit a proposal!!**

THANK YOU!