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Call for COST Projects in Switzerland 2020

COST - European Cooperation in Science and Technology

1. Introduction

¹ COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) aims at enabling breakthrough scientific developments leading to new concepts and products. It thereby contributes to strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacities. COST brings together European researchers from different COST countries to jointly develop their own ideas and new initiatives across all science and technology fields through trans-European cooperation. COST encourages and fosters trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary approaches by integrating researchers from different fields and horizons such as universities, universities of applied sciences, research centres, companies, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as other relevant actors.

² COST activities are carried out in the form of networks, called COST Actions, which are essentially coordinated research endeavours. COST Actions are the result of an international bottom-up programming process. A COST Action lasts for four years. COST does not fund research itself, but supports networking via different tools such as meetings, short-term scientific exchanges, training schools and dissemination activities as parts of COST Actions. Research funding has to be provided by national funding sources.

³ For many years, Switzerland has been highly committed to scientific cooperation in the framework of COST. The research related to COST Actions is funded through various sources. Researchers based in Switzerland are entitled to apply at the SNSF for funding. This funding is intended as specific support to COST Actions. This should also enable young researchers to establish broad international networks at an early stage of their career.

⁴ **This call covers research applications that are actively related to the COST Actions CA171##, CA181##, and CA182##**, given in the Annex. At the time of the submission of the project proposal, all applicants have to prove active participation in one of these COST Actions. They are either member of the Action's Management Committee, or substitute; otherwise active involvement must be confirmed by the Chair of the Action.

2. Guiding principles for COST Projects

¹ Through COST Projects, salaries of employees engaged for the project and research costs can be funded. The guiding principles for COST Projects are:

- a. The project is embedded in an eligible COST Action (see the Annex);

- b. The “Funding Regulations” and the “General implementation regulations for the Funding Regulations” of the SNSF¹ are applicable, therefore, in particular,
 - i. The research is carried out in Switzerland²;
 - ii. The project only involves scientific research and does not follow directly commercial purposes³.

3. Application details

3.1. Eligibility criteria for applicants

¹ An applicant can submit an application even if she or he holds any other SNSF grant or has applied for one, provided the research projects clearly address separate topics or pursue different project goals in the context of programmes; and the applicants are in a position to make substantial contributions to each of the research projects⁴. This clause includes the career instruments “Eccellenza”, “Ambizione” and “PRIMA”.

² Applicants must hold a doctorate and have at least one year of subsequent research experience or have equivalent qualifications (a minimum of four years in total of a primary research activity since obtaining a higher education degree) at the moment of submission.

³ Applicants may only submit one application per submission date.

⁴ Researchers can hold at most one COST Project associated with any given COST Action.

3.2. Project partners

¹ Project partners are researchers who make a partial contribution to a research project through cooperation without being responsible for the project. Their contribution does not serve any commercial purposes. In particular, researchers at higher education institutions, public institutions and non-profit organisations may be accepted, also if they are located outside Switzerland. They may not refer to the support received from the SNSF as a grant they have acquired themselves.

² The costs generated by project partners must be of minor significance compared to the total budget for the project. They should generally correspond to no more than 20% of the overall grant.

3.3. Fundable research

Applications can be made in any field of scientific research covered by the COST Actions given in the Annex. In particular, submission of applications of an interdisciplinary nature, which cross the boundaries between different fields of research, pioneering applications addressing new and emerging fields of research or applications introducing unconventional, innovative approaches and scientific inventions are encouraged.

3.4. Duration and start of the grant

¹ The maximum duration of the projects is 48 months for projects associated with COST Actions CA182## and CA181## and 36 months for projects associated with COST Actions CA171##.

¹ <http://www.snsf.ch> > Funding > Documents & downloads > Regulations

² See art. 10 of the SNSF Funding Regulations

³ See art. 13 of the SNSF Funding Regulations

⁴ See art. 17 of the SNSF Funding Regulations

² The earliest possible start date is 1 January, 2021. Projects should start within 6 months after the funding decision, in order to be aligned as well as possible with the associated COST Action.

3.5. Funding

¹ The maximum funding for a four-year project is CHF 320,000. This amount is reduced accordingly for a project of shorter duration. Overall, a budget of CHF 5.0 million is available for the entire call.

² Eligible costs:

- a. Salaries, social security contributions and other salary related costs for the employees engaged for the project;
- b. Research funds: all funds needed to carry out the project, such as consumables necessary for the proposed work, collaboration costs (only if not covered by the COST Action), and field expenses;
- c. Subcontracting costs and costs to access large facilities owned by third parties that are not used on the grantees' premises (maximum 10%).

³ Ineligible costs:

- a. The applicants' own salary;
- b. The salaries of the project partners or their employees;
- c. Overhead⁵;
- d. Material of enduring value (equipment).

3.6. Re-submission

The SNSF only considers a re-submitted application if it is a significantly modified version of the rejected application. Moreover, the re-submitted project must be embedded in an eligible COST Action of the present call; see the Annex.

4. Submission procedure

¹ Applications must be submitted via *mySNF* (Programmes/COST) and in English, since they will be evaluated by internationally recognized experts.

² Pre-registration: In order to facilitate the composition of the evaluation panel, main applicants are highly encouraged to open their COST Project application in *mySNF* as early as possible, and to indicate the COST Action associated with the application, the disciplines and an outline summary of the planned research. The deadline for pre-registration is **16 March, 2020**. Only the data containers corresponding to the above mentioned information need to be filled out in *mySNF* by this pre-registration deadline, the proposal does not need to be submitted, and can be further processed after this deadline.

³ Guidelines for the electronic submission of applications are provided in *mySNF*. In particular, the research plan must not exceed 12 pages and 50,000 characters (with spaces); this includes everything except the bibliography.

⁴ The submission deadline for COST Project applications is **5 May, 2020, 17:00** Swiss local time.

⁵ The COST projects scheme is not part of the eligible funding schemes for overhead contributions by the SNSF, see <http://www.snsf.ch> > Funding > How To > Lifetime management of projects > Overhead

5. Evaluation

¹ The evaluation is conducted in a single stage procedure. The International and Interdisciplinary Co-operation division (InterCo) at the SNSF Administrative Offices will check whether the proposals meet the formal criteria, such as integration in an eligible COST Action, number of years of experience, etc. Proposals that do not meet the formal criteria will not be evaluated.

² The criteria used to evaluate the scientific quality and relevance of the applications are (in order of priority)

- a. Scientific relevance, topicality and originality;
- b. Added value through participation in the respective COST Action;
- c. Suitability of methods and feasibility;
- d. Scientific qualifications of the researchers: scientific track record and ability to carry out the research project.

³ For applications in use-inspired basic research, the project's broader impact is considered in the evaluation.

6. Implementation of COST Projects

6.1. Grants

¹ COST Project grants are awarded and managed according to the applicable rules of the SNSF, in particular according to the Funding Regulations of the SNSF and its Implementation Regulations.

² The SNSF may award global budgets and approve transfers between the individual cost categories during the funding period. The details are set out in separate provisions of the SNSF.

³ Applications for continuations of awarded COST Projects are not possible.

6.2. Reporting

¹ Grantees of COST Project grants are obliged to submit to the SNSF reports in accordance with the requirements stipulated by the SNSF.

² In particular, output data must be provided 18 months after the start of the project at the latest and a final report upon conclusion of a project.

6.3. Publication of research results

¹ Grantees are obliged to mention the SNSF grant in all scientific publications and communication activities relating to research projects, particularly in press releases.

² Grantees must use the phrase "funded by the SNSF" if the project is being or has been funded with an SNSF grant. The SNSF logo⁶ must be placed alongside the said phrase whenever possible. It should also appear in all other forms of publication, such as presentations, posters, conferences, brochures, papers and books.

³ The financial support provided by the SNSF as well as the support through COST/the COST Action should be acknowledged. This may imply a written acknowledgment and/or visible SNSF

⁶ <http://www.snsf.ch> > The SNSF > Contact > SNSF Logo

and COST logos: The research leading to these results was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation under the programme “COST” n° [xxxxxx], COST Action “number” and “title”.

7. Contact persons and information

For questions concerning the submission and evaluation procedure, please contact cost@snf.ch.

Hotlines for technical help with *mySNF*:

- Tel. + 41 31 308 22 88 (English)
- Tel. + 41 31 308 22 99 (Français)
- Tel. + 41 31 308 22 00 (Deutsch)

E-mail: mysnf.support@snf.ch

Link: www.mysnf.ch

Annex: **Eligible COST Actions CA171##, CA181## and CA182##**

More information about these Actions can be found here:

<https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/browse-actions/>

Action	Action Title
CA17101	European Network on Pseudomyxoma Peritonei
CA17102	Police Stops
CA17103	Delivery of Antisense RNA Therapeutics
CA17104	New diagnostic and therapeutic tools against multidrug resistant tumors
CA17105	A pan-European Network for Marine Renewable Energy
CA17106	Mobilising Data, Policies and Experts in Scientific Collections
CA17107	European Network to connect research and innovation efforts on advanced Smart Textiles
CA17108	Aedes Invasive Mosquitoes
CA17109	Understanding and modeling compound climate and weather events
CA17110	Standardizing output-based surveillance to control non-regulated diseases of cattle in the EU
CA17111	Data integration to maximise the power of omics for grapevine improvement
CA17112	Prospective European Drug-Induced Liver Injury Network
CA17113	Trapped Ions: Progress in classical and quantum applications
CA17114	Transdisciplinary solutions to cross sectoral disadvantage in youth
CA17115	European network for advancing Electromagnetic hyperthermic medical technologies
CA17116	International Network for Translating Research on Perinatal Derivatives into Therapeutic Approaches
CA17117	Towards an International Network for Evidence-based Research in Clinical Health Research
CA17118	Identifying Biomarkers Through Translational Research for Prevention and Stratification of Colorectal Cancer
CA17119	EU Foreign Policy Facing New Realities: Perceptions, Contestation, Communication and Relations
CA17120	Chemobionics
CA17121	Correlated Multimodal Imaging in Life Sciences
CA17122	Increasing understanding of alien species through citizen science
CA17123	Ultrafast opto-magneto-electronics for non-dissipative information technology
CA17124	Digital forensics: evidence analysis via intelligent systems and practices
CA17125	Public Value Capture of Increasing Property Values
CA17126	Towards understanding and modelling intense electronic excitation
CA17127	Building on scientific literacy in evolution towards scientifically responsible Europeans
CA17128	Establishment of a Pan-European Network on the Sustainable Valorisation of Lignin
CA17129	Catalysing transcriptomics research in cardiovascular disease
CA17130	Enhancing Psychiatric Genetic Counselling, Testing, and Training in Europe
CA17131	The Soil Science & Archaeo-Geophysics Alliance: going beyond prospection
CA17132	European network for argumentation and public policy analysis
CA17133	Implementing nature based solutions for creating a resourceful circular city
CA17134	Optical synergies for spatiotemporal sensing of scalable ecophysiological traits
CA17135	Constitution-making and deliberative democracy
CA17136	Indoor Air Pollution Network
CA17137	A network for Gravitational Waves, Geophysics and Machine Learning

CA17138	Integrated European Network on Chronic Graft Versus Host Disease (cGvHD)
CA17139	European Topology Interdisciplinary Action
CA17140	Cancer nanomedicine - from the bench to the bedside
CA18101	SOURDOugh biotechnology network towards novel, healthier and sustainable food and bIoproCesseS
CA18102	The European Aquatic Animal Tracking Network
CA18103	Innovation with Glycans: new frontiers from synthesis to new biological targets
CA18104	Revealing the Milky Way with Gaia
CA18105	Risk-based meat inspection and integrated meat safety assurance
CA18106	The neural architecture of consciousness
CA18107	Climate change and bats: from science to conservation
CA18108	Quantum gravity phenomenology in the multi-messenger approach
CA18109	Accelerating Global science In Tsunami HAZard and Risk analysis
CA18110	Underground Built Heritage as catalyser for Community Valorisation
CA18111	Genome editing in plants - a technology with transformative potential
CA18112	Mechanochemistry for Sustainable Industry
CA18113	Understanding and exploiting the impacts of low pH on micro-organisms
CA18114	European Non-Territorial Autonomy Network
CA18115	Transnational Collaboration on Bullying, Migration and Integration at School Level
CA18116	Aniridia: networking to address an unmet medical, scientific, and societal challenge
CA18117	European network for Gynaecological Rare Cancer research: From Concept to Cure
CA18118	Implementation Research Network in Stroke Care Quality - IRENE
CA18119	Who Cares in Europe?
CA18120	Reliable roadmap for certification of bonded primary structures
CA18121	Cultures Of Victimology: understanding processes of victimization across Europe
CA18122	EUROPEAN CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA NETWORK
CA18123	The European Family Support Network. A bottom-up, evidence-based and multidisciplinary approach
CA18124	European Sexual Medicine Network
CA18125	Advanced Engineering and Research of aeroGels for Environment and Life Sciences
CA18126	Writing Urban Places. New Narratives of the European City
CA18127	International Nucleome Consortium
CA18128	Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age
CA18129	Islamic Legacy: Narratives East, West, South, North of the Mediterranean (1350-1750)
CA18130	European Network for Chemical Elemental Analysis by Total Reflection X-Ray Fluorescence
CA18131	Statistical and machine learning techniques in human microbiome studies
CA18132	Functional Glyconanomaterials for the Development of Diagnostics and Targeted Therapeutic Probes
CA18133	European Research Network on Signal Transduction
CA18134	Genomic Biodiversity Knowledge for Resilient Ecosystems
CA18135	Fire in the Earth System: Science & Society
CA18136	European Forum for Advanced Practices
CA18137	European Middle Class Mass Housing
CA18138	Research Innovation and Sustainable Pan-European Network in Peripartum Depression Disorder
CA18139	GENomics of MusculoSkeletal traits TranslatiOnal Network

CA18140	People in Motion: Entangled Histories of Displacement across the Mediterranean (1492-1923)
CA18201	An integrated approach to conservation of threatened plants for the 21st Century
CA18202	Network for Equilibria and Chemical Thermodynamics Advanced Research
CA18203	Optimising Design for Inspection
CA18204	Dynamics of placemaking and digitization in Europe's cities
CA18205	Worlds of Related Coercions in Work
CA18206	Glioma MR Imaging 2.0
CA18207	Biodiversity of Temperate forest Taxa Orienting Management Sustainability by Unifying Perspectives
CA18208	Novel tools for test evaluation and disease prevalence estimation
CA18209	European network for Web-centred linguistic data science
CA18210	Oxygen sensing a novel mean for biology and technology of fruit quality
CA18211	Perinatal Mental Health and Birth-Related Trauma: Maximising best practice and optimal outcomes
CA18212	Molecular Dynamics in the GAS phase
CA18213	Rural NEET Youth Network: Modeling the risks underlying rural NEETs social exclusion
CA18214	The geography of New Working Spaces and the impact on the periphery
CA18215	China In Europe Research Network
CA18216	Network for Research in Vascular Ageing
CA18217	European Network for Optimization of Veterinary Antimicrobial Treatment
CA18218	European Burden of Disease Network
CA18219	Research network for including Geothermal technologies into Decarbonized Heating and Cooling grids
CA18220	European network of FURan based chemicals and materials FOR a Sustainable development
CA18221	PEsticide RIsk AssessMent for Amphibians and Reptiles
CA18222	Attosecond Chemistry
CA18223	Future communications with higher-symmetric engineered artificial materials
CA18224	Green Chemical Engineering Network towards upscaling sustainable processes
CA18225	Taste and Odor in early diagnosis of source and drinking Water Problems
CA18226	New approaches in detection of pathogens and aeroallergens
CA18227	The Core Outcome Measures for Food Allergy
CA18228	Global Atrocity Justice Constellations
CA18229	NON-CONVENTIONAL YEASTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIOPRODUCTS
CA18230	Interactive Narrative Design for Complexity Representations
CA18231	Multi3Generation: Multi-task, Multilingual, Multi-modal Language Generation
CA18232	Mathematical models for interacting dynamics on networks
CA18233	European Network for Innovative Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Neutropenias
CA18234	Computational materials sciences for efficient water splitting with nanocrystals from abundant elements
CA18235	PROfiling the atmospheric Boundary layer at European scale
CA18236	Multi-disciplinary innovation for social change
CA18237	European Soil-Biology Data Warehouse for Soil Protection
CA18238	European transdisciplinary networking platform for marine biotechnology
CA18239	Conservation of freshwater mussels: a pan-European approach
CA18240	ADHEsion GPCR Network: Research and Implementation Set the path for future Exploration