

A short outline of COST Action IE0601

“Wood Science for Conservation of Cultural Heritage (WoodCultHer)”

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COST = European COoperation in Science and Technology

COST is an intergovernmental framework for

***European Cooperation in Science and
Technology, allowing the coordination of***

nationally-funded research on a European level.

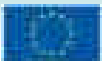
COST contributes to reducing the fragmentation in

European research investments and opening the

European Research Area to cooperation

worldwide.

www.cost.esf.org



The COST mission

Strengthen Europe in scientific and technological research for peaceful purposes through the support of cooperation and interaction between European researchers

The COST programme, based on an inter-governmental agreement, is a long-running, economical and highly successful way to spread awareness and build networks between Europe's researchers.

It reflects the human dimension of science, helping researchers to share not only the results of their work but also their aims and methods.

COST Countries



◆ The 27 EU Member States

◆ EFTA Member States

- ▶ Iceland
- ▶ Norway
- ▶ Switzerland

◆ Acceding & Candidate Countries

- ▶ Croatia
- ▶ FYR of Macedonia (FYROM)
- ▶ Turkey

◆ Potential Candidate Countries

- ▶ Republic of Serbia

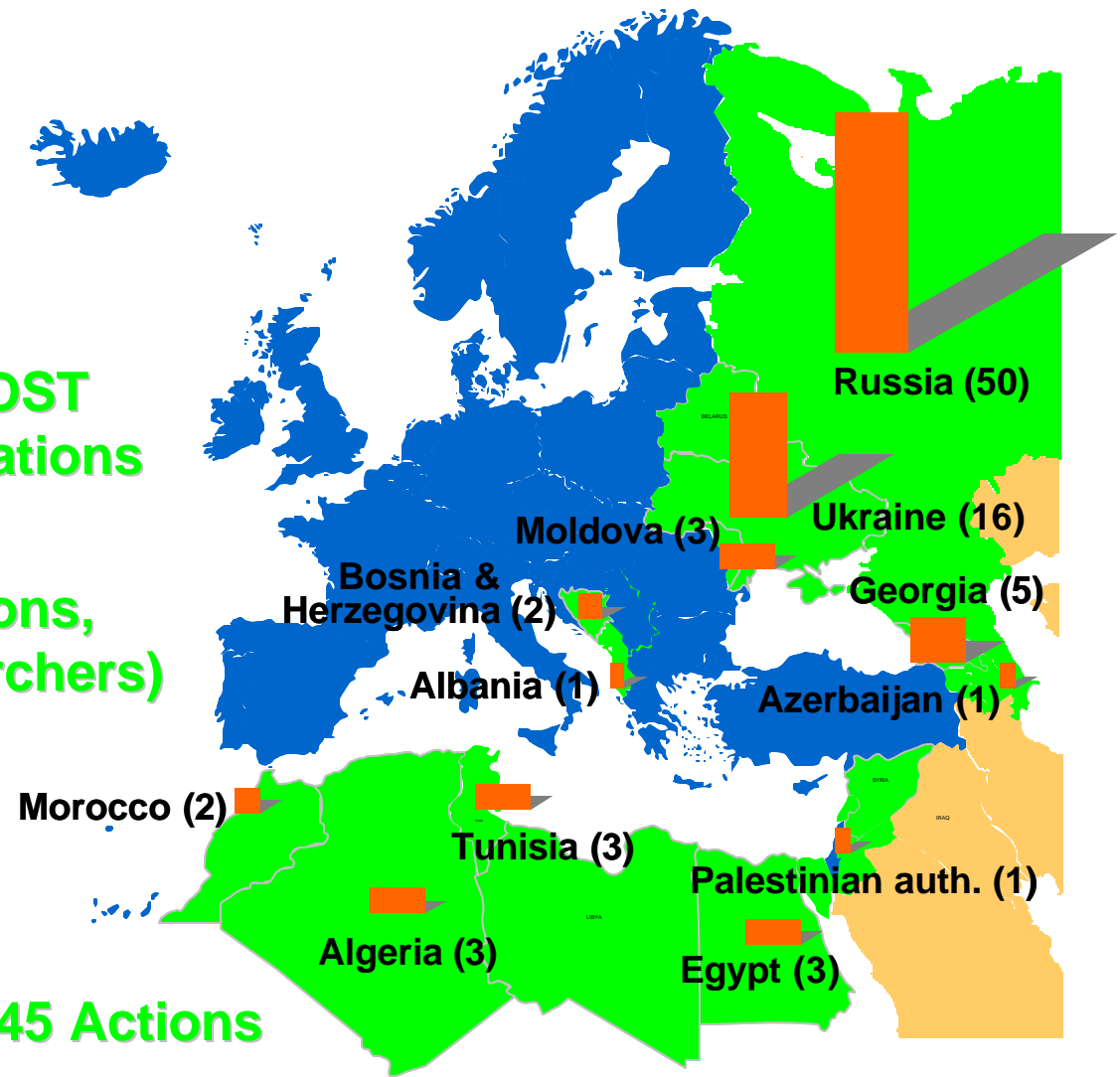
◆ COST Co-operating States

- ▶ Israel

COST and the Neighbouring Countries

-  COST countries
-  COST neighbouring countries

- ? Special budget line in the COST system to facilitate collaborations
- ? Specific exchange activities (Short Term Scientific Missions, focus on Early Stage Researchers)



In 2008: 90 participations in 45 Actions

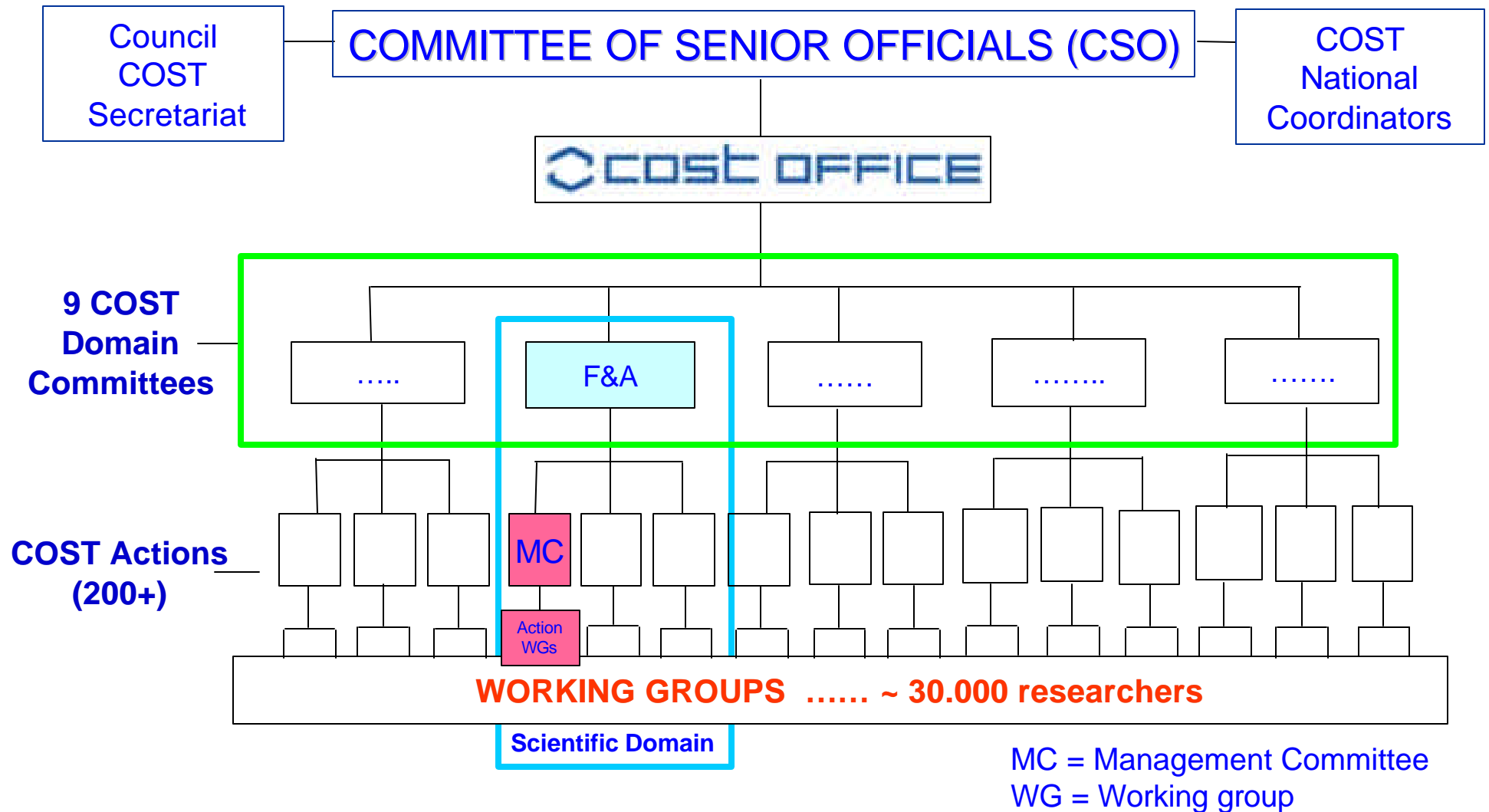
What is funded by COST?

COST Actions: A network of (nationally) funded projects (min. 5 participating countries) receive a financial contribution based on a joint work programme (4 years) for:

- 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*

Exploratory/Strategic Workshops: to explore future scientific or societal needs, support policy developments or stimulate new activities

Where is a COST Action placed, in COST structure?



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)

COST Action IE0601 WoodCultHer

“Wood Science for Conservation of Cultural Heritage”

Start date: 18/04/2007 End date: 17/04/2011 + ...?

Presently in its 3rd year (from April 2009 to April 2010)

Management Committee (the decision-making Group): 2 Delegates each from 26 European Countries + 1 each from Albania, Japan, New Zealand

Steering Committee (the “hard-working” group):

Luca UZIELLI (IT), Joseph GRIL (FR) Chairman & Vice Chairman

Thomas NILSSON (SE), George JERONIMIDIS (UK) WG1

Roman KOZLOWSKI (PL), Eberhart LEHMANN (CH) WG2

Helena CRUZ (PT), Tone Marie OLSTAD (NO) WG3

Marco FIORAVANTI (IT) Webmaster

Rapporteur (to Domain Committee)

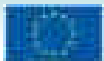
Science Officer (COST Office)

Administrative Officer (COST Office)

Zsolt KAJCSOS (HU)

Caroline WHELAN

Milena STOYANOVA



Working groups

WG1 “Wood Properties” – Mechanisms and characterisation of wood ageing, degradation and transformation processes, focussing on changes of properties and behaviour of wood and wooden artworks. Properties would include ultra-structural, physical and mechanical, chemical, rheological, biological, etc., including ageing processes of archaeological and water-logged wood.

WG2 “Assessment & Diagnosis” – Evaluation of destructive, non-destructive and non-invasive methods and equipments for in-situ and ex-situ assessments and diagnosis and study of Wooden Cultural Heritage Objects (WCHO's). Analysis of agents and causes of deterioration.

WG3 “Conservation & Restoration” – Evaluation of existing and new procedures, methods, techniques and products for interventions on wooden WCHO's (“acceptable, respectful and compatible”).

Note: WGs are useful for several organizational aspects, however the Action's activities – due to their interdisciplinary nature – are mainly carried out through Plenary or Focused (thematic) meetings.

Scientific context and objectives (1/2)

This Action is interdisciplinary:

- core research area: Wood Science (including: wood anatomy, degradation, physical & mechanical properties, timber structures ...)
- other research areas involved (up to now): non-destructive imaging, imaging and [micro]-tomography with several radiation types, deformometry, surface analysis, laser cleaning, restoration techniques, structural engineering ...

Unusual interdisciplinarity (whose value is more and more recognized) between Scientists and Conservators

Brief reminder of MoU objectives:

- To improve the conservation (including study, preventive conservation and restoration) of European Wooden Cultural Heritage Objects (WCHOs), by fostering targeted research and multidisciplinary interaction between researchers in various fields of wood science, conservators of wooden artworks, other scientists from related fields.

Scientific context and objectives (2/2)

Action IE0601 deals basically with Wood, however it belongs to the MPNS Domain (IE = Interdisciplinary Exploratory).

In order to reach its objectives, this Action:

- organizes Plenary meetings aiming to bring together Scientists and Conservators, so that the State of the Art on wide themes is known and diffused
- organizes Focused meetings aiming to bring together interested Specialists, so that the State of the Art on specific issues is discussed, updated, and developments are proposed
- promotes and supports STSMs (Short Term Scientific Missions), dealing with subjects falling within its interest area
- promotes and supports Training Schools on specific subjects
- promotes synergies with other Actions
- makes available scientific information by means of its website (www.WoodCultHer.org), Proceedings, etc.

Our Action's past and **future** activities include:

Meetings and International Conferences (~ 80-100 participants)

Bruxelles 2007 – Tervuren 2007 – Florence 2007 – Braga 2008 – Hamburg 2009 – **Izmir 20-22 October 2010**

Focused meetings (~ 10-15 participants)

Metz, 29-31 May 2008 “Preservation-Restoration of Wooden structures”; Prague, 30-31 March 2009 “Consolidation”; Krakow, 2-3 April 2009 “European standardization within CEN/TC 346”; Cambridge, 27-28 April 2009 “Managing environmental risks”; Florence, 21-22 April 2009 “Timber structures”; **Oslo, 18-19 February 2010 “Allowable microclimatic variations”**; **Krakow, 12-13 April 2010 “Modelling mechanical behaviour”**; **Biarritz, 11 May 2010 “Deterioration of wooden heritage structures in exterior conditions”**; ... several others, under preparation ...

Short Term Scientific Missions (between Institutions of 2 Countries)

25 STSMs financed up to now ... **more to be submitted ...**

Publications

Reports, papers downloadable (website) - Conference **Proceedings, printed ...**

Training Schools (~ 15-25 trainees)

Hamburg, 2009 “Fungi, Insects”; Villigen, 2009 “Advanced radiation methods”

Thank you All for your attention !

Thank you, Tone and Roman and all others, for your activity and dedication !

www.cost.esf.org

www.WoodCultHer.org