

**RESEARCH NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE;
COST – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR
ROMANIA**

European COoperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research

What is COST ?

- **Intergovernmental cooperation**
 - 1971
 - 17 Scientific & Technical domains
- **Participation**
 - 34 COST Member States + 1 Cooperating Country (Israel)
 - International organisations and research establishments from non-COST countries
 - The European Commission
- **COST Actions**
 - Concerted Actions (Networks) of nationally funded R&D

COST Characteristics

- **Networking & Co-ordination**
- **Pan-European**
- **“Non-competitive”** (pre-normative; environmental and cross-border problems; public utility)
- **National Financing of Researchers – national responsibility**
- **Bottom-up / Flexible**
- **“A la carte” participation**
- **Multi-disciplinary: wide range of disciplines covered**
- **Open to wider cooperation**

Advantages of COST

- **Fosters S&T Cooperation across Europe by creating lasting networks of scientists & researchers**
- **Promotes cooperation within EU, between the EU and Candidate Countries (particularly those in the Framework Programme) and with Europe's neighbours**
- **Explores new areas of co-operative research endeavour**

COST Countries

COST Member States

◆ The 25 EU Member States¹

◆ EFTA Member States

- ▶ Iceland
- ▶ Norway
- ▶ Switzerland

◆ Candidate Countries

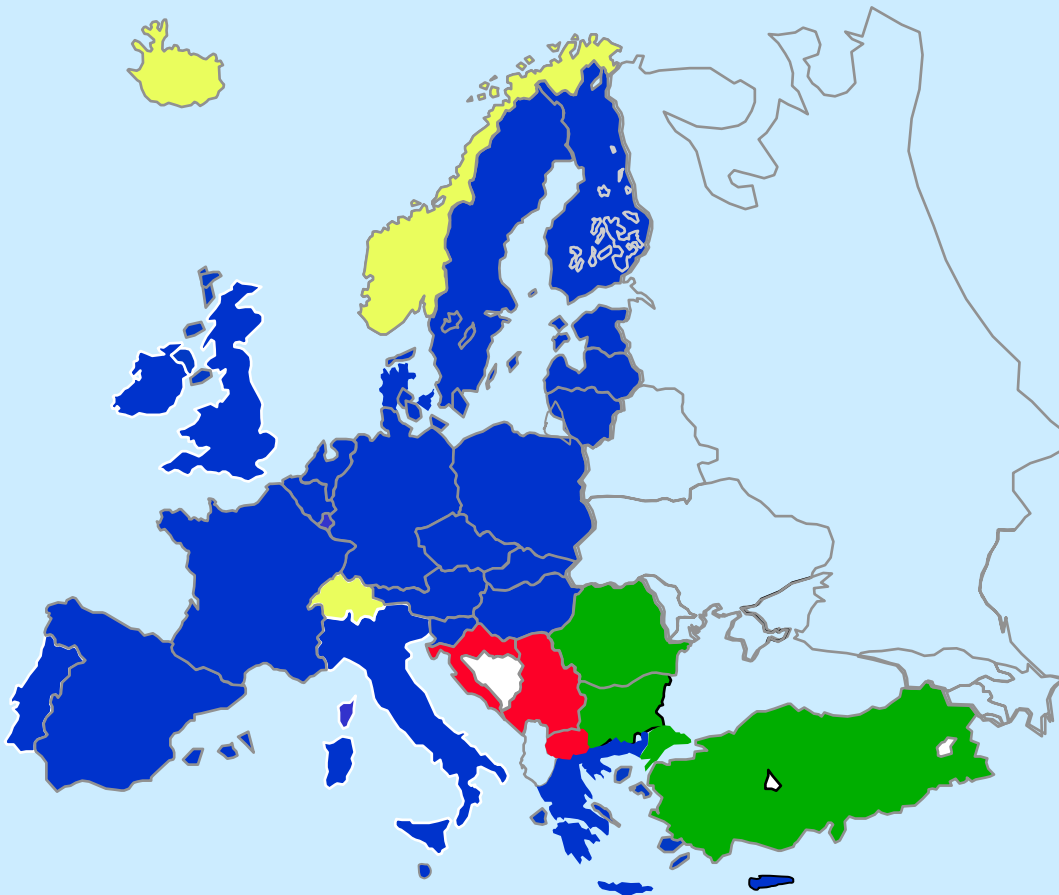
- ▶ Bulgaria
- ▶ Romania
- ▶ Turkey

◆ Other Countries

- ▶ Serbia and Montenegro²
- ▶ Croatia²
- ▶ FYR of Macedonia (FYROM)²

COST Co-operating States

- ▶ Israel



1 from 1 May 04

2 Not Associated to FP

COST Domains

1971 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- METEOROLOGY

1972 - MATERIALS

- ENVIRONMENT

1973 - INFORMATICS

- TRANSPORT

1979 - OCEANOGRAPHY

1980 - BIOTECHNOLOGY

- AGRICULTURE

- FOOD SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY

1982 - MEDICINE

1983 - SOCIAL SCIENCES

1991 - URBAN CIVIL ENGINEERING

1992 - CHEMISTRY

- FLUID DYNAMICS

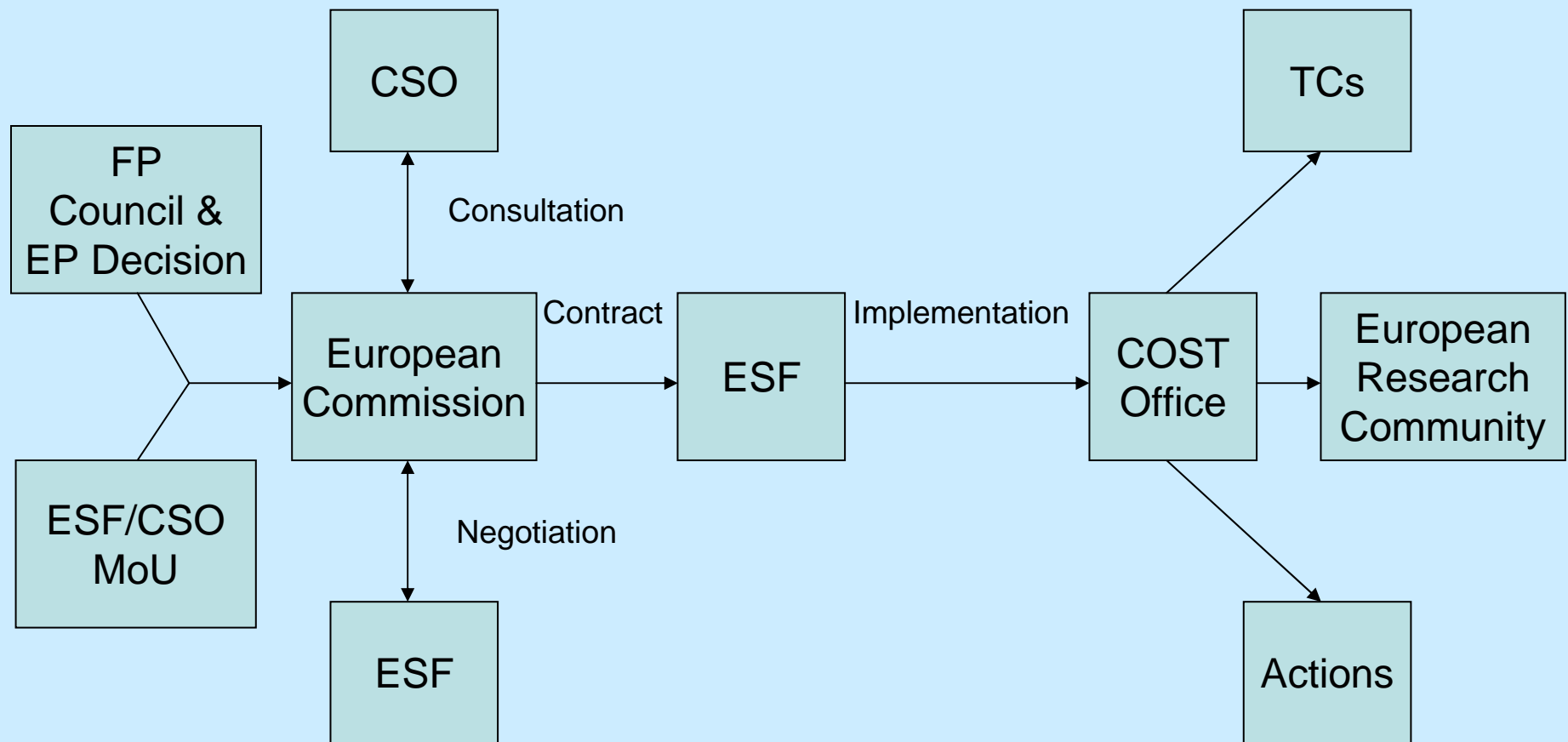
1994 - FORESTS and FORESTRY
PRODUCTS

1995 - PHYSICS

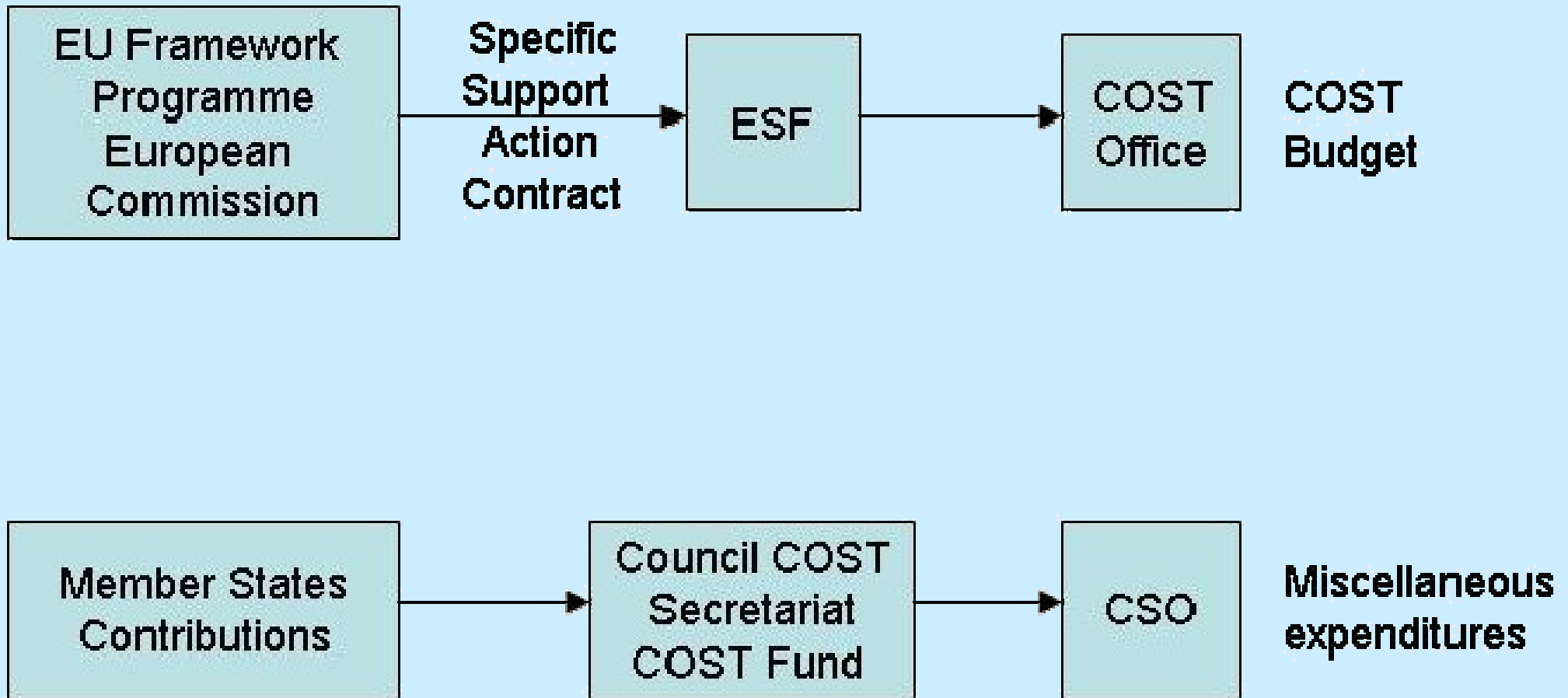
- NANOSCIENCE

2000 - BIOMATERIALS

COST- Sixth Framework Programme



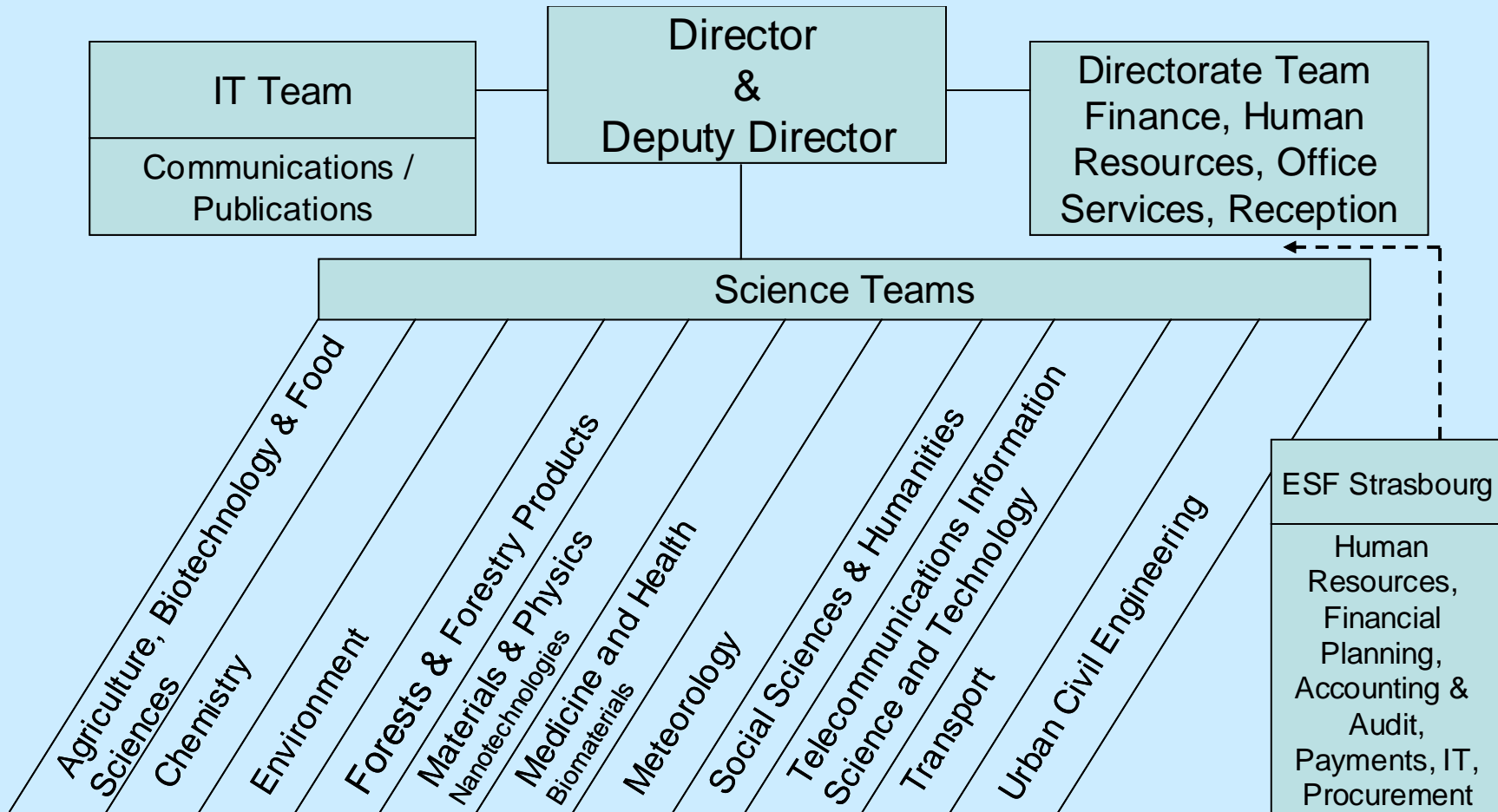
COST Financing



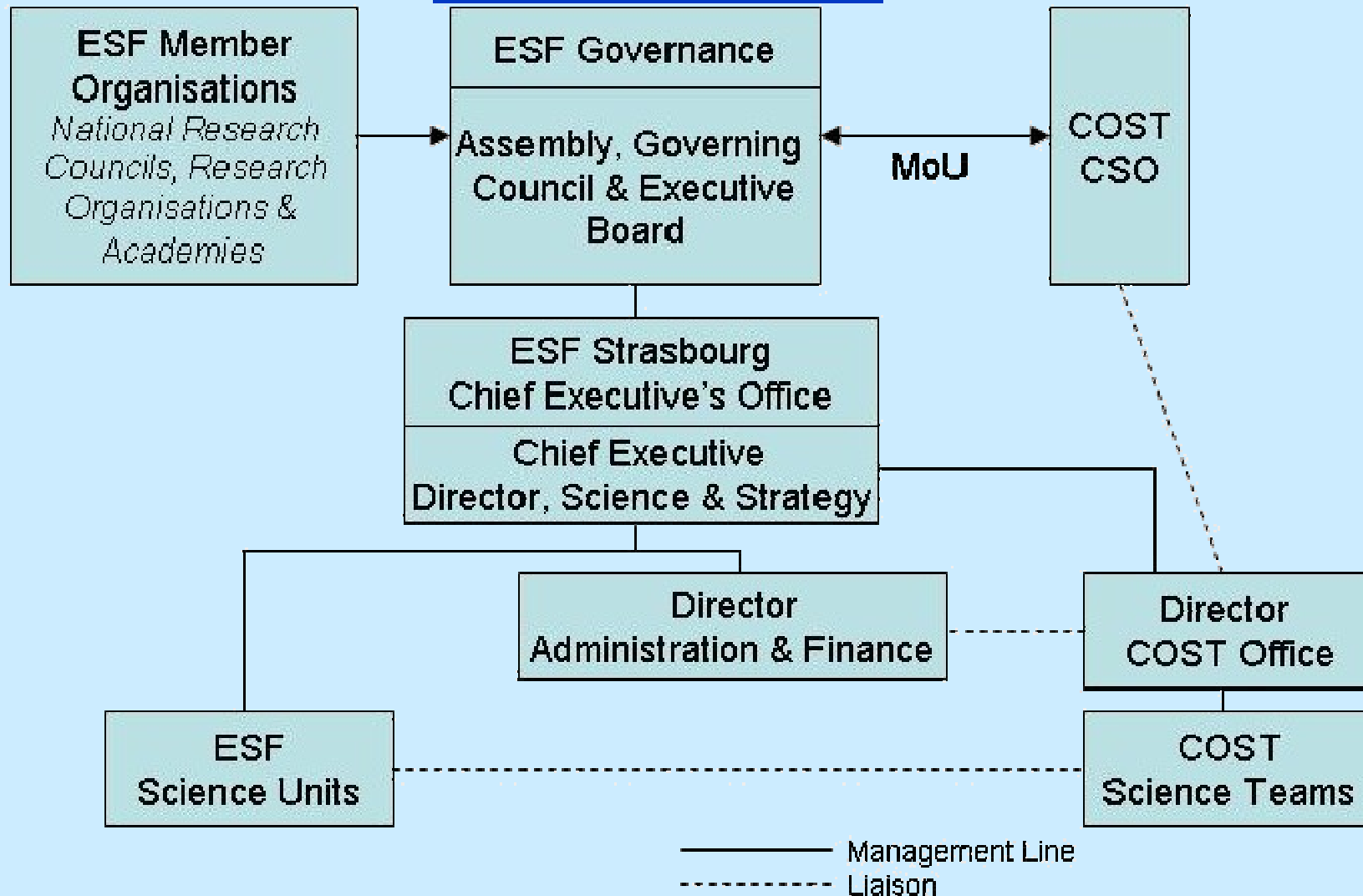
COST STRUCTURE

- **Committee of Senior Officials (CSO):** oversight and strategic developments.
- **Technical Committees (TC):** quality control of the Actions, assessing new proposals, strategic developments of their domain.
- **Secretariat to the Technical Committees and to the COST Actions:** COST office established by the European Science Foundation (ESF) under an agreement between the CSO and ESF.
- **Management Committees of the Actions (MC)**
- **Working Groups within the Actions (WG)**

COST Office Structure

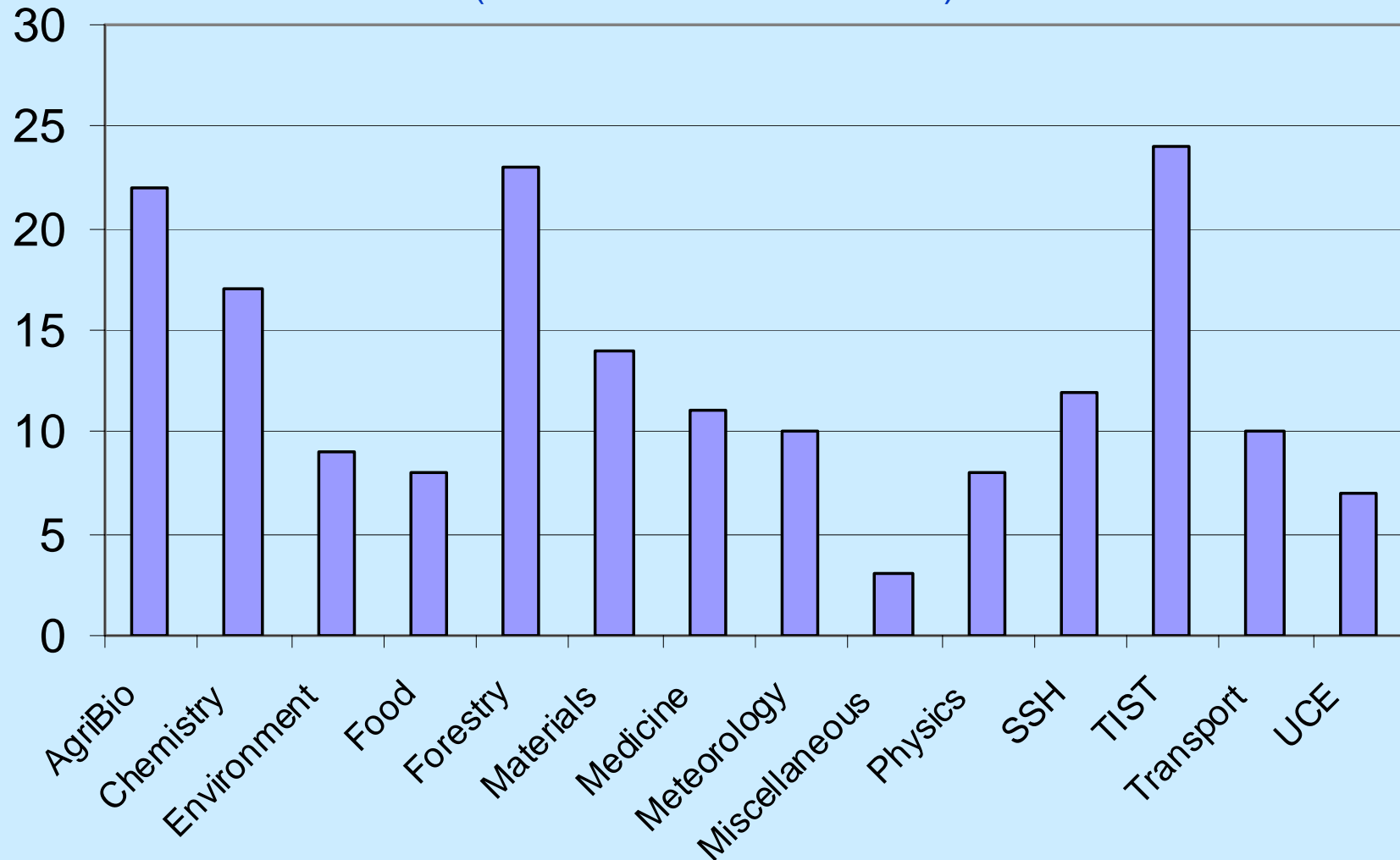


COST - ESF



Number of Actions per domain 2004

(Status on 31st December)



RUNNING ACTIONS IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH

- **B12** **DEVELOPMENT OF NEW RADIOTRACERS FOR THE IN-VIVO ASSESSMENT OF BIOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS AND DRUG INTERACTIONS**
- **B14** **HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY**
- **B16** **MULTIDRUG RESISTANCE REVERSAL**
- **B17** **INSULIN RESISTANCE, OBESITY AND DIABETES
MELLITUS IN THE ELDERLY**

RUNNING ACTIONS IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH

- **B18** **ccEMG IN ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION**
- **B19** **MOLECULAR CYTOGENETICS OF SOLID
TUMOURS**
- **B20** **MAMMARY GLAND DEVELOPMENT,
FUNCTION AND CANCER**
- **B21** **PHYSIOLOGICAL MODELING OF MR
IMAGE FORMATION**

RUNNING ACTIONS IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH

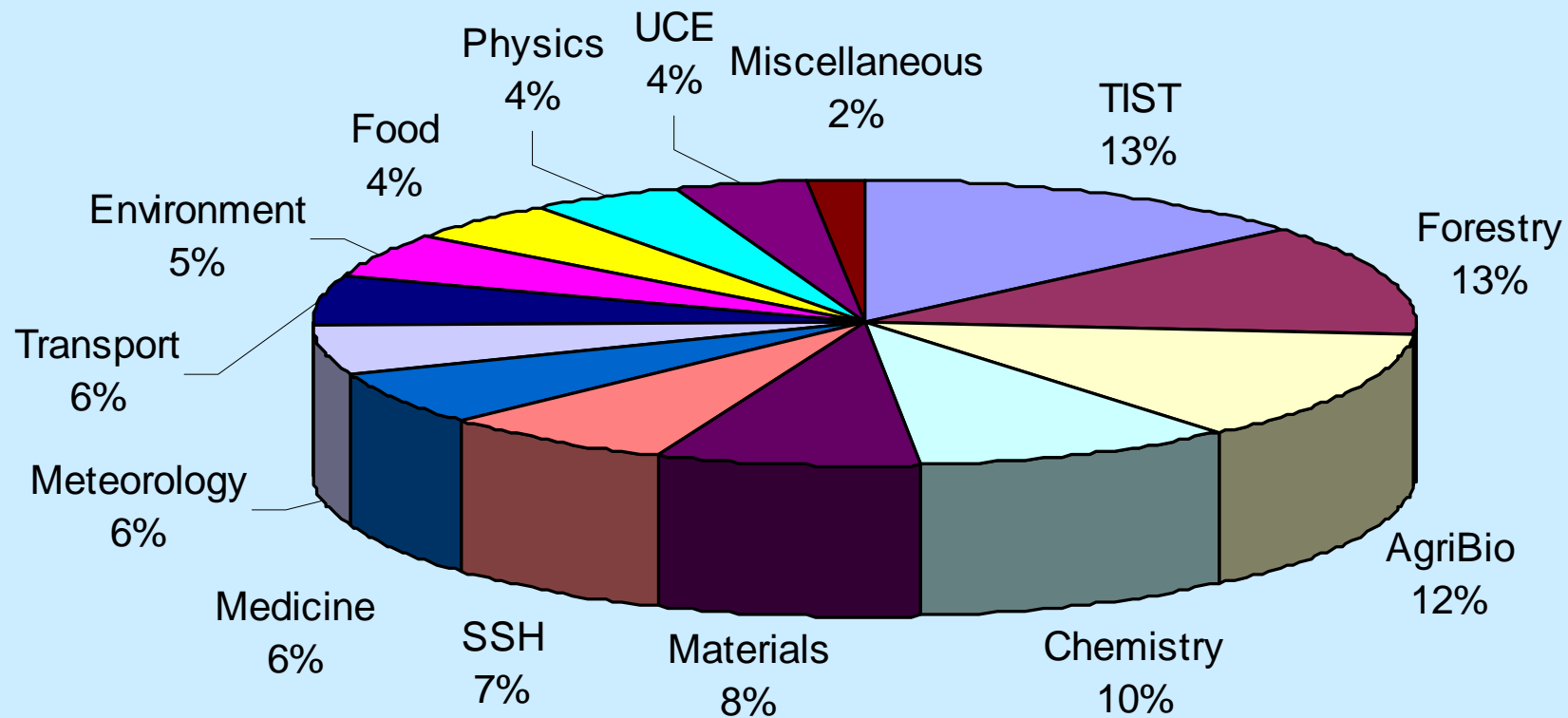
- **B22 DRUG DEVELOPMENT FOR PARASITIC DISEASES**
- **B23 ORAL FACIAL DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION**
- **B24 LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE AND WELFARE**

NEW ACTIONS IN MEDICINE AND HEALTH

- **B25** **PHYSIOLOGICALLY BASED PHARMACOTOXICOKINETIC MODELLING**
- **B26** **OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA**
- **B27** **ELECTRIC NEURONAL OSCILLATIONS AND COGNITION**
- **B28** **ARRAY TECHNOLOGIES FOR BSL3 AND BSL4 PATHOGENS**
BSL = Bio-Safety Level

Proportion of Actions per domain 2004

(Status on 31st December)



COST Budget Statistics

Average for Actions / Year	80,000 €
Average / Meeting / Participant	880 €
Short Term Scientific Missions	5,000 €
Average for Publications	4,000 €
Average for Workshops	7,000 €
Final Evaluation	up to 2,500 €

COST Actions – what is supported:

- **Science management meetings (MC and WG)**
- **Scientific workshops and seminars**
- **Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)**
- **Training Schools and Research Conferences**
- **Evaluations and Studies**
- **Dissemination**

Short Term Scientific Missions

Aim:

- ☞ promote exchange within an Action's scientific objectives.

How:

- ☞ by allowing a scientist (especially a junior researcher) to go to a laboratory in another COST country to learn a new technique or to make measurements using instruments and/or methods not available in their own laboratory.

Means:

- ☞ Average contribution for a mission (between 5 days and 1 month) will not normally exceed EURO 2,000

Technical Annex (MoU) - Structure

- A. Background**
- B. Objectives and benefits**
- C. Scientific programme**
- D. Organisation**
- E. Timetable**
- F. Economic dimension**
- G. Dissemination Plan**

Additional Information (includes List of Experts)

Quality Control

Responsibility of the COST TCs according to the “COST Guidelines”

- ***Assessment of proposals for new Actions.*** Peer review by an Assessment Panel and by the TC.
- ***Monitoring of the Actions in progress.*** By TCs through rapporteurs from the TC plus an Annual “Progress Report”.
- ***Evaluation of completed Actions.*** Peer review by an Evaluation Panel. “Final Evaluation Report” presented to and approved by the TC .

Results

- **Scientific importance.** Thousands of papers in refereed journals and books. Doctorates. Recognition of COST scientific Community outside Europe.
- **Contribution to European competitiveness.** Contributions to normative and standardisation bodies. SME's originating from COST Actions.
- **Societal importance.** Delicate issues arising from new technologies based high quality, independent advice.
- **Contribution to the ERA.** COST precursor of research projects (including Networks of Excellence) in the FP's. Complementarity with FP, and with others, including ESF.

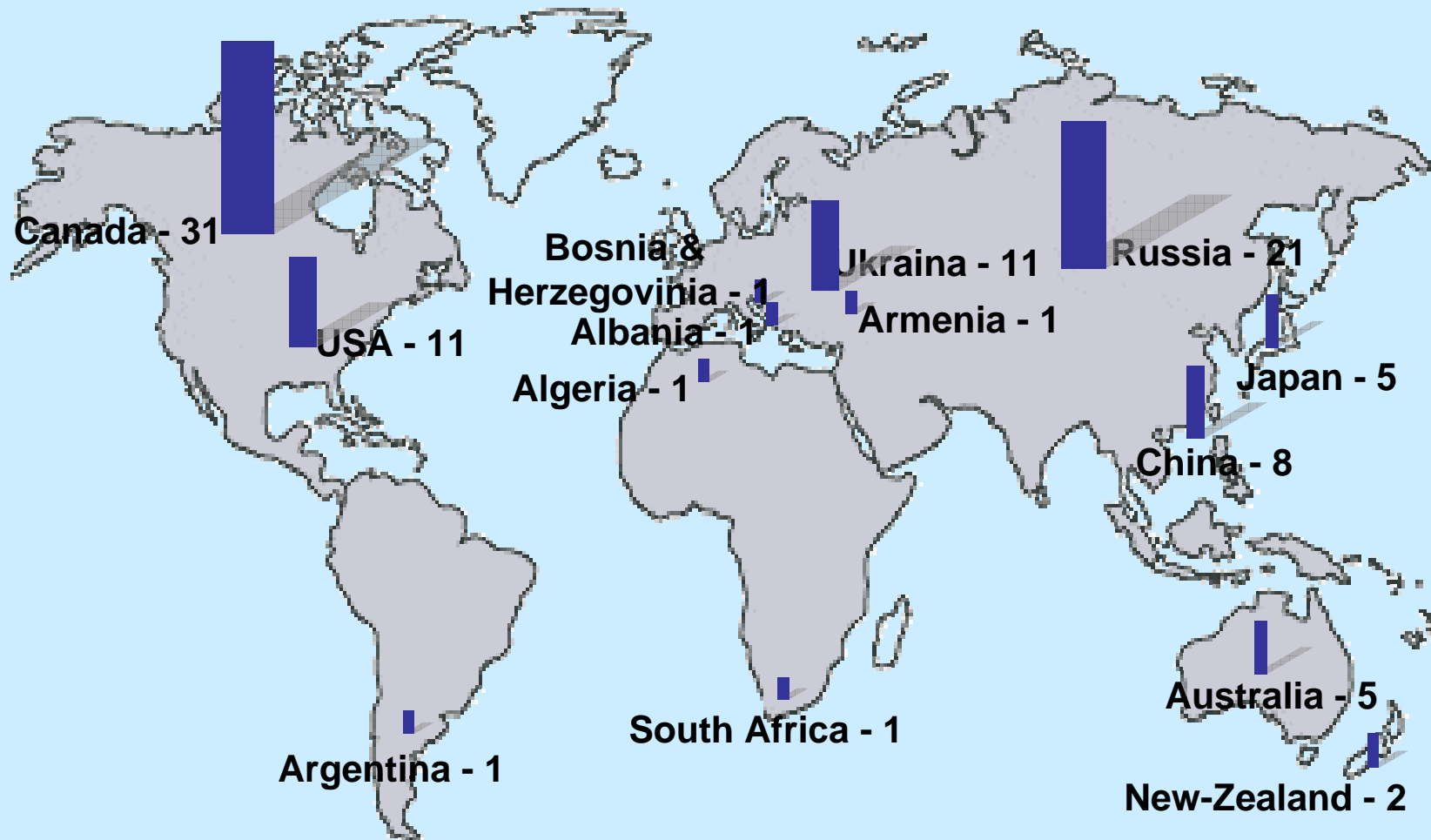
Organisations from non-COST countries

May participate on an Action by Action basis given:

- **there is mutual S&T benefit**
- **the CSO approves (following MC and TC approval)**
- **participation is confirmed by an exchange of letters between the organisation and the CSO**

Non-COST institutions may not vote in the MC

Number of Non-COST Participation 2004



Total number of participations in running Actions: 104

COST Office

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