

Action Number: CA21106
Room Title: Action criteria for fair and transparent reimbursement
Rapporteur(s): David Marsh (Stockholm)
Meeting Participants interested in contributing to the topic: <i>(Only for the groups discussing Grant Awarding, Science Communication plan and Stakeholder Engagement – WGs information on the e-COST platform.)</i> In the break-out room: Alessandro Mirizzi, Pierre Pugat, DM
What is our main goal? The funds from the COST action are not sufficient to reimburse anyone who'd be interested in attending the action's activities. The action needs to declare a plan of what to prioritise in terms of who should have the right to be reimbursed, what meetings to fund etcetera. (The rules should be fair and transparent.)
How can we achieve it? General comment: focus on primarily funding science activities rather than COST-action admin. Deciding on criteria topic for future discussion. <u>MC meetings:</u> MC members have the right to be reimbursed when travelling to MC meetings, which will happen roughly once per year or so (not clear at this point). The action is expected to have one major conference per year connecting all WGs, and it could be beneficial to have the MC meeting in connection to this meeting. Moreover, one can limit the reimbursed F2F participation to one representative per country for each MC meeting and have the meeting in hybrid format. If so, the member that is refunded for travelling should be alternating. MC members may be given a minimum "allowance": e.g. the right to be reimbursed to travel to one COST activity per year. <u>Core group:</u> If formed to oversee activities during the year, it could predominantly meet virtually. <u>Meetings:</u> Priority for finding to speakers, junior people, and taking geographic and gender balance questions into account. WG encouraged to have regular virtual meetings in addition to less frequent topical meetings F2F. Can have an internal call for organising WG meetings and give priority to those that can provide cofounding to alleviate pressure COST funding. <u>Schools:</u> Prioritise funding students.

Which resources do we need?

(e.g. budget, use of networking tools, different expertise etc.)

What are the next steps?

Define forms in which these questions should be discussed and decided upon.

Set of goals that have benefited from the input of and has the mandate from the entire MC.

Clear plan for what meetings we want when.