

10 - Strategic Workshops / Conferences

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10.1 - Introduction

Strategic Workshops/Conferences give COST an opportunity to develop outreach to the scientific community through the organization of larger conferences or specific workshops where a COST Action, or several COST Actions can interact with experts drawn from the scientific community at large. The first of these is organized conjointly with the European Science Foundation to create a partnership bringing together both junior and more experienced researchers in a residential setting to debate and exchange ideas at the forefront of research on specific topics, related to the Actions. The second scheme is run on a flexible, bottom-up approach by the COST office.

10.2 - COST/ESF High Level Research Conferences

The COST Office can provide support for COST/ESF High Level Research Conferences.

Normally only the COST related part will be funded from the COST Office.

The approval for the support of a COST/ESF High Level Research Conference will be the responsibility of the CSO President and the CEO of ESF based on a request by the COST Office Director. The details of the support arrangement will be individually organized on an ad hoc basis following the procedures below (see 10.4 - Rules and Procedures).

10.3 - Strategic Workshops

The COST office can provide support for Strategic Workshops on an ad hoc basis.

This may be a COST only event, or with an outside partner in which case costs are to be equitably shared.

The approval for the support of a COST Strategic Workshop will be the responsibility of the director of the COST Office. The details of the support arrangement will be individually organized on an *ad hoc* basis following the procedures below (see 10.4 - Rules and Procedures)

10.4 - Rules and Procedures

- Application for a support grant by beneficiary sent to the COST Office with supporting documents (detailed proposal, detailed programme, list of key speakers and participants, accompanying support letter from MC/DC if applicable etc.);
- Approval by the COST Office (Director);
- Budget allocation and registration at the COST Office and issue of reference number;
- Acceptance letter to beneficiary issued by the COST Office to be signed and returned by beneficiary;
- Payment request (Form issued by COST Office, signed by beneficiary and sent to Office with supporting documents);
- Payment by the COST Office via ESF payment section.