

Summer reading...

Summer is here, which, for COST, means activities will traditionally slow down somewhat in August. Since most of our networks and readers will hopefully be chasing holidays in the sun, we thought that this issue of COST News should provide some relaxing summer reading!

Discover more about COST activities in science communications and read about the use of social media for COST Actions. Another interesting article highlights the very first science exhibition organised in a museum by a COST Action as their final event.

The COST Office is working hard on the autumn events schedule, mainly the COST exhibition 'Networks of Science' at the European Parliament and the First Gender Summit; we hope that you will mark a few items from the events agenda for the second half of the year in your diary.

Finally, as a hub for science and research, COST could not but remind you to prepare for the summer sun and to be aware of the dangers of ultraviolet (UV) rays. It has been reported that parts of the world are going to experience extra high levels of UV this year, due to record levels of ozone loss above the Arctic last winter!

I wish you a restful summer break and look forward to catching up with you again in September.

Dr Ángeles Rodríguez-Peña

President of the COST Committee of Senior Officials



'Networks of Science' COST Exhibition

18 to 20 October 2011
European Parliament, Brussels

COST will hold an exhibition in the European Parliament showcasing the 'networks of science' that COST Actions have been creating across Europe.

Read more at page 23!



Early Stage Researcher portrait

A testimonial by Ruzica Golubovic Niciforovic, COST Action IC0603 'Antenna Systems & Sensors for Information Society Technologies' (ASSIST)

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very exciting research topics on which the other groups were working and had up-to-date overview on their latest achievements and perspectives. We had the opportunity to exchange experiences in an informal and friendly atmosphere. Interesting new ideas were frequently born during these discussions.

Within the framework of the COST Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) scheme, I was able to visit the group of Prof Djordjevic at the University of Belgrade, Serbia and the team of Prof Vandenbosch at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven), Belgium. Both missions were highly beneficial and constructive. They further enriched my doctoral experience and provided me with new important input for my ongoing research work. Moreover they resulted in the discussion of possible joint papers, some of which have since been published.

Results of my research have been published in several prestigious international conferences and journals. As a final result of my activities in this Action, I have just finished writing my PhD thesis' memoir entitled 'Challenges in Computational Electromagnetics: Analysis and Optimization of Planar Multilayered Structures'.

COST Affiliation

COST Action IC0603 'Antenna Systems & Sensors for Information Society Technologies' (ASSIST)

<http://www.cost.eu/ict/Actions/IC0603>

<http://www.cost-ic0603.org/>

■ How did you become involved in your COST Action?

In October 2007, I joined EPFL and started working on my PhD thesis under the supervision of Prof Juan R. Mosig. I was lucky enough to see my research activity supported within the framework of European COST Action IC0603 'ASSIST'.

Thanks to the topic of my research, which was well connected with ongoing European activities, I had a great opportunity to meet outstanding scientists during the COST workshops; to present and discuss my current research activities with them. I also learned a lot about

■ What were the Action's main objectives?

Antennas are a key constituent of all terrestrial, airborne and space based wireless multimedia, communications and sensor systems. Their functions are fast evolving, driven by the demanding needs of the Information Society Technologies. The generic research goal of this Action, involving many European research groups and universities, was the development of new techniques for designing, mathematically modeling, building and characterising the innovative antennas and wireless sensors required by future applications. Our contribution lay in the development and improvement of accurate electromagnetic modeling algorithms for a most ubiquitous class of antennas: the planar printed antennas.



■ **How do you perceive your contribution to a more gender-balanced science? Do you feel there is any gender imbalance in your scientific field?**

I am very happy to see that more and more women have been building their careers in electrical engineering and ICT, which are traditionally considered 'male fields'. Thanks to the ACE Network (Antenna Centre of Excellence) initiative of the Women Travel Grants, I had the opportunity to attend the EuCAP conference (European Conference on Antennas and Propagation) in Edinburgh in 2007. It was the first time I participated in an international conference and that fruitful experience motivated me a lot. I strongly believe that similar grants, as well as the exchange of experiences through meetings, roundtables, workshops and conferences will further foster the presence of women in ICT studies and professions. Having a gender-balanced scientific world is very important, since excellence is not a matter of gender.

■ **What happens next, once the Action comes to an end? How would you ensure continuity of your results?**

COST plays a very important role in European research by constantly building strong scientific networks,

supporting innovation and strategically helping Early Stage Researchers in launching their careers. Our Action IC0603 started using Facebook and strongly supported the Antennas Virtual Centre of Excellence (Antennas VCE), an online site for the exchange of information. New COST Actions in our area should continue this trend, with an improved gender balance and keeping the reasonable ratio between beginners and seasoned researchers that made our Action 'ASSIST' so profitable for young researchers. I hope COST will further grow and continue its legacy of encouraging collaboration between scientists, not only within Europe, but worldwide.

“

COST plays a very important role in European research by constantly building strong scientific networks, supporting innovation and strategically helping Early Stage Researchers in launching their careers.

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News from staff

Mr Matteo Razzanelli took up a new challenging role in the COST Office as Science Officer – Impact Analysis for Policy Support since May 2011.

Ms Galina Gospodinova was appointed IT Developer in June 2011.

Dr Geny Piotti accepted the position of Science Officer – Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health in June 2011, to cover Dr Julia Stamm while on leave.

Dr Xin-Ying Ren took up the position of Science Officer – Forests, their Products and Services in July 2011, replacing Ms Melae Langbein while on leave.



A word on Graphene

COST interview with 2010 Nobel Laureate in Physics Prof Konstantin Novoselov

Graphene

In the latest years graphene research has witnessed a tremendous explosion. This two-dimensional dream material has come into the main spotlight of fundamental and applied research in diverse nano-science fields but, surprisingly rapidly, it has also attracted the interest of major stakeholders in the private sector, such as the ICT industry.



GraphITA

L'Aquila, Italy, 15 to 18 May 2011

GraphITA has been a major international conference on what promises to be the material of the future, bringing together scientists and engineers working on different technological uses of graphene in a multidisciplinary environment.



Prof Konstantin Novoselov, 2010 Nobel Prize Laureate in Physics

On 15 May 2011 COST interviewed Prof Konstantin Novoselov, 2010 Nobel Laureate in Physics, keynote speaker at GraphITA.

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2010 was awarded jointly to Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov "for groundbreaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene". Prof Novoselov received the Nobel Prize at the age of 36. At the time of the award he was affiliated with the University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

■ What got you on to the idea of Graphene?

Graphene is just one of the many ideas which we had in the lab. We tried to spread and diversify our research as much as possible. There are plenty of ideas you have never heard of – a few of those are more fruitful than Graphene and yet, you never hear of them. There are still quite a number of them which have not worked out, but I'm still thinking about coming back to those. Graphene was only one of many. We just thought why don't we try to make a transistor out of an atom? Then, which metal to take? And it was graphite. We started to work with it and we quite liked it. The first samples worked. Usually we allow ourselves just a few days, probably a week, for such projects; and if it doesn't work, we forget about it. Another idea before, or around the same time, as the Graphene one was gecko tape. This flew quite nicely and is probably more of a dream.

■ Graphene research is now a worldwide project. What is Europe's role in this? Is Europe – in your opinion – the world leader in Graphene research?

At the moment it's practically impossible to be a leader in Graphene research because there are so many aspects of the research which you can touch. Graphene is like



the philosopher's stone: any property you touch is either unique or is better than that in other materials. It is the electronic properties of Graphene which attract a lot of people, but there are mechanical properties too. It's the thinnest possible material; it's the strongest material; it's the most stretchable material; and it is the stiffest one. There are also chemical and optical properties. All properties of Graphene are attracting a lot of interest. Because of its diversity, so many different groups work in this area and I don't think any single group can cover all those directions. So we try to do some cross-collaboration projects. But I don't think that any single group is dominating the field.

There are of course a few leaders, such as Columbia University, doing extremely active research; people in Singapore and in Korea who are quite good in applications; then there is Cambridge University as well who leads more towards optics and applications. So there are quite a few centres, but in fact research is quite spread – and that's exactly because there are so many different aspects of this material which can be started.

Graphene is exciting because of its uniqueness. Firstly, it is so easy to obtain, and then immediately you get so many different properties, leading to so many different experiments. It is this low-cost characteristic which attracts a lot of people and labs across the world who love experimenting with it. But then it's really the combination of all those unique properties which is exciting. Each individual researcher would have a top list of properties.

In terms of applications, I can speculate but, as they say, I cannot predict the future - I can only predict the past. So I certainly hope that there will be applications. You can see that probably the first ones will be coming from transparent conductive coating: liquid crystal display, solar cells, touch screens, tactile screens and so on. We probably have to wait another year, but it is encouraging that there are some applications already in use. There are already small companies, people working in biology and life sciences, who love using Graphene as a transparent conductive coating for studying objects using TEM – transmission electron microscopy – because it's transparent, conductive and an ideal substrate on which to put objects like DNA for instance. There are several companies which sell Graphene on TEM grids for these purposes. They are not

selling Graphene for the purpose of science – they sell Graphene as a device.

■ **How does getting a Nobel Prize change your life? How does it feel to receive a Nobel Prize? Were you nervous in Stockholm at the award ceremony?**

It changed in a way because I had to fight really hard over a few months not to change it at all. So now it's pretty much back to normal, there are only some minor disruptions. Sure, it was quite a shock for a few days - it was a pleasant shock, but still a shock. Was I nervous in Stockholm – why should I be? No, I wasn't, I was nervous and I was excited while I was doing the experiments.

■ **COST brings scientists together across different countries and continents. You've moved a lot during your scientific career. Do you think mobility for researchers is important?**

Absolutely - It is important and it is necessary. It broadens your horizons and allows you to learn different techniques. Actually I feel that I have stayed in the Graphene area for far too long. I would certainly love to see more mobility both in Europe and between other countries.



Prof Francesco Fedi, COST President 2004-2010 and President of the COST Office Association (COA) addressing GraphITA



- **What would your advice be to young people who would like to learn and work in a field such as nanotechnology?**

I don't think you can start specialising in nanotechnology as early as school; school is there to give you as broad an education as possible, and you have to take it. I would certainly disagree with people who say that we have to push our kids to learn some specific subjects as early as possible. It is the other way around: I think you need to broaden your horizons and try to study a wide range of subjects in school – that is your last chance to study everything. You go to university and that's it, you have chosen your path and if you've chosen incorrectly you still go down that path. You should give kids an opportunity to learn about nanotechnology but you should certainly not give it any priority in comparison to other subjects.

- **Thank you for your time!**

More information

COST event page

<http://www.cost.eu/events/graphita>

GraphITA website

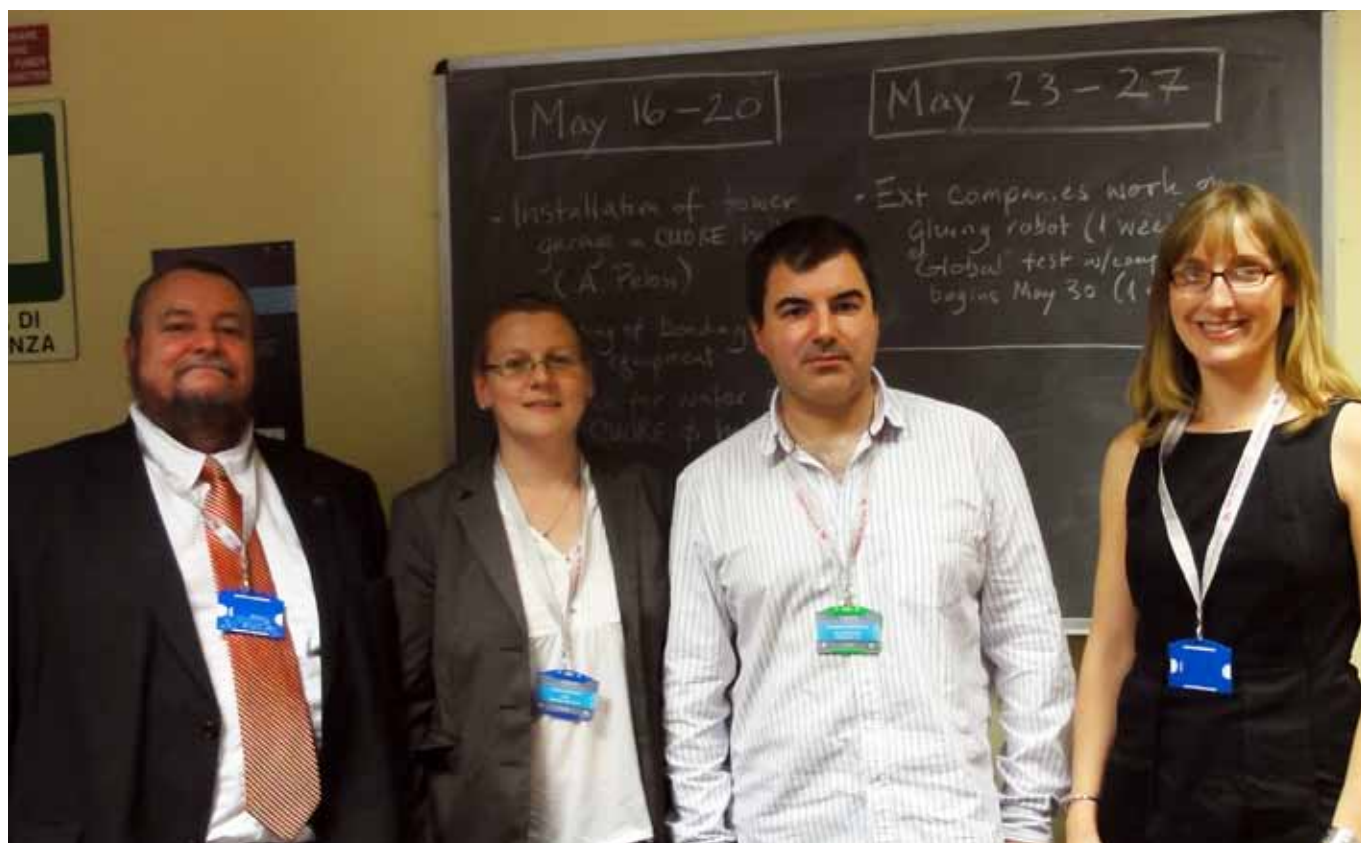
<http://graphita.bo.imm.cnr.it/>

COST Action MP0901

'Designing novel materials for nanodevices - from Theory to Practice' (NanoTP)

<http://www.cost.eu/mpns/Actions/MP0901>

<http://www.nanotp.org/>



COST Office staff with Prof Novoselov

COST and science communication

Exploring social media

As mentioned in the last issue of COST News, the COST Office accelerated COST's social media presence in 2011 – the COST Year of Visibility. Social media provides easy access to information on relevant topics or stakeholders' activities and makes it easy to broadcast COST messages promptly and cost-efficiently.

At the COST Office, we were really interested to know how COST Actions are communicating their efforts and specifically if they are using social media tools to do so. Therefore, we launched an online survey of all COST Action Chairs to discover how and why Actions are utilising these new online tools.

The survey, which ran from the middle of May until the start of June 2011, also raised awareness of how the COST Office uses social media to disseminate COST results and to leverage collaboration.

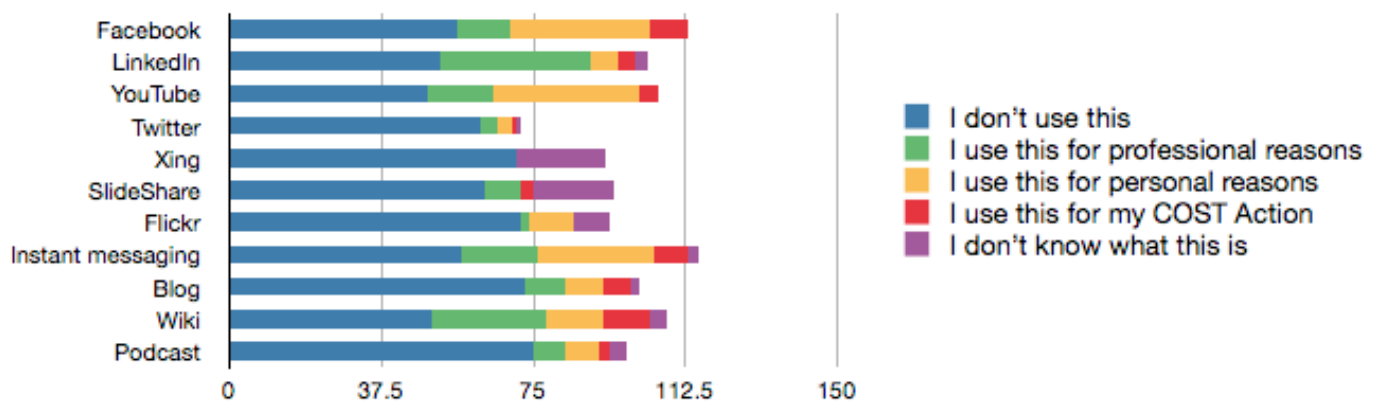


Figure 1. Social Media Usage Spread per Tool

Social media usage by COST Actions

Figure 1 clearly shows that some social media tools are used far more heavily than others. For professional use LinkedIn is the most popular tool (36%) followed by Wikis (26%) which are favoured for online collaboration.

The popularity of LinkedIn is also confirmed by the COST Office. The closed COST Group on LinkedIn boasts 500 members, far more than the number of followers on COST's public social media tools such as Twitter and Facebook. Facebook and YouTube are the respondents' favourite tools for personal use with 31% and 34% respectively and Twitter is the least popular tool for COST Actions with 86% of the respondents not using it.

When it comes to following COST on social media, 15% of the COST Action Chairs responded positively and make the effort to follow COST using one or other social media tool. This is in addition to their direct contacts with the COST Office and the COST website which was often cited

as the main means of communication, and one that is both well-organised and sufficient for COST Action needs.

Lessons learned

These survey results provide valuable input for the next edition of the advanced science communication training for COST Action chairs which will be organised in November 2011. The results show the level of communications engagement that scientists involved in COST Actions build up. It also maps areas that the future COST science communications trainings could focus upon to train COST



A tweet acknowledging COST

Actions on addressing gaps in their communications expertise.

One extremely positive feedback from this survey, for example, was that participants who had already received communications training demonstrated a greater understanding of how and why social media tools work than participants who had not yet received training: a clear confirmation of the added value, which the short social media session given at the last science communications training has given. The latter group expressed a lack of awareness of the tools in general coupled with a lack of experience in using the tools for external communications; aspects which will be addressed by the COST Office through training or through the provision of information materials.

Finally, many respondents that are quite used to using social media tools for project management, document sharing or task tracking, for example, expressed a fear of the amount of time social media would take up if they also used it to disseminate their COST Action activities. As some respondents put it “there is already so much information to scan and I prefer direct ‘live’ contacts”.

More information

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Would you like to tweet about your science and make your content visible to EU media and institutions? COST can do it for you!



Watch broadcasts of COST Actions, or... broadcast your science in the COST YouTube Channel!
www.youtube.com/COSTOffice



COST Action FA0702 GEMINI Facebook page



COST Action IC0905 Terra Facebook page



COST save the bees

A COST Action dedicated to preventing honeybee colony losses

Over the past years, severe inexplicable and sudden losses of managed honeybee (*Apis mellifera* L.) colonies have been frequently reported in the United States, Europe and Japan. Beekeepers are confronted with abrupt and, as yet, inexplicable bee mortality, following complex symptoms such as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). In December 2010, a Commission paper (IP/10/1667) outlined the need for more action in the EU to reduce bee mortality.

Why do we care about honeybees?

Bees are the key to honey production and, most importantly, healthy bees are vital pollinators. Their role is crucial to biodiversity, apiculture and agriculture, and consequently, to human society. Honeybees are an essential agent of pollination for a wide range of plants. Approximately 30% of human food consumption depends directly or indirectly on nature's ultimate utility player. Added to a globally increasing food demand, the loss of such prime players in the pollination chain will be a barrier to improving global food security as set by Europe 2020 - the European strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Losing honeybees not only has an economic impact on the agricultural pollination value, but may also result in inestimable and unforeseen ecological loss of our planet's biodiversity.

Why are honeybees dying?

The first research results in this area suggests that bee colony losses are not due to one single factor only, but rather to highly complex interactions of various factors (pests and pathogens; environment, e.g. nutrition use of agrochemicals; management; and reduced bee vitality/diversity). If we do not know the factors and the extent of the problem, we cannot implement effective mitigating measures.

The scope for research: how can bees be saved?

Because little is known about the causes of honeybee colony collapse, there is an urgent and strong need to

coordinate further research to investigate the several factors (and their interdependent effects) causing severe bee colony losses. To achieve this goal, it is essential to set internationally accepted **standards for both monitoring and research** on bee health. COST Action FA0803, also known as COLOSS (Prevention of Honeybee Colony Losses) is the first international research network on this topic and was established in 2008 through COST.

COLOSS: an international research effort to save bees

COLOSS is a truly global network – currently consisting of over 250 partners from 56 countries worldwide – and coordinates research and activities by scientists, extension specialists, beekeepers, and industry members.

COLOSS is working towards a major breakthrough – the establishment of a set of standards for scientific methods in bee research, by compiling an unprecedented project in this area: the '**Bee Book**'. The Bee Book will be an online tool to foster research and monitoring as well as a common database on honeybee losses allowing scientists and other stakeholders to draw general conclusions on honeybee colony losses on a global level.

In addition to the Bee Book, the Action is for the first time systematically investigating synergistic interactions between factors causing colony mortality at both individual honeybee and colony levels, which is a novel approach in this research branch. Moreover, training will be provided to relevant stakeholders. Finally, the resulting adequate dissemination of results is another crucial step towards enhancing awareness of the importance of pollinators.



COLOSS is organised into four Working Groups, each dealing with specific research topics:

- Monitoring and Diagnosis
- Pests and Pathogens
- Environment and Beekeeping
- Vitality and Diversity

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The protection of honeybee health is of high importance in the EU. The EU should reinforce the framework in place, in the spirit of our Animal Health Strategy principle 'prevention is better than cure' and assist the Member States and the beekeepers in their quest for better and sustainable bee health.

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John Dalli
Health and Consumer Policy Commissioner

Links

<http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/bees>

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<http://www.coloss.org/>

Through the looking glass

A COST look at world observances

International organisations and institutions such as the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU) increasingly promote the celebration of international observances, such as days, weeks and years that contribute to the awareness of and action on important political, social, cultural, humanitarian, health or human rights issues. They provide a useful means for the promotion of international and national initiatives to tackle societal challenges. Science and research carried out within the framework of COST Actions potentially have a high impact on these issues. Here is a brief snapshot.

World Oceans Day

8 June 2011 was World Oceans Day (WOD), which has been organised by the World Ocean Network and The Ocean Project since 2003. This day celebrates and honours the body of water which links us all, for what it provides humans and what it represents.



- COST Action ES1001 'SMOS Mission Oceanographic Data Exploitation' coordinates European studies using the oceanographic data exploitation of the European Space Agency Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) satellite mission which was launched in November 2009. SMOS provides Sea Surface Salinity (SSS) maps over the oceans. SSS monitoring is an important variable in the broader scientific context of the climate change analysis and underlines the European relevance of this Action.

On World Oceans Day we wish to highlight this Action's work, which provides a framework to capitalise the often fragmented efforts of experts working in these research areas; in particular the interpretation of the measurements and their applications, profiting from the imminent availability of SMOS data.

No Tobacco Day

Tobacco kills one person every six seconds. Out of 6 million deaths a year, 600 000 are non-smokers who died from exposure to tobacco smoke. 31 May 2011, the World Health Organization's No Tobacco Day, was an excellent opportunity for smokers to reduce their risk of becoming a sad statistic.



According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there are more than 4 000 chemicals in tobacco smoke, of which at least 250 are known to be harmful and more than 50 are known to cause cancer. In adults, second-hand smoke causes serious cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, including coronary heart disease and lung cancer.

- COST Action BM0703 'Cancer and Control of Genomic Integrity (CANGENIN)' focuses on genomic integrity and epigenetics and their dysregulation in cancer, i.e. the mechanisms that prevent healthy cells from becoming cancer cells. The Action strives to provide new research models and tools to understand the molecular basis of cancer progression and lead to better prevention, diagnosis and therapy.

World MS Day

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, often disabling disease. It is one of the most common disabling neurological conditions amongst young adults in the northern hemisphere. Every year on 25 May, World MS Day aims to raise awareness and to mobilise the global movement in the fight against MS. COST Action BM0603 'Inflammation in Brain Disease' (NEURINFNET) contributes.



- 2011 is the third World MS Day and NEURINFNET is contributing to the research by gaining new understanding of neuroinflammatory and neurodegenerative processes as they occur in MS and Alzheimer's disease. This would facilitate development of improved therapies by drawing together knowledge from the study of individual diseases. The Action bridges two research areas that have traditionally been considered to be distinct - integrating research and clinical perspectives in inflammatory and degenerative brain disease. NEURINFNET will address key questions that guide the development of therapies for MS as well as other major neurological diseases in adults.

International Day for Biological Diversity

22 May was the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB), which aims to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. The 2011 theme of IDB is Forest Biodiversity, and it will make up part of the International Year of Forests. COST has a designated Domain dealing with forestry which has facilitated, and continues to facilitate, many networks dealing with the issue of biodiversity.



The Forests, their Products and Services (FPS) Domain supports activities aimed at meeting the economic, environmental and social needs of present and future generations in a sustainable way.

- COST Action FP0603 'Forest Models for Research and Decision Support in Sustainable Forest Management' is an Action which sees biodiversity as a core element of this sustainability. The Action's main goal was to promote the development of methodologies which support sustainable management.
- COST Actions also actively investigate threats to biodiversity within the European forest ecosystems, e.g. Action FP0801 which unites disease control experts and scientists in the fight against the genus Phytophthora which is threatening the biodiversity and sustainability of European forest ecosystems.

European Maritime Day

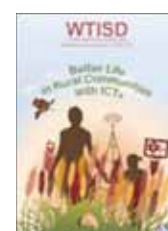
Every year on 20 May, European Maritime Day is celebrated across the European Union to showcase the importance of the sea and oceans for our everyday life. European Maritime Day celebrates European maritime identity and sea-related activities.



- A Conference: Gdańsk (Poland) hosted the fourth annual European Maritime Day Conference, which gathered over 1 000 attendees. European Maritime Day is the main European event for stakeholders to meet and discuss the opportunities and challenges currently facing maritime regions and sectors across Europe.
- A COST Action: COST Action FA1004 'Conservation Physiology of Marine Fishes' coordinates marine fish conservation physiology research and collates existing knowledge, thereby reducing overlap, identifying critical gaps in knowledge, and devising common approaches.
- A Marine Board: The Marine Board is a European forum for marine science policy who together with COST organised a scientific excellence in marine biotechnology conference.

Better Life in Rural Communities with ICT

The purpose of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) on 17 May 2011 was to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.



The 2011 WTISD theme was 'Better life in rural communities with ICTs'. Half of the world's population resides in rural districts and are the least connected to the benefits of ICT, which provides enhanced opportunities to generate income and combat poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy.

The activities of COST's ICT Domain support the WTISD goal of a better life in rural communities by its work on:

- The foundations, design, analysis, development, and application of hardware and software systems;
- The fundamental aspects and applications regarding physical, electromagnetic and functional modelling of all elements of information and communication systems;
- Theoptical componentsnetworking aspects, wireless mobile communications and the Future Internet.

World Asthma Day

3 May 2011 was World Asthma Day, an annual event organised by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world.



On 3 May GINA launched the next phase of its campaign to reduce worldwide asthma hospitalisations 50% by 2015. COST applauds this aim and has been doing its part to help through the work of its Actions.

- COST Action D21, which ended in 1996, aimed to better facilitate the development of drugs targeted to diseases such as cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative disorders and asthma;
- COST Action ES0603 EUPOL deals with the assessment of production, release, distribution and health impact of allergenic pollen in Europe. This is an

important Action to better understand the causes of Asthma as some studies show that exposure to high levels of birch pollen in infancy increases the risk of sensitisation to birch pollen allergens and the risk of allergic asthma.

Reflecting on Sustainable Energy

From 11 to 15 April 2011 the EU Sustainable Energy Week 2011 (EUSEW) and hundreds of events have been organised in 44 countries to mark this important part of the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign. COST reflects on its support...



- Within the TUD Domain, COST Action 356 has worked towards the definition of a measurable environmentally sustainable transport and to build methods to be applied to the decision-making process of the transport sector in the different European countries;
- Within the ESSEM Domain, COST Action ES1002 looks at wind and solar power and the specific forecasting of 'energy weather';
- COST Action FP0902 on 'Development and Harmonisation of New Operational Research and Assessment Procedures for Sustainable Forest Biomass Supply' for the FPS Domain and ICT Domain's COST Action IC0804 on 'Energy Efficiency in Large Scale Distributed Systems' both highlight COST's contribution to this field.



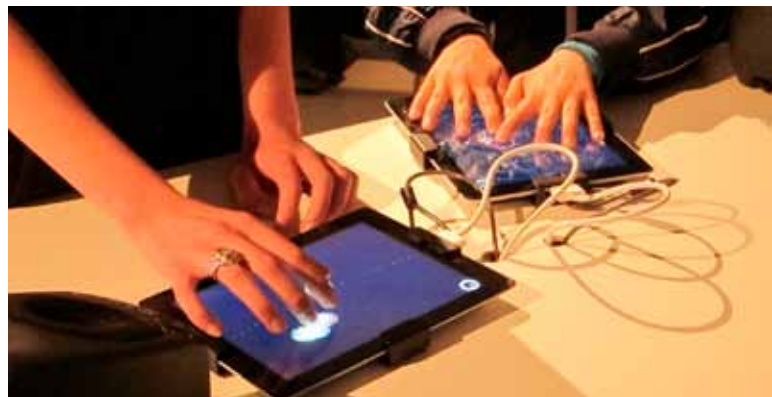
Sonic Interaction Design: where Science and Art meet

Science and art are mostly viewed as very separate disciplines. Yet sound plays a major role in conveying information, meaning, aesthetic and emotional feelings in interactive contexts. COST Action IC0601 on 'Sonic Interaction Design' (SID) was launched four years ago with the intention to make designers focus on the informative, expressive and aesthetic potential of sound in interactions. 'Sonic interaction design' was an almost unknown expression back then.

SID has brought together experts in psychology, computer sciences, acoustics design, art and music involving communication sociology and cultural studies. At its start, this Action set the ambitious goals of coordinating the most prominent European effort on SID, and valuing the appreciation of non-speech sound in interactive systems and objects.

Over the past four years, SID has made a tremendous contribution in helping change the attitude towards sound in interaction, and paved the way for an intertwined complementary collaboration between science, art, design and engineering. Today, SID is a crossover of disciplines, a brand, an attitude and, moreover, a community.

“Thoughtfully designed sounding objects can make our life and environment better” says Prof Davide Rocchesso, Chair of COST Action SID. Applications of this technology do not find their limits in art and design, but concern a whole field of research focusing on the use of sound in interactive design and bringing fundamental impact on people’s lives. Sound gives a voice to all those functions that cannot be expressed through images. A well-known application which demonstrates the unique use of sound is the stethoscope, while biomedical data sonification from EEG (electroencephalography) is also being explored. But sound also gives a voice to those who cannot use their own, or who cannot perceive information through their sight – providing applications for people with disabilities and supporting them in learning activities.



iPad application 'The Movement I-X' by Espen Sommer Eide (Exhibition on Sonic Interaction Design)

A landmark in COST's science communication

Halfway through its course, SID decided to plan its final event in a way that would showcase sonic interaction design and provide a space for a wide community to experience its benefits, as well as the results of this COST Action. This is where the idea of an exhibition on SID started. In 2010 the Chair of SID was invited to a science communication training offered by COST in order to raise the Actions' communication and outreach potential. The training – with particular focus on science exhibitions in science centres and museums – proved to have a major impact on the decision and shape of the SID exhibition.



SID launched an open call for works of art to be installed at Oslo's Teknisk Museum, the Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology. Over 100 high-level submissions were collected, resulting in the selection of 12 works to be showcased, including one ad-hoc commissioned work by the Norwegian musician and artist Espen Sommer Eide, as well as a project provided by BEK (Bergen Center for Electronic Arts). The artists and scientists selected for this exhibition by Frauke Behrendt and Trond Lossius (participants in the COST Action SID and curators of the exhibition) have developed expressive possibilities of human-object interaction mediated by sound.

This exhibition showcases the use of SID within art, music and design, and also provide examples of sonification for research and artistic purposes. Throughout the exhibits, objects become a means for expressive interaction, with playful interaction and creative exploration by the public. All selected works illustrate the emerging field of SID, and especially how it can be made accessible to the wider public in an exhibition.

The SID installations at the Norsk Museum – available until 21 August 2011 – are being visited and discovered by a wide public audience, including music experts, families and children. The sounds generated by the exhibited installations are there to be experienced through the body. You can walk, play, sit or touch: you can make and catch sounds with your fingertips. Sound is not for the ears only and involves bodily experiences, even for those who cannot hear.

Walking out of this exhibition, your perception of sound in the world is likely to have changed. Sound is not just a side effect of human actions, as it can actually drive human behaviour. Sounding objects give opportunities for composing informative and pleasant soundscapes, and the quality of our acoustic environments is much more than a measure of sound pressure expressed in decibels. There is a whole design space for sound in interaction, whose surface has been scratched by this exhibition, and that will be the playground for many artists, designers, and scientists in the years to come.

“

Sound is not Music. Hearing is not listening. The sonic manifestations of objects affect our lives, even though they remain under the threshold of conscious attention most of the time.

”

Prof Davide Rocchesso
Chair of COST Action SID

Facts & Figures

The Action involved 17 COST countries and two non-COST institutions: the Sonic Communications Research Group from the University of Canberra, Australia and the McGill University, Canada;

- The Action involved 17 COST countries and two non-COST institutions: the Sonic Communications Research Group from the University of Canberra, Australia and the McGill University, Canada;
- This Action organised 62 Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) for its Early-Stage Researchers to be given an opportunity to travel and visit centres and experts abroad working on Sonic Interaction Design;



'Akousmaflöre' by Scenocosme (Exhibition on Sonic Interaction Design)



- Over the course of the Action, three Training Schools were organised, two of them involving companies;
- Find out more about 'Explorations in Sonic Interaction Design', the final publication of this Action at page 17.



'Random Access Lattice' by Gerhard Eckel (Exhibition on Sonic Interaction Design)

Networking added-value

- **Events:** Networking opportunities were maximised by the Action through special sessions and workshops at SID-related conferences;
- **Cross-domain networking with other COST Actions:** SID has collaborated with COST Actions in the ICT scientific domain, such as COST Action 2102 'Cross-Modal Analysis of Verbal and Non-verbal Communication', COST Action IC0904 'Towards the Integration of Transectorial IT Design and Evaluation' and TUD Action TD0804 'Soundscape of European Cities and Landscapes';

- **Cooperation with EU-funded projects:** SID has been building collaboration with five EU-funded projects, three EU-project proposals and five national SID-related projects.

Industry involvement in COST Action SID

- Nokia, Moving Brands, Audio Consulting Group, Media Mill, and Deutsche Telekom Laboratories were involved in past activities;
- Powerkiss (wireless charging solutions) and Hipui (mobile user experience) were involved in the Training School at Design Factory, Helsinki, in the Summer 2010;
- SID is contributing to the professional network International Community for Audio Branding (ICAB).

More information

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<http://sid.soundobject.org/>
<http://www.cost.eu/ict/Actions/IC0601>

The catalogue of the SID exhibition can be viewed at <http://sid.bek.no>.

Read all about it

Every year COST helps to publish some 100 Action publications including final reports. Results featured in these books are often a source of inspiration for industry, policy-makers and other members of society. We have picked our selection for this edition of the newsletter.

Find out more about COST publications at:
<http://www.cost.eu/library/publications>

About COST 2011

Published by the COST Office

Editors: COST Office

Published in May 2011

The aim of this pocket guide is to bring together all relevant information about COST into one 'easy to use' publication. This pocket guide includes information on the COST structure and goals, the Open Call process, the COST National Coordinators contact details, relevant financial instruments and, most importantly, all current COST Actions. The Actions presented in this issue include the most recent ones to those ending this year. In order to highlight COST's interdisciplinary dimension, Trans-Domain Actions are presented in a separate sub-chapter. Complementary Action information can be found on the COST website, http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions. The 'About COST' booklet can also be downloaded at <http://www.cost.eu/library/publications/11-25-About-COST-2011>.

The Contemporary Internet: National and Cross-National Comparative European Studies

Final Publication of COST Action 298

Editors: L. Haddon, L. Fortunati, J. Gebhardt & J. Vincent

ISBN/ISSN: 978-3-631-60098-6

Published in March 2011

This book focuses on user experiences of more recent developments of the internet, specifically in regard to the

spread of broadband (itself a moving target), the audio-visual applications it has enabled, and more generally on Web2.0 uptake and the growth of eGovernment. In addition, it considers contemporary representations of the internet in the media.

The contemporary Internet is comparative in two senses. The first is at the cross-national level, examining factors affecting different national experiences of the internet, with a particular but not sole interest in what may be termed 'cultural' influences on perceptions, adoption and use. In the second sense, the internet is comparative within countries; and the book examines the sometimes very uneven experiences of the internet's possibilities within a country. Methodological issues relating to the digital divide are considered in the final methods section.

Explorations in Sonic Interaction Design

Final Publication of COST Action IC0601

Editors: Davide Rocchesso

ISBN/ISSN: 978-3-8325-2858-4

Published in May 2011

Nowadays, human-object and human-human interactions are often facilitated by computational means. The goal of Interaction designers is to create a more effective and a more pleasing interaction experience. Sonic Interaction Design emphasises the role of sound as a mediator of meaningful interactions.

COST Action IC0601 ran between 2007 and 2011, in order to pro-actively contribute to the creation and consolidation of new design theories, tools, and practices in this innovative and interdisciplinary domain. The Action had four main pillars: cognitive science, design, interactive art, and information display. This book reports on the many research activities conducted over the four-year period, organised as workshops, training schools, Short-Term Scientific Missions, and an exhibition.

COST-ESF High-level Research Conference on The Future role of Bio-energy from Tree Biomass

From 6 to 11 November 2011, COST and ESF will gather leading scientists and young researchers from fields including Forestry, Bioenergy Studies, Social and Environmental Sciences in Vienna, Austria, to discuss bio-energy drivers, options and impacts on forest growing, management and production of traditional goods and services in the future.

Biomass is the fourth largest energy source in the world after coal, oil and natural gas. Currently, it covers about two thirds of all renewable energy sources. The Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC) sets a binding target for the EU to achieve a 20% renewable energy share by 2020, in which the largest contribution is expected to come from biomass from agriculture, forestry and waste for heat and power generation as well as transport fuels.

The scientific programme of this High-Level Research Conference will discuss how to achieve the 2020 goals; the role of forest biomass in comparison with other renewable energy sources; and the impact of increased competition for wood and fibre for alternative uses, including bio-energy and eco-efficient bio-products. The debate will also focus on the contribution of biomass to the security of energy supply and greenhouse gas mitigation as well as to future employment and wealth creation in the EU.

“With 2011 being the International Year of Forests, this conference is very timely. Bringing the best and brightest minds together in Vienna, we hope to advance international collaboration to best respond to what is happening in the energy sector as well as to make better use of biomass and related infrastructures worldwide”, said Prof Niels Elers Koch, President of IUFRO, the Global Network for Forest Science Cooperation, and Member of the COST Domain Committee for Forests, their Products and Services (FPS). “We aim to create a briefing document that will support policy-makers, researchers and industry in deciding upon the future of Europe's forests.” Prof Elers Koch noted that IUFRO has also made bio-energy, bio-based products and their life cycle analysis a strategic priority focus for the next four years.



Melae Langbein, Science Officer for Forests, their Products and Services at the COST Office, said that COST is delighted to support such a valuable contribution to the forest-based sector - and assist Europe in responding to the dual pressures of overcoming its dependence on fossil fuels and mitigating climate change.

The conference will feature lectures by invited high-level speakers, short talks by young and Early Stage Researchers, poster sessions and open discussion periods, as well as a forward-look panel discussion about future developments.

More detailed information is available at:
www.esf.org/conferences/11378

Agenda

COST Strategic Workshop

Safeguard of Cultural Heritage: A Challenge from the Past for the Europe of Tomorrow

Florence, Italy, 11 to 13 July 2011

Cultural Heritage is formed by all material and immaterial evidence of the cultural identity of a population. Within this definition, in Europe as in any other part of the world, many values determine a complex relationship between objects, symbols, personal and collective identities.

The COST workshop aimed to highlight the scientific research being carried out in Europe in the field of Cultural Heritage. Results were presented, along with the on-going activities of COST Actions dealing with Cultural Heritage. The workshop also allowed for suggestions for strategic guidelines along which future research in the field of Cultural Heritage should be developed.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/Cultural-Heritage>

COST-ESF High-level Research Conference

Natural Products Chemistry, Biology and Medicine IV

Acquafredda di Maratea, Italy, 28 August 2011 to 2 September 2011

The 2011 conference is the fourth edition of the COST-ESF High-Level Research Conference series on this topic. The unique architectures and biological activities associated with many of nature's small molecules are pushing the frontiers in diverse areas inspired by natural products.

Grants are available for young researchers to cover the conference fee and to partially cover travel costs.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/naturalproducts4>

COST Action Event

COST BM0602: Adipose Tissue: A Key Target for Prevention of the Metabolic Syndrome Final Meeting

University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland, 29 to 31 August 2011

COST Action BM0602 will hold its final event at the University of Eastern Finland in Kuopio in one of the most beautiful lake district of Finland.

The main objective of the Action is to advance our knowledge on the pathogenesis and prevention of obesity and the specific role of adipose tissue in the development of the metabolic syndrome. This approach is driven by the hypothesis that adipose tissue is critically involved in transducing signals which mediate insulin resistance, vascular complications, beta cell dysfunction and the manifestation of type 2 diabetes.

During this Final Scientific Meeting the COST National Coordinator for Finland, Dr Raimo Pulkkinen, will give a speech on the 40th anniversary of COST and its future perspectives.

More information:

http://www.cost.eu/events/bm0602_final_meeting

External Event

NanoteC11 - Nanotechnology in Carbon and Related Materials

Institute of Materials, Nantes, France, 31 August to 3 September 2011

The NanoteC11 Conference will be held in conjunction with the Working Group meetings of COST Action MP0901 'NanoTP - Designing novel materials for nanodevices: From Theory to Practice'.

NanoteC is one of the longest running series of international

nanoscale carbon conferences in Europe since 1998. It brings together scientists working with nanoscale carbon materials: nanotubes, graphene, diamond- and fullerene-related nanostructures. While each of these materials attracts its own dedicated community of researchers, NanoteC draws on common themes and allows researchers to share insight into this unique element at the nanoscale.

The NanoteC conferences are renowned for their relaxed and friendly atmosphere, with emphasis on discussion and participation. The organisers eagerly welcome students' participation.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/nanotec11>

COST Action Event

The Sixth Mediterranean Conference on Information Systems

Limassol, Cyprus, 3 to 5 September 2011

This event aims to inspire innovation and informative information systems research relevant to the social, economic, and cultural particularities of the Mediterranean Region.

With the introduction of global information and communication systems and global connectivity, the increasing complexity of all the networks requires a careful holistic design; especially when considering energy efficiency but also in respect of the many different aspects of engineering.

The COST ICT Domain will host a Green Engineering Café at this event to offer networking opportunities to those involved in the field of green engineering and to enhance the strategy of the 'Green Engineering Society'. Selected papers on the topic will be invited for publication in the Journal of Green Engineering.

More Information:

<http://www.cost.esf.org/events/mcis2011>

COST Action Event

Third International Workshop on Quality of Multimedia Experience (QoMEX)

Mechelen, Belgium, 7 to 9 September 2011

QoMEX is an established international workshop which focuses on the Quality of Multimedia Experience. The workshop will bring together researchers and professionals who are developing methods for evaluating multimedia quality and user experience.

Typically, multimedia processing algorithms are evaluated using objective metrics or through subjective testing in a controlled environment. However, perceived user experience is psychological in nature and changes according to different environmental and social conditions and with different multimedia devices. This means that new techniques are needed to assess and enhance multimedia experience from the user perspective. QoMEX is an international forum which will gather experts from academia and industry to present the latest developments on the evaluation of multimedia quality based on user experience.

QoMEX 2011 is the flagship workshop of COST Action IC1003 (QUALINET) 'European Network on Quality of Experience in Multimedia Systems and Services'. This Action also aims to coordinate the research in this field as well as to establish a European network of experts facilitating the transfer of technology and know-how to industry, the coordination in standardisation, and the certification of products and services.

More Information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/qomex2011>

COST Strategic Workshop

Foresight on Future Demand for Forest-based Products and Services: Dissemination Conference

Sekocin Stary (Near Warsaw), Poland, 13 September 2011

The aim of the COST Strategic Workshop series 2010-2011 is to carry out a wide-angle foresight exercise on the future demand for multiple forest-based products and services. The project combines expert workshops and a collection of data and perceptions by means of internet-based tools.

The final conference is an event held under the patronage of the Polish EU Presidency and will present the driving forces behind the changes in demand for forest-based products and services, and will outline a set of scenarios.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/Forestry-Foresight-Dissemination-Conference>

Domain Annual Progress Conference

MPNS Domain Annual Progress Conference

Tartu, Estonia, 13 to 15 September 2011

The Annual Progress Conference (APC) gives Actions in progress in the MPNs (Materials, Physics and Nanosciences) Scientific Domain the opportunity to report to the Domain Committee (DC) on their current and future activities, and provides them with an opportunity to interact directly with Actions and to enhance their Action monitoring role.

The conference also provides a platform for Actions to network with one another, exchange ideas, to disseminate scientific and technical results. This year's APC will be co-located with the 13th European Conference on Organic Reactivity (ESOR).

COST will give a presentation during the opening ceremony and will be present at a COST stand throughout the Conference.

More information:

http://www.cost.eu/events/mpns_apc_2011

External Event

Academia Europaea 23rd Annual congress 'Chemistry, Sciences, Culture and Society in the making of Europe'

Paris, France, 20 to 22 September 2011

The 23rd Annual Conference of Academia Europaea will be held in 2011, the International Year of Chemistry which also corresponds to the 100th Anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded in 1911 to Marie Curie, for her discovery of radium and polonium.

The 23rd Annual Conference is organised with the support of the International Foundation of Chemistry, the French Chemical Society, the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the Académie des Sciences (French Academy of Sciences) and will take place at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris under the patronage of UNESCO.

The conference programme highlights the structuring role of chemistry in our practical and theoretical way of relating to nature; emphasising its broader impact on our way of thinking and on the history of civilisation. The programme covers aspects of the "hard sciences"; discussing how and what these sciences have brought to chemistry and, in turn, what chemistry has brought to them. Other sessions cover the contributions of chemistry to a number of important topics such as agriculture, biomass conversion, pollution control (water, air, soil), transportation, energy saving, communication, materials science (top down/bottom up approach), pharmaceuticals, and nanotechnology, to name but a few. It is hoped to include live experiments in the

lecture rooms in order to illustrate such contributions.

Please note that registration is essential as the meeting is at UNESCO Headquarters. No entry to the venue will be possible without advance registration.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/ae23annualcongress>

COST Action Event

Exploratory workshop on Smart Cities

Paris, France, 26 and 27 September 2011

This Smart Cities event is co-organised by the Chair of COST Action IC0602 'Algorithmic Decision Theory', Prof. Alexis Tsoukias, CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research), and will be held at Université Paris-Dauphine, LAMSADE Laboratory.

The 20th and 21st centuries' unprecedented migration to urban centres from rural areas has placed continuous and increasing pressure upon infrastructure, residential and commercial properties, and social communities (the very definition of which changes as population densities continue to grow). Efforts to face these challenges and to solve them are being made and these are collectively becoming known as Decision Sciences and Technologies (DST).

The overall objective of the Smart Cities Workshop is to introduce, discuss and better understand DST and its ability to help create smart services, cater to their management, and assist in their assessment. The Smart Cities Workshop will explore existing and nascent tools of operations research, data mining, social choice theory, recommender systems, classification, distributed computing and information systems. In addition, the presence of urban planners and city managers will help frame the context of DST, to aid city governments in their mission to manage infrastructure provision (e.g. traffic management and emergency services) in a better and

smarter way.

Workshop participants will include computer scientists, operations researchers, economists, and decision theorists, from industry (e.g. IBM), academia (e.g. Rutgers University, CNRS), and government. As one of the COST Exploratory Workshops, this event also aims at shaping the research agenda for the coming years in this critically important area.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/smartcities>

COST-ESF High-level Research Conference

Systems Chemistry III

Crete, Greece, 23 to 28 October 2011

The third edition of the Systems Chemistry series will open its doors in October 2011 in Crete, Greece. Systems Chemistry research is directed at understanding the organisational principles of complex chemical and biological systems. Scientists from different disciplines, such as Supramolecular Chemistry, Chemical Physics, Chemical Biology and Theoretical Biology try together to shine a light on emergent properties in chemical systems, with the further hope of unravelling different scenarios relevant to the origin of living systems. The meeting in Crete will focus on those studies which can conceptually bridge the gap between prebiotic chemistry and engineering and the analysis of molecular networks; and those studies which may lead the way towards the development of artificial cells.

COST is proud to announce that Ada Yonath, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009 for her studies on the structure and function of the ribosome, will give a talk at the meeting.

Grants are available for young researchers to cover the conference fee and to partially cover travel costs.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/Systems-Chemistry-III>

COST-ESF High-level Research Conference**The Future Role of Bio-energy from Tree Biomass in Europe**

Vienna, Austria, 6 to 11 November 2011

The Directive on the promotion of energy from renewable sources (Directive 2009/28/EC) sets a binding target for the EU to achieve a 20 % renewable energy share by 2020, in which the largest contribution is expected to come from biomass from agriculture, forestry and waste for heat and power generation as well as transport fuels.

In 2011, the International Year of Forests, the COST-ESF High-level Research Conference will contribute to understanding bio-energy drivers, options and impacts on forest growing, management and production of traditional goods and services in the future. The scientific programme of the conference will discuss how to achieve the 2020 goal by analysing the role of forest biomass in comparison to other renewable forms of energy, the competition for land as well as for biomass, the potential emission reduction and the cascaded utilisation of wood products.

The conference will feature lectures by invited high-level speakers, short talks by young and Early Stage Researchers, poster sessions and open discussion periods as well as a forward-look panel discussion about future developments.

COST and ESF have opened the call for applications for scientists who wish to contribute to and participate in the upcoming event. Please submit your application no later than 15 August 2011, in order to present your latest research outcome, or to discuss current scientific understanding and recent developments with your peers. Grants are available for young researchers to cover the conference fee and to partially cover travel costs.

More information:

<http://www.cost.eu/events/Bio-energy-from-Tree-Biomass>

COST Action events**Networks of Science: a COST exhibition**

European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, 18 to 20 October 2011

COST will hold an exhibition in the European Parliament, Brussels, showcasing the 'networks of science' that COST Actions have been creating across Europe.

With the aim of making science available to society, COST is committed to bringing the results of research carried out within its Actions closer to policy-makers, and highlight the contribution that collaborative networking activities make towards a more innovative European Research Area.

The host of this exhibition, Ms Pilar del Castillo Vera MEP, has asked COST to highlight its contribution to society and, in particular, to the human and intellectual capital it has leveraged.

Through its openness, COST has progressively and constructively contributed to the inclusion of high quality researchers all over Europe including new EU members and smaller countries. It supports scientific networks allowing the connection between both young and experienced European scientists, big and small industries, international organisations, institutions and other stakeholders; thereby bringing together the advances and contributions which will build a more innovative Europe, both within and beyond its borders.

The societal impact of COST Actions and their relevance for policy-making will be highlighted through an interactive exhibition that will encourage Members of the European Parliament, Parliamentary staff, and key stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the valuable contribution produced by COST Actions in science and research.

More information:

http://www.cost.eu/events/Networks_of_science



BMBS Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences



FA Food and Agriculture



ISCH Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health



CMST Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies



FPS Forests, their Products and Services



MPNS Materials, Physics and Nanosciences



ESSEM Earth System Science and Environmental Management



ICT Information and Communication Technologies



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Links

Website links were correct at time of publication, but may since have changed.

Agenda information

To the best of our knowledge, agenda information was correct at the time of writing although changes may occur. For up-to-date information on COST Events please also visit:

<http://www.cost.eu/events>

About COST

COST is an intergovernmental European framework for international co-operation between nationally funded research activities.

COST creates scientific networks and enables scientists to collaborate in a wide spectrum of activities in research and technology.

For further information please visit <http://www.cost.eu>

Register now!

European Gender Summit - Scientific Quality through Equality

Brussels, Belgium, 8 and 9 November 2011

The first European Gender Summit provides a forum for stakeholders from research, industry and policy to jointly explore how gendered methodologies can stimulate innovation and advance scientific excellence. The summit will map the current state of knowledge, provide a forum for interdisciplinary debate and draw up concrete action plans for research and innovation policy.

The European Science Foundation together with genSET and COST have partnered to deliver the first European Gender Summit. This conference brings together leaders in science research and in policy to discuss emerging trends and advances in understanding how gender issues impact science research and innovation at the European Level.

The European Gender Summit is held under the auspices of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and is supported by the European Commission through the Science and Society Programme (FP7). The Vice-President of the European Parliament, Dr Silvana Koch-Mehrin, will open the event. The event is supported by a range of high-level partners and patrons from different sectors and backgrounds.

How can European science and innovation benefit from integrated action on gender?

European policymakers have singled out knowledge, education and innovation as key drivers for sustainable growth and prosperity of the European society, with research and innovation placed at the centre of the EU 2020 Strategy. If knowledge is to be used as a strategic resource for scientific advancement and economic growth, all contributors should be provided with an enabling environment and be treated as equal partners in the innovation systems.

The European Gender Summit focuses on the gender dimension in research and innovation as a means to improve:

- the quality of scientific output
- scientific knowledge creation processes
- innovation processes and practices
- human capital development
- institutional accountability and regulations

These goals are to be achieved by :

- incorporating the dimensions of gender and sex in the research process to improve quality and excellence of scientific endeavours and
- bringing about greater equality of opportunity and treatment in recruitment and advancement of women and men scientists, and in assessment of their performance and work.

More information

<http://www.cost.eu/events/gendersummit>