

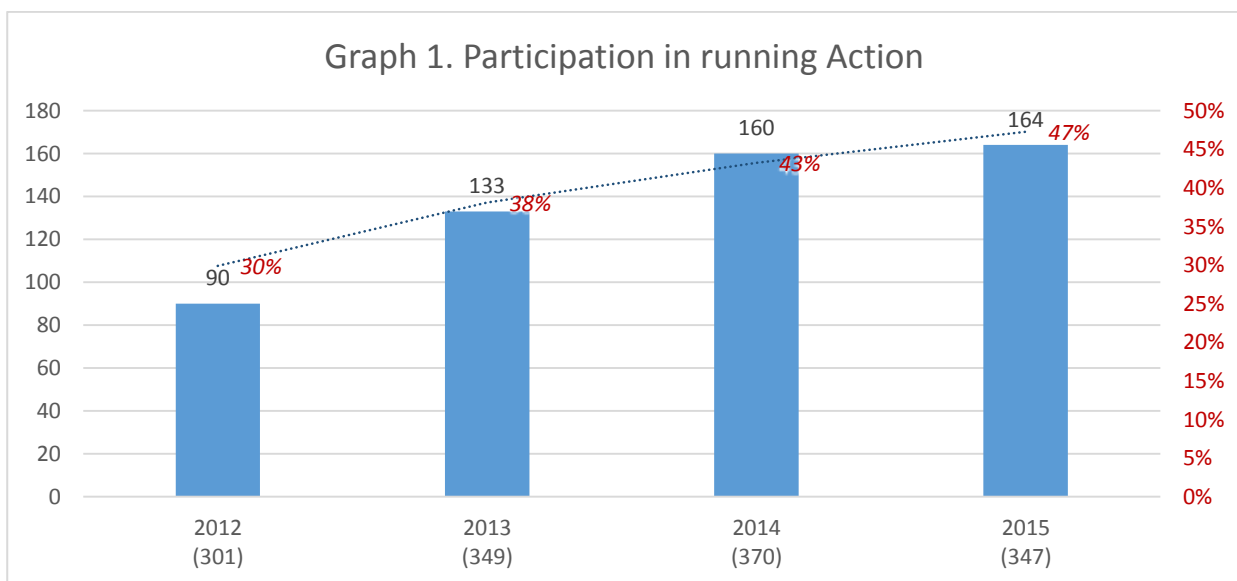
## How can participants from Estonia and Estonian research and innovation system benefit from participation in COST?

The purpose of this note is to present evidence based information on benefits that COST can offer to the research community in Estonia, and through them to the Estonian research and innovation system.

COST Actions are flexible, effective and efficient pan-European networks for researchers, engineers and scholars to cooperate and coordinate nationally funded research activities allowing to jointly develop their own ideas and new initiatives in any science and technology field. Actions are open and inclusive to all researchers, irrespective of country, career stage or gender. In each Action, a Management Committee, composed of members nominated by the COST National Coordinator, is in charge of the Action coordination, implementation and management. Within the Action, a wide range of networking activities (tools) are supported by COST, such as meetings, workshops, STSM, and Training Schools. 347 Actions were running in 2015.

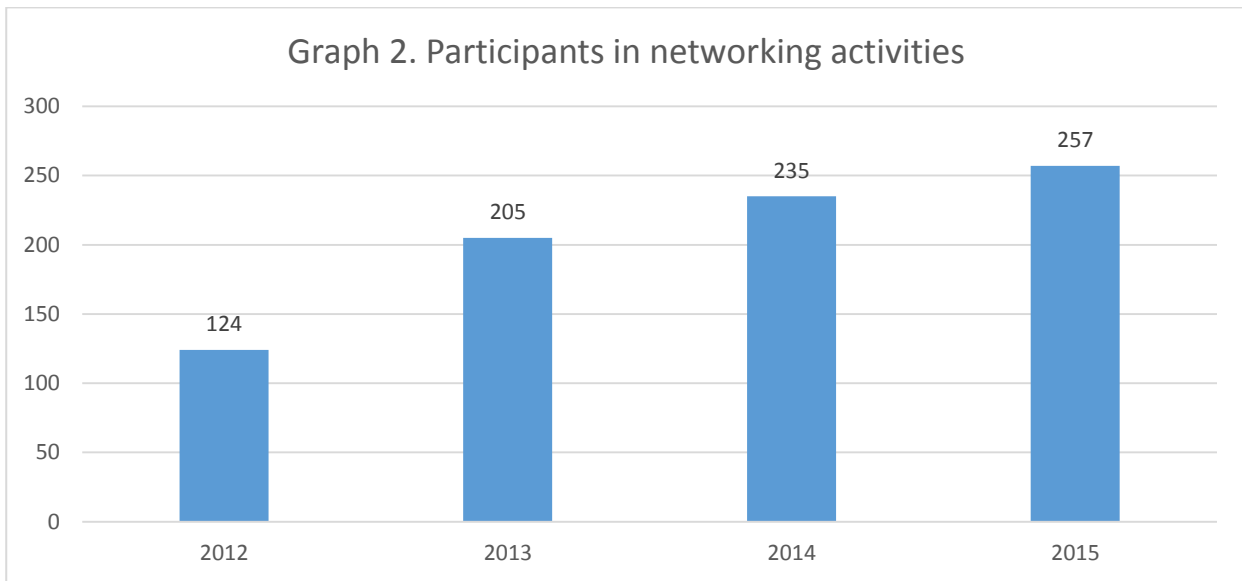
### 1. Participation in COST Actions

Since 2012 Estonia has participated in a constantly growing number of running COST Actions (Number of approved Memoranda of Understanding). In 2015, participants from Estonia were involved in the Management Committee (MC) of 164 COST Actions (Graph 1).



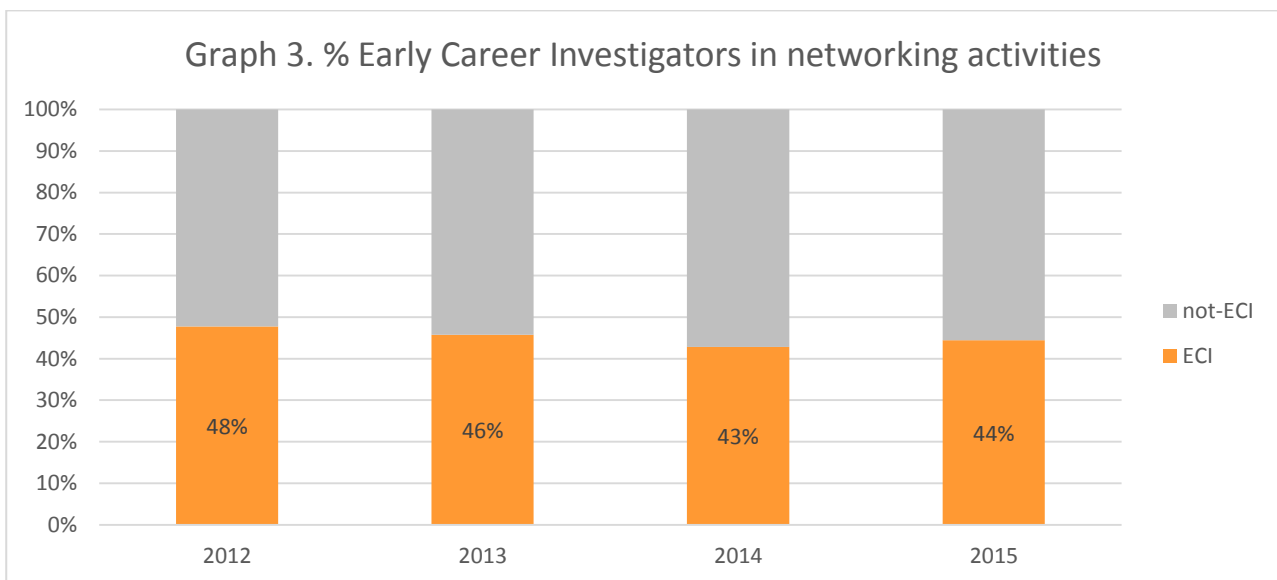
### 2. Participation in COST Action networking activities by researchers, engineers and scholars from Estonia

The number of participants from Estonia in networking activities (meetings, workshops, STSM, Training Schools) is growing since 2012 (Graph 2). In 2015, 257 participants from Estonia took part in COST Action activities (any before mentioned category).



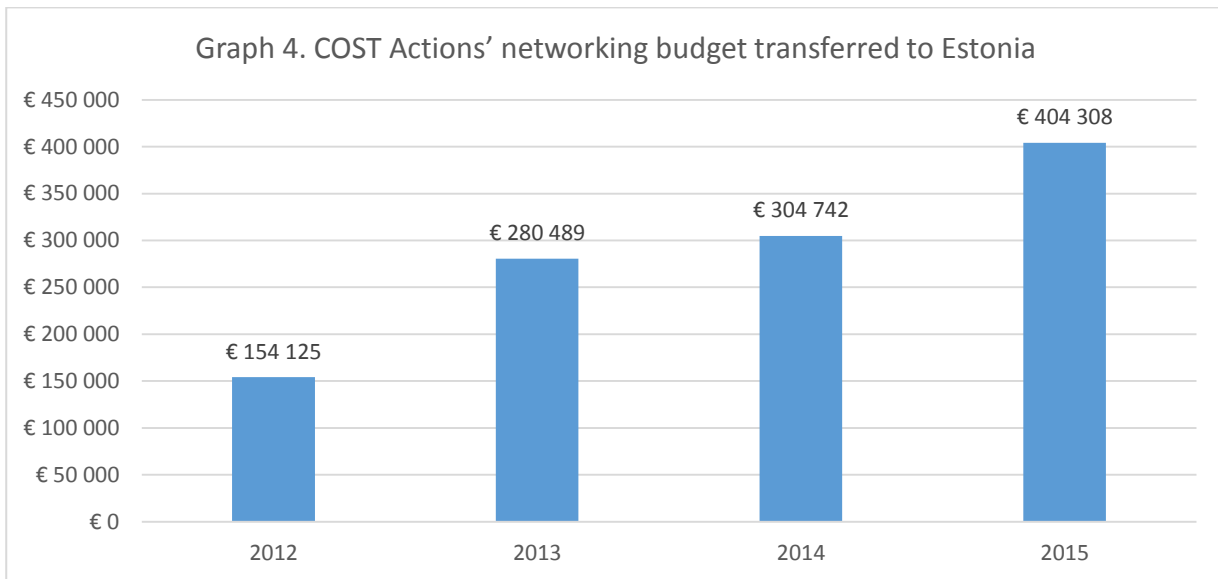
### 3. COST offers Early Career Investigators from Estonia an opportunity to increase their visibility and connect to Pan-European research networks – COST Actions

COST stimulates the participation of Early Career Investigators - ECI (less than PhD + 8 years) in all its networking activities (meetings, workshops, STSM, Training Schools). In 2015, more than 40% of participants from Estonia (as shown in the previous graph) were Early Career Investigators-ECI (Graph 3).



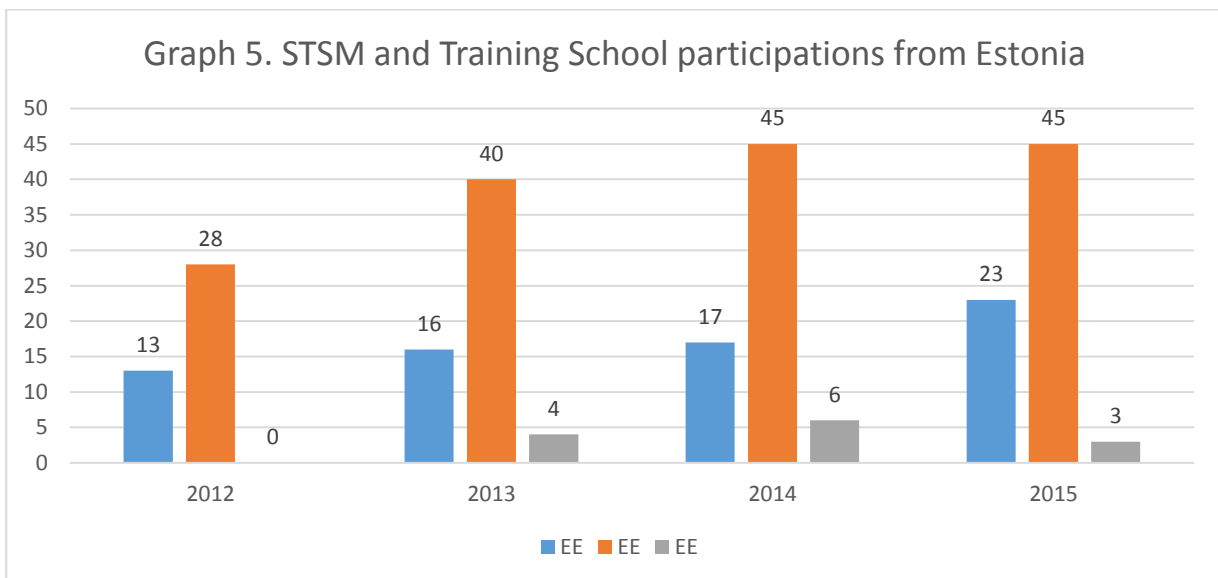
### 4. Estonian research and innovation system benefits from COST Actions' budget

In 2015, around EUR 400.000 benefited participants from Estonia (Graph 4). This includes participations to meetings, workshops, STSM, Training Schools, Local Organiser Support, but also Estonian Grant Holder institutions' administrative support – FSAC. Payment's made directly by COST (such as participations to the first MC meeting, experts' honoraria) are not included.



## 5. Researchers establish more and more collaborative links via an increased participation in Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) and training schools organised through COST Actions

In 2015, participants from Estonia were involved in 23 Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs). 45 trainees and 3 trainers from Estonia were involved in training schools (Graph 5).



## 6. Estonian institutions gain increasing visibility thanks to meetings, Training Schools and STSMs being hosted in their premises

In 2015, 21 COST meetings, 1 Training Schools and 14 STSMs were held in Estonia helping to strengthen the existing networks and foster collaboration links between researchers, institutions and ultimately countries. They also allow to increase the visibility of hosting institutions (Graph 6).

Graph 6. Meetings, Training Schools and STSMs organised in Estonia

