

PR1: CA15203

First Progress Report from Action

Submitted on: 22-9-2017

This report was submitted by the Action Chair, on behalf of the Management Committee of the Action, in fulfilment of the requirements of the rules for COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment. The first Progress Review (PR1) enables the monitoring of the Action's implementation of the SC Recommendations from the proposal stage and the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

Throughout this document Early Career Investigators and Inclusiveness Target Countries, as defined in the "Rules for Participation in and Implementation of COST Activities" (COST 132/14 REV), are referred to using the acronyms "ECIs" and "ITCs".

Proposal							
	Participating countries	Main Proposer			% in Network of Proposers		
	% ITC	ITC	ECI	Female	ITC	ECI	Female
Proposal OC-2015-2-19984	44	NO	NO	NO	33	14	39
SC Recommendation							
The proposed Action must develop and implement specific plans to increase the involvement of Early Career Investigators and for maintaining and monitoring gender balance.							

Action: Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)				
	Participating countries % ITC	MC Members % ITC	Leadership roles % ITC	Relative representation of ITCs in leadership roles
Action CA15203	47	43	0	0
All Actions	45	42	22	52
Leadership roles in CA15203 are considered as leaders and co-leaders, and our policy is to consider those as equally important in the network: http://www.mitoeagle.org/index.php/Management_Committee_MITOEAGLE . 3 ITC in WGs: M Vendelin (EE), V Borutaite (LT), Z Cervinkova (CZ). 5 ITC in other horizontal roles, STSM: M Labieniec-Watala (PL), ECIs, ITCs and gender balance: N Krako (RS), T Mars (SI), Training schools: AB Engin (TR), Dissemination: M Makrecka-Kuka (LV). 8 ITC from 21 total leadership positions = 38% ITC. Six ITC countries are not participating in MitoEAGLE yet: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.				

Action: Early Career Investigators (ECIs)

	MC Members % ECI	Leadership roles % ECI	Relative representation of ECI in leadership roles
Action CA15203	7	0	0
All Actions	25	6	24

The involvement of ECIs in leadership positions has increased. For 3 horizontal leadership positions ECIs were nominated (3/21 = 14% of all leadership positions). *** (1) ECIs, ITCs and gender balance: Coordinator Nina Krako (RS), substitute Tomaz Mars (SI) are from ITCs and both are ECIs. *** (2) Dissemination coordinator: Marina Makrecka-Kuka is ECI from ITC (LV). *** (3) Minimum 11 ECIs = 12 % (we work on completing the list of ECIs). *** (4) A large number of PhD students are members of the MitoEAGLE Network:
http://www.mitoeagle.org/index.php/MitoEAGLE_network

Action: Gender Balance			
	MC Members % Female	Leadership roles % Female	Relative representation of females in leadership roles
Action CA15203	44	50	113
All Actions	40	16	40

As the list of members is growing, the gender balance is monitored.

Action comment on its implementation (achievement and/or effort) of SC Recommendation(s) to date
<p>(1) For increasing the involvement of ECIs and for maintaining and monitoring gender balance the coordinators for “Early Career Investigators, Inclusiveness Target Countries and gender balance” were nominated. The coordinator Nina Krako (Serbia) and coordinator substitute Tomaz Mars (Slovenia) are from ITCs and both are ECIs. *** (2) A special page was created on the MitoEAGLE website: http://www.mitoeagle.org/index.php/MITOEAGLE_Early_Career_Investigators. *** (3) A discussion page was created for ECIs: https://www.facebook.com/costmitoeagle/. *** (4) A special session was organized for ECIs: MiPschool 2017 MitoEAGLE in Obergurgl. *** (5) The MitoEAGLE network offers mentorship for ECIs. For the list of mentors see: http://www.mitoeagle.org/index.php/MITOEAGLE_Early_Career_Investigators. *** (6) ECIs participation in meetings is supported preferentially, and ECIs, particularly ECIs from ITCs are encouraged to apply for STSMs. *** (7) The involvement of PhD students and ECIs, with a strong participation from ITCs is particularly high in the first MitoEAGLE manuscript (WG 1), which is now at the stage of a preprint publication: http://www.mitoeagle.org/index.php/MitoEAGLE_preprint_2017-09-21 . *** 50% budget dedication to ITCs will be achieved by further implementing these specific measures (Obergurgl training school 21% for ITCs; Obergurgl WG Meeting 46% for ITCs.</p>

Action description of plans to implement SC Recommendations and COST policy in the future
<p>ITCs: (1) Increase networking in order to involve the 6 remaining ITCs. *** (2) Organize COST events in ITCs to facilitate participation of ITCs researchers: Next conference and WG meetings 2017: CZ; 2018: RS; Training school 2018: GR. *** (3) Dedicate a minimum 50% of overall budget to researchers from ITCs. *** (4) Dedicate a minimum of 30% of reimbursement to participants from ITCs to WG meetings. *** (5) Dedicate a minimum of 40% of reimbursement to participants from ITCs (preferentially ECIs) in other COST meetings. *** ECIs: All MITOEAGLE</p>

events are ideal opportunities for face-to-face ECIs meetings in order to work on development of think tank strategies, review the ECIs needs and organize the networking. We suggest implementing the following strategies as part of the specific plans to increase the involvement of ECIs and for maintaining and monitoring gender balance: *** (1) Encourage the COST National Coordinators of any new party (COST country) joining during the Action to consider ECIs and gender balance in their nominations as new MC Members. *** (2) Encourage the COST National Coordinators of COST countries represented in the Action to support initiatives of established MC members to rotate in exchange of ECIs and to consider gender balance in replacement nominations. *** ** Gender balance will be maintained in all MitoEAGLE events.