



COST is supported by the
EU Framework
Programme Horizon 2020



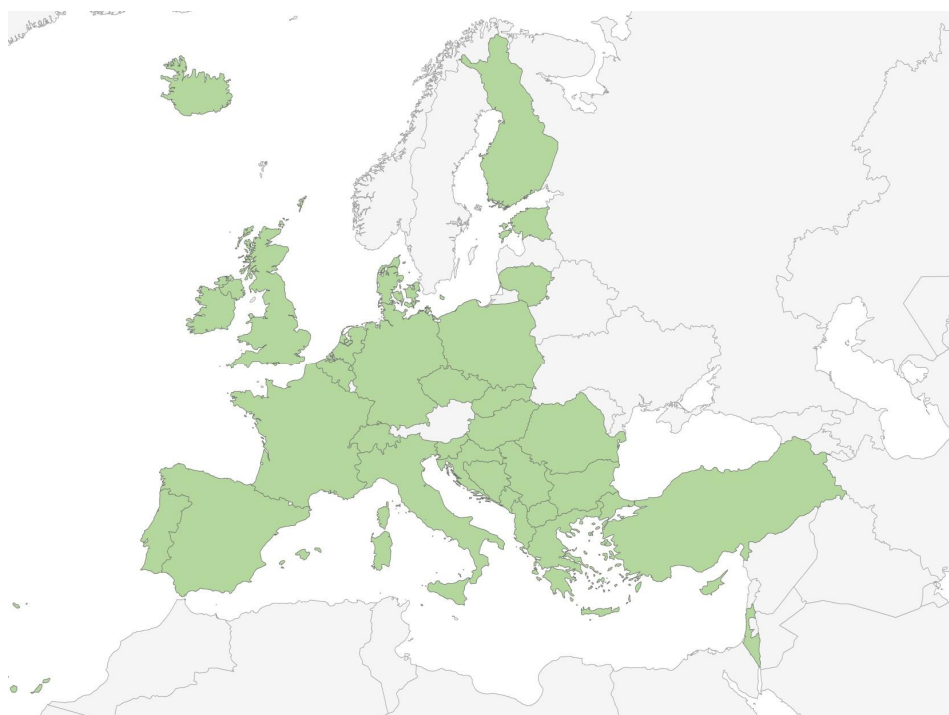
Action Questionnaire

To establish and consolidate a European network of experts and institutions, and develop a common framework for research and response on environmental health issues related to industrial contamination

Industrially Contaminated Sites and Health Network (ICSHNet - Action IS1408)

Operational definition of ICS adopted by the Action:

“Areas hosting or having hosted industrial human activities which have produced or might produce, directly or indirectly (waste disposals), chemical contamination of soil, surface or ground-water, air, food-chain, resulting or being able to result in human health impacts”.





COST is supported by the
EU Framework
Programme Horizon 2020



Rationale and Objectives

One of the major objectives and tasks of our COST ACTION is to assess the availability of data, research tools, and communication strategies that have been or are being applied in Industrially Contaminated Sites (ICS) in all participating countries. To this purpose an Action survey has been designed to identify information needs and research gaps in a sample of ICS identified by Action countries. The other major parallel task of the Action is to review and identify research tools and sound methodologies available to face environmental health issues in ICS.

Integrating the information obtained with the Action survey with the knowledge learned on suitable methodologies will facilitate the identification of a range of different approaches for characterizing the potential impacts on health in ICS that can fit to the data and resources available in different regions and ICS scenarios across Europe.

Structure of the Questionnaire

Section 1: Industrial Activities at the ICS

Section 2: Contaminants

Section 3: Population

Section 4: Exposure

Section 5: Health Data

Section 6: Health Studies

Section 7: Communication



COST is supported by the
EU Framework
Programme Horizon 2020



Suggested criteria to identify the short list of Industrially Contaminated Sites (ICS) at national level

One of the major objectives and tasks of our COST Action is to assess availability of data, research tools, methodologies, information and communication strategies in ICS in all participating countries.

Since the above evaluation is not feasible for all possible ICSs in our countries, we need to identify a maximum of 5 ICS, possibly 3 per country (a total of 100-150 ICS in the Action). The identification procedure is not aimed at selecting areas with the worst environmental or health impacts. This is not a national priority list nor a list for priority setting.

The objective is rather to identify some ICS as examples where to evaluate the capacity across countries to deal with ICS-related environmental health issues and to identify information and research gaps. This will greatly help to reach the COST Action goal to develop guidance and resources on health impact assessment and risk communication across Europe.

ICS must be identified starting from the operational definition of the Action:

%Areas hosting or having hosted industrial human activities which have produced or might produce directly or indirectly (waste disposals) chemical contamination of soil, surface or ground-water, air, food-chain, and resulting or being able to result in human health impacts+ ICS to be selected should fulfill as many of the following criteria as possible:

-POLICY RELEVANCE. Sites for which concern was raised by citizens, politicians, environment and health experts, scientists, media and other interested parties.

-AVAILABLE EVIDENCE. Sites for which local environmental contamination by industrial activities has been documented as dangerous or potentially dangerous for the possible health effects

-EXTENT OF EXPOSURE. Sites involving large or in any case non negligible size of the population directly affected by the contaminations . exposed or potentially exposed in the neighborhood of the contaminated sites.