



Growing
ideas
through
networks

European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Opening to the World

Angeles Rodriguez-Pena, President until June 2017

36th CRP European Universities of Technology, September 2017, Graz



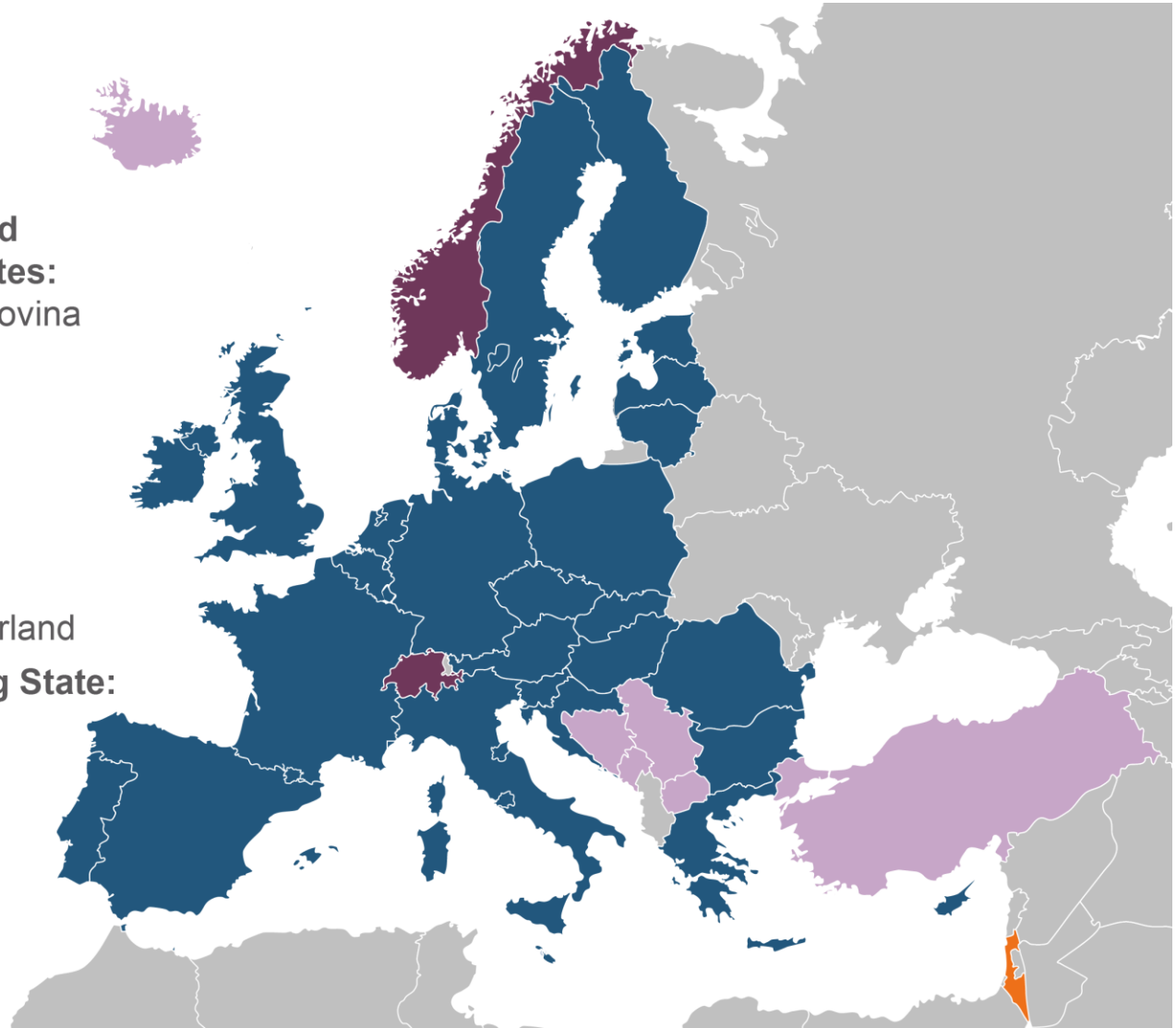
Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme
of the European Union

Overview

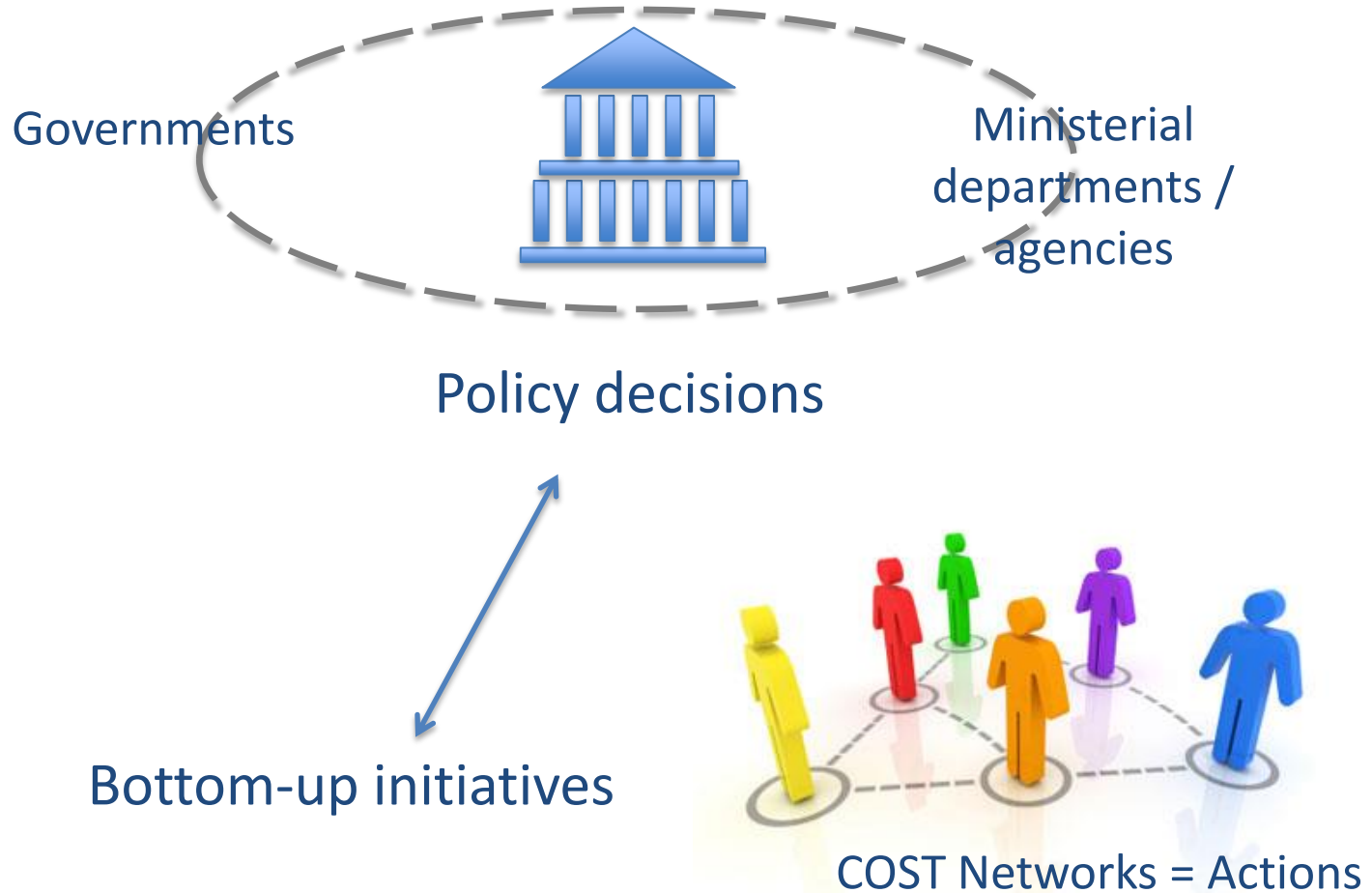
- Key facts about COST
- Joining and financing
- Evolution of international participation in COST Networks/Actions
- What we have learnt

COST Member Countries

- EU 28
- EU Candidates and Potential Candidates:
Bosnia and Herzegovina
fYR Macedonia
Montenegro
Iceland
Republic of Serbia
Turkey
- Other Countries:
Norway and Switzerland
- COST Cooperating State:
Israel



Key facts about COST: Institutional setting



Key facts about COST: guiding principles

- **excellence**

- **bottom-up**

All fields of S&T (highlight on trans-, multi-, interdisciplinary, new and emergent fields)

- **openness**

All partners (academia, public organisations, SME, industry, NGO, International Organisations)

All career stages (young and experienced researchers)

All countries

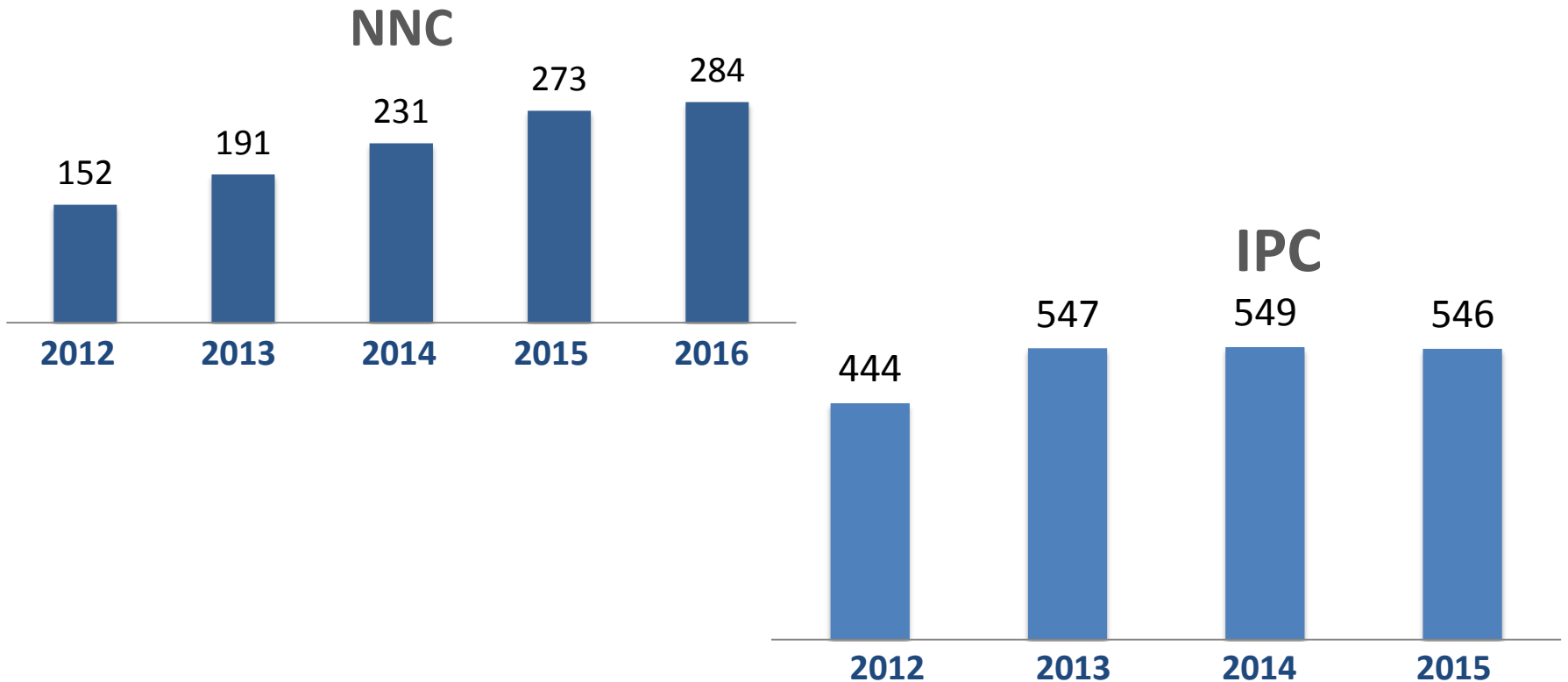
Joining and financing

- COST Actions are **open** for researchers from non-COST countries on the basis of ascertained **mutual benefit**, complementary expertise and scientific added value.
- Only Difference is the **financing**:
- Near Neighbours (NNC)
 - Eligible for reimbursement : one representative per Near Neighbour participant per (up to 2) meeting per year
- Rest of World (IPC)
 - Must finance their own participation

Policy decisions

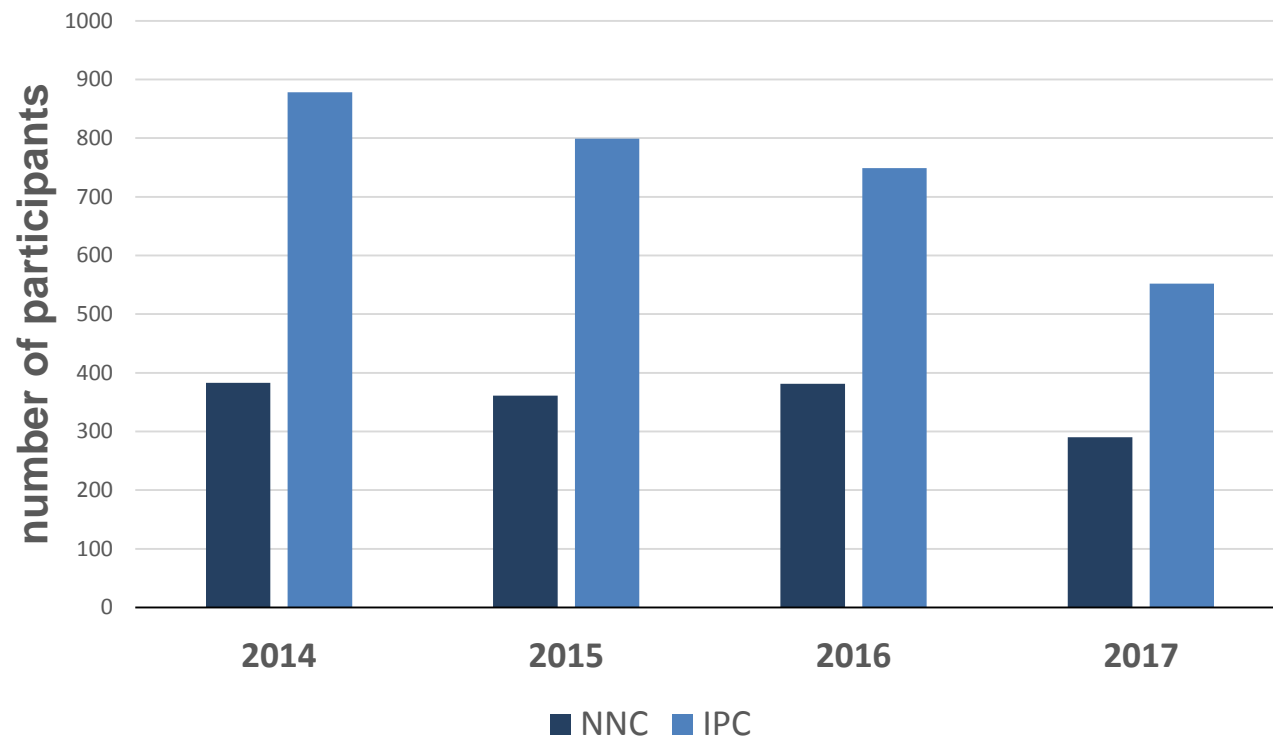
- Open to **all countries** based on mutual benefit
- **Special budget line** in the COST system to facilitate collaborations with **Near Neighbour countries**
- Pilot for 4 Reciprocal Agreements with AU, NZ, ZA and AR (until 2015)
- New statutes (14 Sep 2016)- new member category: **Partner member**

Evolution of international participation

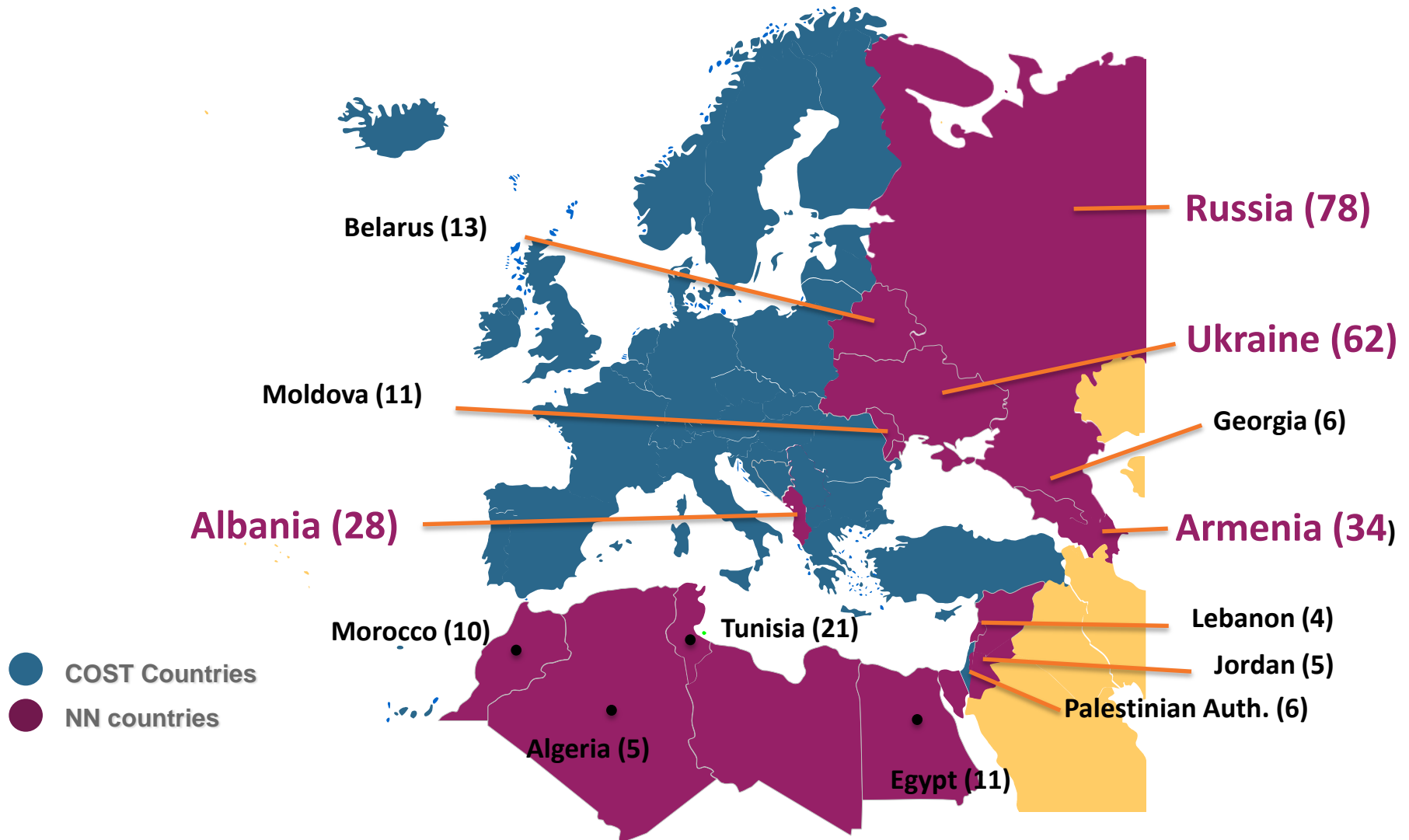


Number of Actions with non-COST countries

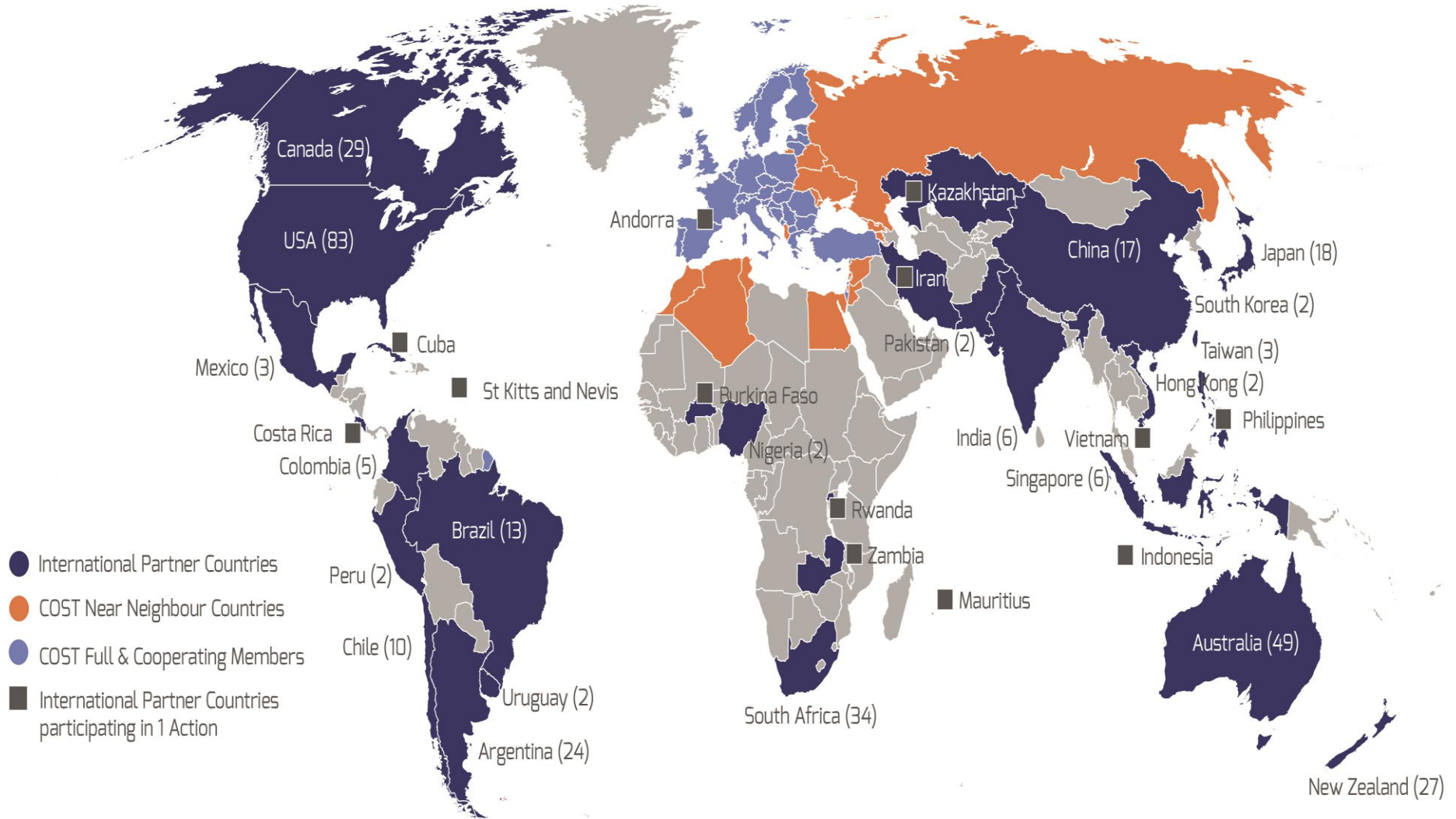
Number of participants: “the budget” effect

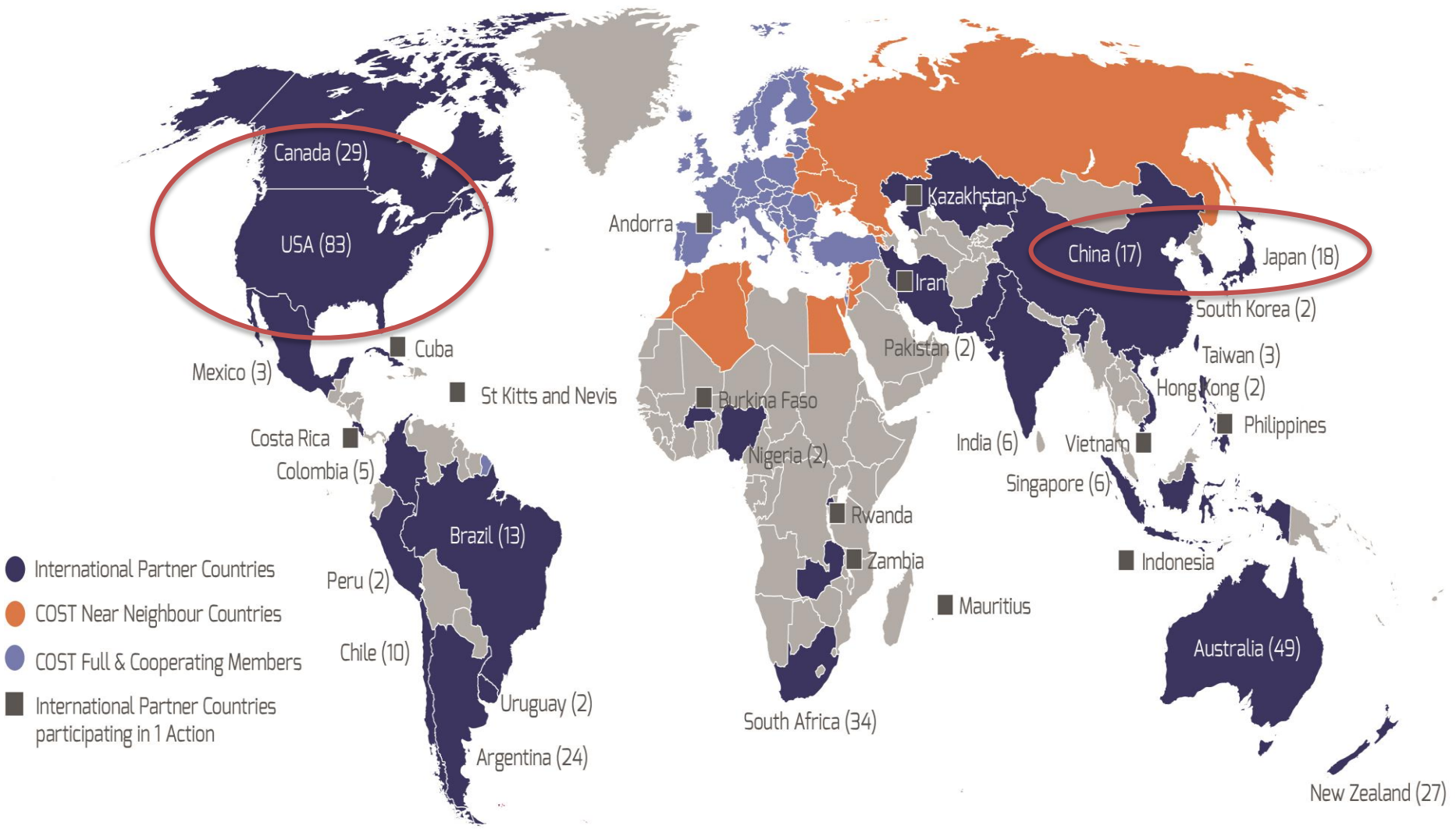


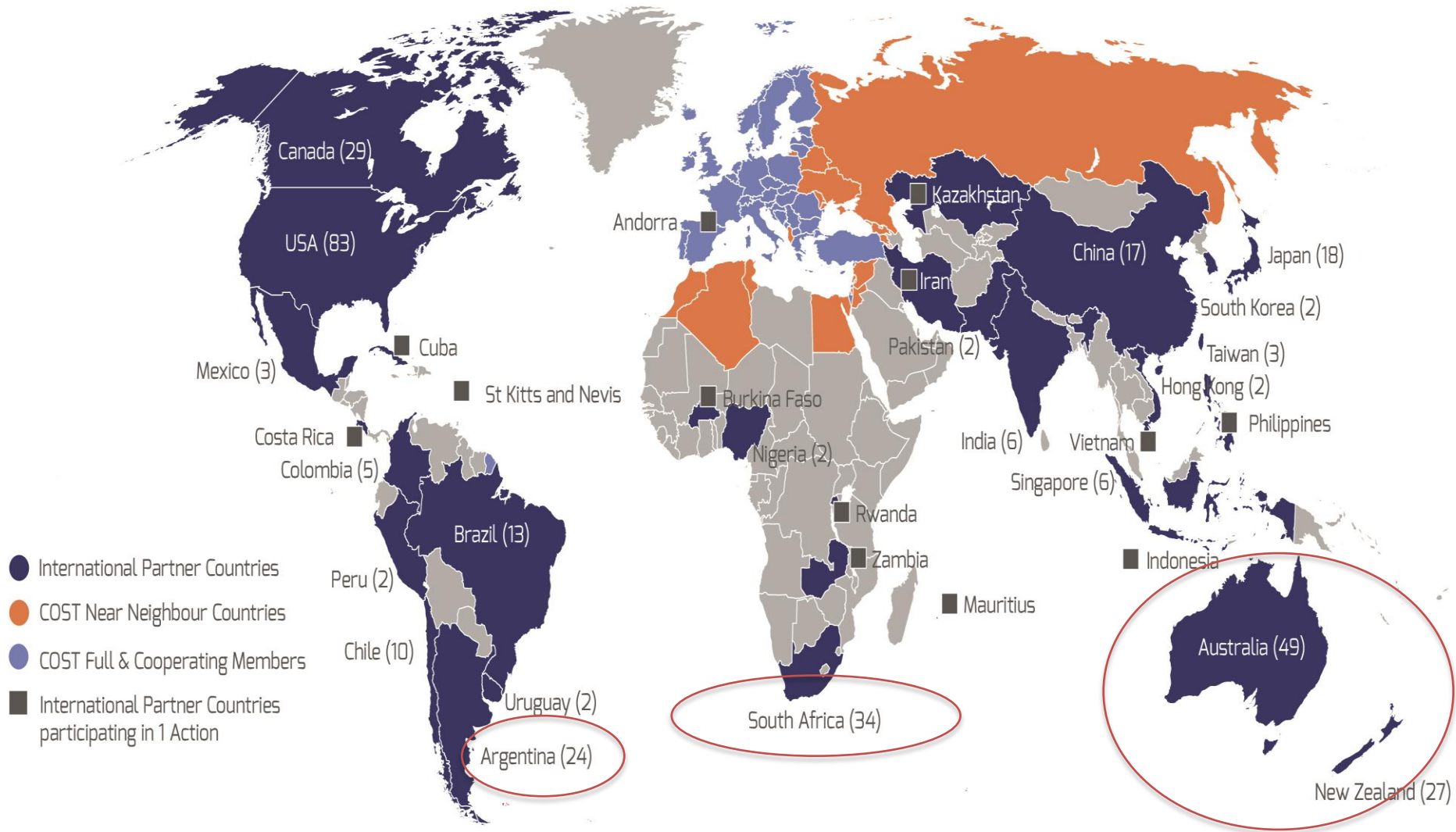
Near Neighbour Countries participation 2016/17



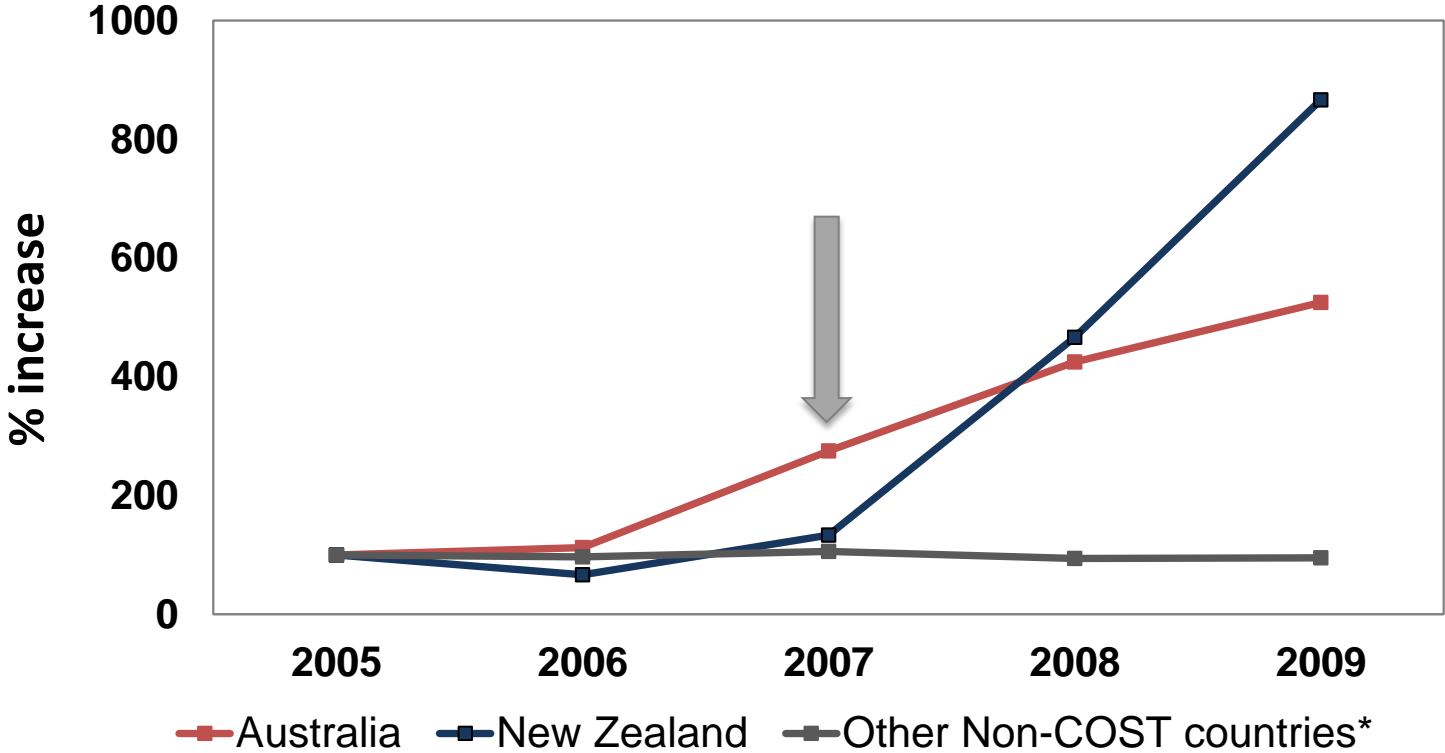
Participation from IPC 2016/2017







Impact of Reciprocal Agreements on AU and NZ involvement in COST Actions



The COST Partner Member in the COST Association

- **New category** introduced by the Statutes 2016.
- This membership status is “open to **every State** that participates adequately or has the ability to participate adequately in COST activities”.
- COST Partner Members duties:
 - to notify in writing the name of its current contact person(s) to the Association;
 - to comply with the Statutes, Internal Rules and policies of the Association;
 - to maintain a budget dedicated to the participation of its nationals in the COST Actions.



Effective strategies to support international cooperation requires top-down decisions and appropriate budget.

It needs to build on a strong base created by networks of individuals and institutions

Grazzi Tack
Go raibh maith egať Gracías
Tak Danke
Merci Dakugim
Hvala
Dziękuję Dankschen Ačiū Dank U
Efcharisto Obrigado Blagodarya
Mulțumesc Tănan Kiitos
Dêkuji Thank you