



Working Together in Europe

Dr Dot MacKinlay
Consultant Clinical Psychologist
Heidi Steward
Paediatric Renal Social Worker



Funding

Enabling participation

- Countries – with financial constraints
- Professional groups with financial constraints



Why is it important?

EWOPA

- Unique
- 'Buzz'



Dealing with the EU

- Not simple
- Not clear
- At times incomprehensible
- CIRCULAR
- Frustrating
- Exhausting



Help from NHS Confederation

- Helpful
- Some suggestions
-but not that helpful
- What we seem to need is COST



What is COST?

- European Co-operation in Science and Technology
- Supports co-operation among scientists and researchers across Europe on specific projects – ‘COST Actions’
- Does not directly fund research



What Research Does COST Support?

- Nine key scientific areas or 'domains' covering a wide spectrum
- Examples of domains are food and agriculture, molecular biosciences, transport and urban development
- Additionally there is a category of Trans Domain Projects which is the domain likely to be most relevant to the work of EWOPA
- Covers interdisciplinary proposals and networks



What are 'COST Actions'?

- These are particular projects supported by COST
- Each COST Action will fall within one of the nine key domains or will be classified as a Trans Domain Project
- Example: The COST Action is 'Measuring and Monitoring Farm Animal Welfare' This falls within the domain of Food and Agriculture



How Does COST Work?

- Each COST Action must include at least 5 COST countries
- All countries represented at this EWOPA conference are COST countries (separate rules for Armenia)
- Each COST Action must have a lead partner



What Support Does COST Provide?

- COST does not fund the actual research
- Co-operation between European scientists and researchers is facilitated by COST providing funding for e.g. conferences, publications, workshops and so on



What is the Process?

- Applicants must register
- Applicants (researchers) submit a short proposal to COST providing an overview of the goals of the Action
- If successful, applicants are then asked to submit a full proposal to go onto the next stage



Where Do We (EWOPA) Go From Here?

- In principle is this something we wish to pursue?
- Who will be the 5 (minimum) partners?
- Who will be the lead country
- What research topic (COST Action) will they choose
- How will partners get funding for the research (can be from charities)?
- What are the benefits for EWOPA of taking this on?