

New European Project on “Nanoscale Superconductivity” (NanoSC) Launched



May 3, 2013 (HE73). The new European project (Action-1201) on ‘*Nanoscaled Superconductivity*’ (*Novel Functionalities through Optimized Confinement of Condensate and Fields*, Nano-SC) was launched in October 2012. The COST (<http://www.cost.eu/>) cooperation project includes participants from 18 European

countries and 3 associated and non-European countries (see Figure 1). The main objective of this Action is to streamline science and technology in the field of superconductivity and to contribute to the development of novel applications of nanostructured superconductors beneficial to industry and society. It is intended to create a strong network of teams and institutions working in the field of nanoscale superconductivity and nanopatterned superconducting materials. It will encourage and stimulate the efficient use of joint resources and exchange of researchers in this scientific field.

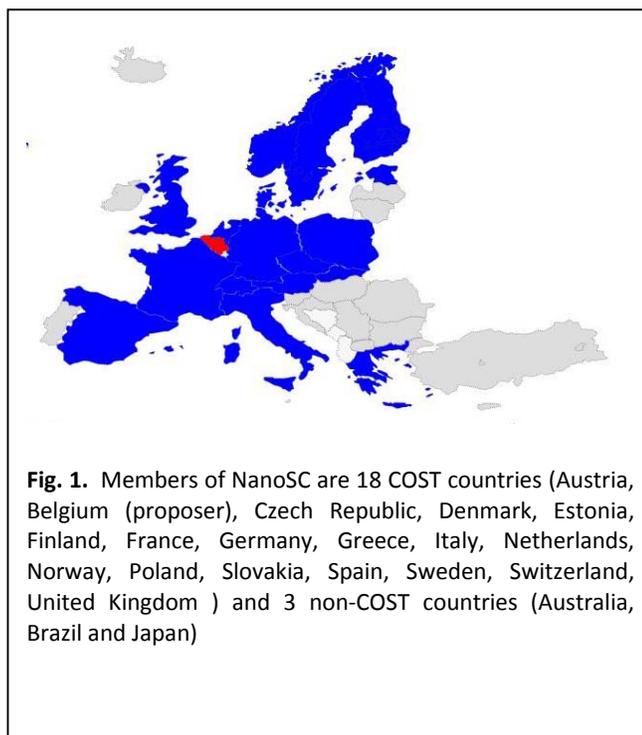


Fig. 1. Members of NanoSC are 18 COST countries (Austria, Belgium (proposer), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom) and 3 non-COST countries (Australia, Brazil and Japan)

Furthermore, the project aims at linking academic institutions with small and middle-sized enterprises (SMEs) and other industries throughout Europe.

The main aims of the new project are to:

- create an *European Virtual Institute* (EVI) for (nanoscale) superconductivity that should enhance the multidisciplinary and international collaborations within the research teams as well as between research teams and industry by sharing equipment and knowledge on a broad European base,

- encourage exchange of young scientists (PhD Students, Post Docs, Staff members) by providing *grants* for *short term scientific mission* between cost countries,
- organize *conferences*, *schools* and *workshops* on nanoscaled superconductivity and related topics,
- establish a web-site for scientific exchange in the field of nanoscaled superconductivity including the *European Virtual Institute*.

The program of exchange grants for *short term scientific mission* is now open for applications (see <http://www.kuleuven.be/inpac/cost/mobility.php>). Female scientists are especially encouraged to participate in the program.

The first conference of the project will be held on the Island of Rhodes on 21-26 September 2013. It will be conducted in school format and a satellite of the EUCAS 2013 meeting to be held in Genova, Italy, September 15 to 19, 2013. The event name will be 'Vortex Matter in nanostructured Superconductors' (Vortex VIII), continuing the successful series of VORTEX school conferences held in years past (see, e.g. [HE39](#)) under an earlier EU project. All details on the planned meeting are given on website <http://www.kuleuven.be/inpac/vortex/>.

More detailed information on the project will gradually become available at the project website <http://www.kuleuven.be/inpac/cost/index.php>.