



PermaCOST: New International Research Network for Coordinated and Standardised Monitoring of Permafrost Response to Climate Change

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Leading team for Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland



PermaCOST

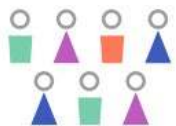
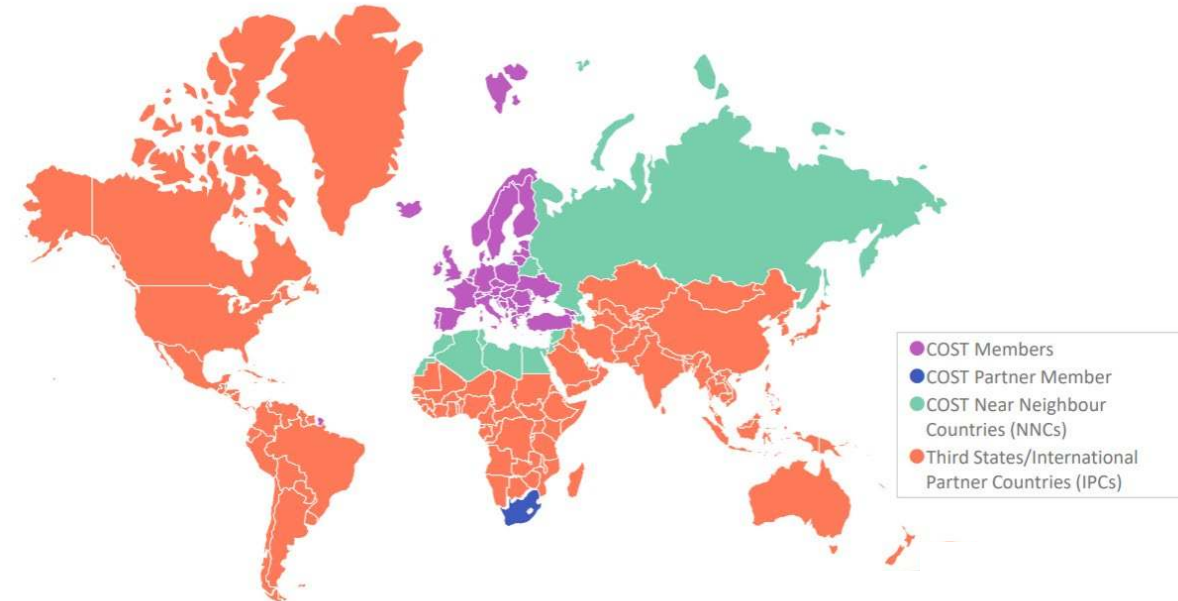


Funded by
the European Union

permacost.eu & cost.eu/actions/CA24157

What is PermaCOST?

- PermaCOST is funded by the **European Cooperation in Science & Technology** (COST programme)
- 4-year project (2025-2029) supporting **international scientific collaboration** and **networking activities**
- Budget of 1st year: **130 k€**
(average COST budget for four years: 600 k€)
- Budget mostly for **direct costs**, i.e. support to meetings, workshops, training schools, grants for conferences, research visits and dissemination activities



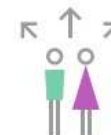
Meetings, workshops
conferences,
and conference grants



Short-term
scientific missions



Training
schools



Dissemination
activities



Virtual mobility
grants

What is PermaCOST?



PermaCOST Action **brings together European permafrost researchers, stakeholders, and practitioners** with expertise in different measurement techniques and permafrost conditions to work towards a **coordinated and standardised monitoring of permafrost response to climate change**.

Our goal is to facilitate an overall comparability of data sets and time series of various permafrost variables for a **better characterisation of the long-term permafrost evolution on the global scale**.



Who are we?

Core Group (Executive Committee)



Coline Mollaret
Action Chair
University of Fribourg, Fribourg
✉ Email Address
🇨🇭 Switzerland



Filip Hrbacek
Action Vice-Chair
Masaryk University, Brno
✉ Email Address
🇨🇪 Czechia



Cécile Pellet
Grant Holder Scientific Representative & WP5 leader
University of Fribourg, Fribourg
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🇨🇭 Switzerland



Line Rouyet
Science Communication Coordinator
NORCE Research AS, Tromsø
✉ Email Address
🇳🇴 Norway



Ylva Sjöberg
Grant Awarding Coordinator
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✉ Email Address
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WG1 Leader
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Mohammad Farzaman
WG2 Leader
Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária, Oeiras
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Jan Blöthe
WP3 Leader
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Freiburg
✉ Email Address
🇩🇪 Germany



Francesco Brardinoni
WP4 Leader
Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna, Bologna
✉ Email Address
🇮🇹 Italy

Additional roles (co-leadership and management)



Alina Milceva
Grant Holder Manager
University of Fribourg
✉ Email Address
🇨🇭 Switzerland



Manja Zebre
Grant Awarding Co-Coordinator
Geological Survey of Slovenia, Ljubljana
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Grant Evaluation committee
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Jerzy Smykła
Grant Evaluation committee
Polish Academy of Sciences
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Andreas Kellerer-Pirkbauer
WG1 Co-Leader
University of Graz, Graz
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🇦🇹 Austria



Bernd Etzelmüller
WG4 Co-leader
University of Oslo
✉ Email Address
🇳🇴 Norway

Management committee (Legislative Body):

1-2 representatives/country.

Currently: 38 people. 26 countries.

The MC keeps growing.

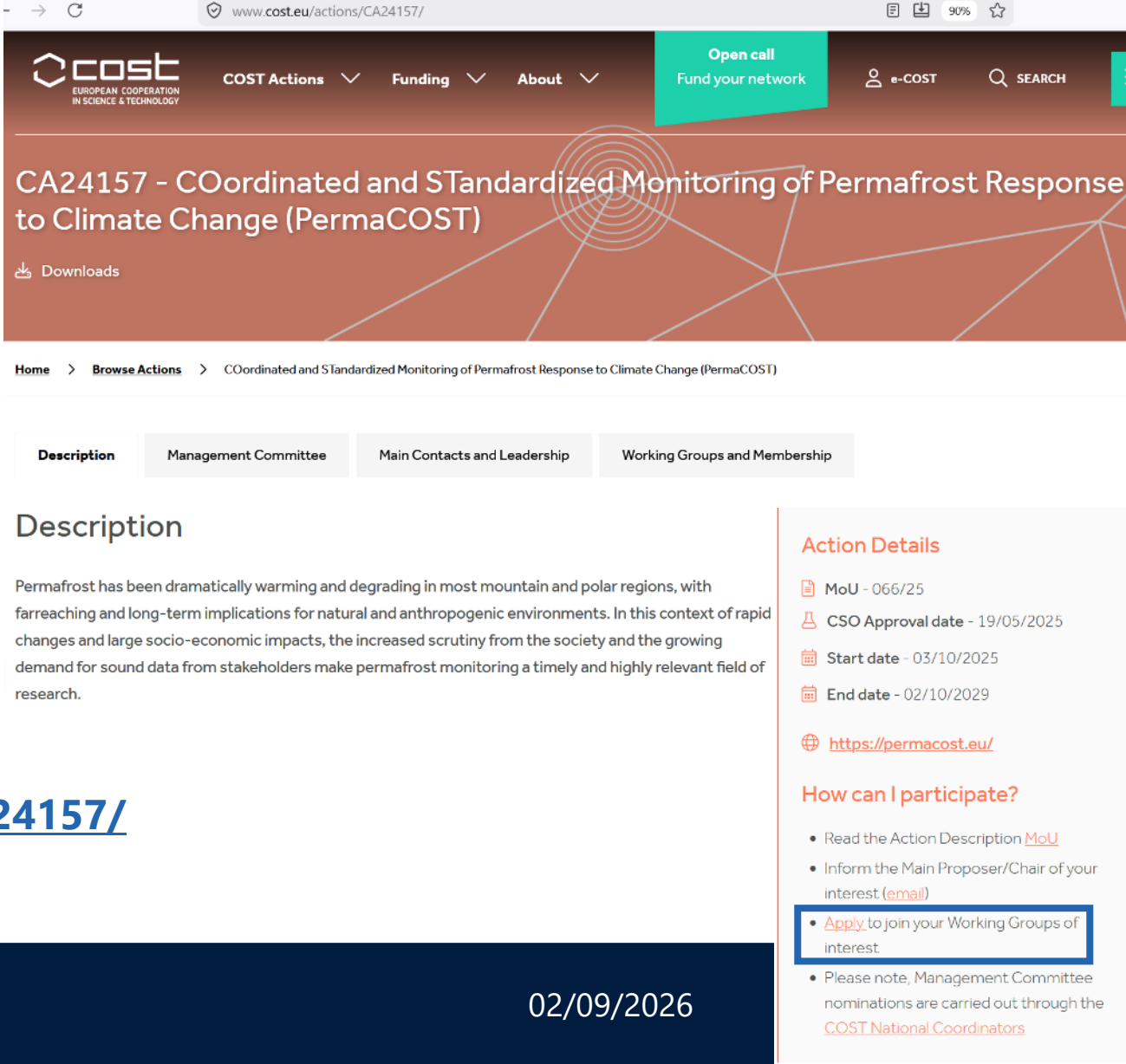
Who are we?

PermaCOST is much bigger than the leading group.

Any permafrost researchers, stakeholders, and practitioners can join the working groups!

- PermaCOST has **>180 members!** (regularly new applications)
- Representatives from **40 countries** (33 European countries).
- **56 %** of the members are **≤ 40 years old**.
- **36 %** of the members are **women**.
- **33 %** of the members are from **ITC** (Inclusiveness-Targeted Countries).

Join the network on <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA24157/>



The screenshot shows the website for COST Action CA24157, titled "COordinated and STandardized Monitoring of Permafrost Response to Climate Change (PermaCOST)". The page features a navigation bar with links to "COST Actions", "Funding", and "About". A prominent green button labeled "Open call" with the text "Fund your network" is visible. Below the navigation bar, the title of the action is displayed, followed by a "Downloads" link. A tabbed interface shows the "Description" tab selected, which contains a paragraph about the importance of permafrost monitoring. To the right, the "Action Details" section lists key information: MoU - 066/25, CSO Approval date - 19/05/2025, Start date - 03/10/2025, End date - 02/10/2029, and the website URL <https://permacost.eu/>. The "How can I participate?" section lists steps: Read the Action Description, Inform the Main Proposer/Chair, and Apply to join your Working Groups of interest. The "Apply" link is highlighted with a blue box. A note at the bottom states that nominations are carried out through the COST National Coordinators.

www.cost.eu/actions/CA24157/

cost EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

COST Actions Funding About

Open call
Fund your network

e-COST SEARCH

CA24157 - COordinated and STandardized Monitoring of Permafrost Response to Climate Change (PermaCOST)

Downloads

Home > Browse Actions > COordinated and STandardized Monitoring of Permafrost Response to Climate Change (PermaCOST)

Description Management Committee Main Contacts and Leadership Working Groups and Membership

Description

Permafrost has been dramatically warming and degrading in most mountain and polar regions, with farreaching and long-term implications for natural and anthropogenic environments. In this context of rapid changes and large socio-economic impacts, the increased scrutiny from the society and the growing demand for sound data from stakeholders make permafrost monitoring a timely and highly relevant field of research.

Action Details

MoU - 066/25
CSO Approval date - 19/05/2025
Start date - 03/10/2025
End date - 02/10/2029
<https://permacost.eu/>

How can I participate?

- Read the Action Description [MoU](#)
- Inform the Main Proposer/Chair of your interest ([email](#))
- [Apply](#) to join your Working Groups of interest
- Please note, Management Committee nominations are carried out through the [COST National Coordinators](#)

- **WG1:** Identify the **key monitoring parameters and methods** complementary to permafrost temperature and active layer thickness for the assessment of permafrost state and evolution.
 - Community overview and assessment, review paper, definition of sub-groups for WG2-4
- **WG2:** Compile and homogenize **permafrost data acquisition standards** for the parameters and methods identified in WG1.
 - Common guidelines, field tests and training schools for implementation
- **WG3:** Compile and homogenize permafrost **data processing standards** for the parameters and methods identified in WG1.
 - Common guidelines/tools, intercomparison exercises and training schools for implementation
- **WG4:** Compile a **European-wide assessment of permafrost state and evolution** building on the results of WG1-3.
 - Regional permafrost products, multi-method synthesis and community publication
- **WG5:** Promote and support the development of **new operational monitoring networks**
 - Coordination between existing networks, toolkit and support for new networks

PermaCOST Community Survey

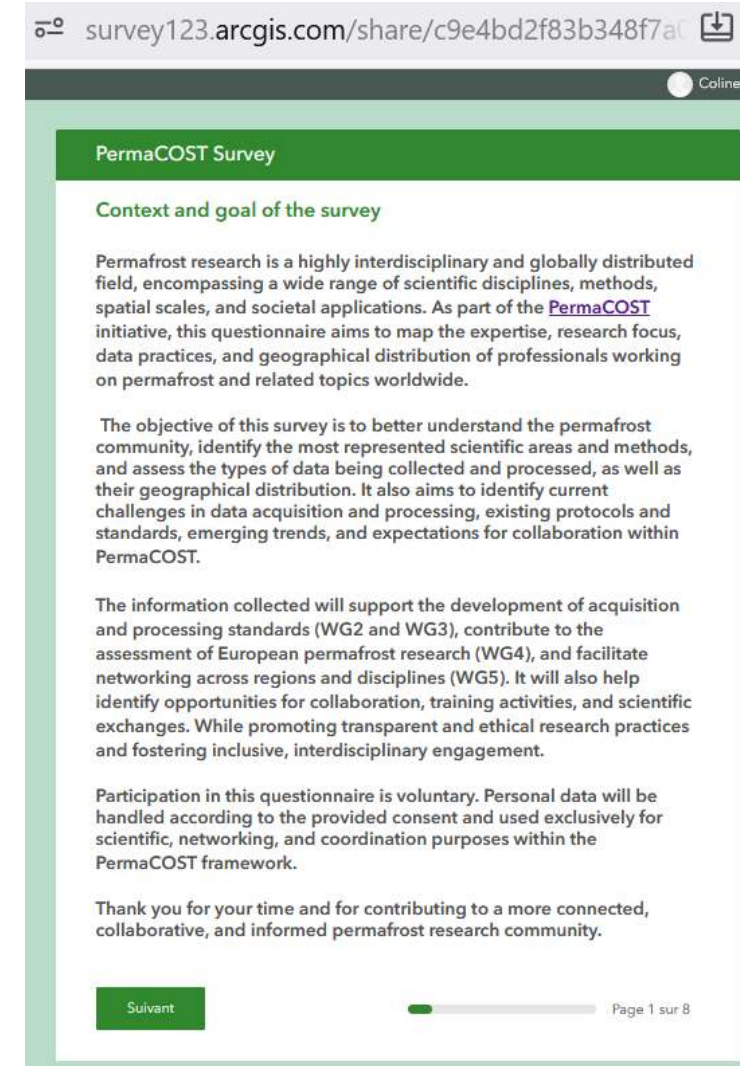


Survey objectives:

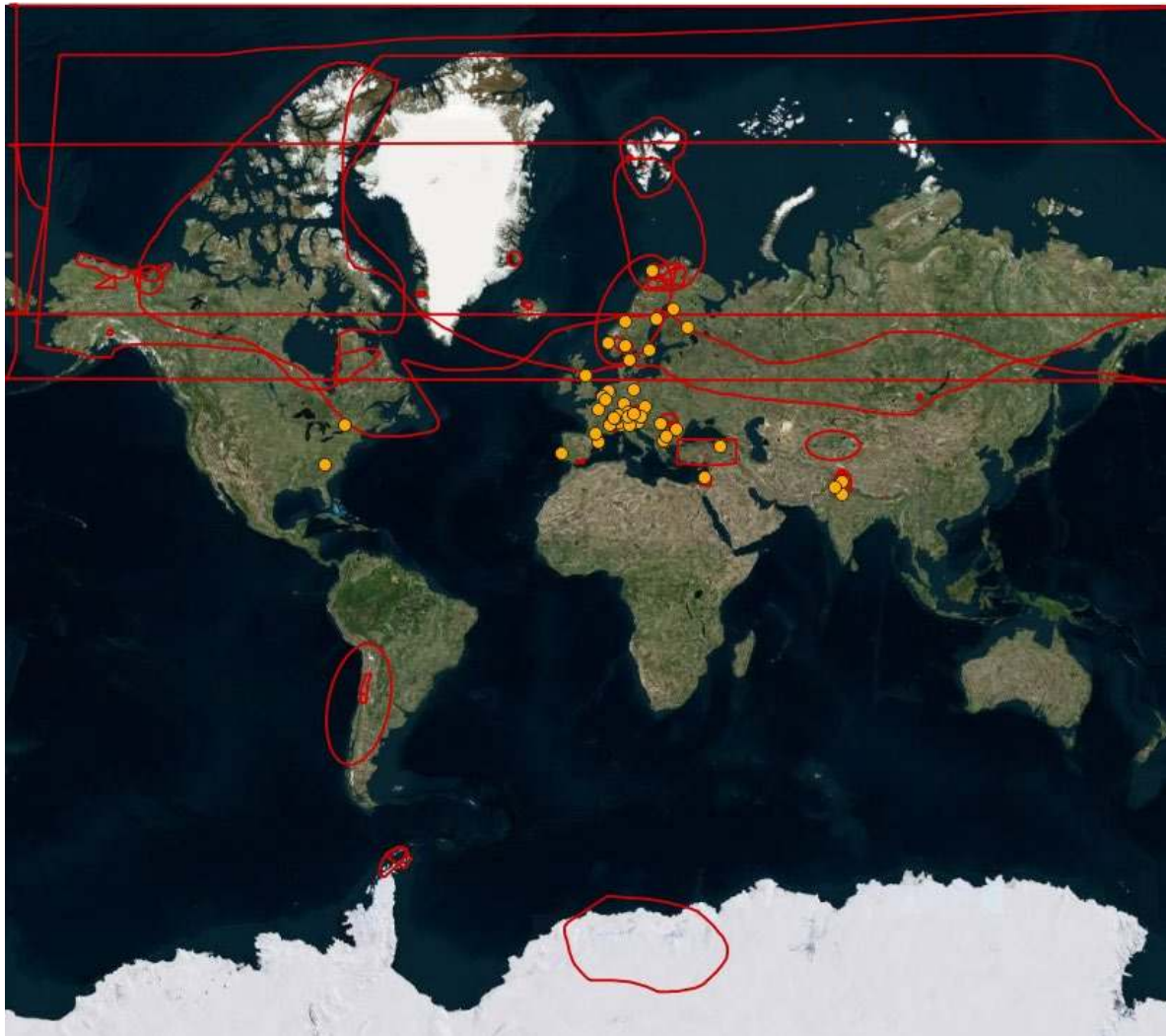
- **Understand** the diversity of the permafrost community.
- **Map** the expertise, research focus, data practices, and geographical distribution of professionals working on permafrost.
- **Identify** the current challenges in data acquisition and processing, the existing protocols and standards, the emerging trends, and the expectations for collaborations within PermaCOST.
- **Collect** key information to support the work planned in the other Working Groups (WG2-5).

Launched in Spring 2026. **74** participants so far. **We need more!**

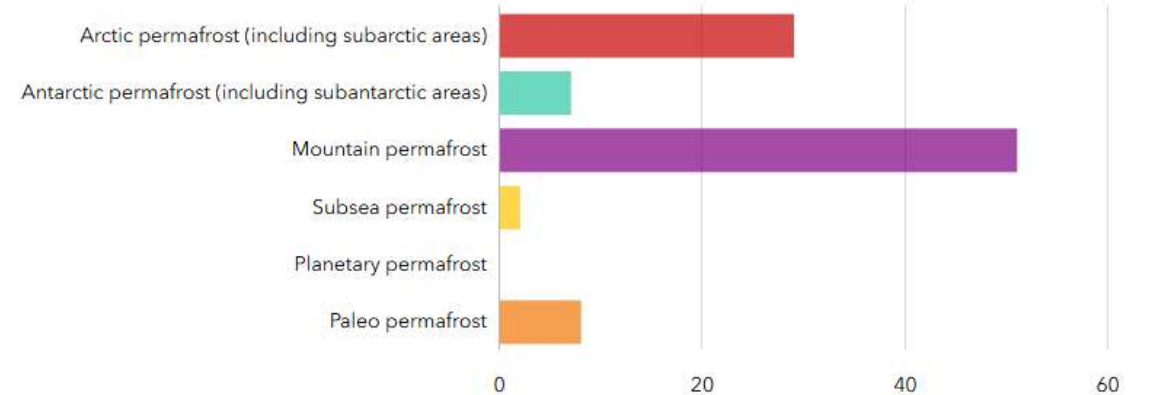
Link to Survey: <https://permacost.eu/wg1/>



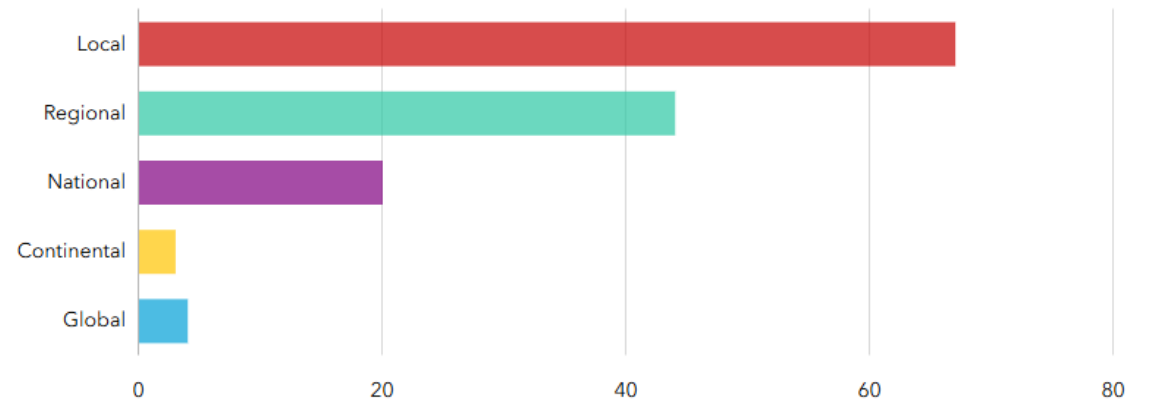
PermaCOST Community Survey



2.1 What is your main permafrost focus (choose up to two) *



2.10 What is the spatial scale of your acquired/produced data? (select up to three) *



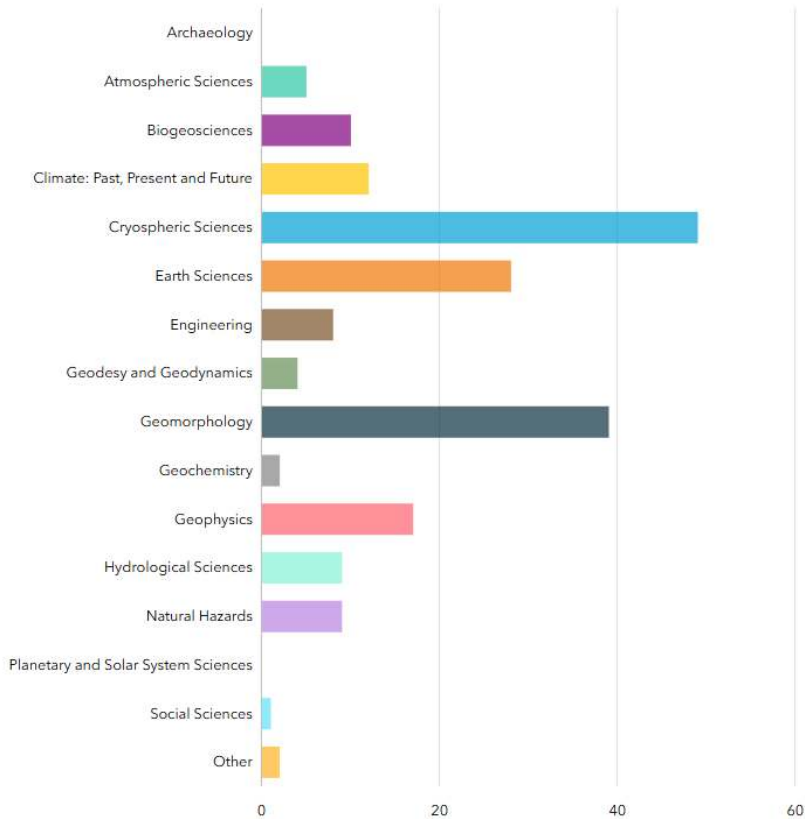
PermaCOST Community Survey



Wide range of information that will be comprehensively analysed by WG1 in the Fall.

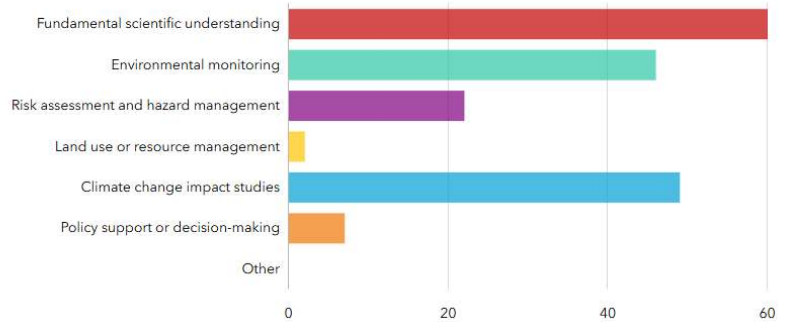
● 2.4 What is your main scientific research area (select up to three) *

Colonnes Barre



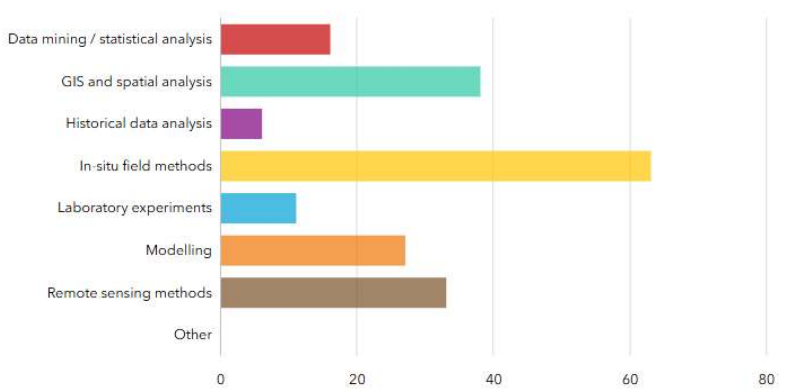
● 2.3 What is the main purpose of your permafrost activities (select up to three) *

Colonnes Barre



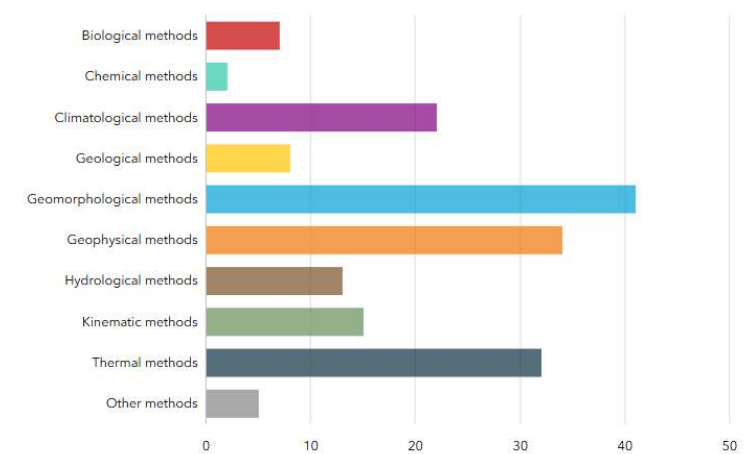
● 2.5 Which type of approach do you use most often (select up to three)? *

Colonnes Barre



● 2.6 In your approach(es), which type of methods/data do you use most often (select up to three)? *

Colonnes Barre





Call for applications for short-term scientific missions (STSM)

PermaCOST members are invited to apply for financial support to short-term scientific missions (STSM) fulfilling the PermaCOST mission and Working Groups objectives. A short-term scientific...



2026 Call for ITC/NCC Conference Grants

These grants support Action participants with a primary affiliation in an institution located in Inclusive Target Countries (ITC) and Near Neighbour Countries (NNC), participating...



2026 Call for YRI Conference Grants

These grants support young Action participants (under 40 years of age) to present an in-person presentation or poster at a high-level conference fully organised...



First PermaCOST General Meeting

On January 20 and 21, 2026, PermaCOST held its first General Meeting in Potsdam, Germany. In total, 35 people participated on site, and 12...



PhD Training School on Tools for Tracking Periglacial Change: From Local to Regional Approaches

Trafoi, Autonomous Province of Bozen, Italy,
August 31 - September 7, 2026



The PermaCOST ERT Workshop

On June 01-04, 2026, a PermaCOST workshop on 'Electrical Resistivity Tomography (ERT) Surveying on Permafrost' was conducted at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. The...

[Home](#)[What Are Rock Glaciers?](#)[About RGIK](#)[Meet The Team!](#)[Working Groups](#)[Resources](#)[Community](#)info@rgik.org[Join RGIK Today!](#)

Rock Glacier Inventories and Kinematics (RGIK)

We are a scientific community recognised by the [International Permafrost Association \(IPA\)](#) as a Standing Committee. The mission of RGIK is to coordinate the global compilation and distribution of standardised rock glacier products, as well as foster international collaboration and advance the understanding of rock glaciers. [Click here](#) to learn more!

Executive Committee

RGIK is led by an executive committee consisting of two (2) co-Chairs and other members that are the governing body. Each term lasts two (2) years and the current executive committee serves up to 2026. After the co-Chairs, each member is listed in alphabetic order.



DIEGO CUSICANQUI
CO-CHAIR, FRANCE



South America Regional Representative
Rock Glacier Velocity (RGV) Working Group



LINE ROUYET
CO-CHAIR, SWITZERLAND & NORWAY



Rock Glacier Velocity (RGV) Working Group (Primary)
Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Working Group



FRANCESCO BRARDINONI
ITALY



Europe Regional Representative
Rock Glacier Inventory (RGI) Working Group



YAN HU
SWITZERLAND



Rock Glacier Inventory (RGI) Working Group
Data Management Working Group



AJAY KUMAR
INDIA



Asia Regional Representative
Rock Glacier Inventory (RGI) Working Group



TYLER MENG
USA



Co-North America Regional Representatives
Rock Glacier Inventory (RGI) Working Group
RGIK Social Media



CÉCILE PELLET
SWITZERLAND



GTN-P Representative
Data Management Working Group (Primary)
Rock Glacier Velocity (RGV) Working Group



MISHELLE WEHRBE
CANADA



Co-North America Regional Representatives
Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Working Group
(Primary)
Rock Glacier Inventory (RGI) Working Group
Webmaster & RGIK Social Media