

# Fact-Sheet

Programme: **EUREKA**

Call title: **EUREKA-Eurostars**

Deadline: **2 cut-off dates per year**

Next cut-off date: **13<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

## What is Eureka-Eurostars programme?

EUREKA's Eurostars Programme is a European funding programme, managed by the pan-European initiative EUREKA, aiming to **support market-oriented research and development** with the active participation of specifically research and development performing small and medium-sized enterprises (R&D-performing SMEs).

## What is a Eurostars project?

A Eurostars project is an **international Research and Development project**. According to the EUREKA criteria, a Eurostars project can address any technological area (bottom-up programme), **but must have a civilian purpose and be aimed at the development of a new product, process or service**.

A Eurostars project should be market-driven: it must have a maximum duration of **three years**. Within two years of project completion, the product of the research should be ready for launch onto the market.

## Eligibility Criteria

A Eurostars project is:

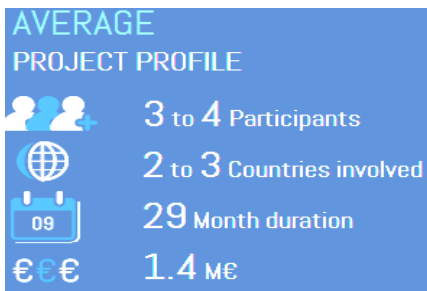
- ✓ Collaborative, meaning it must involve at least two participants (legal entities) from two different Eurostars member countries<sup>1</sup>;
- ✓ Driven by a **R&D-performing SME** meaning a SME (EU definition) investing 10% or more of their turn-over or their full-time equivalent personal in research and development activities;
- ✓ With strong participation of SMEs: **At least 50%** of the total project costs related to R&D activities shall be carried out by the participating R&D-performing SME(s)
- ✓ With well balanced consortium, meaning that **no participant or country will be required to invest more than 75% of the total project costs**.

UK Eligibility Criteria:

- Participants in a Eurostars project must be separate legal entities
- Companies must be registered at Companies House and Trading for 12 months at the time of application (13/03/14)
- All work must be carried out in the UK
- Project costs must be incurred in the UK
- All eligible labour costs have to be PAYE
- Subcontracting is capped at 20% of the UK partner eligible costs
- UK lead projects must be managed by an SME as per the Eurostars criteria. Project Management cannot be subcontracted
- There are specific accountancy rules for Sole Traders and Micro Companies, to ensure the company has the resources to participate in a project.

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<sup>1</sup> Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.



**What is the co-financing contribution?**

Eurostars projects will be funded primarily through national funding schemes. The amount of funding and costs eligible for funding will follow national rules and procedures. In the UK, only research-performing SME's are eligible for funding. Academics/universities and large companies are welcome to participate in a Eurostars project, but must fund their own participation or use funds from other sources. Up to 60% of eligible costs will be supported to a maximum grant level of €360,000 per UK partner in a Eurostars project. To check co-financing rules per country, please visit the following link with all necessary information: <http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/>.

**Submission and evaluation process**

1. **Unique project submission:** Eurostars application form (available on Eurostars website), draft Consortium Agreement and annual financial reports from all participants;
2. **Centralized evaluation and project ranking** by an Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP). All participating countries follow this ranking in granting subsidies, until the national budget is exhausted. Only projects that came in above the threshold value are in principle eligible for subsidy.
3. **Project submission to national funding agency** for projects above threshold (may vary according to national rules)
4. **Synchronized funding and implementation** by all participating states.
5. **Timing:** results announcement 3 months after call cut-off date. Funding implementation 2 months after results announcement.

**Evaluation criteria and past programmes statistics:**

- ✓ **Partnerships :** Balance and added-value; Technological and Management Capabilities; Methodology, planning, key steps and deliverables; Financial capacities of partners.
- ✓ **Technology and Innovation:** Level of technological maturity and risks; Innovation degree.
- ✓ **Market and competition:** Geographical and sector impacts; Business opportunities and risks; Activity forecast and Return on Investment for all partners.

**EUROSTARS approved projects by technological area**

By number



By budget

