



# Eurostars

- Targeted to innovative SMEs' collaboration projects
- The project consortium should consist of at least 2 entities from 2 different participating countries
- 37 countries in total
- Two deadlines per year
- Project duration maximum 36 months
- 25 % of applications receive funding



Co-funded by  
the European Union

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

 eureka

**NEXT CALL: JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025**

# Key Messages Eurostars

- Eurostars supports international R&D collaborations for innovative SMEs
- Flexible, relatively small administrative burden:
  - Consortium submits 1 mutual application through the Eurostars application portal
- Independent Evaluation Panel evaluates the project proposals – funding comes from the national funding agencies, like Business Finland
- Evaluation criteria: Implementation, Excellence, Impact (later in this presentation)
- Evaluation process takes approximately 3 months
- Contact your national Eurostars project coordinator to confirm the funding details when planning a possible project and before submitting an application (contact details at the end of this presentation)

# Key messages Finnish organisations

- Business Finland has funding available to Finnish project partners
  - To SMEs 50 % funding rate of project costs, midcaps 40 % funding rate (no formal upper limit on the size of the grant and project budget, but according to the companies' financial capacity and R&D needs)
  - The Eurostars funding is a grant, not a loan
- Eurostars is a bottom-up programme and the companies and consortiums decide the focus of the projects – no thematic requirements
- Project consortiums between 2 different entities from 2 different countries are fine and eligible (more than 2 entities or countries is fine as well)
- Eurostars funding to Finnish partners is based on Business Finland funding terms and conditions for companies' R&D projects
  - In addition, Eurostars Programme funding terms and conditions
- Evaluation carried out by the Independent Evaluation Panel – Business Finland follows the results of the international evaluation process
- Business Finland strongly encourages Finnish organisations to pursue international R&D collaboration projects, such as Eurostars

Quality and  
efficiency of the  
implementation:  
basic assessment

- Quality of the consortium
- Added value through co-operation
- Realistic and clearly defined project management & planning
- Reasonable cost structure

Excellence:  
innovation and R&D

- Degree of innovation
- New applied knowledge
- Level of technical challenge
- Technological achievability & risk

Eurostars  
evaluation criteria

Impact:  
market &  
commercialisation

- Market size
- Market access and risk
- Competitive advantage
- Clear and realistic commercialisation plans
- Time to market

# A typical Eurostars project



**3–4 participants**

Finnish SMEs eligible if they:

- pursue a growth-oriented int'l strategy
- display sufficient assets and/or turnover



**2–3 countries**



average duration

**30 months**

Funding for Finnish partners:

- 50% grant for SMEs
- 40% for midcaps
- Limited support for large companies and universities



average project cost

**€1.3 million**

# Relevant information

- [Eurostars library page with all the relevant guidelines](#)
- [Eurostars funding information to Finnish partners](#)
- [Business Finland's R&D funding](#)
- [Business Finland's funding terms and conditions](#)
- National Project Coordinator in Finland:
  - To be confirmed

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