



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency



Eureka is a pan-European initiative run by the Eureka Member States via their ministries responsible for innovation promotion. The initiative aims to enhance European competitiveness. Eureka promotes collaborative cross-border research and development projects with a substantial innovation content and a clear market orientation.

Eureka connects knowledge about market-oriented research, development and implementation and funding opportunities from national Innovation Promotion Agencies of over 40 countries. By having companies, research institutes and universities work together on transnational projects, the risk of developing innovative products processes and services is reduced and the access to the international markets enhanced.



In the Eureka framework, European level research projects with clear market potential are devised and carried out according to the bottom-up principle. The initiative is particularly focussed on the needs of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which today constitute half of its project partners. With the support of Eureka, their cross-border projects can be carried out more efficiently and they take advantage of the benefits of international cooperation (networking, cost reduction and visibility).

The pan-European network Eureka was founded as an intergovernmental initiative in 1985. Switzerland was a founding member of this non-profit organisation, which is subject to Belgian law. Today Eureka has 45 members: 40 member states, 1 partner country South-Korea, 4 associated member states (Canada, South Africa and Chile, Argetina) and the EU, which is represented by the European Commission. Eureka is independent from the European Commission's framework programmes.

Eureka Network Projects, the Eurostars programme and the Cluster initiatives were built within the Eureka network in order to respond effectively to the needs of innovative companies. Eurostars promotes cross-border projects from SMEs that conduct extensive research activities by providing them with grant funding from the Eurostars Member States and other resources drawn from the Horizon2020 Programme. Clusters are long-term strategic industry initiatives within Eureka. For more information please visit the official Eureka website:

[www.eurekanetwork.org](http://www.eurekanetwork.org).

## Rules for Swiss participants

A Eureka project can initiate if partners of at least two different Eureka Member States participate. The project has to conduct market-oriented research and development; military projects are not allowed. The Eureka Member States award the approved projects with the national Eureka Label.

**EUREKA Clusters** have their own call structure. Generally, each Eureka Cluster opens 1 – 2 calls per year and organizes matchmaking events for interested parties. The project submission is organized either in one or two steps. The Eureka Clusters award the approved projects with the Cluster Label.

In Switzerland companies, research institutes and universities can participate in Eureka -projects and Eureka Cluster projects. The partners have the following possibilities:

### Self-financing for companies

Project partners with a minor contribution to a project and/or a clear benefit from the project results can participate self-financed in a Eureka project or in a Eureka Cluster project. The international criteria of these instruments have to be fulfilled and the availability of funds for self-financing the contribution to the project must be confirmed to the Swiss Eureka Office.

Or:

### Financial support through public funds for research institutes and universities

In order to get federal funding in Switzerland the international criteria of the corresponding Eureka instrument and the rules of Innosuisse have to be fully fulfilled.

Interested parties sign up to the application tool under [www.eurekanetwork.org](http://www.eurekanetwork.org) or the Cluster application form from the corresponding Cluster website (see <https://www.eureka-network.org/countries/switzerland/clusters/>) and fill it in together with their partners.

Then they are requested to contact the Swiss Eureka office to identify the suitable funding instrument and the necessary steps for obtaining the Eureka Label or the Cluster Label.

For **further information**, please contact the Swiss National Eureka Project Coordinator:

Colette John-Grant  
Eureka National Project Coordinator  
Innosuisse, Swiss Innovation Agency  
Einsteinstrasse 2, CH-3003 Bern  
Tel. +41 (0)58 466 77 32  
[colette.john@innosuisse.ch](mailto:colette.john@innosuisse.ch)  
[www.innosuisse.ch/eureka](http://www.innosuisse.ch/eureka)