



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft

Confédération suisse

Confederazione Svizzera

Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency



A pan-European Programme for innovative SME

The **mission of Eurostars** is the support of R&D-performing entrepreneurs, by initiating pan-European projects and co-funding their research activities, enabling them to compete internationally and become leaders in their sector. The Eurostars Programme addresses a niche market of research- and innovation-performing businesses that fulfil the EU-adopted definition of an SME (<250 full time equivalent collaborators, < 50 million Euro turnover, < 43 million Euro balance sheet total) and that, in addition, invest 10 % or more of their full time work equivalent or turnover in research activities.

A **Eurostars project** must be led by an R&D-performing SME within a consortium involving partners from a minimum of two Eurostars participating countries. The project life cycle must be short (three years maximum) and no more than two years after project completion the result of the research should be ready for introduction onto the market. A typical Eurostars project has a total value of 1.5 million Euro and involves between two and three SME participants, a larger company and a research institute or a university.

Today 36 countries are members of Eurostars and provide a total **funding** of 900 million Euro for the period of 2014 – 2020. Eurostars is a joint programme with the European Union according to article 185 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The European Union contributes additional funding of 300 million Euro from the Horizon 2020 Programme.



Each country provides a **National Project Coordinator**, who assists applicants. It is recommended to contact the National Project coordinator before the submission of a project to optimise the application procedure with the European partners.

The **application procedure** is organised centrally by the Eureka Secretariat. All relevant documents (Eurostars application form, business report of all private entities and draft Consortium Agreement) are submitted electronically to www.eurostars-eureka.eu.

Generally, 4 months after the cut-off date the result of the evaluation and 5 months after the cut-off date the availability of funding is communicated to the applicants by the Eureka Secretariat. The projects are funded along the ranking list by the national funding bodies. The negotiations for the funding contracts with the national funding bodies and for final Consortium Agreement between project partners should lead to an overall **time to contract** of less than 7 months.



This project has received funding from the Eurostars-2 joint programme with co-funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

Funding Conditions for Swiss Eurostars participants

Switzerland is represented in Eurostars by the Swiss Innovation Agency, Innosuisse; following funding rules are applicable for Swiss partners of Eurostars projects:

For SME, Universities and R+D institutions, the following funding rates apply:

In kind contributions SME, universities and R&D institutions	H2020	Earmarked Eurostars Funding of Switzerland
50%	10%	40%

For Large Companies the following funding rates apply:

In kind contributions large enterprises	H2020	Earmarked Eurostars Funding of Switzerland
75%	5%	20%

The **maximum funding per project with a Swiss SME** is 500'000 €

The **maximum funding per project without a Swiss SME** is 250'000 €.

Of all costs, which are budgeted in the Eurostars Application Form, only eligible costs are taken into consideration to determine the max. funding amount. The **eligible costs** (this applies for all Swiss funding), are:

- Salaries and Overheads
- Travel costs for project meetings*
- Consumables
- Depreciation of Equipment
- Subcontracting R&D up to 50% of the costs of the Eurostars Project Partner responsible for the subcontracting. Subcontracting R&D is only paid directly, if a Swiss University or R&D institution is the subcontractor. If not, the subcontracting must be self-financed.

* Travel costs within Switzerland are included in the overhead costs and are therefore not eligible for funding. Travel costs for conferences are only eligible for funding if participation is linked directly to the Eurostars project and the partner makes an active contribution to the conference (presentation, poster, paper, booth).

Non-eligible-costs are:

- Other costs
- Subcontracting non R&D

For the **execution of a Eurostars project** the Swiss partners negotiate a contract per project with Innosuisse and report every 6 months on the progress and every 12 months on the financing of the project.



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Funding rules

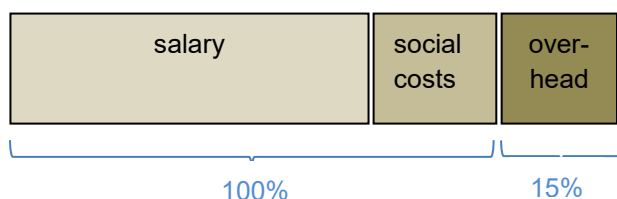
1. Innosuisse funding rules for salaries and overheads

- Salary costs are to be calculated on the basis of the employee categories and numbers of working hours (i.e. 1,824 hours per person per year / 152 hours per person per month).
- The effective gross salary costs customary for the location where the employees work are to be applied.
- The gross salary rate is calculated as (net salary rate + effective social costs) * 15% overhead as indicated in the table below.
- Where company hourly rates are higher or equal to the maximum rates accepted by Innosuisse, the maximum rates are applicable and copies of payment slips should be submitted with the financial plan.
- Universities, universities of applied science, institutions of the ETH domain and other research organizations **apply the gross salary rates approved by Innosuisse.**

Maximum eligible salary rates for companies and R&D institutions

Employee category	Net salary rate	Social costs (20%)	Overhead (15%)	Gross salary rate
Project coordinator Deputy project coordinator Experienced researcher	max. CHF 119/h	CHF 23.80/h	CHF 21.42/h	max. CHF 164.22/h
Research assistant Scientific collaborator	max. CHF 68/h	CHF 13.60/h	CHF 12.24/h	max. CHF 93.84/h
Technician, Programmer	max. CHF 61/h	CHF 12.20/h	CHF 10.98/h	max. CHF 84.18/h
Postgraduate, Assistant	max. CHF 46/h	CHF 9.20/h	CHF 8.28/h	max. CHF 63.48/h

Where the maximum rate is not applicable, please calculate the hourly rates as follows:



2. Fixed assets

To purchase fixed assets explicitly needed for a project, and use non-exclusively on the project, the participant is required to perform a tendering process, if the purchase price is >CHF 25'000.

Send a copy of the documents to the national project coordinator or project officer together with the corresponding financial report. Only depreciation can be funded on the fixed assets purchased for a project. Eligible costs for fixed assets are calculated as follows:

$$\text{eligible fixed asset cost} = \frac{\text{purchase price}}{\text{lifetime}} * \text{time fixed asset is reserved for project}$$



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3. Consumables and travel costs

Project expenses like consumables and travel costs, which are directly in connection with the funded project, as well as miscellaneous expenses, mandatory for the execution of the project, and for exclusive use on the project, will be financed (all expenses must be specified in detail). Travel costs for journeys within Switzerland are not eligible for funding. Travel costs for conferences are only eligible for funding if participation is linked directly to the Eurostars project and the partner makes an active contribution to the conference (presentation, poster, paper, booth).

4. Subcontracting

Up to 50 % of the project work in R+D can be subcontracted. Subcontracting can only be funded directly by Innosuisse, if a Swiss University or R&D institution is the subcontractor. If not, the subcontracting must be financed by the project partner in-kind costs and will not be covered by Innosuisse co-funding.

5. Non-eligible costs

The following cost categories are not eligible for funding and will not be considered for the calculation of the amount of funding:

Other costs: Certifications of products (CE labelling), all work related to securing a patent, services and consultant fees, general lab equipment, subcontracting non-R&D in any form, etc.

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