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**An Introduction to Eurostars – Q&A**

1. **Can large companies lead or at least participate if at least one SME is involved?**

*Large companies can't lead but may participate. The UK will not fund large companies, but other countries may do so under their terms, such as an SME from that country is in the consortium. Large companies from the UK must self-fund.*

1. **Would co-development of an existing technology for improvement and/or application to a different field be in scope for a Eurostar project?**

*Yes, not only is Eurostars about new innovation it also funds new processes and services to existing technology.*

1. **Is this funding generally fully-funded or match-funded?**

*All countries have a threshold of match-funding. Innovate UK will fund you 60% or €360k whichever is lower.*

1. **Since Brexit has there been much increased appetite for collaboration with further global countries for collaboration? In particular, I am interested in opportunities to collaborate with the USA, a region that appears to be very limited in collaborative funding opportunities for UK companies.**

*Collaboration with the USA is possible, but this tends to be off the back of the Global Business Innovation Programme (GBIP). See this link for further information:* [*GBIPs.*](https://www.innovateukedge.ukri.org/Open-new-markets-to-grow-and-scale/Global-Business-Innovation-Programme)

1. **If you have an Innovate UK project, can you lead a Eureka project at the same time?**

*Yes, you can have more than one project funded by Innovate UK. However, we will only fund one live Eurostars project at a time. You may also participate in more than one Eurostars project, but you will have to self-fund one of them if both are live.*

1. **Thank you for answering the Collaboration Portal question. It would be a useful tool for people to come together.**

*This has been raised with the Eureka Secretariat (ESE) however Innovate UK Edge is a good point of contact.* [*Innovate UK Edge.*](https://www.innovateukedge.ukri.org/enter-new-markets)

1. **Is it possible that a project can be approved for funding by Eurostars but not funded by the country where the SME is based**

*Yes, the evaluation process is conducted centrally by Eurostars, with the results forming a ranking list, which must not be broken in terms of funding by National Funding Bodies (NFBs). Each NFB works down the ranking until we exhaust budget, which means we could fund 10 projects but our 11th project is fundable but no budget. If your partner country has budget and they can fund your partner we will then ask you to self-fund your participation. If you can't self-fund, then the partner country will cascade funding down and rule your project out.*

1. **Can UK company participate in several Eureka or Eurostar projects at the same time?**

*Yes, but see the answer to Q5, in terms of funding.*

1. **Are there any restrictions on the type of collaborators?**

*No, Eurostars is designed to be as open as possible, however the focus is on the SME participation.*

1. **Please clarify the size of the big company, would giga size company like Amazon be considered as a partner?**

*I would say Amazon would be better off in the Cluster funding instrument, however the network would not preclude the participation of such a large company. I would also add that they would have to self-fund if they were part of the UK consortium.*

1. **Does trading mean making sales for at least 12 months?**

*This means you are registered at Companies house and filing non-zero accounts. Bank statements to show activity may be asked for. Innovate UK would not fund a dormant company.*

1. **For the 12 months of trading history, is that 12 months of being revenue generating or 12 months having been existing on Companies House?**

*We understand that not all companies are revenue making, but see Q11.*

1. **Can you subcontract to a University? (but previously you said universities are not funded ... could you clarify please?).**

*Yes you can subcontract a maximum of 20% of your costs to another organisation, which can be a University. Essentially the University will match fund 80% of their costs.*

1. **Can pre-revenue startups participate?**

*See Q11 & Q12.*

1. **How can we determine whether a partner country has funding?**

*Each NFB will have their own criteria and budgets for their participants. When on the country selection page you can select the country of your choice and then click on the funding tab, where it will give you this information.*

1. **What are the requirements in terms of employees. Do we need 5 full time employees for the grants?**

*Not necessary to have 5 employees, but you will need to consider that you have the time and resource to ensure you can deliver your work packages.*

1. **Being a consortium of 2 organisations from 2 different countries are the grant amounts considered individually or as a total grant? i.e. our UK organisation could get up to 360k and the foreign organization could also get up to whatever limit their National Body is allowing?**

*Grant is separate and at the National level and yes each NFB will have their own thresholds. See Q15 link. Consideration needs to be taken if you are the only SME as the SME makeup must provide at least 50% of project costs.*

1. **I would like some help to find collaborators. How is this supported?**

*See Q6.*

1. **What TRL start and end point are expected from EUROSTARS?**

*A project to be at TRL 4 at point of application, with an expectation to get to 6/7 at the end of the project and then to reach 8/9 within two years of project end.*

1. **Last week's Eurostars' webinar highlighted that the process would be slightly different for participating countries, like Canada. Does this affect the UK participants and the partners in our consortia?**

*The UK is not affected by the participation of Canada and Switzerland as this has been agreed within the Programme Consortium agreement. However until Association to Horizon Europe, things could change.*

1. **How do you apply?**

*[Call 2 Application](https://auth.myeurekaproject.org/idp/profile/SAML2/Redirect/SSO?execution=e3s1)*

1. **Will there be match making events to help find partners?**

*Not planned, but see Q6.*

1. **What is Eurostars average success rate?**

*From experience of UK applications it is about a 1:3 chance of successful evaluation, but moves to around a 1:6/7 chance of funding.*

1. **Can you budget as part of the project to recruit project management to administer, are there limits to what can be funded?**

*All labour costs must be as PAYE and not subcontracted out. You can recruit but no budget for recruitment as labour costs must be in place.*

1. **What I meant was recruit a new member of staff to do the project management?**

*Project management can not be subcontracted out, which means your PM must be from your own resources. You must provide timesheets for labour costs and we would expect to see this resource on payroll.*