



EUREKA (Network Projects, Eurostars, Clusters) – Brief

With its bottom-up approach, EUREKA supports the development of rapidly marketable innovative products, processes and services that help improve the daily life of everyday people.

Established in 1985 and present in over 40 countries, [EUREKA](#) is intergovernmental network and international platform supporting collaborative market-oriented Research, Development and Innovation projects with duration of up to 36 months, carried out by industry, research centres and universities across all technological sectors.

Participation in [Network projects](#), [Eurostars](#) and [Clusters](#) amongst other EUREKA instruments raises participants' international profiles through EUREKA label award, facilitates access to finance for companies involved, offers high degree of flexibility and bottom-up approach to project generation with greater chance of project proposal success.

In practice, EUREKA instruments are considered when there is:

- Interest in international collaboration for innovation development and post-R&D project commercialisation business opportunities
- Interest to do something that is too big to develop alone
- Interest to collaborate across the value chain / to enter new markets
- Access is needed to someone else's science / technology / skills / sector knowledge
- Realisation that existing solutions could be adapted to a different industry / sector
- Interest to reduce innovation development risks through sharing
- Access is sought for funding and international recognition helpful to attract further investment in the business

[National Project Coordinator](#) assists and guides Malta applicants on EUREKA instruments with project participation subject to [R&D 2014-2020 incentive guidelines](#).

Submissions for Network projects are ongoing, while Eurostars and Clusters issue specific calls.

With various [success stories](#) available, 2017 [Impact Assessment study of EUREKA Network Projects and Cluster Projects](#) further highlighted the following key results:

- **Annual turnover** of participating firms 15% **higher** for Network projects and 13% higher for Cluster projects one year after project end
- **Annual employment growth** is 4% higher for Network Projects and 7% higher for Cluster projects one year after project end
- Participating firms recognised or expected **a strengthened economic position** through the EUREKA project, in particular by entering new markets, improved market share or increased exports

- **The high degree of flexibility** of EUREKA, building upon a strong bottom-up approach whereby project theme is suggested by project partners, is an essential asset for many participating firms
- Aside from the rapid exploitation of research results, improved behaviour in managing and performing international R&D collaboration leads to **a variety of benefits** to participating organisations; intangible changes pertain in particular to **improved strategy and competitiveness**.
- Shorter projects involving smaller consortia were more successful in bringing their products and services to market in a short period of time

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