



# **EUROSTARS JOINT PROGRAMME**

Research and Development programme undertaken by several Member States aimed at supporting research and development performing small and medium-sized enterprises.

*Directorate C  
Unit C.4 SME unit  
DG Research & Innovation  
European Commission*



# Eurostars 2 (2014 – 2020)

## H2020 Regulation / Specific Programme - "Innovation in SMEs" : 3.2.1. Support for research intensive SMEs

### ***THE GOAL AND THE TARGET GROUP:***

"The goal is to promote transnational market-oriented innovation of R&D performing SMEs.

A specific action shall target research intensive SMEs in any sectors that show the capability to commercially exploit the project results."

### ***THE IMPLEMENTATION :***

" The action will be implemented by an Article 185 TFEU initiative building on the Eurostars Joint programme and reorienting it along the lines stated in its interim evaluation"



## **Art. 185 TFEU: Joint Programme Initiative (PPP)**

ART 185: "(...) The Union may make provision (...) for **participation in research and development programmes undertaken by several Member States**, including participation in the structures created for the execution of those programmes."

### **CRITERIA for the use of Art 185: the case of Eurostars**

- ❑ **LINK TO H2020 OBJECTIVES:** Eurostars targets R&D SMEs transnational research which strongly contribute to competitiveness, growth and job creation
- ❑ **CRITICAL MASS:** 33 Eureka countries (all MSs + ACs-) join forces
- ❑ **EU ADDED VALUE:** national support for R&D SMEs usually **fragmented and lacking interoperability**
- ❑ **A LASTING INTEGRATION** vs simple COORDINATION



## INTEGRATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN EUROSTARS

### Scientific integration:

Eurostars Participating states accept a single evaluation by independent experts and common eligibility/selection rules and criteria

### Management integration:

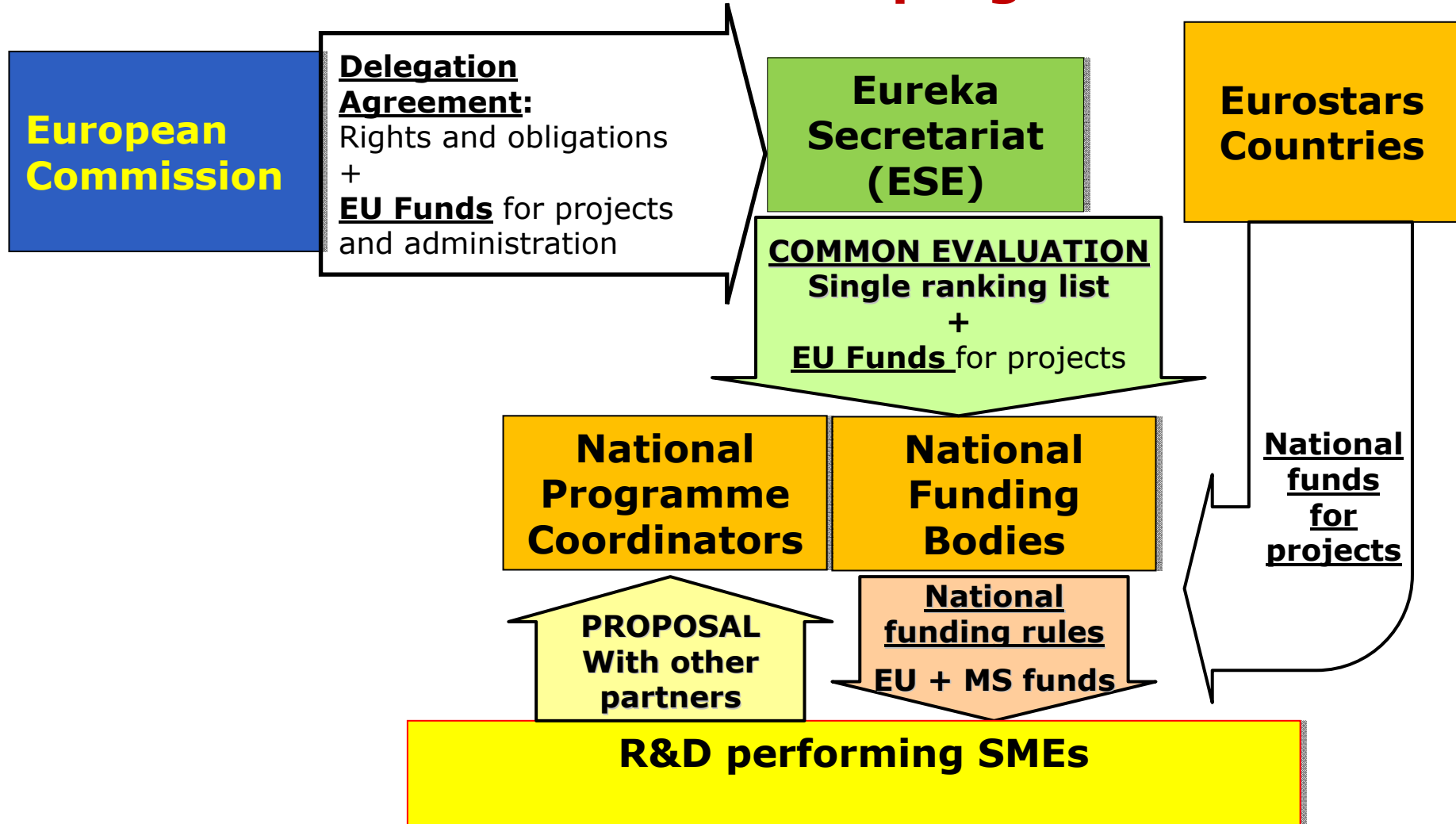
The **Eureka Secretariat** is designated as dedicated implementation structure in charge of implementing Eurostars and receiveing, allocating, monitoring EU funding

### Financial integration:

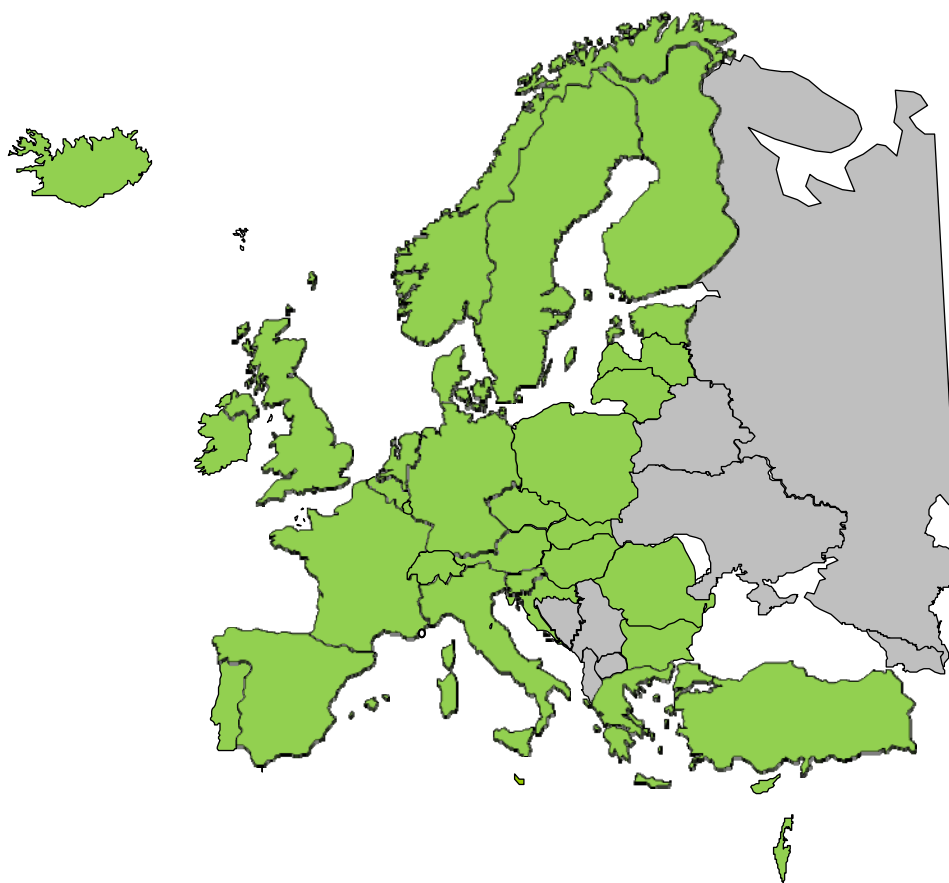
Participating States earmark funds for Eurostars selected projects (creating a Virtual Common Pot: **each participating state funds its own participants following national funding rules/rates**).  
Ranking list binding for allocating funds.



## The main actors in the programme:



# Eurostars 1 - Key Features



Status November  
2010

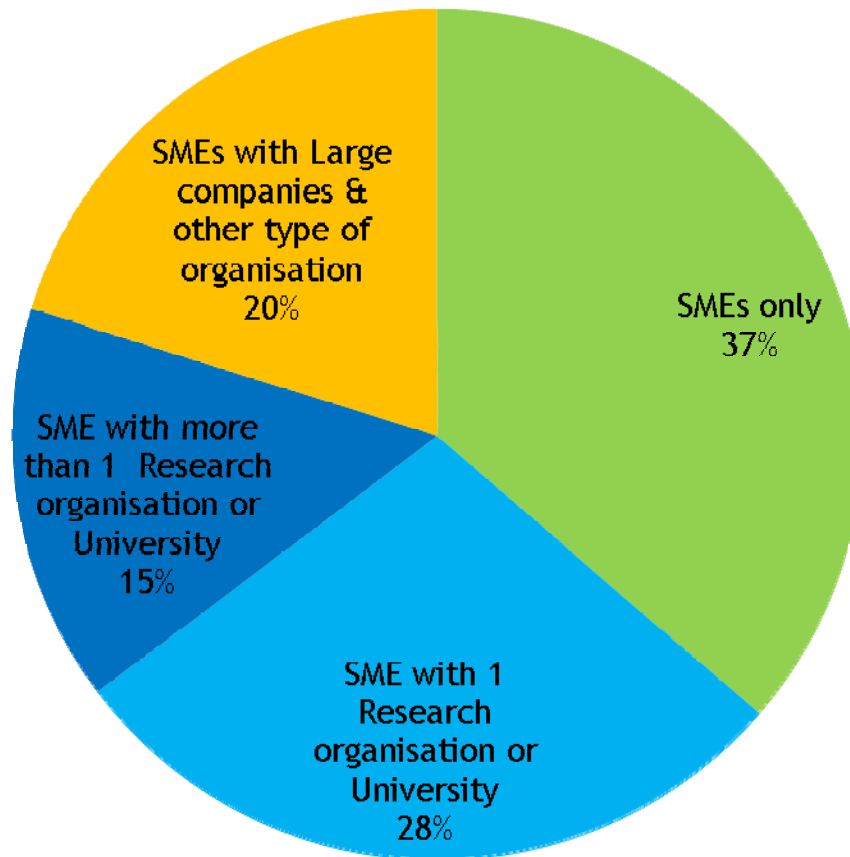
Research and  
Innovation

- **Final beneficiaries:**  
R&D performing SMEs\*.
- **Participants:** **33 countries** in the Eureka framework  
(28 EU Member States and 5 Associated Countries to FP7) + EU.
- **Funding:**
  - Eurostars countries: **300M€**
  - EU contribution: max **100M€**
- **Co-funding principle of projects**
- **Bottom-up**

*\*SME which reinvests at least 10% of its turnover to research and development activities or dedicates at least 10% full-time equivalents to research and development activities.*

## What is a Eurostars project?

### Type of consortium

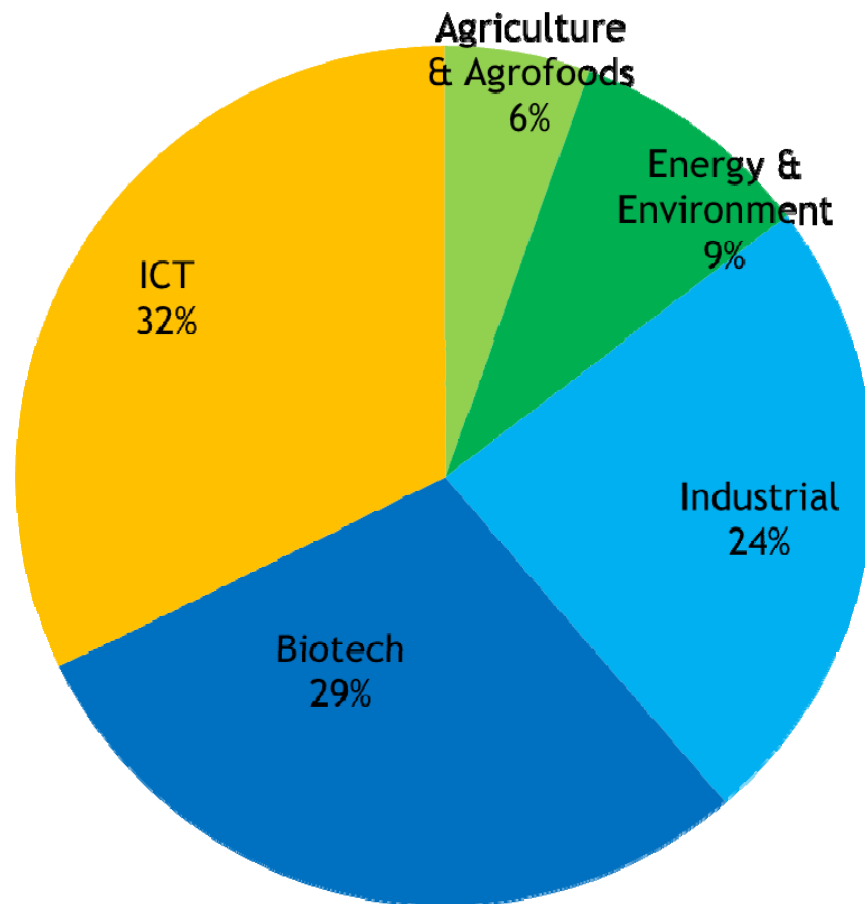


### Small projects:

- **3 to 4 participants**
- **2 to 3 countries**
- **29 months duration**
- **1,4 Million euros of total costs**

# What is a Eurostars project?

## Main technological areas



> Eurostars is bottom-up : open to all technological areas





## **THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Consortium Leader is an R&D-performing SME

At least 2 participants that are Eurostars members

Project duration is less than 3 years

Market introduction is foreseen within 2 years after project completion

The R&D performing SMEs are undertaking at least 50% of total R&D cost

Well balanced partnership (no country responsible for more than 75% of the project costs)

No restriction on thematic area (bottom up)



## Heading towards Eurostars 2

- **Interim Evaluation of Eurostars 1 (2010):** Positive evaluation with clear recommendations for improvement: i.a. leaner administration, better time to contact, respect of Eurostars rules, more integration
  
- **Good achievements of Eurostars up to now:**
  - more than 3,500 applications during the 10 Cut-offs; 780 approved projects
  - SMEs represent more than 70% of the 11,748 applicants and 80% of total project costs of projects funded
  - Higher than planned E\* countries funding: from 300M€ to 400M€
  
- **A "Reinforced partnership" option** based on full implementation of the recommendations made in the Interim Evaluation Report (Budapest document June 2011)



## **EUROSTARS 2 – Key Features**

- **Same main objectives/target group as in Eurostars 1, same criteria**
- **Expected Improvements of Eurostars 2 (in line with recommendations):**
  - ✓ Quicker progress towards more scientific, management and financial integration, including a better synchronisation of funding.
  - ✓ Shorter time to contract
  - ✓ Respect of the Eurostars rules by all participating countries
  - ✓ Increased Focus on SMEs with no previous international research experience
- **Foreseen Funding (in COM proposal) 3 times higher than E\*1:**
  - E\*2 participating states (33 countries)= **861M€**
  - EU contribution = ~ **287M€** (1/3 of Eurostars countries' contribution)Total public budget increase from 400M€ in E\*1 to almost **1.2 billion €**



## Status of decision-making process

<b>10 July 2013:</b>	<b>Adoption of Commission's proposal for a decision of Council and EP on the Union's participation in Eurostars (as part of Innovation Investment Package)</b>
September 2013	Presentation of the Innovation Investment Package to the Council
Last quarter 2013	Discussion in Council + Start discussion with European Parliament
First semester 2014	<b>Expected adoption by Council and EP</b>
First Eurostars call:	Spring 2014



***For more info:***  
***[www.eurostars-eureka.eu](http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu)***

**Thanks for your attention**