

BUSINESS FINLAND

■ EUREKA Clusters
ECSEL JU
2 Dec 2019
Non-Confidential

An aerial photograph of a city skyline at dusk, featuring numerous illuminated skyscrapers and buildings along a waterfront. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The text "EUREKA Clusters" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters across the center of the image.

EUREKA Clusters

What are EUREKA Cluster projects

- **A cluster is an industry initiated strategic long-term initiative to develop technology within a certain area of interest for Europe**
- **Clusters organize calls for projects within their domain for improving the competitiveness of the Cluster industry**
- **National funding bodies of EUREKA countries select and fund projects of these calls according to national funding rules**

Relevant Clusters for Smart Mobility

ITEA 3	Software intensive systems and services https://www.eurekanetwork.org/content/itea-3
Celtic Next	Next generation telecommunications https://www.eurekanetwork.org/celtic-next
Euripides 2	Smart electronic systems https://www.eurekanetwork.org/content/euripides%C2%B2
Penta	Micro and Nano electronic technologies and applications https://www.eurekanetwork.org/content/penta

Participation in Cluster projects:

- Participation from at least 2 EUREKA countries
- With minimum participation, the participants can't belong to the same concern
- A single Finnish company can participate on its own (with companies from other countries)
- At least 2 + 1 Finnish companies must participate if a Finnish research organization participates

Cluster participation, continued

- Funding rates for EUREKA Cluster projects:
 - SME 50%
 - Midcaps and LE's 40%
 - Research organizations 60 - 70%
- Typical project size:
 - 3 – 4 countries
 - 2 – 14 participants
 - 30 – 36 months
 - 1,5 – 15 M€

Cluster Calls

- Mostly annual 2 phase calls, PO (Project offering) and FPP (Full Project Proposal)
- ITEA 3 has 2 calls annually, only FPP's
- PENTA and EURIPIDES have a joint call, a proposal can be labeled in 2 clusters
- PO proposal evaluation drops out 10 – 20% of proposals
- FPP evaluation selects (labels) roughly 50% for national funding
- Final funding decision of any project is still done nationally

Clusters miscellaneous

- Only national funding applications -> only national reporting, national payments
- Time from application to start of project: 9 to 15 months
- Excellent start level for companies that are not yet experienced in joint international projects
- Fast track and Flagship categories for fast funding decisions
- EUREKA countries: EU countries + IS, NO, CA, CH, RU, TR, KR, ZA, CY, IL, AR, CL (full list: <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/content/which-countries-are-eureka-members>)

When to go for EUREKA Cluster funding

- **Partners from only a few countries**
- **Desire for “light” administration**
- **Need to start project within 14 months**
- **Modest budget (1M€ - 15M€ total costs)**
- **No previous experience on international joint projects**



ECSEL JU

ECSEL Joint Undertaking (<https://www.ecsel.eu/>)

- A Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for Electronic Components and Systems (ECS) for funding research and innovation projects, mainly within the EU – and associated countries NO, CH, TR, IL
- Project scope: improving pan-European competitiveness and technology within the ECS industry
- Partly funded by the EU (1 / 1 funding i.e. EU puts in 1€ for each national 1€)

ECSEL calls for proposals

- Annual 2 phase call for proposals (PO + FPP)
- 2 project categories: Research and Innovation Action (RIA) and Innovation Action (IA). Additionally Flagships or Special Topics
- Total available funding available annually over 300 M€
- Proposed projects each year: 30 – 50; funded 15 - 20
- Number of participants / project: 10 – 100
- Number of countries / project: 4 – 20
- Project duration typically 36 months

ECSEL, national funding rules

- Companies are welcome to participate alone
- At least 2 Finnish companies must participate if Finnish research organizations (RTO) participate
- In RIA, RTO share must be $< 50\%$ of the total national budget
- In IA, RTO share must be $< 30\%$ of the national budget
- Allocated national annual funding for grants: 7M€

ECSEL, national funding rules, continued

- Funding rates:
 - SMEs' 35% (+ EU: IA 25%; RIA 30%)
 - LEs' 20% (+EU: IA 20%; RIA 25%)
 - RTOs' 38% (+EU 35%)
- Funding is based on grants in RIA
- Funding is based on grants in IA as well, but loans are possible for SMEs' and LEs' with really high TRL (Technology Readiness Level) projects

When to go for ECSEL funding

- Large number of participating countries and partners
- No fear of administrative overhead
- Pan-European impact
- High total costs, over 15M€
- Need to get into the network of the big European players
- Enough resources to pull it off

WORLD IDEAS

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