Supporting the competitiveness of the agri-food sector, France, Spain, Canada, Hungary, Israel and The Netherlands are announcing a call for Project Outlines for joint R&D projects in Eurostars

**Funding of R&D projects focusing on**

"Market driven R&D in innovative technologies applied to the food chain".

**Submission date:** 13th of September 2018

**Scope**

Eurostars is an international co-operation programme of 36 countries that supports research and development performing SMEs, which develop innovative products, processes and services, to gain competitive advantage. The programme is bottom up, meaning that all technology fields are welcome and that all projects submitted will be evaluated against each other.

France, Spain, Canada, Hungary, Israel and The Netherlands are active members of Eurostars and want to increase the number of their joint project proposals. Therefore, France, Spain, Canada, Hungary, Israel and The Netherlands are announcing a Promotional Call for Project Ideas within the Eurostars programme.

Although Eurostars is open for projects within all technology fields, this Call for project outlines is focused on developing innovative products, processes or service systems in the fields of “Market driven R&D in innovative technologies applied to the food chain”. Applicants are expected to develop ready-to-market solutions for products, technology-based services or methods in:

- **Food technology** (processing, packaging and labelling, additives),
- **Food safety and quality** (food-borne diseases, quality and nutritional properties),
- **Novel proteins and food products**
- **Valorisation of agricultural waste streams** (organic waste from agriculture, Agro-industrial side streams, waste streams from food-processing)

and have strong market potential for France, Spain, Canada, Hungary, Israel and The Netherlands as well as for Europe.

The main objective of this call is to stimulate the generation of Eurostars projects. Consortia with successful applications to Eurostars can apply for funding through the national EUREKA offices in France (BPI France), Spain (CDTI), Canada (NRC IRAP), Hungary (NRDI), Israel (ISERD) and The Netherlands (RVO.nl), according to the eligibility criteria of the various National Funding Bodies involved. This call for project outlines is managed in cooperation and in line with the international Eurostars innovation platform (www.eurostars-eureka.eu).
Call launch and structure
The Call will be launched on 18th of April 2018 by BPI France, CDTI, NRC IRAP, NRDI, ISERD and RVO.nl and invites partners to present a full proposal in the 10th Eurostars call on September, 13th. In order to check the eligibility of your consortium, your project idea and to assist you with improving your application, we strongly advise you to share your project outline (see the attached Project Outline Form “Food call 2018 - Project Outline Form”) with the Eurostars contact person in your country well in advance to the call deadline. BPI France, CDTI, NRC-IRAP, NRDI, and RVO offer specific support in the preparation of the full applications. The relevant offices can provide a professional assessment of your draft proposal if it is sent for comments before the 31st of August 2018 at the latest.

Project content, evaluation and funding
The project partners are invited to present joint proposals for industrial, close-to-the-market R&D projects resulting in new products, processes or services with a strong market potential. The proposals should comply with the following guidelines:

- The project consortium should consist of at least 2 partners from two different participating countries. The main partner (the co-ordinator of the project) must be a research and development performing SME. Research institutes, universities and (large) companies are welcome as partners or subcontractors according to each country’s funding regulations. However, at least 50% of the project must be performed by the participating R&D performing SMEs.
- Industrial and innovation actors from other countries may also participate, but they will not be funded by the BPI France, CDTI, NRC-IRAP, NRDI, ISERD or RVO. They can, however, be funded through their own national (Eurostars) schemes or participate with own resources.
- The project should clearly demonstrate the contribution of all participants.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added-value resulting from the cooperation between the participants. One country or one partner cannot represent more than 75% of the project budget.
- The project must have a civilian purpose.

The participating national Eurostars offices will provide access to existing national public funding. This means that funding conditions and eligibility criteria may vary between countries. National funding to approved project proposals, i.e. labelled Eurostars projects, will be considered under the normal national funding schemes for the programmes. There is no additional budget allocated to this call for project outlines.
Supportive measures

- BPI France, CDTI, NRC-IRAP, NRDI, ESERD and RVO can facilitate the identification of project partners within academia, research institutions or industry. The national Eurostars offices are cooperating with Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), with national clusters, technological platforms and other national experts and points of contact.

- Partners interested in discussing their project ideas with the relevant Eurostars National Project Coordinators are invited to fulfil the Project Outline form and send it by email (details can be found in the contact information section).

- Partners interested in the present call for project outlines are invited to attend the following information and match-making events, where they might meet potential industrial or academic project partners, dedicated network representatives and authorities managing the call:
  - Alimentaria, Barcelona, 16-19 April 2018. The Alimentaria is one of the biggest international Food and Drinks exhibitions in Europe ([http://www.alimentaria-bcn.com](http://www.alimentaria-bcn.com)). On the 18th of April, the Spanish Eurostars Office, CDTI in close cooperation with FIAB (Spanish Federation of Food and Drink Industries), will organise a support event in the morning to present Eurostars and to launch the call. Parallel to this, a match-making event is organised. It offers an opportunity to meet companies, research institutions for international technology transfer, business, and research cooperations in the frame of pre-arranged 30-minutes meetings. The basis for the meetings is an online catalogue containing complete profiles of each participant. The participating to this match-making event is free of charge.
  - Dutch national information day: In May 2018, RVO will organise a info meeting on this call for project outlines for Dutch applicants. More information will be provide through the website of RVO.
  - BPI France will organise an information session on the 8th of June. More information will be provided through the website of BPI France.
  - In Hungary, a support event was held in Budapest at 4-5 April, during the “Central European Cooperation in Smart Specialisation on the Application of ICT and Advanced Manufacturing Solutions in the Food Supply Chain workshop”.
  - In May 2018, the call for project outline will be presented during the BC Tech in Vancouver (13 - 15 May). For more information, please refer to [https://bctechsummit.ca/](https://bctechsummit.ca/)

Submission of full proposal and approval procedures

In order to submit the full application, you must register on the Eurostars website ([www.eurostars-eureka.eu](http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu)) and fulfill your proposal directly in the Eurostars application platform according to the joint Eurostars guidelines ([https://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/home/guidelines](https://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/home/guidelines)) before 13th of September 2018 (20.00 hours).
Please refer to the website of Eurostars for more information about the Eurostars programme.

**Contact information**

**For France**
National Eurostars Contact: Bpifrance
Contact person: Ms Odile Hénin – odile.henin@bpifrance.fr
Contact person: Ms Sofia Santi – sofia.santi@bpifrance.fr

**For Spain**
National Eureka & Eurostars Contact: CDTI
Ms María Delgado, +34 915 815 617, maria.delgado@cdti.es
Mr. Oscar González, +34 915 815 617, oscar.gonzalez@cdti.es

**For Canada**
National Eurostars Contact: National Research Council, Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)
Mr. Eric Holdrinet, eric.holdrinet@cnrc-nrc.gc.ca
Mr. Perry Quan, perry.quan@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

**For Hungary**
National Eurostars Contact: NRDI
Mr Gergely Mészáros, +36 1 896 3741, gergely.meszaros@nkfih.gov.hu

**For Israel**
National Eurostars Contact: ISERD
Contact person 1: Mr. Uzi Bar-Sadeh, +972-3-5118185 uzi@iserd.org.il

**For The Netherlands**
National Eurostars Contact: The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
Ms Willemien van Asselt, +31 (0) 88 042 5941, willemien.vanasselt@rvo.nl
Mr Arnold Meijer, +31 88 042 2582, email: arnold.meijer@rvo.nl