

Announcement:

Bulgaria – Romania Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects within EUROSTARS PROGRAMME

First Deadline for Submission – 20th September, 2012

Second Deadline for Submission – 4th April, 2013

Scope

Bulgaria and Romania are announcing the Call for Proposals for joint R&D projects, focusing on development of innovative products, services or processes and applications **in all technological domains**. Applicants are expected to develop ready to market solutions having strong market potential for Bulgaria, Romania and Europe.

- ★ National Authority for Scientific Research (ANCS) and Executive Unit for Financing of the Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI) from Romania and Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (BSMEPA) will provide access to public funding for joint projects.
- ★ The call is announced in the field of industrial research and development between Romania and Bulgaria within EUREKA initiative and EUROSTARS programme, in particular, in which both countries participate. Hence, the program is managed in cooperation and in line with the procedures of Eurostars program (<http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/>).
- ★ ANCS and UEFISCDI (Executive Unit for Financing the Higher Education and University Researches) for Romanian side and BSMEPA for Bulgarian side will provide all necessary assistance to project partners during project proposal, evaluation, contracting and monitoring phase.

Call Launch and Structure

The Call is launched on **1st August, 2012** by BSMEPA and ANCS.

Eligible partners, conforming to Eurostars rules, are invited to present joint proposals for industrial R&D projects according to the following procedures:

Qualifications



BULGARIAN SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
PROMOTION AGENCY

- The partners should include at least one Romanian and one Bulgarian R&D performing SME. Participation of research institutes/universities/large companies is welcome as additional participants or subcontractors according to each country's funding regulations.
- Research institutes, universities and companies from other countries may also participate, but they will not be funded by the ANCS or by BSMEPA and they have to secure their own expenses.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure etc.).
- The project should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries and the project must be significant to both participants.

Any partner whose cooperative R&D project is consistent with the aforementioned criteria can apply to the Call in accordance with the national Laws, Rules, Regulations and Procedures in effect.

Submission and the approval procedures will be of two phases:

1) Application Forms for projects that qualify to the EUROSTARS programme have to be submitted via <http://www.EUROSTARS-EUREKA.eu> not later than **20th September 2012** which is the deadline of the EUROSTARS Cut-off 9.

The next Deadline for Project Proposals is **4th April 2013**.

2) In the second phase, partners with approved projects by the EUROSTARS High-Level Group will be invited to submit their funding applications according to national procedures.

Financing

Each country will fund its eligible participants within Eurostars framework, as appropriate. Funding conditions and eligibility criteria may vary from country to country. As summary, main aspects of funding criteria are explained below:

Bulgaria:



All companies which were established in accordance with Bulgarian Commercial law can apply for funding for their EUROSTARS international projects. Research organizations and universities are also eligible beneficiaries. The leading partner should be a R&D performing SME. The participants receive certain percentage of their eligible costs as a grant in this call. Projects' duration is up to 36 months, and the subsidy provided is within 1 000 000 BGN. The subsidy could come up to 80 % of all the eligible costs and it is provided through the National Innovation Fund Budget and according to its rules. More details can be found on the following sites: <http://sme.government.bg/> and <http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/> For further information about financing of Bulgarian participants please directly contact with BSMEPA.

Romania:

The applicant contractor must be a Company, according to legal provisions. Universities, Research Organizations, any other SME and/ or Large Company could be partners in the Romanian consortium. Funding of the consortium members is made through the contractor company. No advance payment available. The limit funding of a project is 50% from its eligible costs. More details can be found on the following sites: <http://www.uefiscdi.ro/> and <http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/> For further information about financing of Romanian participants please directly contact with Romanian EUREKA and Eurostars Office.

Contacts for details and partner search requests

Romania (ANCS):

Contact details:

Prof. Vasile LUNGU

Counselor, National
EUREKA/Eurostars Programs, ANCS
tel./fax +4 021 318 3065
Mobile: +4 0727 022902
e-mail: vasile.lungu@ancs.ro

Bulgaria (BSMEPA):

Contact details:

**Mrs. Bogdana VATASHKA-
ANAVI - NPC**

Mrs. Svetlana EVGENIEVA- NPC
tel. +35929407944; +35929407952
e-mail:
b.vatashka@sme.government.bg
s.evgenieva@sme.government.bg

Romania (UEFISCDI):

Contact details:

Dr. Ovidiu ALUPEI

Scientific Manager 5th Module
International Cooperation,
UEFISCDI
tel. +4 021 302 3859
fax : +4 021 302 3869
Mobile: +4 0753 102025
e-mail: ovidiu.alupei@uefiscdi.ro