

1. Introduction

The EUREKA Cluster **Eurogia**, together with EUREKA Public Authorities of *the participating countries (see table section 4)*, have perceived a common cross-domain interest and are now launching a Call for innovative projects which support the **Technology-driven green transition** within *Energy preservation, Sustainable manufacturing, Bioresources and Biodiversity*.

Proposal Submission Date:
15th June 2021

The aim of this Call is to boost the productivity and competitiveness of European industries through the development of solutions and technologies to support the green transition. The available budget for this Call will be around 10 – 15 Mio €, supported by at least 11 countries, knowing that Denmark and South Korea have initiated the idea of this thematic call.

Initiated by European industry, the EUREKA Clusters are long-term and strategic initiatives that help develop technologies and meet challenges of key importance for European competitiveness using a “bottom-up” industry-driven approach. The Clusters facilitate industrial development for both large companies and SMEs working with Research and Technology Organisations (RTO’s) and Universities, through collaborative projects creating innovative ecosystems that can deliver high economic and societal impact in multiple sectors of the economy.

Although bilateral projects also can be funded, it is a common feature of EUREKA Cluster projects that they include several partners from several countries.

The Eureka Cluster **Eurogia** and its full information can be found via its website:

Eurogia Thematic Green transition Call Portal:

www.eureka-eurogia-green.eu

- Eurogia cluster: <http://www.eurogia.com/>

2. Rationale for the call

Green transition is the mandatory path to achieve the goals for a sustainable environment, sustainable growth and the limitation of climate change.

Some of the targeted challenges to achieve these goals are necessary, but not limited to:

- Carbon-free energy supply,
- Green mobility and Smart cities,
- Smarter housings and constructions,
- Bio resources and environment.

The technologies necessary to tackle these challenges are rapidly developing within a giant market and an ever-growing societal concern. In-depth knowledge and leadership in developing and applying them is an essential requirement, if industry is to maintain its leadership in multiple application areas, or take advantage of new opportunities.

This **Eurogia Thematic Green Transition Call** is specifically designed to stimulate activity in this important area, through the creation of trans-national collaborative projects in applications that will support economic growth and benefit society as a whole.

Participants are invited to submit applied research and innovation project proposals in the field of Green transition solutions and technologies, indicating, where possible, how they are related to the technological focus area of the participating Clusters most relevant to their proposal.

Table 1 shows a non-exclusive list of possible application areas for this Call, but other relevant topics are also welcome.

Table1: Possible Application areas for the **EUREKA Eurogia Green Transition Call**

- Renewable energies resources and their integration in the grid, demand-side management,
- H₂ technologies: production, transportation, storage, distribution,
- CO₂ Capture, Sequestration and Utilization,
- Green and Zero-emission Buildings and constructions, Smart cities, heating
- Smart Grids, Micro-Grids,
- E-mobility, electric vehicles and charging, infrastructure, Fuel cell technologies, connected cars,
- Eco-design,
- Recycling of composites and new materials
- Monitoring of the environment and bio resources,
- and many more.

Among the relevant enabling technologies, digitalization, IOT, AI, blockchains, cyber-security, communication, 5G/6G, drones, sensors, new materials, asset management, recycling, etc. are also expected to play an important role.

3. Characteristics of a successful proposals and evaluation criteria

Proposals should primarily target taking the **suggested technology or solution** beyond the State-of-the-Art in whichever targeted application domains are addressed.

The call is looking for projects that will form innovative ecosystems, that will enable advances in the State-of-the-Art and result in commercial opportunities, economic and societal impact in the application areas addressed. The intent is to bring together partners from across the broad Community of all types (Large Enterprises, SMEs, Research & Technology Organisations and Universities) into collaborative teams that will be able to demonstrate a high impact in the chosen application area(s) at the end of the project.

The applications will be evaluated on excellence, impact and organisation and suggested execution. Impact will be assessed both in terms of economic impact in all participating countries and partners, as well as its impact on the green transition of society.

Expected size projects with eligible costs in the range of 2 to 10 M€ are expected, though projects outside this range may also be submitted for evaluation. As always, it is essential that project partners hold in depth meetings with the representatives of the Public Authorities in the countries from which they wish to gain support, to understand detailed eligibility requirements.

4. Looking for partners?

If you are already having a project idea, and are looking for partners, or you are interested in participating in a project proposal, given your expertise in the field, but haven't yet formed a project idea or proposal, then please visit the EUREKA Clusters *Technology-driven green transition* Call "Brokerage Tool" webpage:

<https://eureka-eurogia-green.eu/brokerage-tool/>

5. Participating Countries

Within the EUREKA framework, this EUREKA Cluster *Technology-driven green transition* Call has already received about 10-15 M€ of funding commitments and expressions of support from the countries listed here:

Austria	Spain
Belgium, Flanders	South Korea
Denmark	South Africa
Hungary	Singapore
Luxemburg	Turkey
Portugal tbc	

All EUREKA countries are invited to support this Call and/or individual proposals. However, project partners from other EUREKA countries, or countries outside of EUREKA, must secure their national funding within the deadlines for the Call to participate.

In all cases, it is strongly recommended that potential project partners contact their supporting Public Authority as early as possible to check their eligibility for support under this Call. National eligibility criteria and funding rules for this *Technology-driven green transition* Call can be found on the Call website:

<https://eureka-eurogia-green.eu/funding>

6. Eureka eligibility criteria for Proposals

Proposals must meet the following criteria:

- The consortium should include at least two companies from different EUREKA participating countries
- The consortia should include at least one company from each of the participating countries in a proposal. The participation of research institutes/universities is welcome according to each country's funding regulations.

- The project partners must express their willingness to cooperate, on a win-win/fair basis in the development of a new product, industrial process Industry standard or service.
- An industry member of the consortium must lead the project
- The product, process or service must be innovative and there must be a technological risk involved.
- The project should benefit all involved partners in a well-balanced consortium (No single organisation or country can be responsible for more than 70% of the project budget)
- SME's are explicitly encouraged to participate in the proposals.
- The project should generate an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the technologic cooperation between the participants (new technologies, standardisation, prototyping, field trials, new or improved products, increased knowledge, access to R&D infrastructure etc.).
- Economic and Societal benefits to be obtained (where relevant) must be highlighted in the project proposal.
- A project consortium or cooperation agreement (PCA) must be signed between the project partners as soon as possible after the project starts. PCA templates are available for use if required.

Any organisation whose collaborative industrial research and innovation project is consistent with the above criteria can apply to the Call and funding could be provided by each funding agency afterwards in accordance with their national participation procedures, and subject to budgetary availability.

Each country may apply additional eligibility criteria based on their national regulations. As mentioned in section 5 applicants are strongly advised to contact their funding body, prior to submitting their application, to discuss their project idea and check the national eligibility criteria which would apply to their participation in the project.

Partners from other EUREKA countries or countries outside of EUREKA can also participate, but funding must be secured within these countries.

7. How to submit your proposal

The Eurogia *Technology-driven green transition* Call is using a *one-step central* submission process where a *Full Project proposal* should be submitted by **15.06.2021, 17.00 h CET**. Proposals must be submitted via the portal on www.eureka-eurogia-green.eu.

A pre-check of the proposals by industrial experts is offered, on a voluntary basis, for the draft proposals submitted before

01.04.2021, 17.00 h CET.

The objective for the proposer will be to get a feedback and recommendations from the Cluster experts.

Feedback by NFB's will be given any time.

National applications will be required. Please check the national rules for those deadlines.

Submitting a proposal is a simple procedure of registering on the portal where the key characteristics of the proposal must be submitted through online forms and the document version of the detailed work descriptions, as requested in the proposal template, can be uploaded.

Each project participant should also contact their national funding agency (as early in the process as possible *prior to the submission deadline for the call*) and follow their advice regarding national funding applications in parallel to the proposal submission.

8. Evaluations of Proposals

The proposals will be evaluated by the well-established Clusters evaluation process. The proposals will be evaluated by the Experts from Eurogia *as well as the national funding agencies of the countries participating in the proposal*.

The *Cluster* experts are highly experienced individuals in most cases with industry background, selected by the participating Clusters, who have the necessary skills to evaluate the technological potential and business opportunities of the *Technology-driven green transition* call proposals. All Experts are subject to strict non-disclosure agreements. The National funding agencies will perform their own evaluations based on their national requirements in parallel.

Proposals reaching the necessary quality standards will receive the Eureka Cluster label and be recommended for funding.

Projects are expected to kick off in the period from **01.11.2021 to 01.02.2022**.

NB: Applications will be assessed individually by the Eurogia experts and by each of the national funding agencies in the application. Non-funded partners can still participate in a project on self-funded basis. If rejected by one national

funding agency the partners in that country will not receive national funding and the project might be rejected by the other participating countries as well.

9. National eligibility and funding criteria

The Eurogia *Technology-driven green transition* Call is explicitly supported by the 11 EUREKA countries, as listed in Section 4. In addition, participants from other EUREKA and non-EUREKA countries can participate in applications but will have to take care about the financing of the project themselves. In all cases, it is the responsibility of the submitting project team to contact the Public Authority representatives of the countries that they wish to involve, to ensure that the option of funding is available. Contact details of the supporting countries and other EUREKA contacts can be found on the EUREKA website and on the Eureka *Eurogia Thematic Green Transition* Call website.

EUREKA Funding is based on National funding policies and arrangements and, as such, is subject to National terms and conditions. On request, it is required that each project participant will submit a national funding application in line with National funding processes.

10. Help and Support

EUREKA *Eurogia Thematic Green Transition* Call home page: www.eureka-eurogia-green.eu

List of cluster contacts

Green Transition Call Contacts: www.eureka-eurogia-green.eu/contacts

EUROGIA Contact: www.eurogia.com/contact-us.html

This EUREKA Clusters Green Transition Call will open soon

Proposal Submission Deadline: 15.06.2021, 17.00 h