

CELTIC Proposers Day

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Funding updates in PORTUGAL

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Sub-title text or presenter name

www.celticnext.eu



Funding and eligibility conditions for Portuguese entities

CELTIC-NEXT projects

Eureka funding process in Portugal...

Phase 1

International Application

1. Submit the international application to the Eureka Clusters platform (<https://eurekanetwork.org/login/>)
2. Legal and financial eligibility check of Portuguese entities.
3. Evaluation process (app. 3 months)
4. Decision and awarding of the Eureka label



Phase 2

NATIONAL APPLICATION

(after being awarded with the Eureka label):

5. Application to national funding under:
“Aviso para Operações de I&D Industrial à Escala Europeia”, (Balcão dos Fundos / Portugal 2030).
6. Application analysis (app. 60 workdays)
7. Notification of the grant decision
8. Funding contract signature



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1

Type of call: Aviso MPr-2026-04 - SIID – Internacionalização de I&D - “Operações de I&D Industrial à Escala Europeia” – PT2030 >> **Overall budget: €10M**

2

Projects covered:

- **EUREKA projects**, including “classic” Eureka **Network Projects**, Eureka **Clusters**, **Globalstars** and **Multilateral** calls);
- **EUROSTARS-3**

3

Type of Funding: grant

4

Eligible entities: SMEs and/or Small Mid-cap companies (mandatory) + universities, research centres and other non-entrepreneurial entities (ENESII) from all geographic regions from Continental Portugal (Norte, Centro, Lisboa, Alentejo and Algarve) are eligible for funding. ENESII from the Autonomous Regions of The Azores and Madeira, are also eligible for funding.

- Funded projects must include **industrial research and/or experimental development activities**, leading to the creation of new products, processes or systems or to the introduction of significant improvements in existing products, processes or systems.

Specific eligibility criteria (main highlights)

a

Obtaining the Eureka Label.

Present evidence of the approval of the project within the Eureka Programmes (Eureka label / Eureka Cluster label / notification of approval in case of Eurostars projects).



Documents required for the national application (main ones)

- Original **international application**
- Final **international evaluation report**
- **Eureka label award** notification
- Draft of the **International Consortium Agreement**
- **Technical Annex** (using the template made available at “Balcão dos Fundos”)

b

Must have a Portuguese SME or Small-Mid Cap company

When there is co-promotion between a PT company + PT R&D centres, the company(ies) of the national consortium must ensure the most relevant part of the eligible investment.

Large Portuguese companies: Not eligible

c

Balanced economic and financial situation

Mandatory financial autonomy ratios for companies*:

- **SMEs and Small Mid-cap: 15%**
- **Companies active for less than one year:**

Should demonstrate the capacity to finance the project with own capital, equal to or greater than 20% of their own eligible costs

* **Financial autonomy ratio** = Equity / Net Assets

d

Fit into National and/or Regional RIS3

Your project must **fit into the priority areas** of the research and innovation **strategy for smart specialization** (National and/or Regional **RIS3**).

Eligible costs (main)



Personnel costs, (technical staff directly allocated to R&D activities, including scholarships and the hiring of new staff)

Raw Materials, Consumables and Components

Subcontracting (up to 30% of the total eligible investment of the national component of the project)

Instruments, technical-scientific equipment and specific software

Dissemination activities of project results

Travel and accommodation abroad

+ Overheads 7% fixed rate applied to all direct eligible costs (incl. subcontracting costs)

- Possibility of including the eligible investment in R&D share, that is not co-funded by European or national SIFIDEs in **SIFIDE (Sistema de Incentivos Fiscais à I&D empresarial / System of Tax Incentives for Business R&D)**.

Funding rates

Type of organization	Basic Rate Industrial Research activities ¹	Basic Rate Experimental Development activities ²	Bonus “type of company”	Bonus “cooperation” or “dissemination” ³	On Average
Micro or Small Company	50%	25%	+ 20 p.p.	+ 15 p.p.	65% to 80%
Medium Company	50%	25%	+ 10 p.p.	+ 15 p.p.	60% to 70%
Small Mid-cap companies	50%	25%	N.A.	+ 15 p.p.	50% to 55%
Research Organization or University ⁴	85%				85%

Important: For investments located in **NUTS II Lisboa**, the maximum co-funding rate is **40% of eligible costs**.

¹ “Industrial Research” activities comprise TRL 2 to 4

² “Experimental Development” activities comprise TRL 5 to 8

³ “Cooperation” between autonomous companies or between companies and other not for profit organizations; wide technical and scientific “dissemination” of project results

⁴ provided the companies are not receiving indirect State Aid

Relevant legislation:

Aviso MPr-2026-04
SIID – Internacionalização de I&D
Operações de I&D Industrial à
Escala Europeia



Regulamento Específico da área
Temática de Inovação e Transição
Digital do Portugal 2030 (REITD)

REITD_Portaria 429_2025

(mainly artºs 44º - 51º + Annex III)

Important Note!

The R&D activities foreseen must be finalised and paid by the Portuguese national funding authorities by the **31st December 2030**.

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