CELTIC-NEXT Autumn Call 2024 for ICT projects

FROM 1 July 2024 TO 21 October 2024.

Eureka is the world's biggest public network for international cooperation in R&D and innovation, present in over 45 countries. It is a decentralised intergovernmental organisation aiming to boost the productivity and competitiveness of industries by funding and supporting international collaborative market-driven R&D projects.

This call for projects has been launched following Eureka's Clusters framework based on mutual consent between participating national and regional funding bodies and Cluster organisations.

CELTIC-NEXT has opened a call for organisations collaborating internationally on the R&D of ICT projects. By applying and participating, your organisation can access national public funding for your R&D project.

The goal of this call for projects is to enable projects in the field of next-generation communications ICT for the digital society that contribute to a sustainable world.

You can submit your R&D project application between 1 July 2024 and 21 October 2024 by visiting CELTIC-NEXT website.

Eureka programme: CELTIC-NEXT Cluster

Participating countries/ regions

CELTIC-NEXT counts 42 countries all listed on its dedicated webpage: https://www.celticnext.eu/national-public-contacts-funding-schemes/

Supporting countries may evolve for each Call so please contact each Public Authority directly.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

For a CELTIC project, generally, the same funding conditions and funding rules apply as for a stand-alone Eureka project. As CELTIC is an endorsed Eureka cluster access to public funding is generally easier and faster for an independent proposal as the Public Authorities support the collaborative work programme of CELTIC and are more closely involved in providing the funding for proposals that have been CELTIC-labelled.

Differently to the funding rules of an EU project (e.g. HorizonEurope program), there are *no common funds available that are shared among the successful proposals*.

Since each country decides on own criteria on possible funding it can happen that a project may not be able to start if one partner will not be funded. In those cases, provided such a partner will not consider self-funding, a project may either be restructured (e.g. by including another partner) or may be stopped.

Participation

Participation is open to companies of all sizes, universities and research organisations.

By participating in a Cluster project, you benefit from:

- Perform collaborative join RD&I consortia and projects within Europe and beyond
- Get public funding support, professional coaching and mentoring
- Reach a high chance of getting your project approved and funded
- Interconnect with SMEs and large industries in more than 45 countries
- Have low administrative overhead and a flexible framework
- Get high exploitation potential and business impact
- Immerse yourself into a rich ecosystem by growing and collaborating beyond borders
- Run your collaborative project via our [Brokerage Tool](#)
- Foster and generate collaborative innovation by leading or being part of an industry-led project
- Stimulate disruptive and sustainable ideas
- Boost your competitiveness and accelerate your growth
- Access new markets in a shortened time

CELTIC-NEXT

CELTIC-NEXT is the Eureka Cluster labelled for next-generation communications for a secured, trusted, and sustainable digital society. CELTIC-NEXT stimulates and orchestrates international collaborative projects in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) domain.

CELTIC-NEXT is an industry-driven initiative involving all the major ICT industry players and many SMEs, service providers, and research institutions. The CELTIC-NEXT activities are open to all organisations that share the CELTIC-NEXT vision of an inclusive digital society and are willing to collaborate to their benefit, aligned with their national priorities, to advance the development and uptake of advanced ICT solutions.

For more details, visit the CELTIC-NEXT website or contact the Cluster offices and your national funding body.

Scope

CELTIC-NEXT gives project proposers almost limitless freedom regarding what research topic they can explore in their ICT research projects. The programme's philosophy is to facilitate projects in a bottom-up way, thus offering projects the chance of both evolutionary and disruptive innovation in all relevant ICT areas without limiting their creativity and ambition.

Relevant industry sectors example (**but are not limited to**):

- Network capacity
- Photonics
- Satellite
- Mobility
- ICT
- Security

- Robustness
- Energy efficiency
- 6G
- 5G and beyond
- Smart Cities
- Smart Homes
- Industry 4.0
- Logistics
- Automotive Telecom
- Blockchain
- Fintech
- E-Health
- Big Data
- Internet of Things
- Privacy, identity and Public Safety
- More ...

Timeframe

1 July 2024 – Call Opening

23 July 2023 – Launch Event (online)

18 September 2024 – Proposers Brokerage Day (in-person)

19-26 September 2024 – Consortium Building Sessions (online)

21 October 2024 – Deadline for Proposals

5 December 2024 – Label Notifications

Eligibility

Eureka has limited eligibility criteria for organisations participating in a Clusters consortium:

- Your project idea must represent international cooperation in the form of a specific project.
- The project must be directed at researching or developing an innovative product, process or service with the goal of commercialisation.
- The project must have a civilian purpose.
- Your consortium must include at least two independent legal entities from a minimum of two Eureka countries.
- No single organisation or country can be responsible for more than 70% of the project budget.

If there is no allocated budget for your organisation type in your country and you want to participate in a project consortium, contact your national funding body using the form below to see whether there are other funding opportunities available or talk to them about self-funding.

Applying

1. Contact your national funding body and CELTIC-NEXT offices to discuss your project idea and eligibility.
2. Create an account on Clusters Projects Tool: https://cluster-projects.eurestools.eu/
3. Submit your CELTIC Project Proposal template (CPP) before the deadline, with the Confirmation Letter/Declaration of Acceptance (CLD) for each consortium partner within two weeks after your proposal submission.
4. If you project is selected, you will receive a positive Label Notification, a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) should be elaborated and signed between the consortium partners.

During the submission process, you will be guided step by step as all documents are provided in the tool and on our Guides, Contracts & Templates page: https://www.celticnext.eu/guides-contracts-templates/

In case you have any questions regarding the CELTIC Project Portal, don't hesitate to contact us via office@celticnext.eu.

Please note that your national funding body may have additional steps for applying for R&D funding.

Events and partner search

Proposers' Brokerage Day:

CELTIC-NEXT is pleased to announce that we will organise an in-person Proposers' Brokerage Day on **Wednesday 18th September 2024 from 9 am to 4 pm UK Time/GMT+1 for the Autumn Call 2024!**

You will learn about the programme's success and meet the CELTIC Community. This is a perfect opportunity to learn about the ambitious goals of CELTIC, listen to inspiring keynotes, learn about the success of CELTIC projects in the business impact session, get the latest information about funding in your country and learn about new project ideas in the pitching session.

Be an active part of the day and present your new project idea in the afternoon pitching session. Please send us your pitch presentation using this template by email as soon as possible but at the latest by the 6th of September 2024 to event@celticnext.eu. Please be aware that the presentations are limited to 6 minutes.

More detailed information is available here: https://www.celticnext.eu/event/proposers-day-autumn-call-2024/

Brokerage Tool:

In addition, to support you in preparing your project proposal for CELTIC-NEXT Calls, we have created an online Brokerage Tool: https://www.celticnext.eu/brokerage-tool/

Its goal is to help you build your Consortium for your CELTIC Project. The Following functionalities are available:

- Submission form for Project Ideas and Expertise Offers
- Overview lists with search form
- Contact request forms
- Process owner support functions: approval process and contact request tracking

After submission, the CELTIC Office will check and publish your Project Idea or your Expertise.

Contacts

For more information and support please do not hesitate to contact our CELTIC Office team office@celticnext.eu.

For contact information and funding details about national public funding of CELTIC projects, please check our dedicated page: https://www.celticnext.eu/national-public-contacts-funding-schemes/