



## Call for projects on applied quantum technologies

#### FROM 6 MAY 2025 TO 5 SEPTEMBER 2025

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 **Network Projects** framework based on mutual consent between participating national and regional funding bodies.

The national funding bodies from **Austria, Belgium (Flanders and Wallonia), Denmark, Finland, France, Portugal, Spain, South Africa, Türkiye, and Ukraine** have allocated funding for organisations collaborating on international R&D projects in the field(s) of **applied quantum technologies**.

You can submit your R&D project application for this call for projects between **6 May 2025** and **5 September 2025**. Please see the 'Scope' section below for more information on the submission deadline. Your project consortium must include organisations based in a minimum of two of the countries/regions listed in this call.

The parties listed above must be unrelated parties (i.e. no direct, indirect, beneficial, or constructive ownership interest between these parties.) and ensure no conflicting interests are present. The team should be led by a commercial company (main applicant) in the respective countries and may include other parties such as research institutes or universities.

Eureka programme: Network Projects

## Participating countries/ regions

AUSTRIA, BELGIUM (FLANDERS), BELGIUM (WALLONIA), DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, SOUTH AFRICA, TÜRKIYE, UKRAINE

## Scope

Quantum technology includes many layers of technology from the individual modalities of quantum information processing, algorithms, and the use of quantum computers for a variety of applications.

The main objective of this call for projects is to support organisations as they develop quantum technologies that outperform or accelerate existing technologies and contribute to solving problems relevant to industry, science, and society.

This call for research and development (R&D) projects may include topics such as, but not limited to:

#### Quantum computing

In quantum computing, quantum information is processed digitally via logical gates similar to today's general-purpose classical computers. The challenge is to regroup many layers of technology, ranging from the individual modalities of quantum information processing to the algorithms and ultimate applications of these machines, for a variety of use cases.

The main objective is to develop quantum computing devices that outperform or accelerate existing classical computers to solve specific problems relevant to industry, science, and technologies, where the execution of quantum algorithms could be beneficial.

#### Quantum simulation and stack levels

There is a need for quantum simulation for special-purpose machines, designed and optimised for applications. These quantum simulators are highly controllable devices that allow us to obtain insights into the properties of complex quantum systems or solve specific computational problems inaccessible to classical computers.

Projects are expected to find applications in areas as diverse as quantum chemistry, nuclear physics, material sciences, fluid machines logistics, routing and more general optimisation. Near term programmable devices and quantum simulators promise to increase the speed of machine learning, including quantum kernels and quantum classification schemes.

#### Quantum communications and cyber security

The objective is to advance quantum communications and cyber security in three essential directions:

- 1. **Performance:** Increasing bit rates, fidelities, link distances, deployment capabilities and robustness of all types of quantum communications.
- 2. **Integration:** Combining quantum communications with conventional network infrastructures and applications, security services, photonics and electronics platforms and ensuring compatibility with quantum computers, and sensors.
- 3. **Industrialisation:** Realising technology that is sustainable, low-cost to manufacture, offers applications with a clear cost/benefit advantage in several sectors and generates wealth and jobs.

#### Quantum sensing and metrology

Quantum sensors should provide the most precise, accurate and sensitive measurements in many fields, boosting the performance of consumer devices and services, such as medical diagnostics and imaging, high-precision navigation, earth observation and monitoring.

Quantum metrology (with validation, certification and traceability implemented by independent experts) is a prerequisite for successfully transforming quantum technologies into the market.

Your project should:

• Demonstrate the potential to research or develop a product, process, or service for commercialisation.

#### Recommended project size

Projects on quantum technologies may have low technology readiness levels and include both research partners and large industrial partners and SMEs to achieve both a high scientific level and market perspective. Therefore, you are encouraged to include research partners as well as industrial partners in your consortium and to develop a project along the value chain, possibly also including end-users. Consult the national funding details and eligibility criteria for specific information on partners.

Timeframe

6 May 2025: Call opens
27 May: Webinar for applicants
5 September: National submission deadline
March to May 2026: Projects can begin (expected)

#### **Events**

Webinar - 27 May 2025, 14:30 CET

During this webinar, more information will be provided on this call, its evaluation criteria and application process. A registration link will be provided soon.

Q-Expo, – May 14 and 15, Amsterdam, Netherlands by European Quantum Industry Consortium (QuIC)

This event is an opportunity for potential applicants to engage with the international quantum community. A session dedicated to the call is not planned during the event. More information is available on **the event website**.

## **Funding details**

Austria (FFG) funding

Type of funding: Grant

Call for projects budget: 1 million euro

The percentage of eligible project costs that can be funded depends on the type of organisation:

- up to 60% of the eligible costs for small companies
- up to 50% of the eligible costs for medium-sized companies
- up to 40% of the eligible costs for large companies
- Cooperation possibilities for universities and research organisations.

Belgium, Flanders (VLAIO) funding

Type of funding: Grant

Budget: 2 million euro

VLAIO accepts <u>development projects</u> (an innovative idea that can lead to successful business in the short term but still has some challenges to overcome in development) and <u>research projects</u> (an innovative idea that requires new knowledge and research and, in some cases, new development activities).

Only companies based in Flanders can apply for funding via subsidies. Flemish or foreign academic partners or research institutes can be funded by VLAIO if their expertise is crucial for their Flemish partner (a company) and if they are subcontracted by this company.

#### Eligible costs and funding rates:

Staff and other costs related to the development project can be funded with a 25% to 60% subsidy of the project budget. The minimum budget is equivalent to 25,000 euro and the maximum budget is 3,000,000 euro.

Staff and other costs related to the research project can be funded with a 25% to 70% subsidy of the project budget, The minimum budget is equivalent to 100,000 euro and the maximum budget is 3,000,000 euro.

More information is available on the website of VLAIO.

Belgium, Wallonia (SPW Recherche) funding

Type of funding: Grant

#### Call for projects budget: Open budget

Funding is granted in the form of a grant with a funding rate ranging from 40 to 80% of the budget of each Walloon company. The type of funding and percentage depend on size of the company, the consortium composition at regional and international level and whether the project activities fall into the category of industrial research or experimental development. Subcontracting is allowed up to 20% of the research budget, for each Walloon partner.

More information is available on the website of SPW Recherche.

Denmark (IFD) funding

Type of funding: Grant

Call for projects budget: 2 million euro (initial commitment)

All Danish organisations directly involved in activities in the projects are eligible as applicants to IFD. IFD only funds projects with at least one Danish enterprise.

IFD can fund up to 650,000 euro (4.875 million Danish krone) per project, including overhead costs (if overhead applies) of all Danish partners in a project, limited to a maximum of 500,000 euro (3.75 million Danish krone) per Danish partner. The minimum funding amount is 50,000 euro per partner.

The maximum investment rate varies between 25% and 90%. Please consult the guidelines for international collaborations (link below).

Be aware that appointed RTO's (GTS Institutes) can participate with either economic activities or non-economic activities (not both). If acting in the role of an enterprise partner, hence having actions relating to economic activities, they must apply for funding under enterprise rules and cannot use their GTS cost factor.

More information is available on the website of IFD.

Finland (Business Finland) funding

#### Type of funding: Grant

#### Call for projects budget: Open budget

There is no maximum budget limit for the project proposals, but each cost item of the project plan must be justified, and the proposers need to have the financial capacity to execute the project.

Different funding rules and rates apply for small and medium-sized enterprises, midcap companies (large companies with turnover of less than 300 million euro), large companies, and research organisations.

In this call for projects, Business Finland may fund individual Finnish companies, as well as groups of Finnish companies, participating in an international project. Research organisations may also be funded, provided that Finnish for-profit companies participate in the same project consortium. Funding for groups of Finnish companies and for joint participation of Finnish companies and Finnish research organisations in international consortia is applied as <u>co-innovation funding</u>. Individual companies apply for R&D funding.

More information for **small and midcap companies is available on the website of Business Finland**. More information for **large companies is available on the website of Business Finland**.

France (Bpifrance) funding

Type of funding: Grant and loan

#### Call for projects budget: Open budget

Funding is available in the form of loan or reimbursable advance from 50,000 euro and up to 3 million euro. The percentage of eligible project costs that can be funded depends on the type of organisation:

- up to 80% of eligible costs for SMEs
- up to 40% for companies with up to 2,000 full-time employees

There is no direct funding for universities or research institutions (either self-funded or as subcontractors). Large companies with more than 2,000 full-time equivalent employees are not eligible for public funding.

To check their eligibility, French participants must contact their Bpifrance *chargé d'affaires innovation*, at **mailto:international.innoproject@bpifrance.fr**, before applying.

Then the national funding application must be submitted using the Bpifrance En Ligne platform. The Bpifrance en Ligne account will be opened with the help of the *chargé d'affaires innovation*.

#### Portugal (ANI) funding

The Agência Nacional de Inovação (ANI), funds research and development costs for SMEs and small mid-cap companies, research and development centres, and academia.

Large companies are not eligible for funding.

To be eligible for funding, your project must:

- Fall within national and/or regional Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation priority areas.
- Involve at least one Portuguese SME or small mid-cap company.
- When in a consortium with other Portuguese research organisations or universities, Portuguese companies should undertake the biggest share of the investment.
- Portuguese companies need to comply with the following financial autonomy ratios:
  - If SME or small mid-cap company: 15%
  - Companies that have been active for less than one year at the date of the application must demonstrate the capacity to finance the project with equity, equal to or greater than 20% of eligible costs.

ANI covers up to a maximum of 80% of project costs for SMEs and small mid-cap companies. Research and development institutions will be funded at 85% of eligible costs.

For investments located at NUT II Lisboa, the maximum co-funding rate is 40% of eligible costs (both for companies and R&D institutions).

The exact funding percentage depends on the company dimension, consortium collaboration, dissemination of project results and whether your project activities fall into the category of industrial research or experimental development.

More information is available on the website of ANI.

Spain (CDTI) funding

Type of funding: partially non-reimbursable loans

#### Call for projects budget: Open budget

CDTI will fund Spanish companies' eligible industrial research and/or technological development activities (technology readiness levels 4-6/7).

Spanish partners can receive a soft loan of up to 85% of eligible costs (Euribor 1 year interest fee). Your project must have a minimum budget of 175,000 euro (there is no maximum budget).

There is a long recovery period (of 10 or 15 years) where 22.5% of the eligible costs do not have to be reimbursed.

Universities and research centres can take part as subcontractors. More information is available on **the website of CDTI**.

Project activities must not start before funding applications have been submitted to CDTI. For more information, please contact CDTI.

For entities located in some specific regions there could be an alternative funding scheme called "Innoglobal" (grant scheme). For more information, please contact CDTI.

South Africa (Department of Science Technology and Innovation) funding

The budget will support the participation SMEs, research and development institutions, and universities excluding any subcontracting. Funding that is provided will be up to 50% of the total project cost.

Funding is offered to complement Eureka's funding programmes, such as its mobility support for South African participants to attend events and finalise joint proposals with partners, information sessions for applicants and global conferences, workshops, and networking events. The applicant will need to have a consultation with DSTI where they must present their full project proposal prior to submitting it to the Eureka office. For the consultation with the DSTI the following must be indicate in proposal:

- project activities, clearly stating the research, development, and innovation output
- an explanation of each consortium partner's role and budget input (and the cost of each item)
- proposal alignment to national science, technology, and innovation priorities

# The project outline must be submitted to the DSTI before submitting to Eureka to the following contacts at <u>Mabatho.Ndwandwa@dsti.gov.za</u> and <u>Elelwani.Ramabulan@dsti.gov.za</u>

Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) funding

#### Type of funding: Grant

#### Call for projects budget: 3 million euro

For projects applying to the relevant call, the project budget for Turkish project partners cannot exceed 600,000 euro. Budgets for institutions other than joint-stock companies cannot exceed 50% of the total project budget and cannot exceed 300,000 euro in total project budget.

Within the scope of the call, the support rate for large-scale enterprises is 60%, while for SMEs, it is 75%. Public administrations within the general budget framework, as well as publicly funded agencies such as foundation universities, education and research hospitals, and public research centres and institutes, are eligible for 100% support.

For further information about financing of Turkish participants please contact TÜBİTAK directly.

More information is available on the website of TÜBİTAK.

Ukraine (Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine) funding

Type of funding: Grant

Call for projects budget: Open budget

Ukrainian research institutions and higher education institutions are eligible to receive grants of up to 199,000 Ukrainian hryvnia (according to the exchange rate applicable at that time, now approximately 4,400 euro) per year for a project duration of up to 3 years. It is recommended to include a Ukrainian SME as part of the consortium.

Ukraine can provide funding for up to 2 or 3 project participants under this call, with the possibility of supporting more if additional budgetary resources are available. Funding may be allocated for research equipment, salaries, business trips, and service fees (excluding utility costs).

For full details on national funding rules and eligibility criteria, please contact the Ukrainian NPC, Olena Makarenko, at **mailto:olena.makarenko@mon.gov.ua**.

Each ministry or funding agency will fund organisations according to local laws, rules, procedures, and available budget.

If your ministry or funding agency does not have funding for organisations like yours, you can still join a project. Contact your ministry or funding agency for information about other funding options or self-funding.

## Eligibility

Eureka has limited eligibility criteria for organisations participating in a **Network Projects** 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.

This call for projects has additional criteria for organisations to be eligible to receive funding.

- The duration of the project may not exceed 36 months
- Projects are expected to start no later than May 2026

National funding bodies have additional criteria for organisations to be eligible to receive funding:

#### Austria (FFG) eligibility

All for-profit companies registered in Austria are eligible for funding (with cooperation possibilities for universities and research organisations).

Belgium, Flanders (VLAIO) eligibility

Only companies based in Flanders can apply for funding via subsidies. Flemish or foreign academic partners or research institutes can be funded by VLAIO if their expertise is crucial for their Flemish partner (a company) and if they are subcontracted by this company.

Belgium, Wallonia (SPW Recherche) eligibility

Only companies based in Wallonia can apply for funding. Walloon or foreign academic partners or research institutes can be funded by SPW-Recherche if their expertise is crucial for their Walloon partner (a company) and if they are subcontracted by this company, up to 20% of the budget of each Walloon partner.

The legal basis is the Walloon Decree of 3 July 2008 on the Support of Research, Development, and Innovation in Wallonia.

#### Denmark (IFD) eligibility

All Danish organisations directly involved in activities in the projects are eligible as applicants to IFD. IFD only funds projects with at least one Danish enterprise.

The maximum funding rates vary between 25 and 90% for each individual participant. Please see tables 1-4 in our Guidelines for international Collaborations <u>here</u>.

Be aware that appointed RTO's (GTS Institutes) can participate with either economic activities or non-economic activities (not both). If acting in the role of an enterprise partner, hence having actions relating to economic activities, they must apply for funding under enterprise rules and cannot use their GTS cost factor on salaries according to our Guidelines for international Collaborations.

Finland (Business Finland) eligibility

Please see information under funding.

France (Bpifrance) eligibility

Please see information under funding.

Portugal (ANI) eligibility

Please see information under funding.

South Africa (Department of Science Technology and Innovation) eligibility

Please see information under funding.

Spain (CDTI) eligibility

Only companies are eligible for funding in Spain. Other entities must be subcontracted or self-funded.

Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) eligibility

Within the scope of the call, higher education institutions, public research centres and institutes, education and research hospitals, and research infrastructures covered by Law No. 6550 cannot apply to the call independently. Applications from these institutions are accepted only in partnership with at least one joint-stock company. In projects submitted under this call, the lead organisation (applicant organisation) must be a joint-stock company.

Ukraine (Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine) eligibility

Ukrainian research institutions and higher education institutions are eligible to receive grants. It is recommended to include a Ukrainian SME as part of the consortium.

## **Evaluation**

Your project application will be reviewed according to our Network projects evaluation methodology.

#### 1. Impact

- Is the market properly addressed (i.e. size, access, and risks)?
- Is the value creation properly addressed (i.e. employment opportunities and environmental and societal benefits)?
- What are the competitive advantages of your project (i.e. strategic importance, enhanced capabilities, and visibility)?
- Are your commercialisation plans clear and realistic (i.e. return on investment, geographical and sectoral impact)?

### 2. Excellence

- What is the degree of innovation? (i.e. is the proposed product, process, or service state-of-the-art? Is there sufficient technological maturity and risk)?
- How is the new knowledge going to be used?
- Is your project scientifically and technically challenging for consortium partners?
- Is the technical achievability and risk properly addressed?

#### 3. Quality and efficiency of implementation

- What is the quality of your consortium (i.e. balance of the partnership and technological, managerial, and financial capabilities of each partner)?
- Is there added value through international cooperation?
- Is your project management and planning realistic and clearly defined (i.e. methodology, planning approach, milestones, and deliverables)?
- Is your cost structure reasonable (i.e. costs and financial commitment for each consortium partner)?

#### 4. Overall perception

Experts will list three positive and negative points to your application and finally state whether they recommend your project for public investment.

Your national funding body may carry out a further evaluation (performed by the national project coordinator and technical experts) according to national rules before allocating funds to successful applicants.

## Applying

- 1. Contact your national funding body using the contact form on Eureka's website to discuss your project idea, financial viability, eligibility, and national procedures.
- 2. Create an account on our **application portal** (one per consortium) and select the funding opportunity you want to apply to.
- **3.** Using the portal, complete one application form per consortium (in English) and invite other consortium partners to fill in a partner form.
- 4. Upload a GANTT chart (one per consortium), a signed and completed co-signature form (which you can download from the platform) and any additional required annexes.
- 5. Your application will be checked for completeness and eligibility before being reviewed using a standard evaluation procedure. If successful, your project will receive a Eureka label.
- 6. Your national funding body may carry out a further evaluation (performed by your national contact and technical experts) according to national rules before allocating funds to successful applicants.
- 7. The final step is to complete and sign a consortium agreement. We recommend that you seek legal advice when drafting your consortium agreement.

Additionally, each applicant must submit all required documents to their respective national funding authority and meet its due diligence process requirements.

Austria (FFG) has additional steps for applying:

In addition to the Eureka application, Austrian participants must submit a separate national application to FFG General Programmes (Basisprogramm) via <u>eCall on the FFG website</u>.

The national application must include the Eureka project proposal and a national project proposal. The evaluation of the national application is carried out by internal experts. Funding decisions for national applications submitted until 12 August 2025 will be published after the Advisory Board Meeting (Beiratssitzung) on 4 December 2025.

The project must fulfil the national criteria ("Basisprogramm-Leitfaden "). Detailed information on national rules and procedures can be found on <u>the FFG website</u>.

Contact person: Michael Walch, Eureka NPC, michael.walch@ffg.at

Belgium, Flanders (VLAIO) has additional steps for applying:

Flemish organisations must also submit an application to VLAIO, including a project plan and budget online.

- Access the application form for development projects (click on 'Aanvragen')
- Access the application form for research projects (click on 'Aanvragen')

Flemish organisations should contact VLAIO to check project ideas and eligibility and receive support from **a team of VLAIO advisors**.

The deadline for the VLAIO application is Friday, 5 September 2025 at 12:00 CET.

#### Contact person: Ms. Lieve Apers, lieve.apers@vlaio.be

Belgium, Wallonia (SPW Recherche) has additional steps for applying

Applicants in Wallonia (Belgium) must submit their regional funding application (in French) to SPW Research <u>via the ONTIME portal</u> with the exact same deadline as the Eureka application (see section 'timeframe' above).

**Contact person:** Fabrice QUERTAIN, <u>fabrice.quertain@spw.wallonie.be</u></u>, *or* Julie JASMES, <u>julie.jasmes@spw.wallonie.be</u></u>, *or* Thomas GERARDS, <u>thomas.gerards@spw.wallonie.be</u>.

Denmark (IFD) has additional steps for applying

Each Danish participant will receive a request to access the national e-grant system and upload their Eureka application. The invitation is usually sent, at the latest, two to four weeks after the call for projects deadline. Please contact IFD if you have not received the e-grant invitation.

Non-public organisations will be requested to upload a 'No undertaking in difficulty declaration' and a 'Financial and legal declaration.' In addition, SME's will be required to upload an 'SME declaration.' If requesting de minimis funding, then a 'de minimis aid compliance form' is required. All templates **are available on IFD's website**.

Contact person: Daniel G. Marques, daniel.g.marques@innofond.dk

General mailbox: <a href="mailto:internationale@innofond.dk">internationale@innofond.dk</a>

Finland (Business Finland) has additional steps for applying

Finnish applicants need to file their national funding applications using the Business Finland Online Service. These applications need to be followed by a joint project plan for the whole international consortium.

Finnish applicants will be advised in detail on the timeline and deadlines for their national funding application. To enable a smooth processing of the applications, Finnish applicants need to contact Business Finland as early as possible. The names of the contact persons are below.

## Contact person: Outi Keski-Äijö, <u>mailto:outi.keski-aijo@businessfinland.fi</u>, *or* Aki Ylönen, <u>mailto:aki.ylonen@businessfinland</u>.

France (Bpifrance) has additional steps for applying

To check their eligibility, French participants must contact their Bpifrance *chargé d'affaires innovation*, copying **mailto:international.innoproject@bpifrance.fr**, prior to applying. Then, the national funding application must be submitted on Bpifrance En Ligne platform before 6 November 2025. The Bpifrance en Ligne account will be opened with the help of the *chargé d'affaires innovation*.

Portugal (ANI) has additional steps for applying

The application process for this call for proposals has two phases:

**Phase 1: International application:** project applications are submitted through the Eureka platform and evaluated by technical experts. If the evaluation assessment is positive in the countries involved in the consortium, your project will be awarded with the Eureka label.

Phase 2: National Funding: after your project is awarded with the Eureka label, Portuguese entities will be invited to submit an application to the national call for funding Eureka projects: <u>MPr 2024 12 -</u> <u>Aviso SIID – Internacionalização de I&D - Operações de I&D Industrial à Escala Europeia</u> (or its successor) where the grant for their part in the project will be calculated and awarded with no need for further technical evaluations.

We invite Portuguese partners to contact ANI's Eureka team before submitting the international application for more information on the call process, eligibility and funding conditions.

Contact the Portuguese Eureka Team <u>here</u>.

South Africa (Department of Science Technology and Innovation) has additional steps for applying

Please see information under funding.

Spain (CDTI) has additional steps for applying

Spanish participants must also submit a formal **<u>R&D</u>** international project aid application through CDTI's website (by the deadline of this call, including the Eureka application form (in English) and a draft consortium agreement (optional at this stage, but a signed consortium agreement must be signed and provided afterwards).

Additional documents in Spanish language, containing detailed information on the Spanish participants, could be requested depending on the specific type of funding requested by the company. If your application is not submitted by the call for projects deadline, the international project could be rejected.

CDTI will check the Spanish participants' eligibility after receiving the international application. In case of partially reimbursable loan scheme, if it is eligible, CDTI will send funding applications to each Spanish company. Those funding applications must be completed and submitted (a full memory in Spanish must be attached to the funding application). The deadline to reply is approximately one month after the call for projects deadline. If the funding applications are not submitted in time, the international project could be rejected.

In case of grant scheme (only for some regions) the funding application must be sent within the timeframe of the grant call.

Contact person: Sergio Lourenso, sergio.lourenso@cdti.es.

Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) has additional steps for applying

Participants must submit a formal national application (in Turkish) through <u>TÜBİTAK</u> <u>TEYDEB's website</u> including Eureka's application form (in English).

Contact person: Emine Elif OCAKCI, eureka@tubitak.gov.tr

Ukraine (Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine) has additional steps for applying

Alongside the Eureka project application, Ukrainian participants must submit a national project application. This national submission must include a Ukrainian-language version of the Eureka project proposal, along with a detailed project plan and budget.

For full details on national funding rules and eligibility criteria, please contact the Ukrainian NPC Olena Makarenko at <u>olena.makarenko@mon.gov.ua</u>.