

A flexible network for co-operation

EUREKA's flexible, bottom-up approach is a blueprint for collaborative, market-oriented innovation, which contributes to the creation of jobs, economic growth and prosperity. It is increasing the Initiative's influence in the European R&D community and has led during the past year to some very productive synergies with complementary bodies. All to the benefit of projects and their partners, who are free to use their own initiative in formulating, developing and financing R&D projects, in the knowledge that EUREKA is there to provide support, information and contacts when required.

EUREKA's flexible framework allows innovators to participate in three different categories of project, individual, cluster or umbrella projects, each having their own form of management and their own objectives.

Individual projects

Forming the core of the EUREKA portfolio, individual projects are originated by teams of two or more participating organisations who pool their resources and expertise to develop products, processes or services which represent a significant technological advance in their sector.

During the Hellenic Chairmanship 169 new projects were launched, amounting to €410 million in value. Of the approximately 570 organisations participating as partners, almost half are SMEs, around 120 are large companies and around 160 are universities and other research institutions. The technology sectors submitting the highest number of projects were IT (24.3%), Medical and Biotechnology (21.9%), New Materials (16.6%) and Environment (13.3%).

Cluster projects

EUREKA's cluster projects set a practical framework for co-operation, managed entirely by industry itself. They are longer-term, strategically significant projects, aimed at developing generic technologies of key importance for enhancing European competitiveness. Deliberately flexible so that they can respond to rapid advances in global technology and changes in market demands, they typically begin with a set of objectives, which are filled in over the ensuing years with scores of individually defined and funded sub-projects involving hundreds of different participants. The past year has been a productive one for EUREKA's clusters:

For example...

E! 2023 ITEA, one of Europe's principal collaborative R&D programmes focusing on software-intensive systems for the telecoms, automotive and consumer electronics sectors, is approaching the halfway stage of its eight-year duration. The ITEA Rainbow Book and the ITEA Technology Roadmap on Software Intensive Systems have been acclaimed for their strategic vision of the technological developments European manufacturers must bring about in the next few years to keep competitive. Projects are currently under consideration for the fifth call for projects - ITEA's first four calls attracted a total of 36 projects, with more than 245 partners from 18 countries taking part.

E! 2365 MEDEA+ continues to build on the impressive achievements of its predecessors, MEDEA and the pioneering JESSI which, since the latter's launch in 1989, have helped European manufacturers to significantly increase their market share of the global semiconductor market. With more than 35 projects already underway, MEDEA+ will help to strengthen key high-growth sectors. Extreme UV lithography is just one of the several challenging areas of new technology being explored, while new applications include high speed and mobile consumer electronics with multimedia and internet capabilities, automotive electronics focusing on communication and engine management and smart cards and associated safety and security solutions.

Ongoing cluster projects at 30 June 2002

	Potential budget m€	Number of ongoing projects	Value of ongoing projects m€
CAPE.21 computer Aided Process Engineering	0.5	-	-
EURIMUS microsystems	400	16	88
EUROFOREST (IMP) sustainable Forestry	100	11	4
FACTORY DNA sustainable Manufacturing	101	-	-
ITEA embedded Software Systems	3200	37	642
MEDEA+ microelectronics	4000	35	1829
PIDEA electronics Packaging and Interconnection	400	17	154
SCARE electronic Waste Recycling	101	8	22
TOTAL	8302	124	2739

Ongoing umbrella projects at 30 June 2002

	Number of ongoing projects	Value of ongoing projects m€
EUROMAR marine technology	3	7
EUROENVIRON environmental engineering	53	76
EUROAGRI food industry	40	97
CARE ELECTRONICS environmental performance of electronic products	3	7
FACTORY industrial production systems	62	305
MULTIMEDIA multimedia equipment	12	38
WOOD-INITIATIVE wood industry	3	5
LOGCHAIN sustainable freight mobility	11	23
EUROTOURISM tourist, leisure and culture industries	10	22
EULASNET Laser Technology Network	4	6
TOTAL	201	586

Umbrella projects

Umbrellas are thematic networks, which focus strategically on a specific area of technology or a challenge facing an industry. Co-ordinated by a working group of EUREKA representatives and industrial experts, their key objective is to facilitate the generation of individual EUREKA projects in their own target area.

During the Hellenic Chairmanship two new umbrella projects were launched. **E! 2713 EUROLEARN** will promote the development of the networks, solutions, tools and methodology needed for Europe to benefit from the significant market opportunities offered by the fast expanding e-learning industry. **E! 2694 EUROCARE2000** focuses on the protection of Europe's cultural heritage, a key theme of the Hellenic Chairmanship, through the development of products, techniques, services and Centres of Excellence to support conservation and restoration work, particularly of artefacts and buildings exposed to the damaging effects of natural environmental factors and pollution.

E! 2402 LOGCHAIN, which aims to draw freight away from the roads and onto Europe's railways and inland waterways, is collaborating with the EU on a €3.2 m project. **E! 2486 FOOTPRINT**, which seeks to establish the environmental footprint of freight vehicles to measure their impact on road and rail infrastructure. It's a good example of EUREKA working in synergy with complementary bodies such as the EU and will feed directly into EU policy-making. The EC will be funding a thematic network to disseminate the project's results, with EU directives eventually benefiting from the knowledge derived in the project.

EUREKA presents...

EUREKA's XXth Ministerial Conference was the showcase for some of the past year's most successful projects, including:

- **E! 2343 PICASSO** is an unrivalled film restoration solution, which is enabling the TV/DVD/internet market to satisfy the huge demand for additional programmes, the majority of which are being obtained from film archives. The fragility of film means that a high proportion of this material is too damaged for today's discerning audiences and standard restoration techniques are too expensive and time-consuming. PICASSO's ingenious hardware and software system has solved the problem by enabling a film colourist to colour correct and eliminate dirt and scratches in real time during the online transfer of a piece of film.
- **EAST-EEA**, a sub-project of the ITEA cluster (E! 2023), has been attracting considerable attention this year, first in Hanover at CeBIT, the world's biggest IT and telecommunications trade fair, and most recently at the Ministerial Conference. With 80% of a car's functions operated by software-driven 'smart' devices and more on the way, this timely project brings together 20 partners from the car manufacturing industry, suppliers and universities to develop integrated, electronically controlled functions in vehicles in common pursuit of a safer, accident-free future.