



## Canada-France 2022 Collaborative Industrial Research and Development Call for Proposals

FROM 8 JUNE 2022 TO 14 DECEMBER 2022

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 Canada and France have allocated funding for organisations collaborating on international R&D projects.

Although this call invites projects in all thematic areas or application domains, special attention will be given to the two following domains:

- Future of Healthcare using Artificial Intelligence (AI), including AI for augmented diagnosis, AI for personalised medicine, AI for medical research, prevention, and pandemic preparedness.
- GreenTech and all technologies and science reducing human impacts on the natural environment, including CleanTech, AgriTech, Greener Smart City, etc.

Your project should demonstrate the potential to research or develop a product, process or service for commercialisation.

You can submit your R&D project application for this call for projects **between 8 June 2022 and 14 December 2022**. Note that even if the deadline for the proposal submission is 14 December 2022, the consortium project partners must have formally expressed their interest to their respective national funding bodies no later than **28 September 2022** to be considered for this call for proposals.

Your project consortium must include:

- at least one incorporated Canadian small or medium-sized enterprise (SME), defined as a for-profit company with 500 or fewer full-time equivalent employees
- at least one French small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) or midcap company (up to 2000 FTE), defined as a for-profit company

The parties listed above must be unrelated parties (i.e. no direct, indirect, beneficial or constructive ownership interest between these parties.)

Participation of Canadian and French research institutes/ universities, large enterprises and other companies are welcome as additional participants on a self-funding basis or as subcontractors. Self-funded participants will be required to produce a "self-funding declaration", for which a template will be provided.

**Eureka programme:** Network projects

## Participating countries/ regions

Canada                      France

## Timeframe

8 JUNE 2022:                      Call opens

14 SEPTEMBER 2022:              Registration deadline (Canadian SME applicants only)

28 SEPTEMBER 2022:              Expression of interest deadline (All applicants - to inform your respective national entities of your interest)

14 DECEMBER 2022:              International consortium project proposal submission deadline (18:00 CEST) (Brussels) / 12:00 EST (Ottawa)

MAY 2023:                      Projects can begin (expected)

## Funding details

- **In Canada**, this call for proposals is offered through the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP). NRC IRAP is responsible for delivering this call for proposals and for managing any resulting funding agreements.

Eligible Canadian SMEs may receive up to 50% reimbursement of eligible project costs up to a maximum total funding amount of \$500,000 CAD over 12 to 36 months.

Canadian SMEs may also participate in a collaborative project on a self-funding basis.

**NOTE: Canadian SME applicants must be eligible for funding as NRC IRAP clients before they can be considered for funding through this call for proposals. For more information on NRC IRAP eligibility and becoming an NRC IRAP client, please contact NRC IRAP at 1-877-994-4727.**

NOTE: Canadian SME applicants may apply to more than one NRC IRAP call for proposals simultaneously. However, NRC IRAP may limit the number of funded projects per applicant. Canadian SME applicants who are applying to more than one opportunity or who have ongoing NRC IRAP projects should speak to their NRC IRAP representative for more information.

- **In France**, this call for proposals is offered through the Banque publique d'investissement (Bpifrance). Bpifrance is responsible for the delivery of this call for proposals and the management of any resulting funding agreements.

Financial support may be provided to eligible French companies in support of industrial research or technological development activities. Eligible French partners can be funded

through an ADI (Aide pour le Développement de l'Innovation), a reimbursable advance or an R&D loan of up to 3M€ within the limit of own equity.

NB: If the company is considered as a DeepTech company, the funding could be different. In any case, all the above information regarding French funding could be adapted to the company's profile and project.

French partners may also participate in a collaborative project on a self-funding basis.

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.

## 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 mutually independent companies, one from France and the other from Canada.
- 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 Canadian and French partners must express their will to cooperate to the development of a new product, industrial process or service. The product, process or service must be innovative and there must be a technological risk involved.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the technological cooperation between the participants from the countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure etc.)
- The project should demonstrate the contribution of all participants and the project must be significant to them.
- The participants are required, prior to obtaining the Eureka label endorsement, to have signed a project consortium agreement.

**NRC IRAP** has additional criteria for Canadian organisations to be eligible to receive funding.

The Canadian applicant must:

- be an incorporated, profit-oriented small or medium-sized business in Canada
- have 500 or fewer full-time equivalent employees
- have been in operation for a minimum of 12 months prior to the call application deadline
- pursue growth and profit by developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in Canada

- have a differentiated and protectable technology
- have sufficient working capital and resources to undertake a multi-year R&D collaboration and commercialize the results
- be committed to significant growth through international market expansion
- NRC IRAP funding for an international project is typically restricted to Canadian SMEs that have at least 15 full time equivalent employees and at least \$500,000 CAD in annual revenue

For all Canadian criteria, please refer to NRC IRAP's [International opportunities - National Research Council Canada](#) for this call for proposals (filter using "France")

**Bpifrance** has additional criteria for French organisations to be eligible to receive funding. The French applicant must:

- be an incorporated, profit-oriented business in France
- have 2000 or fewer full-time equivalent employees
- pursue growth and profit by developing and commercializing innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services or processes in France
- have a differentiated and protectable technology
- have sufficient working capital and resources to undertake a multi-year R&D collaboration and commercialize the results
- be committed to significant growth through international market expansion

## 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 the NPC and technical experts) according to national rules before allocating funds to successful applicants.
7. The final step is to complete and sign a project consortium agreement (PCA). We recommend that you seek legal advice when drafting your PCA.

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

Canada has additional steps for submitting your application:

### Canadian application process

Canadian applicants must complete the following application steps:

1. Register on the [NRC IRAP International opportunities call webpage](#) by 14 September 2022 for an Expression of Interest (EOI) form. NRC IRAP will provide an EOI form to Canadian applicants once your registration has been reviewed and accepted.
2. Complete and submit the EOI form to NRC IRAP by 28 September 2022. We strongly recommend Canadian applicants complete the EOI step as early as possible, so NRC IRAP can confirm the firm's potential eligibility for funding before assembling and submitting a proposal.

Only qualified applicants will be invited to submit the more detailed Eureka Network projects proposal and draft consortium agreement in collaboration with their project

partners. Qualified Canadian applicants will be provided a NRC IRAP Canadian Annex form that will need to be completed along with the Eureka Network projects proposal.

3. Complete and submit the EUREKA application by the Call application deadline.

For complete information related to application steps, requirements, instructions, EUREKA online project application, and the national funding body proposal and funding agreement, please consult the [NRC IRAP call for proposals announcement](#) and filter using "France".

### **French application process**

French applicants must complete the following application steps:

1. Submit their application on the EUREKA platform. Any additional documents (especially a "State of the Art" document) are welcome.
2. Submit additional financial documents once your Chargé.e d'Affaires Innovation opens the funding application on Bpifrance en Ligne (BEL)

For information related to application steps, requirements, instructions, online application, and national funding body proposals and funding agreements, please consult the [Bpifrance call for proposals announcement](#).

**Commenté [SM1]:** ADD Link once available

### **Contacts**

#### **Eric Holdrinet**

NRC IRAP French National Program Coordinator  
National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program  
[Eric.Holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:Eric.Holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

#### **Nolwenn Simonot**

International Collaborative Innovation Manager  
Bpifrance  
[nolwenn.simonot@bpifrance.fr](mailto:nolwenn.simonot@bpifrance.fr)