Dear reader,

This is the last editorial for the EUREKA News magazine until 2017. We are temporarily suspending the two editions of EUREKA News in 2016 to review its focus, subscriber base and circulation before its relaunch in 2017.

As High Level Group Chairman for the Swedish EUREKA Chairmanship, I am proud to look back on very exciting and eventful first six months. From 20-22 October, we organised and welcomed the EUREKA network to our first major meeting in Gothenburg.

With “Lean Governance” being one of the Swedish Chair main priorities, one of the many important points discussed was the future of EUREKA’s governance model. The ambition is to achieve a more appropriate and modern organisational structure that promotes greater efficiency and transparency in order to make EUREKA a leading global platform for R&D&I cooperation.

The next network meeting will take place in March 2016 in Malmö. Meanwhile, the work continues in the specific working groups that have been set up to deal with the Swedish Chair’s priorities, i.e. Lean Governance, Smart Globalisation and EUREKA in European innovation policy.

I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome you all to the EUREKA Innovation Week which will take place in Stockholm on 26-29 April. The overall theme of the week will be ‘Smart Cities - Sustainable & Attractive Communities’. A number of activities organised by the EUREKA Clusters and Associated Countries will take place.

Representatives from all EUREKA instruments will gather and provide the opportunity to meet, share ideas, interact and discuss with stakeholders from international and European industry, SMEs, the academic sector, policymakers, representatives from regional and local authorities and many more.

We will also showcase ongoing interesting Smart City Projects within the network both in the exhibition and on site in the greater Stockholm area.

Welcome to Sweden!

Per Tervahauta
THE INTERVIEW: 
Dr. Christian Ehler & Dr. Teresa Riera Madurell

DR. CHRISTIAN EHLER

Dr. Christian Ehler is a Member of the European Parliament since 2004. He was nominated as the Parliament’s Rapporteur for the Rules of Participation of Horizon 2020 as well as the EPP’s Shadow Rapporteur for the Horizon 2020 Framework Regulation. As a member of the EP Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, he is a member of the Standing Working Group on Horizon 2020. He holds a PhD in political science and occupied various management positions in business and industry before starting his political career.

DR. TERESA RIERA MADURELL

Dr. Teresa Riera Madurell has been a Member of the Spanish Congress (1996-2004) and the European Parliament (2004-2014). Within the EP Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, she has been a Member of the Expert Panel for the interim evaluation of the ICT components of H2020 and acts as member of RISE (Research, Innovation and Science Policy Experts) – an advisory group to Research, Science and Innovation Commissioner Carlos Moedas.

Why is it important to have a sustained effort concerning public budgets for research and innovation in Europe?

EHLER

We live in a post-industrial society where growth is pretty much based on R&I. Despite all differences between the European countries, this is something they have in common. Europe’s growth was never based on natural resources, but always on the production and technology behind it. In that sense, all growth in Europe since the 19th century derived from innovation.

RIERA MADURELL

This is important both in relation to Europe and its Member States. The EU has made this effort as the Multannual Financial Framework for the period 2014–2020, negotiated and approved during my time as MEP, has only two components where the budget increased: those related to foreign and security policy and Horizon 2020. So, despite the crisis, the EU budget for research and innovation increased, but it has not been the same in many Member States including Spain where, during the crisis, budgets diminished. This is a mistake as research and innovation is the basis for the competitiveness of a country or continent that wants to be a knowledge-based economy. Europe can’t compete in prices and costs. If we want to sustain our level of living and workers’ rights, we must invest in knowledge and research to create this knowledge. Innovation is then the capacity to translate this knowledge into new products or services.

EHLER

It is important to emphasize the common understanding that we are not just talking about public budgets here, but also about private and joint efforts to finance research and innovation. A modern society should invest at least 3% of its GDP in R&I, just to stay on the same level and not to fall back in terms of innovation. It is very important that the private sector is included and that successful innovation must be a joint effort.

Traditionally, basic research was always funded with public money and it is still seen that way: public spending will and should continue here. Another important area is human resources. We are facing a huge demographic challenge in Europe which was actually quite foreseeable. Statistically speaking, we now have only 1/4 of the researchers we used to have in the 1980s. A country like Germany for instance loses some 20 000 engineers every year, because there are just not enough young ones. Therefore, we need to invest in human capital.

Where do you see the role of EUREKA in that sense? Where do you see the synergies with Horizon 2020?

RIERA MADURELL

I know EUREKA since the very beginning. As a member of the national Spanish parliament in the 1990s, I used to attend EUREKA meetings and was always a fan of it. EUREKA was a pioneer to introduce concepts like “bottom-up” and design programmes especially valuable to SMEs. Later, these concepts have been integrated in Framework Programmes and Horizon 2020 through the successful Eurostars programme.

EHLER

EUREKA was always valued due to its flexibility and its ability to bridge EU and Member States’ instruments. It was very early in introducing programmes particularly designed for SMEs, inventing concepts like “Clusters” and adding international aspects to R&I funding. Within the EU, it added to the flexibility discussion as the instrument where a bottom-up approach was implemented. EUREKA is experimental in a way that national, European and private funding get combined. It became a blueprint for initiatives like the “Joint Technology Platforms”, and maybe similar ones in the future.

What is your opinion about EUREKA’s future, particularly in shaping the European Research Area?

EHLER

I wouldn’t want to “overburden” EUREKA, but as a relatively flexible instrument it could be a blueprint for Member States to engage more in ERA discussions. Member States are not always so keen to participate because they fear of losing influence. But the example of EUREKA shows that this doesn’t need to be the case. It shows that it makes sense to pull national funding to a European level. It is very important to strengthen the participation of all actors – academia, industry, national governments etc. EUREKA can play a key role in that sense. For instance, it has been very successful in promoting the concept of “open innovation”.

EUREKA was a pioneer to introduce concepts like “bottom-up” and design programmes especially valuable to SMEs

RIERA MADURELL

Now in times of crisis, coordination becomes especially important. I believe EUREKA and the EC should work closely together. This has already started with the Eurostars programme, which I consider a great idea and works very well.

Can you tell us something about the H2020 mid-term evaluations? In your view, which results could be expected?

RIERA MADURELL

The mid-term evaluation is a good opportunity to improve the implementation of the current program and make proposals for future programs. It should go beyond a simple legal requirement -
by analysing why interventions across all areas of Horizon 2020 have been successful or not in achieving the set policy objectives we will get important information about how much Horizon 2020 is contributing to build a society and an economy based on knowledge and innovation across the EU.

As a whole I am convinced that Horizon 2020 is an excellent program that has a very positive impact on the European R&M system, and halfway through we are still in time to improve everything necessary to further increase the impact of the program.

EHLER
The evaluations will be discussed in detail in 2017, once finalised. For now I have mixed feelings: on the one side, I am convinced that Horizon 2020 is a good and flexible programme. On the other side, the success rate is very low, particularly concerning SMEs (only 6%), and the companies immediately react to this. My fear is that despite the efforts of creating an SME instrument, small companies might decide to stop out simply because they think it’s not worth it. This can become a big problem.

In a globalised economy, what is the significance of developing and producing technological products in Europe?

RIERA MADURELL
In Europe, we have many problems in that sense – we have to recover our industrial leadership, and the only way to do so is to produce products based on innovation. Figures from FP 7 show clearly that countries that invest more in research increase their productivity and the number of jobs.

New concepts like user-driven innovation are important, but “research” is still core. We need to invest in research, but we also need to create the human resources. One of the Europe 2020 targets is to spend 3% of the GDP on Research and Development.

But if we are going to spend that amount, a calculation says we will need 1 Million more researchers here in Europe.

Europe needs its best people to stay here, and this not achieved just by giving them a good salary – they also need an infrastructure where can do breaking research. So we need to renew and invest in these infrastructures. Research is something that happens without borders; so we also need to make Europe attractive to the best researchers in the world and invite them to come here. And we need to get women more involved: their involvement is far less than those of men.

Research needs to be made attractive to women, and policies of gender equality need to counter-balance.

EHLER
Concerning patients and royalties, the innovation scene in Europe is very successful. However, the transfer of this innovation to the creation and manufacture of new products is often problematic. I believe the focus of Horizon 2020 on manufacturing is absolutely right.

We have the right priorities and the right instruments; the problem is rather that Member States are cutting down their research budgets. Maybe the biggest achievement of the EP in that sense was not Horizon 2020, but the fact that Member States need to spend one third of structural funds money on R&D. This creates a change of paradigm with a real potential for leverage. Moreover, with such a new approach of spending money in R&D successful and necessary synergies between Horizon 2020 and the structural funds are promoted.

The political and technological context that gave rise to the creation of EUREKA in 1985 was complex. Preceding decades had seen a number of failed or modestly successful intergovernmental R&D collaborations between European countries, and in the face of intense competition from the US and Japan, the need for the nations of the continent to work together effectively became abundantly clear. Although it was France that first proposed the idea of the EUREKA network, support from what was then West Germany, as well as other influential governments and industry partners, helped to cement the beginnings of what was to be a pan-European network.

Since then, the history of EUREKA has been closely intertwined with the history of Europe – and landmarks such as the fall of the Berlin Wall and the global economic downturn have shaped the course of both. EUREKA’s adaptation to changing conditions within the countries that it serves has been the driving force behind its more recent innovations: Clusters, the large strategic initiatives it uses to tackle vital technological areas; Umbrellas, thematic networks that help to generate EUREKA projects and collaborations; and Eurostars, an instrument designed specifically to support those drivers of innovation – research-performing SMEs.

Today, EUREKA’s impact on the European R&D scene is colossal – and this influence is evident in the diversity of projects that are currently being supported by the network, as well as those that have been completed and whose benefits are already being realised by users all over the world. EUREKA has supported many thousands of projects over its lifetime; of these, the vast majority have been successfully finished and resulted in fresh market opportunities, as well as scientific advances that are an inspiration to other researchers in the field. Those that are still ongoing, on the other hand, are influential in their own right – they bring together like-minded researchers from all over Europe to capitalise on opportunities and solve research challenges in a wide array of fields.

The next 10 years will be a crucial period for innovation in Europe, as the continent approaches and passes the watershed of 2020. At every stage in its journey so far, EUREKA has been ready to adapt flexibly to changing conditions and offer new facilities to the researchers and industrial leaders that it supports; in an increasingly fast-paced global market, however, it takes more than quick reactions to stay ahead of the competition. As such, the organisation has begun to look into the future, identifying key trends and indicators that may point towards new areas of interest and highlight new priorities.
THE BRIEFING

HTIP BECOMES E!NNOVEST(OR) READY IN 2016!

In 2015 EUREKA started concrete actions to facilitate the successful transition of EUREKA projects to the ‘go-to-market’ phase by launching the new pilot programme called EUREKA High-Tech Investment Programme (EUREKA HTIP) in collaboration with the EBAN and Europe Unlimited.

By participating in the different activities, a total of 137 EUREKA companies benefited from the programme and 9 companies were awarded as the best companies’ presentation during the Alpine High-Tech Venture Forum in Lausanne. The programme finished in December with a presentation during the Alpine High-Tech Venture Forum in Dusseldorf.

The programme has been very effective in setting contacts with VC’s for two EUREKA companies. Spanish company Vilynx have closed a €460K seed round which will help them to better tune their products to their main potential clients. The Swedish company Ascatron AB raised its first investment from international investors and the money will be used to bring their technology to the market.

Very positive feedback was received by the participating companies and the EUREKA Network. As a result, the Swedish EUREKA Chairmanship and the EUREKA Secretariat with the support of the EUREKA Network are finalising the preparations for the relaunch of the programme rebranding it as Ennovest - EUREKA Innovest programme. It will kickstart in January 2016 in cooperation with EBAN, e-Unlimited and EBN.

SUCCESS STORIES

With its bottom-up approach, EUREKA supports the development of innovative and rapidly marketable products, processes and services that help improve the daily life of everyday people. Their commercialisation has added billions of euros to national economies.

Under the Swiss EUREKA Chairmanship a ‘EUREKA in the ERA’ strategy was developed; 12 key actions were identified and specific proposals for each were developed. Since then the Swedish Chairmanship has actively started to work together with the EUREKA Secretariat on the implementation of the strategy by establishing a ‘EUREKA in European Innovation Policy’ working group (WG).

In order to identify the priorities of the EUREKA countries, a questionnaire was sent out to the Network, asking them to choose up to five key actions and at least one proposal under each selected key action. As a result, the top 5 key actions are:

1. Establish smart synergies with European R&D instruments and networks
2. Enhance EUREKA's visibility in the ERA
3. Enhance the policy role of EUREKA at national level
4. Enhance the policy role of EUREKA at European level
5. Build strong cooperation with SFIC and EEN

EUREKA IN THE PACT FOR INNOVATION

The 7th European Innovation Summit which took place from 7-10 December 2015 in the European Parliament called for a “Pact for Innovation”. The objective is to develop an ambitious vision of what innovation can do for the EU economy and society. With its future-oriented bottom-up approach, the pact will unite a group of local, regional, national and EU innovation stakeholders.

EUREKA welcomes the pact taking into account the important role of intergovernmental organisations through which Commission funds are strongly leveraged by national innovation funding. The Pact is an excellent opportunity to bridge gaps of the current framework and call for strong collaboration between the European and national levels.

As a partner of the European Innovation Summit since its beginning, EUREKA actively participated in various events of the Summit, covering topics such as the power of leverage, open innovation and framework policies and instruments.

“Our priority is to establish smart synergies between EU and Member States’ instruments, and make it easy for SMEs to access them. EUREKA can fill gaps that exist between EU and national levels through its direct connection with national innovation agencies,” said Dan Andree, chair of the EUREKA working group on European Innovation Policy, during the summit’s conference Getting the right framework: “Policies and Instruments for Innovation.”
NEW EUREKA CLUSTER

PENTA, the new EUREKA Cluster supporting micro- and nanoelectronics enabled systems and applications, was labelled in July and launched at the European Nanoelectronics Forum in December 2015. The first call is expected in January 2016. Initially supported by 8 countries, PENTA supports the full electronics value chain and will catalyse activity in areas designed to maintain or improve European presence in key markets. In its initial phase, the focus will be on applications in automotive, healthcare and production technologies. Projects in areas outside the core focus may be considered, if they have been pre-approved by the relevant Public Authorities supporting such a project.

In all applications it is recognised that security, connectivity and energy efficiency are essential crosscutting contributors and that semiconductor processes, equipment, materials and tools are instrumental in all technologies. Implementation of the programme is expected to result in an improved European presence in key electronics markets, with economic and social benefits to European companies and citizens.

A key element of the PENTA programme is to ensure openness and inclusivity to all those who wish to participate. Special efforts are being made to engage with the electronics community across Europe and promote effective consortia building. Emphasis is placed on encouraging SME involvement with support structures in place, both locally and centrally, to encourage participation and provide guidance as required.

All organisations interested in participating in PENTA should look for information on the PENTA website www.penta-eureka.eu or by contacting AENEAS who will be managing the programme www.aeneas-office.eu

GOOD NEWS FOR SMES: GERMANY INCREASES BUDGET FOR EUROSTARS

Building on the great success of the Eurostars programme in recent years the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) decided to increase the national budget for German participants. Whereas financial shortcomings in the past prevented the start of some projects with German participation, the new funding scheme will enable a success rate of up to 50% of all eligible projects with German participation. Very good reasons for the establishment of a consortium with German partners!

CANADA DELEGATION AT INNOVATION WEEK

As part of the “EUREKA Innovation Week” under the theme “Smart Cities – Sustainable & Attractive Communities”, Canada’s EUREKA Office is leading a delegation of Canadian firms and experts to a “Canada–EUREKA Smart Cities Partnering Event” on April 26th, to pitch expertise and explore partnering opportunities. A similar B2B Smart Cities partnering event is also being organised on April 25th at the Canada House in London. Watch for more information to be posted on the EUREKA Network Web Site.

2016 PENTA CALL CALENDAR

DEADLINE

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<th>Consortium forming / PO writing phase</th>
<th>PO submission deadline</th>
<th>PO evaluation results</th>
<th>Consortium fine-tuning / FPP writing phase</th>
<th>FPP submission deadline</th>
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<th>National Funding processes</th>
<th>Project Approval</th>
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<td>mid January - mid March</td>
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<td>13 April 2016</td>
<td>mid April - early June</td>
<td>7 June 2016 17:00</td>
<td>29 June 2016</td>
<td>July - August - September</td>
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IDEA TO PROJECT APPROVAL

THE NEXT DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

18 February 2016

20:00 Brussels time

ERRATUM

We wish to make corrections in the last edition of EUREKA News #101 under Smart Globalisation on p. 10: The National Research Council of Canada (NRC), responsible for Canada’s participation in EUREKA, does not fall under the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development. Further, the accompanying bar graph should have begun in 2012 when Canada joined EUREKA, thus explaining why no Network projects were labeled during these preceding years.

AT INNOVATION WEEK

Thanks to EUREKA, we can listen to our favourite music wherever we are

Thanks to EUREKA, we can protect and secure our personal data

Thanks to EUREKA, we can enjoy immediate access to data-heavy Internet applications such as video and cloud computing

Thanks to EUREKA, we can all watch 3D movies and very high quality digital movies at our local cinema

The “DAB” project started in 1987 and ran for 13 years. 17 partners and public authorities invested €89.2 million in research and development to bring radio broadcasting in line with the most recent advances in digital recording technology.

The “AlienVault ESC” project started in 2008 and ran for 21 months. Two partners and public authorities from Spain and France invested €1.2 million in research and development to create a new software product called AlienVault Enterprise Security Console (AlienVault ESC), adding innovative intelligence risk measurement algorithms, high performance and legal reinforcement to the open source leader SIM OSSIM.

The “ITEA “Digital Cinema” project started in 2001 and ran for 30 months. Nine partners and public authorities invested €11.9 million in research and development to define and develop a system solution covering digital film production, distribution, storage and replay, including alternative uses for digital infrastructure.

The “100GET” EUREKA Celtic-Plus project started in 2007 and ran for three years. 41 Partners and public authorities invested €65 million in research and development to enable, identify and test the next generation of telecommunications products able to reach the “100 Gigabit per second” transmission speed.

The “AlienVault ESC” project was labelled during these preceding years.
Of the Member States in the EU Innovation Scoreboard 2015, Spain is among the ‘Moderate Innovators’. Together with other EU countries such as Portugal, Italy, the Czech Republic and Estonia, Spain’s innovation performance is below EU average. This is mainly due to the recent economic crisis, which hit Spain especially hard, bringing the economy into recession and raising unemployment levels to unprecedented highs. A rather ‘laid back’ attitude towards innovation might add to it. However, this attitude is changing rapidly, as more and more companies see innovation as part of the solution to overcome the crisis.

“Some years ago, most Spanish companies didn’t realise that research and innovation (R&I) was a tool that allows for a return in a relatively short time. It was seen as expenditure and not as investment,” says Antonio Pizarro. “Now this mentality towards R&I is changing. One can clearly see that companies that invest in R&I master the crisis better.” Pizarro is the Director of the fish-farming company Isidro de la Cal in Galicia, Northern Spain. Once a very traditional business, his company managed to change its business model and find new markets by creating a new breed of fish thanks to the EUREKA project BLACKSPOT.

Blackspot seabream is a prized fish on many Spanish tables but it grows slowly at sea, is heavily overfished and is incredibly difficult to farm. No other company had successfully bred it until the Galician company Isidro de la Cal–Fresco teamed up with a local partner and Norwegian nutritionists to develop a method as a EUREKA project.

“We faced a lot of problems both in the hatchery stage and in the on-growing phase,” remembers Isidro de la Cal–Fresco Director Antonio Lopez-Pizarro y Vilari. “We had to define many protocols regarding culture densities, appropriate temperature, feeding methods, transportation densities and feed.” But, despite the setbacks, working together, the three partners managed to refine a way to breed blackspot which consistently produced enough healthy fish at a competitive price.

Today, Isidro sells about 240 tonnes of the fish a year and it thinks it can increase that to 600 tonnes within the next five years. The market potential is enormous since, while Isidro’s prices can remain stable in the future, the price of blackspot seabream fished from the sea is likely to continue to rise as fishing quotas for the species are cut on a yearly basis. The partners say they have clearly achieved their goal to deliver a traditional fish back to the European market at an accessible price.
New technologies are still underexploited in most EU hospitals and health centres, says Oscar Chabrera. He has coordinated a consortium of hospitals, IT product developers and internet connection providers, which has developed a system, called HIPERMED, now ready to be deployed affordably worldwide. The consortium was supported by the European platform for telecom technologies CELTIC, a EUREKA Cluster.

“There are all kinds of technologies out there for clinics and hospitals – but they often don’t work together and are too expensive to be used by smaller hospitals,” explains Chabrera, EU manager of video summarising and indexing specialist V lynx Spain. Research project HIPERMED took three-and-a-half years to design and test on an open platform on which all kinds of media and network services can run. It is now already being used in Spain, France, Poland, Sweden and Turkey.

For Pizarro, it is essential to help small companies to obtain funding and succeed in their innovative endeavours. Trade associations should help them to fully realise that R&I is an investment that brings concrete returns. “R&I activities are increasing, one can see this in the big calls and strategy plans. Another important issue is that the situation favours collaboration – groups of companies or consortia can access the calls, and those have bigger chances of being successful than one company alone. This also increases collaboration between big companies and SMEs,” he adds.

The Spanish Innovation Strategy 2013-2020 reflects these thoughts: “...the future growth of the Spanish economy and employment is directly dependent upon the innovation capacity of companies, especially SMEs. The latter must grow in size and technological and commercial ambition, and incorporate ‘innovation’ as an essential part of their business model.”

As Europe’s population ages, doctors need to regularly monitor patients with long-term health problems or those needing rehabilitation after a stroke or a heart attack. If doctors can see fewer patients in their surgeries, they can treat 20 times more of them, cutting costs by 83%, according to specialists involved in the HIPERMED project.

A dozen of products were also developed during the research. One of them was a tool that allows patients to receive speech therapy on their smart phones using voice recognition software. The product proved so successful that Turk Telecom, whose subsidiary INNOVA developed it during the project, has now started selling the product and thinks up to 150,000 customers in Turkey alone could benefit from it.

The crisis has had its effect on Spanish public-private investment in EUREKA, Eurostars and Cluster projects. It declined from 68.1 Million in 2010 to 34.7 Million in 2014. However, in 2015 it has been rising again to over €40 Million, reflecting that recovery is on its way.

The top ten project partner countries of Spain in the last years include the big European economies like France and Germany, but on top of the list there is one surprise: Turkey. From 2010 to 2015, Spanish-Turkish collaboration happened in as many as 18 Eureka Network and Cluster projects.

One stereotypical Spanish attribute comes in handy when projects are carried out on a European and global scale: the capacity to improvise. “What I learned from international projects was to always expect the unexpected, work for the best, but be prepared for the worst. During the HIPERMED project, there were several times that the project seemed to collapse, but we managed to succeed and become one of the best EUREKA projects winning the EUREKA Added Value and Innovation Awards in 2014,” says Oscar Chabrera, co-founder of the Barcelona-based IT company V lynx and manager of HIPERMED (see box).

“Always expect the unexpected”

During the project, due to the events of the so-called ‘Arab Spring’, entities from one entire country had to withdraw: the project leader was acquired and its purchaser decided to withdraw from the project; funding decisions then changed due to the financial crisis, leaving partners without funding. The HIPERMED project still managed, with success. The follow-up project E3 has been able to deploy the first 3D telesurgery transmission of both ENT and heart surgeries in September 2015 and recently won the evia Spanish eHealth Technological platform INNOVA Bronze Award.

Oscar Chabrera is grateful for the backing from Spanish authorities. “There is a huge support to help entrepreneurs implement new business projects based on the use of technology and/or knowledge.” For Chabrera, the challenge is to change perspectives, since many projects still lack a global ambition.

However, this shouldn’t be the case. Going international is the way ahead in an increasingly globalised economy. According to the Global Innovation Index, Spain is clearly the innovation leader of the Spanish-speaking world. Through international cooperation, Spain could be a gateway to Latin America for other European companies that often don’t have the linguistic and cultural know-how to enter those markets.

One example to illustrate the increasing importance of entering international markets is the EUREKA project AlienVault (see box). Formerly Madrid-based, the company is now one of Silicon Valley’s rising stars in IT security. When proposing the project to EUREKA, AlienVault stated that “the EUREKA label will provide the project with prestigious international awareness and reinforce the brand name of our company.”

“Scientific and technological activities are international and our success and the people working in it must absolutely be part of this elite. The high level of competitiveness of the Spanish economy depends on this leadership position. Therefore, Spanish science and innovation have to be more visible to the outside world and contribute to making the Spanish brand in R&I more attractive.” [Spanish Innovation Strategy 2013-2020], Projects like Blackspot, HIPERMED and AlienVault can contribute to that.

Formerly Madrid-based AlienVault, the company is now relocated in the Silicon Valley, is one of the leading vendors of Security Information and Event Management systems – or SIEMs. SIEM systems find vulnerabilities, identify threats and monitor for attacks on the IT systems of their customers, allowing them to quickly answer questions like “which threats require our attention now? or ‘who is attacking us?’ Every large and medium-sized firm in the world needs a SIEM solution to handle the huge volume of security data passing through their information systems.

The EUREKA label allowed for a faster development of its new technologies and helped it to access the financial means it needed. By the end of the project in April 2010 the company had made massive improvements to its product, processing 1 Gbps (GigaBytes per second) of data, meeting the deployment and massive storage demands of large companies and improving the intelligence of its detection algorithms to identify attacks and lower the number of false alarms.

In only one year AlienVault identified Chinese malware infecting the U.S. Department of Defense, raised $22 million in funding from a number of top Silicon Valley Venture Capital funds and was the 2013 runner up in the EUREKA Innovation awards.
Back in 1985 when Spain joined the EUREKA network as one of its founding members, the challenge for Spanish companies to participate in European projects was double: they were coming from a period of international isolation and, at the same time, had to learn how to compete and cooperate. EUREKA played a key role in initiating a learning process among our companies, which served to facilitate the incorporation of our industry to more complex consortia developed under successive EC Framework Programs.

Along with EUREKA’s impact and its geographical scope growing and growing, Spanish influence also gained momentum: By the start of the new millennium, globalisation was felt strongly and Spain became a precursor in promoting the status of Associated States, awarded for the first time to Morocco. Moreover, the EUROTOURISM umbrella was added upon our initiative, as first of its kind to systematically promote technology in the tourism sector. The impact of this initiative has been huge, allowing our country to occupy front pages in newspapers of reference as “world leaders” due to the high level of technology use in the sector.

Spain has made its way within the EUREKA family learning and providing its best at all times. Year after year, we occupy the top positions for participation and proposals leadership, and only the financial constraints imposed by the crisis are preventing us from greater contributions to a program that insistently demand our proposals leadership, and only the financial constraints of possible synergies with other programs (e.g. use the ESE by the ERA-nets, restructuring proposals from other schemes into EUREKA) and with other supranational funding schemes (e.g. from the EIT).

The impact of this initiative has been huge, allowing our country to occupy front pages in newspapers of reference as “world leaders” due to the high level of technology use in the sector.

Spain has made its way within the EUREKA family learning and providing its best at all times. Year after year, we occupy the top positions for participation and proposals leadership, and only the financial constraints imposed by the crisis are preventing us from greater contributions to a program that insistently demand our companies.
CURRENTLY OPEN CALLS

A list of currently open EUREKA calls for innovative projects to fund.

To stay up-to-date with our call calendar and check on eligibility criteria, technologies targeted and countries involved, visit the dedicated page on our website: www.eurekanetwork.org/calls-for-projects. Spontaneous, uncalled-for project proposals are welcome all year long!

Innovative companies and universities from EUREKA member countries that are not taking part in these calls - and countries outside the EUREKA network, may also participate in agreement with their national innovation agency/ministry.

It is highly recommended to contact your national EUREKA office before submitting a proposal (see contact list on page 23 of this issue).

Projects looking for partners

The projects listed below are currently looking for partners able to bring complementary skills, knowledge and market access in order to achieve their research and commercial objectives.

NEWTON-PICARTE EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT CALL 2015

Chile-UK

DEADLINE: 8 January 2016

TECHNOLOGIES

Agriculture - foods (agriculture, aquaculture, functional foods), Resource Efficiency for sustainable extraction of raw materials, Solar Energy

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR JOINT R&D PROJECTS

France and Spain

DEADLINE: 29 January 2016

TECHNOLOGIES

Electronic, IT and Telecom Technology, Industrial Manufacturing, Machinery, Materials and Transport, Agrofood technology, Biotechnology, Medical device, Environment, Energy

MULTILATERAL TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION COOPERATION

DEADLINE: 31 January 2016

COUNTRIES INVOLVED

Korea, Germany, Turkey, the Netherlands

TECHNOLOGIES all types

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR JOINT FEASIBILITY STUDIES, DEMONSTRATIONS AND R&D PROJECT

Finland and France

DEADLINE: 12 February 2016

TECHNOLOGIES

Digitalization, creating value from intangible assets and gaming, Electronics, IT and telecom technology, internet of things, Biotechnology, medical devices and health related services, Clean tech and sustainable environmental and energy solutions, Intelligent industrial manufacturing, machinery, materials and transport

EUREKA Network Projects

EUREKA Network Projects are bottom-up and cover all technological areas with a civilian purpose. To set up a EUREKA project there must be at least two partners from two different EUREKA countries. Partners can be of any type: SMEs, large companies, research institutions and universities.
### Network Projects

**Flexible Cooperation Between E! Countries**

- **Budget (€):** Over 90 million (2014)
- **Who can participate:** SMEs, large companies, universities, research institutes
- **Unique selling point:** Bottom-up; national rules with local support
- **Average number of participants:** 3 - 4
- **Average project cost:** 1.7 M
- **Average project duration:** 31 months
- **Average number of countries:** 2 - 3
- **Open to non-E! countries:** Yes, if self-funding

### Umbrellas

**Thematic Networks Generating Projects**

- **Who can participate:** SMEs, large companies, universities, research institutes
- **Unique selling point:** Expert coordination by E! and industrial experts
- **Open to non-E! countries:** Yes, if self-funding

### Clusters

**Industry Led Initiatives from Europe’s Biggest Companies**

- **Budget (€):** Over 200 million (2014)
- **Who can participate:** SMEs, large companies, universities, research institutes
- **Unique selling point:** Developing industrial standards
- **Average number of participants:** 2 - 14
- **Average project cost:** 1.5 – 15 M
- **Average project duration:** 30 months
- **Average number of countries:** 3-4
- **Open to non-E! countries:** Yes, if self-funding

### Eurostars

**Joint Programme with EU Dedicated to R&D SMES**

- **Budget (€):** Over 200 million (2014)
- **Who can participate:** SMEs, large companies, universities, research institutes
- **Unique selling point:** Bottom-up; fast time to market; high success rate
- **Average number of participants:** 3 - 4
- **Average project cost:** 1.4 M
- **Average project duration:** 29 months
- **Average number of countries:** 2 - 3
- **Open to non-E! countries:** Yes, if self-funding

### Under Development

**Globalstars**

**Novest**

** actions with non-E! countries**

- **Budget (€):** 150,000
- **Who can participate:** EUREKA SMEs
- **Unique selling point:** Coaching and potential financing from VCs
- **Average number of participants:** 140
- **Average project cost:** 1.7 M
- **Average project duration:** Under 36 months
- **Average number of countries:** 28
- **Open to non-E! countries:** No

- **Budget (€):** TBD
- **Who can participate:** TBD
- **Unique selling point:** Expand beyond Europe
- **Average number of participants:** 2-10
- **Average project cost:** 0.5 – 5 M
- **Average project duration:** Under 36 months
- **Average number of countries:** 41 E! MC + third country
- **Open to non-E! countries:** Yes
SMES continue to rank first in terms of participation: they constitute 69% of all participants. Another key component in EUREKA’s project portfolio is Research & Academia (covering universities and research institutes), which provide significant numbers of participants across technological areas.

“We analysed historical EUREKA data, comparing the type of participants in different technological areas: we found that Research & Academia had high numbers in all sectors—reflecting their key role in EUREKA innovation, alongside SMEs and other companies,” explains Lalvani.

Almost half of the recently endorsed projects relate to ICT; industrial, life sciences, energy and environment sectors make up the other half.

“South Korea is the country with the highest number of projects endorsed in Gothenburg, while Canada is not,” says EUREKA data analyst Peter Lalvani.

“At the meeting in Gothenburg, the number of projects endorsed for funding related to ICT was second only to the network sectors. The Gothenburg projects will generate a total of €68 million of public-private investment supporting market-oriented innovation activities.”
How can new trends and citizens’ knowledge be opportunities in the Smart City?

EUREKA Innovation Week – Smart Cities – Sustainable & Attractive Communities, Stockholm April 26-29 2016

EUREKA Global Collaboration Day April 26
EUREKA Innovation Event – Smart Cities April 27
EUREKA Clusters Conferences, April 28-29

Welcome to Stockholm!
www.VINNOVA.se/InnoWeek2016