

PROJECT GENERATION — MEETING OUR TARGETS

The Turkish and German Chairs have begun to implement initiatives to rejuvenate EUREKA, to keep it in the frontline of European innovation. The Spanish Chair has developed these initiatives, seeking to generate momentum.

 One of the successes of the past year has been the agreement by member countries to set themselves targets for generation of new projects. In large part, these targets were met, resulting in the highest number of new projects for many years. The total of 187 new projects, with a combined value of €499.4 million, ups the gradient in EUREKA's recent positive trend in new projects. It represents, furthermore, a solid foundation for coming years as EUREKA takes its position in the European Research Area.

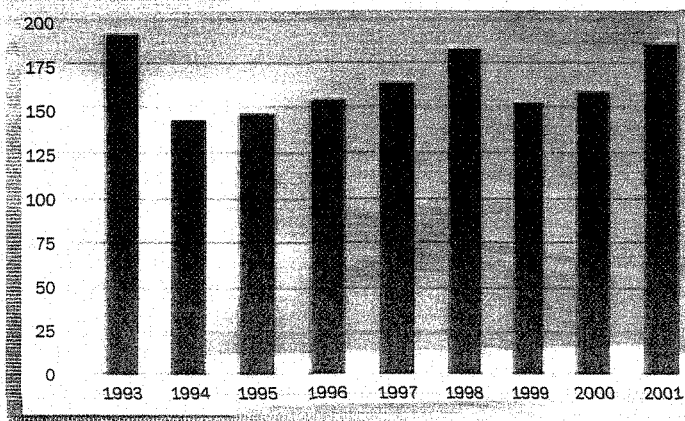
These figures do not include a major category of projects, representing a huge share of EUREKA's activity in recent years. The cluster projects, as noted on page 8, are managed by industrial participants themselves, and their sub-projects tend to have much greater budgets than the traditional EUREKA projects.

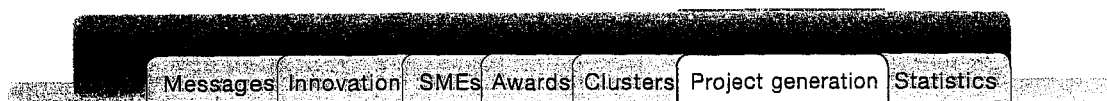
Umbrella projects (whose figures, on the other hand, are included with the "traditional" projects) work a little like cluster projects, but on a smaller scale. They are designed to generate projects in a particular sector, enabling the sharing of ideas and results. Wider goals than would be possible with lone projects can be achieved, and the umbrella projects have also made a major contribution to the generation of new EUREKA projects in recent years.

EUREKA projects are assessed informally on both their technological innovation and their market impact. The ideal project will score highly on both counts, since this is where a real contribution is made to Europe's economy. This assessment of the "quality" of ongoing projects is vital to ensure

that the Initiative is meeting its objectives. A recent assessment shows that around 70% of projects have positive scores in both aspects, demonstrating that the emphasis on quality is not misplaced.

*Evolution of
the yearly number
of generated projects
since 1993*





▼ PROJECT GENERATION

— BUILDING BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

EUREKA's decentralised structure means that each member country runs its own system, and public funding in each is disbursed according to national rules. Whilst this structure allows the member countries maximum control over their own resources, it can create obstacles for individual partners in projects if their country's priorities do not correspond to those of their partner's country.

▶ These differences between countries go much further than EUREKA of course, and one of the challenges in creating an effective European Research Area will be to ensure sufficient coordination to surmount the obstacles thrown up by national (and regional) differences in policy, procedures and funding. EUREKA's experience in working with 31 different national systems will be invaluable in helping navigate the new landscape. But more than that, a Europe-wide strategy for research and innovation support needs to be established.

Each member country has a different industrial base, just as their procedures differ, so it is no surprise that levels of participation in EUREKA differ widely. The member countries with the highest numbers of projects generated in the past year were Spain, France and the Netherlands. Not far behind was the Czech Republic, proving that a strong performance in EUREKA is not the preserve of large, western European countries. Indeed the smaller members often perform strongly, and when their participation in EUREKA is compared with national research spending in proportion to population, this is demonstrated very well. Lithuania and Iceland are just two of the smallest members who are seen to be performing strongly measured in this way. Other countries, not mentioned above, also performed well.

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STATISTICS — 2000/2001 SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

INTRODUCTION

The tables in this section illustrate the balance of EUREKA's project portfolio at the end of the Spanish Chair year — 28 June 2001. They show that the ongoing projects are spread across the technological sectors, and that funding is also well distributed.

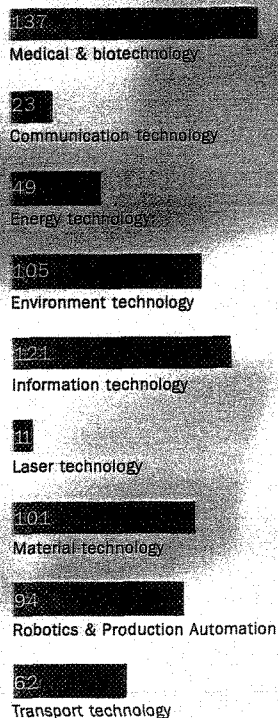
It should be noted that the cluster projects and their sub-projects are not included in the figures (Statistic 1 and 2). Summary figures for these can be found on page 8. The medical and biotechnology sector has the most projects, while four other sectors — information technology, environment, materials and robotics — all perform strongly. The highest value sector remains information technology, but in terms of average project cost, lasers has the biggest projects, with information technology, robotics and transport also above the overall average.

The number of organisations from each country (main partners and other partners) involved in ongoing projects is shown (Statistic 3). The important role of the main partner in project generation has to be stressed.

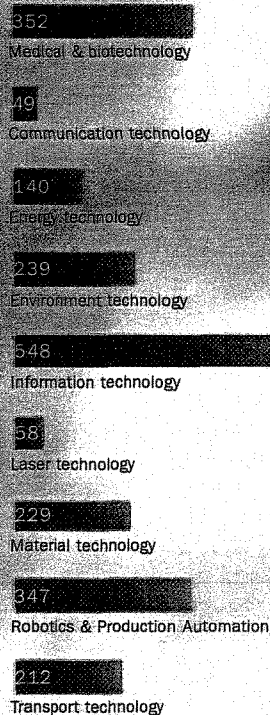
The national shares are shown by participant and we can see that industry is in the majority, with a very strong proportion of smaller companies (Statistic 4).

The assessment of competitiveness of new projects table aims to demonstrate the quality of EUREKA projects, in terms of their making a strong contribution to developing Europe's economic performance (Statistic 5).

Statistic 1
Number of ongoing
projects by area



Statistic 2: Cost
of ongoing projects
by area (mEUR)

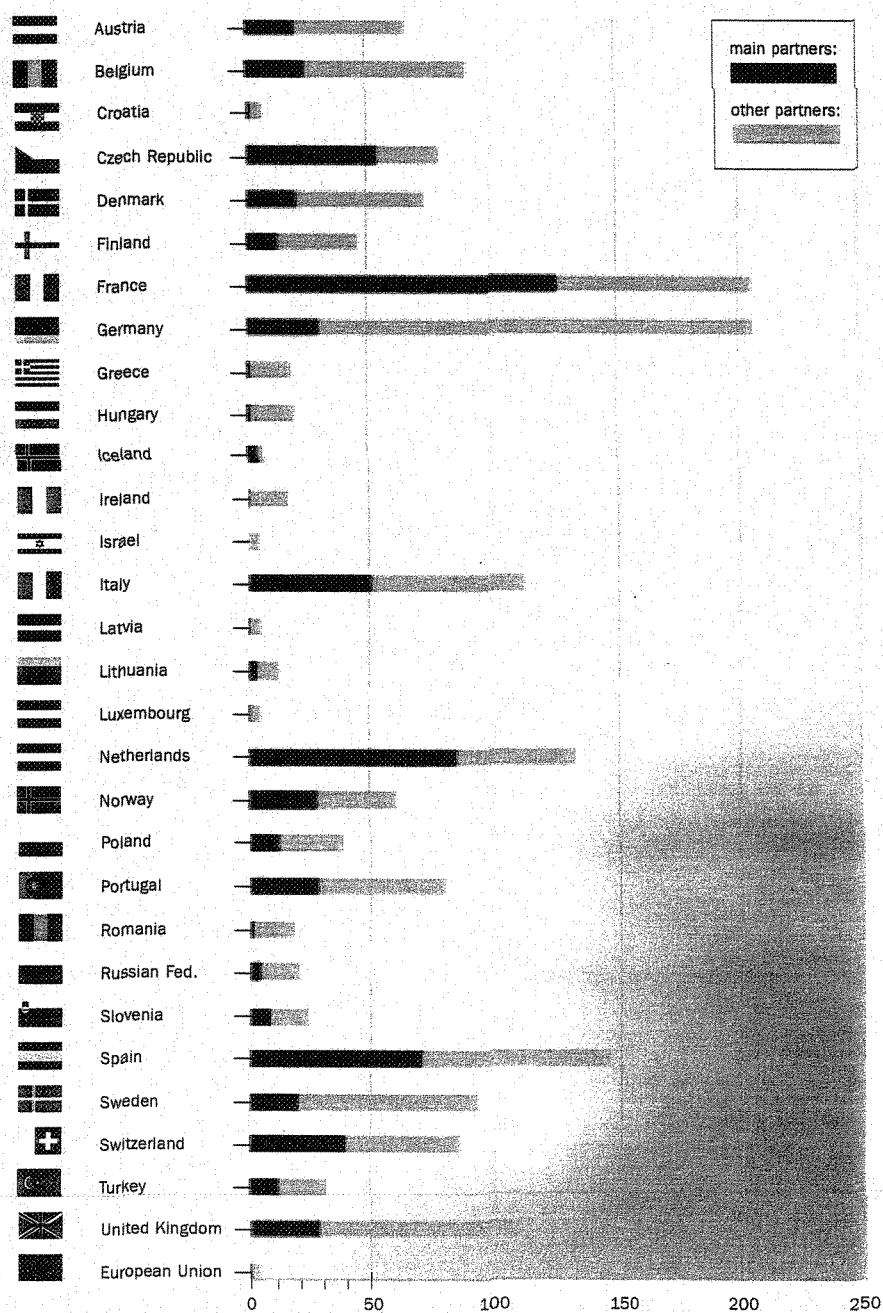


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The number of organisations from each country involved in ongoing projects is shown here; firstly counting participants as main partner, i.e. one per project, and then all other participants in the project.

Statistic 3:
Participation
by members in
ongoing projects



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Statistic 4:

Types of organisation
in ongoing projects
by members

▶ Industry, of which two thirds are SMEs, accounts for two thirds of all participants.

by members		Industry		Research		Gov't	Total	
		All	SME	All	Univ.	admin.		
	Austria	—	58	35	32	23	93	
	Belgium	—	88	53	42	28	140	
	Croatia	—	2	2	23	3	9	
	Czech Republic	—	274	510	47	25	123	
	Denmark	—	73	50	2	2	105	
	Finland	—	54	23	3	1	34	
	France	—	297	180	23	13	381	
	Germany	—	227	115	5	15	319	
	Greece	—	17	2	13	1	18	
	Hungary	—	12	3	23	15	24	
	Iceland	—	7	10	0	15	16	
	Ireland	—	11	10	1	2	21	
	Israel	—	3	2	0	0	5	
	Italy	—	439	95	0	24	138	
	Latvia	—	0	60	2	1	21	
	Lithuania	—	12	9	1	3	25	
	Luxembourg	—	30	1	10	0	15	
	Netherlands	—	154	88	40	14	128	
	Norway	—	70	44	26	5	101	
	Poland	—	18	7	33	13	36	
	Portugal	—	88	71	53	23	131	
	Romania	—	14	11	12	6	25	
	Russian Federation	—	12	9	20	7	32	
	Slovenia	—	23	16	11	4	39	
	Spain	—	169	124	60	27	240	
	Sweden	—	75	53	23	9	100	
	Switzerland	—	120	80	73	32	101	
	Turkey	—	29	21	19	13	47	
	United Kingdom	—	167	99	43	28	222	
	European Union	—	0	0	3	0	4	
	Non member countries	—	17	13	17	6	31	
	Total	—	2031	1257	857	405	119	3007

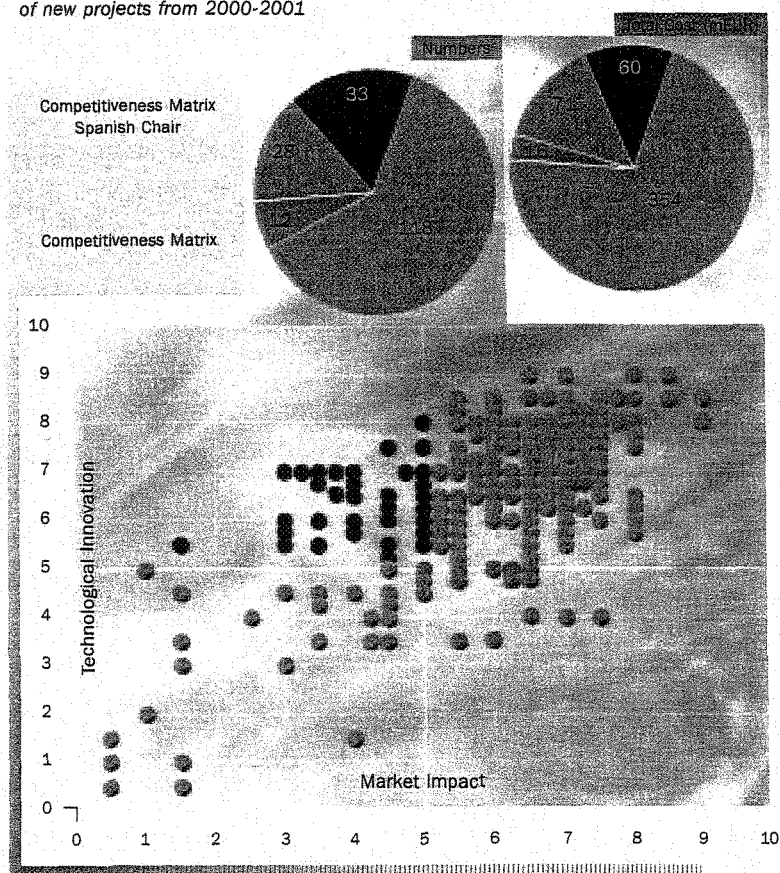
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STATISTICS



This matrix plots all the new projects from the past year, on the basis of an independent assessment of the expected technological innovation and market impact. Technological innovation is measured on the novelty of the technology or process expected, on the technical capabilities of the consortium involved, and on the costs devoted to the project. Market impact is assessed on the breadth of application across industry for the new product or process and its expected geographical application, as well as the market presence of the consortium.

*Statistic 5: Assessment of competitiveness
of new projects from 2000-2001*



Those projects which will contribute most to Europe's competitiveness are those which score highly on both technological innovation and market impact, i.e. those in the top right-hand quadrant, where the majority of EUREKA projects are located.

☐ EUREKA — A FLEXIBLE AND DECENTRALISED STRUCTURE

EUREKA is a decentralised network, bringing together 31 European member states plus the European Union, with the aim of fostering cooperative projects in research and innovation. Whilst each member controls its own funding, EUREKA facilitates the coordination of national funding.

THE EUREKA SECRETARIAT (ESE) in Brussels is the central support unit, managing the **EUREKA** project database and undertaking marketing, communication and network development activities. A new website will help to improve communication and efficiency throughout the **EUREKA** network.

FULL MEMBERS: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

In addition, 3 countries across Europe participate in **EUREKA** projects through a network of **NATIONAL INFORMATION POINTS (NIPS)**: Albania, Bulgaria, Ukraine.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE (MC): a minister from each **EUREKA** member country and a Commissioner from the European Commission meet once a year at the Ministerial Conference, the political body of **EUREKA**.

HIGH LEVEL GROUP (HLG): meets three or four times a year. Each **EUREKA** member appoints one representative to this group which takes decisions on the management of **EUREKA** and prepares policy discussions for the MC.

NATIONAL PROJECT COORDINATORS (NPC): meets four or five times a year and is responsible for project generation and contacts with project participants in each member country.

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