

Spanish SME looks for partners to collaborate on a EUROSTARS - ORBIT project to provide a platform integration expertise, programming interfaces, test data and validation with operator users in the field of transport and mobility.

Summary

Profile type

Research & Development Request Spain

Company's country

POD reference

RDRES20260723014

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

**Research and development
cooperation agreement**

Targeted countries

- Belgium
- Germany
- Finland
- Denmark
- France
- Sweden
- Portugal
- Austria
- Norway
- Ireland
- Switzerland
- Netherlands

Contact Person

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Term of validity

23 Jul 2026**23 Jul 2027**

Last update

23 Jul 2026

General Information

Short summary

Spanish technology SME active in smart mobility seeks a technology SME partner for a Eurostars September 2026 project. The project will develop and test a prototype integrating an artificial intelligence-based orchestration module for shared and on-demand mobility into existing transport software platforms used by bus, public transport or mobility operators. The partner should provide platform integration expertise, programming interfaces, test data and validation with operator users.

Full description

A Spanish technology small and medium-sized enterprise is preparing a Eurostars research and development project for the September 2026 call. The company develops cloud software for smart mobility, including shared and on-demand transport services such as demand-responsive transport, ridepooling, carpooling, flexible shuttles and first and last mile transport.

The problem addressed is that many transport operators and bus companies already use software for fleet supervision, vehicle location, dispatching, ticketing, planning or passenger information, but these platforms often lack a real-time module to orchestrate shared and on-demand mobility. As a result, operators may need separate tools to manage flexible services, which creates integration costs, fragmented data and limited scalability.

The project will research, develop and validate an interoperable prototype that connects an artificial intelligence-based shared mobility orchestration module with an existing transport technology platform. The objective is not to replace the partner's platform, but to add a new module able to receive travel requests, read available transport supply, apply service rules, group compatible passengers, propose the most suitable transport option and return operational decisions to the partner platform.

The expected technical work includes: definition of use cases and data models; application programming interfaces for bidirectional integration; connection with vehicle availability, routes, stops, booking and passenger information; development of a multimodal decision engine; simulation and sandbox testing with real or realistic data; and validation with a transport operator or operator users connected to the partner's platform.

The preferred partner is a technology small and medium-sized enterprise from a Eurostars country with an existing software platform for public transport, bus operators, shared mobility operators or mobility authorities. Relevant platforms may include vehicle operation support systems, computer-aided dispatch and vehicle location systems, ticketing, mobility as a service, journey planning, fleet management, scheduling or intelligent transport systems.

The targeted framework is Eurostars Call 11, September 2026. The call opens on 9 July 2026 and closes on 10 September 2026 at 14:00 Central European Summer Time. The intended expression of interest deadline for partner discussions is 14 August 2026. The indicative project duration is 24 months and the indicative total budget is around EUR 1.5 million. The project will focus exclusively on civil applications.

Advantages and innovations

The project will create a reusable integration approach between existing transport technology platforms and a real-time shared mobility orchestration module. This can reduce the need for operators to procure and manage separate tools for fixed-route transport, demand-responsive transport, ridepooling, carpooling and shuttle services.

The innovation lies in the combination of interoperability and operational decision-making. The prototype will not only exchange data, but also use artificial intelligence to cluster demand, match passengers and vehicles, select the most appropriate transport mode, and apply rules to avoid competition with efficient fixed public transport services. The system is expected to support complementary first and last mile services, low-demand routes, business park mobility, rural or peri-urban services and assisted transport.

Expected impacts include lower operational complexity for transport operators, improved vehicle occupancy, fewer empty kilometres, better service quality and reduced carbon dioxide emissions. The project will also support social inclusion by enabling more flexible access to mobility for users in low-density areas, people with reduced mobility, elderly users and people without access to a private car.

From a market perspective, the project can create a B2B or B2B2B integration model: the Spanish software provider can commercialise its orchestration module through the partner's existing technology platform, while the partner can add shared and on-demand mobility functionality to its offer for transport operators.

Technical specification or expertise sought

The partner sought should preferably be a technology small and medium-sized enterprise from a Eurostars country, compliant with the European definition of a small and medium-sized enterprise. The partner should have fewer than 250 employees and its own software product or platform in the mobility sector.

Relevant expertise includes one or more of the following: software for bus or public transport operators; vehicle operation support systems; computer-aided dispatch and automatic vehicle location; fleet management; scheduling and dispatching; ticketing and account-based payment; journey planning; mobility as a service platforms; intelligent transport systems; data platforms for mobility authorities; or platforms used by taxi, bus, shuttle or shared mobility operators.

The partner should be able to provide access to technical documentation, application programming interfaces, a sandbox or test environment, anonymised or synthetic operational data, and staff able to work on software integration. Access to at least one operator client or operational validation environment would be highly valuable, but it is not mandatory if the partner can provide realistic data and user validation.

The partner is expected to co-develop and test the integration prototype, define data exchange requirements, validate interoperability with its existing platform, contribute to the technical architecture, participate in testing and support the commercial exploitation plan after the Eurostars project.

Stage of development

Available for demonstration

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 10: Reduced Inequality**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**
- **Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**
- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

IPR Status

Secret know-how

IPR Notes

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The partner will act as the main international technology integration partner. Its expected role is to connect its existing mobility software platform with the Spanish coordinator's shared mobility orchestration module and to validate that the combined solution can be used by transport operators.

Specific responsibilities may include:

1. Provide a description of the current platform architecture, relevant data models and integration constraints.
2. Define the integration use cases with the coordinator, for example demand-responsive transport, flexible shuttle, ridepooling, carpooling feeder to public transport, or first and last mile connection to fixed routes.
3. Provide a test environment, application programming interfaces and anonymised, synthetic or historical data.
4. Co-develop the technical connector between both platforms.
5. Test bidirectional data exchange for travel requests, stops, routes, vehicle availability, passenger information, bookings, trip proposals, operational decisions and service performance data.
6. Support the validation of the prototype with internal users, operator users or one pilot operator connected to the partner's ecosystem.
7. Contribute to technical, operational and market requirements for productisation after the project.
8. Participate in dissemination and exploitation activities, including a joint integration roadmap and a commercial go-to-market plan.

The partner should not be a subcontractor. It should participate as a project partner under a research and development cooperation agreement and should have a direct interest in exploiting the resulting integration after the Eurostars project.

Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement

Type and size of the partner

- SME 11-49
- SME 50 - 249

Call Details

Framework program

Eureka

Call title and identifier

Eurostars Call 11 for projects

Submission and evaluation scheme

Single international Eurostars application through the Eureka project platform.

Anticipated project budget

EUR 1.5 MM

Coordinator required

No

Deadline for EoI

14 Aug 2026

Deadline of the call

10 Sep 2026

Project duration in weeks

104

Web link to the call

<https://www.eurekanetwork.org/programmes-and-calls/eurostars/eurostars-call-for-projects-september-2026/>

Project title and acronym

ORBIT, Open Real-time Bus and Intermodal Transport Orchestration

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **02010003 - System and transportation**
- **01003008 - Data Processing / Data Interchange, Middleware**
- **01003003 - Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
- **01004003 - Applications for Transport and Logistics**

Market keywords

- **02007022 - Software services**
- **08002003 - Process control equipment and systems**
- **09001007 - Other transportation**
- **02007016 - Artificial intelligence related software**

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Sector groups involved

- Digital
- Electronics
- Mobility - Transport - Automotive