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Inter-Fund Cooperation in Practice

The NCBR experience

Different funding models. One objective: long-term international R&D cooperation.

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International cooperation is part of our daily work

bilateral agreements **multilateral partnerships**

Main cooperation models

Bilateral calls	country-to-country cooperation
INNOGLOBO	flexible cooperation beyond regular calls
EUREKA / Eurostars	international business-led R&D
European Partnerships	common European agendas and calls
EEA Grants / Swiss Contribution	large cooperation programmes

The schemes are different, but the institutions and innovation communities often overlap.

Bilateral cooperation: the most direct model

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How it works

1. **Partners agree priorities**
2. **Agencies launch a joint call**
3. **Experts evaluate projects**
4. **Each agency funds its national participants**

The budgets remain national. The project and its objectives are international.

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INNOGLOBO: international R&D cooperation

Purpose

An NCBR programme for Polish companies and research organisations to develop international R&D projects with at least one foreign partner.

Origins in 2021

NCBR launched INNOGLOBO in 2021 to fill gaps in its international offer and allow more flexible choices of countries, partners and research topics.

How funding works

NCBR funds the Polish participants' R&D tasks. Foreign partners secure their own funding. Projects must fit Poland's National Smart Specialisations.

A Polish funding route for an international project, without a joint call between two agencies

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Eureka and European Partnerships

Eureka / Eurostars

Origins: governments launched Eureka in 1985 to strengthen technological competitiveness.

Model: partners define market-oriented R&D projects. National agencies fund their participants.

Eurostars: innovative SMEs lead consortia, with international assessment and national funding decisions.

Cofunded European Partnerships

Origins: consolidation of ERA-NET cooperation into co-funded partnerships under Horizon Europe (from 2021).

Model: the Commission and public or private partners agree long-term research agendas.

Co-funded calls: national agencies coordinate grants with support from Horizon Europe.

Eurostars connects both models through the European Partnership on Innovative SMEs

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EEA, Norway and Swiss cooperation mechanisms

EEA and Norway Grants

Origins: EEA cooperation since 1994. Norway Grants followed in 2004.

Purpose: reduce disparities and strengthen ties with donor states.

Applied research: NCBR runs calls with support of the Research Council of Norway (RCN) and Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS).

Swiss-Polish Cooperation Programme

Origins: Swiss support for EU cohesion since 2007, through bilateral agreements.

Model: Swiss funding and Polish co-financing support joint applied research.

Partners: NCBR operates the programme. Innosuisse supports cooperation. The Swiss development agency (SDC) provides funding.

Donor funding supports joint research, while institutional partners help build lasting cooperation

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Thank you