

The logo for Aeneas features the word "Aeneas" in a white, sans-serif font. The letter "e" is highlighted in a vibrant green color and is stylized with a circular graphic element that loops around it. The background of the entire page is a gradient from dark blue on the left to teal on the right, overlaid with a network of thin white lines and small circular nodes, suggesting a digital or interconnected theme.

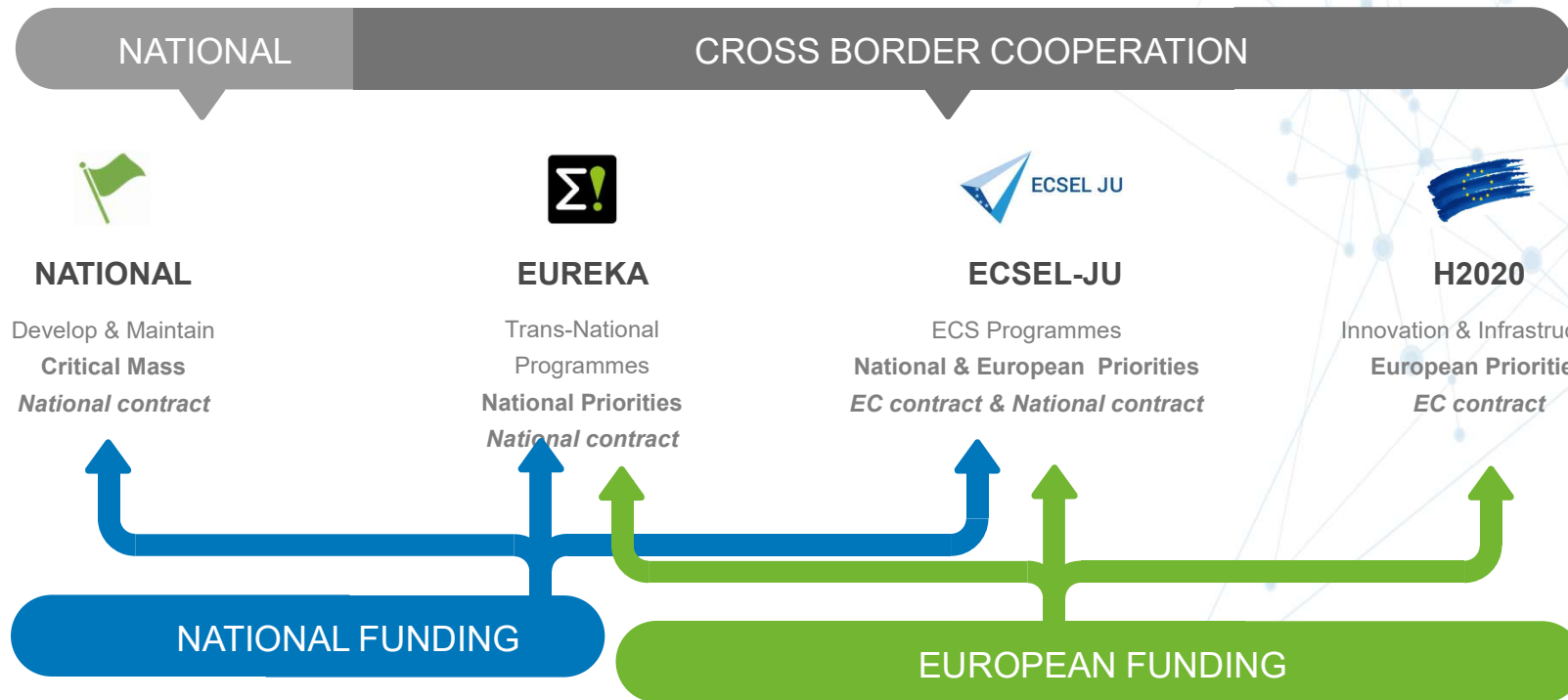
Aeneas

SME Engagement Council

SME Survey 2018

A Changing Funding Landscape

Enabling Trans-National Collaboration



SME's major role

- e SME's essential pillar of European innovation-driven growth
 - EU SME's: 67% FTE, 57% Gross Value
 - Disruptive innovation coming with new players
- e But...
 - Harder for SME's than for large corporations to enter ECS "Community"
 - SME's participation into the EC, ECSEL and instruments lower than GVA share
- e Need to adjust existing support mechanisms to Engagement with collaborative funding
- e Analysis shared by EC, EUREKA, ECS Industry Associations (AENEAS, ARTEMIS-IA, EPoSS) and regional innovation ecosystems

* Source: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Statistics_on_small_and_medium-sized_enterprises



First step: Web-based Survey

Statistically sound data on SME's needs

e Purpose

- Inform funding instruments and SME ecosystems as to best way of providing open access to SME's in advanced (trans-national) R&I cooperation
- Ultimate goal : Support rapid commercialisation and high levels of economic and societal benefits to Europe.

e Survey building principles

- Differentiate between experienced and new SME's (with regards to collaborative R&I projects)
- Determine "WHY" SME's participate/wish to participate in such collaboration
- Understand "HOW" SME's participate/wish to participate in such collaboration
- Determine "BARRIERS" that may prevent effective SME involvement
- Gather sufficient organisational data to enable analysis into segments of interest
- No more than 10 minutes to complete

e Time line

- Survey launched before mid-March, open for 3 weeks
 - Distributed via the contributing ecosystems
- Data analysis / Common recommendation elaboration by AENEAS SME Engagement Council in April
- Recommendations approved by stakeholders and submitted to funding instruments end May / beg. June
 - In time for consideration into 2019 Calls