HORIZON EUROPE AND CLUSTER 3 NOVELTIES

eNewsletter
DECEMBER 2023

FUNDING INFORMATION

NEWS AND EVENTS

RELEVANT INITIATIVES

SUCCESS STORIES AND MORE

CONTENT:

SOME WORDS IN THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER DAYS:

APRE is the leading partner in SEREN5 project and together with all project partners it intends to improve and professionalise the skills of Cluster 3 applicants as well as National Contact Points (NCPs).

All NCPs included in Cluster 3Civil Security for Society have just finished an extremely phase in invitation to grant application – Info Days in Brussel, National or regional Info Days, pre-proposal checking, partners findings for better consortium building, ….. to involve interesting stakeholders and better reach the 6 Calls with 23 relevant topics which has deadline on 23rd November 2023 and now these Calls are closed and evaluation process will start soon.

This period is just a beginning for NCPs to start to find a way on how to improve processes but we want to just THANK YOU for the work already done as a very helpful way to create a condition on how to improve security research and involvement of applicants in Cluster 3.

Invitation for grant preparation (EU) → Grant preparation (EU and Coord.) → Review of grant data (EU) → Signature of the GA (Coord.) → Signature of the GA (EU) → Signature of the accession forms (Ben.) → Payment of prefin (EU)

WHAT IS VERY USEFUL TO KNOW FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?

In this section you can find some useful information and material to support applicants in preparation of your proposals.

HOW TO DECLARE GENDER EQUALITY PLAN IN HE?

There is a need to open participant register and declare Gender Equality Plan under available instructions. In the very first step you need to select in opened wizard the first question: Does your organisation have a gender equality plan? – YES.
Anyway, you need to carefully read all the required criteria and answer the subsequent questions.

In case of failure to fulfil one of the required criteria is equivalent to not having a gender equality plan, that practically means that the initial question (if you have a GEP) will be automatically set to – NO.
Be very careful to read all the relevant information and answer. Failure to provide the Gender Equality Plan if/when requested, may lead to exclusion from the list of successful applicants, or – in case of signed grant – may lead to grant termination and/or recoveries of amounts paid.

UK ASSOCIATION TO HORIZON EUROPE

UK organisations can bid into Horizon, certain that all successful UK applicants will be covered through the UK's association (or through the UK Guarantee) for the remainder of the programme. For any UK Horizon Europe Guarantee project already underway, the UK Horizon Europe Guarantee covers funding for the project duration.

The webinar was organized by Innovate UK and aimed to provide all the information related to the announcement made by the European Commission on the September2023 reached agreement about the association of UK to Horizon Europe.

In principle this marks another step forward for the EU and UK to work together in the spirit of friendly cooperation on issues of shared interest. The European Commission and the UK Government intend to make full use of the opportunities provided by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The webinar you was recorded and full information you can find here: https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/programme/european/horizon-europe/

WHICH NEWS AND EVENTS ARE RELEVANT?

1ST SEREN5 FORUM FOR NCPS – FOLLOW UP

The 1st SEREN5 Forum for NCPs and the 2nd Cluster 3 Network Meeting were held in Brussels on 17 November 2023.

The event was dedicated only to officially nominated National Contact Points for Cluster 3 with the final aim of discussing novelties and issues in the Cluster 3 context.

The first part of the event has been devoted to explore CERIS and its main features, while the second part of the day was dedicated to work together with DG HOME representatives on the future activities and possible improvements of Cluster 3.

SECURITY RESEARCH EVENT 2023 - SRE IN SOME NUMBERS

This year's event focused on challenges stemming from global megatrends, which are shifting the ground for security in the EU. The main themes are embraced by the event's title: "Societal transformation, digitalisation and climate change – a new paradigm for Security Research?

The Security Research Event (SRE) is the annual meeting where industry, policy makers and knowledge institutions come together to discuss the state of play and current challenges for security research in Europe and more than 1250 participants were registered, more than 800 participants in site on discussion and panel key note speeches, more than 70 booths on the exhibition area.

Security Innovation Award 2023- The European Commission announced the 2023 Security Innovation Award, which will recognise innovative solutions stemming from EU-funded security research that have achieved significant success in market uptake of research results.

The Exhibition supported the SRE ´23 main theme and was enriched with small scale demos prepared by the selected projects. SEREN5 was participated in booth N29 with open discussion about project and advices of NCPs role and services.
Replay of these 2 days you can find here:
https://www.securityresearchevent.eu/page-4401

Just look at some few moments:

S5 stand N29 during SRE´2023

SRE ´23 Awarding

Panels interpretations

WHAT IS SEREMA DATABASE ?

It should be simply explained - Security Research Map.

This Platform is hosted by SEREN5, the international network of National Contact Points for Cluster 3 "Civil Security for Society" under Horizon Europe.

SeReMa try to identify researchers who work in the area of security research, either within the context of EU funded research or broader collaborative research and find international partners with the complementary expertise or technology that you are looking for.

Virtual matchmaking events – are quick and easy way to meet potential cooperation partners through easy Marketplace which is created to match mainly opportunities in expertise and search a suitable partners for consortium.

All NCPs are welcome to invite clients to participate to boost future perspective cooperation in security research, to meet potential co-operation partners through this website and database and promote profile over Europe, so SeReMa database is again back and give you a new opportunities to participate and to boost our security research community.
Stakeholders who are actively involved in security research and innovation and are interested in international cooperation can register and help building a map of security research.

All potential applicants are welcome to participate in this platform.

Register now!
https://security-research-map.b2match.io/

CERIS LAST AND FUTURE WORKSHOPS

CERIS workshop on infrastructure resilience - the topic of Security Research Contributions to the Critical Entities Resilience directive was held in November 2023 with fruitful discussion in 3 panels:

Infrastructure Resilience –operators' perspective, Infrastructure Resilience – authorities' perspective and Infrastructure Resilience – research perspective and the research outcomes and CER Directive implementation were presented.

Important event which aimed to bring together infra operators, national authorities, policymakers and researchers to discuss latest insights and lessons learned from ongoing EU-funded projects related to the CER directive. This event looked at the concrete requirements of the CER directive, and found out how Security Research can help to meet these obligations.

Early December CERIS event organised by community for European research and innovation for security (CERIS), Disaster resilient societies (DRS) on 4th December will be organised in 3 panels as e.g. discussion on involving citizens in CBRN research and capacity-building initiatives and detection and monitoring of CBRN threats and continuously to 5th December with topic such as e.g. From knowledge of multi-hazard risks and vulnerabilities to responses – Risk awareness, early warning and education or e.g. Towards an all-society approach to disaster resilience: from research to policy recommendations.

6th December will be discussed the topics very important based on technologies for first and second responders and the last day 7th December interoperability (harmonization, standardization) with topics such as Issuing recommendations to policy-makers.

4 whole days of discussions with CERIS Expert Group, including project security research panellists' with project based experiences and Session's Moderators and Session's Rapporteurs are very relevant to security research challenges

SUCCESS STORIES - SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

EU funded Cluster 3 Research and Innovation projects with the main related activities you can find here:

Project name and abbreviation: Analysis System for Gathered Raw Data (ASGARD)
Programme: Horizon 2020.
Project duration: 1 September 2016 - 30 November 2020.

ASGARD in a nutshell:
ASGARD aimed to contribute to law enforcement agency's (LEA) Technological Autonomy, by building a sustainable, long-lasting community for LEAs and the R&D industry. This community has developed, maintained, and evolved a best-of-class tool set for the extraction, fusion, exchange, and analysis of Big Data, including cyber-offence data for forensic investigation. ASGARD helped LEAs significantly increase their analytical capabilities and has driven progress in the processing of seized data, availability of massive amounts of data, and big data solutions in an ever more connected world. Forensics, being a focus of ASGARD, both intelligence and foresight dimensions, were significantly addressed by the project. More significantly, this work has led to the development of EACTDA, a very important network for the development of new technologies in fighting cybercrime.

The essence of the new and more efficient way of collaboration consisted of adopting and adapting to the needs of EU collaborative research projects principles and best practices of the Open Source Model (e.g., open collaboration, decentralization, peer-production, and iterative and incremental full-development cycles). The full development, integration, and testing cycles lasted 6 months. At the end of each of these cycles the tools that have passed the tests were released and jointly evaluated at "hackathon" type of events. Partner LEA could then install the released tools on their premises and conduct their evaluations (with their data).

Finally, project outputs have been procured by national authorities from Lithuania, Spain, France, Portugal, Austria, and the Netherlands. The project was coordinated by "Vicomtech" (Spain) and consisted of 12 LEAs, 15 RTOs/Universities, and 6 SMEs.

ASGARD was awarded for the best collaborative innovative technology in the 2022 Security Innovation Award event organized by EU DG HOME.

Project webpage: https://www.asgard-project.eu/.
More information on CORDIS: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/700381.

Project name and abbreviation:
EnhANcing emergencY management and response to extreme WeatHER and climate Events (ANYWHERE).

Programme: Horizon 2020.
Project duration: 1 June 2016 - 31 December 2019.

ANYWHERE in a nutshell:
Extreme Weather and Climate (W&C) events are the cause of a number of hazards affecting our society through their impacts on the outdoor exposed activities and assets, and when interacting with exposed and vulnerable human and natural systems they can lead to disasters.

The EU-funded ANYWHERE project sought to "Empower exposed responder institutions and citizens to enhance their anticipation and proactive capacity of response in dealing with extreme and high-impact weather and climate events". To achieve this, ANYWHERE has developed solutions to support a new concept of emergency management that's able to improve the response capabilities of public protection and disaster relief actors across Europe and beyond.

For decision support concerning extreme climate risks, ANYWHERE team has developed a pan-European platform – A4EU. It identifies beforehand critical situations that could lead to fatalities and economic losses.

A4EU serves as a decision-making tool for operational authorities when faced with a crisis situation and provides state-of-the-art early warning systems to help expos populations and minimize impacts. The platform automatically and in advance identifies critical points to be affected, including their characteristics and location, allowing emergency response specialists to focus on local impacts.

Project partners have implemented, tested, and demonstrated seven A4EU prototypes at civil protection command centers in six European countries. Representing different climate scenarios, these operational platforms support decision-making processes to better tackle weather-induced emergencies. The project team has also developed and implemented four self-protection tools for specific situations that both citizens and enterprises can use to effectively anticipate and respond to extreme weather-induced risks.

A4Campsite increases self-protection at campsites located in the flood-prone areas of Catalonia, A4Snow predicts road impacts during severe snowfall in Catalonia, A4Schools boosts self-awareness to keep students safe at schools in Genoa when confronted with eventual flooding episodes, and A4Grid reduces storm-driven impacts on electricity transmission grids in Finland.

The project was coordinated by Universitat Politechnica de Catalunya (Spain) and consisted of 34 partners from 11 different countries.

The project was awarded for resilience in the 2022 Security Innovation Award event organized by EU DG HOME.

Project webpage: http://anywhere-h2020.eu/.
More information on Cordis: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/700099

Visit **SEREN5** website and **Funding and Tenders Portal** to get relevant information.

Get involved in European Research and Horizon Europe.

Follow us and get in touch with news in Cluster 3 and SEREN5 activities!

WE WISH YOU MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Funded by the European Union

For more information: seren5@apre.it