

CCG

INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

Monthly Funding Insight
Week Commencing 11th February 2024

Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use (2023/24)

This Destination addresses activities targeting the energy demand side, notably a more efficient use of energy as regards buildings and industry. It contributes to the activities of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan) and its implementation working groups.

This Destination contributes to the following Strategic Plan's Key Strategic Orientations (KSO):

- C: Making Europe the first digitally enabled circular, climate-neutral and sustainable economy through the transformation of its mobility, energy, construction and production systems;
- A: Promoting an open strategic autonomy[['Open strategic autonomy' refers to the term 'strategic autonomy while preserving an open economy', as reflected in the conclusions of the European Council 1 – 2 October 2020.]] by leading the development of key digital, enabling and emerging technologies, sectors and value chains to accelerate and steer the digital and green transitions through human-centred technologies and innovations.

It covers the following impact areas:

- Industrial leadership in key and emerging technologies that work for people;
- Affordable and clean energy;
- Circular and clean economy.

The expected impact, in line with the Strategic Plan, is to contribute to the “Efficient and sustainable use of energy, accessible for all is ensured through a clean energy system and a just transition”, notably through

- Technological and socio-economic breakthroughs for achieving climate neutrality and the transition to zero pollution of the building stock by 2050, based on inclusive and people-centric R&I (more detailed information below).
- Increased energy efficiency in industry and reducing industry's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and air pollutant emissions through recovery, upgrade and/or conversion of industrial excess (waste) heat and through electrification of heat generation (more information below).

This Destination has at its core the ambition to deliver on the research, innovation and technological developments needs to meet EU climate and energy targets, forward-looking policy implementation and long-term carbon neutrality objective. The Destination contributes as well (e.g. through the topics that support digitalisation and smartness of buildings) to the EU digital agenda. Though biodiversity is not in the focus of this Destination, the multiple impacts of the built environment on biodiversity (e.g. in the scope of renovation) should be considered.

The Destination has a strong policy dimension – it is steered by EU policy action in the energy and climate domains, the European Green Deal overarching policy priority, the Renovation Wave Strategy (for buildings topics), the Industrial Strategy, the Industrial Emissions Directive (for industry topics) and the forward-looking policy measures proposed in the Fit for 55 – Delivering European Green Deal package.

In the light of the Versailles Declaration[[The Versailles Declaration, 10 and 11 March 2022, <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/54773/20220311-versailles-declaration-en.pdf>]], and acknowledging the need to reduce the energy dependencies of the EU, this Destination will strongly focus on innovations that boost energy efficiency and reduce energy demand in buildings and the industry, thereby contributing to making Europe independent from Russian gas supplies (and other fossil fuel

supply from Russia) by the end of the decade in line with the REPowerEU Communication[[‘REPowerEU: Joint European action for more affordable, secure and sustainable energy’, COM(2022) 108 final, 8 March 2022.]].

Highly energy-efficient and climate neutral EU building stock

The Destination will contribute to putting the EU on track for achieving climate neutrality of its building stock by 2050 and to effectively promoting Europe’s independence from Russian gas supplies (and other fossil fuels from Russia) before 2030 by means of a more clean, efficient and sustainable building stock. It will deliver the solutions that can help increase buildings renovation rates, reduce energy consumptions of buildings, improve smart readiness, improve circularity, and improve users’ comfort, well-being and health, while keeping housing affordable, in line with the objectives of the Renovation Wave and the revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.

This Destination will contribute to ‘reducing our energy dependencies’ priority of the Versailles declaration across all topics, in particular by improving energy efficiency and the management of energy consumption in buildings, and by delivering more circular approaches to construction and renovation of buildings. The Destination will also contribute to the ‘Electrify Europe’ track of REPowerEU by delivering innovative solutions for energy efficiency and electrification of homes and buildings, e.g. thanks to heat pumps. These priorities are addressed in a specific flagship topic.

It will contribute to the uptake of digital and smart solutions in buildings and to improved energy flexibility, in line with the Action Plan on the digitalisation of the energy sector. The Destination’s innovation will contribute to make the sector fit to support the achievement of higher ambition on energy efficiency under Fit for 55. The Destination’s topics contribute significantly to the New European Bauhaus[[https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en]](NEB), integrating the core NEB values of sustainability, inclusion and aesthetics in the built environment (e.g. in relation to cultural heritage and quality of experience), and they are consistent with the EU roadmap and policy initiatives on digitalisation in the construction sector and on sustainability of buildings (e.g. Level(s)). On climate, one aim will also be to enhance the role of buildings as carbon sinks in the voluntary market for carbon removals, in line with the upcoming Communication on Restoring sustainable carbon cycles and the Proposal for a regulatory framework for carbon removal certification.

The Destination also relies on the Built4People co-programmed partnership’s broader action and is complementary to Driving Urban Transitions partnership and to the Mission on Climate Neutral and Smart Cities.

Main expected impacts:

- The European buildings and energy sectors are able to effectively support higher EU ambition on energy efficiency, energy independence, and the transition to zero-emission buildings, with a stronger link between innovation in technology and practices, and policy drivers and instruments.
- Building stocks continue to evolve to combine energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, storage, and digital and smart technologies, supporting the transformation of the energy system towards climate neutrality and reducing Europe’s energy dependencies.
- Buildings constructed and renovated see their performance enhanced across the board (energy performance, life-cycle emissions, indoor environment quality), with lower environmental impacts, and rates of holistic renovations continue increasing. Buildings are able to adapt to changing user needs for dynamic and more efficient use of building spaces and they are more resilient to climate change and better integrated in the grid.
- A higher quality, more affordable and inclusive, built environment mitigating climate change and preserving environment, safeguarding cultural heritage, considering sustainability, circularity and aesthetics, while ensuring better living conditions.
- Industry



The Destination will contribute to putting the EU on track for achieving climate neutrality of the industrial sector by 2050, while also reducing other polluting emissions, and for effectively promoting Europe's independence from Russian gas supplies (and other fossil fuels from Russia) before 2030 by means of a more clean, efficient and sustainable industrial processes. It will deliver the solutions that can help a faster transition to renewable and low carbon energy sources for thermal energy generation, and a reduction of the energy consumption through waste heat recovery, storage and upgrade for reuse in other processes. These solutions will contribute to reduce GHG and polluting emissions and reinforce the frontrunner and competitive position of the European industry. They are in line with the research and innovations areas identified in the Implementation Plan of the action of the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan dedicated to 'energy efficiency in industry'.

The bulk of R&I dedicated to industry is covered in Cluster 4 (Digital, Industry and Space), and in particular by the private public partnership Processes4Planet focussing on process industries. In Cluster 5, this Destination focusses on the management of thermal energy in industry.

Main expected impacts:

- Increasing energy efficiency in industry and reducing industry's energy dependence, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and air pollutant emissions through recovery, upgrade and/or conversion of industrial excess (waste) heat and through the integration of renewable energy sources into more efficient and flexible systems for the generation of heat and cold for industrial processes.

Call Title:	Industrialisation of sustainable and circular deep renovation workflows (Built4People Partnership) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02-01	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€16,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlining resource-efficient nearly zero-energy performance renovation processes. Renovations with reduction of at least 30 % waste, 25% cost, and 30% work time (to 1-2 days per dwelling/building unit), compared to current deep renovation processes. Reduced energy performance gap between as-built and as-designed (difference between theoretical and measured performance), and higher construction quality. Innovative, tailored business models for deep renovation, generating economies of scale and contributing to an increased rate of renovation. Improved comfort, Indoor Air Quality and Indoor Environmental Quality. <p>Scope:</p> <p>In line with the Renovation Wave and in order to meet long-term climate and energy targets, more action is needed to increase the rate and depth of building renovation. Several recent projects and calls have focused on prefabrication for deep renovation, but more work is needed to develop innovative, seamless workflows from design to off-site prefabrication, to installation, construction on-site, maintenance and future dismantling, reuse and recycling of prefabricated elements, duly considering life cycle performance, sustainability, and the potential to use the buildings as carbon sinks.</p>		

	<p>Proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate innovative approaches for industrialised deep circular renovation, covering the whole workflow from design through to off-site prefabrication, installation, construction on-site and strategies for maintenance, operation and end of life. • Ensure the proposed approaches aim to achieve the highest level of energy performance (at least NZEB level) with a view toward zero-emission buildings, ensuring a high level of indoor environment quality, keeping costs in an attractive range for owners and investors. • Make use of innovative processes and technologies, including those delivered by previous research, such as design based on circularity principles, prefabricated components, and digital tools that allow to optimise workflows (cost, time, quality, resource use). • Demonstrate a seamless integration of the proposed approaches with state-of-the-art digital technologies for construction and renovation (Building Information Modelling, Digital Twins, etc.). • Select processes and technologies that can be easily tailored to give a maximum potential for rapid and broad deployment at European level. • Investigate innovative business models (e.g. as-a-service models), accounting for potential market and regulatory barriers, in view of mass deployment and Europe-wide impact. • Apply the proposed workflows to at least three demonstrations to assess the proposed approaches for different buildings typologies representative of the European building stock, ensuring the most adequate coverage of the respective climatic conditions. The demonstrations can be either single buildings or clusters of buildings, and at least one of the demonstrations has to address residential buildings. • Contribute to the activities of the Built4People partners and to the Built4People network of innovation clusters. <p>This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on ‘People-centric sustainable built environment’ (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to report on results to the European Partnership ‘People-centric sustainable built environment’ (Built4People) in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d4-02-01

Call Title:	Robotics and other automated solutions for construction, renovation and maintenance in a sustainable built environment (Built4People Partnership) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02-02	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€8,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of construction and renovation time on-site (at least 40% reduction). • Reduction of errors in construction and renovation works. 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved resource efficiency. • Reduction of construction and renovation costs. • Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from, and improved energy efficiency of the works on-site. • Reduced environmental impact of construction works, including pollution, particulate matter[1] and noise, in the immediate vicinity. • Reduction of waste generated from the works on-site. <p>Scope:</p> <p>The transformation of the built environment should take place in a way that minimises the environmental impact of the works themselves. With the increasing rollout of highly energy efficient, sustainable buildings and deep renovation, there is a growing need for the development of robotic and automated solutions to support sustainable building construction, renovation and maintenance processes that are less disruptive, cleaner and faster.</p> <p>Proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the use of robotic systems (including those used for 3D printing) and automation for construction and deep renovation, in order to reduce time of construction and renovation works, reduce construction errors, as well as facilitate maintenance, also minimising the impact of the works on the surrounding built environment. • Explore the potential for lower construction costs through automation and robotics resulting from increased speed, improved resource efficiency and avoidance of errors. • Develop robotic and automated design and construction techniques that increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from construction and renovation works on-site. • Develop approaches that use digitally assisted design to improve resource efficiency and safety, reduce waste, and reduce construction time. • Investigate the use of automated technologies for surveying, inspection and monitoring of the site. • Investigate the use of automated support to augment workers' capability and safety (e.g., lift robots, exoskeletons, automated construction site monitoring, use of augmented and virtual reality). • Test and validate the prototyped solutions in at least three prototypes to assess the proposed approaches for a variety of buildings typologies representative of the European building stock. These prototypes should be validated in a lab or another relevant environment. The testing and validation are expected to address both new construction and renovation. • Contribute to the activities of the Built4People partners and to the Built4People network of innovation clusters. <p>This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to report on results to the European Partnership 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People) in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 4-5 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d4-02-02



Call Title:	BIM-based processes and digital twins for facilitating and optimising circular energy renovation (Built4People Partnership) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02-03	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€8,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced buildings construction and renovation time and costs. • Increased buildings material reuse and recycling. • Improvement of buildings performance (energy, sustainability including whole life-cycle carbon and the potential to store carbon in built works, comfort, health and well-being, and accessibility). • Enhanced, interoperable and accessible buildings information across the lifecycle. • Improvement of interoperability with existing Building Information Modelling (BIM) and Digital Twin solutions. • Broader application of BIM and Digital Twin solutions, in particular within SMEs. <p>Scope: To improve Building Information Modelling and Digital Twinning over the full life cycle of buildings, including construction and renovation of buildings, towards enhanced energy efficiency and sustainability and in compliance with circular economy and resource efficiency principles.</p> <p>Proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and integrate solutions based on BIM and Digital Twins to support the whole buildings life cycle from design to deconstruction and reuse, including operation. • Ensure the solutions developed address all the following aspects: • Supporting optimal, adaptable and reversible building design for energy efficiency, circularity and sustainability. • Allowing to track buildings materials and construction products, and supporting cost-effective deconstruction and reuse, recycling and recovery of building materials at end of life. • Integrating buildings monitoring data (e.g. from sensors and IoT devices) into an interoperable Digital Twin for automated, optimised building performance monitoring and management, and preventive maintenance. • Enabling buildings data interoperability, quality and integrity across the life cycle, in particular to reliably assess and track building performance over the lifecycle, enabling tailored data access for all life cycle's stakeholders (architects, engineering companies, contractors, building owners, financing institutions, etc.). • Relying where possible on open BIM standards and linking, where relevant, to digital logbooks and relevant initiatives (e.g. the Smart Readiness Indicator under the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive). • Easiness of use and cost effectiveness, in particular for SMEs and companies with limited experience in digital solutions, and high potential for replication and commercialisation. 		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the solutions delivered on a set (at least two) of real-life residential and non-residential building construction and renovation projects which, taken together, allow to demonstrate the potential of the solutions across all aspects listed in the topic and across the life cycle. • Ensure that the demonstrations of the solutions delivered: • Cover at least two different countries, with diverse climatic conditions. • Involve local and regional value chains, in particular SMEs, based on participatory approaches to increase innovation acceptability. • Result in clear and, where relevant, quantified and measurable indicators on the improvements due to the use of the solutions, for all aspects listed in the topic and across the life cycle. • Contribute to the activities of the Built4People partners and to the Built4People network of innovation clusters. <p>This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on ‘People-centric sustainable built environment’ (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to report on results to the European Partnership ‘People-centric sustainable built environment’ (Built4People) in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d4-02-03

Call Title:	Design for adaptability, re-use and deconstruction of buildings, in line with the principles of circular economy (Built4People Partnership) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02-04	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€8,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved adaptability of buildings and building units to new uses. • Increased reuse and recycling of building elements and products. • Extended service life of buildings. • Increased awareness on best practices for design for adaptability, reuse and deconstruction. <p>Scope:</p> <p>Based on the integration of innovative tools, products and techniques, to enable construction and renovation that embeds the principle of extending the service life of buildings, and facilitate adaptability to changing user needs (e.g. for optimal use of indoor space or to improve working and living conditions), reuse, and deconstruction, in a life-cycle optimisation and circular economy perspective.</p> <p>Proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validate construction and renovation solutions based on the integration of innovative tools, products, techniques, processes and methods, that facilitate deconstruction and reuse, based on life-cycle approaches across the value chain. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the solutions validated: • Consider the adaptability and reversibility of buildings and building units to changing uses, and to other relevant factors (e.g. evolution of surroundings). • Improve the ease of reuse of construction elements and products from existing buildings, also facilitating recycling when reuse is not possible. • Develop building elements and products that can be disassembled and reused, including those made from CO2-storing materials such as sustainably sourced long-lived bio-based materials and products and, innovative lower emission materials /aggregates. • Address all components of buildings, including structural elements, envelopes, interior fixtures and fittings, and technical building systems. • Are rooted in local and regional value chains, based on participative approaches for social acceptability of innovation, in particular with regard to the workforce's practices and skills. • Can flexibly adapt to local / regional sourcing of innovative products and materials to increase replication. • Address climate change mitigation, minimising emissions. • Allow to minimise any negative impacts of pollution and biodiversity loss from renovation and construction works. • Validation of the solutions in a relevant environment (real-life or close to real-life) that: • Covers residential and non-residential projects, half of which at least should be renovation projects. • Covers at least two different countries, with diverse climatic conditions. • Involves local and regional values chains, in particular SMEs, based on participatory approaches to increase innovation buy-in from users. • Results in clear and, where relevant, quantified and measurable indicators on the improvements due to the use of the solutions. • Deliver guidance and recommendations for technology providers, regulatory authorities, certification and standardisation bodies, and define and implement ambitious dissemination actions, to promote the approaches demonstrated and support their replication. • Where relevant, contribute through specific and targeted actions to standardisation and regulatory evolutions that can foster reuse and deconstruction of buildings materials and products. • Contribute to the activities of the Built4People partners and to the Built4People network of innovation clusters. <p>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</p> <p>This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to report on results to the European Partnership 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People) in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-6 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d4-02-04

Call Title:	Digital solutions to foster participative design, planning and management of buildings, neighbourhoods and urban districts (Built4People Partnership) HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02-05	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	21 January 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€10,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater engagement of representative groups of end users as well as citizens of the impacted urban context. • Increased acceptability and uptake of sustainable deep renovation solutions in the built environment. • Reduced energy and mobility poverty. • Increase in plans for climate neutral and sustainable, aesthetic and inclusive built environments with enhanced climate adaptation and resilience (e.g. based on nature-based solutions). • Enhanced climate change adaptation and resilience in built environments. <p>Scope:</p> <p>The transition to a climate-neutral society requires that Europe's building stock also becomes climate-neutral. At the same time, Europe's building stock has to become climate resilient. This requires a comprehensive approach beyond individual buildings, namely at the level of neighbourhoods or urban districts. However, the decarbonisation of the built environment and its adaptation to a changing climate and to societal needs in terms of comfort, accessibility, inclusiveness, and aesthetics cannot happen without active participation of the buildings' users and occupants, individual / collective property owners, and energy communities as beneficiaries of the value chain. Professionals, such as project developers, architects, engineers, building owners, planners and statutory authorities, require solutions that develop, analyse, model, visualise and present a multitude and complex set of information in such a way that facilitates such co-design processes. This topic focuses on the development of digital solutions for a stronger participation of end users, citizens and other relevant stakeholders in the design, planning and management of the renovation of existing buildings, neighbourhoods and / or districts.</p> <p>Proposals are expected to address one or both of the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital solutions that facilitate participative design and planning through visualisation, analysis and engagement with data that is directly relevant to building users as well as citizens in the surrounding urban area (including e.g. immersive and interactive technologies, Virtual Reality / Augmented Reality, simulations and scenario modelling). • Digital solutions that allow to analyse and model different scenarios for to-be-renovated buildings, neighbourhoods and / or districts in terms of energy use and generation; users' health and wellbeing; impact on the energy grid; provisions for active and electric mobility, and sustainable delivery solutions; life-cycle environmental and micro-climatic impacts, and; socio-economic impacts for citizens, building users, owners and occupants. <p>In addition, proposals are expected to address all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address aspects of climate-neutrality and climate-resilience, respecting the 'energy efficiency first' principle. • Ensure the digital solution complements, builds on and/or uses existing tools (including, where relevant, on conventional, low-tech ones) and standards recognised by the market. 		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage citizens (seeking coverage of different genders and social characteristics), end users of the tools and other relevant stakeholders involved in the design, planning and management of urban development projects in the development process of the digital solution. Ensure the digital solution offers different means to exchange information and provide input that are tailored to the specific needs of laypersons, including vulnerable, minority and disadvantaged groups as well as persons with disabilities and older persons. Demonstrate the prototype in at least three real-life urban development projects to apply, evaluate and refine the digital solution and inform its market launch and / or commercialisation strategy. Ensure the project's dissemination activities include actions that contribute to the activities of the NEB Community, and to sharing information, best practices and results within the NEB Lab. Contribute to the activities of the Built4People partners and to the Built4People network of innovation clusters. <p>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise (including social innovation), in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.</p> <p>This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to report on results to the European Partnership 'People-centric sustainable built environment' (Built4People) in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl5-2024-d4-02-05

Fighting Crime and Terrorism - Better protect the EU and its citizens against Crime and Terrorism (2023/24)

Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following expected impact of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021-2024: "Crime and terrorism are more effectively tackled, while respecting fundamental rights, [...] thanks to more powerful prevention, preparedness and response, a better understanding of related human, societal and technological aspects, and the development of cutting-edge capabilities for police authorities [...] including measures against cybercrime."

More specifically, proposals should contribute to the achievement of one or more of the following impacts:

- Modern information analysis for Police Authorities, allowing them to efficiently fight criminals and terrorists who use novel technologies;
- Improved forensics and lawful evidence collection, increasing the capabilities to apprehend criminals and terrorists and bring them to the court;
- Enhanced prevention, detection and deterrence of societal issues related to various forms of crime, including cybercrime, and terrorism, such as violent radicalisation, domestic and sexual violence, or juvenile offenders;
- Increased security of citizens against terrorism, including in public spaces (while preserving their quality and openness);
- Improved intelligence picture and enhanced prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of organised crime;
- More secure cyberspace for citizens, especially children, through a robust prevention, detection and protection from cybercriminal activities.



This Destination will also promote, whenever appropriate and applicable, the proposals with:

- the involvement of the Police Authorities in their core,
- a clear strategy on how they will adapt to the fast-evolving environment in the area of fight against crime and terrorism (evolution of related technologies, evolution of criminal modi operandi and business models related to these technologies, etc.),
- a minimum-needed platform, i.e. tools that are modular and can be easily plugged into another platform (in order to avoid platform multiplication),
- tools that are developed and validated against practitioners' needs and requirements,
- a robust plan on how they will build on the relevant predecessor projects,
- the (active) involvement of citizens, voluntary organisations and communities,
- education and training aspects, especially for Police Authorities and other relevant practitioners, as well as information sharing and awareness raising of the citizens,
- a clear strategy on the uptake of the outcomes, defined in consultation with the involved stakeholders,
- a well-developed plan both on how research data for training and testing will be obtained, in order to reach the requested Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs), and on how the specific TRL will be measured.

Where possible and relevant, synergy-building and clustering initiatives with successful proposals in the same area should be considered, including the organisation of international conferences in close coordination with the Community for European Research and Innovation for Security (CERIS) activities and/or other international events.

Call Title:	Mitigating new threats and adapting investigation strategies in the era of Internet of Things HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-01	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€5,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased understanding of Police Authorities regarding the emerging (digital and especially physical) threats of the fast-developing environment of Internet of Things; • Modern tools to tackle new and emerging forms of crime pertaining to the development of Internet of Things are provided to European Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners, which take into account legal and ethical rules of operation, EU fundamental rights such as privacy and protection of personal data as well as cost-benefit considerations; • Lawful access and exploitation of evidence in the environment of the Internet of Things are fortified; • Best practices (legal, organisational, technical) to access and exploit Internet of Things in the course of investigation are strengthened, including by developing relevant tools and training materials. <p>Scope:</p>		

	<p>Internet of Things (IoT) connects practically everything and makes everything more vulnerable as well. IoT devices increasingly benefit from the convergence and integration of technologies, such as machine learning, real-time analytics as well as 5G that will provide faster and more reliable connections for all devices.</p> <p>There are a number of implications particular to IoT devices, which have been consistently highlighted by researchers and Police Authorities. For example, the vulnerability of IoT devices may be exploited by criminals who seek to collect personal data, compromise user credentials or spy on organisations or people. Furthermore, IoT devices may represent a threat that goes beyond the digital world, i.e. they may become an increasingly physical threat, since they find applications in, e.g., industry and infrastructure, as well as in building smart cities. Malevolent actions against connected devices with direct physical impact (e.g. car-to-car communication, hacking of vehicles, hospitals, nuclear plants) are also a growing concern.</p> <p>Therefore, the successful proposal should help Police Authorities understand the implications of the fast-developing IoT environment in order to keep pace with the evolution of its applications, recognise and tackle the emerging (digital and especially physical) threats that this may pose.</p> <p>At the same time, IoT proliferation will provide opportunities for the Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners to collect a new range of data in relation with criminal activities. New investigating schemes are needed for Police Authorities to access and exploit IoTs evidence, in compliance with EU values. To this end, the proposal should examine the extent to which, e.g., modern European vehicle models, smart TVs, private surveillance systems, virtual assistants or voice control systems can be considered as sources of evidence for the collection and analysis of data, as well as how such data can be used for deriving indicators of an imminent threat.</p> <p>The research should assess legal, organisational and technical implications of IoT development in the context of investigations, including e.g. privacy issues, and propose strategies, including training materials, tools and path to standards that would foster “by design” a lawful access to relevant evidence.</p> <p>In this topic the integration of the gender dimension (sex and gender analysis) in research and innovation content should be addressed only if relevant in relation to the objectives of the research effort.</p> <p>The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects as well as create synergies with similar on-going security research projects from the Calls 2021-2022 on Fighting Crime and Terrorism and on Increased Cybersecurity, in order to avoid duplication and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact. Possibilities of coordination with related activities in the Digital Europe Programme[1] should be analysed too.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-6 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-01



Call Title:	Open Topic HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-02	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€9,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome: Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved European common forensics investigation capabilities, evidence collection and cross-border exchanges in the domain under consideration; • Police Authorities and forensic institutes are provided with innovative, harmonised and modern tools and procedures for forensic applications in the investigation of the crime under consideration, in full compliance with applicable legislation on protection of personal data; • Forensic practitioners and Police Authorities active in crime scene investigations are provided with modern and innovative training curricula in the forensic domain under consideration. <p>Scope: Under the Open Topic, proposals are welcome to address new, upcoming or unforeseen challenges and/or creative or disruptive forensic solutions for fighting crime and terrorism, that are not covered by the other topics of Horizon Europe Calls Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2021-2022, Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2023 and Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2024.</p> <p>Adapted to the nature, scope and type of proposed projects, proposals should convincingly explain how they will plan and/or carry out demonstration, testing or validation of developed tools and solutions. Proposals should also delineate the plans to develop possible future uptake and upscaling at national and EU level for possible next steps after the research project.</p> <p>Research proposals should consider, build on if appropriate and not duplicate previous research, including but not limited to research by other Framework Programmes' projects. When applicable, the successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects.</p> <p>If relevant for the proposals, a coordination scheme should be implemented for the successful proposals submitted under this topic, as well as with the successful proposals funded under other topics of this or previous Horizon Europe Fighting Crime and Terrorism Calls.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-7 by the end of the project</p>		
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-02		

Call Title:	Lawful evidence collection in online child sexual abuse investigations, including undercover HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-03	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€3,700,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of safer justice outcomes through an increased understanding of the EU-wide legal aspects of online investigations, including undercover, in the area of child sexual abuse; • Improved understanding of the EU-wide legislative frameworks that impact (undercover) investigations in this area; • Modern and robust methods at the European level are proposed at all steps of an investigative process in this area, overcoming various types of biases and obstacles to the collection of evidence that is admissible in court and respects the dignity, privacy, protection of personal data and anonymity of victims; • Forensic practitioners, Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners active in online (including undercover) child sexual abuse investigations benefit from innovative guidelines, manuals, education and training curricula. <p>Scope:</p> <p>The use of online undercover investigation techniques is an important asset for Police Authorities in infiltrating the networks of sexual abusers of children. These methods have proven very effective in understanding offender behaviour and interaction of online service providers, and have ultimately facilitated the shutting down of communication channels used by these offenders, as well as their prosecution. An increasingly important need for Police Authorities' activity in these spaces is the ability to effectively infiltrate particularly dangerous online groups of offenders, while making sure that the evidence obtained will be admissible in court. EU values and fundamental rights shall stay in the core of any future measures. Research in this area should tackle legislative frameworks to collecting evidence in online, including undercover, investigations of child sexual abuse, leading to guidelines and manuals that would make the capability available across the EU to target these offenders more effectively. The results of this research topic (training, manuals guidelines) should be shared among all European Police Authorities, notably via CEPOL, provided that the Agency opts out from applying for funding under this topic. The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects as well as create synergies with similar on-going security research projects from the Calls 2021-2022 on Fighting Crime and Terrorism in the area of digital forensics and countering child sexual abuse, in order to avoid duplication and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.</p> <p>Since the use of undercover agents online could be beneficial in other crime areas too, particularly in counter terrorism, analysis of possibilities for the developed approaches to be adapted to these other crime areas would be welcome. Special care needs to be given to ethics and fundamental rights protection throughout the research and the solutions proposed. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p>		

	Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-6 by the end of the project
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-03

Call Title:	Radicalisation and gender HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-04	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€3,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to some or all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved understanding of motivation of women and girls for supporting extremist ideologies, such as grievance and stigmatisation; • Improved understanding of the role of masculinity in men and boys' motivation for the support of extreme ideologies; • Better understanding of the group dynamics at play during processes of radicalisation, including factors for factionalism and potential splinters in terrorist organisations; • Development of strategies aimed at enhancing the use of motivation factor in detection, prevention and de-radicalisation efforts; • European Police Authorities, Prison Authorities, social care workers, teachers and other P/CVE practitioners benefit from modern and validated tools, skills and training curricula to identify early symptoms of radicalisation; • Identification and assessment of best practices that are transferable across Member States improving and developing modules and trainings, strengthening adaption of local community policing in diverse communities; and • Design girls and women's empowerment approaches through legal, financial and/or cultural means aimed at tackling the root causes of radicalisation and extremism. <p>Scope:</p> <p>Terrorism resulting from radicalisation and violent extremism is a serious threat to European security. Part of the complexity of these phenomena lies in the fact that there is neither a single pathway to radicalisation nor a single terrorist profile. Support of extremists is an effect of individual clusters of psychological, personal, social, economic and political reasons. From a gender perspective, women's radicalisation and involvement in violent extremist groups remain relatively under-researched, poorly understood and possibly characterized by misconceptions about women's exclusion from decision-making processes, as well as their significant underrepresentation in bodies countering the phenomena. In situations of conflict and violence, women are often seen as passive, victims, subordinate and maternal, while these could be assumptions reinforcing gender stereotypes. In order to improve understandings of radicalization and gender we need to study how and why gender norms appear as an increasingly contested area of politics with strong mobilizing power. What role gender norms and equality policies play in stabilizing and destabilizing social and political order, and how ideas and norms about gender equality make people react, mobilize and engage politically, at present, in the past and in the future. The entry point for prevention and de-radicalisation efforts are local communities, which are both stakeholders and partners of the law enforcement in this process. Activities aimed at youngsters and adults have to be gender sensitive, and research has to deliver tailored advice and solutions adequately, and proportionately addressing all critical issues.</p>		



	<p>Community policing with its multidisciplinary approach seeks the cooperation of local communities and the broad range of public authorities in its efforts of building safe environments. However, those efforts should recognise not only cultural, social and economic diversity of the milieus, but as mentioned above also be gender sensitive. The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects as well as seek to exploit potential synergies with the successful proposal(s) funded under HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-03: New methods and technologies in service of community policing and transferable best practices, and HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-05: Gender-roles in extremist movements and their impact on democracy.</p> <p>Moreover, the EU Counter-Terrorism Agenda adopted in 2020 outlines that Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) will identify best practices and approaches of community policing and engagement to build trust with and among communities, thus research under this topic should also build upon the work done by RAN. This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-6 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-04

Call Title:	Combating hate speech online and offline HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-05	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€3,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners with better, modern and validated tools, methods and training curricula to tackle those activities related to hate speech that are considered as crime or could lead to a crime, notably such activities which are supported by advanced digital technologies, such as in emerging cyber environments; • Developing European common approaches, and making them available to policy-makers and security practitioners, for analysing risks/threats, collecting data on hate speech, collecting court-proof evidence and crime attribution, and identifying and deploying relevant security measures related to hate motivated crime and speech, which take into account the European multicultural dimension, legal and ethical rules, cost-benefit considerations, as well as fundamental rights such as the right to freedom of expression, privacy and protection of personal data; • Enhancing citizen's security perception and the hate speech prevention by preparing education and training materials on cultural and societal impacts of hate speech and hate crime. <p>Scope:</p> <p>Hate speech has harmful impacts on the individual victims, or groups of victims, but also on our society at large. Undermining the fundamental values of the EU, such as respect for human dignity, freedom and equality. Under EU law, racist and xenophobic hate motivated crime and speech are illegal. The Framework Decision on combating certain forms of expressions of racism and xenophobia[1] requires the criminalisation of public</p>		

	<p>incitement to violence or hatred based on race, colour, religion, descent or national or ethnic origin. The Commission's policies address also specific forms of hate speech and hate crime against groups and communities[2] (e.g., antisemitism[3], anti-Muslim hatred or anti-gypsyism[4], hate speech and hate crime relating to gender and sexual orientation[5]. In 2021, the European Commission adopted a Communication[6] which prompts a Council decision to extend the current list of EU crimes in Article 83(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) to all forms of hate crime and hate speech. Since 2016, the Commission's efforts in countering hate speech and hate crime also involve dedicated exchanges and tools in support to national authorities in the context of the High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime.</p> <p>Addressing hate speech from all angles increases the chance of combating it in a sustainable manner. Thus, in line with all the above initiatives and with the Victims Rights Directive[7] and the EU Strategy on Victims' Rights[8], the successful proposal is expected to reinforce hate crime training and capacity building for Police Authorities and other relevant security practitioners, in particular to enhance their tools and methods for lawful detection, reporting and data/evidence collection and analysis of the hate speech related activities that are considered as crime or could lead to a crime, notably the ones supported by advanced digital technologies, such as in emerging cyber environments. By doing so, being an innovation action, the successful proposal is expected to build on previously developed tools for related applications (such as text and image matching). The successful proposal should also support the implementation of the voluntary Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online that the European Commission initiated in 2016 with IT companies, the European strategy for a better internet for kids[9], the Digital Services Act[10] and the outcomes of the "Study on digital violent right-wing extremist content and manifestations of hate speech online"[11]. Similarly, any other relevant development, study or initiative should be taken into account. Evolutions in hate crime and hate speech, such as their sparks in times of social or economic crises (e.g. pandemics and wars) should be considered too. In order to derive effective responses and improve the understanding of the cultural and societal aspects of hate speech and hate crime, as well as of the key challenges for combating it, the successful proposal should include local, national and international dimensions, civil society perspectives, and analysis of good practices[12]. An added value of the proposal would be to also develop modern and effective awareness raising campaigns for relevant Civil Society Organisations and Police Authorities in order to pass key messages to potential victims, as well as wide communities, while taking into account European multicultural dimension.</p> <p>The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects, including the ones funded under topics: HORIZON-CL3-2021-FCT-01-03: Disinformation and fake news are combated and trust in the digital world is raised), HORIZON-CL2-2021-DEMOCRACY-01-03: Feminisms for a new age of democracy, HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-04: Education for democracy, HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-05: Evolution of political extremism and its influence on contemporary social and political dialogue and HORIZON-CL2-2022-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-08: Strengthening racial, ethnic and religious equality. It should also seek to exploit potential synergies with the successful proposals funded under topics HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-06: Enhancing tools and capabilities to fight advanced forms of cyber threats and cyber-dependent crimes, HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-03: New methods and technologies in service of community policing and transferable best practices, HORIZON-CL2-2023-DEMOCRACY-01-01: Detecting, analysing and countering foreign information manipulation and interference and HORIZON-CL4-2023-HUMAN-01-05: Through AI from Disinformation to Trust.</p> <p>Methods for evaluating proposed solutions should also be developed. In addition, proposals should delineate the plans to develop possible future uptake and upscaling at national and EU level for possible next steps after the project completion.</p>
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	<p>Activities proposed within this topic should address, in a balanced way, both technological and societal dimensions of the issue under consideration.</p> <p>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-7 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-05

Call Title:	Open Topic HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-06	Programme:	HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€6,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Police Authorities' capabilities to identify, prevent and investigate major contemporary and/or emerging criminal activities; • Development of tools, methods or manuals for Police Authorities, improving their effectiveness in detecting crimes, collecting evidence and investigating cases of major contemporary and/or emerging criminal activities; • Development of training curricula, for Police Authorities, prosecutors, as well as judicial actors on major contemporary and/or emerging criminal activities, raising their awareness about impact of cultural and societal issues on the categories of crime and/or violence under consideration. <p>Scope:</p> <p>Under the Open Topic, proposals are welcome to address both existing and upcoming challenges in fighting crimes strongly influenced by cultural and/or societal issues that are not covered by the other topics of Horizon Europe Calls Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2021-2022, Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2023 and Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2024.</p> <p>Adapted to the nature, scope and type of proposed activities, proposals should convincingly explain how they will plan and/or carry out demonstration, testing or validation of developed tools and solutions. Proposals should also delineate the plans to develop possible future uptake and upscaling at national and EU level for possible next steps after the research project completion.</p> <p>If applicable research proposals should consider building on previous research, including but not limited to, research stemming from Horizon Framework Programmes.</p>		

	<p>If relevant for the proposals, coordination scheme should be implemented for the successful proposals submitted under this topic, as well as with the successful proposals funded under other topics of this or previous Horizon Europe Fighting Crime and Terrorism calls.</p> <p>Activities proposed within this topic should address, in a balanced way, both technological and societal dimensions of the issue under consideration.</p> <p>This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related innovation activities.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-6 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-06

Call Title:	CBRN-E detection capacities in small architecture HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-07	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€6,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved vulnerability assessments by law enforcement and local managers of public spaces by detection of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRN-E) threats in the public spaces and flow of public transport, in order to provide broader situational awareness to practitioners in the field; Enhanced planning capabilities of security practitioners and policy-makers due to the access of new data and identification of potential vulnerabilities connected to the design/refurbishment and improvement of different public spaces; Recommendations are provided for further improving safety and security-by-design approach to public spaces and mass transportation systems; Improved training of Police Authorities in collaboration with different public and private actors (e. g., crisis management and civil protection authorities, fire brigades, regulatory agencies, emergency health services, security managers, private security organisations, civil society groups etc.) to enhance their preparedness to attacks on public spaces; and Enhanced modelling capabilities for security practitioners and policy-makers due to the identification of potential new vulnerabilities and data available, and improved support to planning of respective resources and activities. <p>Scope:</p> <p>Public spaces such as squares, sport venues, shopping districts, places of worship, and mass transport systems have been the target of terrorist attacks causing significant loss of lives and causing societal insecurity. Means to carry out such attacks range from sophisticated, and well-planned scenarios including several coordinated attackers using explosives and firearms, to low-cost, low-tech attacks making use of common products. Today specific urban furniture like benches, bus shelters, flower boxes, etc. already have double functions controlling access to protected areas, which answers to some of the low-cost attacks. The next logical step seems to expand their functions further and adopt new functionalities to better</p>		



	<p>respond to the terrorist threats, such as for CBRN-E ones. The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects, as well as seek to exploit potential synergies with the successful proposal(s) funded under HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-05: Detection and tracking of illegal and trafficked goods.</p> <p>In recent years, in some pilot actions some street furniture, including bins and bus shelters have become smart as they have been equipped with environmental sensors, wireless modules, or microcontrollers becoming part of the IoT infrastructure, and one of the components of the future smart cities. Proposals should focus on exploitation and integration of existing sensors within the public space small architectures. Traditional sensors and surveillance platforms like the Automatic Number-Plates Recognition (ANPR), cameras or image analysis systems are not in the scope of this topic unless their integration with new sensors is considered, and the added value of networked systems demonstrated. Proposals should present relevant challenges and opportunities for future applications of CBRN-E detection capacities in small architecture, including prospects of scalability, real-time processing, and cooperation of networked systems.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p> <p>In this topic the integration of the gender dimension (sex and gender analysis) in research and innovation content should be addressed only if relevant in relation to the objectives of the research effort.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-07

Call Title:	Tracing of cryptocurrencies transactions related to criminal purposes HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-08	Programme:	HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
Deadline:	20 November 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time	Budget:	€6,000,000
Overview:	<p>Expected Outcome:</p> <p>Projects' results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The attractiveness of use of cryptocurrencies by criminals and terrorists is limited, with better tractability of cryptocurrency transactions; • Lawful tools and methods for Police Authorities to better trace virtual currency transactions related to criminal activities; • Recommendations are provided for better regulation of the cryptocurrencies market as well as for better regulation of the exchange of transnational information on funds transfers, harmonizing and promoting standards to enhance the tracing of money flows in the context of criminal investigations; and • Modern training curricula for Police Authorities, Prosecutors, as well as judicial actors are developed on tracing, seizing and handling cryptocurrencies in the course of investigation. <p>Scope:</p>		



	<p>Cryptocurrencies are a widely used method by criminals, including terrorists, to transfer or conceal funds due to their anonymity, ease of use and lack of international borders and restrictions (exactly same aspects that make use of traditional bank routes difficult for them). With the raise of crime-as-a-service market, and growth in the number of connected transactions, use of cryptocurrency as one of the money laundering typology better tracing of cryptocurrency transactions is crucial to keep the ground in the fight against crime and terrorism. On top of it all, clandestine cryptocurrency activities are increasingly facilitated by new developments such as high privacy decentralised exchanges, which while used by perpetrators frustrate the efforts of Police Authorities to detect and recover criminal assets as well as to prevent fraudulent transactions. The future of cryptocurrencies and the extent to which criminals and terrorists will use them will depend on factors such as anonymity, future regulation, law enforcement activities and security of the systems. Innovation should explore these considerations and propose mitigation measures, from legal, organisational, and technical perspectives (including the development of tools and relevant trainings to enhanced tractability of cryptocurrencies transactions. Proposals should also propose cooperation model(s) and tools for the exchange of information between relevant authorities.</p> <p>The successful proposal should build on the publicly available achievements and findings of related previous national or EU-funded projects. Coordination among the successful proposal from this topic as well as with the successful proposals under topic HORIZON-CL3-2023-FCT-01-06: Crime as a service should be envisaged to avoid duplication, and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.</p> <p>Proposals funded under this topic are expected to engage with the Europol Innovation Lab during the lifetime of the project, including validating the outcomes, with the aim of facilitating future uptake of innovations for the law enforcement community.</p> <p>In this topic the integration of the gender dimension (sex and gender analysis) in research and innovation content should be addressed only if relevant in relation to the objectives of the research effort.</p> <p>Specific Topic Conditions: Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-7 by the end of the project</p>
Link:	https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-cl3-2024-fct-01-08

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