

# HORIZON EUROPE AND CLUSTER 3 NOVELTIES



eNewsletter  
MAY 2024



FUNDING  
INFORMATION



NEWS AND  
EVENTS



RELEVANT  
INITIATIVES



SUCCESS STORIES  
AND MORE



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- WHAT IS VERY USEFUL FROM FUNDING INFORMATION ?
- WHICH NEWS AND EVENTS ARE ONGOING OR RELEVANT ?
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## WHAT APRE CAN ADVISE:

You are sincerely welcome to the 6th SEREN5 e-Newsletter and we look forward to share SEREN5key activities for Cluster 3 during the coming period.

On 22 March 2024, SEREN5 organized the online Pre – Info Day [Paving the way to participation](#) in close cooperation with DG HOME and REA, with the final aim of attracting the attention of potential applicants towards the 2024 funding opportunities of Cluster 3.. While welcoming all stakeholders, the event was targeting SMEs and practitioners, as they are key in supporting innovation uptake of the project's results. The discussions was divided into 2 Panels dedicated to successful innovators and practitioners, who successfully participated in Cluster 3 proposals.

The upcoming event [Horizon Europe Cluster 3 Info Day and Brokerage Event](#) and SEREN5 Training for stakeholder session will be held again in Brussels on 12-13 June 2024 (also online) with the main objective of supporting Cluster 3 applicants as all stakeholders.



## WHAT IS VERY USEFUL TO KNOW FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?

These are some useful information and material to support you in preparation of your proposals.

### WORK PROGRAMME 2023 – 2025 AND HIGH RISK SUPPLIER ENTITIES

A new eligibility condition designed to prevent the participation of “high risk supplier entities” in actions that are relevant to the development of technologies linked to the evolution of European communication networks was announced. As a result, “high risk supplier entities” will not be eligible to participate in 35 top-down topics of the amended work programme and in a number of bottom-up MSCA actions. The work programme 2023 - 2025 which was published last year is just on the second year period and it is possible to be apparently listed all information to have enough time to be prepared to spread some serious topics. What about the destination? – They are the same as previous year calls.

**For more detailed information on the top-down topics that are affected and new eligibility condition identified for Cluster 3 - 19 topics concerned:**

HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-01, HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-03, HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-07 , HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-08 ,HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-02, HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-03,HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-04, HORIZON-CL3-2024-BM-01-05, HORIZON-CL3-2024-CS-01-01, HORIZON-CL3-2024-CS-01-02, HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-01, HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-02, HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-03, HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-04, HORIZON-CL3-2024-DRS-01-05, HORIZON-CL3-2024-INFRA-01-02, HORIZON-CL3-2024-INFRA-01-03, HORIZON-CL3-2024-SSRI-01-01, HORIZON-CL3-2024-SSRI-01-02.

“Restrictions for the protection of European communication networks” will be inserted in General Annexes, [Annexes, B — Eligibility](#) of the amended HE - Work programme 2023-2025, and this entails the need to avoid the participation of “high-risk supplier entities” in the development of technologies linked to the evolution of European communication networks to prevent technology transfer and the persistence of dependencies.

**Be aware, for 2024, all the Calls will be launched on 27 Jun 2024, with a deadline on 20 Nov 2024.**

New Horizon Europe calls addressing Civil Security for Society in Cluster 3 will be officially presented in June during [INFO DAYS](#).

## SSH AND STEM – TRAINING FOR CLUSTER 3 NCPS



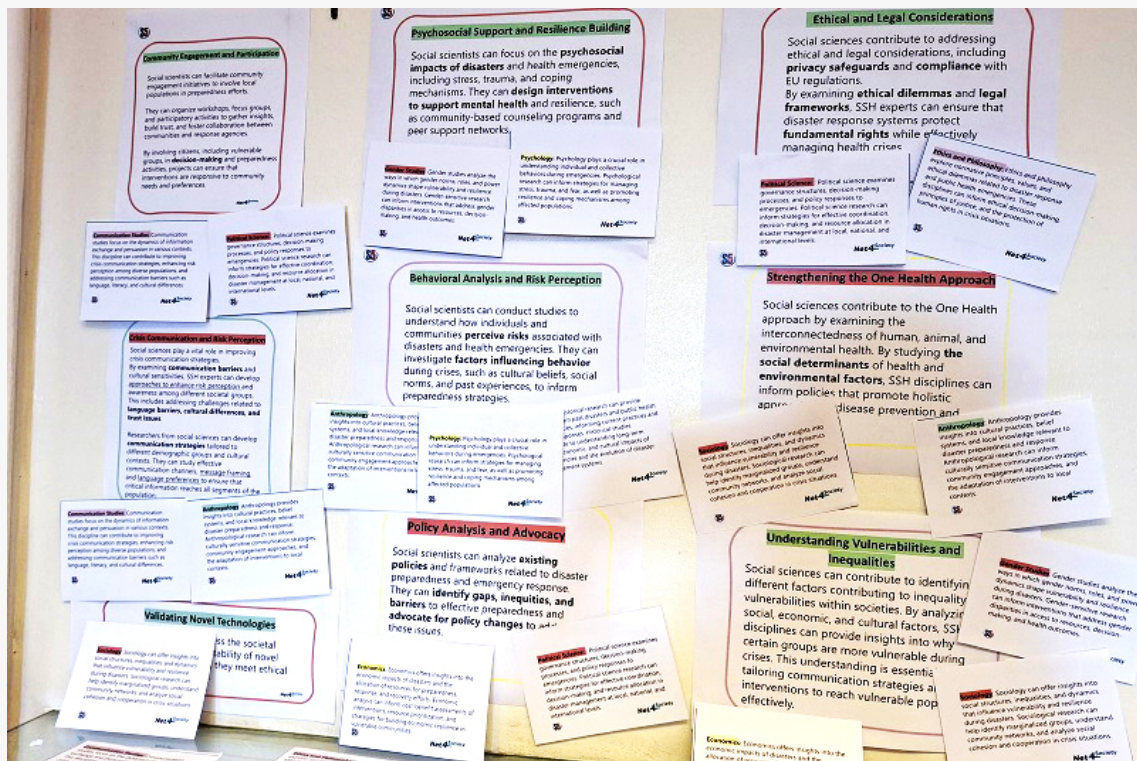
In Horizon Europe CL3 calls and topics the contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) expertise, and interdisciplinary initiatives are highly requested. SSH experts could help and influence the projects that have been perceived as STEM only, bringing their perspective as early as project-design stage. The visibility is another benefit, as these big-scale grants make it possible to showcase the value of SSH disciplines to colleagues and the wider public, for example creating tangible societal impact in a cost-effective way. In other words, as part of Horizon Europe projects, SSH researchers can contribute to social innovation and channel that effectively to policymakers and other academic stakeholders.

Collaboration between SSH (Social Science and Humanities) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) researchers increased and integrating process of the socio-economic dimension of grand societal problems into the design, development and implementation of research itself, and of new technologies, can help find solutions to societal issues and enhance the impact of such activities for society. How it works and more how to combine SSH disciplines with STEM that was still a gap for us, but after a the [2nd SEREN5 Training for NCPs which was dedicated to the Social Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\) in Cluster 3](#) it start to be more clear. The training topics “How Cluster 3 NCPs deal with SSH integration” and “[How applicants deal with SSH](#)”



integration” taught us to identify SSH and STEM to collaborate effectively, including very interesting exercise in groups and discussion with the participants on “SSH contribution” in a project.

The training was organized in close collaboration with Net4Society Project and BIG thanks to our Trainers: Monique Longo (APRE), Noemi Tesauro (APRE), Natalia Morazzo (APRE) - NET4SOCIETY.



## PRE – INFO DAY – “PAVING THE WAY TO PARTICIPATION “

SEREN5 EU funded project organised online the event [Pre-Info Day 2024 - Paving the way to participation](#) to support applicants in HE and in advance to present General Introduction on Work Programme 2024 in close cooperation with EC DG HOME. Favourite speakers from SEREN5 presented – How to approach a Topic in Cluster 3 + Consortium Building in EU-funded projects (Zale Johnson, Innovate UK UKRI) and SeReMa Database and SEREN5 services for applicants (Flavia La Colla, APRE).

The main objective of the event was to warm up the Cluster 3 community (with a special focus on possible new comers) towards the [2024 Cluster 3 Calls opening on 27.06.2024](#). The event was designed to present the main priorities linked to the [2024 Work Programme](#) and to give participants the chance to gather information on how to approach a Topic and build a consortium in Cluster 3 before the official Cluster 3 Info Days in June 2024.

Under the Part III were prepared Successful experiences in Cluster 3 moderated by Marta Kollárová, CL3 NCP in Slovakia and SEREN5 Partner and Vaya Piteli, CL3 NCP in Greece and SEREN5.

### • **1st Panel of discussion: successful SMEs in Cluster**

In this panel we try to provide a discussion about how to support SMEs to have a higher interest in security research solution, how to booster innovation to reach the market and how to build the right consortia by effective way and of course, to share some practical examples with you during this panel debate including 5 min presentation for each participant + 30 min discussion with questions from participants.

**Which question was the most interesting? You can choose:**

#### **STAM - Umberto Battista (Italy)**

Q&A: Benefits of the participation in Funded projects (in the security sector):

I can find participation in EU-funded projects that can bring a number of benefits to SMEs:

- Receive funding for new technology development and innovation activities.
- Developing new technical skills and expertise that can be incorporated into existing or new solutions, thereby broadening the offering to customers.
- Networking opportunities, in particular with LEAs, first responders, public administrations and operators, who are the end users and first adopters of the solutions developed in the projects.
- Technology transfer of technologies and solutions from the non-security to the security market.
- Visibility through dissemination activities, presenting new solutions to potential

customers within and outside the project consortium.

**SYNYO - Bernhard Jäger (Austria):**

Q&A: Lessons learnt: in the presence of obstacles you encountered, or in case something does not work for you, in which way have you transferred this into a lesson learnt?

As the coordinator of EU projects, encountering obstacles is an inherent part of the daily responsibilities. While detailed planning is crucial, unexpected challenges inevitably arise. It is therefore imperative to remain flexible, open-minded, and, most importantly, to ensure the presence of the right partners within your consortium. Collaborating with experienced and reliable partners who share the same passion for the project's objectives empowers you to overcome any obstacles and achieve successful project execution. Hence, during the proposal phase, investing time in getting to know your future collaborators and cultivating a mutual trust is key.

**MOBILITY ION TECHNOLOGIES, Daoíz Zamora (Spain):**

Q&A: How the personnel in your organization benefit from the participation in EU funded projects, in terms of skills, new competences etc.?

I would like to highlight two main aspects related to the potential and impact of Horizon projects, and mainly the CL3 projects, in the personnel of MION Technologies and their skills. First of all, the collaborative approach of Horizon projects gives us the possibility to work with experts in different fields which is a continuous learning process, for example in the case of the METEOR project, one partner is the Institute of Microelectronics of Barcelona, my team is learning a lot from this collaboration with experts in electronics. Secondly, and no less important, the collaboration with public bodies, in our case Police Authorities and Customs Authorities gives us access to real environments and real facilities which is essential for the team to know the real needs and real working conditions of the technologies. This point is critical in the development of new technologies. In addition, these authorities provide us samples of the real substances we want to detect such as explosives or narcotics, and it is almost impossible to develop a cocaine detector without the possibility of studying the real cocaine.

**ABMERIT - Eva Fojcíková (Slovakia):**

ABMERIT team is built on experiences and professional competences of staff - nuclear engineers, nuclear physicists, GIS engineers and SW engineers, they are developers of ESTE systems, which are continuously improved.

• **2nd Panel of discussion: successful end users in Cluster 3**

This panel was composed of these participants:

- **Evaldas Visockas**, Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania (Lithuania)
- **Rashel Talukder**, Polish Platform for Homeland Security – PPBW (Poland)
- **Thierry Hartmann**, French Ministry of Interior (France)
- **Alexander Rösner**, ForAN (Germany)
- **Mr. Dimitrios GRITZAPIS (in cc)**, Police Lieutenant Colonel, Hellenic Police Headquarters

From selected **Closing remarks** by Valeria Bricola, REA Secure Society and Martin Ubelhor, DG HOME Innovation and Security Research:

- Involvement of SMEs and practitioners for a better quality and impact of the proposal of the end-users for the development of user-centric solutions,
- Make a good use of the resources offered by SEREN5 with the [SeReMa platform](#) and the guidelines available on the participant portal,
- HORIZON EUROPE CL 3 Info Day and Brokerage event 2024 including soon open registration.

For complete information you can find the [youtube version](#).



## Which news and events are ongoing or relevant?

### CLUSTER 3 Info Day & Brokerage event 12 – 13.6.2024

SEREN5 just opened the registration for the 2024 edition of the **Horizon Europe Cluster 3 Info Day and Brokerage Event**.

The event will take place **in Brussels and online (in live streaming) on the 12-13 June 2024**.

This international information-day event will highlight **research topics covered within the 2024 calls for proposals in Cluster 3**. Participants will also have the possibility to join a matchmaking event dedicated to the topics of the 2024 Cluster 3 calls.

The event will comprise the following sessions:

**DAY 1 (12 June 2024):** Presentation of Cluster 3 2024 funding opportunities (hybrid participation)

**DAY 2 (13 June 2024):** Training for stakeholders (hybrid participation), Pitch Session (only on site participation), Brokerage Event (on site participation)



All the information and instructions for the registration are here: [Security Research Map - Cluster 3 Infoday & Brokerage Event 12-13.06.2024 \(b2match.io\)](#)

The event is organized by the Network of Security National Contact Points – [SEREN5](#), in close cooperation with the [European Commission's Directorate-General Migration and Home Affairs](#) and the [European Research Executive Agency](#)

Call 2024 destinations addressed by the event:

- Fighting Crime and Terrorism
  - Border Management
  - Resilient Infrastructure
  - Increased Cybersecurity
  - Disaster-Resilient Society
  - Support to Security Research and Innovation
- 
- **Calls will be launched on 27 Jun 2024, with a deadline on 20 Nov 2024.**

*Do not miss the official Horizon Europe Cluster 3 Info Day and Brokerage Event in Brussels and online on the 12th and 13th of June 2024.*

## PITCH TRAINING SESSION - online

### PITCH TRAINING SESSION FOR CLUSTER 3 INFO DAYS!

#### Pitch Presentation Session at the CL3 Info Days 12-13th June 2024

If you are Security stakeholder from a Widening Country and interested in finding partners for the Horizon Europe Cluster 3 Topics of 2024, then look no further....

SEREN5 will host a Pitch Presentation Session at the Cluster 3 Info Day 12 & 13 June 2024 in Brussels, where researchers, security practitioners, entrepreneurs etc. with interest in civil security will present themselves and network.

Book your spot at the Pitch Session at the Info Day, full information and Pitch Template can be found here - <https://security-research-map.b2match.io/page-1771>

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, Mark Meilak, CL3 NCP from Malta organised the Pitch Guide Training as part of the project SEREN5. The training was done in April to support any applicants from the widening countries that will be attending the several Brokerage Events for Cluster 3 happening this year.

These events are the following, Secure Societies 2024 – Brokerage Event in Istanbul 30<sup>th</sup> April 24, SMI2G 2024 Brokerage Event 22 & 23<sup>rd</sup> May 24 in Paris and the Cluster 3 Info Days & Brokerage Event 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> June 24. These events allow participants to Pitch their idea, organisation and interest in participating in security projects and with this training, newcomers can step up their pitch deck and delivery to attract more collaborations and networking!

Link to Youtube would be better to increased traffic.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9hzGYpzWfk>

**About SEREN5**

The main aim of SEREN5 is to improve and professionalise the skills of the Cluster 3 (CL3) National Contact Points (NCPs) across Europe, simplifying applicants' access to Horizon Europe (HE) calls and raising the average quality of submitted proposals. SEREN5 overall concept is that the CL3 NCP community requires knowledge, skills, competences and a proven comprehensive suite of tools to convey a message in a multicultural and multi-disciplinary environment such the one that characterises Cluster 3 and to effectively support its broad-based constituency.

[More Info](#)

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Following the high success of the April's Pitch Training session, SEREN5 will prepare another online training 17th May 2024 at 14:30!!

Register Here for this training session which will also focus on the CL3 Info Days' Pitch Session!! - [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe96CaPVtWbWOVKAjQ7BT-s08XhcvumJ7AKo\\_JPfC8Uf2cwVw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe96CaPVtWbWOVKAjQ7BT-s08XhcvumJ7AKo_JPfC8Uf2cwVw/viewform)



**PITCH TRAINING SESSION (Online)**  
**DATE: 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024 TIME: 14:30**

- Are you a security stakeholder from a Horizon Europe widening country interested in applying in the upcoming Civil Security for Society calls this year?
- Will you be attending in the upcoming security events of SMi2G (May) and EC Official Info day on Cluster 3 (June)?
- Are you going to present your project idea as a coordinator or partner in the pitch sessions of these events?

Then, do not miss out on the Pitch Training Session organised by Seren5 to support pitch presenters at these event? Training will be held on ZOOM.

  
[www.seren-project.eu](http://www.seren-project.eu)

**>> REGISTER NOW!**

Remember, the pitch is very important and could make or break the possibility of joining a consortium.

## SMI2G Brokerage 2024 – 22-23.05.2024, Paris

The Security Mission & Information Group (SMI2G) event is traditionally held every year in high level organisation, high participation and with big success.

**SMI2G** event will be again organized by the EARTO Security and DefenseResearch working group, the SEREN5 network, EOS, IMG-S, ECSO, CMINE and is supported by the French Ministry of Research and Development - Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche, and is also highly supported from the center - Campus Cyber and ENLETS.

This year the largest networking event **SMI2G** will be held on May 22.-23.5.2024 in the new Paris Center Campus Cyber, La Defence, Paris.

**SMI2G Brokerage Event 2024**, bringing together innovators and Europe-wide experts who are looking for partners to form and grow their consortium, and gives an opportunity to present novel ideas and new technologies, responding to the challenges of the Horizon Europe work programme under the Cluster 3 "Civil Security for Society".

Registration is now closed and event is fully booked and results and conclusion from the event you can find soon in our next edition.

SEREN5 is one of the organizers and we will participate.

[Come in Paris and meet SEREN5 NCPs to use the Project Idea Check Service!](#)

## HE CL3 National Info Day in Lithuania

### Example of Successful Cooperation

Horizon Europe Cluster 3 Civil Security for Society National Info Day which took place in Lithuania on April 9th, 2024 is a great example of successful synergies between different however complementary European Commission funded programs. During the Lithuanian national info day CL3 NCP Ieva Budrienė not only presented upcoming 2024 HE CL3 calls but also invited Lithuanian representatives from European Defense Fund and National Cyber Security Center to present the possibilities those programs can offer.

The event has attracted a big number of newcomer organizations, which were operating in one field and never looked at other possibilities. Due to the successful collaboration all the speakers were able not only to reach a wider audience in a new cooperative way but also to identify new potential clients with a solid background of experience in EU funding projects.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting window. The main display area shows a presentation slide titled "Darbo programa 2023-2024 m." (Work Programme 2023-2024). The slide content includes "Cluster 3: Civil security for society" and details about the "Horizon CL3-2023-CS-01-02: Post-quantum cryptography transition". A sidebar on the right lists participants, including "Leva Budriene | Lietuvos mokslo taryba" and "Jonas Skardins... (Unverified)". The Zoom interface includes standard controls like "Take control", "Pop out", "Chat", "People", "Rate", "React", "View", "Notes", "Apps", "More", "Camera", "Mic", "Share", and a "Leave" button.

The positive feedback and echo this event received from the participants only strengthened the idea that cooperation is a true key to success and that by working together we can achieve more significant results than by competing against one another.

## SEREN's free Idea - check service

### Receive feedback on your ideas from NCPs – ideas check

With the approaching opening day for Cluster 3 calls, we wanted to highlight one of SEREN5's free services. The ideas check service is suitable for clients at the early stages of work towards a cluster 3 proposal. Participants will fill out a designated form, providing information about your project idea and collaborators. Next, we will match you with a National Contact Point from SEREN5 and you'll have a dedicated meeting to discuss your idea and form, helping you identify the best topic for your idea, make sure that you are aware of all the requirements for the topics and are set on the track to move forward in the process. SEREN5 will offer this service on-site for the major Cluster 3 events, including the SMI2G event and the Info Day + brokerage event, as well as an online service outside of these events. Want to know more and participate?

Fill out the form found on the [SEREN5 website](https://www.serens5.org/) and submit it to Yotam Beit-Yannai [yotam@iserd.org.il](mailto:yotam@iserd.org.il) and your local NCP.



# SeReMa platform

## SeReMa platform

All potential applicants are welcome to participate in this platform.



Take into the account that the purpose of the Security Research Map (SeReMa) is to increase the visibility of security related research in Europe and to optimize the networking between research facilities, universities, public authorities, end users, suppliers of security solutions and operators of critical infrastructures and is an important communication tool.

Information link: <https://security-research-map.b2match.io/>

SEREN5 provides among other things the following services:

- SeReMa partner search tool
- Brokerage events
- European Information Days
- Training stakeholders
- Promoting synergies with Security key players
- Promoting synergies with Enterprise Europe Network
- Information materials for stakeholders



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

Get involved in European Research and Horizon Europe.



Follow us and discover  
our news and Cluster 3  
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