



ILEAnet

Innovation by Law Enforcement Agencies networking

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Public report on the ILEAnet findings n°5

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INNOVATION BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES NETWORKING



Public Report on ILEAnet findings n°5

Description

Based on contributions from WP1-WP4, public report summarising the main results from ILEAnet: practitioner challenges and needs, recommendations for uptake of RDI results, best practice exchange, standardization, future RDI activities.

Executive Summary

This public report aims to give an insight to the work performed within ILEAnet from month 25 to 30.

ILEAnet's goal to build a network bringing together; **online**, a community of practitioners and researchers, with no obligation for physical presence, was reached. The ILEAnet Community continues to grow and counts now 234 members. This Community has also become more active with more participation to online discussions or webinars. The success of this kind of online activities shows that they suit with the limited availability of practitioners.

The INCs continued to strengthen and have proved the key role they play in building and enlarging this the network.

Another great step has been the implementation and improvement of the Knowledge Factory which is now a fully functioning tool, that can be used to find useful information on practitioner specific RDI (more than 300 pieces).

A methodology was developed and launched during the second ILEAnet Public Workshop to support the uptake of existing innovative solutions: the ILEAnet Project Uptake Process (IPUP). Based on the process developed, ILEAnet works concretely with some identified

projects to tackle the obstacles and barriers to the implementation of research project results, exploring concrete opportunities to achieve one of the main goals assigned by the EC : monitor research and innovation projects and recommend the industrialisation.

One of the tools explored in the IPUP process is the webinar : it gives an opportunity to project holders to exchange with the ILEAnet Community on the solution they offer and has revealed an excellent way to create a bridge between researchers and practitioners and to explore opportunities for future uptake of the project results into market and/or routine LEA's practice.

The third ILEAnet Public Workshop (PW3), scheduled in May 2020, will focus on the following topic: "support to the identification and control of irregular migration through modern technologies".

A detailed description of the activities performed in each of the three technical WPs is provided in this report, and follows each time the same structure:

- 🌐 Report of the general activities
- 🌐 Strategy for the next six months.

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Introduction

The ILEAnet project

ILEAnet is a European project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and launched on 1 June 2017 for 5 years duration. The overall objective of ILEAnet is to build and develop a sustainable organizational Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) practitioners' network focused on Research, Development and Innovation (RDI). ILEAnet addresses LEA challenges, together with a community of individuals, including practitioners and experts from academia and industry, interested to exchange and collaborate in this area.

Detailed information about the project is available in the Public report on the ILEAnet findings n°1, available online (www.ileanet.eu).

The ILEAnet Network and Community have been created adopting a two-way perspective: top-down and bottom-up.

Top-down:

ILEAnet functions as a network of organisations. It is aligned with existing institutional structures respecting the corresponding institutional mandates and operational set-ups.

Bottom-up:

In addition, ILEAnet functions as a community of people who are interested in innovation centred collaboration. Thereby, innovation is facilitated, and key LEA challenges are addressed.

The effective iterative interaction between these two approaches helps to identify needs and opportunities and prioritise suggestions with respect to future LEA-relevant RDI in the EU and national programmes, policies and standardization efforts.

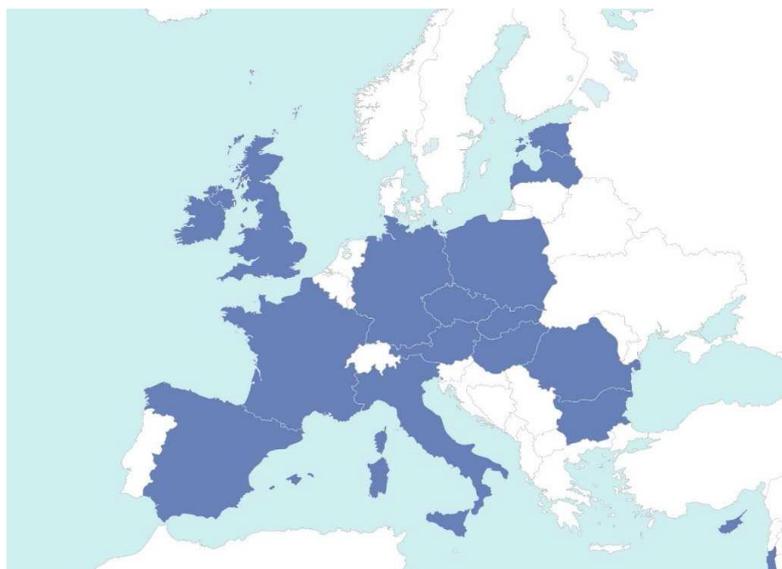


Figure 1: ILEAnet involved countries

21 partners from 17 countries are involved in the project. Most of them are practitioners, together with research centers and institutes.

Organisation	Country
French Ministry of Interior	France
Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Police	France
Federal Ministry of the Interior	Austria
Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei	Germany
Hungarian National police	Hungary
Italian Public Safety Department, Ministry of Interior	Italy
Police Service of Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
ISEM INSTITUTE	Slovakia
Unitad Central Intelligencia Criminal	Spain
ARTTIC	France
University College Dublin, Centre for Cybersecurity & Cybercrime Investigation	Ireland
State Police of Latvia	Latvia
European Forensic Initiatives Centre	Poland
Ministry of Public Security	Israel
Estonian Police and Border Guard Board	Estonia
Ministry of Interior – Bulgaria	Bulgaria
Cyprus Police	Cyprus
Police of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs	Romania
Slovakian Criminal Police, Ministry of Interior	Slovakia
Police Academy in Szczytno	Poland

Figure 2: ILEAnet Consortium

The ILEAnet Online Platform

“The place to ask questions you have and receive answers you need”

A collaborative space, encouraging discussions between European LEAs and researchers has been created. The ILEAnet Online Platform, hosted in the Community Management Tool (CMT), allows an exchange between ILEAnet contributors. The ILEAnet Online Platform is structured with respect to the main topics raised by European practitioners. The interactions are monitored by several members of the ILEAnet team: the coordination team, the ILEAnet National Contacts, the Community manager and the Scientific coordination.

The ILEAnet Online Platform is continuously adjusted to the needs of the ILEAnet members, who provide feedback on their own user experience in regular manner

A video, featuring the ILEAnet coordinator and the French INC, was realised to reassure the existing and future Platform users about the safety of this stand-alone Platform and to give guidelines on how it could be used.

The ILEAnet online platform is growing quickly. Users from LEAs and Academia can interact on a daily basis in the specific “ILEAnet Network” group.

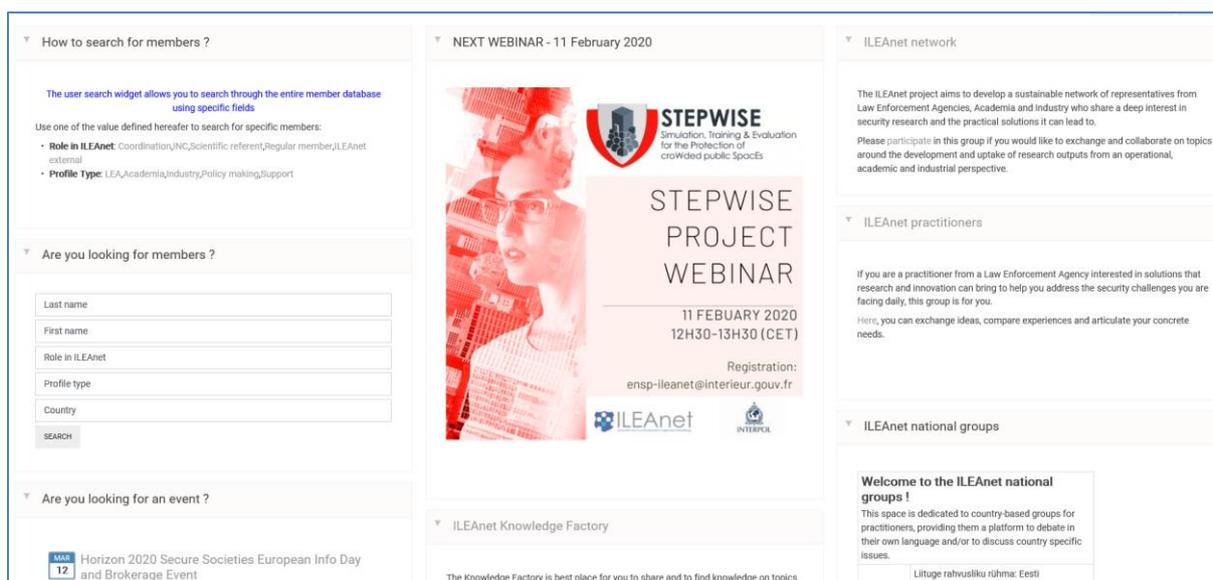


Figure 3: ILEAnet Online Platform Landing page

The ILEAnet Workflow: “the annual cycle”

In order to:

1. Define the practitioners Challenges and Needs,
2. Monitor, collect and organise the current state of the art and existing or recent research initiatives
3. Identify gaps, requirements, opportunities and priorities
4. Provide recommendations and feed them back to the Consortium

ILEAnet is processing an annual cycle, based on a close cooperation between inter-related workpackages.

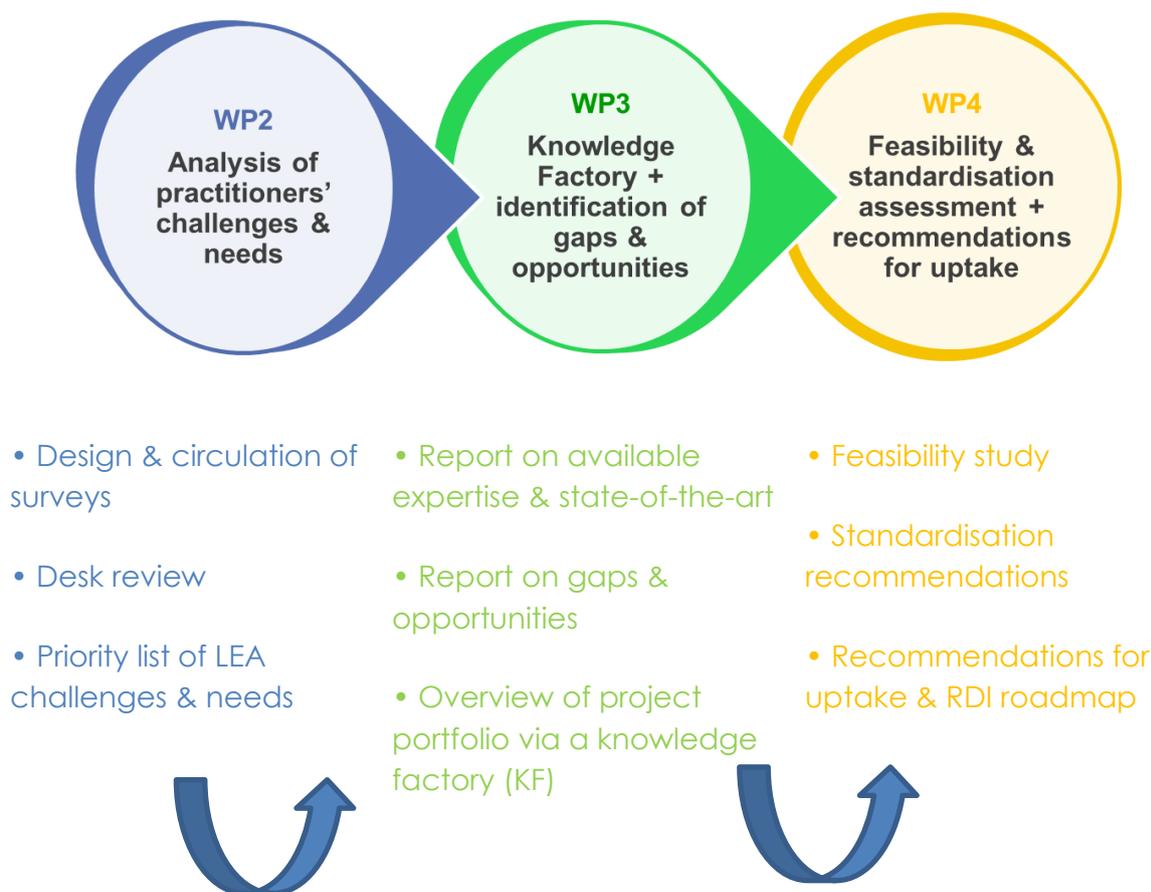


Figure 4: ILEAnet Annual Cycle

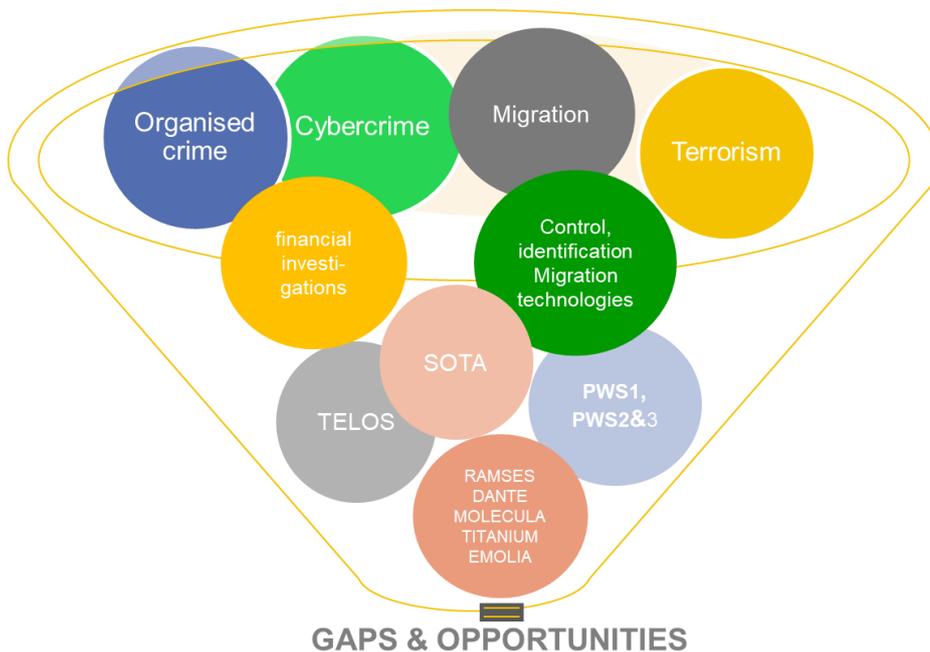
For LEA practitioners facing daily challenges, identifying existing solutions from research field and finding time and space to assess them, may be a challenge in itself. Consequently, the ILEAnet team has developed a renewed vision more focused on the network. ILEAnet growing ambition is to provide a **highly conducive environment for security research and**

innovation up to the deployment of practical solutions by LEAs

ILEAnet is concerned with **enhancing its practitioner network** and **facilitating their involvement into research activities**: from identification of challenges and needs informing research topics, to the uptake of research projects' solutions into practice

- Experiment it concretely: IPUP and **initiate incubating process**

The idea is to think of the ILEAnet cycles as part of a funnel shaped process.



It can be described as follow:

Step 1: Collecting data through desk-reviews and surveys either related to the preidentified four focus topics: migration, cybercrime, terrorism and serious organised crime, or to any specific topic identified by the network.

Step 2: Focusing on specific topic identified in step 1, collecting further information through of calls for solutions related to the abovementioned topics.

Step 3: if solutions are found, organise a dialogue with the solution providers (UE funded research projects or national projects) and end-users who could use them, in a first step by on line meeting (webinars) or through

ad hoc workshops convening a limited audience and focusing on uptake-related-issues and finally, constructing a structured dialogue between end users and solutions provider.

All those actions will allow ILEAnet to “**fill the gap**”, becoming the ILEAnet landmark.

Step 4: Elaborating recommendation for standardisation that has not started yet.

In practice, this funnel shaped process aims at performing the ILEAnet Project Uptake Process (IPUP) whose goal is to facilitate and accelerate the implementation of security research projects’ outputs.

Main findings

WP1: ILEAnet networking, including INC role and contribution to topic strands

WP1 aims to provide the resources to and inputs from the ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs) and their respective national networks of practitioners, academia, industry and other stakeholders.

The ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs)

As a reminder, ILEAnet is organised around ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs), who are

dedicated ILEAnet consortium members or Law Enforcement Agency representatives from all involved member states. They are responsible for the functioning of their “national networks”. Together with the Scientific Coordination, they ensure good quality of the online exchanges. They act as a hub for the ILEAnet bottom-up and top-down oriented activities.

Organisation	Country	INC
French Ministry of Interior	France	Thomas Fressin
Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Police	France	NA
BMI- Ministry of the Interior	Austria	Caroline Schmidt
Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei	Germany	Sven-Eric Fikensher
Hungarian National police, bomb unit	Hungary	Balázs Horváth
Italian Public Safety Department, Ministry of Interior	Italy	Luigi Raffaele
Police Service of Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	Graham Kissock
ISEM INSTITUTE	Slovakia	Alena Diksova
Unidad Central Inteligencia Criminal	Spain	Sandra Cerrato Moreno
ARTTIC	France	NA
University College Dublin, Centre for Cybersecurity & Cybercrime Investigation	Ireland	Cheryl Baker
Latvian Police, International Department	Latvia	Inese Voloseviča Līga Peisniece
European Forensic Initiatives Centre	Poland	Monika Pawelec
Ministry of Public Security	Israel	Tibby Roth
Estonian Police and Border Guard Board	Estonia	Raul Savimaa Hannes Jarvine
Ministry of Interior – Bulgaria	Bulgaria	Aleksandrina Aleksandrova
Cyprus Police	Cyprus	Chryso Angeli

Police of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic	Veronika Bouchalova
Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs - Directorate General Logistics	Romania	Claudiu Chiriac
Slovakian Police Criminal, Ministry of Interior	Slovakia	Zuzana Zachova
Institute for Research and Development of the Police Academy in Szczytno	Poland	Jakub Muraszko

Report of general activities

The WP1 activities for this six-month period can be summarised as follows:

- Coordination of the ILEAnet national networks by the INCs in their respective countries:

The INCs were having regular teleconferences, providing an opportunity for them to be updated about ILEAnet state of progress and discussing the evolution of their national networks together with their involvement as main contact points. The teleconferences were meant to be as interactive as possible and to give INCs a space to ask questions, voice potential concerns and pass on information that WP leaders can relay as participants in any external events of interest to ILEAnet.

All INCs are now very knowledgeable about the ILEAnet project and are trying to enlarge interaction with organisations or people in their country to raise awareness about the project, to invite their contacts and encourage them to participate actively to the activities and discussions.

As a result, the number of members on the ILEAnet Online Platform has very positively increased, considering the reluctance practitioners usually have in sharing information online.

- Facilitation of the contributions from the national networks to ILEAnet:

The INCs facilitated the contributions from the national networks by collecting the input to the surveys which were part of the WP2 tasks. The INCs played an important role in the identification of the relevant experts to be

invited to the ILEAnet Second Public Workshop held from 10 to 11 April 2019 and to the third one, to be held in May 2020. Finally, the INCs then contributed to inviting practitioners to a number of follow-up activities from the Public Workshop like webinars and uptake-related discussions

- Expert contributions from the INCs to ILEAnet

The INCs function not only as facilitators of their national networks but also as experts participating in discussions themselves, asking questions, sharing knowledge and interacting with the members in the ILEAnet Online Platform.

An evolution has been noticed these last six months in the participation of the INCs to the discussions held online on the ILEAnet Online Platform.

Though this participation level has to be improved and the INCs need to further their ownership of the Platform, it shows that they are now much more familiar with the functionalities of the platform and more confident in using them.

Strategy for the next six months

Once again, last months have shown how much the INCs play a key role in building and enlarging the network.

The effort will focus on increasing the number of members (LEAs, Academia and end-users) and hiring greater practitioners by enhancing the involvement of the national experts.

Furthermore, an issue is to continue spreading information about ILEAnet activities and events.

Two important challenges for the INCs will be:

- To start populating the Knowledge Factory with relevant content (national projects, solutions and best practices)
- To invite relevant experts for WP3 by mobilizing their national experts.

WP2 Law Enforcement Challenges and Needs

WP2 aims to collect contemporary challenges and needs for Law Enforcement Authorities at national and EU level in order to facilitate the solving of these challenges through research and development activities. WP2 outputs then feed into WP3 and WP4 to determine the focus in WP3 for identification best practices and state of the art in the topic areas and in this way direct in-depth analysis and feasibility study of opportunities for WP4.

Report of general activities

The WP2 is designed to collect and analyze the needs and challenges for LEA practitioners. Its collection of data was performed using three approaches:

- Top-down, by suggesting topics based on analysis of policy, strategic documents and strategic research agendas,
- Bottom-up, by collecting inputs in open surveys and non-directed interviews,
- Based on analysis of surveys and observation of the activities in the ILEAnet network (ILEAnet community, ILEAnet network and ILEAnet practitioners' network).

The previous step of WP2 consisted in an analysis of the results from the survey conducted during the first ILEAnet cycle, about two focus areas out of three:

- Trend and new threats in cyber-related and cyber-enabled crime,
- Methods and good practices for conducting financial investigations to support investigations of serious organized crime, cybercrime, terrorism and illegally mediated migration

Activity from months 25 to 30 have consisted in the review of strategic and policy documents and analysis of results of an ILEAnet Survey about "Support to the identification and control of irregular migration through modern technologies".

Review of strategic and policy documents about "Support to the identification and control of irregular migration through modern technologies".

A significant number of documents were reviewed and analyzed during the desk review. For the field "Support to the identification and control of irregular migration through modern technologies", 7 highly relevant, 3 partially relevant and 2 slightly relevant challenges were identified.

It appears that the three most relevant challenges for technology solutions to support LEAs in the identification and control of irregular migration were:

- Registration of illegally entering third country nationals,
- Exploiting public information system,
- Monitoring pre-frontier areas.

As the lack of interoperability between EU wide information system is a paramount issue, four technological needs, linked to four levels of interoperability, were identified:

- A single search interface to query several information systems simultaneously and to produce combined results on one single screen,
- The interconnectivity on information systems where data registered in one

system will automatically be consulted by another system,

- The establishment of a shared biometric matching service in support of various information systems,
- A common repository of data for different information systems (core module).

The detected challenges and needs have been used as inputs for designing the questionnaire for a survey conducted among LEA practitioners on the focus area.

Analysis of the results from the survey about “Support the identification and control of irregular migration through modern technologies”.

For the challenge ‘Registration of Illegally Entering Third Country National’, two needs are paramount:

- Single search interface to query several information systems simultaneously,
- Improved interconnectivity and interoperability of systems.

For the challenge “Monitoring Pre-frontier areas”, two needs are paramount:

- Single repository for all data,
- Single search interface to query several information systems simultaneously.

For the challenge “Exploiting Public information systems”, one need is paramount:

- Single repository for all data. For all challenges, more than half of the

respondents do not have any experience with technological tools and projects linked to challenges. However, they are interested in obtaining more information about them. The most popular projects were SURVANT Video Analysis and iBorderCtrl border security tools projects.

General conclusions

The analysis of the survey responses did highlight a clear cross-cutting issue which was raised: the importance of training for being able to maximize the benefits of implementing new technologies, and managing a big amount of information from different sources

Strategy for the next six months

The results of the desk review and survey highlighted the importance of the topic and the need for additional information for LEAs.

Consequently, this topic was suggested and accepted as the theme of the ILEAnet Third Public Workshop (PW3) scheduled in May 2020.

One of the important activities of the next reporting period concerns the preparation and support of the PW3 by additional research and findings on the topic. This may also include to re-launch the survey in order to obtain more responses.

Further, a new desk review and survey on focus topics should be initiated for the third project work cycle

WP3 ILEAnet Knowledge Factory

The Work Package 3 has four main tasks:

- Enhancement and analysis of the online profiles of the ILEAnet community members
- Identification and coordination of specific best practice and state-of-the-art/technology reports
- Initial gaps and opportunities analysis
- Development and management of the ILEAnet wiki (ILEAnet Knowledge Factory)

The focus for this period has been on tasks two and four.

Report of general activities

- Enhancement and analysis of the online profiles of the ILEAnet community members

A significant amount of work was performed to improve the online members profile. To address concerns around security, a number of fields were set as mandatory such as the name, the organization and a description of the role in this organization.

A KPI was set up to monitor the achievements of member profiles fully described and was reached, 90% of members profile being completed.

- Initial gaps and opportunities analysis and Identification and Coordination of Specific Best Practices and State of the Art/Technology Reports

This task consists in initiating the state-of-the-art commissioning process to identify cross cutting needs/solutions/gaps. This decision comes from the mapping of solutions to the needs highlighted in the results of the challenges and need survey (WP2).

Once a series of 'Call for Solutions' (CfS) documents were written (one per topic: Migration, Terrorism, Organised Crime and Cybercrime), it allowed to provide gap analysis reports based on CfS responses that were collected and analysed. However, due to the

slowness of responses, the report was slightly delayed but has now been passed to WP4 for review and implementation of the next stage in the process.

However, analysis of the survey responses did highlight a clear cross-cutting issue which was raised across all priority areas. This was the need for more common processes/frameworks for the sharing of information and data, and for cooperation and collaboration on same.

This conducted ILEAnet to focus a state-of-the-art study on the issue of information exchange. Work on the commissioning activity began in mid-July with a draft contract. However, this process was interrupted when the Scientific Coordinator left the organisation. The process is currently in hibernation until a replacement is found.

There are draft plans to use the upcoming ILEAnet Public Workshop as a tool to generate survey results. Development and Management of the ILEAnet Knowledge Database (Knowledge Factory)

- Development and management of the ILEAnet wiki (ILEAnet Knowledge Factory)

The Knowledge Factory is filled with information on relevant academic publications, white papers, national and international research projects and official documents.

There are three main ways to use the ILEAnet Knowledge Factory, i.e. sharing, evaluation and search. For now, the tool is mainly fed by WP3 contributors and also the ILEAnet Scientific Coordination, but all users are encouraged to contribute to the body knowledge with their own expertise or experiences, add value and applicability to the information by evaluating knowledge, and search the Knowledge Factory to find ideas,

solutions, events, collaboration opportunities in Europe and internationally.

There are now more than 300 pieces of information available in the Knowledge Factory, at the disposal of ILEAnet Community but only very few submitted by the INCs themselves. However, in addition to the four main topics usually addressed by ILEAnet (Migration, Terrorism, Organised Crime and Cybercrime), several related topics are covered, such as community policing, forensics, radicalization, disaster resilience, awareness raising, smart cities etc. Feeding the Knowledge Factory is also a good way to increase visibility of works but INCs should

more actively contribute to the Knowledge Factory.

Strategy for the next six months

The following tasks have been targeted for completion during the next months:

- Increase INC participation and better understand what the INCs want
- Adopt a 'push' rather than a 'pull' strategy to encourage the participation of INC
- Finally, yet importantly, the Knowledge Factory will be fed continually.

WP4 ILEAnet Scouting activities

The purpose of this section is to provide a status update on the main areas of work related to the WP4 for month 25 to 30, which are as follow:

- Cooperation with other WPs on defining areas for further in-depth analysis;
- Support for ILEAnet work cycles through the preparation to the procurement procedure to select experts;
- Making the connection with other projects through participation in external or internal events;

The actions undertaken in the last six months in the above-mentioned areas contribute to the achievement of the following specific objectives:

- To perform an analysis of opportunities identified in WP3 and assess feasibility of the most promising ones;
- To define the areas of most common interest for future standardization;
- To connect with relevant initiatives and RDI projects.
- To elaborate recommendations for uptake of solutions by LEA practitioners and RDI roadmaps.

Report of general activities

The work carried out within WP4 during the reporting period is mostly related to the decision taken by the Steering Committee in July 2019 to concentrate the joint efforts on the subcontracting activities.

As a reminder, the survey and Call for Solutions carried out in WP3 have highlighted a cross-cutting issue in all priority areas which is the need for more common processes and frameworks for the sharing of information and data in order to achieve more cooperation

and collaboration in these areas. Therefore, it was proposed by WP3 that a state-of-the-art investigation on the needs of practitioners for more effective information sharing processes should be commissioned.

Consequently, the work in the current ILEAnet Cycle shall focus on defining a procurement procedure. The latter will support the selection of external experts to support the WP3 and WP4 activities related to the annual cycles' findings. The concrete role of the experts shall be double:

- To help the Network in performing a detailed analysis of the areas with the most impact on uptake of R&D&I solutions;
- To help in defining the areas for future standardization.

Getting contact with the externs

The activities performed by WP4 in this area were mostly tied to the ILEAnet uptake approach, according to which the Network shall focus on promotion of broader use of project results in the LEA daily work.

Thus, during the last six months, ILEAnet Community Management team organised three webinars dedicated to the presentation of RAMSES, DANTE and MOLECULA projects.

All webinars created an excellent opportunity to create a bridge between researchers and practitioners and to recognise the chances and opportunities for future uptake of the project results into market and/or routine LEA's practice.

In addition, WP4 participated in the 14th Meeting of the Community of Users on Secure, Safe and Resilient Societies, which took place in September 2019. Some talks

resulted in very concrete proposals for future joint effort and the event created an excellent opportunity to exchange some ideas and experiences between the representatives of ILEAnet and I-lead.

Strategy for the next six months

In the reporting period, the WP4 activities were mostly focused on cooperation with

other WPs in order to prepare for performing in-depth analyses in selected topics.

The next six months will be dedicated to the finalisation and launch of the Call for Experts.

In parallel, the ILEAnet network will continue its work on strengthening ILEAnet capacity. It will keep on initiating contact with practitioners, academia and industry partners at the same pace and intensity as before.

Conclusion

ILEAnet first mission is to build and develop a sustainable LEA practitioner's network focused on research and innovation addressing LEA challenges together with a community of individuals.

Thanks to the involvement of the ILEAnet team and community, from the beginning of the project:

- The network has been growing continuously;
- The INCs have enlarged their national network, bringing a real added value to the network's activities;

The ILEAnet team has been focusing its efforts on the development of the community and of the collaborations and interactions among the members, by:

- Reinforcing the focus on concrete activities on research issues which are of direct interest and bring added value to LEAs
- Optimizing the use of the ILEAnet tools to better engage with INCs
- Sequencing activities to provide consistent thread of work

The goal is to enhance ILEAnet legitimacy and visibility among academics and end-users to develop a conducive environment for

innovation and facilitate practitioners' involvement into research activities.

The success of the ILEAnet Online Platform and its growing members demonstrates that the ILEAnet activities are in alignment with the Description of Action. The concrete activities developed in ILEAnet since the beginning of the project have increased the LEAs motivation to join the Community and participate to the discussions online.

The next steps are focused on:

- Emphasizing the networking activities by the reallocation of manpower; Reassigning resources to the IPUP approach (ILEAnet Project Uptake Process), adopting the role of project hunters.
- Reinforcing the support provided to the national networks
- Reviewing the work undertaken to date, to identify what has worked best, and to build on that.
- Constructing the collaboration links with the CoU
- Starting to work on standardization activities as planned in WP4
- Implementing a sustainable plan and assure the continuity of the activities after the end of the project

Feel free to contact your national INC and join the ILEAnet Community!

