

ILEAnet

Innovation by Law Enforcement Agencies networking

Deliverable 6.3:

Sustainability concept for the ILEAnet Network + Community

Grant Agreement number: 740714	H2020-SEC-2016-2017-1
Start date of project: 1 June 2017	Duration: 60 months
Lead beneficiary of this deliverable: MININT	Deliverable type: Report
Dissemination Level: Public	Release: R1
Due date of deliverable: 31/05/2022	Actual submission date: 31/05/2022

History			
Author	Date	Reason for change	Release
Project Office	13/04/2022	Template D6.3	R0.1
Laure Brévignon-Dodin	02/05/2022	Draft for review	R0.2
Eloïse Chassaing	03/05/2022	Review	R0.3
Laure Brévignon-Dodin	18/05/2022	Consolidated version	R0.4
Dominique Wasquel	20/05/2022	Consolidated version circulated to the consortium and ILEAnet security expert.	R0.5
Dominique Wasquel	31/05/2022	Final version submitted to the EC	R1.0

1 Executive Summary

Representatives of EU-funded research projects have to consider how they will ensure the sustainability of their key results and achievements after the project ends. With 1.2 billion spent on 340 security research projects under the H2020 programme, this issue has become strategically important.

As a Network of Practitioner-based project, ILEAnet has relied on a network of ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs) to create awareness about the project's objectives and activities, and grown a Community composed of Research and Innovation actors sharing an interest in innovative solutions for LEAs and willing to be part of a dialogue between practitioners and the research community.

Thanks to active engagement and concrete activities, a collaborative dynamic has been fostered among INCs and Community members, resulting in a "useful" community, well-aware of end-users' issues and of the capacity building perspective, and therefore able to interact with the research community.

With ILEAnet's coming to an end on 31 May 2022, a reflection on possible ways to ensure the sustainability of the ILEAnet Network and Community was initiated well-ahead of the termination date and contacts with potential "takers" were established. A differentiated strategy has been adopted between the INC Network, expected to develop into a new hub, and the ILEAnet Community, whose sustainability is anticipated to be fostered by the adoption of some of the project's most significant results (referred to as ILEAnet assets) by other EU security R&I actors.

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List of acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Description
CERIS	Community for European Research and Innovation for Security
COSI	Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security
EACTDA	European Anti-Cybercrime Technology Development Association
EC	European Commission
EuCB	European Clearing Board
ECTEG	European Cybercrime Training and Education Group
EMPACT	European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats
ENLETS	European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services
EPE	Europol Platform for Experts
FCT	Fight against Crime and Terrorism
HE	Horizon Europe
i-LEAD	Innovation – Law Enforcement Agency Dialogue
INC	ILEAnet National Contact
IPUP	ILEAnet Project Uptake Process
ISF	Internal Security Fund
LEA	Law Enforcement Agency
LEWP-LEN	Law Enforcement Working Party
NoP	Network of Practitioners
PEN-CP	Pan-European Network of Custom Practitioners
PoC	Point of Contact
RDI	Research, Development and Innovation
WP	Work Package

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2 Introduction

Representatives of EU-funded research projects have to consider how they will ensure the sustainability of their key results and achievements after the project ends. With 1.2 billion spent on 340 security research projects under the H2020 programme, this issue has become strategically important.

ILEAnet is no exception and the question of its sustainability, both for its Network and Community and the results achieved during its lifetime, was explicitly raised in the project's Description of Actions.

With ILEAnet's coming to an end, the objective concerning the ILEAnet Network and the ILEAnet Community has not been to maintain those instances in an artificial way, based on some of their members' goodwill, but to explore how they can fit into and contribute to the EU security Research and Innovation (R&I) landscape.

Indeed, this landscape has evolved during the lifetime of the project. In 5 years, new entities have been created and existing ones may have seen their roles modified.

This deliverable, which deals with the sustainability concept for the ILEAnet Network and Community, is structured around two sections:

- One describing how the ILEAnet Network and Community was developed, embracing a “building by doing” approach
- One providing an overview of the current EU security R&I landscape then presenting how the ILEAnet Network and Community could contribute to it and consequently promote their sustainability.

3 Development of a sustainable ILEAnet Network + Community

Aiming from the outset to build and develop a sustainable network of LEA practitioners, the ILEAnet project has relied on a network of ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs) and scientific referents in position in each of the partner country of the project to raise awareness about its purpose and objectives. Acting at the same time as coordinators of their national networks of practitioners, academics and solution developers, INCs have prompted the development of the ILEAnet Community, i.e., RDI actors sharing an interest in innovative solutions for LEAs and willing to be part of a dialogue between practitioners and the research community. Complying with a number of guiding principles when initiated (section 3.1), the ILEAnet Network and the ILEAnet Community have progressively taken shape through concrete activities and led to sustainable achievements (section 3.2).

3.1 Guiding principles

The creation of the ILEAnet Network and the ILEAnet Community followed a twofold set of requirements: those laid out in the Description of Actions (DoA) and those coming from the H2020 call for projects that ILEAnet responded to.

3.1.1 ILEAnet Network+Community

As a H2020 Network of Practitioner-based research project in security, ILEAnet has been concerned with creating and developing a sustainable network of LEA practitioners interested in innovative solutions. However, the objective was not to initiate a practitioner network for the sake of it, running the risk to duplicate existing efforts in this domain, but to design such a network as to prompt and facilitate interactions between the practitioners and the developers of relevant solutions for LEAs at different stages of the innovation process.

The ILEAnet network is organised around 20 ILEAnet National Contacts (INCs) with deputies who are in charge of federating their respective organisations and networks of practitioners, academics, and any other relevant stakeholders, acting as “go between” and relaying ILEAnet information and requests to their networks while contributing to the ILEAnet agenda through a “bottom-up” approach (for an updated list of INCs, please refer to Annex 1).

ILEAnet has also operated as a community, convening academics, policy representatives and, to a lesser extent, industry people, who shared a similar interest in LEAs’ challenges and security related RDI, and were open to discussion and collaboration. Once connected, whether at an organisational or individual level, these different stakeholders contributed to the creation of a conducive environment for security research and innovation.

From a practical viewpoint and as explicitly foreseen in the DoA, the ILEAnet Network and Community have been supported by a bespoke online collaborative platform which was customised from an already existing tool for professional communities. Doing so, ILEAnet paid particular attention to

provide a secured and structured environment for practitioners and experts to find information and exchange ideas and engage in professional social networking and mutual collaboration.



Figure 1: Examples of publications posted-up on the ILEAnet online collaborative platform

3.1.2 EU policy requirements

Activities of the Network and the Community have been conducted in alignment with the EU Commission’s policy requirements as laid out in the HORIZON 2020 SECURE SOCIETIES PROGRAMME’ CALL H2020 SEC-21 GM 2016-2017 “PAN-EUROPEAN NETWORKS OF PRACTITIONERS AND OTHER ACTORS IN THE FIELD OF SECURITY” to which the ILEAnet project applied to.

These policy requirements involve:

- The monitoring of research and innovation projects, with recommendations of industrialization,
- The capture of common requirements regarding innovation to fill in potential capability gaps,
- The prioritisation of domains requiring more standardisation.

The approach embraced by ILEAnet through its network and community has ensured that practitioners were involved in each of these activities.

3.2 Paving the way to sustainability through a “building by doing” approach

The ILEAnet Community, including INCs, their national expert networks and external multidisciplinary experts, was engaged in concrete activities to foster a collaborative dynamic. Embracing a “building by doing” perspective, this very practical approach led to the creation of a "useful" community, well-aware of end-users' issues and of the capacity building perspective demanded by the EC.

3.2.1 Active engagement with INCs

There was ongoing engagement with and from the INCs during the project, with a core team of around 8 members more particularly committed. The way the collaboration with the INCs was defined allowed them to act as a hub for their respective national networks on the one hand, and as experts whose input to the ILEAnet work was needed on the other.

For example, the respective expertise of the INCs and the expertise existing in their network proved to be a key asset in the preparation of the Public Workshops and webinars to identify the relevant LEA practitioners and research projects to invite. They also helped find an expert to give a keynote presentation at the “Information Sharing between LEAs in Europe: best practices and challenge” workshop organised by the contractor and the ILEAnet scientific coordination on 28 September 2021.

Very useful intel has also been collected thanks to the participation of INCs themselves and experts from their networks to different surveys. This was for instance the case for priority security domains in standardisation and on uptake-related aspects of the EU-funded FOLDOUT (Through Foliage Detection of Illegal Cross-Border Activities) which were raised during the ILEAnet webinar dedicated to it.

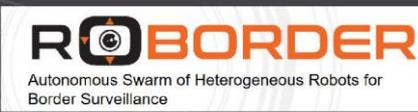
The engagement with some INCs was facilitated by the “welcome kit” designed by the ILEAnet Scientific Coordination. Encompassing a brief describing the role of INCs and a guide to get started on the ILEAnet Online Collaborative Platform, this kit issued in 2019 quick-started the integration of the INCs which were to join ILEAnet from that date onwards. All the INCs were also given the opportunity to talk about the expectations that had and potential issues they may have faced during dedicated interviews run by the ILEAnet Scientific Coordination.

3.2.2 Community development around concrete activities

The proactive work of several INCs has permitted to enrich the ILEAnet community through new members and collaboration opportunities with national police services, research centres, individual academics. Similarly to the INC network whose engagement was enhanced through a dynamic collaboration, the ILEAnet community took gradually shaped around concrete activities. Those included:

- Participating to the ILEAnet Project Uptake Process (IPUP): this genuine ILEAnet process was designed to manage the interactions between practitioners and researchers with a view to encouraging and accelerating practitioner uptake and exploitation of results. Encompassing three key stages, the IPUP starts from the identification of LEAs’ needs through the screening of possible solutions addressing those needs to the facilitation of the connection between the end-users and the solution providers.
- Attending webinar(s) from the ILEAnet webinar series: these online events were targeting an expert audience interested in research results showcased at one of the ILEAnet Public Workshops. Creating for participants a very concrete opportunity to engage with the solution developers and ask about functionalities and expected outcomes, ILEAnet webinars also provided a forum to discuss procurement-related issues.

- Involvement in the ILEAnet subcontracting studies: the two studies which were commissioned by ILEAnet, one on “Information-sharing mechanisms between LEAs” and the other on “Age determination”, received interesting contributions thanks to the initiatives of several INCs who tapped into the pool of expertise from their networks. Their participation proved essential in helping gather a critical mass of information and very valuable as the topics which were debated were requiring some expertise.
- Contributing to the review of standardisation domains for security: a discussion of the standardisation domains identified in the four ILEAnet priority topics (i.e. Migration, Cybercrime, Serious & Organised Crime and Terrorism) was held during the ILEAnet Public Workshop 4. The session included a presentation of the INCs’ propositions for potential areas for future standardisation.



ILEAnet Project Uptake Webinar

30 March 2021, 12H30-13H30 (CET)

for registration and project information pack please contact ensp-ileanet@interieur.gouv.fr

ROBORDER is an H2020 funded project which aims to support LEA border investigations through the development of an autonomous border surveillance system utilising unmanned technologies that can effectively monitor all types of land and sea borders. The project is now coming to the end of its development cycle and is moving into the final demonstration phase. As a result, the technology is ready for presentation to practitioners who may have an interest in deploying the final solution in their organisation.

This webinar will provide an opportunity for practitioners to have a conversation with the developers, review the technology, and obtain answers to key organisational questions such as deployment conditions/constraints, training requirements, technology cost, etc.

All are welcome to attend this event. However, this webinar would be most suited to border guard authority decision makers and those who use/deploy border technologies in their organisation.

The ROBORDER project plans to deliver an overall border security solution in the form of an integrated framework within which a range of unmanned sensor devices can be coordinated and deployed.

 Readiness ROBORDER will provide a platform ready for application and experimental use, meaning that a system prototype demonstration can take place in an operational environment.	 Cost ROBORDER will provide a platform ready for application and experimental use, meaning that a system prototype demonstration can take place in an operational environment.	 Operational Impact The deployment of autonomous robots will drastically decrease both the human and technical resources needed for border surveillance. Furthermore, human involvement in unknown and dangerous territories will be mitigated, and response times will be minimised.
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 This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 740714
 

Figure 2: Post advertising an ILEAnet webinar

Community management was essential in ensuring that the ILEAnet Community was kept informed in a relevant and timely manner about internal and external events and all kind of security-related topics. A specific resource was dedicated to this management, with the ILEAnet Community Manager’s carrying a range of tasks including:

- Providing updates on the project’s internal news and events (meetings, Public Workshops, webinars)
- Relaying scientific publications and security-related news in the Knowledge Factory
- Creating and circulating ILEAnet newsletters
- Monitoring the ILEAnet forum and following the questions and discussion topics raised on the ILEAnet Online Platform
- Finding and implementing ways to make the navigation of the ILEAnet Online Platform as user-friendly as possible.



Figure 3: Key tasks performed by the ILEAnet Community Manager

As a “one-stop” shop where to find and share information, the ILEAnet Online Collaborative Platform has proven an efficient way to make the community tangible.

4 Future of the ILEAnet Network and Community in an evolving EU security R&I landscape

With the ILEAnet project's coming to an end, the objective concerning the INC Network and the Community is not to maintain those instances in an artificial way, based on some of their members' goodwill, but to explore how they can fit into and contribute to the EU security Research and Innovation landscape. Indeed, this landscape has evolved during the lifetime of the project. In 5 years, new entities have been created and existing ones may have seen their roles modified.

It is in this particular context (4.1) that the reflection on possible ways to ensure the sustainability of the ILEAnet network and community was initiated and contacts with potential "takers" were established (section 4.2).

4.1 State-of-the-play of the EU security R&I landscape

Since the start of the ILEAnet project in May 2017, the EU security R&I landscape has undergone some significant changes actor-wise but also in terms of focus and approach.

4.1.1 A dense network of actors

The current EU security R&I landscape can be seen as composed of three different categories of actors as depicted in the figure 4:

- EU research projects, including network of practitioner-based EU projects (ILEAnet, I-Lead, iProcureNet, PEN-CP, eNOTICE, EXERTER, Fire-In, MEDEA, NO-FEAR, VISAGE.....)
- What can be referred to as EU-funded non-governmental organisations. This category includes providers of solutions and strategy plans such as CERIS (Community for European Research and Innovation for Security), CYCLOPES (Fighting Cybercrime – Law Enforcement Practitioners' Network), EACTDA (European Anti-Cybercrime Technology Development Association), ECTEG (European Cybercrime Training and Education Group), EMPACT (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats), ENLETS (European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services), EU HYBNET (a pan-European network to counter hybrid threats)
- The institutional level: DG Connect, DG HOME and European Agencies (CEPOL, EASO, EIGE, EMCDDA, ENISA, EU-LISA, EUROJUST, EUROPOL, FRONTEX).

To complete the picture, two instances with a steering role in EU security R&I need to be added. They are:

- The Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI): consisting of high-level officials from each EU member state's Ministry of Interior and/or Justice, it facilitates, promotes and strengthens coordination of EU member states' operational actions related to the EU's internal security

- The EUROPOL Innovation lab and its governance body (i.e. the European Clearing Board). It manages projects to address the operational needs of the EU law enforcement community, aiming to transform fundamental research results, prototypes and proof of concepts into usable tools and concrete solutions. The EUCB acts as the central point of contact between the EU Member States and the Europol Innovation Lab. It focuses on tools, methods, and innovation in the area of operational and investigative support. It is composed of Law Enforcement innovation specialists and Chief Innovation Officers from each of the EU MS and the four associated Schengen countries.

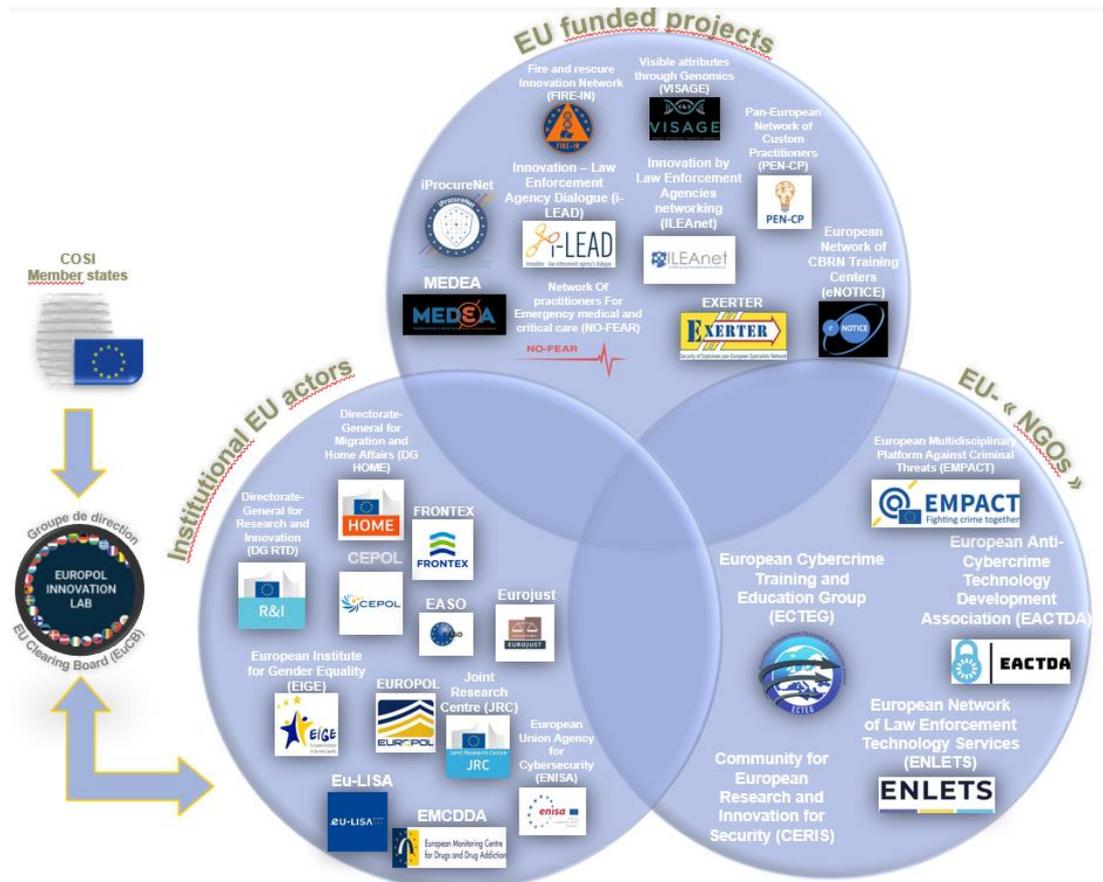


Figure 4: Key RDI actors of the EU security landscape

4.1.2 Focus on capability-driven approach and innovation uptake

As highlighted in the EU Commission staff working document on “ENHANCING SECURITY THROUGH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION” published in December 2021¹, EU security research and innovation is a strategic contributor to EU security policy priorities and a more secure Europe. Emphasis is put in the document on key actions likely to foster an optimal uptake and deployment of innovation stemming from EU research projects. They concern the integration of the different perspectives of all security R&I

¹ EU Commission, Commission staff working document “Enhancing security through research and innovation”, 15.12.2021 (https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/system/files/2021-12/SWD-2021-422_en.PDF)

stakeholders (thanks to a forum like the Community for European Research and Innovation for Security (CERIS) for instance), the promotion of a forward-looking, capability-driven approach in security and the mitigation of barriers to innovation uptake.

In the ILEAnet perspective, it is interesting to see that the identification of end-users' future needs and the assessment of options for innovative solutions (including, but not limited to, technologies) providing the capabilities required by end-users are among the supporting measures recommended by the EU Commission.

Likewise, the 2019 EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD REGULATION's clear ambition to adopt a capability-driven approach to security echoes what ILEAnet has tried to implement at its level². Among the terms of references between the EU Commission and Frontex, those concerning the identification of capability gaps and the assessment of research projects' operational relevance are well aligned with the objectives of the ILEAnet WP3 and WP4.

4.2 Valuation of the ILEAnet Community and assets

When it comes to promoting the sustainability of ILEAnet, a differentiated strategy has been adopted between the INC Network, expected to develop into a new hub, and the ILEAnet Community, whose sustainability is anticipated to be fostered by the adoption of some of the project's most significant results (referred to as ILEAnet assets) by other EU security R&I actors.

4.2.1 From INC Network to “veteran hub”

Composed of a majority of LEA practitioners who are familiar with collaborative innovation projects, there would be a value in consolidating the INC network in order to create a network of national hubs capable of connecting LEAs, identifying their operational staff and assisting with their participation in European research projects.

In that case, the INC network could be seen as a precursor of a European Point of Contact (PoC) network to connect communities around innovation topics and be extended as a veteran hub to which PoCs would be added to support the involvement of practitioners in European research projects.

This approach is based on the observations made during ILEAnet about the challenges related to the mobilisation of end-users to participate in European projects. They pointed towards a need to include in the networks of practitioners contact points with a good understanding of research projects and consortium building in addition to being knowledgeable about the different law enforcement entities in their country.

² REGULATION (EU) 2019/1896 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019R1896>)

The opportunity to place this European PoC network under the auspices of the European Clearing Board was made at the EuCB plenary meeting on 17-18 May 2022 and is under discussion.

4.2.2 Making the most of the ILEAnet Community and assets

The development of the ILEAnet Community together with tools and processes have naturally led to considerations around the sustainability of the project and the transfer of "ILEAnet assets". More specifically, the ILEAnet partners discussed the possibility of such a transfer as a whole or as elements that could be dealt with separately.

Given the rich range of results achieved under ILEAnet, the first step of the discussion was to list and review the project's outputs which could be acknowledged as assets (see Annex 2 for the complete list of ILEAnet assets). To that regard, several meetings internal to ILEAnet were organised to collect and discuss perspectives from INCs, scientific referents and Steering Committee members. A careful analysis of the EU security R&I landscape was then conducted to draft a "destination system" and identify those EU security actors (organisations, networks and individuals) that were the most likely to have an interest in those ILEAnet assets to add to their catalogue of tools, training approach and uptake process. Once the analysis was completed, contacts with organisations and individuals were established accordingly.

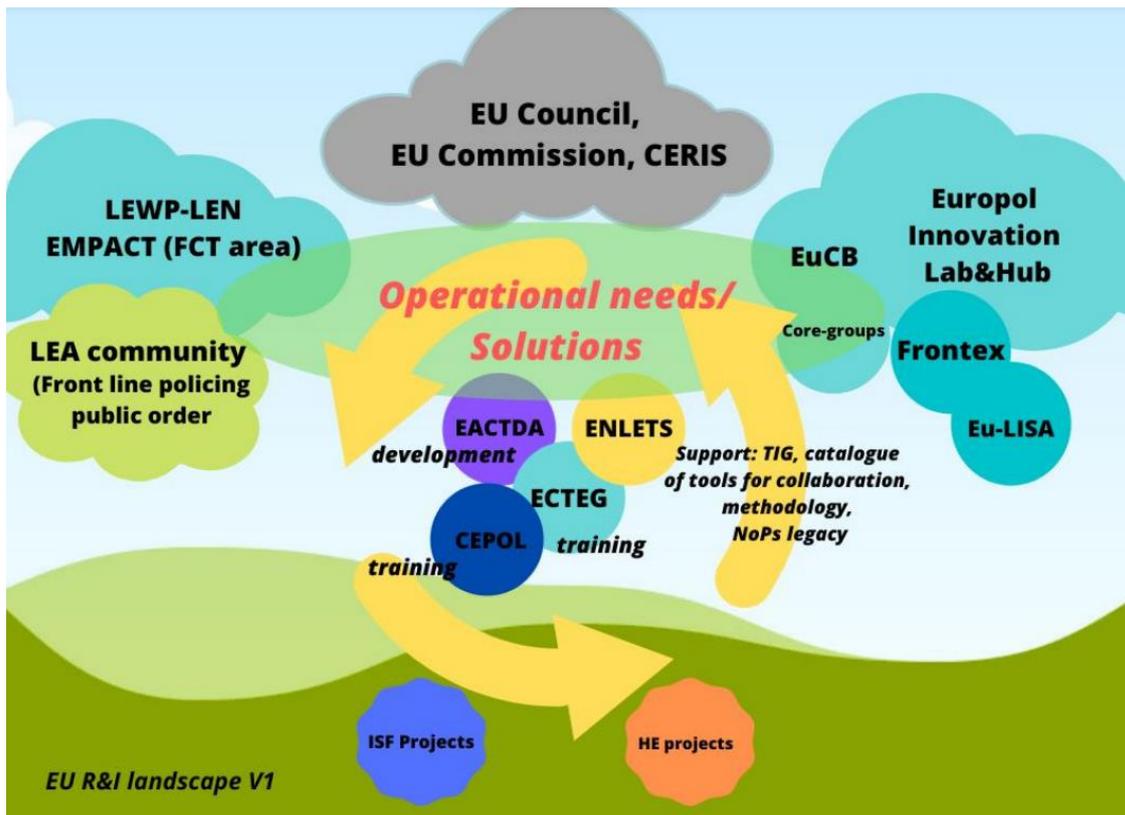


Figure 5: Destination system featuring the articulation between the main EU R&I security actors

As a result, the ILEAnet Knowledge Factory (KF) is to be taken over by EUROPOL which will select entries made into the Knowledge Factory during the project's lifetime to populate the EUROPOL Platform for

Experts (EPE). The ILEAnet Knowledge Factory, which was one of the ILEAnet collaborative platform's main features, is an online database containing a range of information related to security research. It encompasses more than 750 pieces of information on 28.04.2022 on topics spanning from research projects, security events, academic publications, hot topics like COVID and ways it impacts on security, news from the EU Commission and EU Agencies, etc ...

The solution found with EUROPOL also makes it possible to maintain all or part of the ILEAnet community since the hosting of data from the KF will be accompanied by an invitation to community members to join the EPE.

Another discussion was initiated with the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services (ENLETS) regarding the ILEAnet tools and processes which were deemed as the most useful to support ENLETS activities and which could be added to the ENLETS catalogue. They include:

- The ILEAnet Project Uptake Process (IPUP): this framework to support the uptake of research outputs by LEAs is expected to help ENLETS members with the identification of LEAs' challenges and needs, the facilitation of the interactions between LEAs and solution developers and the showcasing of research outputs through a LEA perspective.
- The preparation of subcontracting studies: the two studies launched by ILEAnet yielded very interesting outcomes and additions to the work conducted in the project. In addition, observations on their launch and conduct were made by the ILEAnet Scientific Coordination resulted in learning points and recommendations which could be of interest to ENLETS.

In addition to the topic on how i-LEAD's and ILEAnet's legacy could complement each other, the ongoing discussion with ENLETS also explores potential new ways for the network to operate and, for instance, if it could become a service provider for EU stakeholders in civil security research area.

The ILEAnet Standardisation Report is also a good example of how some of the results of the project can be transferred and make a contribution even after ILEAnet has ended. Stressing LEAs' priorities in standardisation domains, its content is expected to be of value to instances like the Stair4Security Platform and CEN-CENELEC Sector Forum on Security.

5 Conclusion

Aiming from the outset to build and develop a sustainable network of LEA practitioners interested in innovative solutions and to encourage the dialogue between those practitioners and the research community, the ILEAnet project has been concerned with initiating and developing an efficient practitioner network based on its own network of National Contacts then extended to a Community of RDI actors.

The results the project achieved thanks to its Network and Community have contributed to creating a conducive environment for security research and innovation, from the identification of operational challenges and needs to the implementation of practical solutions.

With the project's ending in May 2022, it was important that the sustainability of those key ILEAnet results (or assets) was ensured, and the discussions engaged with EUROPOL and ENLETS well-ahead of the project's termination have proven to be valuable. The Knowledge Factory is going to be taken over by EUROPOL and ENLETS has confirmed their interest in the IPUP and lessons learnt from the subcontracting studies. Further, lessons learnt and recommendations regarding several ILEAnet assets will be put forward in a specific deliverable (D4.9).

In a broader perspective, reflecting on the legacy of NoP research projects and enriched by the 5-year ILEAnet's experience, several observations can be made to turn the NoP trial into a success and to try and ensure the sustainability of their outcomes. They are about:

- Deciding on what needs to be supported and encouraged by EU-Funding (up to procurement)
- Distributing the tasks among already existing actors
- Deciding on what it is that needs to be preserved, what we do not need
- Initiating and developing discussions within the CERIS, acting as a forum for all RDI security actors
- Adopting a practical stance by assessing the experimentation with the EC and RDI actors.

6 Annex I: List of ILEAnet National Contacts

List of INCs as updated in April 2022:

Name	Organisation	Country	Contact
Caroline Schmidt	BMI - Ministry of Interior	Austria	inc-austria@eurtd.com
Chryso Angeli	Cyprus police	Cyprus	inc-cyprus@eurtd.com
Veronika Bouchalova	Czech Ministry of Interior, National Organized Crime Headquarters	Czech Republic	inc-cz@eurtd.com
Mila Lalova	Bulgarian Ministry of Interior	Bulgaria	inc-bulgaria@eurtd.com
Raul Savimaa	Estonian Police and Border Guard Board	Estonia	inc-estonia@eurtd.com
Thibaut Heckmann	French National Gendarmerie	France	inc-france@eurtd.com
Sven-Eric Fikenscher	Bavarian School of Applied Sciences for Public Service, Dptmt of Policing	Germany	inc-germany@eurtd.com
Orsolya Varnai Kornel Borbas	Hungarian National Police	Hungary	inc-hungary@eurtd.com
Cheryl Baker	University College Dublin	Ireland	inc-ireland@eurtd.com
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Zuzana Zachova	Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, Police Force	Slovakia	inc-slovakia@eurtd.com
Pablo Fernandez Lopez	Spanish Ministry of Interior, National Police	Spain	inc-spain@eurtd.com
tbc	Police Service of Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	inc-uk@eurtd.com
Jakub Muraszko	Police Academy, Szczytno, Poland	Poland	inc-poland@eurtd.com

7 Annex II: List of ILEAnet Assets

Asset Name	Short Asset Description
An online networking Platform	A digital platform to facilitate the materialisation and the networking of the ILEAnet community+network members, to enable mutual online assistance related to new solutions and best practice to address LEA challenges. The platform will stop at the end of the project but some of its content will remain accessible through the EPE.
Creation and animation of Law Enforcement & research communities	ILEAnet succeeded in creating a community of LEAs, researchers and other stakeholders interested in RDI.
Community manager	In ILEAnet, there was a dedicated person to community management. This is often not the case in other research projects aiming at building a network and this person is an added value for the networking and the community management.
A network of focal points (INCs and Scientific Referents)	A network of national focal points interconnecting ILEAnet and their national networks, both on operational and scientific levels.
Knowledge Factory	An online database containing a range of information related to security research. The database can be used to search for information, to add relevant information, and to 'score' information contained in the database. A bi-monthly summary of the most recent and/or relevant information from Knowledge Factory is circulated to the ILEAnet network as part of the scientific newsletter.
State of the art subcontracted studies	Subcontracted and in-depth studies before initiating a new research cycle.
IPUP (ILEAnet Project Uptake Process)	A framework to facilitate the uptake of research outputs by LEAs. IPUP covers the work of WP2 (desk research + survey + observation of the community), the work of WP3 (use of Public Workshops, organisation of targeted follow up webinars) and the tools of WP4 (TELOS, scenario, post-webinar questionnaire).
IPIP (ILEAnet Project Intake Project)	Good practices on how to involve LEAs in a research project and the standards for a better involvement/to make LEAs participate in RDI projects.
ILEAnet Cycle	Ability to identify challenges and need, seek for solutions within the network and outside, subcontracting and in-depth studies until initiating a research project or recommendations for policy makers.
Regular webinars on research projects	Research results are presented in the most comprehensive way for the LEA practitioners.
Standardisation methodology	ILEAnet developed its methodology to collect ideas of standards and has precious inputs on how to involve LEAs in standardisation activities
Helpdesk for LEAs dealing with administrative and financial issues within H2020/Horizon Europe projects	During the whole project, a specialised company (i.e. Arttic) helped the LEAs that were not familiarised with H2020 research projects to fulfil their contractual obligations. This highlighted the fact that the lack of mastery of these mechanisms is a definite hindrance to the engagement of LEAs in European-funded R&I projects.