The Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission has formally labelled the DRIVER+ project a “success story”. DRIVER+ has produced valuable results that benefit crisis management stakeholders and other EU-funded safety and security research innovation projects. This DRIVER+ Adopters Package provides information on these free and open-source tools that have been developed to accelerate innovation in crisis and disaster risk management.

They can most notably be used to:

» assess innovative solutions using a practitioner-centred and systematic approach;

» access and share information about these solutions;

» strengthen the community of European crisis management professionals.

To ensure the sustainability and further development of the results, the DRIVER+ consortium has established a Centres of Expertise network consisting of reputed European institutions that will:

» maintain, update and improve the products and services created by the DRIVER+ project;

» ensure that prospective users have the guidance, assistance and training to benefit from the outputs.
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The scale and pace of crises pose enormous challenges for the crisis management (CM) community, with new threats emerging all the time. An already complex field must strive to integrate new technologies and methods; cope with a rapidly changing infrastructure; understand evolving risks; be effective across cultural, administrative and national boundaries as well as engage with populations to enhance their resilience.

In this context, crisis management innovation must be capable of meeting these multifaceted challenges and delivering solutions that are modular, flexible and adaptable. These solutions must be tested and validated in realistic environments; they must also be evaluated to assess their real added value and overall suitability before adoption by practitioners. Failure to meet these needs could result in the introduction of less-than-perfect solutions and increase the cost of capability development.

The aim of the EU-funded DRIVER+ project, which concluded in June 2020 and was labelled by the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the EC a “success story”, has been to accelerate capability development and crisis management innovation by delivering these main outputs to the European crisis management community:
The **pan-European Test-bed** consists of four elements. The **Trial Guidance Methodology** (TGM) organises the assessment of crisis management solutions through trials. It comprises three distinct but connected phases: the design of the trial or “preparation phase”; the gathering of data or “execution phase” and, finally, the assessment and analysis of data or “evaluation phase”. A **Trial Guidance Tool** (TGT) was developed to facilitate the application of the different TGM steps. The **Test-bed Technical Infrastructure** (TTI) simulates a crisis environment that can be controlled by the trial organiser. It enables solutions and legacy systems to be connected and supports the collection of data during a trial. The aim of the **Training Module** (TM) is to train staff on how to best design and organise their own trials and make use of the available tools.

The **Portfolio of Solutions** (PoS) catalogues innovative crisis management solutions at different technology readiness levels, according to a well-structured taxonomy of crisis management functions and gaps. In addition, organisations that have run trials using the TGM can contribute their assessments and experiences.

The **Lessons Learned Library** (L3) is an online repository for collecting and sharing lessons from severe incidents, crisis situations, tests or exercises.

The **Crisis Management Innovation Network Europe** (CMINE) enhances the shared understanding of crisis management in Europe. It is an online platform that provides a common place where crisis management professionals from all over Europe can share information, discuss the most pressing issues in their field, network and organise meetings and events.

To ensure the sustainability of these results, a **Centres of Expertise network** supports practitioner organisations in the use of the DRIVER+ results.
DRIVER+ TEST-BED
ASSESS INNOVATIONS USING A PRACTITIONER-CENTRED AND SYSTEMATIC APPROACH

WHAT IS IT?

The DRIVER+ Test-bed consists of four components: the Trial Guidance Methodology, the Trial Guidance Tool, the Test-bed Technical Infrastructure and the Training Module.

The Trial Guidance Methodology (TGM) is a practitioner-centred and systematic approach to assess crisis management solutions through multi-stakeholder trials based on realistic scenarios. It is underpinned by the Trial Guidance Tool to guide users through the process of designing, executing and evaluating a trial. The Test-bed Technical Infrastructure (TTI) connects solutions and simulates a controlled crisis environment. The Training Module allows for the familiarisation with the TGM and TTI in order to conduct your own trial.

The DRIVER+ Test-bed was tested and perfected over the course of five large-scale, multi-stakeholder trials.

WHO IS IT FOR AND WHAT IS THE ADDED VALUE?

The DRIVER+ Test-bed is a powerful tool for practitioner organisations, solutions providers and security research projects (particularly in the Disaster-Resilient Societies, Infrastructure Protection and Practitioner Networks areas). It offers a fully documented and transparent process to assess the innovation potential of solutions.
NOTE ON SUSTAINABILITY

If you would like to benefit from the know-how of institutions that have been trained in the use of the DRIVER+ Test-bed, consider contacting a Centre of Expertise. Whether you are looking for an informal exchange on experiences or in need of specialised services (training, consulting, infrastructure rental), do not hesitate to get in touch with the Centre of Expertise that is closest to your domain or covers your country or region.

DOES THIS SOUND INTERESTING?

» Download the TGM Handbook (available in nine EU languages) or access the interactive online version.

» Access the Trial Guidance Tool to start planning your trial.

» Download the TTI source files.

» Access the Training Module to familiarise yourself with the TGM and TTI.
WHAT IS IT?

The **Portfolio of Solutions** catalogues innovative crisis management solutions at different technology readiness levels (TRL) according to a well-structured taxonomy of functions and gaps. Solutions providers can register their innovations in this free and open repository. End-users of solutions can, in turn, share input and experiences. As of June 2020, over 100 innovative crisis management solutions have been added to the PoS.

The objective of the **Lessons Learned Library** (L3) is to support organisations in sharing, editing, and consulting lessons within the domain of crisis management and disaster risk reduction. L3 is especially intended to share lessons across organisations, sectors and countries.

WHO IS IT FOR AND WHAT IS THE ADDED VALUE?

The PoS improves the accessibility of innovative crisis management solutions. It is a valuable source of credible, non-commercial information about existing solutions matching practitioner gaps. To better plan research and innovation programmes, the PoS can help identify the current state of the art as well as potential partners in industry and academia providing particular solutions.

L3 offers a structured approach to develop and improve doctrines, organisations, training, equipment, leadership, personnel performance and facilities to achieve more effective, efficient and safe operations. Since lessons are of varying nature, a filtering mechanism allows users to quickly find relevant information about specific events, incident types or crisis management functions.
NOTE ON SUSTAINABILITY

The Portfolio of Solution (PoS) is jointly operated by the Disaster Competence Network Austria (DCNA) and the Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (AIT). This cooperation ensures that European crisis management solution providers will have the possibility to present their innovative solutions to prospective end users. Moreover, practitioners will be able to use the services of the PoS to identify suitable solutions matching their gaps. DCNA and AIT cooperate with the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Center (DRMKC) to interface the PoS with the DRMKC’s Projects Explorer. In addition, the PoS has an interface with the Crisis Management Innovation Network Europe (CMINE).

DOES THIS SOUND INTERESTING?

» Register your solution in the online catalogue to make it accessible to the crisis management community

» Browse the online catalogue to access information about innovative crisis management solutions
CMINE is the hub for crisis management professionals in the EU and beyond. It aims to foster innovation and research uptake in crisis management through cross-sector, multi-stakeholder dialogue around capability gaps and potential solutions.

WHAT IS IT FOR AND WHAT IS THE ADDED VALUE?

Members of CMINE can:

» Create private groups with advanced features to work and exchange information

» Designate their own admins and manage their group autonomously

» Provide their own port of entry through a customised public homepage, URL and sign-up form

» Create subcommunities for different chapters or task groups

» Encourage conversations through a live feed and discussion forums

» Store documents in a secure repository

» Raise their profile within the crisis management community

» Announce news and project milestones

» Promote events and manage registrations

» Benefit from, and contribute to, a knowledge and innovation network

» Join or create task groups that are relevant to your organisation

» Share and access best practices and lessons learned
NOTE ON SUSTAINABILITY

The platform’s technical availability is guaranteed until June 2023. During this period, community management is entrusted to the Resilience Advisors Network (RAN).

DOES THIS SOUND INTERESTING?

» Visit CMINE.EU and create a free account in just a few minutes

» Organisations, associations, networks and research projects interested in joining CMINE should contact: cmine@resilienceadvisors.eu
The Centres of Expertise (CoE) network supports organisations in their capability development and innovation management using the DRIVER+ products. As the implementations and experiences will vary from organisation to organisation as well as between Member States, the CoE network will gather and share lessons learned, and, if necessary, adapt the respective DRIVER+ outcomes to organisational and/or national contexts.

The founding members of the DRIVER+ CoE network are:

» Crisis Information Centre - Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences – CIK

» Main School of Fire Service – SGSP (Poland)

» Austrian Red Cross

» Lithuanian Cybercrime Center of Excellence for Training, Research, Development and Education – L3CE

» Entente pour la Forêt Méditerranéenne – Valabre (France)

» Estonian Academy of Security Sciences – EASS

» Resilience Advisors Network – RAN (Ireland)

» German Federal Agency for Technical Relief – THW (Germany)

» Campus Vesta (Belgium)

» Peace Research Institute Oslo – PRIO (Norway)

» Disaster Competence Network Austria – DCNA

» To see the complete list of DRIVER+ Centres of Expertise as well as specialty areas and contact details, please refer to the dedicated page on the project website or CMINE group (previous registration required).

» The network of DRIVER+ Centres of Expertise is in constant expansion and welcomes new members. Institutions interested in becoming a DRIVER+ Centre of Expertise can download the CoE toolkit (available in nine languages) to assist them in conceiving a strategy tailored to their organisation.

» For any questions concerning Centres of Expertise or queries related to network membership, please contact coordination@projectdriver.eu.
Crisis management stakeholders and research projects may benefit from the free and open tools created by DRIVER+ to:

» Evaluate solutions using a practitioner-centric methodology and its supporting tools that have been perfected over the course of five large-scale, multi-stakeholder trials.

» Make solutions visible to prospective end-users.

» Access information about existing solutions to match identified crisis management gaps.

» Be part of a large and diverse European crisis management community and exchange experiences, engage in discussions and establish new partnerships.

» Benefit from a private working space with advanced collaborative features within a larger community of crisis management professionals.

» Get support from the Centres of Expertise network in applying the DRIVER+ products.

All DRIVER+ products have been developed:

» Based on validated practitioner needs, gaps and research questions.

» In a co-creation process with many different practitioners, stimulating the uptake of these products.

» With a variety of stakeholders, both within and outside the consortium, bringing together a wide range of visions, knowledge, skills and networks, making the project outputs useful for a large community.
DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE
OR DO YOU NEED SUPPORT?

**DRIVER+ TEST-BED**

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