CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

DRIVER+ 3rd Trial

Application process

Are you **DRIVING INNOVATION** in Crisis Management? Are you developing and deploying **SOCIO-TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS** for first responders? Do you provide innovations being a **GAME CHANGER** for operational, tactical and strategic decision makers? We need you to share your innovations with the Crisis Management community! **DRIVER+** organises a series of Trials which investigate innovative solutions under simulated crisis conditions. With this call for application, we invite you to participate to the third event.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 9th of July 2018

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Before you start

Who are we?

In 2014, dedicated practitioners' organizations, research institutes, industries and SMEs teamed up to drive innovation in Crisis Management for European resilience, starting the DRIVER+ project.

By 2020, our goal is to valorise the wealth of European innovations in Crisis Management, by assessing and delivering solutions that can be used and combined to address different types of large-scale crises. Your participation in DRIVER+ activities is important to us and will help us to align with and to follow-up on relevant policies, challenges, gaps and community needs faced within the wide spectrum of thematic areas dealing with Crisis Management. To maximise the impact of European Research and Innovation in Crisis Management, and to ensure that our Trials and events are conducted taking into account your expertise and state-of-the-art solutions, we warmly invite you to take part in our activities.

Within the project, we will conduct a series of Trials which investigate innovative solutions under simulated crisis conditions. For now, imagine a Trial as a demonstration of the innovative capabilities of solutions in a fictive crisis scenario. We invite selected submissions to this call for application to participate to one of these events. The next section will give insights on the setting for the Trial you can apply to by this call.

Solutions - What are we looking for?

A solution is a building block that contributes to a crisis management function. Solutions can be technologies, tools, methods, concepts, or recommendations that regard potential technical, organizational, procedural, legal, policy, societal, or ethical improvements to the European Crisis Management legacy.

What's in it for you?

Participating in the DRVER+ project features great opportunity to spread out your product to the European Crisis Management community. Within the Trials, you will be in contact with a large group of actors who are working and researching in the domain. Information on your solution will be taken up in our digital Portfolio of Solutions. Thereby, your solution gains visibility to a wide audience not only within DRIVER+ but also to other interested parties in and beyond Europe.

Participating in the Trial will enable you to:
- Get a better understanding of the needs of the crisis management practitioners,
- Test the integration of your solution into a complete crisis management system, based on a scenario developed by experts,
- Get first hand feedback from operational experts that have tested your solution in a controlled environment and scientifically sound setting,
- Get new insights to advance in the development of your solution.

The Trial

Trial Scenario

A dyke or sluice breach is caused by technical failure or by bad weather conditions. A part of the Safety Region Haaglanden, the Netherlands, will be flooded and damaged or destroyed. More than 500.000 people are threatened by the flooding.

During the flood, the water level will be about one meter, depending on the exact location of the breach and the altitude of the terrain. The flooding will have significant human and economic impacts. Cascading effects will be:

- Flooded roads and railways;
- Partly power outage;
- (Tele-)communications failure;
- Shortages in fresh drinking water and food supply for the population within and outside of the affected area.

The scenario requires decisions about the necessity for evacuation of inhabitants of the area afflicted by flooding. A large amount of emergency workers and rescue equipment is needed to deal with the increasing number of exposed people and to manage aforementioned cascading effects. Thus, the situation cannot be handled by Safety Region Haaglanden and regional crisis partners only, but requires deployment of additional evacuation forces, volunteers and resources from national and potentially international networks.

When the water has withdrawn, the previously flooded area will be heavily damaged and partly destroyed.

Figure 1: Scenario Image (Source: XVR, 2017)

Main Issues

We are especially looking for solutions addressing the following capability needs:

- Planning of resources (qualified personnel and equipment) for response during large scale and long-term crises;
- Cability to exchange crisis-related information among agencies and organizations on various levels (interoperability);
- Planning and managing large scale evacuation of population in urban areas;

Trial Setup and Involved Actors

Because of widespread effects of this kind of incidents and limited possibilities to conduct this kind of scenario in real-life conditions, the Trial will be organised as a multi-day table-top exercise based on a simulated environment.

The scenario will require a commitment of stakeholders (end-users and decision makers) from every crisis management level (local, regional, national and international), such as representatives of the ministry of infrastructure and water, national police, regional fire- and medical services, crisis management experts, representatives of water sectors, representatives of non-governmental organizations (Organization of Lifeguards, Red Cross and other volunteers).

Actions will be taken by these stakeholders in a realistic information environment, based on currently available means, crisis management plans, rescue procedures and good practices of participants. Solution providers are asked to support the actors in their mission to respond to the scenario.
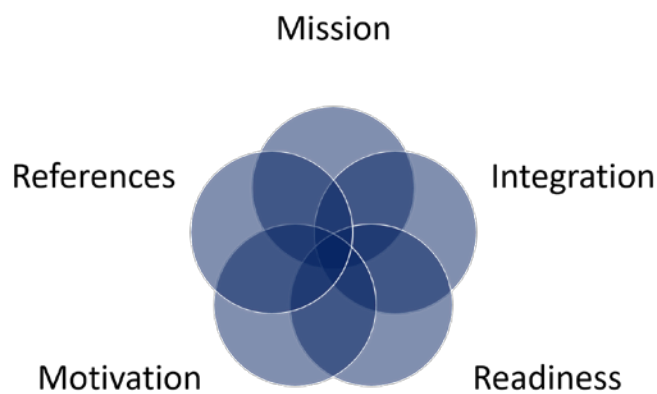
Application Steps

Step 1: Answer the evaluation criteria

Please give short and concrete answers to the following questions. <u>Make reference to the above scenario where possible.</u> Please do not discuss implementation details or any technical aspects, which are not defining the contribution. You will have the chance to address technical details in the next section. **[Up to 2000 characters (~300 words) each]** [Please download the PDF and use the Adobe PDF Reader or Adobe PDF Pro to avoid compatibility issues with some browser PDF viewers.]

Every submission should represent an independent solution. If you want to apply with a set of tools, e.g. software programs, which only work together or gain additional value as a joint solution, please propose them in one submission to increase your chance of acceptance.

Mission	How does the solution contribute to crisis management?
Describe the objective you want to achieve with your solution and how this improves crisis management, e.g. by supporting tasks or improve communication/collaboration.	

Integration	How is it integrated into the existing crisis management operations?

Describe to which aspects of crisis management your solution belongs to, e.g. the required outputs, results it produces and who is using it.

Readiness	How mature is the solution and has it been tested or proved?

Describe on which stage of development your solution is currently. You may refer to the stages of innovation or technology readiness level listed in Table 1 of the document.

Motivation	How does the solution address problems of practitioners?

Describe why you developed the solution and which needs are addressed in crisis management.

References	Do you have references on your experience and solution application?

Describe if the solution itself already has references for its application or if you as solution provider have experience in the field of crisis management, e.g. with other solutions.

Stage of Innovation	Technology Readiness Level
Stage 1: Concept	TRL 1: Basic principles observed and reported
Stage 2: Research and Development	TRL 2: Technology concept and/or application formulated
Stage 3: Initial Piloting	TRL 3: Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof of concept
Stage 4: Early Adoption/Distribution	TRL 4: Component and/or breadboard validation in laboratory environment
Stage 5: Market Growth	TRL 5: Component and/or breadboard validation in relevant environment
Stage 6: Wide-scale Adoption	TRL 6: System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment
	TRL 7: System prototype demonstration in an operational environment.
	TRL 8: Actual system completed and qualified through test and demonstration.
	TRL 9: Actual system proven through successful mission operations.

Table 1: Stages of innovation or technology readiness level

Step 2: Provide additional details

Please give a short and concrete answer to the following questions. The answers provided here will not be evaluated in regard to a selection for the DRIVER+ Trials but serve a better documentation of solutions. Provide attachments if needed.

[Up to 2000 characters (~300 words) each]

Resources	Which resources are needed to operate the solution?

Describe if your solution requires special resources to be used, e.g. infrastructure, additional hardware or software, dedicated training, specific knowledge.

Know-How	Which expertise is needed to operate the solution?

Describe if your solution requires a certain domain knowledge or training of the users, e.g. minimum level of command or environment insights.

Platform	On which platforms is the solution available?

In case the solution is IT-based, describe in which kind of environment your solution is operated, e.g. the operating system of mobile and stationary devices or the organizational level in crisis management.

Technique	On which technique (or technology if applicable) is the solution based on?

Describe the most important methodological background of the solution, e.g. communication forms or used technologies.

Investment	Which investments are necessary to deploy the solution?
Describe the hardware and know-how to be acquired to set up and long term operate the solution.	

Step 3: Provide attachements (optional)

To support your answers in steps 1 and 2 you can provide attachments in form of pictures and documentations. Please be aware that the attachments do not replace your answer and may only support explanations given above. All attachments need to be packed into one archive. (supported file format: *.zip*, maximum file size: *50MB*)

Step 4: Submit application

Save the completed PDF form and upload it with attachments (if included) to the submission tool EasyChair following the link below.

Submit Application   **Submission deadline: 9ᵗʰ of July 2018**

Review Procedure

Every solution will be evaluated according to the above criteria – Mission, Integration, Readiness, Motivation and References – by at least three independent evaluators with an end-user background. The review results will be send to you by 3ʳᵈ of September, 2018. Solutions pre-selected by the practitioners and Trial owner will be invited to a demonstration event during calendar week 39 (24-28.09.2018).

Trial process

If your solution passes the open Call for Application, you will be invited to a demonstration event in The Hague, the Netherlands, to showcase your solution to the Trial committee and respond to questions. The demonstration will take place in calendar week 39 of 2018. Participation and physical presence is mandatory. In special cases a remote demonstration may be allowed by the Trial committee. Travel costs for your participation are reimbursed by the DRIVER+ project.

If your solution is finally selected after this demonstration event, you become member of the Trial team. Starting from the demonstration event, your participation in the project and physical presence to multiple meetings is mandatory. Please reserve the following dates:

Event	Duration	Date	Location
Solution demonstration	1-2 days	CW 39, 24-28.09.2018	
Joint Workshop	3-5 days	CW 45, 05-11.11.2018	
Trial Dry-run 1	3-5 days	CW 8, 18-22.02.2019	The Hague (The Netherlands)
Trial Dry-run 2	3-5 days	CW 15, 08-12.04.2019	
Trial	5 days	CW 21, 20-24.05.2019	

Please make yourself familiar with the overview of the process ahead. To read the additional information on the DRIVER+ Trial process and possibilities for cost reimbursement, **please visit website (click here)** and go to the Trial Process Overview next to the submission form.

Contact

In case of questions or any other inquires to the call, please feel free to contact us at:

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