"Institut Cybersécurité Occitanie"

Key Challenge Project

2024 CALL – "Engineers to support demonstrator and prototype implementation" fellowships

Context and objectives

The "Institut Cybersécurité Occitanie" (ICO) Project was launched in January 2022. ICO is a multidisciplinary initiative that aims to gather and federate key players in cybersecurity, from academia and industry, in order to position the Occitanie region among the top leaders in this field in France as well as at the international level. The Institute aims to stimulate upstream research, develop training and promote collaboration and innovation with industry.

The ambition of this project is to privilege the application sectors that are historical markers for the Occitanie region: in particular, aeronautics, automotive, space and healthcare. Another strong differentiator of the Occitanie ecosystem concerns the interdisciplinarity of the research conducted, which covers computer science, mathematics as well as legal, social and business-related aspects of cybersecurity.

The Institute is funded by the Occitanie Region for 5 years. The funding includes the support of research actions through open calls for PhD and postdocs scholarships, funding for engineers to implement research demonstrators and prototypes scientific projects and travel grants mobility cofinancing, as well as the support for organization of scientific and outreach events and education initiatives that contribute to enhancing the visibility and attractiveness of the cybersecurity ecosystem in the Occitanie region. Proposals involving different labs or multidisciplinary topics are highly encouraged.

Beneficiaries

This call is for applications for hiring engineers to support the implementation of research demonstrators and software or hardware prototypes. The research project has to be carried out in research labs in the Occitanie region. Collaborative projects, involving more than one partner at the region, national or international levels are encouraged.

Eligibility rules

The project must meet the following conditions:

- It shall be carried in a research lab located in the Occitanie region, that is involved in research activities in cybersecurity. The list includes: ENAC, CEA, Équipe de droit pénal et sciences forensiques de Montpellier (UR 212 UM), IES (UMR 5214 CNRS/UM), IDETCOM (EA 785 UT CAPITOLE), Institut de droit privé (EA 1920 UT CAPITOLE), IMAG (UMR 5149 CNRS/UM), IMT (UMR 5219 CNRS/INSA/INUC/UT CAPITOLE/UT2/UT3), IRIT (UMR 5505 CNRS/INP/UT3/UT CAPITOLE/UT2), ISAE-SUPAERO, LAAS-CNRS (UPR 8001), Laboratoire de Droit Privé (UR 207 UM), LERASS (EA 827 UT3), LIRMM (UMR 5506 CNRS/UM), TSE-R (UMR 1415 UT CAPITOLE/CNRS/INRAE/EHESS). Other labs that are not listed can also apply.
- Contributions can cover computer science, mathematics as well as legal, social and business-related aspects of cybersecurity.
- The research topic will have to target, in a short, mid or long run, challenges addressing one or several of the following research goals:
1. Strengthen hardware, software and system security.
2. Ensure the security of future networks and connected environments/emerging technologies.
3. Better protect data and privacy, and improve trust in social networks.
4. Improve design through formal approaches and study the impact/contribution of artificial intelligence.

- Each publication by the selected candidate related to the accepted project shall include the following acknowledgement:

Budget and duration

- The eligible expenses concern the gross salary of the engineer fellow on the basis of the CNRS wages depending on experience.
- Funds are available for projects of up to 12 months in length (in case of interruption, the non-used amount will be restituted to the Institute).

Application

Deadline and selection procedure

- ICO will organize 3 calls per year, with deadlines of **January 31st, May 31st and September 30th of each year**, until the allocated budget is exhausted.
- Eligible applications will be evaluated by the ICO Executive Committee, and the applicants will be notified within 2 to 3 weeks after the deadline of each call for participation.

Project description

The project description should be structured as follows:

- Project Title & Applicant
- Part I. Brief summary of the project (1/2 page max.)
- Part II. Description of the demonstrator/prototype and planned activities (2 pages max.)

- Part III. Detailed budget:
  - Requested funding duration (12 months max.)
  - Additional support covered by other sources

How to apply

Applications should be submitted as a single file with a maximum size of 10 Mo. The file name should be the following:

YearICO_Ing_Acronym_SupervisorFamilyName.pdf

Send the pdf file by email to: bureau@ico-occitanie.fr

Contact

For more information about the call, please send an email to: bureau@ico-occitanie.fr