



“Institut Cybersécurité Occitanie”

Key Challenge Project

“National & International Mobility” CALL

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

One of the Institute's ambitions is to contribute to the development of lasting collaborations in the cybersecurity field through research stays carried out in a scientific context, bringing significant added value for the candidate as well as for the laboratories concerned. Funding is available for:

- enabling a PhD student, post-doc, researcher or permanent teacher-researcher, working in a cybersecurity research laboratory in the Occitanie region, to spend some time in another laboratory in France or abroad, in order to acquire knowledge that will enable him/her to strengthen his/her research activity in one of the themes covered by the ICO, and with the aim of jointly responding to research projects or producing joint publications (**outgoing mobility**).

- hosting in a cybersecurity research laboratory in the Occitanie region a PhD student, post-doc, researcher or teacher-researcher working in another national or foreign laboratory, so that he/she can bring his/her skills to the host team and contribute to an ICO-related research project (**incoming mobility**).

Eligibility rules

The mobility project must meet the following conditions:

- For outgoing mobility projects, the candidate must belong to a cybersecurity research laboratory in the Occitanie region.
For incoming mobility projects, the candidate's visit must take place in a cybersecurity research laboratory in the Occitanie region. 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 mobility project 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.
- The applicant will undertake to contribute to the activities, meetings and discussions organized by the host institution during his/her stay.
- At the end of his/her stay, the successful candidate must prepare a brief presentation to measure the impact of his/her visit (activities, highlights, prospects for future collaborations), addressed to the home and host laboratories. This report may be published on the ICO's website.
- Each publication related to the mobility project shall include the following acknowledgement:

*"This work was supported by ICO, Institut Cybersécurité Occitanie,
funded by Région Occitanie, France"*

Budget and duration

- Funding can cover a mobility project lasting up to 2 months (in case of interruption, the non-used amount will be restituted to the Institute). The stay cannot take place during periods when research establishments are closed.
- The funds granted may cover travel, meals and accommodation expenses. The request must be clearly justified, explaining the objectives and expected benefits and shall not exceed € 5.000. The final amount of financial support is assessed on a case-by-case basis, depending on the destination, the duration of the stay, the applicant's experience and reputation in his/her field of research, the funding he/she has obtained from his/her research team and, if possible, from other sources.

Application

Deadline and selection procedure

- Applications can be submitted at any time of the year. Funding will be allocated as applications come in, until the mobility budget is exhausted.
- Applicants must submit their applications at least 3 months before their planned departure date.
- Notification: a week after the ICO's board meeting, following the date of application. The board meets every two weeks, except in August.

How to apply

Formal applications should include:

- Candidate's name, status and detailed CV
- Home institution and contact details
- Description of the mobility project, scientific goals and expected results (2 pages)
- Details of the mission: dates, duration, destination, estimated budget
- Links between applicant's research team and host laboratory
- Host institution and contact details
- A letter of invitation from the head of the host research team, explaining in particular how the mobility project will contribute to its research program
- Other sources of funding
- Measures in order to reduce the impact of the travel-related carbon footprint during the mobility project will be appreciated.

The mobility proposal should be structured as follows:

- Title
- Work program (possible courses, seminars, conferences, etc.)
- Positioning with respect to ICO objectives
- Project partners: name, research lab, research team (depending on applicant's status).

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

YearICO_Mobility_ApplicantFamilyName.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