



# “Institut Cybersécurité Occitanie”

## Key Challenge Project

### 2024 CALL : “Scientific Projects”

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#### 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.

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#### Beneficiaries

The scientific 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.

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#### Eligibility rules

The project must meet the following conditions:

- The principal investigator of the project shall be a member of 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. Interdisciplinary projects are encouraged.
- 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.
- Accepted candidates will be invited to present their results to ICO's partners at the end of their projects.
- Every publication related to the project shall include the following acknowledgement:

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

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## Budget and duration

- The requested budget should not exceed **15 k€**.
- The duration of the project must not exceed 24 months (in case of extension, the amount of regional aid remains unchanged).
- The requested budget can be used to cover students internship gratifications, expenses for the purchase of equipment, consumables, small supplies, travel and accommodation expenses for invited scientific experts, support for national or international mobility, etc.

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## 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.
- Applications will be assessed 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

Formal applications should include the following information:

- Project Title & Applicant
- Part I. Brief summary of the project (10 lines)
- Part II. Detailed general information:

- Project participants (and resume of the PIs)
- Project duration
- Requested budget
  
- Part III. Full description of the project (max. 5 pages):
  - Problems and scientific interests, brief bibliography
  - Scientific program, planned activities and milestones
  - Expected outcomes (scientific, national/ international collaboration, support for education)
  - If relevant, the names of potential invited scientific experts and their fields of expertise should be included (brief resume)
  
- Part IV. Detailed budget
  - Justification of the requested budget
  - 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\_Project\_Acronym\_ApplicantFamilyName.pdf

Send the pdf file by email to: [bureau@ico-occitanie.fr](mailto:bureau@ico-occitanie.fr)

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### **Contact**

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