TERRIFFIC
ACCELERATED CBRNE RESPONSE

Newsletter – October 2021

Welcome to this final edition of the TERRIFFIC Newsletter. The last three and a half years have seen quite a few challenges, not least because of the travel restrictions caused by Covid, but we have also enjoyed some successes along the way. It is of course a shame that TERRIFFIC is drawing to its conclusion at the end of October, but of all the consortium partners can certainly be proud of what we have achieved together.

The fully integrated TERRIFFIC System was thoroughly tested in the last of our two trials with CBRNe practitioners in September. The System was put through its paces firstly in the tabletop and field exercise in Slovakia and then again two weeks later in the final trial in France. The results were very positive, as you can read below.

In mid-October, we held our final Public Workshop in Aix-en-Provence. The meeting was live streamed as well, so we were delighted to be able to welcome our guests remotely, as well as in person. We also held a demonstration afterwards at ENSOSP, the French fire officers' college, and again the next day at the 127th Fire Congress. It's been a busy, but rewarding, couple of months.

A new project video has just been released, which you can watch by clicking on the link below – I hope you enjoy it. And finally, thank you for continuing to support our project and I would encourage you all to join the CBRNe group on the CMINE platform to keep in touch with colleagues and other research projects.

Ulisse Gendotti, Project Coordinator, Arktis Radiation Detectors

FINAL TRIAL – FRANCE

The Final Trial was held in Chambéry in the Savoie region of France on 29-30 September. Organised by TL & Associates and kindly hosted by SDIS73, fire officers were able to assess the complete TERRIFFIC System in an operational setting using a variety of real radiation sources.

This trials' campaign, both in France and Slovakia, has been at the heart of the whole project. We have involved practitioners from the police and fire services throughout and used real radioactive sources so that we can establish whether the TERRIFFIC System can add value to incident commanders in an RNe incident.

In Chambéry, fire officers first used their legacy methods to conduct searches for the radioactive sources and then re-ran the exercise using the TERRIFFIC System. This time, they used different scenarios and different source types, so that they could better assess whether the System could offer them tangible benefits.

Certainly, it seems from the interview with Col. Denis Giordan of SDIS73 that TERRIFFIC could indeed offer real benefits. "I think that TERRIFFIC, after two long days of tests, training and trials may be added into our toolbox," said Col. Giordan, adding "TERRIFFIC is not able to give solutions to each situation, but TERRIFFIC may be part of a solution in numerous situations."

A full report on the assessment of the System is currently being prepared for the European Commission.

FIELD EXERCISE – SLOVAKIA

The Field Exercise, part of the project's trials campaign, was held in Malacky, Slovakia on 07-08 September with a hot debrief the following day. Project partners ISEMI and TLA organised the event with the support and active participation of police and fire officers from the Slovak and Czech Republics.

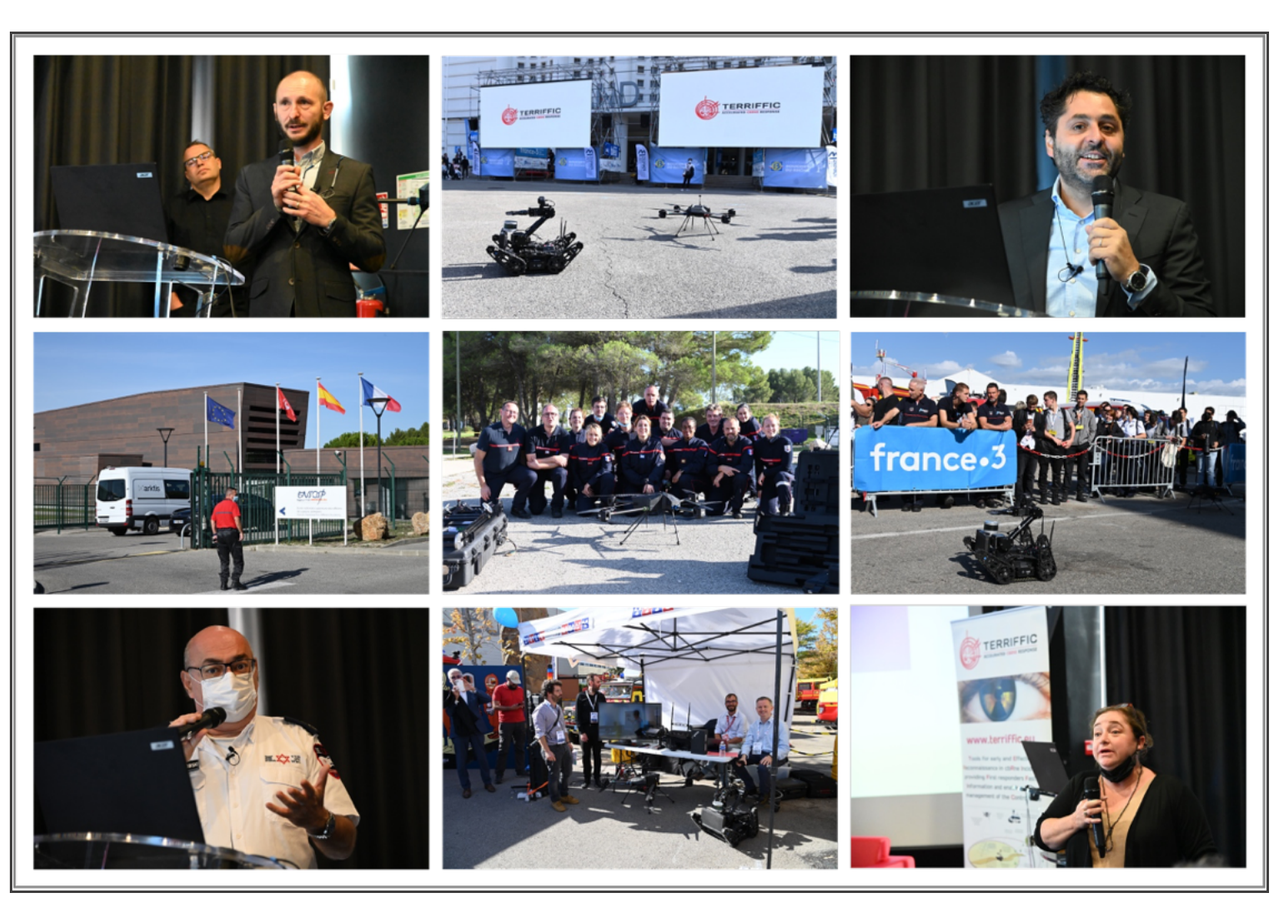
The practitioners were able to see and use the integrated TERRIFFIC Project System, using genuine radioactive sources in realistic operational scenarios. Of course, the safety of the participants was paramount and managed closely throughout the two day exercise.

The police and fire officers were able to experience first hand the tangible benefits of the System, which uses innovative gamma and beta sensors and a new gamma camera, mounted on both UAVs and UGVs. There was also a new beta handheld detector used to locate and identify the sources.

The sensor results and plume modelling forecasts were automatically fed through into the augmented reality solution, using Microsoft's HoloLens glasses, and into the incident management system in the specially-equipped MODES van.

This was real proof of the power of using innovative technology in an RNe incident to help CBRNe officers manage the event more effectively - and greatly reduce the risks to personnel.

FINAL WORKSHOP AND DEMONSTRATIONS



The final Workshop was kindly hosted at Entente Valabre near Aix-en-Provence and we were proud to welcome an audience of CBRNe practitioners and experts to the aerial firefighting college in the south of France.

It was very satisfying to meet together in person, after the past 18 months of travel restrictions, for this one day Workshop. The event was also live streamed for those that were unable to attend in person and we were delighted to have so many other experts join us remotely.

As well as the results of the Field Exercise and Final Trial, the audience were given more in-depth details of the various technologies developed in the project and the potential impact they could have on the CBRNe world. A new project video that tells the story of the trials and the technology that has been developed was given its first airing at the Workshop and is now available on our home page, as well as on YouTube.

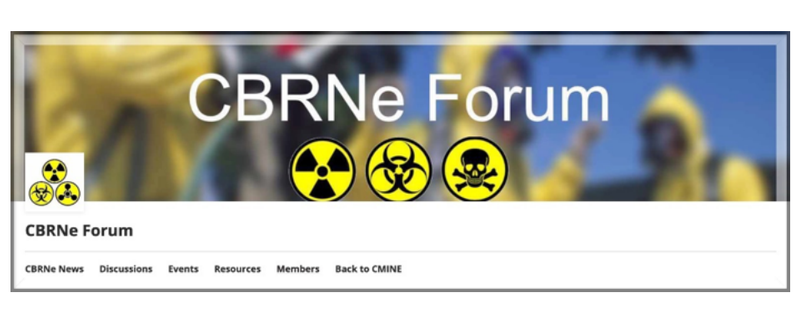
Central to the project has been the trials campaign. The quantitative methodology and assessment was explained in some detail and we were pleased that the benefits of this approach were positively received, in particular by the members of the Advisory Board.

A practical demonstration was also held at the Fire Officers College (ENSOSP) in the afternoon, so that the workshop attendees and firefighters could actually see first hand how the technology worked and how the individual components could deliver improved situational awareness to RNe incident commanders.

CMiNE
Fostering Innovation in Crisis Management

The Crisis Management Innovation Network Europe (CMINE) is a thriving community of more than a thousand Disaster Resilience experts from every walk of life. Academics, practitioners, policy-makers and industrial leaders, all with one common purpose - creating successful and robust innovation to improve the security of our societies.

Created by H2020 with the support of the key EU agencies and directorates, CMINE is a non-profit platform linking projects and providing a common space for developing ideas as well as sharing basic resources to help avoid every project creating its own.



Many successful Projects are using it as an additional communication and dissemination tool and to help them link with like-minded teams with overlapping interests. A dedicated CBRNe group has been set up for colleagues to interact, discuss and post information about events and other areas of interest.

To find out more and to join CMINE, please visit the site at https://www.cmine.eu.

PROJECT PROFILE

EU-HYBNET

EU-HYBNET, a Pan-European network to counter hybrid threats

The world as we know it is experiencing change and evolution at a rapid pace in every area of life. A technological revolution gives rise to massive shifts in global politics, economics, the media landscape and the ways in which we all live, work, communicate, connect with and trust one another, locally and globally. The very nature of war, committing acts of aggression, and sowing seeds of discontent have evolved. Hybrid threats are a product of these changes and are part of our modern world, EU-HYBNET/(Pan-European Network to Counter Hybrid Threats) is a project that works towards protecting the EU against them.

The project aims to enrich the existing European networks countering hybrid threats and ensure long term sustainability. This will be achieved by defining the common requirements of European practitioners and other relevant actors in the field of hybrid threats. Ultimately, this can fill knowledge gaps, deal with performance needs, and enhance capabilities or research, innovation and training endeavours concerning hybrid threats.

EU-HYBNET welcomes applications from legal entities interested in becoming new network members. New members will contribute to problem scoping, innovation mapping, workshops, research, and training in order to increase the network's capability to counter hybrid threats.

Consortium partners monitor developments in research and innovation activities as applied to hybrid threats and indicates priorities for innovation uptake and industrialisation. Moreover, the project determines preferences for standardisation that empowers the Pan-European network to effectively counter hybrid threats.

EU-HYBNET establishes conditions for enhanced interactions with practitioners, industry, and academia for meaningful dialogue and increasing membership in the network to support these ambitions. Amongst other efforts, these ambitions are achieved through specific events, an Innovation Arena, a Network Expansion Campaign and using Tuovi, a dedicated working space for knowledge sharing and collaboration.

The project is coordinated by Päivi Mattila of the Laurea University of Applied Sciences and runs for five years (2020 – 2025). Once concluded, aspects of the work will be sustainably preserved by the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats – Hybrid CoE.

If you have any additional questions, please engage the relevant person from the list.

Project Coordinator (Laurea University) – Päivi Mattila

Network Manager (Laurea University) – Jari Räsänen

Innovation Arena and Tuovi Platform (Laurea University) – Artmir Galica

Communication Topics (EOS) – Elodie Reuge or Maguelone Laval

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