

Project Acronym/Title: DroneWISE

Project Aim: To develop a holistic first-responder agency command, control and coordination training and strategy for the counter-terrorism protection of public spaces. DroneWISE will serve to increase the preparedness of first-responder agencies to better coordinate their efforts, significantly improving the protection of public spaces and coordinated response to terrorist attack using UAVs.

Call Topic: Internal Security Fund Police (ISFP) - Action Plan to support the protection of public spaces

Call Schedule: Submission deadline **28th November** / Project start date mid-2020

Proposed project budget: €1million

Call description: Recent terrorist attacks have shown a recurrent targeting of public spaces, exploiting the intrinsic vulnerabilities of these so-called "soft targets" that result from their open nature and public character. This concerned pedestrian precincts, tourist sites, transport hubs, shopping malls, places of worship, outdoor markets, concert halls and city squares, as seen in attacks in, for example, Barcelona, Berlin, Brussels, London, Manchester, Nice and Stockholm. As terrorist organisations are continuously trying to innovate on their techniques and modi operandi, the EU needs to be equally innovative in its response, harness technology and pool expertise across the Union to detect and mitigate emerging threats. This concerns, for example, possible **threats posed by unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV) that could be used by terrorists**. This EU funding can also **support the operational cooperation on the ground. To improve the cooperation between first responders in the aftermath of terrorist attacks**, the EU will make funding available within this call for **cooperation projects to enhance the coordination between law enforcement, civil protection and medical services in the acute phase after an attack**.

DroneWISE project concept: DroneWISE recognizes that the illegal use of UAVs is now a serious security concern across the world as terrorists, activists and criminals are adopting drone technology and developing new, creative and sophisticated ways in which to commit crime, terrorism and invade the privacy of citizens. The adoption of drones as a tactical attack planning option for terrorists to cause mass disruption, damage economic stability and directly threaten EU security and the safety of its citizens is a chilling reminder of the clear and present danger from contemporary terrorism. Reinforcing this new and emerging threat, during August 2019, EU Security Commissioner Julian King warned that drones could be used for acts of terrorism stating that: *"Drones are becoming more and more powerful and smarter which makes them more and more attractive for legitimate use, but also for hostile acts."* The warning followed the publication of a secret report issued in December 2018 from France's Anti-Terrorism Unit (UCLAT) to the country's Special Committee on Terrorism. The report warned of *"a possible terrorist attack on a football stadium by means of an unmanned drone that could be equipped with biological warfare agents."* To address these current vulnerabilities, **DroneWISE will develop a holistic first-responder agency command, control and coordination strategy, underpinned by evidence-based training for the counter-terrorism protection of public spaces. DroneWISE will serve to increase the preparedness of first-responder agencies to better coordinate their efforts, significantly improving the protection of public spaces and coordinated response to terrorist attack using UAVs.**

DroneWISE project key outputs:

- **Counter-UAV Command Training** – The development and delivery of a first-responder multi-agency *Counter-UAV Command Training* course for the protection of public places, including tactical options and decision-making frameworks.
- **Counter-UAV Command Training Handbook** – The development and delivery of a *Counter-UAV Command Training Handbook* to support student learning on the *Counter-UAV Command Training* course including accessible and authoritative guidance for first-responders.
- **Counter-UAV Train the Trainers Programme** – The development and delivery of a Counter-UAV Train the Trainers Programme including a ‘Train the Trainers’ course, supported by training course materials including delivery guidance, training plans and learning outcomes.
- **Counter-UAV Command, Control and Coordination Strategy** - The design , development and delivery of a Counter-UAV first responder multi-agency command policy with decision-making models and threat and risk matrix.
- **Counter-UAV Command Online Training Portal** – The design, development and delivery of an online web-based portal to provide ready access for first responders to online Counter-UAV Command Training and learning support materials.

Consortium Partners:

1. Germany, Bavarian Police (Coordinator) (End-user 1)
2. RiniGard (Croatia)
3. Saher Europe (Estonia)
4. Kemea Greece (End-user/LEA 2)
5. Bulgarian Institute (End-user/LEA 3)
6. University of Applied Sciences Velika Gorica (Croatia)- evaluation and accreditation tasks for the training

Role of LEAS/end-users:

- Provide user requirements, command challenges and rogue drone use cases
- Host 1 x consortium meeting
- Conduct 3 x pilot training sessions to a total of 30 students
- Conduct 1 x train the trainer session and train 5-10 trainers
- Lead 1 x Work Package