

2023
-
2026

DIREKTION AWARDS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1st open call to reward the:

“Best innovative solutions regarding
Disaster and Resilience society gaps for
first responders”

Start: April 1st, 2025 at 12:00 CEST
Deadline: June 1st, 2025 at 12:00 CEST



Project Contact



INERIS DEVELOPPEMENT SAS
Parc Technologique Alata, 60550 Verneuil en Halatte, France
www.ineris-developpement.com
Registered in Compiègne, France under RCS 793 798 703

DIREKTION Project

The number and severity of disasters are increasing in Europe, due to climate change, ageing of industrial facilities and infrastructures, geo-political instability, poor knowledge management for critical activities and the vulnerability of the population exposed (density, age, migration...). To face these challenges, firefighters, rescuers, emergency medical responders and civil protection staff, have to implement effective and affordable solutions to support their operations. The DIREKTION project has established and implemented mechanisms and procedures to enhance knowledge sharing by directing the development of innovative technologies answering the needs of practitioners and policymakers. The steering role of international organisations (CTIF, FEU) and end-users in the project guarantees useful and practical results.

The project has started with the deployment of tools assessing the relevance and interoperability of innovative technologies developed by EU Horizon projects. A structured analysis of needs and gaps and the screening of potential solutions has then been undertaken. The procedures have used the outcomes of projects like FIRE-IN, DRIVER+ / CMINE, MEDEA, the pilot for the Network of European Hubs for Civil Protection and Crisis Management and has followed the taxonomy of the EU security market study to ensure a structured use of results. Based on the capability-driven evaluations and a detailed analysis of the opportunities and constraints for the uptake of innovative solutions, DIREKTION has established priorities for future research programming and capacity building. Moreover, the project continues to further establish networking and dissemination opportunities of interest for the DRS community in close collaboration with existing communities of users. They involve industry, SMEs & start-ups, research organisations and practitioners, at EU and national levels. DIREKTION strengthens current practice and future research and innovation planning in disaster resilience.



© 2023-2026 This document and its content are the property of the DIREKTION Consortium. All rights relevant to this document are determined by the applicable laws. Access to this document does not grant any right or license on the document or its contents. This document or its contents are not to be used or treated in any manner inconsistent with the rights or interests of the DIREKTION Consortium or the Partners detriment and are not to be disclosed externally without prior written consent from the DIREKTION Partners. Each DIREKTION Partner may use this document in conformity with the DIREKTION Consortium Grant Agreement provisions. The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme, under the Grant Agreement No 101121249.

The views and opinions in this document are solely those of the authors and contributors, not those of the European Commission.

When and where can I apply?

All information is published on our DIREKTION website.

Who can apply for the Awards?

Any legal entities (start-ups, SMEs, RTOs, ...) that are technology providers and are established in EU Member States and its Overseas Countries and Territories or Horizon Europe Associated Countries members of the European Union¹. Individual freelancers or informal groups that are not legally recognized (e.g., unregistered startups) would not be eligible. Freelancers or individuals without formal legal status must partner with an eligible entity to apply.

The solution may be provided by a single entity or by a consortium.

Can I submit applications in languages other than English?

Only proposals submitted in English are eligible.

What types of innovative solutions are eligible?

All solutions addressing one or several of the needs are eligible with a TRL minimum of 8.

What is a TRL?

Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) are indicators used to assess the maturity level of specific technologies. This measurement system provides a common understanding of technology status and addresses the entire innovation chain. There are nine technology readiness levels; TRL 1 being the lowest and TRL 9 the highest. Please refer to the [General Annexes](#) for Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2025 for a full description of TRLs.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation-horizon-euratom_en.pdf

Can I submit more than one solution?

No. If more than one proposal submitted by the same applicant is identified, for the same solution, only the last proposal which has been submitted will be evaluated.

What is the evaluation process?

Proposals will be assessed by 6 experts based on the following criteria: Excellence, Impact and Implementation. Each application will be evaluated by two experts using a scoring scale, up from 0 to 5.

What are the possible outcomes of my application?

Once we receive your application, we will proceed with an eligibility check. Following the evaluation process by external experts, the winners will be informed by email from 1st August. We will give you further information on the Awards ceremony.

How the funds must be utilised?

The winners will receive an amount up to 10.000€, each dedicated to communication and promotion of the awarded solution as well as to attend European events related to disaster resilience (such as DRS Event). The presence of the winners at a DRS Event in late 2025 and at INTERSCHUTZ in June 2026 is a mandatory requirement. Travel costs are for instance eligible.

What is the payment schedule?

Payments	Amount	Calendar	Time
1 st payment	5. 000 €	Upon the official announcement of the winners at DRS event	Late 2025
2 nd payment	5. 000 €	After final payment from European Commission	Last trimester 2026

What is a Conflict of Interest?

A conflict of interest generally refers to a situation where impartial and objective exercise of the functions by a person involved in the evaluation, selection or decision process is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other indirect personal applicants.

Applicants must formally notify in the Register form any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation. All situations of potential conflict of interest will be assessed case by case.