

Delegations will find attached the work programme of the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services (ENLETS) 2014 - 2020. COSI is invited to endorse this work programme.



ENLETS

Work programme

2014-2020

European Network of Law Enforcement Technology
Services

2013-11-10

Management summary

This paper sets out the work programme for the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services (ENLETS) in short, mid and long term objectives and its needed resources in a detailed action plan for 2014 and 2015.

Tasks for ENLETS in 2013 – 2020 are based on the Council Conclusions (doc. 12103/13) and the ISEC funded programme “ENLETS disseminates Best Practice” (EDBP). This work programme should be read in conjunction with Council Conclusions and the ISEC Grant Agreement. ENLETS was tasked by the Council to:

- organise a technology watch function within the ENLETS framework in order to ensure a better and effective involvement of the end users of the internal security authorities in the EU's security related research and industrial policy
- ensure a closer cooperation among these authorities as well as to scan the horizon for emerging technologies, entrusting that the ENLETS Core Group will be the EU technology watch function for internal security research and industrial policy.

This technology watch function remains based on the three principles of ENLETS:

- **Sharing Best Practices**; to provide Member States with information about the available technology. This exchange is done on a daily basis, supported by an Europol Platform of Experts
- **Co creation**; to provide Member States with information about useful projects with industry and to inform them of new developments
- **Research**: to provide Member States with updates about what kind of research is available, but more often providing the Commission and Research Technology Organisations with information on what kind of research is needed to fill “capability gaps”, based on end user requirements.

In addition ENLETS will act as a broker of information on technology for ENLETS members, to provide them with the necessary information on funding and guide them towards opportunities to cooperate in order to secure funding on joint topics.

ENLETS objectives

Short term objectives are defined under the funded project "ENLETS Disseminates Best Practices". Close cooperation with European Industry will be explored in addition to using H2020 topics to get end users better involved in security related research. Midterm objectives consist of an integrated Best Practices exchange model, a mature network of National Contact Points, an overview of experts on different law enforcement topics within each member state and intensifying cooperation with the industry and other working groups. Long term objectives include the technology watch function and horizon scanning in order to strengthen policy on national and European level.

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Introduction

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Tasks for ENLETS in 2013 – 2020 are based on the Council Conclusions and the ISEC funded programme “ENLETS disseminates Best Practice” (EDBP). This work programme should be read in conjunction with Council Conclusions¹ and the ISEC Grant Agreement.

Historical background

ENLETS was created under the auspices of the Law Enforcement Working Party (formerly the Police Cooperation Working Party). From 2008 until 2012 participation in the ENLETS network was promising, though the group was in search for concrete plans and actions. In 2012 new vigour was brought into the group by refreshing the vision and mission of ENLETS. A representation of Member States was formed into a Core Group with a Core Group Leader to enhance daily activities.

In 2012 the United Kingdom, Romania and the Netherlands requested funding for the EDBP on behalf of the ENLETS members, which was granted by ISEC in 2013. In addition, the Council tasked ENLETS with long term goals in the Council Conclusions of 13 June 2013 (doc. 12103/13). With these Council Conclusions and the ISEC programme EDBP, ENLETS now has a firm basis to execute the vision and mission:

Vision

The European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services will be the leading European platform that strengthens police cooperation and bridges the gap between the users and providers of law enforcement technology.

Mission

ENLETS supports front line policing and the fight against serious and organised crime by gathering user requirements, scanning and raising awareness of new technology and best practices, the possibility of co creation and research and development.

Strategy

In order to achieve the vision and mission, ENLETS is active in joint initiatives, sharing information and networking between law enforcement agencies, industry and research organizations. ENLETS provides its Member States with opportunities for users, technology experts in law enforcement, research centers and industry to meet each other and jointly access the European level.

ENLETS is a point of contact to access European law enforcement technical organisations. ENLETS will build an interactive knowledge based on best practices and will push the exchange of best practices. In addition, ENLETS will provide insight into funding (H2020 and other sources), gather Member States to apply for funding as calls come available on technical topics. ENLETS will provide Members States with advice on funding procedures.

¹ doc. 12103/13 Council Conclusions on strengthening the internal security authorities involvement in security related research and industrial policy

From strategy to goals; ENLETS objectives

ENLETS has clear goals within the two assignments given in the Council Conclusions and the ISEC programme. ENLETS will support the growth of EU security industry and improve efficiency and effectiveness in supporting partners by delivering key business objectives:

1. Executing the Council Conclusions on the European level

Create a security technology watch function within the ENLETS framework in order to ensure a better and effective involvement of the end users of the internal security authorities as well as improve cooperation among these authorities. In addition, ENLETS should scan the horizon for emerging technologies in the EU's security-related research and industrial policy.

2. Executing the funded ISEC programme

The project "ENLETS Disseminates Best Practices" is based on the framework agreement between the United Kingdom, Romania and the Netherlands. During this 2 year programme, 21 Member States will share best practices on five topics:

- ANPR
- Open Source Intelligence
- Signal Intelligence
- Surveillance
- Front Line Policing, Vehicle Stopping

3. Strengthening the network

Supporting the National Contact Points and Member States in their task and search for joint opportunities and funding. Enhancing the effectiveness of working between European Law Enforcement Working Groups by stimulating an integrated approach in the area of technology services; co creation and joint research and development. Arranging meetings and venues for key players to meet each other and share information on technology topics in law enforcement.

The goals and objectives are elaborated on in detail in the chapter 'ENLETS Deliverables'.

Continuity ENLETS

Voluntary participation

ENLETS is a European network based on voluntary participation. Except for the Dutch Core group leader and his part time support, all members participating in the ENLETS core group do so in addition to their regular work. Core group members spend between ten and twenty percent of their time on ENLETS, National Contact Points spend ten percent of their time on ENLETS. The time spent on ENLETS is funded by the Member States. Secured funding for travel and accommodation only is available for the project EDBP.

Structural funding

In order to execute the Council Conclusion and transform from an expert group to a professionally organised network, a change in funded resources is required. ENLETS needs full time members, capable of understanding law enforcement and technology, help managing the network and supporting the members. A full time support unit is necessary as a central point of contact. Based on the tasks identified by the Council, ENLETS will need eight full time members to manage activities which vary from project management and proactive involvement in policy. ENLETS needs the support of their own Member States and the “swift and flexible funding from the Commission” as stated in the Council Conclusions. In “ENLETS resources” (page 12) you will find cost estimates for participating core group members and Member States.

ENLETS as a single legal entity

The possibility of additional resources for members activities will be explored under the future Horizon 2020 programme and the Internal Security Fund. To aid ENLETS eligibility and sustainability and make it more efficient to receive funding, the possibility of creating ENLETS as a single legal entity is currently explored.

Accountability

ENLETS will use established performance management processes (in line with Prince II project management, Key Performance Indicators according to BBP) to identify clear SMART aims and plans, review their progress and identify and understand performance issues and take appropriate actions. These will include reporting to LEWP and COSI every six months.

Governance and Procedures

Governance and procedures are of the utmost importance. Based on best practices of other groups, ENLETS’ procedures and organisational structure are currently under review. They will be described in a separate document.

ENLETS deliverables

The Council Conclusions and the ISEC funding require ENLETS to undertake a variety of tasks. These tasks will start in 2014 with deliverables in short, medium and long term.

Short term objectives (2014-2015)

The short term objectives are planned for the period 2014-2015:

- Executing the ENLETS Disseminates Best Practices programme
- NCP's mapping their environment
- Exchange of technology (knowledge)
- Actively coordinating and monitoring the end users needs and emerging technologies
- Exploring funding opportunities

Executing the ENLETS Disseminates Best Practices programme

This two year programme (September 2013-September 2015), was initiated by the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Romania. 21 Member States are benefitting and listed as interested in one or more topics.

Dissemination of Best Practices will lead to a better European understanding of the capabilities of technology and how it can be used. By disseminating a base line in technology the Member States will be able to harmonize the technology to a more standard European approach, enable a more cost and time efficient procurement and steer the industrial market towards end user requirements. In addition Member States will have a basic understanding on which to decide whether to start innovation programmes.

The EDBP project consists of five topics:

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)

ANPR is well established in many MS. In 2013/14 ENLETS will support those MS who feel the need to enhance their capabilities by sharing best practices. The ANPR systems will be measured by its maturity, capabilities and their deployment.

Open Source Intelligence

Open source intelligence is a prioritized topic due to the evolving internet and wireless communication systems. For law enforcement it is a source of information as well as a method of communication. Open source intelligence relates to front line policing (events, crowd control) and criminal investigations (search for evidence, monitoring and surveillance). In this project the handling of open sources will be assessed and ranked.

Signal Intelligence

Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) deploy many kinds of sensors, mostly connected to their IT systems. The sensors need to enhance the operational capability of the LEAs, but often the integration of these sensors and IT systems cause technological problems. Frequently sensor data cannot be integrated, stored or displayed due to the design, protocols and construction of IT systems. What kind of signal intelligence is the most operationally effective and open for integrating the sensors in the EU? What kind of concept will be needed as ever more data is forwarded for processing and more information needs to be analysed?

Surveillance

Surveillance uses many types of technology. In this topic focus will be on sharing the best video systems (quality, performance in several scenarios). The purpose of this topic is to match the best standards in video used by the industry to the end user requirements. Privacy enhanced technology and transparency are key issues.

Remote Stopping Vehicles

Cars on the run have proven to be dangerous for citizens. Criminal offenders (from robbery to a simple theft) will take risks to escape after a crime. In most cases the police are unable to chase the criminal due to the lack of efficient means to stop the vehicle safely. This project starts with the knowledge that insufficient technology tools are available to be used as part of a proportionate response. This project will work on a technological solution that can be a “build in standard” for all cars that enter the European market.

NCP’s mapping their environment

National Contact Points are key persons in the network and need to build a strong network within their own country. To fulfill this task a major effort and guidance is needed since it drives accumulation of information from a national to a European level. ENLETS core group supports NCPs by giving guidance in mapping their own Member States, helping them to identify the real experts in the field, relevant departments and persons. This information will be merged into a short list of expertise, running projects and academia. This list will be accessed through the ENLETS website.

Exchange of technology – Sharing best practices

Exchanging technology (who is using what, when, how and what for) is one of the key priorities. Its characteristic is quick wins, supporting procurement and a strong connection with the end user’s daily work. This exchange of knowledge proved its added value in many cases over the last years. Exchanging information will be done by networking between the Member States, through electronic exchange and guided by the ENLETS support unit. A database with relevant expertise, running or closed projects will be available and maintained by the ENLETS support unit.

ENLETS will provide technical advice or provide an expert to the Commission in relation to procurement procedures.

Summarize end user needs

End user needs are essential to the ENLETS network, although ENLETS needs to be aware that a large diversity in end user needs may complicate focus. ENLETS will collect the end user needs through questionnaires in the MS, active interpellation, organising expert meetings on relevant topics. By making an overview of European and National priorities and comparing them to existing technologies, gaps can be defined between priorities and available technology. ENLETS will define new modern technology with a high technology readiness. With active interpellation between market and end users ENLETS will make the new technology applicable for end users.

Support EMPACT priorities

ENLETS will support the EMPACT priorities on the European level by searching for those technologies that can strengthen the prioritized areas. This might be done by giving advice on what existing technology could be used or by working with others to identify technology to fill the gap in the relevant field.

Support and advice on funding

European funding can be an accelerator, helping law enforcement to implement new technology. However, funding will be wasted if the funded activities are not in line with the real end user needs. ENLETS will explore and map opportunities in the EU funding programs of OLAF, Internal Security Funds and H2020. The objective is to match law enforcement needs to funding available in due time. More specifically, ENLETS will support the member states by briefing them on funding opportunities; enhance cooperation between Member States to submit joint proposals and offer guidance and practical advice when Member States apply for funding. In addition, ENLETS will support the Commission with advice to create policy, proposals and assessing funding applications.

Get end users teamed up for H2020

H2020 is a major opportunity to meet end user needs in future law enforcement work. At a later stage ENLETS will have a technology radar available to identify threats and opportunities in the (near) future. ENLETS will start by research and end users. A part of the strategy is to get ENLETS end users connected and let them team up for H2020 proposals.

Medium term objectives (2014 – 2017)

Building a relationship with industry

The co creation level is the next level after Best Practices. Characteristic to the process of co creation is that innovative power outside law enforcement is needed to keep up with emerging technology. Co creation life cycles take up to two years before new technology is identified, merged with Law Enforcement Agencies' end user requirements, produced and integrated at operational level. ENLETS will (assist to) establish professional relationships with the industry to ensure a swift adaption of new, promising technologies in Law Enforcement. ENLETS will achieve this goal by meeting with the two largest industrial trade associations in Europe, meanwhile trying to get smaller innovative enterprises on board as well. Building a reliable network will take several years.

Overview of ongoing developments

ENLETS will work on an accurate overview of (trans)national developments in technology in order to prevent Member States, working groups or agencies to invest in duplications. ENLETS will identify core areas of common interest by organising a technology watch. Once key players of each Member State are well known within the ENLETS network, potentially duplicated work will be detected and prevented. Instead, common interest in the same new technology will lead to co creation by bringing the right people together.

Supporting other European Law Enforcement Expert Groups

The Law Enforcement Working Party has several expert groups in different areas. These groups are also interested in technology that can support their objectives and ENLETS is in favour of discussing how to support these expert groups with technology.

Supporting the expert groups may consist of giving advice, benchmarking or searching together for new technologies. Expert groups cooperating in the area of technology will reduce fragmentation of the use of technology within law enforcement.

Supporting the communication

Starting in 2014 ENLETS will provide their members with a digital tool that provides members with:

- an overview of the available experts in the members states, including the national projects on technology
- news, papers, requirements on technology from Member States and industry
- direct communication on the relevant topics
- information from the industry and research institutes

Long term objectives (2014 – 2020)

Matching research to end users perspective

Research should be linked to law enforcement end users needs, to national or European priorities or to assessments such as the European Union Serious Organized Crime Threat Assessment (EU SOCTA). Vice versa, law enforcement should know about current research topics. These connections are often difficult to make. ENLETS will actively identify research needs for law enforcement and link them to research capacities in Europe. This will be achieved by close cooperation with research executives within national Law Enforcement Agencies and by gathering the information on a European level. The Joint Research Center will support ENLETS in providing contacts in relevant research centers.

It is an ENLETS' objective to get key executives in the Member States in close connection to (representatives of) research centers throughout Europe. ENLETS will identify research with a 'high technology readiness level' to be offered to law enforcement. ENLETS will match these promising technologies with the research needs and present them during the executive meetings which will take place annually. Key players from both law enforcement and research institutes will have a chance to meet each other. Executives on European and national levels will be aware of developments in research. This will help them set priorities on European and national levels and potentially align priorities to benefit from economy of scale. ENLETS will build a strong network of strategic key players and research institutes.

Technology Radar

ENLETS will scan the horizon for emerging technology in order to identify potential threats and opportunities as well as potential changes in the way technology is used. This Horizon scanning will be suitable and understandable for all Law Enforcement Agencies. Emphasize will be on short budgets cycles and emerging needs in reference to upcoming threats and opportunities (with a maximum of 3-5 years).

ENLETS Resources

ENLETS has a dedicated budget 2013/15 based on the execution of the ISEC programme.

Execution of the Council Conclusions depends on financial support from the European Commission and Member States in terms of staff and travel costs. Without permanent funding for personnel and overhead, ENLETS will not be able to execute the Council Conclusions to its full extent. ENLETS wants to call on the existing European funds.

Estimate revenues

Estimated Income Programme EDBP	Income	Total
EU ISEC funding	€587.727	
Contribution UK and The Netherlands	€52.887	
ENLETS disseminates best practices		€622.263

Estimate personnel

Estimated effort on yearly base	Estimated Costs	Total
EU Core group		
Full time Core group leader (staff and travel costs)	90 K	90K
Full time policy officer (staff and travel costs)	80K	170K
Admin support (staff and incidental travel)	60K	230K
5 full time senior Advisors (staff and travel costs)	90K	680K
ENLETS NCP's meetings twice a year 28 MS	45K	725K
(Web) Communication	15K	740K
Expert group meetings for LEWP groups, Agency's, RTO (travel and meeting costs with other groups)	50K	790K
Additional (project)support for MS	35K	825K
Steering group meetings	10K	835K
Overhead	80K	915K