

CELTIC Proposers Day 25 September 2026 Funding updates from the

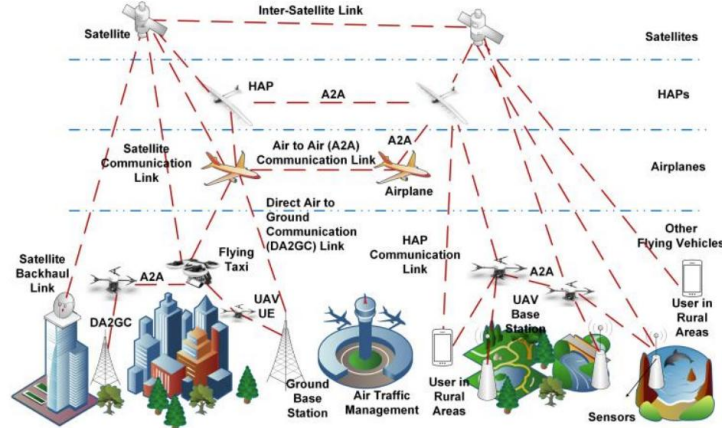
Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)



Michael Walch

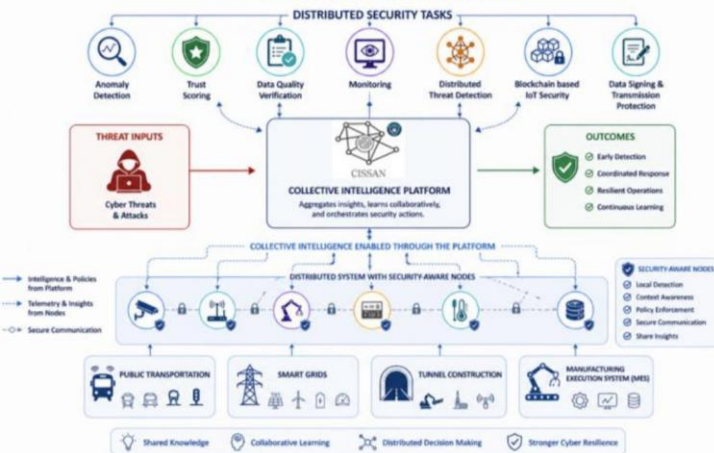
www.celticnext.eu





<https://www.celticnext.eu/project-6g-sky/>

COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE IN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES FOR ENSURING CYBERSECURITY



<https://www.celticnext.eu/project-ciisan/>



<https://www.celticnext.eu/project-coa-cfd/>

Recent Success Stories

CELTIC-NEXT Projects with Partners from Austria

6G-SKY – Connecting the sky and ground

Integrated 3D connectivity across terrestrial, satellite and aerial networks, with real-world demonstrations of UAV swarms, multi-link connectivity and AI-based handovers. The project advanced 6G applications in urban air mobility, rural connectivity and logistics

CISSAN – Collective intelligence for cybersecurity

CISSAN developed a decentralised cybersecurity platform enabling IoT and OT systems to collaboratively detect, share and respond to cyber threats. The approach was validated across critical infrastructure use cases including transport, energy, tunnelling and manufacturing

COA-CFD – Democratizing CFD simulations

Cloud-based CFD simulations make advanced simulation accessible to non-experts and SMEs, reducing the need for specialist expertise, hardware and physical prototypes. The project combined hybrid CFD solvers, intuitive interfaces and cloud infrastructure

Funding for CELTIC-NEXT Projects in Austria

FFG Funding Programmes for CELTIC- NEXT Projects

As part of the Austrian innovation ecosystem, FFG provides a wide range of funding programmes tailored to specific needs of CELTIC-NEXT projects, e.g.:

- FFG General Programmes
- FFG Thematic Programmes

In addition, different (regional) funding programmes are available in Austria as well, and self-funded participation in CELTIC-NEXT projects is an option.

FFG General Programme

Open Call, Open Budget

- All year bottom-up call for single-firm applicants
- Experimental development, TRL 5-7

Evaluation criteria

- Technical funding criteria include in particular the degree of innovation and the technical challenge of the submitted project
- The economic assessment focuses on the commercialization potential and the applicant's economic performance
- Ecological soundness and social aspects are considered

Funding Outlook in FFG General Programme -

Funding conditions for Austrian partners in CELTIC-NEXT projects

- **SME:** grant of up to 60% of eligible costs (60% for small companies, 50% for medium sized companies)
- **Large Company:** mixed funding of up to 50% (funding is composed of a grant and a loan part), or grant of up to 40% (tbc)
- **Universities and research organizations** a) can be subcontracted by a company partner from Austria, or b) can submit a partner application with a grant of up to 50% of eligible costs

Max. funding € 3 Mio. p.a.

Website for more information:

<https://www.ffg.at/initiative/basisprogramm>

FFG Thematic Programmes

Thematic focus is expressed in calls for projects organized by, e.g.,

- AI Ecosystems:
 - <https://www.ffg.at/ai-oekosysteme-2026>
 - National deadline: 06.10.2026
- Take Off:
 - <https://www.ffg.at/TakeOff/ausschreibung-2026>
 - National deadline: 03.03.2027 (tbc)
- ...

Details may vary in each call, usually

- Industrial research & experimental development, TRL 2-7
- A balanced Austrian consortium is required
- Dedicated budget

Matchmaking

How to get in touch with partners from Austria?

1. Via the ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA office in your country:
<https://www.advantageaustria.org/>
2. Contact your local EEN node: <https://een.ec.europa.eu/>. EEN is one of the largest online database for collaboration opportunities
 - Find a partner via EEN in three steps:
 - Search the global partnership database based on your criteria
 - Express your interest by telling your EEN representative about your company, project idea, and the type of partner you are looking for
 - The EEN representatives put interested partners in touch



[CelticNextEurekaCluster](https://www.linkedin.com/company/CelticNextEurekaCluster)



[@CelticNext](https://twitter.com/CelticNext)



[CELTIC-NEXT Video Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

CELTIC-NEXT



FFG Websites for more information:

- Eureka
 - <https://www.ffg.at/eureka>
- Eureka Cluster
 - <https://www.ffg.at/europa/eureka/cluster>
- CELTIC-NEXT
 - <https://www.ffg.at/europa/eureka/cluster/celtic-plus>
- CELTIC-NEXT Autumn Call 2026
 - https://www.ffg.at/europa/ausschreibungen/eureka_celtic_call_autumn_2026