D1.1 – Initial report on AHEAD Foresight Network

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Executive Summary

This deliverable sets out the contour of the AHEAD Foresight Network of stakeholders. This network is crucial to perform the project activities in WP3 till WP9. These work packages need to relay on the stakeholder map identifying all relevant organisations, knowledge hubs and experts for the 5 foresight exercises (WP4–8) and identification and prioritisation of the foresight topics. Since AHEAD is performing Foresight Exercises for all 5 HORIZON EUROPE destinations the AHAED stakeholder map should be occupied by organisations/hub/experts from these destinations.

In chapter 2 the set-up of the AHEAD stakeholder map will be explained. This chapter will be followed by a first initial overview of the complex network (internal and external) of stakeholder the AHEAD project is facing, in chapter 3.

The result of Task 1.1 (Stakeholder Map) and T1.2 (Pool of Experts) of which this deliverable is a reflection, will continuously by updated, extended and if needed changed during the remainder of the AHEAD project via task 1.3

Table of content

Table of figures

List of Acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Description
AHEAD	TowArd sustainable foresigHt capabilitiEs for increAseD Civil Security
LEA	Law Enforcement Agencies
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
CERIS	Community for European Research and Innovations for Security
SME	Small Medium Enterprises
SSH	Social Sciences & Humanities
JRC	Joint Research Centre
PoC	Point of Contact

1 Introduction

AHEAD's ambition is to prompt a practical and sustainable forward-looking culture for the qualitative assessment of how future trends and emerging technologies may impact the ways LEAs and other civil security practitioners will carry out their tasks and missions.

Within Workpackage 1 the Operational Objective will be pursued to achieve this overarching goal:

> *Map the civil security landscape (i.e. all relevant civil security stakeholders in Europe: LEAs, first responders, other security practitioners, research organisations, universities, futurists, trend-watchers, industry, policy- and decision-makers, EU and international organisations, civil society); and engage them in the Foresight activities via the setting-up a Pool of Experts with ad-hoc skills and competences needed for foresight.*

As foresight is based on participatory process and collective intelligence, workpackage 1 of the AHEAD project will carry out from its inception a comprehensive mapping of the civil-security stakeholders' landscape with a twofold objective: (i) setting-up a Pool of Experts encompassing those experts identified as the most relevant to join AHEAD foresight activities, reported in D1.2; and ii) identifying the main end-users of AHEAD findings and outputs to engage them in the key steps of the foresight process, so that they take on the results and use them, report in this D1.1 deliverable.

2 Set–up the AHEAD foresight network

In support of the AHEAD foresight exercises (WP4 –WP8) and Identifying and prioritising the topics for these foresight exercises (WP3), the AHEAD foresight network will be established as and ongoing process during the live cycle of the AHEAD project.

Derived from the main operational objective as mentioned in chapter 1, the Workpackage 1 Objectives are the following:

- **Identify** relevant civil security stakeholders and experts to support AHEAD objectives and activities (T1.1).
- **Set–up** a Pool of Experts encompassing those experts identified as the most relevant to join AHEAD foresight activities (T1.2).
- **Identify** the main end-users of AHEAD findings and outputs to engage them in the key steps of the foresight process (T1.3).
- **Enable and organise** a permanent dialogue with those experts stakeholders in order to engage and involve them in AHEAD (WP3–8).
- **Inform** them about project's activities, progress and results, getting their feedback to improve the overall process and prepare the uptake of projects results (WP9).

AHEAD's LEA–basis will give the project a strong legitimacy to engage with experts and raise their interest about the added–value that the project can bring as an LEA–driven project to promote a forward–looking culture in civil security and make a further contribution to the already existing foresight initiatives in this field. For instance, AHEAD echoes the conclusions of the Strategic Foresight Workshop held in Lisbon, Portugal on 4 and 5 November 2021 during the Europol Innovation Conference. Organised by the Europol Innovation Lab, this event convened over 25 participants from Member States and partner agencies under the umbrella of the European Clearing Board (EuCB). Its main outcome was the creation of a Strategic group on foresight within the EuCB, for which AHEAD can be anticipated to become a leveraging initiative.

2.1 The AHEAD stakeholder map

The **AHEAD stakeholder map**, from which will be derived *ad–hoc* pools of experts for each Foresight Exercise (see below WP4 to WP8), will be structured around the following clusters:

- <u>Practitioners</u>: LEAs, other civil security practitioners (such as boarder guards, first responders…);
- <u>Academics</u>: Universities and research centres (in any relevant domains, including SSH), futurists and innovative solutions experts ;
- <u>Industry</u>: SMEs and bigger companies;
- <u>European & International organisations</u>: Europol, JRC, INTERPOL, Frontex, European Defence Agency… ;
- <u>Policy– and Decision makers</u> in security programming investment for the development of security capabilities; CERIS, EU Innovation Hub,…
- <u>Civil Society Organisations</u>: NGOs, foundations…
- <u>Other relevant EU</u>–projects

However, the building of the AHEAD foresight Network task will not be an end in itself. It will be followed by concrete actions to ensure the best possible participation of relevant stakeholders in AHEAD's foresight processes. For this purpose, AHEAD will rely on the LEAs which are partners and associated partners in the Consortium to reach out to the privileged contacts they have in numerous national and European initiatives as well as in the field of security research and innovation (CERIS, EU Innovation Hub, Europol Innovation Lab, European Clearing Board, Frontex) (See Table 2) and in European operational-related initiatives (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats – EMPACT, Law Enforcement Working Party Law Enforcement Network – LEN and operational networks).

The AHEAD mapping task will be facilitated thanks to privileged collaborative links with EU projects concerned with creating expertise networks:
- ENACT
- EU Innovation Hub
- EUROPOL (Innovation Lab and EU Clearing Board)
- CERIS
- FRONTEX
- JRC
- EMPACT

The AHEAD Stakeholder Map will be structured and established in close collaboartion with the ENACT project (SSRI 01-02) in their goal to build a European Network to Act against Crime & Terrorism.

Based on the above paragraphs, the AHEAD stakeholder map can be visualised schematicly as follows:
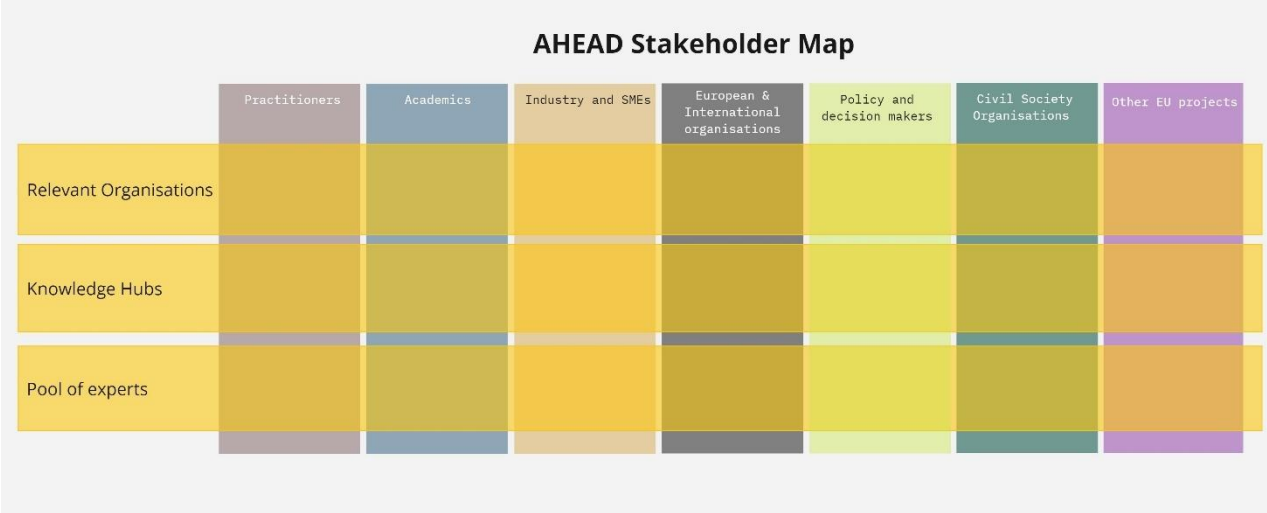

Figure 1: AHEAD Stakeholder Map

During the Kick-off meeting of the AHEAD project a workshop with all AHEAD partners was organised to build a first occupied stakeholder map. This resulted in the following first map:

Figure 2 Result of first Stakeholder mapping workshop

To support and facilitate the registration of the AHEAD stakeholder community the following spreadsheet has been developed and shared with all AHEAD consortium members to start filling the stakeholder mal with names of Hubs, organisations and experts. In the sheet also the PoC from AHEAD and the counterpart is mentioned.

Figure 3 AHEAD Stakeholder Register

2.2 Procedures and responsibilities

In order to handle the AHEAD challenges we propose the following measures to be used and tested in the first Foresight exercises (WP4 and 5) and evaluated during and after the execution of the cycle:

- Appoint a AHEAD Point of Contact that is coordinating all contacts from AHEAD to an Knowledge hub, organisation or individual expert. Meaning each individual Knowledge hub, organisation and expert has one coordinating AHEAD PoC. It is crucial to also have a counterpart PoC on the side of the Knowledge hub/organisation/expert.
- Of course this does not mean that only one AHEAD partner is allowed to have contact with that knowledge hub/organisation/expert but at least one knows of all connections and interactions.
- To facilitate a overview of all interaction, connections and related communications and exchanged knowledge Workpackage 1 will setup a AHEAD Stakeholder logfile on the AHEAD sharepoint where all activities etc between AHEAD and the Stakeholder is to be logged
- AHEAD will follow the EU security taxonomy (one of the main outcomes of the EU Security Market Study commissioned by DG HOME), with the aim to facilitate the dialogue between AHEAD related activities and the relevant hubs/organisations/experts.

During the upcoming Foresight exercises (WP5–6) these measures will be tested, evaluated and if needed changed for the following implementation cycles (WP7 and 8).

3 Internal and external collaborations

3.1 Project internal connections

Based on the above mentioned measures (paragraph 2.2) a document with AHEAD internal procedures and responsibilities will be established at the beginning of WP6. This document will guide the AHEAD partners in how to use the AHEAD stakeholder map to ensure timely and optimal engagement with the Knowledge Hubs, organisations and experts. The planning of the periodic interactions and the internal coordination measures that are needed internally, given the structures and roles defined in the project, will be a crucial part of these procedures and the upcoming foresight exercises. The internal roles are: Project coordinator, Workpackage and taskleaders from WP1, 3 and respectively WP4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. They all need to inform and invlove the appointed AHEAD coordinating Point of Contact (PoC). This is not an hierarchical setup but a collaborative approach to prevent overlapping and conflicting interaction with the Knowledge hubs, organisations and experts. I close collaboration with WP9 about consolidating and disseminating the AHEAD results also has a close link to the Stakeholder map and all its hubs/organisations and experts.

A monthly WP1 coordination team meeting will be monitoring, facilitating, assessing the Stakeholder map entries and the related progress. This team meeting will be chaired by WP1 leader and occupied by project coordinator and WP1 partners.
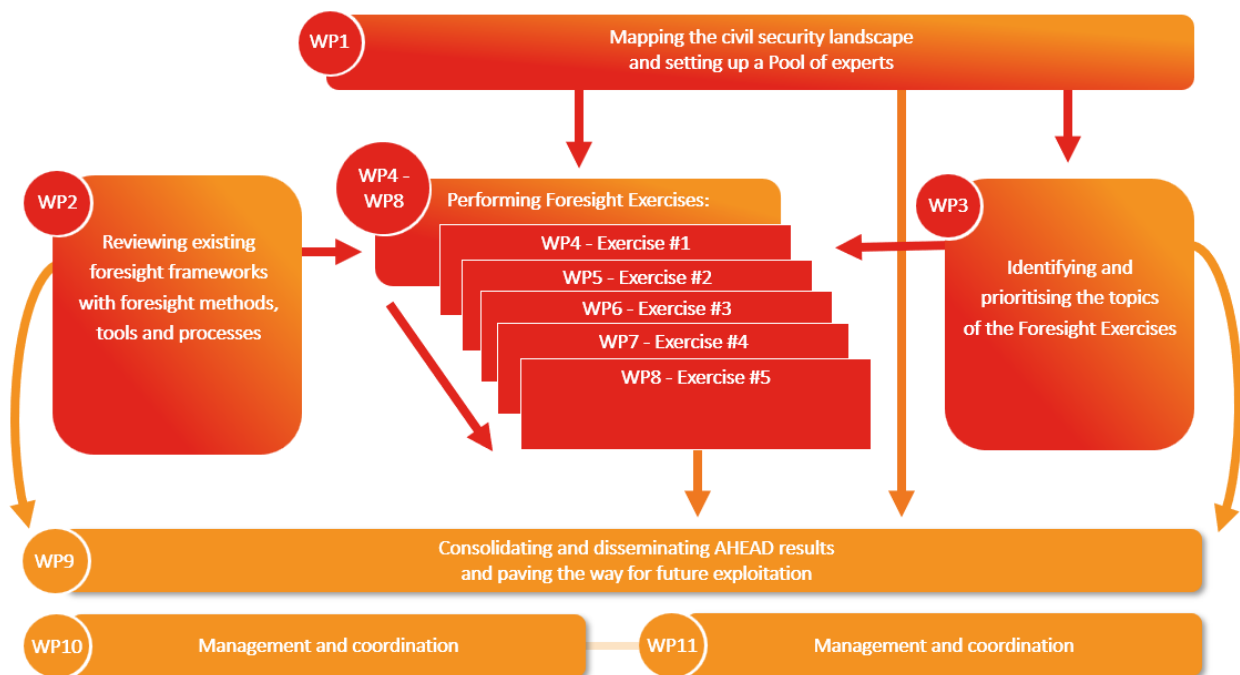

Figure 4 AHEAD workpackage set-up and their relations

3.2 External connections

In order to execute the AHEAD project and the common foresight framework for EU civil security, there is a need to identify and map the key required stakeholders' expertise and set–up a AHEAD foresight network that will contribute to AHEAD foresight activities. Their contributions are expected to feed and document the 360° approach AHEAD wants to implement. As AHEAD is focusing on foresight activities related to all HORIZON EUROPE cluster 3 destinations:

- FCT (Fighting Crime and Terrorism);
- BM (Border Management);
- RI (Resillient Infrastructure);
- CS (Cyber Security);
- DRS (Disaster Resillient Society);

The AHEAD Stakeholder map will identify the strategic, tactical and operational experts dealing daily with evolving security developments and being confronted to technology needs and gaps, the earlier mentioned clusters:

- Member States' Law Enforcement Agencies and other civil security practitioners;
- EU organisations and networks (i.e. EU LEAs, EU Agencies, EMPACT communities, LEWP Networks, H2020 Networks of practitioners, Crisis Management Innovation Network Europe (CMINE) and identified projects;
- Actors involved in security programming of the Union´s investment for the development of security capabilities through research and capacity building funds for which the project results will be made available. This is the primary–level of actors for intelligence gathering regarding foresight (CERIS, EU Innovation Hub, European Commission).
- Academics, including SSH key players including from LEAs' academic partners, EU research associations and institutions (ie. CERIS, JRC, Europol, DG Research & Innovation, etc.), futurists working on foresight and megatrends analysis and impacts (European Foresight Platform, Foresight report, strategic plan, etc.), civil society representatives or organisations which expertise, skills and knowledge;
- Experts from the private sector working on innovative technologies who will enlighten AHEAD on upcoming and future technological trends and key emerging and critical technology (EIC and EIT ecosystems, European Business Network – EBN / European Association of Research and Technology Organisations) related to the topics prioritized by the WP3 or able to contribute to enhance LEAs' capabilities.
- International LEA organisations relevant for the AHEAD foresight network and the AHEAD objectives(INTERPOL, UNOCT, UNOCD, Australian Police, FBI, etc)

Challenge is to focus on stakeholders and experts from all 5 Destinations from cluster 3. The Stakeholder Map and the Pool of Experts should follow the order in which these destinations are implemented in the related Foresight Exercises in WP 4 to 8.

4 Conclusions

Work Package 1 and its Task 1.1 and deliverable D1.1 support the Adopting of a holistic, multidisciplinary and 360-degree approach and AHEAD's ambition to prompt a practical and sustainable forward-looking culture for the qualitative assessment of how future trends and emerging technologies may impact the ways LEAs and other civil security practitioners will carry out their tasks and missions. This will allow them to develop 'evidence-based' capability roadmaps, i.e. roadmaps defining what investments, changes and transformations will be required in terms of technologies, doctrine, human resources, competences and operational and organizational structures to adapt to and to address upcoming changes.

This deliverable elaborates on Mapping the civil security landscape (i.e. all relevant civil security stakeholders in Europe: LEAs, first responders, other security practitioners, research organisations, universities, futurists, trend-watchers, industry, policy- and decision-makers, EU and international organisations, civil society); in support of engaging them in the Foresight activities via the setting-up a Stakeholder map and Pool of Experts (D1.2) with ad-hoc skills and competences needed for foresight.

Challenge is to focus on stakeholders and experts from all 5 Destinations from cluster 3. The Stakeholder Map and the Pool of Experts should follow the order in which these destinations are to be implemented in the related Foresight Exercises in WP 4 to 8.

The result of Task 1.1 (Stakeholder Map) of which this deliverable is a reflection, will continuously by updated, extended and if needed changed during the remainder of the AHEAD project via task 1.3 (including updates for the Pool of Experts).