6G-SANDBOX
1st Open Call

New Infrastructures and Functionalities

May 8th 2023
About 6G-SANDBOX

6G-SANDBOX targets to become a key facility of the emerging European 6G experimentation ecosystem

- Realizing the concept of Trial Networks & validating 6G KPIs and KVIs
- With interconnected experimental facilities in Athens, Berlin, Malaga, and Oulu
- Open for facility extension and wide interactions
6G-SANDBOX Open Calls

• Total budget: 1,790,000€ for 3 calls
• ~35 third parties expected to participate
• Ability to join without funding as well!

• General timing (tentative) planning
  – 1\textsuperscript{st} Open Call for New Infrastructures and Functionalities (540K€)
    • Ongoing, deadline on 3 July 2023
  – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Open Call for Experimentation and (eventually) New Infrastructures (540K€)
    • Opening autumn 2023, deadline spring 2024
  – 3\textsuperscript{rd} Open Call for Experimentation (710k€)
    • Opening summer 2024, deadline end of 2024
The 1\textsuperscript{st} 6G-SANDBOX Open Call

- Submission deadline: \textbf{3 July 2023, 17:00 CET}
- Info session: June 7\textsuperscript{th} 2023 (at EUCNC and online)

- Feasibility check
  - Proposers are encouraged to verify the feasibility of the planned implementations until 23 June 2023, 17:00 CEST
  - To do so, a brief description of planned implementation must be sent to opencalls@6g-sandbox.eu
  - Otherwise, feasibility check will be performed right after the submission deadline

- Submission
  - Must be done through the online submission portal
  - The mandatory proposal template must be used
  - Proposers must provide Declaration of Honour
  - Proposal language: English

- All information and links available at https://6g-sandbox.eu/opencall/open-call-1/
The Open Call Objectives

To enlarge and make the 6G-SANDBOX infrastructure ready for experimentation

- Looking for the following extensions:
  - AI Extensions of the 6G-SANDBOX NEF emulator
  - Integrating LoRaWAN in the 6G-SANDBOX connectivity infrastructure
  - Adding NWDAF Capabilities to 6G-SANDBOX Testbeds
  - Adding NEF Capabilities to the 6G-SANDBOX Testbeds
  - Inclusion of Release 16 Devices
  - Location information capability
  - Integrated Sensing & Communication (ISAC or JCAS) to save energy
  - Expanding the 6G-SANDBOX testbed capabilities with additional ORAN solutions
  - Advanced Channel modeling capabilities for 6G to augment the 6G-SANDBOX testbed
  - Multilink backhaul management
  - Augmenting 6G-SANDBOX with Terahertz communication capabilities
  - RAN extensions towards 6G RAN with new xApps
  - Expand the 6G-SANDBOX with validated Digital twin performance for realistic deployments
  - Technology for use cases in Internet of Sense
  - Expanding the 6G-Sandbox testbed With Content Distribution Networks for Quality of Experience
  - Expanding 6G capabilities and/or experimenting with the 6G capabilities
  - ... as well as further topics of community interest.

- 6G-SANDBOX facilities description is available at [https://6g-sandbox.eu/pilot-6g-sites/](https://6g-sandbox.eu/pilot-6g-sites/)
Available Funding and Eligibility

• Maximum amount of financial support for each third party is 60,000€
  – if justified, the proposer can request higher amounts
  – A consortium (three or more participants) can request up to 180,000€
  – Contribution to the third-parties will be 90% (for-profit organization) or 100% (not-for-profit organization) of the declared costs

• Total of 540,000€ is available for this Open Call

• Main eligibility rules
  – Eligible countries: According to the rules from General Annexes to Horizon Europe for the Work Programme 2023-2024
  – Proposers’ organizations can submit multiple proposals, but only one proposal per organization might be selected for funding
  – The 6G-SANDBOX project beneficiary organizations are not eligible to participate in this open call
Evaluations

• Evaluations by independent experts,
  – Experts cannot be from the 6G-SANDBOX consortium

• Evaluation criteria
  – Impact (threshold = 3, weight 2)
    • value for extension and readiness of the 6G-SANDBOX facilities for experimentation
  – Innovation and technology (threshold = 3, weight 2)
    • innovativeness and technological value of the proposal
  – Implementation (threshold = 3, weight 1)
    • quality of methodology and of proposed participants
Ranking

• Ranking of the proposals will be done in accordance with the overall scores
• When scores are equal, prioritization will be based on other characteristics - to be decided by the panel of evaluators
• Further specific conditions of the Call
  – The proposals (ranked above the threshold) will be selected to cover as many identified call topics as possible
  – Further priority will be given to close to equal utilization of the 6G-SANDBOX facilities
Participation of Successful Proposals

• Decision on proposals to be funded is expected during August 2023

• The proposer’s organization will be contracted by the project as a third party
  – Agreement is available at https://6g-sandbox.eu/opencall

• Start of the planned work in September 2023 – to be completed in February 2024

• Support after the completion of the work
  – All functionalities and extensions must be made available to experimenters during the rest of the project duration
  – All functionalities and extensions are seen as building blocks that may require maintenance until the project end
Thanks for your attention!!

Contact: opencalls@6g-sandbox.eu

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