

News Release

CTTC participates in the definition of the first 6G Research & Innovation European workprogramme

This week the newly created **Joint Undertaking on Smart Networks and Services towards 6G** (JU SNS) adopted its first Workprogramme 2021-2022 with an earmarked public funding of about 245 Meuro.

The **Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya (CTTC)**, in the person of its Director of R&D Programmes Dr. Carles Antón-Haro, has been directly involved in the elaboration of this **6G R&I Workprogramme**. This has followed from CTTC's participation since 2014 in the **Governing Board** of the 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (**6G-IA**) where major equipment vendors, mobile network operators, research centers and academia from all over Europe are represented.

The **Work Programme 2021-2022** will fund activities ranging from **5G evolution** including large-scale trials and pilots with vertical industries to **frontier research towards 6G** systems. This Workprogramme is the basis for the upcoming Call for Project Proposals to be launched in early **January 2022**. The resulting R&I projects are expected to start by the end of 2022 to complement the **early wave of European 6G projects** launched in January 2021 under the umbrella of the 5G-PPP. CTTC is also playing a major role in this early wave via their participation/leadership in the **MARSAL**, **TERAFLOW**, **MONB5G**, **5GMediaHub**, **INSPIRE-5GPlus**, and **5G Epicentre** projects. CTTC raised about 11 Meuro in 5G-PPP R&D projects, for a total of 22 participations, and became the second largest recipient among all research centers and universities in Europe.

The Workprogramme 2021-2022 is the first step in the strategic R&I roadmap towards 6G for Europe. The initiative builds on an EU contribution of 900 Meuro over the next 7 years to be matched by the private sector with the same amount. The aim is to enable European players to build the R&I capacities for 6G systems and develop lead markets for 5G infrastructure as a basis for the digital and green transformation. The commercial deployment of future 6G communication systems is planned to take place around year 2030.

For further information, please, contact comunicacio@cttc.cat

About CTTC

The Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya (CTTC) is a non-profit R&D center established by the Government of Catalonia. Fundamental and applied research, as well as technology transfer activities mainly focus on communication technologies, service and

communication infrastructure, and geomatics. The CTTC offers an extensive portfolio of (i) research and innovation services (incl. R&D&i contracts, technology alliances, standards support, feasibility studies, license agreements, field trials, training); (ii) experimental platforms; and (iii) products and solutions. The Center has an outstanding record track of participation in publicly-funded R&D programs (Horizon 2020/Europe, European Space Agency) and contracts with the industry (e.g., vendors, operators, utilities).

About the 6G-IA

The 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (6G-IA) is the voice of European Industry and Research for next generation networks and services. Its primary objective is to contribute to Europe's leadership on 5G, beyond 5G and SNS/6G research.

The 6G-IA represents the private side in both the 5G Public Private Partnership (5G-PPP) and the Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU). In the 5G-PPP and SNS JU, the European Commission represents the public side.

The 6G-IA brings together a global industry community of telecoms & digital actors, such as operators, manufacturers, research institutes, universities, verticals, SMEs and ICT associations.

The 6G-IA carries out a wide range of activities in strategic areas including standardization, frequency spectrum, R&D projects, technology skills, collaboration with key vertical industry sectors, notably for the development of trials, and international cooperation.

About the JU-SNS

The European partnership on Smart Networks and Services (SNS), a Joint Undertaking co-led by industry and the Commission with close involvement of Member States, sets the strategic R&I roadmap for Europe.

The SNS JU aims to ensure industrial leadership for Europe in 5G and 6G and to contribute to accelerate the green and digital transition in the framework of the Horizon Europe programme of the European Union. It will define and implement the research and innovation roadmaps that will enable Europe to take a leading role in the creation of the next generation of smart network technologies and services which will be known as 6G.

The European Commission's funding to the SNS JU will be 900 million euros to be matched by the private stakeholders with a contribution of at least the same amount (i.e. at least 1.8 billion euros in total from the private and public sides for the period 2021-2027).

