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PROJECT PARTNERS

The consortium of the ALFA project brings together a European team of recognized organizations from various backgrounds, making it well-positioned to achieve its objectives. All in all there are 9 partners from 6 different European countries (Austria, The Netherlands, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Germany) including 3 industrial partners, 1 SME, 1 university, 2 research institutions and 2 government agencies.

1 TECHNIKON

Technikon Forschungs- und
Planungsgesellschaft mbH,
Austria [Villach]

2 TNO

Nederlandse Organisatie voor
toegepast-natuurwetenschappelijk
Onderzoek,
The Netherlands [The Hague]

3 INOV

INOV INSC Inovação,
Portugal [Lisbon]

4 THALES

Thales Nederland B.V.,
The Netherlands [Hengelo]

5 ENGINEERING

Engineering - Ingegneria
informatica spa,
Italy [Palermo]

6 GNR

Ministerio da Administracao
Interna (Ministry of Internal
Affairs) - Guarda Nacional
Republicana, Portugal [Lisbon]

7 Atos

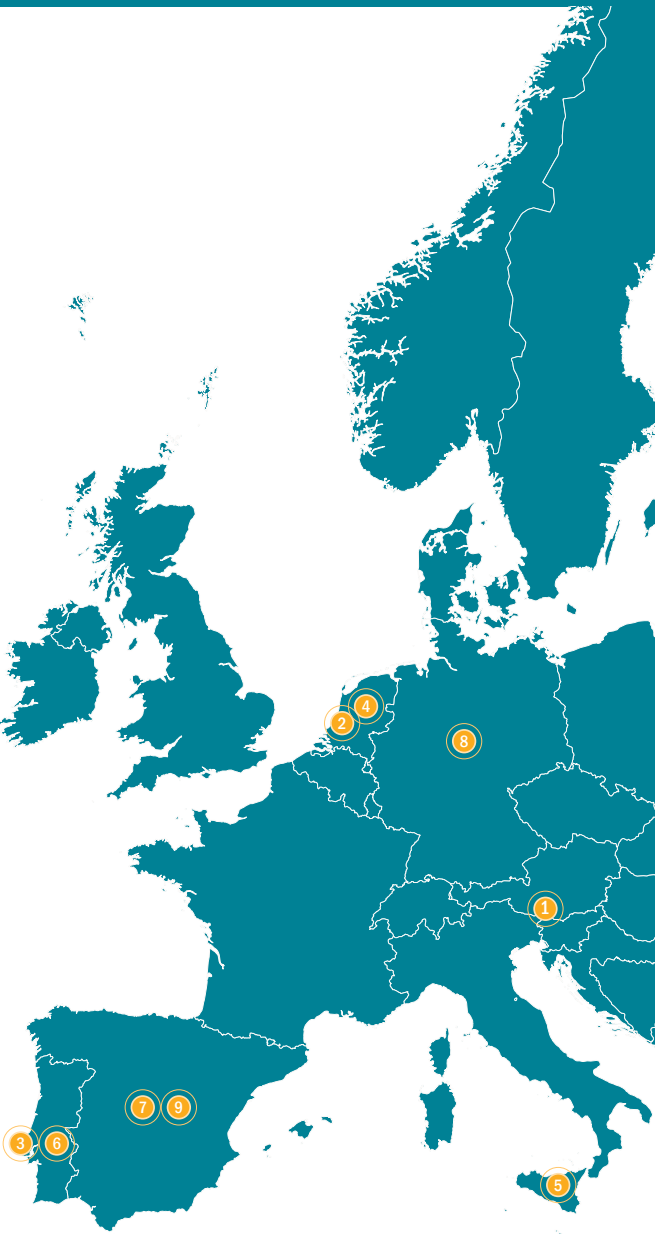
Atos Spain SA,
Spain [Madrid]

8 Technische Universität Braunschweig

Technische Universität
Braunschweig,
Germany [Braunschweig]



Ministerio del Interior -
Dirección General de la
Guardia Civil,
Spain [Madrid]



Project reference: 700002
Project website: www.alfa-h2020.eu
Project start: 1st January, 2017
Duration: 3 years
Total costs: 4,613,831.25 €
EC contribution: 4,613,831.25 €



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REFLECTIONS ON THE PRE-DEMO EXERCISE IN ALFA

In a video interview which took place during the ALFA pre-demo week at the end of June in Cacela Velha, Portugal, Rob van Heijster, ALFA technical leader from TNO and Gilles Prémel-Cabic from THALES Nederland pointed out the many positives that should be acknowledged after completion of activities related to ALFA.

Basically, both said that things went really well; “everything was talking,” meaning that systems were successfully communicating with each other. The chain was working and data was being collected, fused and utilized as expected. While there were some communication latencies, the overall performance and functionality were better than satisfactory.

The designated end users, Guarda Nacional Republicana (GNR) from Portugal and Guardia Civil from Spain were on hand to help with demo activities. Their invaluable input went a long way in the completion of the testing. As an important part of the feedback loop, these police forces were able to offer a real-world perspective on the week’s activities. In the end, both groups reported that the ALFA system, while still in the beginning states of functionality, shows great promise for apprehending the criminals

of the future. Areas of improvement include mitigating latencies, tightening communication between systems and refining the landing site prediction. Currently, the area is just too large to be noticeably effective. Despite these areas of improvement, the main point was to prove that the concept worked...and it did.

There was a sense of relief to see everything work. This is largely due to the hard work and support of project partners. Even with time lost due to bad weather, the team pulled together and worked overtime to achieve their goal. Joining the project partners were ALFA advisory board members Geert De Cubber and Marian Buric. Their presence allowed them to see, first-hand, how ALFA was working. Consequently, they were able to offer advice on some technical issues as well as the usual exchange of information this kind of event yields.

A safer world is always a difficult proposition but, at a minimum, ALFA can proudly show the world that they have built a system that can help in this area. In five or ten years it’s possible that ALFA becomes integrated with current mobile surveillance systems in Spain and Portugal.

MISSION OF ALFA

ALFA will bridge the existing capability gap of current operational surveillance systems for border control with respect to detection, classification and identification of LSS (Low, Small and Slow) manned and unmanned flying vehicles. ALFA is future-ready as technologies for drone detection will be a part of the system, which will use heterogeneous, easy-to-deploy mobile sensors based on several novel technologies. The ALFA system will make a significant contribution to the development of EUROSUR (in particular, cooperating with

ALFA RESULTS

- Introduced new technologies in the area of landing site prediction tools
- Contributed to the development of existing EU surveillance systems
- Improved situational awareness by continuous detection of targets
- Improved reaction capabilities of current maritime authorities

SIVE and SIVICC) and be suitable for a range of other missions and scenarios such as homeland and event protection and the protection of critical infrastructure.

THE LATEST ALFA MEDIA

VIDEO

During the week of June 24th the media team at Technikon was busy documenting the progress at the ALFA pre-demonstration in Cacela Velha, Portugal. This event was the culmination of years of work by the partners and

was the first time all systems were combined as a whole in an effective way. Have a closer look at the project and see the results of the demo by watching the short film.

System Demonstration - Portugal

EU FUNDED PROJECT

bit.ly/2liqz8o

INTERVIEWS

JORGE GIL
bit.ly/2nqy3qJ

ROB VAN HEIJSTER
bit.ly/2ljJwHQ

GILLES PRÉMEL-CABIC
bit.ly/2mRmEjg

KLAUS-MICHAEL KOCH
bit.ly/2mRqsAS

GEERT DE CUBBER
bit.ly/2ljJRKc

PODCASTS

EPISODE 1

In this episode, we speak with project partner, Jose-Ramon Martinez from ATOS in Spain about the ALFA Project. He tells us about landing prediction and other aspects of ALFA during the pre-demo activities in June of 2019.

No Spotify? Check it out on OmnyStudio
bit.ly/2nomZdA

EPISODE 2

We speak with Gilles Prémel-Cabic from THALES in The Netherlands about classification systems in the ALFA project. In our discussions we learn a bit about how the system is intended to work and how it has been working so far.

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bit.ly/2lTR3gz