On 8 November 2023, 6G-SANDBOX, a pan-European testbed for 6G experimentation funded by Smart Networks and Service Joint Undertaking under Horizon Europe announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI). This agreement aims to foster collaboration between Europe and Taiwanese companies for 6G research by linking 6G-SANDBOX testbeds with Taiwan’s vibrant telecommunications ecosystem.

ITRI and 6G-SANDBOX will delve into pioneering 6G research topics, focusing on areas such as joint communications and sensing (JCAS) and reconfigurable intelligent surfaces (RIS). Serving as a crucial catalyst within the Taiwanese ecosystem, ITRI will actively invite companies to participate in the MoU. Moreover, ITRI will facilitate 6G-SANDBOX testbeds’ access to essential components, including 5G cores, 5G O-RAN base stations, SMO/RIC management platforms, JCAS frameworks, and advanced network planning and emulation tools. To mark the beginning of this collaboration, ITRI is visiting the 6G-SANDBOX testbed in Malaga on November 8.

ITRI is a leading global research organization renowned for its commitment to industrial innovation and technological advancement. Having spearheaded 5G technology across diverse domains, such as network infrastructure, wireless communication systems, antenna design, chipsets, and applications, ITRI remains deeply engaged in both fundamental and applied research. With a focus now shifting from 5G to 6G technology development, ITRI is actively shaping the future landscape of communication networks.

6G-SANDBOX was launched in January 2023, with Keysight Technologies as the project’s coordinator, along with sixteen other organisations (COSMOTE; Eurescom; FOGUS Innovations & Services P.C.; Fraunhofer FOKUS; ICTFICIAL OY, INFOYSIS P.C.; Institute for Software Engineering and Technologies (ITIS) at the University of Malaga; Lenovo; IS-Wireless (ISRD), National Centre for Scientific Research “DEMOKRITOS” (NCSR); Nokia eXtended Reality Lab; OpenNebula Sytems SL; OWO; Queen’s University Belfast; Telefonica, and University of Oulu).

6G-SANDBOX combines digital and physical nodes to deliver fully configurable, manageable and controllable end-to-end networks for validating new technologies and research advancements for 6G. It will enable entities across the European Union (EU) to test promising technical 6G enablers, including network automation, cybersecurity, digital twins, and Artificial Intelligence (AI), as well as technologies that streamline energy consumption.
6G-SANDBOX is part of the 6G SNS-JU Phase 1 program and has as its main objective to develop a large-scale EU-wide experimental platform for 6G emerging technologies. 6G-SANDBOX will provide an evolvable experimental infrastructure for the duration of the SNS programme, where companies and research institutions can test and validate their new technologies. Experimenters can use the platform by contacting the consortium https://6g-sandbox.eu/.

Pang-An Ting, General Director of ITRI’s Information and Communications Research Laboratories, shared ITRI’s recent strides in the ICT sector. “During our visit to Gothenburg for the EuCNC & 6G Summit this year, ITRI collaborated closely with leading lights in the 6G academia and industry. We explored robust research and development partnerships with European counterparts. I’m also pleased to announce that ITRI has successfully joined the esteemed ranks of the 6G-IA. By seamlessly integrating technologies, applications, and experimental networks from Taiwan into the 6G-SANDBOX testbeds, we are paving the way for collaborative experimentation for people in Europe and Taiwanese companies and institutes, focusing on both 5G and 6G technologies. Auray Technology has expressed keen interest in contributing their expertise in OTIC, including RAN Intelligent Controller and security testing. Looking ahead, we plan to extend invitations to universities and additional Taiwanese companies, aligning our shared commitment to innovating 5G networks and defining 6G standards.”

“Through a robust interconnection between 6G-SANDBOX testbeds and the ITRI experimental network, we aim to create a comprehensive research platform for 6G applications,” stated Michael Dieudonne, 6G-SANDBOX coordinator. “This MoU will further our ability to work with thought leaders across the globe and jointly run experiments to further advances in wireless communications.”

Follow us!

www.6g-sandbox.eu

Press Release
09 November, 2023

Co-Funded by European Union


‘6G-SANDBOX has received funding from the Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU) under the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101096328’. 