

## **6G-SANDBOX** Signs Memorandum of Understanding with **ITRI** on Collaboration for **Advanced 6G Experimentations**

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, INFOLYSIS 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 Systems 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.

# Press Release

09 November, 2023



**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."



'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'.

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