

iTRACK - integrated system for real-time TRACKing and collective intelligence in civilian humanitarian missions



iTRACK At a glance

iTRACK aims at improving protection and safety of humanitarian missions with intelligent socio-technical solutions to support tracking, threat detection, navigation, logistics, and coordination in humanitarian disasters.

Integrating Technology Development and Policy Innovation

iTRACK recognises that technology innovation can only be successful if it addresses decision-makers' needs and will therefore work on technologies and policies to reflect work practices and decision-making procedures of humanitarian responders.

More Accurate Real-Time Tracking and Threat Detection

The project will foster technology development that enables more accurate real-time tracking and monitoring. iTRACK will enable threat detection and real-time response by features such as re-routing and re-scheduling. By integrating monitoring and logistics, tracking technologies will become an enabler of more efficient monitoring of humanitarian needs and gaps.

Policies for Improved Protection and Coordination

By switching from tracking to a two-way monitoring mechanism that enables secure communication between coordination and humanitarian field teams, operational humanitarian responders are enabled to rapidly recognise new situations and adapt efficiently and effectively to new situations. Through the iTRACK system, their local decisions will be orchestrated with the overall response for better coordination and protection of personnel on the ground. This will be done while adopting a privacy conscious approach.

Making a Difference

iTRACK is designed to be a cost effective open source system, supporting organisations although resources may be limited. To further facilitate its uptake by humanitarian organisations operating in conflict and complex disasters missions, we co-design technology and policies with humanitarian practitioners with pilot applications with the World Food Programme and iMMAP in on-going conflict disasters in the Middle East.

iTRACK at a glance

Project name:
iTRACK

Duration:
36 months

Start date:
May 1st 2016

Total budget:
€ 3 999 212.56

Consortium:
12 partners,
9 countries

Website:
www.itrack-project.eu

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● University of Agder (Coordinator), Norway

The Centre for Integrated Emergency Management (CIEM) at the University of Agder brings together more than 25 international researchers from software engineering, ICT, decision analysis, and information management to exploit the potential of new technologies for sense making and decision support to improve crisis and disaster management. They will lead the project's coordination and will be involved in all work packages.

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● Hanken School of Economics, Finland

The HUMLOG Institute at the Hanken School of Economics is at the forefront of humanitarian logistics research globally and is known for its solid track record of leading and carrying out large research projects. In this project they will conduct an assessment and mapping of software tools needed by humanitarian organisations for carrying out more effective and resource-efficient logistics operations. In a second phase, the workflows and policies will be developed in humanitarian logistics, and related activities in information management and contingency planning.

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● Delft University of Technology, Netherlands

The MAS department from Delft University uses a design paradigm for socio-technical systems that enables and supports participation in today's changing organisations and society. They have an extensive track record in tool development and use of ICT, advanced logistics using prediction models and GIS, and decision modelling using (deep) uncertainty. In this project they will lead the training and evaluation process as well as the design and execution of the simulations.

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● Teknova AS, Norway

The smart instrumentation group, involved in this proposed project, investigates new sensor technologies (optical, acoustic, microwave and haptic) with embedded intelligence for real-time applications. In this project Teknova will research and investigate on-board vehicle sensing capabilities for real-time localization, tracking as well as for on-board threat detection towards enhancing security of humanitarian missions.

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● World Food Programme, Italy

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. The WFP is part of the United Nations system and is voluntarily funded. In this project WFP will contribute to all work packages from their experience as a humanitarian organisation.

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● iMMAP, USA

iMMAP is an international (NGO) that provides targeted information management support to partners responding to complex humanitarian and development challenges. In this project iMMAP will contribute to all work packages from their experience in collecting data and analysis for humanitarian organizations.

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● INTRASOFT International, Luxemburg

INTRASOFT has earned a place among the primary Software Application and Integration Services provider for EU Institutions. In this project INTRASOFT will be in charge of specifying the iTRACK system architecture and of building the integrated iTRACK platform.

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● Trilateral Research, UK

Trilateral Research Ltd. specialises in research and the provision of strategic, policy, privacy, risk, surveillance and security and regulatory advice on new technologies, issues and effective stakeholder engagement strategies. In this project they will assess and monitor the research from an ethics perspective. They are also responsible for conducting an ethics and privacy impact assessment of the technology.

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● K-now, UK

K-Now focuses primarily on social media and crowdsourcing methodologies for event and emergency management. In this project they will contribute from their knowledge to the iTRACK solution.

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● Treelogic, Spain

Treelogic is highly specialised in intelligent data processing. In this project they will lead the Work package dealing with the development of the iTRACK building blocks, and play a large role in the development of most of these components.

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● Teleplan Globe, Norway

Teleplan Globe develops world-class system solutions related to telecommunications planning, situational awareness and command & control for personnel operating in demanding and high-risk environments. In this project they will be responsible for the secure communication system of the iTRACK solution.

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● ARTTIC, France

ARTTIC provides consultancy and management services to international research and innovation related partnerships. Its services relate exclusively to the setup and management of European RTD collaborations. In this project they will lead the dissemination and communication of the project as well play the role of project office.

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