SOFTFIRE

Software Defined Networks and Network Function Virtualization Testbed within FIRE+

Grant Agreement № 687860

SoftFIRE First Hackathon
(Guidelines and Rules for Participation)

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1 About SoftFIRE

SoftFIRE integrates European independent testbeds that are made available with a set of basic functionalities related to Network Function Virtualization and Software Defined Networking. The project is aiming at assessing three major characteristics that an NFV/SDN platform should support: interoperability with various functional elements, programmability of the offered functions and security of the entire framework. The federated infrastructure is devoted to experimentation / development of services and applications. Services and applications are chosen in a competitive way by means of Open Calls. The SoftFIRE Project will support three waves of Open Calls. The different waves will benefit from the incremental empowerment and consolidation of the single testbeds and the federated one. At the end of each wave, there will be an open and public event, a Hackathon, during which experimenters and a wide audience of practitioners and interested people can experiment on the platform.

More information about SoftFIRE can be found here: www.softfire.eu

The current document is about the Hackathon after the first wave of experimentation.

2 First Hackathon Objectives

SoftFIRE Consortium invites interested parties in attending the First Hackathon that will give participants the possibility to put hands on the Federated Testbed for two days.

During the event, participants will have access to the platform and can familiarize themselves with it, understanding its current functionalities.

During the first half day the infrastructure will be presented and examples of simple applications will be shown to the participants. Then the participants can get themselves familiar, hands-on, with the infrastructure, supported by the SoftFIRE team for help or questions.

Due to requests we are also opening the Hackathon to remote participation. In case you cannot be present in Berlin, you can remotely access to the event and to the contest. Please indicate in the "Participation" field of the form if your team will attend personally or require remote access.

From the afternoon of the first day to the end of the second day, the Hackathon will take place.

Participants are suggested to read this document carefully and to also read the information and Handbook on the SoftFIRE website. Applicants can send an email to event@softfire.eu in case they need to clarify any issues with the Open Call/SoftFIRE team.

Participants are requested to register and submit a simple form with personal information and to explain why they are interested in the SoftFIRE Hackathon. Selected participants will be granted access to the SoftFIRE federated testbed, during the timeframe stated in section 3, and will receive support from the SoftFIRE team according to the rules and constraints specified in the Handbook.

3   First Hackathon Information

The First Hackathon will be held in Berlin on May 23rd – 24th, 2017.

During the event, all participants will have access to the platform during the same timeframe. For this reason – due to the complex nature of the platform – the number of participants that can be accepted is limited to 10 teams. Every team is composed of 2-3 people including the Team Leader.

Duration of the event: to all accepted participants, access to the platform will be granted for two days: from 9:00 CEST (Berlin time) to the end of the first business day (about 18.00 CEST), and from 9:00 to the end of the Hackathon on the second day. The platform will be completely closed outside these hours.

The SoftFIRE team reserves the right to restrict (or close) access any moment (see chapter 8).

Type of participants: all active in the domain of NFV/SDN and 5G Research that want to familiarize with the SoftFIRE federated testbed.

Registration deadline: participants have to register no later than **May 22nd, 2017 at 12.00 CEST (Brussels time)**.

Notification of Acceptance: a Notification of Acceptance will be sent by the SoftFIRE team to the participant, within a week after its registration. The acceptance process is described in more detail in chapter 5. A notification of receipt of the application will be sent immediately.

Hackathon venue:

Location	Address
Fraunhofer Institute for Open Communication Systems FOKUS	Kaiserin-Augusta-Allee 31, Berlin, Germany

People interested in participating to the Hackathon who are not able to attend personally the event can get remote access to the Hackathon.

4   How to attend the Hackathon

Participants need to fill in the registration form at https://www.softfire.eu/events/first-hackathon/ before the deadline stated in section 3.

At the end of the registration period, Team Leaders of the selected teams will receive instructions on how to access to the SoftFIRE Federated Platform (as well as logistic information).

If a participant receives a notification of acceptance, your participation of the Hackathon is mandatory.

4.1   Registration Form

Participants are solely responsible for completing all required fields in the registration form according to the following instructions. The Team Leader will be the contact point between the SoftFIRE team organising the Hackathon and his team:

Field name	Field description
First Name / Last Name	Name and surname of the Team Leader
Company/Organization	Company/ Organization of the Team Leader
E-mail	E-mail address of the Team Leader
Phone no.	Mobile phone number of the Team Leader
Number of participants	Number of people in the team (including the Team Leader)
First Name /Last Name	Name and Surname of every person in the team
Company/Organization	Company/ Organization of every person in the team other than the Team Leader
Reason of interest in participating	The team has to specify the reason why they are interested in the SoftFIRE project and in participating to the Hackathon.
Brief description of the team background and references	Components of the team have to write useful information in order to specify their roles inside their company/organization. They can also write here names of their responsible (e.g. their referent Professor, if students/researchers)
Participation	Indicate if the team will attend personally in Berlin or will require remote access
Comments	In this field the team can write any information that they consider useful for the organization of the event or if an special requirements are needed.

4.2   Eligibility criteria

Participants must be eligible for participation in the EC H2020 projects:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-a-countries-rules_en.pdf.

SoftFIRE consortium members cannot participate in the Hackathon, neither, for fairness reason, can winners of the 1st Open Call of the SoftFIRE project.

The SoftFIRE team reserves the right to refuse participants at its discretion (e.g. unverifiable companies/organizations).

5   Acceptance Process

The admittance to the Hackathon is on a "First Come First Serve" basis.

An email will be sent to the Team Leader confirming the acceptance or non-acceptance to the Hackathon. Once the number of 10 teams is reached, eligible teams will be put on a waiting list and receive a related notification. In case a selected team withdraws its planned participation, the team leader of the first team on the waiting list will be notified by email.

A registered team can cancel its registration sending an email to event@softfire.eu.

6   Prizes and rewards

A prize of € 7,000 will be given to the Winner team of the Hackathon.

A Jury composed by the SoftFIRE team will judge the work produced by the participants. Criteria for judgement are explained in section 6.1.

The winner will be announced at the end of the event, on May 24th 2017.

For the winner of the Hackathon following articles of the H2020 Model Grant Agreement http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf apply:
No. 22, 23, 35, 36, 38 and 46.

6.1   Guidelines for the Hackathon and judgement criteria

The set of guidelines will be given to the participants before the event. These guidelines must be observed. Non-compliance will result in cancellation of participation at the Hackathon.

A list of tasks (M) will be assigned to all teams. Every task will be coupled with a difficulty coefficient set by the jury. Every team must deliver a fixed number of tasks (N) of their choice among those proposed (with N<M).

The number of tasks to be completed (N) from the larger list (M) and the precise time limits will be announced by the organization before the event, and will be written in the guidelines.

Every team will be asked to briefly present and demonstrate the effectiveness of the solution chosen to solve each of the chosen tasks in a way that will be explained in the guidelines.

Each proposed solution will be judged on an individual level by the different judges using following points:

Score = solved x coefficient x originality, where:

- *Solved* (at a value from 0 to 5)
- *coefficient* is the difficulty coefficient set by the jury and coupled with the task
- *originality* is an integer value between 1 and 5 included

The overall score achieved by the team will be the sum of the individual scores given by the judges for each of the tasks.

The team with the highest score will be the winner of the Hackathon.

6.2 IPR

All intellectual property created at the event is owned solely by the participants and their team. Further plans may be discussed between the partners and the teams after the Hackathon.

7 Support to Experimenters

7.1 Hackathon Helpdesk

For further information on the Hackathon, contact: event@softfire.eu

For more general information, please refer to info@softfire.eu.

7.2 Useful Documents

- SoftFIRE First Hackathon (this document).
- SoftFIRE Handbook (SoftFIRE, Handbook: Guidelines and Rules for on-demand access to the SoftFIRE Testbed, 2016).

Please refer to https://www.softfire.eu/events/first-hackathon/ for the complete documentation.

7.3 Federated Testbed Availability

Access to the testbed will be granted

on May 23rd from 9.00 to 18.00 CEST and

on May 24th from 9.00 to 13.00 CEST.

Outside this timeframe, access will not be allowed.

Please check your local time correspondence (http://www.worldtimebuddy.com/).

Technical support for UoS testbed will be granted from 10:00 to 18:00 CEST.

8   Constraints and Limitations during the Hackathon

The SoftFIRE infrastructure is composed by loosely integrated platforms under different administrative domains. In addition, the different platforms are running for experimental purposes and they are not yet considered a mass production tool. This means that bugs and issues in the platform behaviour can and will occur.

The Platform is still under development and it has a basic set of functionalities that have to be tuned up. In the meantime, the SoftFIRE team is working on providing a number of new features that will be progressively added in the future and made available just before the Hackathon. SoftFIRE is by no means to be considered a product and so the usual support for software development cannot be granted.

Even if SoftFIRE aims at programmers, not all the features to allow for a fast programming approach are provided. This is due to differences in the component testbeds and to security controls imposed by different administrative domains. The programming phases could result cumbersome and not particularly attractive; for this reason, the Hackathon will comprise a tutorial session in order to provide indications to participants on how to program the Federated Testbed.

Service level agreement (SLA) agreements do not apply during the Hackathon. The event is focused on testing and exploring SoftFIRE and participants to the Hackathon are not asked to run production applications on the infrastructure Platform during the trial.

The SoftFIRE project reserves the right to discontinue at any time the service or stop the activities of a team in the Hackathon activities if the use is not consistent with the purpose of SDN/NFV and/or violates any aspects of infrastructure security or shall maliciously conflict with any on-going activities of other Hackathon participants.

During the Hackathon, the SoftFIRE project will put in place a team that will support participants in their work on the platform. It is not offered as a professional service and its operations will be on the basis of best effort. The entire infrastructure is α-test platform. Possible downtime could occur without notice or due to overload caused by parallel experiments.

Depending on the number of participants, the project will also issue limits and constraints on the allocation of available resources. These limitations depend on the total capabilities of the federated platform as well as the number of participants. Typical limitations could be related to the max number of VMs to be instantiated, the number of physical resources usable or the max memory usable per participant team. Other limitations could apply, or be notified during the course of the Hackathon.

Additional information for the Hackathon participants will be updated in the SoftFIRE portal at http://www.softfire.eu.