

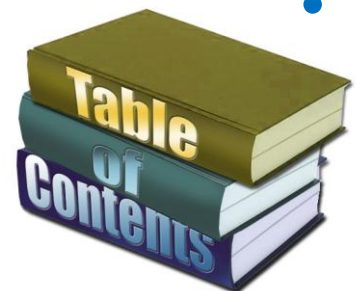
# DRIVING GROWTH

## Call Presentation

**“Enhancing Cybersecurity for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) designated as Important Entities Falling Within the Scope of the NIS2 Directive”**

# ► Contents

- Purpose & key information
- Beneficiaries & requirements
- CYFUN Basic & Gap Assessment
- Implementation & eligible costs
- Procurement, payments & IRIS
- Evaluation & completion



**NEO ΣΧΕΔΙΟ ΧΟΡΗΓΙΩΝ**  
Ενίσχυση της Κυβερνοασφάλειας σε ΜμΕ που εμπίπτουν στην Οδηγία NIS2

**€1.530.000**  
Προϋπολογισμός Πρόσκλησης

helpdesk@ncc.cy | ncc.cy | 1447

Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

**STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY FOR SMES**

Total budget: **€1.53 m**

Funding per company: **€20,000–€100,000**

Deadline: **10 November 2026, 13:00**, or until the budget is exhausted

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOUNDATION | NCC | COMMISSIONER OF COMMUNICATIONS | Co-funded by the European Union

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOUNDATION | Republic of Cyprus | Co-funded by the European Union

## ► Objectives

- Baseline level of cybersecurity for SMEs designated as Important Entities.
- Organisational and technical measures arising from the Gap Assessment.
- Protection of infrastructure, systems and information through solutions, services and training.
- Full compliance with all 34 CYFUN Basic 2025 measures and a verification certificate from the DSA.





## ► General Call Information

|                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Call Code                    | NCC-CY-NIS2/0826        |
| Call Budget                  | € 1,530,000             |
| Minimum funding per proposal | € 20,000                |
| Maximum funding per proposal | € 100,000               |
| Intensity of Funding         | 70%                     |
| Date of Publication          | 28 August 2026          |
| Closing Date                 | 10 November 2026, 13:00 |

Project  
Duration: Up  
to  
12 months



# ► Beneficiaries & Conditions for Participation

## Beneficiaries

- **SMEs** (Categories B.1, B.2) designated by the DSA as Important Entities under NIS2.
- Legally established and active in territories under the control of the Republic of Cyprus.
- One (1) Project Proposal per Host Organisation.
- Fisheries and aquaculture, and primary production of agricultural products, are excluded.

## Requirements

- No outstanding amounts owed to the DSA.
- OCA: no direct or indirect control by an ineligible third country.
- Single Undertaking Declaration / de minimis requirements.
- Project management workshop and mandatory financial management seminars.



# ► CYFUN Basic 2025 & Gap Assessment

## CYFUN Basic 2025

- 34 measures — full compliance required.
- Verification audit by a Cybersecurity Maturity Auditor from the CYS-managed registry.
- Verification certificate from the DSA.
- Prerequisite for funding payment.

## Gap Assessment

- Mandatory Annex II in English.
- Identifies gaps against the 34 CYFUN measures.
- Expenses must be based on Gap Assessment results and documented as necessary for verification.
- The entity conducting the Gap Assessment must differ from the service/equipment provider.





## ► **Project Activities**

- Activities based on the Gap Assessment.
- Implementation of organisational and technical cybersecurity measures.
- Information security policies and procedures, and staff training.
- Implementation of basic cybersecurity technology solutions.
- Verification audit and DSA verification certificate.



## ► Eligible Expenses

- Costs for external services.
- Costs for Instruments and Equipment, including necessary hardware and software.
- Consulting services, policies/procedures, staff training and awareness.
- Cost of one (1) audit to obtain verification of the measures' implementation.
- Expenses must be based on Gap Assessment results & documented as necessary for verification.



## ► Procurement & Cost Conditions

- At least three (3) independent tenders are required for each purchase exceeding €15,000 (excluding VAT).
- The most economical solution that meets the documented needs must be selected.
- VAT is not an eligible cost.
- Subscription costs are eligible only up to the end of 2028; depreciation does not apply to Instruments and Equipment.



## ► Funding Payment

- Funding is provided as de minimis aid in two (2) instalments.
- Pre-financing: 50% of the Requested Funding upon Project Contract signature.
- Final Payment: after approval of the Final Activity Report and Funding Payment Request.
- A DSA verification certificate confirming implementation of all 34 measures is mandatory.

*Without the required verification certificate, funding will not be granted and the pre-financing must be refunded.*



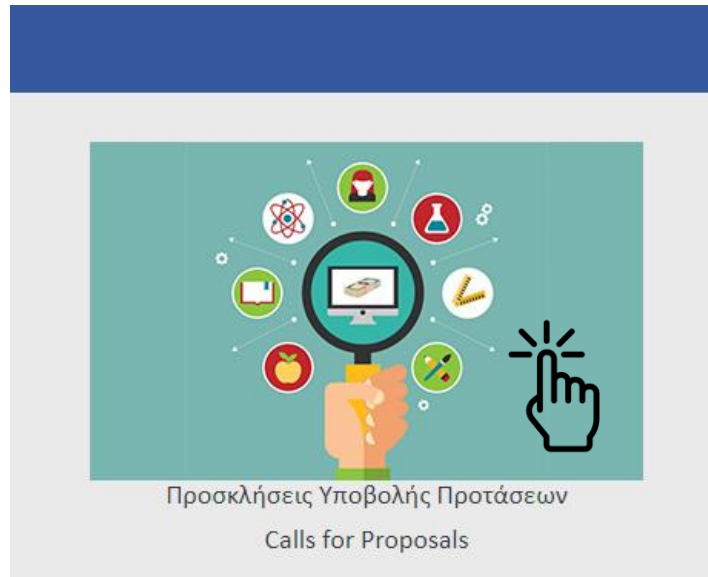
## ► Submission

- The Project Coordinator and Host Organisation must register in advance on the IRIS Portal.
- Part A – General Information & Budget: completed online.
- Part B – Technical Annex: mandatory PDF; the template must not be altered.
- Annex II – Gap assessment in English: mandatory.
- Annex III – Single Undertaking Declaration & Ownership Control Declaration (OCA): mandatory.
- Check all required documents before final submission.



# ► IRIS Portal

- [Home Page - IRIS \(research.org.cy\)](https://research.org.cy)



**Enhancing Cybersecurity for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) designated as Important Entities Falling Within the Scope of the NIS2 Directive**  
NCC-CY-NIS2/0826

## Short Description / Σύντομη Περιγραφή

Enhancing Cybersecurity for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) designated as Important Entities Falling Within the Scope of the NIS2 Directive

Announcement Date:  
28/08/2026

Deadline:  
10/11/2026 13:00

Call Documents:

[Call for Proposals \(EL\)](#) 

[Call for Proposals \(EN\)](#) 

[Part B – Technical Annex](#) 

[Guide for Evaluators](#) 



## ► IRIS Registration

- Registration of the Legal Representative
- Legal Representative Request
- Organisation Information Submission
  
- Registration of Coordinator on IRIS
- Registration as Researcher on IRIS

# ► Create a Proposal

- [IRIS- Dashboard \(research.org.cy\)](https://research.org.cy)

 My Researcher Info  
View

  Create Proposal  
View

 My Notifications  
View

 Financial Information  
View

Enhancing Cybersecurity for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) designated as Important Entities Falling Within the Scope of the NIS2 Directive  
NCC-CY-NIS2/0826

## Short Description / Σύντομη Περιγραφή

Enhancing Cybersecurity for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) designated as Important Entities Falling Within the Scope of the NIS2 Directive

Announcement Date:  
28/08/2026

Deadline:  
10/11/2026 13:00

Call Documents:

[Call for Proposals \(EL\)](#) 

[Call for Proposals \(EN\)](#) 

[Part B – Technical Annex](#) 

[Guide for Evaluators](#) 

[Submit to this Call](#)





## ► Evaluation & Project Selection

- Preliminary Check.
- Remote evaluation by two independent evaluators.
- Relevance (Excellence): 30%
- Added Value and Benefit: 40%
- Implementation: 30%

*Eligible proposals are prioritised in order of submission to the RIF until the Call budget is exhausted (non-competitive procedure).*



## ► From Approval to Final Payment

- Preparation of the Project Contract and additional supporting documents.
- Pre-financing: 50% upon Contract signature.
- Project implementation: up to twelve (12) months.
- Within one (1) month: Final Activity Report, Funding Payment Request and supporting documents.
- Verification certificate, publicity activity and Final Payment.



# ► Information – Contact Details

For More Information

**RIF Website:** [www.research.org.cy](http://www.research.org.cy)

**IRIS Portal:** <https://iris.research.org.cy/>



Supporting RIF's Clients

**RIF Support Service:**

[support@research.org.cy](mailto:support@research.org.cy) | Tel. +357 22-205000



Co-funded by  
Republic of Cyprus the European Union



## ► Useful Documents

- **IRIS & registration** : [Πύλη IRIS / εγγραφή ΣΕ](#) · [Εγγραφή ΝΕ](#) · [Εγχειρίδιο εγγραφής](#)
- **Organisation details** : [Δήλωση χαρακτηριστικών ΜΜΕ](#)
- **Call documents** : [GR](#) · [EN](#)
- **Proposal forms** : [Οδηγός Part A](#) · [Πρότυπο Part B](#)
- **Regulatory framework** : RESTART – [GR](#) · [EN](#)





## ► Questions & Answers

► **Thank you!**

Research & Innovation Foundation (RIF)

P.O. BOX 23422, 1683 Nicosia

Tel.: +357 22 205000

Website: [www.research.org.cy](http://www.research.org.cy)

