

# CEN Workshop VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEALTH, WELLBEING & RESILIENCE IN CITIES

## Workshop description form

- PART A – Workshop Summary
- PART B – Project Plan

## PART A – Workshop SUMMARY

<b>1</b>	<b>WS details</b>	
1.1.	<b>Organization</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEN <input type="checkbox"/> CENELEC <input type="checkbox"/> Joint with <input type="checkbox"/> CEN lead <input type="checkbox"/> CENELEC lead
1.2.	<b>Title</b>	CEN/WS “VARCITIES”  (select CEN or CLC or leave CEN/CLC in case of joint WS)
1.3.	<b>Scope</b>	The CEN workshop will consist mainly of the experts belonging to the consortium of the Horizon 2020 project “VARCITIES.” In any case, all those who will have interest in joining the WS will be free to participate.
1.4.	<b>Does this WS stem from an EU Research project?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES Name of the project: Varcities Grant number: 869505 End date 31 August 2025  <input type="checkbox"/> NO
1.5.	<b>Financial support</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EU Research project <input type="checkbox"/> EC/EFTA Grant reference: 869505 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify, if needed: Type here
1.6.	<b>WS Proposer/Proposed Chair</b>  <b>WS proposer</b>	Name: Dionysia Kolokotsa Organization: Technical University of Crete, Greece Postal address: Akrotiri Campus, Chania 731 00, Greece Email: dkolokotsa@tuc.gr Phone: +30 28210 06104 Webpage: Type here Contact person (name and email): Type here
1.7.	<b>WS Secretariat</b>	Organization: UNI – Ente Italiano di Normazione Postal address: Via Sannio 2, 20137 Milan (IT) Email: Mario.gallo@uni.com Phone: Type here Webpage: www.uni.com WS Secretary name: Mario Gallo Email: mario.gallo@uni.com Phone:
1.8.	<b>CEN and CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC) contact</b>	Organization: CEN and CENELEC Postal address: Rue de la Science 23B - 1040 Brussels, Belgium Webpage: <a href="https://www.cencenelec.eu/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.cencenelec.eu/Pages/default.aspx</a> CCMC Project Manager name: Claire Van Thielen Email: cvanthielen@cencenelec.eu Phone:
1.9.	<b>Tentative date and place of the Kick-off Meeting</b>	Date: 10 February 2025 10.00 p.m. – 12.30) Place: remote by Zoom

1.10.	<b>Does the proposed Workshop fall within the scope of existing CEN and/or CENELEC Technical Bodies?<sup>1</sup></b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES Specify: CEN/TC 465 'Sustainable Cities and Communities' - WG 1 - Nature-Based Solutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
1.11.	<b>Are there other Technical Bodies or Joint Advisory and Coordination Groups potentially interested in the Workshop? <sup>2</sup></b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES Specify: Type here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO
1.12.	<b>Are the following aspects affected?</b>	Safety matters YES <sup>3</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Management system aspects YES <sup>4</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conformity assessment aspects YES <sup>5</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Security matters YES <sup>6</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> 8		Add information/explanations if Management System aspects and Conformity Assessment aspects are affected: Type here	
<b>2 WS Deliverables</b>					
2.1.	<b>CWA #1</b>				
2.1.1	<b>Title</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Same as WS title (1.2)		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEALTH, WELLBEING & RESILIENCE IN CITIES		
2.1.2	<b>Scope</b>	The scope of the planned CWA is based on the results of the VARCITIES European Project (VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEALTH, WELLBEING & RESILIENCE IN CITIES). The vision of VARCITIES is to implement visionary solutions in cities. This project helps to establish sustainable models for increasing the health and well-being of citizens exposed to different climatic conditions and challenges. VARCITIES framework provides guidance in describing, designing, implementing, and evaluating good practices for all types of visionary solutions. Cities, designers, planners, and other practitioners can follow this framework to develop and document a good practice fully in a structured way. The planned Workshop defines guidelines for developing and accessing nature-based, socio cultural and digital visionary solutions in cities in view of a health relevant approach. The planned Workshop is intended to support the decision-making of future cities in the interest of a wide range of stakeholders such as citizens, policy makers, companies providing products and services, financial institutions, consultants, associations, and urban planners.			
2.1.3	<b>Does the proposed CWA conflict with a published EN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES Specify: Type here		

<sup>1</sup> Part A and Part B of this form shall be sent by the WS secretary to the secretary of the Technical Bodies identified in this section to inform them about the creation of the WS and register any possible objection within 30 days (45 during the holiday period).

<sup>2</sup> Part A and Part B of this form should be sent by the WS secretary to the Bodies identified in this section to inform them about the creation of the WS.

<sup>3</sup> Work on the proposed CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop shall not be initiated.

<sup>4</sup> The CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop proposal shall be submitted to the CEN/CENELEC BT(s) for decision.

<sup>5</sup> CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations - Part 3, Clause 33 applies.

<sup>6</sup> For projects dealing with security matters the security risk analysis provided in Annex I shall be carried out.

<sup>7</sup> See Note 2 in CEN-CENELEC Guide 29, Clause 3.

<sup>8</sup> See Note 2 in CEN-CENELEC Guide 29, Clause 3.

		<b>X</b>	<b>NO</b> In case the answer is 'yes', the development of the CWA shall be stopped
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**PART B – Project Plan**

## Abstract

This CWA is developed within the framework of the VARCITIES project, which aims to establish new guidelines for the development of visionary solutions (VS) by capturing existing knowledge about successful methods, projects, and activities and making this knowledge available for future reuse and replication. These guidelines and best practices will provide practitioners with useful information in order to enable the standardization, the design and the implementation of VS by: a. establishing a common understanding of what VS is and is not; b. contributing to transformational changes by improving VS practices and supporting the clarification and development of VS-related policies. Building on the experiences of cities that have faced various challenges, this standard provides a systematic learning framework to help improving and evolving applications, thereby increasing confidence in visionary solutions among decision-makers.

## 1 Status of the project plan

**Draft project plan** for public commenting (Version 1.0)

This draft project plan is intended to inform the public of a new Workshop. Any interested party can take part in this Workshop and/or comment on this draft project plan by sending an email to the WS secretary.

All those who have applied for participation or have commented on the project plan by the deadline will be invited to the kick-off meeting of the Workshop on **<2025-02-10>**.

## 2 Workshop proposer and potential Workshop participants

### 2.1 Workshop proposer

**Dionysia Kolokotsa**

Dean of Chemical and Environmental Engineering School, Technical University of Crete  
Head of Energy Management in the Built Environment Research Lab.

### 2.2 Potential participants

This CWA will be developed in a Workshop (temporary body) that is open to any interested party. The participation of other experts would be helpful and is desired. It is recommended that:

- Academic and research bodies
- Funded European Projects (i.e. Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe)
- Industry and commerce
- Non-governmental organizations (NGO)
- Standards application

take part in the development of this CWA.

## 3 Workshop objectives and scope

### 3.1 Workshop background

There is a growing acknowledgement of the role that nature plays in our society and many countries are already taking action to include NbS and digital solutions in their national climate strategies at reaching EU climate

neutrality. However, there is still a lack of systemic integration between nature-based, social, cultural, and digital innovation and these actions are not always developed and implemented based on the best criteria and practices available. Moreover, good practices are often not sufficiently described, which means that their descriptions lack relevant information that complicates further use. The aim of the visionary solutions is to provide innovative and comprehensive solutions at the intersection of social, cultural, digital, and nature-based innovation in order to improve the health and well-being of citizens. The need of defining guidelines for visionary solution development is to capture existing knowledge about successful methods, projects, and activities and to make this knowledge available for future reuse and replication. Building on existing experiences of cities that faced several challenges, the Standard provides a systematic learning framework to improve and evolve the applications, leading to greater confidence in visionary solutions among decision makers.

The following framework provides guidance in describing, designing, implementing and evaluating good practices for all types of visionary solutions. Cities, designers, planners and other practitioners can follow this framework to develop and document a good practice fully in a structured way. Consequently, the Standard provides an opportunity to create a common understanding on visionary solutions beneficial for health and wellbeing and a shared vision for a just and sustainable world.

This action has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement no. 869505 (Visionary Nature-Based Actions for Health, Well-being & Resilience in Cities - VARCITIES).

## Related activities

The subject of the planned CWA is not at present the subject of a standard. However, there are committees (ISO/TC 268 and CEN/TC 465 Sustainable cities and communities), working groups (CEN/TC 465/WG 01 Nature-based solutions) standards (see below) and/or other technical specifications that deal with related subjects and thus need to be taken into account during this Workshop.

Newer domains like NbS, where standards and practices may not yet be well-established, will benefit. Standardization can facilitate the adoption of NbS by offering a transparent framework for evaluating their efficacy and encouraging best practices. Organizations like the IUCN have observed that standardization creates the essential link between market demands, research, and societal needs. This is because it gives businesses a clear framework for evaluating the quality of NbS, which makes it simpler for them to comprehend what they are purchasing and how to use it. A self-assessment sheet, in an Excel spreadsheet, provided by IUCN, enables users to identify how much their intervention adheres to individual Indicators.

To ensure consistency with the sustainable development policy of communities, EN ISO 37101:2022 - *Sustainable development in communities - Management system for sustainable development - Requirements with guidance for use*, establishes requirements for a management system for sustainable development in communities, including cities, using a holistic approach. The private standard ASTM E 2986- *Guide for Evaluation of Environmental Aspects of Sustainability of Manufacturing Processes* offers recommendations for creating manufacturer-specific protocols for assessing how well manufacturing processes contribute to environmental sustainability. This manual presents techniques for decision support that can be applied to enhance sustainability performance. The standard ISO 37106:2021 *Sustainable cities and communities: Guidance on establishing smart city operating models for sustainable communities* gives guidance for leaders in smart cities and communities (from the public, private and voluntary sectors) on how to develop an open,

collaborative, citizen centric and digitally-enabled operating model for their city that puts its vision for a sustainable future into operation.

Planning, design, construction, maintenance, and plant material production are all guided by the pre-standard UNI/PdR 8:2014-*Guidelines for the Sustainable Development of Green Spaces - Planning, Design, Implementation and Maintenance*, which offers guidelines for the sustainable development of urban and peri-urban green spaces, including street trees, public and private parks and gardens, historic public and private parks and gardens, tree-lined parking lots, bicycle and pedestrian paths, etc. directing the creation of plant material as well as the planning, designing, implementing, and maintaining of the same. Setting social, economic, and environmental quality targets for land management is the reference practice's purpose.

An overview of current initiatives relevant to metrics for smart community infrastructures can be found in ISO/TR 37150:2014 *Smart community infrastructures - Review of existing activities relevant to metrics*. According to the definition of sustainable development and community resilience the concept of smartness is examined in ISO/TR 37150:2014 in terms of performance pertinent to technologically implementable solutions. This includes community infrastructures like energy, water, transportation, waste management, and information and communications technology (ICT).

On the other hand, standards serve also as the foundation for continuing education via testing and conformity assessment, and they offer information on cutting edge innovations and technologies in the industry. The standard ISO 50046:2019-*General methods for predicting energy savings* provides guidelines for analyzing changes in energy consumption and efficiency and tracking the advancement of energy efficiency across nations, regions, and cities. The general guidelines, testing protocols, and specifications for the performance classification of inexpensive sensor systems for the stationary monitoring of gaseous compounds in ambient air are laid out in the standard CEN/TS 17660-1:2021- *Air quality - Performance evaluation of air quality sensor systems - Part 1: Gaseous pollutants in ambient air*. Performance evaluation of air quality sensor systems Gaseous pollutants in ambient air Sensor system classification encompasses tests conducted in controlled laboratory and field environments. In addition, the adoption and utilization of information and communication technologies (ICT) in smart cities are specifically addressed by the extensive set of evaluation indicators defined in the standard ISO/IEC 30146:2019-*Information Technology-Smart city indicators*. . Additionally, it offers a framework and check list for nations incorporating ICTs into their national strategies for adapting to climate change.

Furthermore, standardization fosters innovation by offering a precise framework for creating novel products or services. It can assist in identifying areas in need of development and ensuring innovative ideas correspond well with current frameworks. There are standards for innovation management such as EN ISO 56002:2021 *Innovation management - Innovation management system - Guidance (ISO 56002:2019)*. Standardization connects sectors and supports networking between different communities such as potential users of the novel product, service, or process. This enables knowledge transfer and interdisciplinary.



## 4 Workshop programme

### 4.1 General

The CWA will be drawn up in **English** (language of meetings, minutes, etc.).

The date of the kick-off meeting is hypothetically scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (2.30 p.m.- 5.00 p.m. CEST). It will be decided in accordance with the availability of CEN and those of the Workshop Chairperson

## 4.2 Workshop schedule

Table 1: Workshop schedule (preliminary)

CEN/CENELEC Workshop	M01 (oct 2024)	M02 (nov)	M03 Dec	M04 (Jan)	M05 (Feb)	M06	M07	M08	M09	M10 (Jul 2025)
<b>Initiation</b>	█									
1. Workshop description form submission and TC response	█	█	█							
2. Open commenting period on draft project plan (mandatory)			█	█	█					
<b>Operation</b>					█					
3. Kick-off meeting					█					
4. CWA(s) development					█	█	█	█		
5. Open commenting period on draft CWA(s) (optional)										
6. CWA(s) finalized and approved by Workshop participants								█		
<b>Publication</b>									█	█
7. CWA(s) publication									█	█
Dissemination (see 6)			█	█	█					█



<b>Milestones</b>														K				V					V				V			A		P		D
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Legend

- K Kick-off
- M Workshop meeting
- V Virtual Workshop meeting
- A Adoption of CWA
- P Publication of CWA
- D Online distribution of CWA

### 4.3 Work already delivered by the Workshop

This list includes a number of documents (deliverables) produced within the Horizon Varcities project that may be useful for the development of the future CWA.

Deliverable Number	Deliverable Title
D3.1	Guidelines on baseline creation and data collection
D3.3	Report on local barriers and drivers to the implementation of visionary solutions in pilots
D3.4	Reports on multiple benefits expected from visionary solutions
D3.5	Guidelines for sketching of solutions
D3.6	Reports on the sketched solutions
D4.1	Local STK mapping report
D4.3	Overview report on STK engagement activities in pilots ( <i>Under preparation</i> )
D5.1	List of deployed IoT sensors requirements
D6.1	Visionary Integrated Solutions Implementation Framework
D6.6	Participatory supporting system for the Replication of the Visionary Solutions ( <i>Under preparation</i> )
D7.1	Report on Monitoring methods and operational framework for each pilot
D7.3	City M&E handbook with data sets, metrics, KPIs, etc. ( <i>Under preparation</i> )
D7.5	Report on SROI analyses in the demo cases ( <i>Under preparation</i> )
D8.2	VARCITIES Business Plan ( <i>Under preparation</i> )

## 5 Resource planning

The administrative costs of CEN Workshop Secretariat will be covered by resources from the H2020 project VARCITIES Grant Agreement n. 869505.

## 6 Workshop structure and rules of cooperation

The workshop will be led by either a Chair or Vice-Chair, with organizational support provided by the project leader. The CEN Workshop Chair is responsible for ensuring that the development of the CWA aligns with the principles and content outlined in the adopted project plan and adheres to the requirements of CEN Guide 29.

The Chair may make decisions regarding the conduct of the workshop based on feedback from participants, in accordance with CWA rules.

The workshop secretariat is tasked with organizing and managing the workshops in accordance with CEN Guide 29. Participants in the CEN Workshop, who include the CWA proposers (members of the VARCITIES project) and other relevant stakeholders identified by the proposer, are responsible for drafting the CWA and incorporating comments received during the public commenting phase.

## 6.1 Participation in the Workshop

The Workshop will be constituted during the course of the kick-off meeting. By approving this project plan, the interested parties declare their willingness to participate in the Workshop and will be formally named as Workshop participants, with the associated rights and duties. Participants at the kick-off meeting who do not approve the project plan are not given the status of a Workshop participant and are thus excluded from further decisions made during the kick-off meeting and from any other decisions regarding the Workshop.

As a rule, the request to participate in the Workshop is closed once it is constituted. The current Workshop participants shall decide whether any additional members will be accepted or not.

Any new participant in the Workshop at a later date is decided on by the participants making up the Workshop at that time. It is particularly important to consider these aspects:

- a. expansion would be conducive to shortening the duration of the Workshop or to avoiding or averting an impending delay in the planned duration of the Workshop;
- b. the expansion would not result in the Workshop taking longer to complete;
- c. the new Workshop participant would not address any new or complementary issues beyond the scope defined and approved in the project plan;
- d. the new Workshop participant would bring complementary expertise into the Workshop in order to incorporate the latest scientific findings and state-of-the-art knowledge;
- e. the new Workshop participant would actively participate in the drafting of the manuscript by submitting concrete, not abstract, proposals and contributions;
- f. the new Workshop participant would ensure wider application of the CWA.

All Workshop participants who voted for the publication of the CWA or its draft will be named as authors in the European Foreword, including the organisations which they represent. All Workshop participants who voted against the publication of the CWA, or who have abstained, will not be named in the European Foreword.

## 6.2 Workshop responsibilities

The Workshop Chair is responsible for content management and consensus building. The Workshop Chair is supported by the Workshop Vice-Chair (if any) and the responsible Workshop secretariat, whereby the Workshop secretariat will always remain neutral regarding the content of the CWA(s). Furthermore, the Workshop secretariat shall ensure that CEN-CENELEC's rules of procedure, rules of presentation, and the principles governing the publication of CWA(s) have been observed. Should a Workshop Chair no longer be able to carry

out her/his duties, the Workshop secretariat shall initiate the election of a new Workshop Chair. The list below covers the main tasks of the Workshop Chair. It is not intended to be exhaustive.

- Content related contact point for the Workshop
- Presides at Workshop meetings
- Ensures that the development of the CWA respects the principles and content of the adopted project plan
- Manages the consensus building process, assesses when the Workshop participants have reached agreement on the final CWA, on the basis of the comments received
- Ensures due information exchange with the Workshop secretariat
- Represents the Workshop and its results to exterior

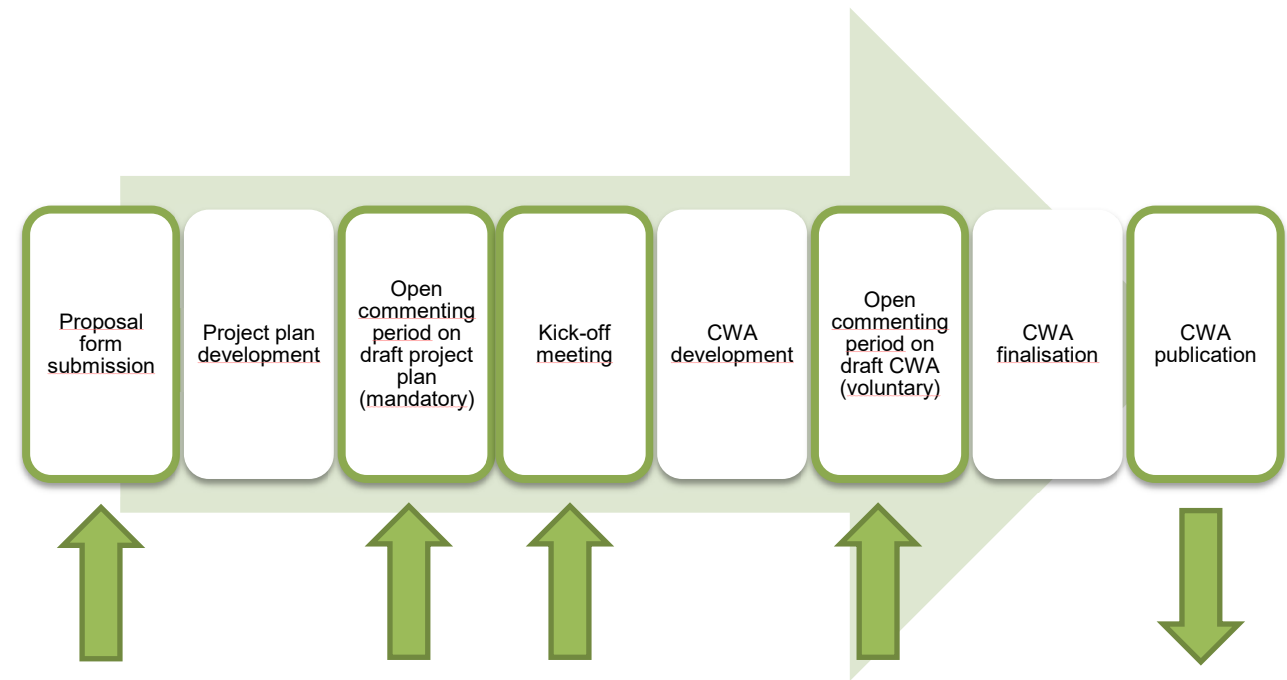
The Workshop secretariat, provided by a CEN and/or CENELEC Member, is responsible for organizing and leading the kick-off meeting, in consultation with the Workshop proposer. Further Workshop meetings and/or web conferences shall be organized by the Workshop secretariat in consultation with the Workshop Chair. The list below covers the main tasks of the Workshop secretariat. It is not intended to be exhaustive.

- Administrative and organizational contact point for the Workshop
- Ensures that the development of the CWA respects the principles and content of the adopted project plan and of the requirements of the CEN-CENELEC Guide 29
- Formally registers Workshop participants and maintains record of participating organizations and individuals
- Offers infrastructure and manages documents and their distribution through an electronic platform
- Prepares agenda and distributes information on meetings and meeting minutes as well as follow-up actions of the Workshop
- Initiates and manages CWA approval process upon decision by the Workshop Chair
- Interfaces with CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC) and Workshop Chair regarding strategic directions, problems arising, and external relationships
- Advises on CEN-CENELEC rules and brings any major problems encountered (if any) in the development of the CWA to the attention of CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC)
- Administrates the connection with relevant CEN or CENELEC/TCS

### **6.3 Decision making process**

The CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop Chair is responsible for ensuring that the development of the CWA follows the principles and content of the project plan described in this document and the requirements of CEN-CENELEC Guide 29. The CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop Chair may take decisions on the conduct of the CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop on the basis of the comments expressed by the participants and of CEN-CENELEC Guide 29.

## 7 Dissemination and participation strategy



### Proposal form submission

The Workshop proposal will be disseminated to the following relevant stakeholders and bodies for consultation:

- Standards committee, working group etc.
- publisher of technical rules
- sector forum
- focus group
- coordination group

- others (VARCITIES sister projects)

#### Open commenting period on draft project plan

The project plan will be disseminated to the following relevant stakeholders and bodies for commenting:

- Standards committee, working group etc.
- publisher of technical rules
- sector forum
- focus group
- coordination group
- others (VARCITIES sister projects)

In addition to the CCMC website, the project plan and the date of the kick-off meeting will be advertised on VARCITIES official website (<https://varcities.eu/>) to raise awareness. Interested parties are requested to contribute either through commenting of the project plan (short term) or through Workshop participation (long term).

#### Open commenting period on draft CWA

The commenting phase is optional in this instance and may be included. A decision regarding the submission of the draft CWA for public commenting can be determined at a later stage during the proceedings of the CEN/WS.

#### CWA publication

The final CWA will be disseminated to the following relevant stakeholders and bodies:

- Standards committee, working group etc.
- publisher of technical rules
- sector forum<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup>
- focus group<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup>
- coordination group<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup>
- others (VARCITIES sister projects)

In addition to the CCMC website, the final CWA will be advertised on:

- sector specific newsletter
- social media, such as
  - Facebook
  - Instagram
  - LinkedIn
  - Twitter
- Research Gate
- EC Newsroom
- others



## Annex I – Security risk analysis

This annex shall be completed if section 1.12 of Part A indicates that security aspects are addressed by the Workshop.

### I.I General

Security risk analysis is a process of identifying and analyzing the main negative factors that may affect a standardization project's objectives. The following is targeted at secretariats of CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop Agreements (CWA) dealing with security issues. Its purpose is to help them identify and mitigate the risks associated with their project. It is structured around two main security threats that can affect the success of the work: major diverging interests among stakeholders and sensitive information.

### I.II Risk analysis on major diverging interest among stakeholders

Diverging interests among stakeholders can impede the process in reaching agreement on the CWA and even lead to failure to deliver the planned CWA. In order to identify and possibly mitigate the risks, the following questions should be reviewed:

- Is the planned CWA expected to have a major impact on the security policy/strategy of the core stakeholders?
- Does the scope of the CWA cover products or services with a clear dual-use purpose (i.e. which can be used for military purposes)?

### I.III Risk analysis on sensitive information

- In light of the scope of the CWA, is it likely that it may deal with sensitive information? If so, what is the information sensitivity level?
- Is there a need for a (non-)disclosure agreement?
- Is there any conflict of interest for stakeholders involved in the CEN and/or CENELEC Workshop, regarding especially the use they may make of any information they receive during the development of the CWA?
- What steps should be taken to manage information dissemination and storage (e.g. memory stick, emailing, storage) during the development process of the CWA?