Dear Rob and Safecast Partners,

Herewith some guidance to help you with your search for EU funding for your project proposal.

While there isn't a specific EU funding programme exclusively dedicated to the kind of initiative you are seeking financial support for, there are several avenues of funding that could potentially support such initiatives. It will be necessary to carefully examine the objectives and priorities of these programmes to see if your project aligns with their goals.

Here are some relevant EU funding categories and programmes to explore:

1. Research and Innovation Funding (Horizon Europe):

- **Euratom Research and Training Programme:** This programme, part of Horizon Europe, focuses on nuclear research and innovation, including radiation protection. While it may not directly fund community workshops, projects involving the development and testing of open-source radiation monitoring devices, especially those with a focus on safety and public engagement, could potentially fit within its scope. The programme also emphasises developing skills and competences in the nuclear field, which could align with the educational aspect of your workshop idea.
- **Key Action 2 of Erasmus+:** This action focuses on "Cooperation among Organisations and Institutions" and aims to foster innovation and the exchange of good practices in education and training. If your community workshops have a strong educational component, particularly in science and technology, and involve partnerships across different organisations or countries, this could be a relevant programme. For example, a project involving NGOs, educational institutions, and citizen science initiatives could be eligible.
- **European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Communities:** The EIT has various Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) focusing on different societal challenges (e.g., health, climate, digital). Depending on the specific focus of your radiation monitoring devices (e.g., environmental monitoring, health safety), you might find a relevant KIC that supports educational and community engagement projects in their domain.

2. Regional Development and Social Cohesion Funds:

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund Plus (ESF+):** These funds aim to reduce disparities between EU regions. Depending on the location of your proposed workshops, you might find regional or national programmes co-funded by ERDF or ESF+ that support community development, education and training, or initiatives promoting technological skills and innovation at a local level. These funds are often managed by national or regional authorities, so you would need to check the specific priorities and calls for proposals in the regions where you plan to establish the workshops.
- **Just Transition Fund (JTF):** This fund supports regions most affected by the transition towards a climate-neutral economy. If your radiation monitoring project has links to

environmental monitoring in such regions or provides new skills for local communities, it might be relevant.

3. Environment and Climate Action Funding (LIFE Programme):

- The LIFE Programme supports projects that contribute to environmental and climate objectives. If your open-source radiation monitoring devices are intended for environmental monitoring by communities and contribute to raising awareness or collecting data relevant to environmental protection, certain strands of the LIFE Programme might be applicable.

4. Citizenship, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) Programme:

- This programme supports projects that foster civic participation and promote EU values. If your community workshops aim to empower citizens with scientific knowledge and involve them in environmental monitoring or safety initiatives, this programme could be considered, particularly its strand on civic engagement and participation.

Key Considerations for Applying for EU Funding:

- **Eligibility Criteria:** Carefully check the eligibility criteria of each call for proposals, including the types of organizations that can apply, the geographical scope, and the thematic priorities.
- **Partnerships:** Many EU funding programmes encourage or require projects to involve partnerships across different countries and sectors (e.g., research institutions, NGOs, local authorities, businesses).
- **Innovation and Impact:** EU-funded projects are generally expected to demonstrate innovation, have a clear European added value, and show potential for impact in line with the EU's policy goals.
- **Open Access and Education:** The open-source nature of your project and its focus on education and community empowerment could be strong selling points for many EU funding programmes that value these aspects.
- **Application Process:** The application process for EU funding can be complex and requires a detailed project proposal, budget, and information about the participating organisations.

How to Find Relevant Calls for Proposals:

- **EU Funding & Tenders Portal:** This is the central portal for finding information on EU funding opportunities. You can search for calls based on keywords, programmes, and thematic areas.
- **National Contact Points (NCPs):** Each EU member state has NCPs that provide guidance and support to potential applicants for Horizon Europe and other EU research and innovation programmes. They can offer valuable advice on relevant funding opportunities and the application process.

- **European Networks and Platforms:** Explore networks and platforms related to citizen science, open hardware, environmental monitoring, and community-based initiatives at the European level. They often share information about funding opportunities relevant to their fields. The European Citizen Science Platform might be a useful resource.
- **Keep Updated:** Regularly check the websites of the European Commission and relevant funding programmes for new calls for proposals.

While a direct subsidy for your specific idea might not exist, by understanding the broader funding landscape and tailoring your project proposal to the priorities of relevant EU programmes, you have a good chance of finding financial support for establishing your community-based workshops. Remember to highlight the open-source nature, educational value, and potential societal impact of your initiative.

Hope you find these suggestions useful.

Good luck!

Rudie