



Ministarstvo znanosti, obrazovanja i sporta

Europska unija
ULAGANJE U BUDUĆNOST
Ovaj projekt sufinancira Europska unija,
iz Europskog fonda za regionalni razvoj.

TRAINING-WORKSHOP ON PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES IN DEVELOPING DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS

1-day training in frame of the IPA SIF-funded project
"Becoming entrepreneurial: Knowledge transfer from the University of
Rijeka Faculty of Medicine to the biotechnology business sector"

6th December 2013
Lecture hall, Faculty of Medicine, Rijeka

PROGRAMME

09:15 – 09:30	Opening words: Prof. Dr. Stipan Jonjić
09:30 – 10:15	Prof. Dr. Hans Dieplinger <i>Vitateq Biotechnology, Innsbruck, Austria</i> "Diagnostic kit development - example for translation of academic R&D into commercial products"
10:15 - 11:00	Dr. Oliver Vugrek <i>Ruder Boskovic Institute, Zagreb, Croatia</i> „How IPA funds contributed to the creation of infrastructure for development of new tools for basic and applied research"
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:15	Dr. Boštjan Kocjan <i>Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, Ljubljana, Slovenia</i> "Overview of molecular diagnostics techniques: past, present, future"
12:15 – 13:00	Prof. Dr. Benedikt Kaufer <i>Freie Universität Berlin</i> "Telomeres, telomerase and viral chemokines: Role in herpesvirus pathogenesis, integration and tumorigenesis"
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Round table & brainstorming with the IPA project team members: Participants: <i>Prof. Dr. Hans Dieplinger, Dr. Oliver Vugrek, Dr. Boštjan Kocjan, Prof. Dr. Benedikt Kaufer, Dr. Petra Karanikic (Transfer Office of the University of Rijeka), TBD (Croatian Chamber of Economics, Rijeka), Prof. Dr. Štefica Dvornik (Clinical Hospital Centre Rijeka)</i> Key topics: Assessment of the commercial potential of MEDRI's research results (emphasis on monoclonal antibodies); identification of the most attractive targets for development and application in therapeutics/diagnostics

Registracija se obavlja putem linka:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TMBSftFDr8r6AGxJffuE9c8DFC4DBWfXQGtTJaj5o/viewform>

zaključno sa četvrtkom 05.prosinca u 12:00 sati



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THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

Croatia is faced with extremely low levels of transformation of scientific discoveries into innovations to be further exploited by the biotechnology industry. In collaboration with Hannover Medical School and eight associate institutions, the group of Prof. Stipan Jonjic from the University of Rijeka Faculty of Medicine is implementing an IPA-funded action focused around two strategic projects, vaccine vectors and antibodies, which target reliable therapeutic and diagnostic tools for protection against pathogens of major public health significance. The action should help bridge the gap between pre-commercial and commercial stages of research and promote the University of Rijeka as a leading innovator in the Croatian public R&D sector.

Croatia has been lagging behind the EU and other developed countries with respect to translation of biomedical research results generated at academic institutions into the commercial sector. This weakness results in brain drain and low motivation of young researchers for pursuing careers in the life sciences, insufficient usage of resources available at basic research institutions, limited R&D in the existing industrial sector and weak level of competitiveness on the international market.

The aim of this project is to improve **innovation capabilities** of the University of Rijeka Faculty of Medicine (MEDRI) through utilization of its potential for applied research **towards biotechnology industry needs**. In collaboration with the partner institution, Hannover Medical School, and eight associates from the Croatian and the EU academia and industry, MEDRI is implementing two strategic projects which will serve as a knowledge transfer and commercialization spring board.

For the first one, the ultimate goal is the development of a **prototype of a vaccine vector platform based on a live attenuated herpes virus**. Its relevance draws from the huge global demand for new and efficient approaches in designing vaccines to various pathogens and tumours.

The second strategic project should result in the acquired **commercialization know-how for the existing unique collection of antibodies** as well as different antibody-related services. These antibodies represent indispensable research tools for the scientific community and biotechnological industry and at the same time potential targets for diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

Applied R&D activities are in this action complemented by **training sessions and secondments** to associate institutions. At the same time, the action strives to increase the number of partnerships of MEDRI with the innovative biotechnology companies as well as enhance its visibility, through various **dissemination and networking activities** targeting both the scientific community and the general public, which will on the long run benefit from the generated healthcare products, vaccine platform and antibodies services and bank.

The project is funded by IPA III C SIF (Science Investment and Innovation Fund) in the amount of EUR 439.951, from 2013 to 2015. The project web-sites are: <http://www.capri.com.hr/projects/102-becoming-entrepreneurial-IPA.html> and <http://www.siif-croatia.com/en/osobne-karte-projekata/medicinski-fakultet-u-rijeci>.