

Widening Country Inspiration Story

“Presenting a clear plan for knowledge transfer, career development and public engagement is key for a competitive and successful proposal.”

Organisation name: Izmir Institute of Technology
Organisation type: Higher Education Organisation
Country: Türkiye
Project Acronym: BIOTIN
Project start and end date: 1.01.2023 – 31.12.2027
Type of MSCA, Horizon Europe: COFUND
Is your organisation a coordinator? Yes

What is your project about? BIOTIN provides doctoral candidates (DCs) with a blend of skills in the convergence of life sciences, engineering and entrepreneurship. The programme is designed to immerse DCs in trainings on entrepreneurship at the early stages of their curriculum, and on data science and computing, in addition to classical biomedical and bioengineering curricula. This interdisciplinary approach is critical for advancing scientific knowledge and translating discoveries into impactful solutions in the biomedical field.

Why is your project important for society? BIOTIN aims to address urgent societal needs by training experts in fields essential for biomedical innovation. By advancing research in drug development, diagnostics, and tissue engineering and artificial organs, the programme contributes to better health outcomes.

What communication and public engagement measures have you foreseen? BIOTIN utilises outreach activities, public seminars, and partnerships with NGOs to engage



society, making biomedical research accessible and relatable to the public. This engagement fosters understanding and awareness of scientific and technological progress and its direct impact on the biomedical field.

What kind of support did you get? The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) granted Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Pre-Evaluation Support. Additionally, we consulted with Horizon Europe MSCA guides, [statistics](#) and [handbooks](#) during the proposal preparation and application stages.

Do you have other successful projects under Horizon 2020? Yes.

What in your experience helped you to succeed? Success in Horizon projects is primarily based on building strong interdisciplinary teams, establishing partnerships with both academic and industry stakeholders, and aligning

project goals with EU research priorities. This approach enhances the programme's relevance and competitiveness and ultimately leads to a successful project.

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More information on the project:



The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) support researchers at all stage of their career across all disciplines. The MSCA also support cooperation between industry and academia and provide innovative trainings and career developments.

The MSCA COFUND aims to stimulate regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development, spreading the best practices of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

The MSCA-NET project is the MSCA NCP project to facilitate the transnational cooperation to achieve a consistent and harmonised level of NCP support. The scientific community can also profit from our project to support their MSCA application.



How did you attract resources for the co-funding of your project? BIOTIN secured co-funding through partnerships with the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and national top-level research and higher education institutions committed to advancing biomedical research and innovation, aligning with Horizon Europe's priorities.

What tips can you give other organisations that would like to apply for MSCA? Applicants may focus on creating strong, interdisciplinary consortia that address societal challenges aligned with EU priorities. Also, engaging diverse partners from academia, industry, and public sectors could increase the impact of the proposal. Finally, presenting a clear plan