

## Widening Country Inspiration Story

“The MSCA project has to be innovative to attract young researchers.”

**Organisation name:** MedApp S.A.

**Organisation type:** Private for Profit

**Country:** Poland

**Project Acronym:** DECODE

**Project start and end date:** 1.01.2021 – 30.06.2025

**Type of MSCA, Horizon 2020:** Innovative Training Networks

**Is your organisation a coordinator?** No

### What is your project about?

DECODE provides young researchers with scientific and technological skills through a multidisciplinary training programme aiming at the development, optimisation, and assessment of a drug-eluting balloon system for the improved treatment of peripheral artery disease. DECODE aims to enhance the competitiveness and research careers of young researchers at the European level, to give them the ability to face current and future challenges in the domain of biomedical engineering and to convert expertise into a novel product.

### Why is your project important for society?

The use of drug-eluting devices to combat the burden of peripheral artery disease (PAD) is important for improving the monitoring and treatment of patients and their quality of life, providing in this way a significant economic and social benefit.

### What communication and public engagement measures have you foreseen?

15 PhD projects have already generated numerous conference presentations, public talks and educational resources for other scientists and industry



stakeholders. The research outcomes of the project are communicated to the research community and the general public through the project website, scientific publications and social media channels.

### What kind of support did you get?

As a non-academic entity and an SME, we were lucky to be invited by Prof. Dimitrios Fotiadis (coordinator of the project) to join the project consortium. With the DECODE project, we started our adventure with MSCA grants and Horizon 2020. During the application process, we benefitted from the expertise of our partners, who are experienced beneficiaries of EU grants. Thanks to our partners, we were guided through the process of preparing an application and gradually familiarised ourselves with the principles of implementing the MSCA project. We used materials and guidelines from the [EU Funding and Tenders Portal](#).

### Do you have other successful projects under Horizon 2020?

Yes.

**What in your experience helped you to succeed?** We have learned that a very important aspect of MSCA projects is having an experienced coordinating institution with a strong administrative support team, as well as having consortium partners both from academia and from industry. Successful cooperation in an international consortium results in further projects. On the basis of the DECODE project, we were invited to join the consortium of another MSCA project which combines science with business and medicine with technology.

**How did you find the partners in your consortium?**

During an international conference, our presentation was noticed by the project coordinator. Thanks to the high quality of research and the convergence of the research topics, we were invited to join the project consortium.



people from outside Europe come to EU countries for MSCA Fellowships, it is important to keep in mind the requirements for mobility. It is possible that restrictions on the mobility could make it impossible to implement the planned schedule of trainings and secondments.

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 Innovative Training Networks (ITN) support competitively selected joint research training/ doctoral programmes, implemented by partnerships of universities, research institutions, businesses, SMEs from different countries across Europe and beyond.

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.



**What tips can you give other organisations that would like to apply for MSCA?**

The MSCA project has to be innovative to attract young researchers. Young researchers look for innovative trainings and senior researchers who are experienced in the implementation of the results of R&D work. As many young