

Net4Mobility⁺



Net4Mobility+

Network of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions National Contact Points for the mobile scientific and innovation community

MSCA Success Stories from Organisations in Widening Countries

Task 4.4 Effective MSCA promotion

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Issued date: November 2018

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N4M+ project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No 785632

Host organization: Genos Ltd.

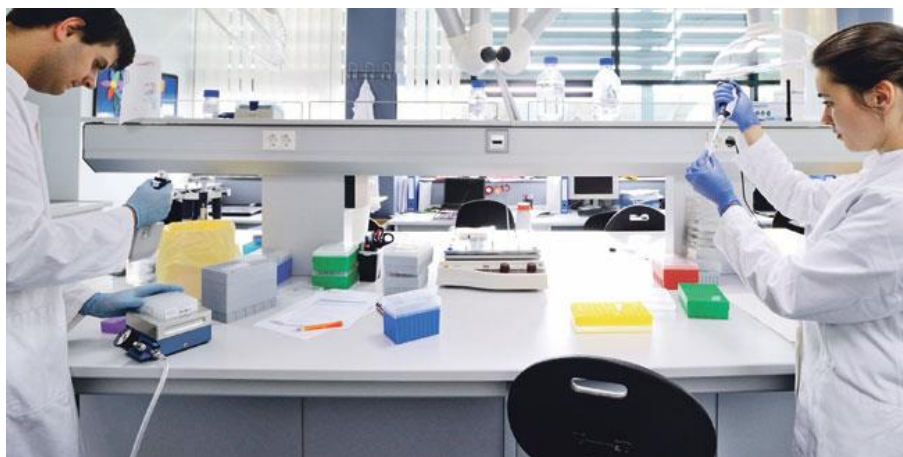
Country: Croatia

Organization role: beneficiary/ WP leader

Project Acronym: GlySign

Project start and end date: October 1st 2016 – September 30th 2020

Type of MSC action, H2020: ITN



Your story:

Project objectives and research field:

GlySign is a research training network on glycomic clinical markers as well as assay development for Precision Medicine. It is set up as a European Industrial Doctorate so that it can exploit the key translational synergies between excellent academic and non-academic partners to the fullest extent. GlySign aims to bring known glycomics markers to the clinic.

Tell us why the topic is important and/ or how it brings to advancement in your research field:

Personalised medicine is a cornerstone of medically effective and economically efficient future healthcare. GlySign focusses on glycomics for PM in clinical management of patients with long-term chronic diseases including cancers and inflammatory conditions. The importance of glycomics to healthcare is summarised in a recent report endorsed by the US Academies which stated that “glycans are directly involved in the pathophysiology of every major disease” and that “additional knowledge from glycoscience will be needed to realize the goals of precision medicine and to take advantage of the substantial investments in human genome and proteome research and its impact on human health”. This programme is designed to develop the next generation of skilled, creative and highly motivated young scientists who will transform mature research grade glycomics methods into effective and affordable commercial-grade PM technologies.

What are the benefits of participating in a MSC action?

Never before has there been a greater need for detailed, economically light patient stratification methods in order to produce tailor made therapeutically successful outcomes. The GlySign network is taking part in removing the skills shortage with respect to trained researchers who understand the implicit and explicit needs for patient stratification and the best ways to achieve it. Our industry focussed collaborative training programme not only trains ESRs but produces real, tangible, commercial outcomes in the skill shortage area of glycoanalytics. The mixture of solid academic and industrial environment experience that the ESRs are gaining will produce highly trained, flexible scientists who will see the need of a healthy translational bridge of academic activity to commercial gain as an essential element of their future careers. This will make them highly desirable future employees and leaders within both sectors.

Did you encounter any challenges during application/ implementation and did you get any help?

The recruitment of non-EU citizens was shown to be challenging and time-consuming because visa requirements are confusing and sometimes contradictory information is coming from different (inter)national institutions regarding these requirements, in particular when ESR coming from non-EU country was supposed to go to their long-term secondment to partnering institution.

Would you recommend others to apply? What useful advice/ tips can you give them?

Taking part in MSCA is a privilege for both organizations and researchers. As a company, participation in the MSCA helped us to maintain our position at both EU and international level and to enhance our competitiveness in the rapidly evolving and growing glycomics market. Hosting foreign researchers has brought many complements to our research talent pool and their different point of view has enabled us to recognize options for improvement and to introduce new solutions and approaches in our standard workflows.

To successfully apply to MSCA, one should aim at creating strategic partnerships with leading institutions.

What strategies did your organization use to attract the fellow/s? Are they in line with national strategies supporting the widening EC policy?

Positions were advertised through different channels (Euraxess Researcher Mobility, FindaPhD, ResearchGate, personal facebook.com pages of beneficiaries, employees and sympathizers, LinkedIn posts by beneficiaries, websites of the partner institutions and participating research groups, the GlySign website, announcement at conferences, personal contacts of the network) and advertisements were managed centrally by the management office at the LUMC.