State-of-the-art in biomonitoring

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Acronym: BIOLAWEB

Boosting Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy in

Water Biomonitoring

Grant No: 101079234

Type of action: HORIZON Coordination and

Support Actions (HORIZON - CSA)

Starting Date: 01/10/2022

Budget: € 899 410

Duration: 36 months



BgF Summer school, Belgrade, October 2023

BIOLAWEBGeneral overview

Dr Miloš Ćirić, the coordinator





HORIZON Europe programme

Call: Twinning (HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03)

Budget: €149 000 000

Expected outcomes:

- Improved excellence capacity and resources in Widening countries
- Enhanced strategic networking activities between the research institutions
- ✓ Raised <u>REPUTATION</u>... and attractiveness of the coordinating institution
- Strengthened research management capacities and administrative skills of the staff
- Improved creativity, new approaches in R&I, increased mobility of scientists





HORIZON Europe programme

Call: Twinning (HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03)

Budget: €149 000 000

Expected impacts:

- ✓ Increased science and innovation capacities for all actors in the R&I system in widening countries
- Higher participation success in Horizon Europe and more consortium leadership roles





Background motivation (topic)

General problems



With general solution!

In local contex





BIOLAWEB consortium



Recognized taxonomists and ecologists



Excellence in developing indices for lake



Leader in DNA-based biomonitoring







Need analysis

- ✓ More than 50% of Europe's rivers and many lakes have been degraded by human activities.
- The good ecological status of European surface waters as required by the EU Water Framework Directive is **not achieved** in many European water bodies.
- New DNA-based methods will most likely replace the "traditional" in the near future.
- ✓ UB-ICTM recognized the need to build capacities in development of the new methods through collaborations and training with research institutions.





BIOLAWEB objectives

Fact Sheet

Project description









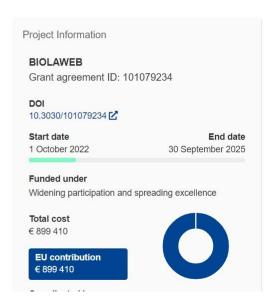




The growing negative impact of humans on the environment and natural ecosystems has increased the urgency of improved monitoring to support biodiversity conservation. Environmental DNA, or eDNA, metabarcoding is a pioneering survey method for the large-scale taxonomic identification of complex terrestrial and aquatic samples to assess biodiversity. It can identify multiple species based on high-throughput sequencing. The EU-funded BIOLAWEB project will strengthen the research and innovation capacity in biodiversity assessment and biomonitoring at the Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade via application of such cutting-edge methods. The advances accomplished by the twinning project will attract talented researchers and be applied to water bodies monitoring in and around Serbia.

Hide the project objective











SO1. To develop a tailor-made scientific strategy for UB-ICTM

SO2. To scale up UB-ICTM's staff competence and knowledge on how indices for the EU WFD are developed





SO3. To raise the competence and skills of UB-ICTM researchers in DNA-based biomonitoring methods



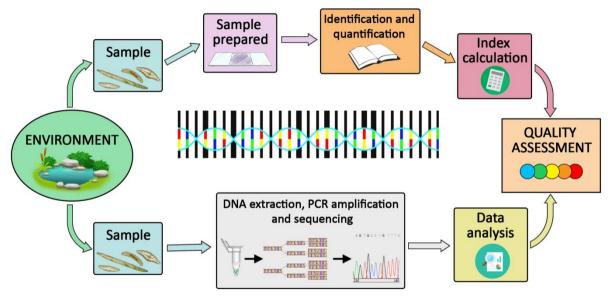


Figure from Vidaković, 2020

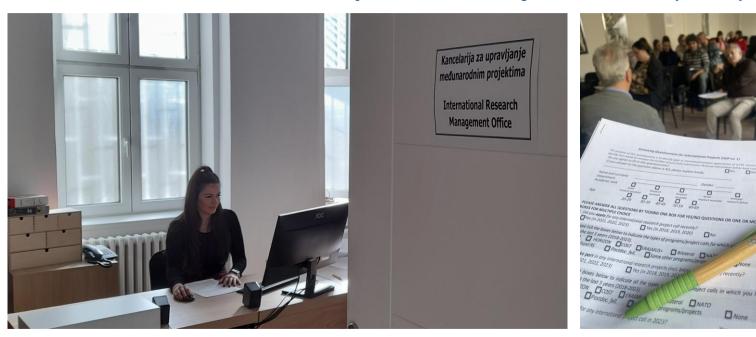
SO4. To develop new approaches in the field of biomonitoring through joint research





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SO5. To set up a fully operational Research Management Office at UB-ICTM





SO6. To enhance strategic networking activities with leading research institutions



BIOLAWEB communication

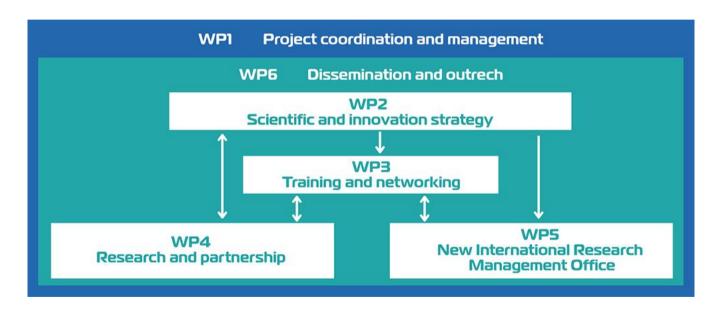




Researchers' night - Belgrade, October 2023



BIOLAWEB Work Plan







Acknowledgement



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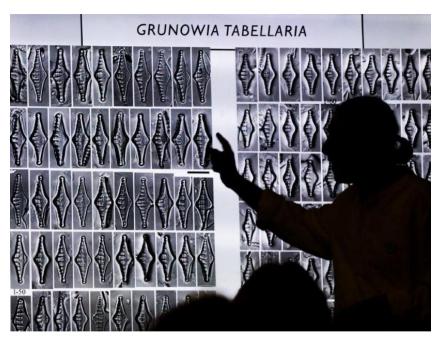
Thank you for your attention!





Dr Martyn Kelly [S3]





Prof Dr Zlatko Levkov