



Horizon 2020



Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

H2020-TWINN-2015

Coordination and Support Action

Project Title

Enhancing the scientific capacity of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Sofia University as leading regional research and innovation centre in the area of advanced functional materials

Proposal acronym: Materials Networking

Project number: 692146

Participants

Sofia University, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Bulgaria
University of Cambridge, Department of Materials Science & Metallurgy, United Kingdom
Max-Planck Institute for Polymer Research, Germany
University of Barcelona, Faculty of Chemistry, Spain

Steering committee

Prof. G. Vayssilov, FCP-SU
Prof. T. Spassov, FCP-SU
Prof. M. G. Blamire, DMSM-UCAM
Prof. H.-J. Butt, MPI-P
Prof. F. Illas, FC-UB

Management committee

Prof. Georgi Vayssilov (Project Coordinator and leader of WP1)
Prof. Tony Spassov (leader of WP4)
Prof. Roumen Tsekov (leader of WP3)
Assoc. Prof. Anela Ivanova (leader of WP2)
Assoc. Prof. Rositca Nikolova (leader of WP5)
Assoc. Prof. Elena Vassileva
Associated Members of MC
Prof. Lindsay Greer (DMSM-UCAM)
Dr. Kaloyan Koynov (MPI-P)
Prof. Konstantin Neyman (FC-UB)

mn@chem.uni-sofia.bg



Abstract

The main objective of the TWINNING project is enhancement of the scientific and technological capacity of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Sofia University (FCP-SU) and raising the research profile of the Faculty and its staff in the field of advanced functional materials via networking with three World-wide leading institutions – Department of Materials Science & Metallurgy, University of Cambridge, Max-Planck Institute of Polymer Research and Faculty of Chemistry, University of Barcelona. Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at SU is a leading research centre in functional materials in Bulgaria and its networking and collaboration with global leaders in this research field will help in developing its potential to become European-wide known centre with increasing research and innovation contributions and achievements. Such achievements will increase the participation of the teams from FCP-SU in European and international projects and will promote higher performance of other research institutions in Bulgaria. Based on the expertise and achievements of the research groups in FCP-SU, the present project will contribute to two of the priority areas of the Bulgaria's Smart Specialization Strategy with relevant thematic priorities "Materials for clean energy and environment protection" and "Materials with pharmaceutical and medical applications".



Objectives

The main objective of the TWINNING project is the enhancement of the scientific and technological capacity of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Sofia University, raising the research profile of the Faculty and its staff, and thus of the whole University, in the field of advanced functional materials.

Specific objectives of the project include:

- o Creating and expanding research cooperation between the partner institutions in the project - Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Sofia University, Department of Materials Science & Metallurgy at University of Cambridge, Max-Planck Institute for Polymer Research, and Faculty of Chemistry at University of Barcelona, based on the research excellence of the research intensive institutions and the available high research potential of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy.
- o Developing the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at SU as a leading research centre in functional materials in South-East Europe and European-wide known centre with increasing research and innovation contributions and achievements, which will act as a flag-ship for other research institutions in Bulgaria.
- o Increasing the research production and impact of the FCP-SU reflected by increased number of publications in peer-reviewed journals (more specifically in journals with high impact factor), increased citations of the recent papers, as well as increased number of highly cited papers.



- o Contributing to the improvement of the total ranking of Sofia University as a world class university to enter the top 601-650 range (from the current range 651-700 according to QS Top Universities ranking).
- o Entering into top 200 universities in the fields of Materials Science or/and Chemistry (according to QS Top Universities ranking).
- o Increasing the attractiveness of the Faculty for researchers and students from around the World including also the Bulgarian research diaspora World-wide.
- o Generating synergies between the TWINNING project and other projects for research, innovation and competitiveness of other European and national programs as Horizon 2020 programme, National operational programs, Bulgarian Science Fund and Bulgarian Innovation Fund .
- o Increasing the innovation potential of the team from FCP-SU as measured by patents and industrial projects.
- o Contributing to increased economic growth and standard of living in Bulgaria by approaching the goals and research areas envisaged in the Bulgarian Smart Specialization Strategy (RIS3-BG).

Work Package Description

Work package 1. Project management

Task 1.1. Establishment, regular meetings and functioning of the Steering Committee during the project realization

Task 1.2. Establishment and regular meetings of the Management Committee during the project realization

Task 1.3. Administrative management of the project including

Task 1.4. Synchronization of the activities within the project with local, regional or national programmes

Task 1.5. Efficient financial management and accounting.

Task 1.6. Preparation of the reports of the project.

Task 1.7. Introduction in the reporting tool on the Participant Portal all publications (in the particular field of research) of the coordinator during the three years preceding the start date of the project.

Work package 2. Networking

Task 2.1 Short term staff exchanges - outgoing visits

Task 2.2 Incoming expert visits

Task 2.3 Expert visits in project and administration management

Work package 3. Scientific excellence

Task 3.1 Organization of joint summer schools for training.

Task 3.2. Short-term on-site training of the Faculty staff in partner institutions.

Task 3.3 Support for publications in good quality scientific journals.

Task 3.4 Annual evaluation of the research performance and impact.

Work package 4. Innovation capacity and smart specialization strategy

Task 4.1 Stimulating contacts with local and European industry.

Task 4.2 Seminar on intellectual property rights.

Task 4.3 Seminar on innovations.

Task 4.4 Seminars for Smart Specialization Strategy priorities.

Work package 5. Dissemination and outreach

Task 5.1 Organization of four thematic workshops.

Task 5.2 Participation of the Faculty staff in scientific conferences and events

Task 5.3 Increasing the visibility of the Faculty in the society.

Task 5.4 Project web site and social networks as communication tools.

