



Joint Support Office for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (JSO-ERA) Working together with FP7 National Information Point-Ukraine (NIP)

SUCCESS STORY

Cooperation with research institutes in the European Union leads to new knowledge and new technologies, new best practises, useful contacts and EU funds.



Ukrainian researchers are rather interested in participating in EU's FP7 projects; however, their participation has, until recently, been limited by the lack of a real possibility for our teams to chair international partnerships or play the role of project coordinators. The European Commission effectively managed to overcome that barrier last

year when it introduced its special ERA-WIDE Programme for Ukrainians. The competition within this Programme is available to research centres with strong scientific ties with European researchers.

The idea to submit a project and to take part in that competition belonged to two organizations with sufficient previous experience of participation in EU's Framework Programmes: INNO TSD Company (France) which has previously taken part in some ten projects (as Project Coordinator and partner)



Processing of the unique bulk mono chrystals

and the Kharkivski Technologuii (KhT) Centre which by that time has already participated in two big European projects. It was within one of the two that KhT developed strong partner contacts with INNO TSD Company.

KhT offered the role of Project Coordinator to the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine's (NASU) Institute of Scintillation Materials (ISMA), one of Centre co-founders. The Centre was established some 13 years ago to assist the Institute in commercialisation of its scientific research results, development and implementation of innovation projects, and upgrading its research fellows' qualifications in the areas of technology transfer and innovation activities.

Quick details about ISMA: the Institute is one of Ukraine and world's lead research centres in the functional materials area, specifically, in research and development of scintillation crystals and plastic materials and, on their base, radiation detectors. Six years ago ISMA, the unit of the NASU's Institute of Mono Crystals, received the status of a separate research institution. Owing to Institute's more than half a century-long research history, its research products have come to be widely known not only inside the country, but also abroad. The current range of scholarly interests of the Institute extends from researches in the area of organic and inorganic mono and polycrystalline scintillating materials for their use in high-energy physics, medical science, space gamma-ray telescope researches, dosimetry, environmental monitoring and others.

Information is a courtesy of Inna Gagauz, Director of Kharkivski Technologuii (KhT) Centre.

Université de Lyon named after Claude Bernard (France) has become another research centre to co-implement the Project. The University boasts some 20 years-long history of cooperation with ISMA in allied lines of research. Both centres have common interests in the areas of nano particle synthesis and research in fluorescent environments, photoconductivity, radiation spectroscopy and other.

The partners named the Project: Strengthening Scientific Research Collaboration Between Ukraine and the EU in the Area of Material Science. The first letters of the Project name in English resulted in an ambitious acronym SUCCESS.

The key objectives and tasks of the Project are: strengthening and development of twinning activities between two research centres of Ukraine and Europe; development of a model of ongoing and mutually beneficial cooperation in scientific area; organisation of a series of mutual visits, seminars, conferences aimed at enhancing exchange of scientific ideas; strengthening personal contacts between researchers of two countries; boosting joint project implementation; improving access of Ukrainian professionals to unique European research facilities; carrying out network and broker activities as key components of technological alliance establishment; establishing a joint virtual lab facility to enable the using of joint resources for the improving of quality of research activities.

The Project envisions a range of activities aimed at enhancing ISMA's competitiveness, strengthening its scholar connections with European researchers and raising awareness of ISMA capacities among scientific and business circles of Europe, specifically through:

- Organising a range of international events at various level in the area of material science;
- Carrying out trainings for Ukrainian scholars to study into capacities of the EU's 7th Framework Programme and stimulate participation of the former in joint projects with European partners;
- Representing ISMA in European technology platforms and professional networks;



Dr. Aleksandr Getkin, SUCCESS FP7 EU Project Coordinator, Deputy Director of the Institute of Scintillation Materials (ISMA), presenting the developments at the ISMA exhibition

- Establishing and formalising joint research groups and partnerships.

The SUCCESS's team plans that Project implementation will materially enhance business collaboration between ISMA and Europe, expand Institute's capacities in the area of development of new functional materials for the needs of automotive, telecommunications and power generation sectors, medical appliance manufacturing, "smart home" development, defence and space industries as well as increase the number of international collaboration projects under the EU's FP7 performed with participation of Ukrainian researchers.

