



Operationalization of newly-built facility for experimental animals at the University of Split

Ref. no. KK.01.1.1.02.0026

Call: Investment in the reorganization of processes and infrastructure in the field of research, development and innovation.

Applicant/Project user: University of Split

Project partner: University of Split, School of Medicine

Short description of the project: The project plans to carry out a series of infrastructure modifications, adapting and equipping the experimental animals' facilities, located in the School of Medicine building. It will be a key resource for the implementation of fundamental and applied biomedical research for its own needs, also for other University components, as well as expansion of international scientific research collaboration with public and private sectors. The project also plans to implement an organizational reform under the guidance of experts in the field, all within the University's organizational reform.

Objectives and expected results: Infrastructure planning and optimal organization of work of the animals' facility, located at the School of Medicine in Split, will enable more scientific researches of this type to the University components. It will also create Environment for the scientific work of a large number of foreign researchers within the facility, that is more intensive international scientific cooperation of the University of Split and foreign scientific research institutions. With the facility's increased capacity for research, increased reliability and repeatability of research results, enabled by infrastructure adaptation and installation of equipment, whose aim is to enable specific working conditions (primarily sterile conditions), animal breeding and experimentation, will contribute to relevance of research itself. More intensive promotion of the University's scientific-research resources (newly arranged animal facility) will achieve international recognition of the University of Split as a centre of scientific excellence. The very existence of animals' facility, done following the example of the world's best scientific centres, will in the long run lead to increased potential for innovation. Because of the increased research potential, results are expected to have a positive impact on preserving human health (prognostic, diagnostic and therapeutic components) which, in addition to social values, also bring a great economic potential through various models of commercialization and exploitation of research results.

More specifically, the objectives include:

- Performance of the necessary infrastructure modifications that will lead to the optimization of the working facilities;
- Equipping modern breeding establishment in accordance with international standards;













• Procurement of modern equipment, taking into account the utilization of equipment from previously used facilities

Expected project results: Project realization will enable research teams from the University of Split, primarily the School of Medicine, as well as other faculties and scientific institutions, both at the regional and national levels, to carry out a large number of researches, spreading to other, yet unpractised forms of research. This should also significantly increase the relevance of scientific discoveries in accordance with the world's highest standards, all within modernized research infrastructure. In the long run, this will lead to successful participation by scientists in international research activities (for ex. at the European, American or even global level) providing them with better working conditions and the possibility for cooperation and competition in international scientific community. Prerequisites for better education of students at all levels, in particular doctoral and postdoctoral studies, and the education of high-quality staff at undergraduate studies will be created, with an emphasis on medical doctors, which will indirectly strengthen professional activity, in particular quality of medical care. Ultimately, the project's impact will also be reflected on the demographic and economic levels as well as quality of life.

Total project value: 19.214.337,50 HRK (~2.5M€)

Total EU Grant: 17.996.047,92 HRK (~2.4M€)

Project Implementation Period: February 2019 - November 2020.

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