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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
Issued by: Gabriella Tchouprenska and Antoaneta Mateeva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
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Work Package Leader: NKFIH
Host organization: Genos
Country: Croatia
Organization role: beneficiary/ WP leader
Project Acronym: IMforFUTURE
Project start and end date: 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2021
Type of MSC action, H2020: ITN

Your story:
Project objectives and research field:
The aim of the IMForFUTURE project is integration of genetics, glycomics, and epigenomics datasets into systems biology by developing integrative statistical methods for high throughput omics, as well as to develop high throughput and in depth methods for measuring glycomics.

Tell us why the topic is important and/ or how it brings to advancement in your research field:
Glycomics is a promising novel omics field. Due to the structural complexity of glycans and technological limitations, the knowledge about glycans is lagging significantly behind the research in DNA and proteins. There is a need for methods for robust and sensitive high-resolution measurement of glycans and for glycomic feature recognition. Glycans are produced in complex biological pathways which are affected by both genetic polymorphisms and the environmental factors. Some of the environmental factors are perpetuated through epigenetic mechanisms, which modulate gene expression and help an individual to adapt to changing environment. The new research horizon is integration of genetics, epigenomics, metagenomics and glycomics into systems biology. This project will provide new high throughput methods for glycomics, as well as new statistical methods for integrated analysis of multiple omics datasets.

What are the benefits of participating in a MSC action?
By combining expertise of leading European researchers in genomics, epigenomics, glycomics and glycoproteomics with that in data analytics, we present the
international interdisciplinary and intersectoral consortium which provides an excellent research environment in omics research.

MSC action gives opportunity to participants to focus on research in either wet lab research or data science. Participants are also exposed to the complimentary discipline. By stimulating cross-disciplinary collaborations within the research and training programme via network meetings, joint training courses, cross-disciplinary secondments and joint organization of workshops and conferences, this project will bridge the gap between wet and dry lab.

The training programme will pay special attention to data stewardship, development of complementary skills and entrepreneurship to improve career perspective in Industry and in Academia.

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

I would recommend others to apply. My advice would be to be persistent, some of our applications got funded in 4th attempt.