

Center odličnosti  
za translacijsko  
medicino



Center of excellence  
for translational  
medicine

artemida.  
Advanced Regional Translation of  
Excellence into Medical Innovation  
for Delayed Aging

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### SUMMARY

The European Commission announced the grant agreement preparation for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the ARTEMIDA project within the Horizon 2020 WIDESPREAD-2014-1 TEAMING call. The ARTEMIDA project plans the development of a Centre of Excellence for Translational Medicine, a hub for a fully integrated research and innovation cluster for translational medicine in Central and South-East Europe, serving a population of over 100 million. Personalised treatment for aging-related neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes and cancer will be provided by developing regional capacities for identification of clinically relevant disease subtypes, predictive and prognostic biomarkers and novel molecular targets linked to oxidative stress. This research and innovation cluster will be achieved by a partnership between the leading scientific institutions Karolinska Institutet, Sweden and ELIXIR on the one hand and a consortium of foremost Slovenian biomed institutions lead by the University of Ljubljana with support from research and innovation partner institutions from 25 European states.

### VISION

The vision of the ARTEMIDA (Advanced Regional Translation of Excellence into Medical Innovation for Delayed Aging) project is to develop by 2020 a Central and South-East European (C&SE) **Centre of Excellence for Translational Medicine (CETM)**, coordinated by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, that will harness, develop, exploit and market the significant potential for research and innovation of the region. In the following years the vision of CETM is to **form a hub for the ARTEMIDA network, with CETM collaborators from about 100 biomedical and health-related research and innovation institutions from 17 states in C&SE Europe, 8 additional European states and collaborators from the USA and Japan.**

### PARTNERS

This long-term science and innovation strategy will be achieved by establishing a partnership between the leading scientific institutions of [Karolinska Institutet](#) (KI), Sweden and [ELIXIR](#) - Europe's research infrastructure for life science data - and Slovenian institutions [University of Ljubljana](#) (Faculty of Medicine as the coordinator, Faculty of Pharmacy, Biotechnical Faculty and Faculty of Arts), [National Institute of Biology](#), [National Institute of Chemistry](#), [University Medical Centre Ljubljana](#), and five SMEs from Slovenia with collaborators from the other regions of C&SE Europe on the other hand. The C&SE European CETM will upgrade, integrate, exploit and market the regions' research and innovation potential in the field of aging with special reference to neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes and cancer. Collaborators from Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, North-East Italy, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic and Turkey will participate in the CETM endeavours within the ARTEMIDA network enhancing capacities of a combined population of over 100 million.

### OBJECTIVES

Scientific evidence supports an epidemiologic association between cancer, diabetes and age-related neurodegenerative diseases and studies are slowly revealing the mechanisms involved. Therefore, the objective of the CETM is to use the Teaming seed money to **become a C&SE European hub in terms of stimulating inter- and intra-regional networking of research and innovation clusters**, thus promoting collaboration on large scale research and innovation grant applications or clinical studies in the field of translational medicine with special focus on the association among cancer, diabetes and age-related neurodegenerative diseases. The interests of collaborators from C&SE Europe are documented in the 77 letters of Support for the CETM ARTEMIDA grant.

### FURTHER STEPS

Submission of the detailed business plan for the ARTEMIDA project to the **European Commission** for the full funding approval in 2016.