



A4L_ACTIONS

Alliance for Life Sciences: From Strategies to Actions in Central and Eastern Europe

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D5.3 Summary report on national Trigger Events



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1 INTRODUCTION

The *D5.3 Summary report on national Trigger Events* is the third deliverable of the work package *WP5 Closing the Gap*.

The main objectives of *WP5 Closing the Gap* are:

- 1) to increase the impact of dedicated WIDEPREAD measures on participation in Framework Programmes;
- 2) to improve the understanding of the CEE health research institutions' needs among policy makers and funding providers;
- 3) to enable spill-overs of best practice to national research systems and communities in CEE.

Trigger Events were organized by all Alliance4Life partners: UT, MU, ICRC, BMC SAV, MUL, UZSM, VU, LIOS, UL, SU, MUS, UMFCD.

The lead beneficiary of this WP and Task 5.3 is UT.

This deliverable overview includes three chapters.

In the first two chapters an overview of all National Trigger Events carried out during the project scope divided into two subdivisions is included – First Trigger Events and Second Trigger Events, and in the last, third, chapter, we summarized the main topics and conclusions that emerged through these events.

In the lifespan of the project, **every participating institution organised two Trigger Events**.

The first Trigger Event of the participating country/institution was in most cases combined with the other bigger project (policy) event, e.g. Community meeting, Skills Academy etc. The second Trigger Event aligning with the project goals followed later on a topic and at a time freely chosen by the participating organisation.

List of Alliance4Life National Trigger Events, organized in 2021 – 2024, in chronological order (first trigger events on yellow background and second trigger events on grey background):

Date	Country	Organized by	Title
04.06.2021	Czech Republic	CEITEC MU	Knowledge transfer professionals and early stage researchers (The event took place online)
20.- 21.01.2022	Latvia	LIOS	Pitches of Alliance4Life's Members to Industry and ESRs. (The event took place online)
29.04.2022	Estonia	UT	Working together for the New ERA (Hybrid format, i.e. both on site and online)
12.09.2022	Bulgaria	MUS	Importance of Research Management for Institutional Success (The event took place on site)

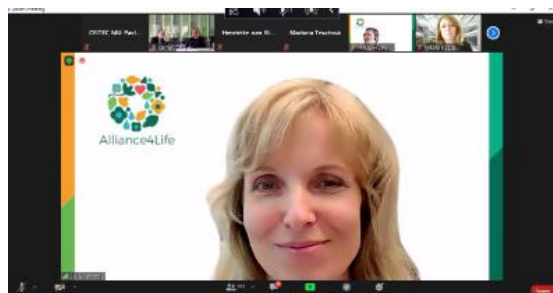
03.- 04.10.2022	Slovakia	BMC SAS	Connecting Science and Industry (The event took place on site)
21.11.2022	Hungary	SU	The importance of cooperation among higher educational institutions, industrial partners, and decision-makers (The event took place on site)
13.12.2022	Croatia	UZSM	Proposals for new European initiatives for the reform of the science evaluation system (The event took place on site)
24.01.2023	Lithuania	VU	Research assessment reform: What to expect and how will it affect us (The event took place on site)
20.- 22.04.2023	Bulgaria	MUS	MUS Green Days. This was the second Trigger Event in Bulgaria. (Hybrid format, i.e. both on site and online connection possibility through Teams)
26.04.2023	Poland	MUL	Scientific excellence and benefits of international networks and consortia. (The event took place on site)
07.06.2023	Slovenia	UL	1st Alpe-Adria conference of Medical Universities and Faculties (The event took place on site)
12.06.2023	Czech Republic	CEITEC MU, BMC SAS, ICRC	Czechoslovak conference on strategic management in science (The event took place on site)
03.10.2023	Lithuania	VU	Shaping a culture of research integrity (The event took place on site)
26.10.2023	Romania	UMFCD	Seed funds, seeds for excellence in research, high education and clinical practice (The event took place on site)
15.11.2023	Estonia	UT	The Sustainability of Science – What will net-zero research resemble? (The event took place on site)
20.11.2023 22.- 24.11.2023	Slovenia	UL	A4L 2023 Academy and UL MF Pedagogical Conference (The event took place on site)
16.01.2024	Latvia	LIOS	At the Right Place and Time: A4L Trigger Event in Latvia Sparks Discussions on Shaping Future Framework Programme (The event took place online)
19.01.2024	Croatia	UZSM	How to Become a Good Innovator in Croatia? (The event took place on site)

21.- 22.02.2024	Poland	MUL	Conference: "Science Joins Forces: Networking for Social Impact" (The event took place on site)
22.02.2024	Romania	UMFCD	RoundTable on Technology Transfer of Digital Health Solutions in Romania - the product pathway from academic research to patient life (The event took place on site)
20.03.2024	Hungary	SU	Trigger Event and the Final Meeting of the Project (The event took place on site)

2 OVERVIEW OF ALL TRIGGER EVENTS

2.1 FIRST TRIGGER EVENTS

2.1.1 CEITEC MU: KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PROFESSIONALS AND EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS



Date:	04.06.2021
Location:	Online
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Jiří Nantl, Chair of Alliance4Life, Director of CEITEC Masaryk University</p> <p>Martina Dlabajová, MEP</p> <p>Henriette van Eijl, Head of Unit, European Commission</p> <p>Pavel Tomančák, Director of CEITEC</p> <p>Zlatuše Novotná, Coordinator of Alliance4Life</p> <p>Stefan Weiers, Head of Sector, European Commission</p>
Participants:	200
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIDENING and ERA of Horizon Europe • The New European Research Area
Press releases:	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/video-and-presentations-from-the-kick-off-conference/</p> <p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/the-new-a4l-actions-project-just-started/</p>
Additional information:	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbxqImUwkWo

2.1.2 LIOS: Pitches of Alliance4Life's Members to Industry and ESRS



Date:	20.-21.01.2022
Location:	Online/LIOS
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Radan Spaventi – co-founder of Triadelta Partners</p> <p>Alison Campbell – director of Knowledge Transfer Ireland</p> <p>Giedrius Gasiunas – founder and CSO of CasZyme and one of the leading cancer specialists in Europe</p> <p>Peeter Padrik – founder and CEO of Antegenes, Head of the Oncology Clinic of the University of Tartu Hospital</p> <p>Iuliana Ceausu – Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, professor</p> <p>Srećko Gajović – University of Zagreb School of Medicine, professor</p> <p>Ester Jarour – Masaryk University, communication expert</p> <p>Jakub Zeman – Masaryk University, project manager, Grants Division Office</p> <p>Raimonda Markevicienė – Vilnius University, Head of the International Programmes and Relations Office</p>
Participants:	500
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early stage researchers and industry training (open session): Life after PhD; Pitches of the industry partners; Pitches of A4L members to industry and ESRS; Trends and Traps of conducting research • Knowledge transfer professionals training (closed group training)
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/alliance4life-trigger-event-was-a-big-hit/
Additional information:	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHbReBeQtjQ&list=PL_gNQoRYjw1Fe2Jhct0xmXYJ3Koy-7ueG&index=2</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u2wK0NMotYg&list=PL_gNQoRYjw1Fe2Jhct0xmXYJ3Koy-7ueG&index=3</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYqXtzKrq28&list=PL_gNQoRYjw1Fe2Jhct0xmXYJ3Koy-7ueG&index=4</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PmAhhv0HYd4&list=PL_gNQoRYjw1Fe2Jhct0xmXYJ3Koy-7ueG&index=5</p>

2.1.3 UT: WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE NEW AREA



Date:	29.04.2022
Location:	University of Tartu (UT) and in hybrid format
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Jiří Nantl, Chair of Alliance4Life, Director of CEITEC Masaryk University</p> <p>Julia Fernández-Rodríguez, president of the Core Technologies for Life Sciences, University of Gothenburg</p> <p>Simona Rataj, Head of University of Ljubljana Knowledge Transfer Office</p> <p>Kurt Deketelaere, Professor at KU Leuven, Secretary-General of LERU; Widening Excellence Ambassador CrowdHelix</p>
Participants:	75 on site + in hybrid format; (inc. representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, Estonian Research Council, Enterprise Estonia, other universities, and individual scientists)
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core-facilities: Prerequisite for Breakthrough in the Life Sciences • University – Business Cooperation • LERU’s Expectations for the renewed ERA policy
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/reawaking-kambavaim-the-alliance4life-members-finally-met-in-person-in-estonia/
Additional information:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/meetings-events-alliance4life-action/ (youtube videos can be found scrolling down the page)

2.1.4 MUS: IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH MANAGEMENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL SUCCESS



Date:	12.09.2022
Location:	Medical University of Sofia (MUS)
Debaters, speakers:	Latchezar Traykov , Rector of the Medical University of Sofia Jiří Nantl , Chair of Alliance4Life, Director of CEITEC Masaryk University Tsvetalina Tankova , vice-rector for international integration and project funding, MUS
Participants:	85
Topics covered:	Concept of research universities in Bulgaria; National discussions on research policy; Science Policy and Practice at Institutional Level; Developing Profesional RMAs Round table discussion with representatives of Bulgarian stakeholders in research, innovation and higher education, and members of the Alliance4Life's Board.
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/rma-academy-launched-by-alliance4life/
Additional information:	https://mu-sofia.bg/mu-sofia-domakin-na-sresta-na-12-izsledovatelski-instituta-ot-11-strani/

2.1.5 BMC SAS: Connecting Science and Industry



Date:	03.-04.10.2022
Location:	Biomedical Research Center of the Slovak Academy of Sciences
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Academic researchers participating at the mini-conference on Cancer and Metabolic Disorders, A4L_ACTION members and representatives of industry from biomedical, artificial intelligence and medchem areas, namely:</p> <p>Pavol Čekan, PhD., Founder/CEO and Evan Paul, PhD, CSO, MultiplexDX, Slovakia Róbert Dóczy, PhD., Lead Scientist, Oncompass Medicine, Hungary Dr. Benjamin Pelcman, COO, Atrogi AB, Latvia Łukasz Markiewicz, PhD., BRaIn centre, Medical University of Łódź, Poland Radan Spaventi, Partner, Triadelta Partners Ltd., Croatia Stefan Busnatu, MD., PhD., Coordinator of the Center for Innovation and e-Health, Romania Dr. Klára Horváth, NCP, Cluster I, Health, Hungary</p>
Participants:	40
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation of scientific knowledge and novel technologies into advances in diagnostics and therapy of cancer and metabolic diseases • Challenges of personalised medicine and artificial intelligence in health research • Development of next generation molecular diagnostic tests for precise identification and quantification of cancer biomarkers • Development of new treatment solutions for metabolic diseases • Opportunities for innovation and tech transfer through improving technological skills and competencies of researchers • Funding solutions for R&D projects and opportunities for building academia-industry collaborations

Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/a4l-actions-offers-space-for-connecting-science-and-industry/
Additional information:	n/a

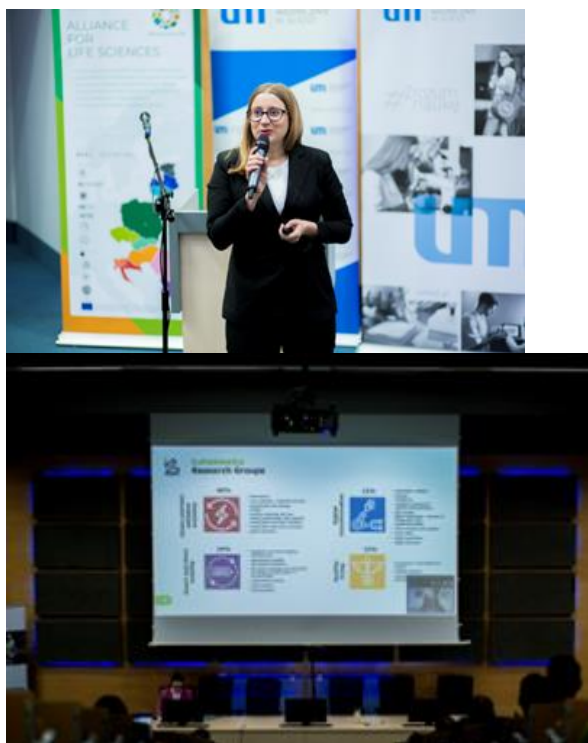
2.1.6 VU: RESEARCH ASSESSMENT REFORM: WHAT TO EXPECT AND HOW WILL IT AFFECT US



Date:	24.01.2023
Location:	University of Vilnius
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Edita Sužiedėlienė, Vice-rector and Pro-rector for Research from the Vilnius University</p> <p>Stephane Berghmans, Director of Research and Innovation of the European University Association (EUA)</p> <p>Tadas Juknevičius, Head of the Division of Science in the Lithuanian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport</p> <p>Eugenijus Stumbrys, Head of Research and Higher Education Policy Analysis Unit of the Research Council of Lithuania</p> <p>Artiom Magomedov, Lithuanian Society of Young Researchers</p>
Participants:	67
Topics covered:	<p><i>Introduction of Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) and its' implementation plan (future development of Research Assessment System)</i></p> <p>Historical overview of the research assessment in Lithuania</p> <p>Introducing next steps of Research Assessment Reform in Lithuania</p> <p>Discussion over quality versus quantity criteria of scientific research</p> <p>EUA's development and results of the survey on Open Science</p> <p>Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA)</p>

Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/life-sciences-professionals-gathered-in-vilnius/
Additional information:	n/a

2.1.7 MUL: SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE AND BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS AND CONSORTIA



Date:	26.04.2023
Location:	Medical University of Lodz
Debaters, speakers:	Dr. Henriette Van Ejil (European Commission, DG Research and Innovation) Prof. Lucyna Woźniak (Medical University of Lodz) Dr. Marcin Kraska (Łukasiewicz Research Network) Joanna Broy (EIT Health Innostars)
Participants:	69
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of widening countries in strategy plans designing for R&I. • MUL casestudy - the area of research in the university development programme and benefits from participation in international networks and consortia.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practices in development of research network - Łukasiewicz Research Network • The instruments supporting the development of innovative ecosystem in the area of health -EIT Health network.
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/umed-hosted-alliance4life-project-meeting/ UMED hosted Alliance4Life project meeting (ceitec.cz) https://umed.pl/umed-gospodarzem-spotkania-projektowej-alliance4life/
Additional information:	n/a

2.1.8 UL: 1st Alpe-Adria conference of medical universities and faculties



Date:	07.06.2023
Location:	University of Ljubljana
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Gregor Majdič, Rector, University of Ljubljana (UL) Igor Švab, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana Tomaž Marš, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana Nada Čikeš, University of Zagreb School of Medicine Sergej Pirkmajer, UL MF A4L coordinator at Faculty of Medicine UL Nicolo' De Manzini, Department of Medicine, Surgery and Health Sciences, University of Trieste Miloš Judaš, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb Goran Hauser, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka Marina Šantić, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka</p>
Participants:	15: Deans and Vice-Deans of Medical Universities/Faculties from Slovenia, Italy and Croatia, Hungary.

Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to respond to novel technologies' impacts on medical education • How to address the question of efficiently combining research, teaching and medical practice <p>The goal of the conference was to initiate annual meetings of higher educational institutions in the field of medicine in region from Alps to the Adriatic sea.</p> <p>Topics which were covered included the discussion on current situation, limitations and possibilities in institutions, good practices were shared, <i>the network was established</i> aiming to increase the collaboration and strengthen the role of institutions in medical education and research.</p>
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/a4l-national-trigger-event-in-collaboration-with-1st-alpe-adria-conference-of-medical-universities-and-faculties/
Additional information:	n/a

2.1.9 UMFCD: SEED FUNDS, SEEDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH, HIGH EDUCATION AND CLINICAL PRACTICE



Date:	26.10.2023
Location:	Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Professor Iuliana Ceausu Professor Viorel Jinga, the rector of the university Carol Davila Professor Simona Ruță, the vice-rector for scientific research Professor Diana Loreta Păun, the health advisor to the President of Romania Dr Alexandru Scafa Dr Poliana Leru</p>

	<p>Dr Stefan Busnatu Dr Sorin Păun</p>
Participants:	50
Topics covered:	<p>The Trigger Event was organized together with yearly University Congress, celebrating together the great values of cooperation within a higher education network and increase research and administrative capacity in an Eastern and Central European University environment.</p> <p>The event was opened by the project's coordinating representative from UMFCD, Professor Iuliana Ceausu, together with the rector of the university, Professor Viorel Jinga, the vice-rector for scientific research, Professor Simona Ruță, the vice-deans for scientific research of the 4 faculties of UMFCD and the health advisor to the President of Romania, Professor Diana Loreta Păun.</p> <p>As seeds for excellence in research, high education and clinical practice was the goal of the Trigger Event, the two projects won by UMFCD in partnership with other universities within the SEED FUNDS were presented by their coordinators and teams, namely:</p> <p>-Dr. Alexandru Scafa: Intelligent Monitoring of Heart Failure Improving Disease Management (My AI Heart), in partnership with University of Zagreb – Medical School si Medical University Sofia. The project goal is heart failure patients' management to achieve stability through the holistic approach, including management of comorbidities, treatment of cardiac insufficiency, lifestyle adjustment, and frequent doctor follow-ups.</p> <p>-Dr. Poliana Leru: Evaluation of respiratory allergies burden in particular urban areas and identification of best practices to improve their management and prevention (ERAllergies), in partnership with International Clinical Research Center, St. Anne's University Hospital, Medical University of Lodz, Medical University Sofia. The goal of the project is to establish the consortium with partners from four different countries and to create joint actions based on the expertise of the participants in the field of respiratory allergies and to collect relevant data from different regions in terms of disease burden, environmental exposure and health policies.</p> <p>Seminars for innovative collaborative ideas were the subject of presentations on promoting inter-university collaboration to accelerate health research and innovation in Central and Eastern Europe while preserving the professional independence of the physician and researcher (Dr. Stefan Busnatu and Dr. Sorin Păun).</p> <p>With debates around these topics the event celebrated the great values of cooperation within a higher education network and increase research and administrative capacity in an Eastern and Central European University environment.</p>

Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/personalised-medicine-thematic-mini-conference-with-matchmaking/
Additional information:	n/a

2.1.10 UZSM: HOW TO BECOME A GOOD INNOVATOR IN CROATIA?



Date:	19.01.2024
Location:	University of Zagreb School of Medicine (UZSM)
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Prof. Božo Krušlin, Vice Dean for Science, UZSM</p> <p>Prof. Slobodan Vukičević, fellow of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts</p> <p>Associate professor Darko Chudy, Clinical Hospital Dubrava</p> <p>Professor Ozren Polašek, Croatian Science Foundation</p> <p>Bruno Radojica, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Doris Jozić, Ministry of Science and Education</p> <p>David Smith, Ruđer Bošković Institute</p> <p>Vesna Gabelica-Marković, University of Zagreb</p> <p>Vlatka Petrović, University of Zagreb</p>
Participants:	46
Topics covered:	<p>Academician Slobodan Vukičević presented important data on a novel biocompatible therapeutic solution for bone regeneration and talked about the importance of intellectual property protection. Associate professor Darko Chudy, specialized in deep brain stimulation operations, which restore consciousness to patients who have experienced severe brain trauma, ischemia, cardiac arrest, presented robot RONNA, an advanced technological system for the most sensitive neurosurgical operations,</p>

	<p>which he developed with the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture.</p> <p>Research and innovation opportunities in Croatia were presented several speakers. After the presentations, a panel discussion followed in which, besides the speakers, participated David Smith (Ruđer Bošković Institute), Vesna Gabelica-Marković (University of Zagreb) and Vlatka Petrović (University of Zagreb).</p> <p>Panellists emphasized the importance of offices for technology transfer and innovations, administrative support to innovators, the need to promote research & innovation to students, and the personal drive of innovators.</p> <p>Panel discussion revealed obstacles that may be responsible for unsatisfactory results of research & innovation in Croatia judged by the European Innovation Scoreboard and by the number of patents. These included a relatively small number of scientists in Croatia, compared to more successful EU member states, such as Sweden, Germany, Slovenia, or the Czech Republic. In spite of the advances in national research funding in past years, including EU funds, the annual budget of the Croatian Science Foundation remains significantly smaller than that in successful EU states in research & innovation, such as Slovenia. The discussion revealed the need to improve research infrastructure, develop programs to stimulate the hiring of young researchers following the completion of research projects, and develop programs for hiring scientists returning from abroad.</p> <p>The influence of research & innovation in the public and private sectors on the economic growth of Croatia was also addressed.</p>
Press releases:	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/technology-transfer-workshop-early-stage-researchers-retreat-and-trigger-event-organized-at-the-university-of-zagreb-school-of-medicine/</p>
Additional information:	<p>https://mef.unizg.hr/en/nacionalna-rasprava-kako-postati-dobar-inovator-u-hrvatskoj-19-sijecnja-u-13-sati/</p>

2.1.11 SU: TRIGGER EVENT AND THE FINAL MEETING



Date:	20.03.2024
Location:	Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary
Speakers:	<p>Péter Ferdinandy, Vice-Rector for Science and Innovations, SU</p> <p>Renáta Papp, Director at Centre of Science & Innovations Vice-Rector and Business Development, SU</p> <p>Ester Jarour, Alliance4Life’s Coordinator, Head of Strategic Partnerships & International Relations, CEITEC MU</p> <p>Zoltán Benyó, President of the Doctoral Council, SU</p> <p>Gábor Varga, Deputy Director of the Translational Medicine Centre, SU</p>
Participants:	67
Topics covered:	<p>Topics of the presentations:</p> <p>Introduction of Semmelweis University</p> <p>Management of Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Support Services at Semmelweis University</p> <p>Bridging the Research and Innovation Gap in Life Sciences</p> <p>PhD Studies at the Semmelweis University</p>

	<p>Semmelweis University Centre for Translational Medicine Hybrid Program</p> <p>There were separate focus group meetings running parallel as well as the board meeting. During these meetings we reflected on our achievements, shared insights gained from our collective experiences and charted the course for future endeavours in advancing biomedical sciences and fostering research excellence in Central and Eastern Europe.</p>
Press releases:	<p>Bemutatták az Alliance4Life projekt eddigi eredményeit – Semmelweis Hírek</p> <p>Achievements of the Alliance4Life project showcased – Semmelweis University</p>
Additional information:	<p>SAVE THE DATE: Final Meeting A4L_ACTIONS, RMA Academy and Skills Academy in Budapest (ceitec.cz)</p>

2.2 SECOND TRIGGER EVENTS

2.2.1 SU: THE IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION AMONG HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS AND DECISION-MAKERS



Date:	21.11.2022
Location:	Semmelweis University
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Representatives of higher educational institutions:</p> <p>Gyula Péter Szigeti, the director of the Semmelweis University Innovation Center</p> <p>Viktória Kovács, head of the Priority Programmes Department of the National Research, Development and Innovation Office in Hungary</p> <p>Klára Horváth, National Contact Point, Health Cluster</p> <p>Business sector representatives:</p> <p>Róbert Dóczy, lead scientist, Oncompass Medicine Hungary Ltd</p> <p>Lehel Ferenczi, Director Data & Analytics, GE Healthcare</p>
Participants:	54
Topics covered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general overview and presentation of the Alliance4Life project for the participants, • international and national collaboration among universities, industry partners and decision-makers and their role in the innovation ecosystem, exchange of experiences
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/semmelweis-university-hosted-the-alliance4life-trigger-event-in-budapest/
Additional information:	Organised within the Innovation Day of the University

2.2.2 UZSM: NEW EUROPEAN INITIATIVES FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE4LIFE_ACTIONS PROJECT



Date:	13.12.2022
Location:	University of Zagreb School of Medicine
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Davor Miličić, Vice-President, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts</p> <p>Sven Seiwerth, Vice-dean for graduate studies at the UZSM</p> <p>Smiljka Vikić-Topić, Head of Knowledge Transfer and Innovations Office, UZSM</p> <p>Zlatuše Novotná, Coordinator of Alliance4Life</p> <p>Stipan Jonjić, academician, School of Medicine University of Rijeka</p> <p>Hrvoje Meštrić, Head of the Directorate for Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Education, Croatia</p> <p>Zoran Đogaš, Vice-chancellor of the University of Split</p> <p>Katarina Vukojević, Vice-dean for science from the School of Medicine, University of Split</p> <p>Marina Šantić, Vice-dean for science from the School of Medicine, University of Rijeka</p> <p>Ines Drenjančević, Vice-dean for science from the School of Medicine of the University of Osijek</p> <p>David Smith, Director of the Ruđer Bošković Institute</p> <p>Jiří Nantl, Chair of Alliance4Life, Director of CEITEC Masaryk University</p> <p>Tomaž Marš and Sergej Pirkmajer, University of Ljubljana Faculty of Medicine</p> <p>Srećko Gajović, Leader of the project BIMIS, University of Zagreb School of Medicine</p> <p>Bojan Polić, University of Rijeka Faculty of Medicine</p> <p>Nada Čikeš, University of Zagreb School of Medicine</p> <p>Fran Borovečki, University of Zagreb School of Medicine</p> <p>Filip Sedlić, University of Zagreb School of Medicine</p>

	Maja Čikeš , University of Zagreb School of Medicine Monika Ulamec , University of Zagreb School of Medicine Tea Vukušić Rukavina , University of Zagreb School of Medicine
Participants:	42
Topics covered:	The European Initiative for Reforming Research Assessment and the Role of the Alliance4Life_ACTIONS „Biomedical Research Centre Šalata – BIMIS – Platform for Implementation of the Results of Alliance4Life_ACTIONS“
Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/university-of-zagreb-school-of-medicine-hosted-the-alliance4life-trigger-event-in-zagreb/
Additional information:	n/a

2.2.3 MUS: MUS GREEN DAYS



Date:	20.-22.04.2023
Location:	Medical University of Sofia and hybrid format
Debaters, speakers:	Latchezar Traykov , Rector of the MU-Sofia Desislava Bileva , Deputy Mayor of Sofia Municipality for "Green System, Ecology and Land Use" Boris Kostadinov , Director of "Software Integration" at "Information Service" Anzhelika Velkova , Faculty of Public Health "Prof. Dr. Tsekomir Vodenicharov"

	<p>Magdalena Kasnakova, Simeon Manolov, Deputy Rector for International Integration and Project Financing, MU-Sofia</p> <p>Boyan Zhekov, chairman of the "Horizon Europe" program for Bulgaria</p> <p>Christina Eskenazi, Chair of the Management Board of the Bulgarian Health and Life Cluster</p>
Participants:	47
Topics covered:	<p>Green policies and solutions for the city of Sofia</p> <p>Health challenges of global climate change</p> <p>Approaches for green science and innovation</p> <p>The relevance of regional divides for the green transition and challenges to universities futures</p> <p>Actions of the medical universities in Bulgaria to adapt the national high education to the global climate change</p> <p>Partnership between universities, municipalities and industry for adaptation to climate change</p>
Press releases:	<p>https://mu-sofia.bg/alliance4life-green-second-trigger-event-se-provede-mu-sofia/</p> <p>https://clinica.bg/24203-Zeleni-dni-v-MU-Sofiq</p> <p>http://naukata.com/bg/1&i0=27330</p>
Additional information:	<p>This was the second Trigger Event of MUS. https://mu-sofia.bg/zeleni-dni-v-medicinski-universitet-sofia/</p> <p>https://mu-sofia.bg/en/medical-university-sofia-again-with-a-green-award-of-the-overall-rankings-2022-ui-greenmetric/</p>

2.2.4 CEITEC MU, ICRC and BMC SAS: Czech-Slovak conference on strategic management in science



Date:	12.06.2023
Location and Organizers:	<p>Location: CEITEC Brno Co-organizers: International Clinical Research Centre of St. Anne's University Hospital in Brno Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University Biomedical Centre of the Slovak Academy of Sciences</p>
Debaters, speakers:	<p>High-level conference which provided an opportunity for a meeting of leading government officials from both countries, including Prime Minister of Czech Republic Petr Fiala, and representatives of the leadership of Czech and Slovak universities and research institutes, relevant ministries, government councils for research, development and innovation and grant agencies.</p> <p>Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Jiří Nantl, Director of CEITEC MUNI Martin Bareš, Rector of Masaryk University Michaela Kršková, Director General of the Research and Innovation Authority of the Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic Silvia Pastoreková, Director of BMC SAV Irena Rektorová, Head of ICRC Zlataše Novotná, Alliance4Life's coordinator Nikola Kostlánová, Scientific Secretary, CEITEC Masaryk University etc.</p>
Participants:	80
Topics covered:	Central European Institute of Technology CEITEC Masaryk University hosted the first-ever Czechoslovak conference on strategic management in science from the national and institutional perspective. The aim of the conference was to exchange experiences in the field of strategic research

	<p>management with an emphasis on creating an environment that supports excellent science.</p> <p>The event created the debate on improving competencies in the management and administration of research institutions, and together to find solutions for the strategic management of science.</p> <p>A strategic approach to science management is extremely important as it helps to ensure that scientific research and development are focused on key areas that have the potential to bring the highest benefits to society, the economy and the environment.</p> <p>It is not only financial support from the state what is needed for strategic management. It is much more, including an overall change in the environment, rules and motivation, attitude towards foreign specialists, the functioning of the education system etc.</p> <p>The event was divided into parallel sessions on the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure sharing – principles, benefits, and sustainability 2. Research assessment reform 3. Modern and sustainable HR in science 4. Professionalization of research management at research institutions and universities
<p>Press releases:</p>	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/ceitec-muni-hosted-the-czech-slovak-conference-on-strategic-management-in-science/</p> <p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/conclusions-of-the-czech-slovak-conference/</p> <p>https://sciencebusiness.net/news/research-and-innovation-gap/calls-closer-czech-slovak-cooperation-boost-research-potential</p>
<p>Additional information:</p>	<p>This was the joint second Trigger Event of CEITEC MU, ICRC and BMC SAS.</p> <p>The conference was a follow-up to the national roundtables on science policy "How to help positive change?", which took place in Prague and Bratislava and was organised by Alliance4Life in 2019.</p> <p>This conference follows up on the third edition of the conference Institutional Management in Science, which CEITEC MUNI organised in 2018 and 2019.</p> <p>Conclusions and recommendations can be found here.</p>

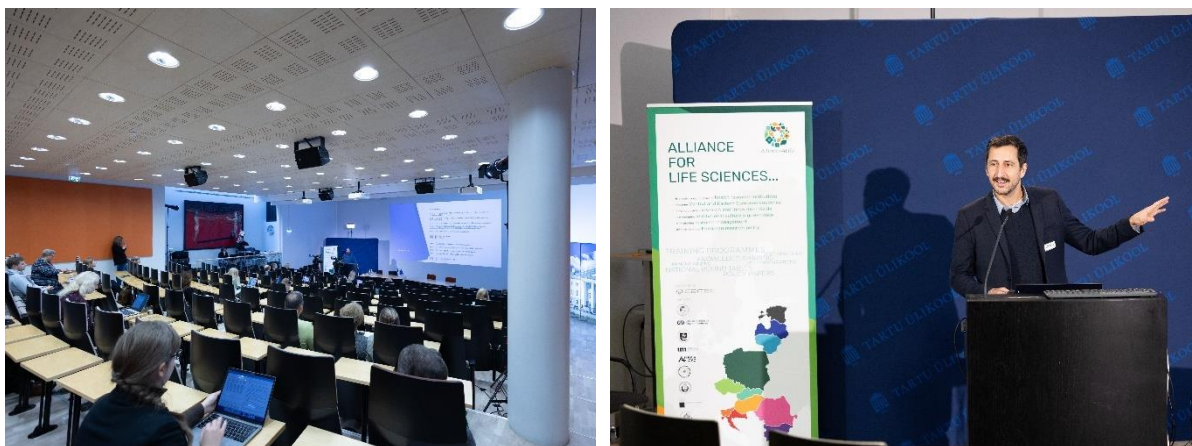
2.2.5 VU: SHAPING A CULTURE OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY



Date:	03.10.2023
Location:	University of Vilnius
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Jonathan Craig, Flinders University, College of Medicine and Public Health, Vice President and Executive Dean & Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor</p> <p>Ronny Bruffaerts, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven Brain Institute</p> <p>Eugenijus Gefenas, Faculty of Medicine, Institute of Health Sciences, Vilnius University.</p> <p>Ana Ferreras, Senior Program Officer, the US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.</p> <p>Nadja Walter, Leipzig University Faculty of Sport Science, Chair of Sport Psychology</p> <p>Alexandra Freeman, Winton Centre for Risk & Evidence Communication, University of Cambridge</p>
Participants:	71
Topics covered:	<p>Culture of Research – importance of raising Research Culture among scientist, especially in a time of Crisis (such as pandemic), importance of fair research data and return investment of Research.</p> <p>Rising problem of Mental Health among students. Students face daily stress as they meet new challenges and responsibilities that lead to exhaustion and even anxiety. Questions were raised how can research institutions help them.</p> <p>Importance of excellence in Research was discussed. Question was raised how can researchers meet all that requirements and still keep the high standards of</p>

	<p>research. Main principles of good research practice were presented along with main one – excellence.</p> <p>The participants heard a lecture of importance of Research Integrity and Academical Ethics. Prof. Gefenas presented questionnaire of Alliance4Life project: the attendees then discussed importance of raising awareness of integrity system in the institution to avoid possible misconduct scenarios. A very important topic of mediation among group leader and students was discussed. Dr. Nadja Walter explained how the system of conflict mediation between a student and a supervisor is organized and what role does it play in daily academic life. Case scenarios were presented and possible outcomes discussed, The importance of written agreements between student and his/her supervisor was underlined.</p> <p>Octopus – a platform of research publication was explained during event. As researchers have to wait for publication, their ideas might be published by someone else. Octopus is a tool to publish ones' research idea or data, thus confirming the authorship and allowing everyone to access important research results.</p> <p>During the discussion of presenters, attendees asked questions about Publish or perish and its consequences, importance of WoS and other databases, ways to mentor mental health in the institution, mediation practices and others.</p>
<p>Press releases:</p>	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/international-guest-speakers-at-the-shaping-culture-of-research-integrity-event/</p> <p>https://www.mf.vu.lt/apie-mf/naujienos/33-bendros-naujienos/3597-mokslinio-sazingumo-kulturos-formavimo-renginyje-kviestiniai-lektoriai-is-ivairiu-saliu</p>
<p>Additional information:</p>	<p>Link to photo gallery: https://www.flickr.com/photos/195008349@N03/albums/72177720311801038/with/53245411130</p>

2.2.6 UT: SUSTAINABLE SCIENCE - WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT OF CREATING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE?



Date:	15.11.2023
Location:	University of Tartu (UT)
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Martin Farley, Director of Green Lab Associates and the former Head of Sustainable Science at University College London (UCL) (key-note speaker)</p> <p>Taivo Raud, Director of the Rectorate, UT</p> <p>Tõnu Esko, Vice-Rector for Development, UT</p> <p>Margit Keller, Associate Professor in Social Communication, Head of the Centre for Sustainable Development, UT</p> <p>Toivo Maimets, Professor of Cell Biology, UT and Chair of the Government Covid Science Council of the Republic of Estonia</p> <p>Raili Marling, Head of Department, Professor of English, UT</p> <p>Krista Kupits, Ministry of Climate, Environmental Management Department</p> <p>Reet Mägi, Head, Natural History Museum and Botanical Garden, UT</p> <p>Jaan Vihalemm, Researcher, BiotaTec Ltd</p> <p>Andre Visse, Telia Estonia, CEO</p> <p>Mari-Liis Štrik-Ott, Environmental Sustainability Adviser, UT</p> <p>Jaanus Terasmaa, Professor of Ecohydrology, Tallinn University</p> <p>Keit Nestor, Head of Operations, Paikre Waste Management Company</p>
Participants:	75
Topics covered:	In recent years, Estonian universities have started to pay more attention to organizational sustainability. The whole-day event focused on the footprint of creating scientific knowledge which had not been discussed in Estonia among scientific organizations in public before. Scientists are expected to solve complex problems of climate change, but there is less talk about the environmental impact of scientific work itself, which also requires attention

	<p>and consideration as science is extremely resource intensive. The environmental impact associated with knowledge creation can manifest, for example, in the energy consumption required to operate laboratory equipment or utilize computing power. According to Toivo Maimets, a Professor of Cell Biology at the University of Tartu, both laboratory sciences and medical practices need to consider not only the energy costs but also the abundant single-use plastic waste, which is difficult to handle, and whose recycling options remain unexplored. The environmental footprint also affects social sciences, humanities, and archival work, including the preservation of national culture and its heritage. Is it possible to conduct more sustainable scientific research and to think about the scientific process more broadly, not just about creating another amount of data? — this is what the conference encouraged to think about.</p> <p>These questions concern not only scientists and research institutions but also increasingly research funders.</p> <p>Topics of the presentations:</p> <p>Martin Farley, "The Sustainability of Science - what will net-zero research resemble?"</p> <p>Raili Marling, "How to avoid academic waste in a competitive academic landscape?"</p> <p>Krista Kupits, "Principles of circular economy supporting the sustainable research"</p> <p>Jaan Vihalemm, "Bioremediation addresses the sustainability dilemma in sourcing and recycling metals needed in the electronics industry"</p> <p>Andre Visse, "IT sector footprint"</p> <p>Keit Nestor, "The environmental footprint of waste sector"</p> <p>Jaanus Terasmaa, "Can science be sustainable at all?"</p> <p>Reet Mägi, "Green Museums in the University of Tartu"</p> <p>Mari-Liis Štrik-Ott, "Environmental Overview of the University of Tartu"</p> <p>Two round table discussions with representatives from Estonian stakeholders in research, innovation, and higher education followed the conference, focusing on topics related to i) sustainable solutions in science outreach, and ii) the implementation of circular economy practices within the institution.</p>
<p>Press releases:</p>	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/alliance4life-hosted-the-first-conference-on-sustainable-science-in-estonia/</p> <p>https://tymri.ut.ee/en/content/alliance4life-hosted-first-conference-sustainable-science-estonia (inc. total media coverage and photo gallery)</p> <p>https://ut.ee/en/content/martin-farley-common-standards-are-needed-reduce-environmental-impact-laboratory-research</p> <p>https://novaator.err.ee/1609167352/eesti-teadlased-alles-hakkavad-oma-keskkonnajalajale-motlema</p>

	<p>https://www.ajakiri.ut.ee/artikkel/4616 (Good science can be done without harming the planet)</p> <p>https://ut.ee/et/sisu/head-teadust-saab-teha-planeeti-kahjustamata</p> <p>The event and topic reached a high level of national media coverage: several newspaper articles in different newspapers, radio coverage, coverage in UT magazine (<i>Universitas Tartuensis</i>).</p>
Additional information:	<p>The Trigger Event was hosted by the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, UT together with the Centre of Sustainable Development, UT. The participants represented ministries of Estonia, Estonian Research Council, Enterprise Estonia, stakeholders from different organisations and enterprises involved in sustainable development, Estonian Packaging Recycling Association, representatives of bigger medical hospitals in Estonia, also all bigger universities in Estonia sent their delegates as the topic is interdisciplinary by nature and common to everybody – universities, university laboratories, clinics and it's laboratories etc.</p> <p>The language of the event was Estonian except the key-note presentation. The programme (in Estonian): https://ut.ee/et/sisu/jarelvaadatav-konverents-kestlik-teadus-milline-teadmiste-loomise-keskkonnajalg</p> <p>The recording of the key-note speaker (in English), Martin Farley, "The Sustainability of Science - what will net-zero research resemble?": https://www.utv.ee/naita?id=35000 (University of Tartu Television)</p>

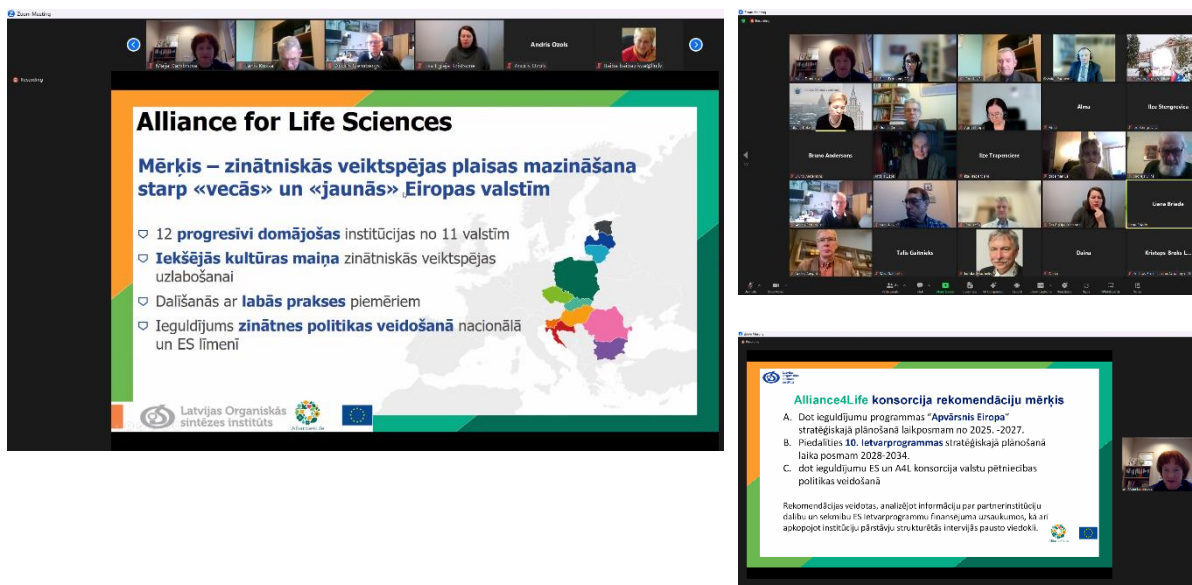
2.2.7 UL: A4L 2023 ACADEMY and UL MF PEDAGOGICAL CONFERENCE



Date:	20.11. and 22.11.-24.11.2023
Location:	University of Ljubljana (UL)
Debaters, speakers:	Prof. Dr. Marko Robnik Šikonja , Faculty of Computer Science and Informatics of UL Dr Marko Grobelnik , Jožef Štefan Institute Associate Prof. Dr Maja Rus Makovec , UL
Participants:	20.11.2023 – 51 22.11.2023 – 22 23.11.2023 – 10 24.11.2023 – 10
Topics covered:	The series of lectures was opened on 20.11.2023 by Prof. Dr. Marko Robnik Šikonja from the Faculty of Computer Science and Informatics of UL, who revealed the biases, obstacles and opportunities hidden in machine learning and the ethical dilemmas that arise from it. Topics of the presentations (Nov 20, 22): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI Machine learning • ChatGPT and the use of AI tools to increase our work efficiency in research

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ChatGPT in educational content helping us to summarise large amounts of text and to prepare for exams. <p>Workshop on stress management tools (Nov 23-24): The ability to self-reflect; regulate our inner state and improve relationships, what impact habits and empathy have on us, and how to build psychological resilience.</p> <p>The conference, attended by students and researchers in medicine, featured lectures by Prof. Dr. Marko Robnik Šikonja on the ethical aspects of machine learning and research methodologies. Dr. Marko Grobelnik explored the applications of AI tools, including ChatGPT, for enhancing efficiency in research, academia, and artistic endeavors, with a touch of humor. The event concluded with a stress management workshop led by Associate Prof. Dr. Maja Rus Makovec, providing insights into self-reflection, habits, empathy, and psychological resilience to benefit the inner well-being of the medical community attendees.</p>
Press releases:	n/a
Additional information:	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/a4l-2023-academy-and-ul-mf-pedagogical-conference/</p> <p>https://www.mf.uni-lj.si/en_GB/news/a4l-2023-academy-and-ul-mf-pedagogical-conference</p>

2.2.8 LIOS: DISCUSSIONS ON SHAPING FUTURE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME



Date:	16.01.2024
Location:	Online/LIOS
Debaters, speakers:	<p>Prof. Tatjana Koķe, Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS) Jānis Paiders, Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) Aleksandrs Mārtiņš Blūms, MoES Science Sector Adviser in Brussels Agrita Kiopa, Vice-Rector for Science of RSU Prof. Jānis Ločs, the coordinator of the "Horizon 2020" Teaming program project BBCE Osvalds Pugovičs, Deputy Director of LIOS Prof. Maija Dambrova (LIOS), a full member of the LAS Prof. Andris Šternbergs, a full member of the LAS</p>
Participants:	37
Topics covered:	<p>The attendees included members of the LAS Senate, Deputy State Secretary for Higher Education, Science, Space, and Innovation at the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), representatives of LIOS.</p> <p>Topics covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of A4L's contribution to science policy and institutional governance improvement; • A4L's policy paper on the efficiency of WIDESPREAD measures and recommendations; • The need for national research and innovation reforms, researcher career models, internationally open working environments, targeted

	<p>infrastructure investments, support for outstanding research, and the promotion of existing Centres of Excellence</p> <p>In conclusion, the participants recognized A4L's recommendations for mobilizing the Latvian scientific community to actively participate in shaping the new Framework Program. The Ministry of Education and Science will soon organize a working group for the formulation of Latvia's opinion on the 10th Framework Program.</p>
<p>Press releases:</p>	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/at-the-right-place-and-time-a4l-trigger-event-in-latvia-sparks-discussions-on-shaping-future-framework-programme/</p> <p>Latvian Academy of Sciences: (https://www.lza.lv/aktualitates/jaunumi/1788-atvijas-zinatnieki-sak-vidoklu-apmainu-par-nostaju-jaunas-eiropas-petniecibas-un-attistibas-programmas-izveide), LIOS: (https://www.osi.lv/istaja-vieta-un-laika-latvijas-zinatnieki-aizsak-vidoklu-apmainu-par-nostaju-jaunas-eiropas-petniecibas-un-attistibas-programmas-izveide/)</p>
<p>Additional information:</p>	<p>YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pi-TRKOVDM</p> <p>Latvian Academy of Sciences disseminated the event via their YouTube channel.</p>

2.2.9 MUL: CONFERENCE "Science Joins Forces: Networking for Social Impact"



<p>Date:</p>	<p>21.-22.02.2024</p>
<p>Location:</p>	<p>Medical University of Lodz</p>
<p>Debaters, speakers:</p>	<p>Prof. Agnieszka Kurczewska (University of Lodz) Prof. Lucyna Woźniak (Medical University of Lodz) Błażej Moder (director of EC-1 Łódź City of Culture)</p>

	<p>Assoc. Prof. Karolina Rudnicka (ambassador of the Science Hub project, University of Lodz)</p> <p>Agata Dęga-Nowak, Anna Zdziechowska (Ichem Sp. z o. o. Research and Production Center of the Lodz University of Technology)</p> <p>Dr. Magdalena Kosiada-Sylburska (head of the EC1 Science and Technology Center)</p> <p>Monika Czerska (journalist)</p> <p>In addition:</p> <p>Among the speakers and panelists were representatives of Lodz universities, the National Science Center, and popularizers of science, also experts from the Academic Career Office and Information Library Center.</p>
Participants:	120+
Topics covered:	<p>A trigger event held in Lodz, Poland, brought together researchers and stakeholders from across the region to explore the power of collaboration in driving the social impact of science. The event focused on fostering connections and sharing ideas for effective collaboration across local, national, and international networks to enhance the social impact of science.</p> <p><u>Topics covered:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Institutional Cooperation • Academic Networking • Communication with the Public • Science for Society • Science Communication Skills <p><u>Participants represented:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • researchers; • university employees; • representatives from cultural institutions; • representatives from NGOs <p>The second day of the conference provided practical workshops. Participants honed their media relations and communication skills with journalist Monika Czerska. Experts from the Academic Career Office and Information Library Center offered guidance on building visibility and influence for the university units. A unique "escape room" experience tackled research data management in an engaging format.</p> <p>The conference aligned with the A4L_ACTIONS project's focus on science communication, aiming to enhance participants' visibility, networking skills, and participation in international collaborations. This event was a valuable stepping stone towards a future where science effectively bridges the gap between research and societal needs.</p>

Press releases:	https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/lodz-a4l-trigger-event-joined-forces-on-improving-the-social-impact-of-science/
Additional information:	n/a

2.2.10 UMFCD: ROUNDTABLE ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OF DIGITAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS IN ROMANIA



Date:	22.02.2024
Location:	Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMFCD)
Debaters, speakers:	Prof Dr Viorel Jinga , Rector of UMFCD Prof Dr Simona Ruta , the Vice-Rector of Research Prof Dr Iuliana Ceausu , the coordinator of the Alliance for Life Actions project from UMFCD Stefan Busnatu , Director of the Innovation and eHealth Center
Participants:	51

Topics covered:	<p>Roundtable on Technology Transfer of Digital Health Solutions in Romania - the product pathway from academic research to patient life.</p> <p>The aim of the event was to discuss and plan how digital health solutions identified within academic research can be effectively transferred into the lives of patients in Romania.</p> <p><u>Participating guest institutions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governemnt of Romania, National Cyber Security Directorate – DNSC; • Academia: Polytechnic University – UPB and Academy of Economic Studies – ASE; • Private sector: Local American Working Group - LAWG, WING Group <p><u>Areas of presentations and discussions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Future of Pharmacy Practice: Telepharmacy and Digital Health; • Panel discussion – “Policies and regulations in technological transfer: their role in facilitating the pathway from academic research to implementation”; • “Case Studies and Success Stories”; • “Cyber Security – important aspects for Health System” <p>The main conclusion was that the new Technology Transfer (TT) Centre will encourage innovation and technology transfer through the development of advanced medical solutions and technologies. This may include the design and testing of innovative medical devices, the development of algorithms and software for medical diagnostics and monitoring, or the implementation of digital solutions for efficient health and patient care management.</p> <p>UMFCD is committed to promote interdisciplinary collaboration between engineers, physicians, researchers and other healthcare professionals to address complex challenges in medical engineering and digital health.</p> <p>By bringing together experts from diverse fields, the TT Centre will facilitate the exchange of ideas and expertise, leading to innovation and better solutions for patient care.</p>
Press releases:	<p>https://alliance4life.ceitec.cz/news/roundtable-on-technology-transfer-of-digital-health-solutions-in-romania-a-product-pathway-from-academic-research-to-patient-life/</p>
Additional information:	n/a

3 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Alliance4Life National Trigger Events gathered **across eleven-member countries** over 1800 representatives from various sectors including Ministries, Research Councils, Universities, the European Commission, and industry. The flexibility of hybrid and online formats, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, facilitated this large participation.

Each participating institution **hosted two Trigger Events** focusing on topics pertinent to their country/organization and aligned with project objectives. Some events were collaboratively organized by multiple institutions, resulting in a total of **21 national events**. Despite having fewer events than participating institutions (12), joint efforts broadened the scope and thematic scale.

The **average participation per event was 86, with a total of 1808 attendees** across the initial 21 events. These events served as effective platforms to raise awareness about Alliance4Life's mission and achievements, influencing national research policies and stakeholders. Carefully curated topics ensured high-level engagement, with discussions ranging from university-industry relations to research assessment reforms.

Various countries addressed pertinent issues such as negotiation techniques with businesses, technological marketing, and cooperation among educational institutions, industrial partners, and decision-makers. Slovenia, Medical University of Ljubljana, hosted the first Alpe-Adria conference on Medical Universities in the region, focusing on novel technologies in medical education and fostering collaboration among institutions.

The Czech Republic and Slovakia (CEITEC MU and BMC SAS, together with St Anne's Hospital in Brno) jointly organized a conference in Brno on strategic management in science, emphasizing collaboration and performance improvement. Climate change together with covid-pandemic, war in Europe and energy crises, influenced organizational behavior, prompting discussions on green science and sustainability, exemplified by events like "MUS Goes Green" by Medical University Sofia (Bulgaria) and "The Sustainability of Science – What is the Environmental Footprint of Creating Scientific Knowledge?" by the University of Tartu (Estonia).

In total, **nearly 200 speakers and numerous debaters** contributed to discussions on health research and innovation, sharing best practices developed by Alliance4Life partners. Conclusions and recommendations from these events were disseminated widely through various channels, including press releases, websites, and social media, ensuring their impact reached stakeholders and institutions involved.

