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An Integrated System for the Complex Environmental Research and Monitoring in the Danube River Area, REXDAN



An Integrated System for the Complex Environmental Research and Monitoring in the Danube River Area, REXDAN

Contract no. 309/ 10.07.2020, SMIS Code 2014+: 127065

Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Competitiveness Operational Programme 2014-2020 (COP)

Priority axis: 1. Research, technological development and innovation (RTDI) to support economic competitiveness and business development;

Investment priority: IP 1a: Strengthening research and innovation (R&I) and infrastructure and building capabilities in order to develop R&I excellence, as well as promoting centers of expertise, especially those of European interest;

Specific objective: SO1.1. Increasing scientific capacity in the fields of smart specialization and health;

Action: 1.1.1 Large R&I infrastructures;

Area of intervention - 058 : Research and innovation infrastructures (public)

Project implementation period: 10. 07. 2020 - 31. 12. 2023

Beneficiary: "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati,

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REXDAN ANNIVERSARY: 2 YEARS OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

On July 10, 2022, 2 years of project implementation were celebrated for by a special workshop organized at the Conference Center of *Ibis Style Dunărea* Hotel and in the *REXDAN* Research Infrastructure (RI) headquarters.

The activities designed to promote the project, the *REXDAN* RI and the results of the research carried out in this infrastructure were complemented by those included in the Workshop "*Modern Approaches to Feedback between Environmental Processes and Climate Change*", a workshop organized between July 6-9, 2022 which offered the opportunity to a series of specialists from Romania to discuss on relevant topics related to the smart specialization field *Environment and eco-technologies*, the subfield *Technologies for environmental management, monitoring and depollution* grouped into 2 sections: 1. *Modern methods of analysis for water, soils, sediments, ecology* and 2. *Air, atmosphere, climate. Remote sensing, GIS, topography*.

Perceived as an interactive interdisciplinary event which brought together Romanian specialists from complementary fields such as soil and water pollution, environmental chemistry, atmospheric sciences, ecology, climatology, urban environment, this workshop proved to be very useful for understanding the feedback between environmental processes and climate changes, as well as relevant for the alignment of research in Romania to that at the European level.



The plenary speeches and oral presentations, with an interdisciplinary character revolved around key topics subsumed to the field of smart specialization *Environment and eco-technologies*, the subfield *Technologies for environmental management, monitoring and depollution*, had a highly academic approach and were based on specific theoretical and applied research. The participation of young researchers at this event was remarkable, as they demonstrated a good ability to adapt to the demands of the academic environment and to the needs of our contemporary society.

Similarly to the other events organized in the framework of *REXDAN* project, the workshop represented a very good opportunity to promote *REXDAN* RI and to identify possible collaborations between the *REXDAN* team (DJUG) and the research teams of some prominent universities and research institutes in the country .

Taking into account the success of this anniversary event, a similar activity, but with the participation of international researchers, is scheduled to take place in July 2023, when 3 years of project implementation are celebrated at "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati.

REXDAN RI PRESENTED AT THE HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE HORIZON EUROPE

High level Conference on Horizon Europe

On 19 September 2022 "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galati, together with the European Commission and the European Parliament, organized the Conference "*HORIZON EUROPE - Funding Opportunities for Romanian Researchers and Enterprises*" an event which proved highly relevant for identifying project opportunities and for establishing valuable research partnerships.

Designed to facilitate collaboration and to strengthen the impact of research and innovation on the development, support, and implementation of EU policies, whilst considering global challenges, *HORIZON EUROPE* Conference benefited from the presence of the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya Gabriel and of the Horizon Europe Rapporteur, Dan Nica, Member of the European Parliament. The list of participants to this event was completed by representatives of the Directorate General for Research and Innovation, of the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFSCDI), of the Ministries of Education, of Research, Innovation and Digitization and of Economy, and by key representatives of universities and research institutes from Romania and of national and regional entrepreneurs.

For the management and research teams of *REXDAN* Research Infrastructure, *HORIZON EUROPE* Conference represented a great opportunity to explore efficient ways of accessing European funds and grants in research projects together with the representatives of the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Research and Innovation DG and of the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFSCDI), as well as to promote *REXDAN* RI among European and Romanian specialists.

REXDAN RESERACH VESSEL LAUNCHED FOR FLOATING TESTS

Scheduled to be completed in March 2023, *REXDAN* research vessel was launched for the first floating tests at ATG Shipyard, Giurgiu, on 20 October 2022.

The ceremony took place in the presence of the management and implementation teams of the project *"An Integrated System for the Complex Research and Monitoring of the Environment in the Danube River Area, REXDAN"*, SMIS code 127065, project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Competitiveness Operational Programme 2014-2020 (COP) and implemented by "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati in the period 10 July 2022 – 31 December 2023.

REXDAN research vessel, as an integrative part of *REXDAN* Research Infrastrucure alongside *REXDAN* Research Center, will support a series of complex interdisciplinary research activities in the field of smart specialisation *Environment and eco-technologies*, the subfield *Technologies for environmental management, monitoring and depollution*, in a large geographic area situated along the navigable sector and in the basin of River Danube.



INSIGHTS INTO THE FACILITIES OF *REXDAN* RESEARCH VESSEL

- ◆ mobile laboratories for environmental research along River Danube, in the Danube basin and in the Danube Delta;
 - ◆ permanent accommodation for max. 10 researchers;
 - ◆ accommodation for min. 5 crew members (to be updated according to specific regulations);
 - ◆ short-term trips for min. 30 passengers
 - ◆ facilities for hosting 1 day conferences;
 - ◆ facilities for disabled people.



REXDAN RESEARCH CENTER: AN INTEGRATIVE PART OF DUNAREA DE JOS UNIVERSITY OF GALATI RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRUCTURES

The *REXDAN* Research Center (RC) hosted, on October 18, 2022, a special workshop organized in the framework of the project "Excellence and Involvement in the Smart Development Based on Research and Innovation at *Dunarea de Jos* University of Galati - DYNAMIC", 12PFE/30.12.2021.

The workshop was aimed at presenting, on the one hand, the applied research activities carried out at *Dunarea de Jos* University of Galați (DJUG) and, on the other, the research and innovation capabilities of DJUG as illustrated by the newest high-tech equipments available in the *REXDAN* RC.

The event completes the series of activities meant to promote the *REXDAN* Research Infrastructure to local and regional institutions interested in the services provided by the specialists working in this infrastructure and to potential research partners and collaborators.



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"Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați

November 2022

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the European Union or of the Government of Romania.

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