

Project announcement

„NRRP: Funding for a modern and reformed Romania!”

As the project beneficiary, the “**Petru Poni**” Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry (ICMPP) in Iași implemented the project “**Intelligent Systems for Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment (IntelDots)**”, under contract no. 760081/23.05.2023, CF 291/30.11.2022. The project was funded through Romania’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Component C9 – Support for the private sector, research, development, and innovation, under Investment I8 – *Development of a program to attract highly specialised human resources from abroad in research, development and innovation activities*. Financing was provided by the European Union through the NextGenerationEU initiative.

The **IntelDots** project focused on developing intelligent systems based on carbon dots for cancer diagnosis and treatment. Under the scientific coordination of Dr. Maria Concepcion Ovin Ania, a new research area was developed within the Center of Advanced Research in Bionanoconjugates and Biopolymers (IntelCentru), an ICMPP department, dedicated to magneto-fluorescent carbon dot-based systems capable of acting both as fluorescent markers and drug carriers. The implementation of the project activities, integrating complementary interdisciplinary competencies, enabled a rigorous and comprehensive approach to its scientific objectives, leading to the full achievement of all proposed indicators and objectives.

IntelDots pursued several **key goals**:

- **Building strong RDI capabilities** by forming a new research group under elite supervision.
- **Training a new generation of researchers** through interdisciplinary collaboration.
- **Boosting international visibility** via high-impact publications and participation in EU-funded research.

The **project’s implementation period** was 36 months (**01.07.2023 – 30.06.2026**).

The **total eligible value** of the funding contract, **provided through the NRRP**, was **7.000.000,00 RON** (excluding VAT), with an additional VAT amount of **484.978,39 RON**.

Upon project completion in June 2026, all proposed performance indicators were achieved or exceeded. In terms of scientific output, **13** articles were published in Q1-ranked journals and the team was represented at **34** scientific events. Regarding intellectual property and competitive funding, **1** patent application was filed, **3** Horizon Europe project proposals reached the funding threshold, and **2** national RDI proposals were submitted. Public communication efforts yielded **6** press releases. Human resources development targets were also fully achieved. The mandatory requirement of **2** full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for post-doctoral researchers and **2** FTE positions for doctoral students was met, with all researchers trained under the high-level international supervision.

As an impact indicator, during the project implementation period, ICMPP adhered to the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter/declaration-endorsement#show_Romania).

Also, ICMPP received the "HR Excellence in Research" award (HRS4R) from Euraxess (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/hrexcellenceaward/awarded>, https://icmpp.ro/hrs4r_otmr-strategy.php).

The IntelDots project website (<https://icmpp.ro/inteldots>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/61556194798116>) were created and have been continuously updated throughout the project's implementation period.

By harmonizing infrastructure and leveraging collaborative expertise, more medium and long-term results will be obtained after project implementation.

Contact

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„NRRP. Funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU“

Website - <https://mfe.gov.ro/pnrr/>

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