



IIMCB – Centre of Excellence in RNA and Cell Biology

Iwona Pilecka*, Dorota Wasiak-Libiszowska*, Marcin Ogonowski, Alexia Danyłow and the RACE Team

International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw, Poland

www.iimcb.gov.pl/en/

*equal contributors, co-presenters:

ipilecka@iimcb.gov.pl

dlibiszowska@iimcb.gov.pl

INTRODUCTION

Worldwide, scientific discoveries contribute to remarkable advancements in medical and commercial applications, whereas in Poland development of innovations is still insufficient. The International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw (IIMCB) aims to close this gap by building a world-class Centre of Excellence in RNA and Cell Biology with translational research to effectively advance discoveries toward practical applications. To achieve this, IIMCB teamed up with two outstanding European centres with complementary expertise: the Medical Research Council, Human Genetics Unit of the University of Edinburgh (UEDIN) and Flanders Institute of Biotechnology (VIB).

IIMCB

The International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw is one of the most modern research institutes in Poland. It is the only Polish research institute created under auspices of the UNESCO, securing the Institute independence. Since its foundation in 1998, the IIMCB has built strong research expertise in RNA and cell biology, taking approaches at the levels of molecules, organelles, cells, and organisms.



ADVANCED PARTNERS



The Medical Research Council Human Genetics Unit - University of Edinburgh - combines scientific and clinical expertise to study human genetic disease and normal development. It will help IIMCB to broaden its scientific scope by training its researchers. It will also engage in enhancing IIMCB methodological capabilities through the development of modern core facilities and upgrading IIMCB science management.



The Flanders Institute of Biotechnology is a Belgian entrepreneurial research institute that is a European leader in translational research. VIB will support IIMCB in creating a Technology Transfer unit and training research staff. It will also help IIMCB in developing modern core facilities and science management and administration. The partnership between IIMCB and VIB is boosted by the supportive culture of excellence within the EU-LIFE alliance.

OBJECTIVE

Elevate IIMCB to a world-class **Centre of Excellence in RNA and Cell Biology** translating cutting-edge fundamental research into clinical applications and innovations with expertise, training, and mentoring support provided by Advanced Partners, UEDIN and VIB



NEW BUILDING



New IIMCB headquarters will have functional and elegant design with pro-environmental solutions:

- nearly 14,000 m² of usable space
- four above-ground floors
- internal underground parking
- rational and flexible layout
- 2 conference rooms, exhibition room, library & buffet



- green patio and rain garden
- photovoltaic panels
- heat pumps
- ventilation and lighting control systems
- flower meadow, apiary and birdhouses on the roof

@ architectural design by Atelier Tektura

FUNDING

The IIMCB's Centre of Excellence will be implemented under the project RNA and Cell Biology - from Fundamental Research to Therapies (RACE), GA no 10105981, Horizon Europe Teaming for Excellence programme. RACE was ranked first on the funding list with a score of 14.5/15 and was awarded 15 million euro for years 2023-2029.



Funded by
the European Union



IMPACT

Scientific

- Improved R&I performance indicators for Poland
- Enhanced competence of research staff in science and science-related jobs in Poland
- Increased participation of Poland in HE projects

Economic

- New technologies developed in Poland
- New start-ups and jobs created

Societal

- Reversal of brain drain – Poland attractive for returning expats and foreign scientists
- Discoveries leading to therapies of human diseases