Sustainable and Scalable Biocatalytic Cascade Reactions Training Network

**PROJECT DETAILS**

- **Funding Programme:** Horizon 2020
- **Sub-Programme:** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks
- **Funding Scheme:** European Industrial Doctorates
- **Project Reference:** 634200; UE-15-BIOCASCADES-634200
- **Project Duration:** 48 months (From 2015-01-01 to 2018-12-31)
- **Total Project Value:** € 2,787,956.64
- **EU Grant-Aid:** € 2,787,956.64
- **Funding to UniOvi:** € 123,936.48

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

In BIOCASCADES, nine early-stage researchers (ESRs) will investigate the development of sustainable (chemo)enzymatic cascade reactions under the ‘green chemistry’ philosophy. The proposed BIOCASCADES project combines different techniques such as compartmentalization, protein engineering and reaction engineering in order to develop commercially viable and environmentally benign one pot reactions. By avoiding intermediate downstream and purification-steps, cascade reactions minimize production costs, energy demand and waste production and are thus expected to make a major contribution for the development of sustainable and efficient production processes.

Small- and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are emerging as main drivers of European Research. They are dynamic, explore new areas and create new ideas, while large companies rely more and more on outsourcing research or involving SMEs by joint ventures. However, small companies are not strong enough as stand-alone enterprises, which requires them to form networks with other SMEs and academia. This creates a strong demand for young researchers who can move freely in an international and interdisciplinary environment. In a tailor-made training program BIOCASCADES aims to provide the nine early stage researchers with specific scientific and transferable skills for careers in the highly dynamic European biotechnology sector. Training at leading laboratories of biocatalysis will develop their scientific skills, while secondments to the industry and specific workshops will develop their entrepreneurship. The graduates of this doctorate program will be highly qualified for collaborative research between European academia and industry.

The consortium is formed by leading academic laboratories from biocatalysis and protein engineering together with a network of four innovative biotech companies. By combining their versatile expertise, the consortium can achieve a success that would not be possible in isolated projects.
UNIOVI TEAM
Francisca Rebolledo Vicente, frv@uniovi.es
Department of Organic and Inorganic Chemistry

PROJECT PARTNERS

Project Coordinator
Ruhr-Universitat Bochum, Germany.

Sweden
Saromics Biostructures AB
Kungliga Tekniska Hoegskolan

Spain
Entrechem S.L.
Universidad de Oviedo.

Germany
Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Grefiswald
Enzymicals AG
Universität Bielefeld
Technische Universität Braunchweig

Netherlands
DSM Chemical Technology R & D BV
Viazym BV

Austria
Technische Universitaet Graz