1st edition



# IFIGENEIA'S NEWSLETTER

## 1. Welcome Message & Project Overview

Dear colleagues, partners, and friends of the IFIGENEIA community!

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I welcome you to the first edition of the IFIGENEIA Project newsletter.

Launched under the Horizon Europe WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-07 programme, IFIGENEIA unites a dynamic and multidisciplinary network of academic institutions, research infrastructures, healthcare providers, private high-tech companies and policy stakeholders from across Europe. Together, we are working toward a shared and ambitious goal: to establish a state-of-the-art linear accelerator (LINAC) facility in the Balkan region—a transformative step forward in the production of medical radioisotopes and the advancement of nuclear medicine.

This first edition marks the beginning of an exciting journey. We are proud to introduce the foundations of our initiative, including the Excellence Hubs in Greece, Cyprus, and Slovenia, which will serve as regional nuclei of expertise and innovation. From the initial design and feasibility studies of the LINAC facility to strategic efforts in sustainable investment planning, workforce development, and international collaboration, IFIGENEIA is setting the stage for a new era of accessible, safe, and sustainable medical isotopes in Europe.

As we address long-standing gaps in the European radioisotope supply chain and support the growth of scientific and medical communities in underrepresented regions, we are driven by a strong commitment to excellence, inclusion, and societal benefit.

We hope this newsletter will become a vibrant platform for sharing progress, exchanging knowledge, and building lasting connections. Your engagement is vital to our mission, and we look forward to growing this journey with your support.

On behalf of the entire coordination team, I thank you for your trust and interest, and I warmly invite you to stay connected, stay inspired, and help us shape the future of nuclear medicine in Europe.

With kind regards,

Prof. Dimos Sampsonidis
Project Coordinator

#### **Project overview**

Programme: Horizon Europe – WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-07
 Action Type: CSA – Coordination and Support Action
 Duration: March 2025 – February 2029 (48 months)

) Total Budget: €6,000,000

Coordinator: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), Greece

#### Mission

Advance LINAC technology to enable safer, more reliable, and cost-effective radioisotope production.

Catalyse scientific excellence and healthcare innovation through cross-border collaboration across Europe and the Balkans.

Empower regional capacity to meet growing demands for radiopharmaceuticals and improve patient care.

#### **Our Goals**

Implement Linear Accelerator (LINAC) technology in Europe to improve healthcare by:

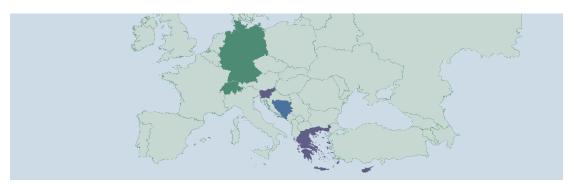
) Designing sustainable facilities for radionuclide therapy, diagnostics, and theranostics.

Establishing Centres of Excellence in Greece, Slovenia, and Cyprus to operate LINAC facilities that produce a wide range of medical radioisotopes.

Strengthening collaboration between science, industry, and healthcare.

#### **Key activities**

- > Technical design and safety studies for a unique LINAC facility targeting to societal and medical applications in Europe.
- Design and develop laboratory infrastructure fully compatible with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) for production of a wide range of mainstream and emerging radiopharmaceuticals.
- Tailor training programs, exploiting innovative virtual training tools, and support researcher exchanges to build technical capacity across Europe, via inclusive participation, mentoring and regional collaboration.
- ) Create an investment strategy and plan towards the sustainable future of the LINAC Excellence Hubs.
- Communicate project outcomes and share knowledge widely through targeted dissemination efforts.
- Define and prioritize a LINAC-based portfolio of diagnostic, therapeutic, and theranostic radionuclides to meet the current and future needs of the Balkan region.



22 partners from 6 countries

Graphic 1: IFIGENEIA's Geographical Focus.

## 2. Spotlight on Current project activities

### Unveiling IFIGENEIA's Visual Identity

Lead: Jožef Stefan Institute | Objective: to ensure easier identification and project's visibility.

A design that speaks the language of science, health, and innovation

We are excited to introduce the visual identity of the IFIGENEIA project – a distinctive and forward-looking design system developed in May 2025 by the Jožef Stefan Institute. It features a captivating project logo, unified graphic elements, and a clear visual language that boosts recognition and ensures strong visibility across all channels.

At the heart of the visual identity lies the newly adopted project motto: "Scientific knowledge for the health of tomorrow."

This powerful message has been integrated into one of the logo variations, reinforcing the project's vision in every appearance.

Designing a logo for a project as complex and multidisciplinary as IFIGENEIA was no small task. The chosen concept is inspired by the path of an atom, rendered in an abstract style that reflects the project's dynamic, innovative, and interconnected nature. The logo invites interpretation and imagination – symbolizing advanced technologies in nuclear medicine and theranostics, regional cooperation, and the transfer of knowledge across borders.

The abstraction ensures international recognizability and adaptability, resonating across diverse cultural and institutional landscapes, from

Greece and Slovenia to Cyprus and the wider Balkan region.

Typography also plays a key role. The Dubai typeface was selected for the logo for its modern, geometric clarity – conveying both professionalism and accessibility. For headings and body text, we use the Roboto family – a clean, legible, and contemporary font system that ensures clarity and coherence across digital and print formats.

With this new visual identity, IFIGENEIA is ready to make a bold and unified impression – as a project that connects science and society for a healthier, more sustainable future.



Graphic 2: Developed Visual Identity.

### Launch of the project website

Lead: Jožef Stefan Institute | Objective: To support visibility, communication, and knowledge sharing.

We are excited to announce the launch of the official website for the IFIGENEIA project, which was initiated in June 2025.

The website offers a comprehensive overview of the project's goals, partners, and activities. Visitors can explore how IFIGENEIA is tackling some of the most pressing challenges of our time through innovative research, stakeholder collaboration, and real-world testing in diverse Living Labs across Europe.

On the website, you'll find:

- ) Clear presentation of our mission and objectives,
- ) Information about project partners and stakeholders,
- Latest news and events,
- Public documents and deliverables,
- ) Opportunities to connect and collaborate.

Whether you're a policy-maker, researcher, industry expert, or simply passionate about addressing the challenges of modern nuclear medicine, the IFIGENEIA website is your go-to source for following our journey and getting involved.

Visit us at <u>ifigeneia.eu</u> and stay tuned for updates as we move forward in shaping a just, inclusive, and green European future!



Graphic 3: IFIGENEIA's website.

### Help Shape the Future of Nuclear Medicine

Lead: University of Ljubljana | Objective: To Help Shape the Future of Nuclear Medicine.

Take Part in Our Hospital Survey!

The Horizon IFIGENEIA project aims to lay the foundations for significant advancements in the production and clinical application of radionuclides using linear accelerators (LINACs), thereby enhancing radiopharmaceutical development and availability across EU countries Greece, Slovenia, and Cyprus. As part of a project focused on radioisotope production and radiopharmaceuticals, we are conducting an essential hospital questionnaire designed to evaluate current practices, identify unmet needs, and guide the integration of novel radionuclides into clinical practice.

The primary goal of this hospital questionnaire is to gain a thorough understanding of the landscape of radiopharmaceutical usage in medical institutions, with a particular focus on diagnostic and therapeutic applications. It seeks insights into the radionuclides currently employed, their clinical indications, the volume of usage, and the specifics of their procurement and administration.

Additionally, the questionnaire aims to uncover challenges hospitals face regarding radionuclide supply, such as shortages or delays, and the subsequent impacts on patient care and clinical workflows. It will also identify radionuclides previously utilized but discontinued due to supply issues, highlighting critical gaps that could potentially be filled through improved LINAC production methods.

Another significant goal is to gauge interest and potential demand for novel or less common radionuclides that hospitals would adopt if supply and cost constraints were addressed.

Understanding hospital infrastructure capabilities, including radiolabelling capacities and involvement in clinical or preclinical trials, is also vital. This comprehensive data collection will ultimately inform strategic decisions regarding the production and implementation of radionuclides within the new

Excellence Hubs being established in Greece, Slovenia, and Cyprus.

The insights gathered through this questionnaire will ensure that future developments closely align with clinical needs, thereby enhancing the efficiency, accessibility, and effectiveness of radiopharmaceutical therapies and diagnostics.

We invite hospitals and nuclear medicine departments across Europe to actively participate in this valuable initiative. Your involvement will directly contribute to optimizing radionuclide availability, improving patient outcomes, and driving innovation in nuclear medicine.

Stay updated and engaged by following our progress on social media or contact us via email: <a href="mec@mf.uni-lj.si">mec@mf.uni-lj.si</a>. Help us shape the future of radionuclide therapy and diagnostics by sharing your experiences and needs. Together, we can revolutionize nuclear medicine and improve healthcare outcomes across the region

### 3. Meet the Team

The IFIGENEIA project officially launched in early April 2025 with a dynamic kick-off meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece, bringing together all project partners for the first time. The atmosphere was warm, dynamic, and full of enthusiasm – setting the tone for an ambitious and collaborative path ahead.

The two-day meeting successfully aligned all partners on the project's goals, key tasks, and upcoming activities, while also establishing a shared understanding of timelines, deliverables, and internal procedures. Special attention was given to presenting each Work Package, emphasizing expected impact, synergies between partners, and opportunities for cross-cutting collaboration.

Key project documents, communication tools, and coordination mechanisms were introduced, ensuring that everyone is equipped to contribute effectively from the very beginning.

A clear takeaway message concluded the meeting: the importance of strong cooperation, proactive communication, and shared vision – supported by a concrete review of the next steps and immediate priorities for each partner.

With a solid foundation now in place, IFIGENEIA is ready to move forward – united in its mission to deliver innovative, inclusive, and sustainable solutions for the health of tomorrow.





Picture

1: IFIGENEIA project partners at the kick-off meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece, 3 April 2025

### 4. Events

#### **Past**

- ) 11th Panhellenic Conference of the Hellenic Society of Biomedial Technology (ELEVIT): 21 – 23 May 2025, Athens, Greece.
- Sarajevo School of High Energy Physics:
   19 May 2025, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.



#### **Future**

- International Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering in Bosnia and Herzegovina (CMBEBIH 2025): 11 – 13 September 2025, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 18th International Technology Transfer Conference: 8 and 10 October 2025, Koper, Slovenia.
- EFOMP 2nd Symposium on Molecular Radiotherapy Dosimetry: The Future of Theragnostics (SMRD2): 13 – 15 November 2025, Athens, Greece.

### 5. Did You Know?



Did you know? By building excellence hubs in Greece, Slovenia, and Cyprus, IFIGENEIA strengthens local research and healthcare capacity across Europe.

Contact us!

Designed by: Jožef Stefan Institute September 2025

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