



PRESS RELEASE

OF LAUNCHING INFORMATION EVENT IN ODESA

"Protecting Our Shared Future: SMS-RO-UA Odesa Project Launch"

In the framework of the project

“SMS-RO-UA: DEVELOPMENT OF SCREENING AND MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR EMERGING DISEASES AND PREVENTION OF CROSS-BORDER EPIDEMICS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT”

financed by the EU under the Interreg VI-A NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme 2021- 2027

Project Code: ROUA00136

In Odesa State Agrarian University

September 18, 2025 year in a mixed format of face-to-face and remote participation (using the Zoom service) in Odesa (Panteleimonivska St. , 13, room 312) on the basis of Odesa State Agrarian University, as a project partner, the launching information event will be held to open the project "Development of Screening and Monitoring Systems for Emerging Diseases and Prevention of CrossBorder Epidemics in the Current Context" (Project acronym: SMS-RO-UA , Project number: ROUA00136) financed by European Union within Interreg VI-A NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme 2021- 2027.

The specific objective of the project is enhancement of the emerging diseases research capacity in the cross-border area to ensure surveillance of emerging diseases and epidemics prevention in the Lower Danube region through the capacity improvement of 2 research institutions from Romania and Ukraine, development of a common screening and monitoring system and application of joint actions across borders.

Expected Project results:

- Joint scientific results report research on African swine fever, West Nile, Bird flu, Leptospirosis, and Toxoplasmosis within the framework of the "One health" concept.
- Arrangement laboratories for Romanian and Ukrainian partners by specialized equipment that will be purchased and put into operation.
- Joint GIS platform based on the results of the conducted research.
- by-step protocols instructions of identification the sources of African swine fever, West Nile, Bird flu, Leptospirosis, and Toxoplasmosis and their prevention for common preventive and liquidation events.
- Increase awareness and sharing knowledge through informational and training seminars, workshops and study visits.
- Practical guide "Assessment of Emerging Diseases" will become the main a common result, which will provide harmonization assessments diseases (including all phases) and will contribute to EU policy in the field of "One health" concept.

These actions will:

- promote prevention, improved preparedness, enhanced surveillance and coordinated response to the possibility of cross-border epidemics;
- bring together a diverse group of experts from animal health, food safety, medicine, veterinary science, infectious and viral disease research institutions, epidemiology and government agencies to promote a collaborative approach to combating emerging diseases;
- raise awareness of animal health and welfare within the framework of the “One Health” approach;
- will contribute to raising awareness among animal owners and the community population regarding ensuring animal health, food safety, and preventing cross-border epidemics;
- encourage the exchange of knowledge and ideas on the etiology, diagnosis and prevention of diseases occurring in the cross-border region;
- lead to the creation new and strengthening existing relationships , expand the network of partnerships institutions and take a step forward to achieve Ukraine EU standards.

FUNDING

- Total project budget - 418.063,41 EUR
- Total EU grant - 376.257,06 EUR
- EU grant for OSAU - 130.273,92 EUR



**PROJECT PARTNERS**

Lead Partner - Youth public organization "New European Generation" (Ukraine)

Partner 2 - Veterinary Sanitary and Food Safety Directorate Tulcea (Romania)

Partner 3 - Odesa State Agrarian University (Ukraine)

The goal of the launching information event in Odesa was to raise awareness among a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of local governments and executive authorities, industry agencies, non-governmental organizations, higher education institutions, research organizations, and medical centers about the start of the project implementation, the project's issues, its main goals, stages, benefits, milestones and expected results.

The event will cover the following topics:

- Purpose, relevance and resources of the project;
- Project participants and partners;
- EU project funding;
- Implementation stages, components and activities of the project;
- Transboundary epidemics in the modern context .

Expected results from the event:

- Increasing awareness of the project activities, EU funding, attracting media attention to create an information base;
- Creating a support network for the long-term sustainability of the project, forming a positive image of project activities among stakeholders;
- Increasing public awareness of the need and prospects for their participation in the project as stakeholders.

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Registration starts at 9:00 AM.

Event starts at 10:00 AM

