Widening Impacts Fall 2025 Webinar Series



InnoThyroGen's Story

From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision

Date: Friday, 7 November 2025

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CET (UTC+01:00)

Presenter: Nikolina Pleić, PhD

InnoThyroGen Coordinator

Moderator: João Malva

Coordinator for Aligned CHAngeing EH Project

Registration: Link

<u>Abstract:</u> InnoThyroGen: Innovating Thyroid Health with Genomics and Predictive Algorithms through Collaborative Excellence is a European Union Excellence Hubs (EH) project funded under the Horizon WIDERA call. The objectives for this webinar are to:

- Support the formation of an EH Community;
- Increase awareness of and support for InnoThyroGen specifically, and EH projects and the Widening Programme more generally;
- Catalyze new collaborations;
- Disseminate best-practices and lessons-learned from elaborating the InnoThyroGen proposal and executing the InnoThyroGen project.

The primary target audiences are:

- Other EH projects and their external stakeholders;
- Stakeholders accelerating healthy lifestyles to disease prevention;
- Stakeholders for the EU Widening Program, including those with interests / activities in writing EU proposals and executing EU projects.

The webinar will begin with the proposal background that led to the InnoThyroGen concept and consortium creation, cover the development of the proposal and execution of the project to date, and conclude with the post-project ambitions and vision. The webinar will include key characteristics of the project including lessons-learned and how the consortium will convert the challenges into solutions. The webinar is intended to consist of a ~35 min. presentation and ~15 min. of Q&A and open discussion.



InnoThyroGen has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 101187880. Views and opinions expressed are those of the project only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

About InnoThyroGen

Keywords: Thyroid Cancers, Autoimmune Thyroid Diseases, Polygenic Risk Score, Machine Learning, Pharmacogenomics.

Summary: The thyroid gland produces hormones that regulate metabolism, growth, and energy production. Thyroid malfunction is associated with various disorders including hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism and autoimmune diseases such as Hashimoto's thyroiditis and Graves' disease. The EUfunded InnoThyroGen project aims to improve diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disorders with patients often experiencing improper dosing or significant side effects. Advances in genomics, such as next-generation sequencing and polygenic risk scores, combined with electronic health records and lifestyle data, offer promising tools for improved prediction and prevention. Al-driven innovations and pharmacogenomics enable tailored treatments, paving the way for cost-effective, precision medicine for thyroid disorders.

Objectives: Global research indicates that millions of people suffer from thyroid disorders, such as hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, autoimmune diseases, and tumors, with nearly 60% of them unaware of their condition. Autoimmune thyroid diseases, notably Hashimoto's thyroiditis and Graves' disease, are the most prevalent, affecting about 5% of the population.

Thyroid cancers are also on the rise, with significant increases in detection over recent decades. Despite various treatment and diagnostic options, many face misdiagnosis, ineffective treatments, and diminished quality of life. Levothyroxine, a synthetic thyroid hormone, is widely prescribed in Europe and the USA, yet 20-50% of patients experience improper dosing, necessitating frequent adjustments. Antithyroid medications can cause severe side effects, underscoring the need for careful management of thyroid diseases to avoid increased healthcare costs and lost productivity. Current treatment approaches, often not personalized, overlook genetic predispositions and environmental factors. Advances in genomics, such as next-generation sequencing (NGS) and the polygenic risk score (PRS), offer new opportunities for personalized medicine. These tools, combined with electronic health records (EHR) and lifestyle data, can improve disease prediction and prevention strategies. Pharmacogenomics further enables tailored drug treatment based on individual genetic profiles, promising more effective and personalized care.

The design of thyroid disease gene panels and the development of innovative and digital solutions based on artificial intelligence stand as pivotal advancements. These could markedly accelerate the integration of more personalized and cost-effective approaches into clinical practice, heralding a new era of precision medicine for thyroid disorders.

Follow, More Information, and Contact:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/innothyrogen-eu-project/

Project Website: https://www.innothyrogen.eu

EU Cordis Website: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101187880

Contact: nikolina.pleic@mefst.hr

About the Widening Impacts 2025 Webinar Series

Background: The Widening Impacts 2025 Webinar Series was seeded by the SolarHub Excellence Hubs project with an overall aim to increase the impacts of EU Widening Projects by creating a platform for Widening Projects to showcase their capacities, activities, and impacts to a large and diverse set of key stakeholders for the EU's Widening Program. The webinar series' specific objectives are to

- Catalyze inter-project collaborations;
- Create new opportunities by reaching new audiences;
- Increase ecosystem and hub knowledgeability;
- Gain competitive advantage by sharing knowledge & best-practices;
- Better exploit project results and improve project impacts;
- Achieve critical mass when engaging with key funding and policy decision makers at institutional, regional, and national levels.

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Scheduled Webinars:	
Nov. 07, 2025	InnoThyroGen's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision Innovating Thyroid Health with Genomics and Predictive Algorithms through Collaborative Excellence
Early 2026. Exact date TBD.	BCThubs' Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision Blue Culture Technology Excellence Hubs in EU Widening Member States
Watch Completed Webinars:	
Oct. 21, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	SeaTecHub's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision The Croatia-Cyprus Excellence Hub on Eco-Innovative Technologies for Healthy and Productive Seas
June 27, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	METACITIES's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision METACITIES: MetaCities Excellence Hub in South-Eastern Europe
June 13, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	CHAngeing's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision CHAngeing: Healthy Living to Protect Cerebrovascular Function
May 23, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	WATERWISE's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision WATERWISE aims to improve water-intensive industries in the circular economy
Mar. 28, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	CARBONICA'S Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision CARBONICA is a Project to Power Climate-Resilient Agriculture
Mar. 14, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	INNO2MARE: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision Strengthening the capacity for excellence of Slovenian and Croation innovation ecosystems to support the digital and green transitions of maritime regions
Mar. 7, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	COALition: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision Promoting Innovation Excellence in Transformation of Coal Regions to Climate-Neutral, Thriving Economies
Feb. 21, 2025 <u>Watch</u>	FINEST Centre's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision FinEst Centre is a Teaming Project to Establish a Smart City Center of Excellence

Jan. 31, 2025 SolarHub's Story: From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision

Watch Solar Hub is a Greek-Turkish Solar Energy Excellence Hub to Advance the

European Green Deal

Webinars To Be Scheduled: The following projects have indicated their interest in organizing a webinar, where the dates and times for these webinars are *To Be Determined*.

ADDIT-CE Alzheimer's Disease Diagnostics Innovation and Translation to Clinical Practice in Central Europe

CHESS Cyber-security Excellence Hub in Estonia and South Moravia

DxHub Connecting Greek and Portuguese Innovation Ecosystems to Develop a Hub for Infectious Disease Diagnostic Solutions at the Point-of-Care-Tackling Cross-Border Threats

ECHO Energy Communities excellence Hubs: catalyzing energy innOvation ecosystems

Excel4Pro Strengthening the Capacity of Excellence Hubs of Türkiye, Greece, and Ukraine to Support Innovation Ecosystem of Novel Foods Based on Plant Proteins

GeneH Excellence Hub for Innovation in Gene Therapy

GlaCerHub Glass ceramic innovation ecosystem for implementation of new research directions in applications

HERIFORGE Cultural heritage and immersive technologies for innovation forge

LASER-PRO Excellent laser technologies for the Sustainable Prosperity of Europe

MarTe Marine Technology Excellence Hub for sustainable blue economy in Baltics

VELES Strengthening the South-East Europe Smart Health Regional Excellence and Boosting the Innovation Potential

Additional Webinars: If this webinar series proves successful, it will be opened to other Widening and Widening-Relevant Projects with an ambition to *Leave No Widening Project Behind*.

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YouTube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/@WideningImpacts
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/wideningImpacts

Email List*: https://groups.google.com/g/wideningimpacts

*At most 1 email/week using Google Groups

Website: http://www.wideningimpacts.eu

Contact: Derek Baker, derek.baker@odtugunam.org



Supporting Projects: The Widening Impacts 2025 Webinar series is supported by the following cluster of Excellence Hubs (EH) projects working to create an EH Community, with all projects being funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program with GA number in parentheses: ADDIT-CE (101087124); BCThubs (101087146); CARBONICA (101087233); CHAngeing (101087071); CHESS (101087529); COALition (101087022); DxHub (101186531); ECHO

(101185725); Excel4Pro (101186662); GeneH (101186939); GlaCerHub (101087154); HERIFORGE (101186573); INNO2MARE (101087348); InnoThyroGen (101187880); LASER-PRO (101186838); MarTe (101186498); METACITIES (101087257); SeaTecHub (101087162); SolarHub (101086110); VELES (101087483); WATERWISE (101184151).

Privacy Statement: All activities that are part of the Widening Impacts 2025 Webinar series are committed to compliance with GDPR Regulations.

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supporting EH projects) and the EC, such as for project Communication, Dissemination, or Exploitation activities, will first be anonymized by removing information that can be used to identify unique individuals (e.g., email addresses and names). The data collected will not be used for any other purposes outside those stated above.