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# Boosting Interregional Innovation Investment and cooperation among Health Innovation EcoSystems



Press release no. 02

## Study visit Lithuania

### Insights into Lithuanian innovation health ecosystem

Study visit, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> June 2024, Vilnius, I3HIES project partners

The I3HIES project, dedicated to boost interregional innovation investment and cooperation among health innovation ecosystems, recently included a study visit in Lithuania, hosted by Lithuanian Innovation Centre. This visit highlighted the project's commitment to transform the healthcare sector through enhanced international collaboration and focused innovation. The consortium, consisting of nine partners from Hungary, Austria, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia, aims to address critical areas within the health sector, including medical devices, emergency equipment, and Medical Device Regulation (MDR) compliance. It was 3-days of intensive experience of visiting organisations & innovation actors, contributing to Lithuanian innovation health ecosystem.

**SMART Health DIH**, a member of the eDIH Vilnius consortium, advances digital transformation in healthcare by gathering high-quality data to improve diagnoses and personalised interventions. Their key areas include telemedicine, clinical trials, international collaboration, and digital training, with expertise in AI, cybersecurity, and medical device manufacturing.

#### Digital Health in Lithuania, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania

Since 2008, Lithuania has developed the Digital Health system, which features a National Health Information Exchange platform and various e-services like E-prescriptions, E-referrals and others. Patient health records are centralised and accessible through a patient portal, ensuring seamless access for healthcare providers and pharmacies. Interestingly, online medication purchases and delivery have become highly efficient, with 70,000 bookings processed automatically each month. Lithuania is among few European countries that have adopted the Law on Secondary Use of Health Data, which regulates the process of using health data suitable for repeated use, while ensuring the right to privacy and protection of personal data.

#### Association LithuaniaBio

Established in 2003, LithuaniaBIO unites institutions in Lithuania's life sciences and biotechnology sector to enhance the role of biotechnology in the economy. The life sciences

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sector is one of the priority sectors of the Lithuanian economy, currently accounting for around 2.6% of the country's GDP. Lithuania's goal is to reach 5% of the GDP generated by the life sciences industry by 2030.

### **Baltic Sandoz Ventures**

Baltic Sandoz Ventures seeks future heroes in Life Sciences and DeepTech. They invest in early-stage R&D-focused teams tackling complex technical challenges with high commercial potential. Simplifying access to data in collaboration with the State Data Agency has empowered innovators to better understand regulations and accelerate medical breakthroughs.

### **Centre of Innovative medicine**

The Centre of Innovative Medicine (IMC) is a State Research Institute and part of the national Biobank, and a member of BBMRI ERIC. IMC translates fundamental science into clinically relevant knowledge and strategies, performing research at all levels and collaborating with over 60 countries.

### **Life Sciences Center, Vilnius University (VU LSC)**

The Life Sciences Center, Vilnius University (VU LSC), also a representative of Lithuania at EMBL, runs research focused on biodiversity, ecosystems, chemical engineering, biotechnology, biomolecule structure, genome editing, disease mechanisms, and biomarkers, with publications in top journals like Nature and Science. They run 38 large projects and have well-equipped labs, including a dedicated lab for training high school teachers in life sciences. Collaboration with Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics, by providing both financial and intangible support in terms of knowledge and expertise.

### **BioBank**

The aim of the Vilnius Santaros Klinikos Biobank is to provide the Lithuanian and foreign scientific and industrial community with access to large volumes of standardised and structured samples of human biological material in order to expand fundamental knowledge of various diseases and to optimize and improve the diagnosis or treatment of diseases.

### **Center for physical sciences and technology (FTMC)**

The Center for Physical Sciences and Technology (FTMC) aims to generate and capitalize scientific knowledge for societal benefit and high-tech development by carrying out fundamental and applied research as well as experimental investigations. The center hosts various engineering-focused labs, including a laser/optics lab using super-fast cameras for eye imaging and an electrobiochemistry lab with lab-on-a-chip devices for experiments with organoids and cancer cells.

You will find more information about Study visit experience [here](#)

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