



SUSNANO Project Newsletter 2 - December 2024

Foreword

Welcome to the information letter by SUSNANO!

SUSNANO is a Horizon Europe Twinning project that supports the advancement of sustainable nanosensor technologies for water pollution monitoring. The project aims to strengthen the scientific excellence and research capacity of the University of Tirana (UT) by fostering close collaboration with leading European institutions: ICN2 (Spain), Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic), and Intelligentsia Consultants (Luxembourg).

The aim of our newsletters is to provide updates on project progress, highlight collaboration opportunities, announce upcoming events and trainings, and share insights and resources related to sustainable nanosensor technologies.

This information letter sums up the project activities during the 2nd year of the implementation.

We hope you enjoy reading and find inspiration for your own work in this fast-evolving field.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Scientists

During the 2nd year of the implementation, SUSNANO placed strong emphasis on engaging young minds and promoting science education in Albania. Several impactful outreach activities were carried out to raise awareness about nanotechnology and inspire future researchers.

- **February:** SUSNANO kicked off a collaboration with Kings Tirana High School, introducing high school students to nanoscience through interactive presentations and lab visits.
- **May:** The project expanded its outreach by launching a science promotion campaign in secondary schools across Albania, encouraging curiosity and early interest in environmental research.
- **June:** The University of Tirana hosted an Open Day for its SUSNANO laboratories, giving students and the public a behind-the-scenes look at current research and lab infrastructure.

These activities are part of SUSNANO's commitment to building a strong and inclusive research culture from an early age, cultivating the next generation of scientists dedicated to sustainability and innovation.



Spring School: Electrochemical Nanobiosensors for Environmental Diagnostics



On April 15–16, 2024, the SUSNANO project held a Spring School titled "Electrochemical Nanobiosensors for Environmental Diagnostics" at the Institut Català de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia (ICN2) in Barcelona. The event brought together students, early-career researchers, and experts from partner institutions for lectures, hands-on sessions, and lab visits. It aimed to build practical skills in sustainable nanotechnology and foster collaboration across the SUSNANO network.

Spring School highlights

Strengthening Research and Innovation Skills

The main objective of this activity area was to strengthen research and support capacities at the University of Tirana (UT) through targeted training, knowledge transfer, and professional development. Expertise was shared between UT and its Twinning partners — the Institut Català de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia (ICN2), Palacký University Olomouc (UPO), and Intelligentsia Consultants — focusing on both scientific excellence and research management skills.

This was achieved through a structured programme of workshops, participation in international conferences, and thematic training events. The second year of the project saw increased engagement from UT researchers in EU funding training, research administration dialogue, and practical sessions focused on sustainable nanotechnology.



[Successful Completion and New Projects Highlighted at NanoAlb Workshop](#)



[Third Nano Technology Workshop: Building Collaborations Between Science and Industry](#)



[NANOALKAN-NANOALB Annual Workshop 2024](#)



[SUSNANO team at EARMA Conference for research managers and administrators](#)

SUSNANO at nanoBalkan 2024 Conference



From October 28 to November 1, 2024, the city of Tirana hosted the **4th NanoBalkan Conference**, organised by the **Phantoms Foundation** with support from the **SUSNANO** project, University of Tirana, NanoAlb, and the Albanian Academy of Sciences.

SUSNANO partners from UT, ICN2, and Palacký University took part in workshops and thematic sessions, including events on nanobiosensors, sustainable technologies, and research collaboration.

HORIZON EUROPE PROPOSAL WRITING TRAINING



Training session on securing European research funding

As part of the project's capacity-building efforts, **Giles Brandon** from Intelligentsia Consultants delivered a dedicated training workshop at the University of Tirana. The session introduced participants to key European funding programmes — including **Horizon Europe**, **Erasmus+**, and **COST Actions** — and provided practical advice on how to engage in international research collaboration.

See more [details of the training](#) on the project website.

[Visit project website for more](#)