

NOVEL PROBIOTIC STRAINS FOR HUMAN AND ANIMAL CONSUMPTION

Project deals with development of novel probiotic strains to be isolated from human sources both in Croatia and Turkey. Demand for functional foods/supplements including probiotics all around the world is increasing and there are insufficient numbers of probiotic strains to meet this demand based on EFSA's criteria for probiotics. According to EFSA regulations, any specific health claim of probiotics must be demonstrated by providing satisfactory level of clinical data. Additionally, the probiotic strains should show technological compatibility to meet EFSA's prerequisites for probiotics as well as a market success. The project has been designed to meet current EFSA requirements for probiotic strains and food/feed made from these strains.

Before the preparation of project, a Business Cooperation agreement was signed between project partners. Major partners of the project proposal are Faculties of Food Technology and Agriculture at University J. J Strossmayer Osijek (Croatia), Faculties of Agriculture and Medicine at Ankara University (Turkey), **Kimera Life Sciences R&D Ltd. (Turkey)** and ZukunftsEnergie GmbH (Germany). The scientific (research) side of the project will be run by researchers from Faculties of Food Technology and Agriculture at University J. J Strossmayer Osijek and **Kimera Life Sciences R&D Ltd.** (which is an Ankara University Technocenter company). ZukunftsEnergie GmbH has a facilitating role in project activities and will coordinate overall implementation of the project. A three-phase business model will be employed. The first phase covers an *establishment of the concrete contracts between scientific and research companies, institutions and individual researches from Croatia and Turkey. The second phase covers research activities to characterize probiotic strains with established health claims for the purpose of human and animal consumption. The third phase includes commercialization activities of the end product (i.e. scale up productions of the end product(s), possible investment opportunities in Croatia etc..).*