



EUROPEAN UNION - Delegation to the State of Israel

האיחוד האירופי - המשלחת למדינת ישראל

الاتحاد الأوروبي – البعثة إلى دولة إسرائيل

Research and Innovation Section

R&I Intelligence

Israel activities to support research & innovation in response to COVID-19

Ministerial Coordinated Approach

Activities and initiatives are designed, planned and implanted through inter-ministerial and public agencies coordination including the Israel Innovation Authority, Ministry of Health and the Headquarters for the National Digital Israel Initiative at the Ministry of Social Equality.

Data Gathering

The state of Israel is establishing a central data center, where medical electronic records (ER) of the COVID-19 patients, and particularly the Intensive Care Units (ICU) ER, shall be gathered. The goal is to accumulate large amounts of ICU-ER data, enough to allow a selected group of the best researchers, both medical and mathematics/computer science specialists, to find ways to improve and optimize the medical treatment given to COVID-19 patients. This initiative could be linked/open to EU/Third countries counterparts; e.g. <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

Open calls

Israel has at the moment three calls open to Israeli companies and academia. Eligible entities need to be registered in Israel but EU researchers, EU academia and research and innovation entities can apply as subcontractors.

The objectives of the calls are:

- Development and implementation of innovative technologies in treating and coping with the coronavirus.
- Advancing the healthcare system and public health in Israel and abroad.
- The creation and growth of complete and sustainable companies by promoting innovative technological solutions.

1. **Call for Proposals for R&D plans of projects in the Early (Ideation) Stages - to help with the challenges of the Coronavirus I deadline 26/03/2020 - [more information](#)**



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2. **Call for Proposals for Projects in the Development, Piloting and Demonstration stages to cope with the Coronavirus** - [more information](#)
3. **Call for Proposals for R&D Plans of Industrial Products for the Prevention and Treatment of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)** – [more information](#)

Strategic Partnering and Platforms

Innovation Institute initiative 'Counter Corona'

Platform aimed at bringing forth all the new opportunities coming from HealthIL ecosystem together with the most burning challenges from health organizations dealing with COVID-19, and matching them with potential solutions. <https://lnkd.in/gRHfcjr>

International outreach

Discussions with various countries and institutes (including European ones) are ongoing exploring the possibility to issue joint bilateral calls, but these haven't matured yet. The EU could have a strategic role in piloting new fast-track joint calls with zero red tape and ultra-simplified procedures, e.g. use to lamp sums or direct funding.

Counter Corona Initiative

The following bottom-up initiatives have been put in place under the steer of the Ministry of Health of Israel to face the COVID-19 pandemic. The main idea is to collect input from the public, including companies, researchers, innovators, and individual – this is an interesting approach to get in touch with the communities and get their feedback and suggestions - [More information](#).

1. **YA- Coronavirus Public Health Remote Hackathon**
Invitation to suggest a practical, realistic and immediately actionable solution (e.g., software tool), which can be presented to the Israeli government for use in handling the crisis (or similar future crises).
2. **Coronavirus (COVID-19) | TOM Rapid Response**
Co-develop open-source solutions to support hospitals, treatment centers, and households as they help their patients during the Coronavirus (Covid-19) Outbreak.
3. **Leaders in Pharmaceutical Business Intelligence (LPBI) Group**
Funding, Deals & Partnerships: BIOLOGICS & MEDICAL DEVICES; BioMed e-Series; Medicine and Life Sciences Scientific Journal

Promising internal research in Israel

1. **BATM Advanced Communications Limited** is teaming up with Novamed life sciences to develop and market a rapid home testing kit for COVID-19. The new kit that will



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analyse a sputum sample in minutes that identifies severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, which causes coronavirus disease.

BATM hopes to have a product with regulatory sign-off in the form of CE mark that's ready to ship in three to four months. The first tests will go on sale in Israel initially, before being promoted globally. <http://www.batm.com>

2. **MIGAL Galilee Research Institute's** researchers have developed an effective vaccine against avian coronavirus Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV), to be adapted soon and create a human vaccine against COVID-19 - <http://www.migal.org.il/Migal.covid>
3. **The Biological Institute at the Ben Gurion University** - Dyadic International, Inc. ("Dyadic") (NASDAQ:DYAI), a global biotechnology is joining the global fight against the coronavirus outbreak by collaborating with The Israel Institute for Biological Research ("IIBR"), a governmental research institute established to provide the State of Israel with scientific response to chemical and biological threats.

IIBR explores the potential of Dyadic's industrially proven C1 gene expression platform to express gene sequences and targets developed by IIBR into both an rVaccine candidate and monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) that may help combat the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus (Coronavirus) – [more information](#)

EU proactive approach

A strategic and coordinated approach is suggested not only to identify specific third countries international programmes/projects which are open to EU entities/researchers (reciprocity) and those with the potential to establish partnerships with EU based institutes and companies, but to use the Science Counselors as liaisons catapults for direct contacts among the local R&I communities in selected third countries with counterparts in Europe and with R&I services.

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