



INL Establishes Lasting Nanosafety Platform Through European Project SiNFONiA

Through SiNFONiA, INL has positioned itself as a key player in nanosafety, offering expertise in toxicology, environmental health, and risk assessment at a time when safe and sustainable innovation is a growing priority in Europe.

Braga, Portugal — January 2025 — The International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL) has concluded the SiNFONiA project, a five-year initiative that strengthened INL's capacity for research, regulation, and international leadership in the field of nanosafety.

Running from June 2019 to December 2024, the project was funded through the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme under the WIDESPREAD framework. With a total investment of nearly €2.5 million, SiNFONiA focused on establishing **long-term excellence in nanosafety science** while supporting broader efforts to spread research capability across Europe.

At the core of the initiative was the appointment of **Dr. Ernesto Alfaro-Moreno as ERA Chair** in Nanosafety, a position created to build institutional expertise and international collaboration in assessing the risks of emerging nanomaterials. Over the course of the project, Dr. Alfaro-Moreno and his team delivered a comprehensive programme of scientific development, capacity building, and strategic alignment with global safety standards.

Among the project's major achievements, INL highlights the creation of a dedicated **Nanosafety Research Group**, the successful implementation of **OECD Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) certification**, active participation in several EU-funded projects on responsible innovation and risk governance, and the expansion of INL's nanosafety network across Europe, Latin America, Asia, and North America.

"SiNFONiA was not just about scientific output. It was about creating a lasting ecosystem for nanosafety, combining capacity building, regulatory standards, and international cooperation.", shared Dr. Alfaro-Moreno.

The project's long-term impact will continue through INL's ongoing collaborations and new initiatives focused on safe-by-design nanomaterials, regulatory science, and public health protection.

More information at sinfoniaproject.com