

# IMBB LEADS EU CALL TO STEP UP PREPAREDNESS FOR THE NEXT PANDEMIC

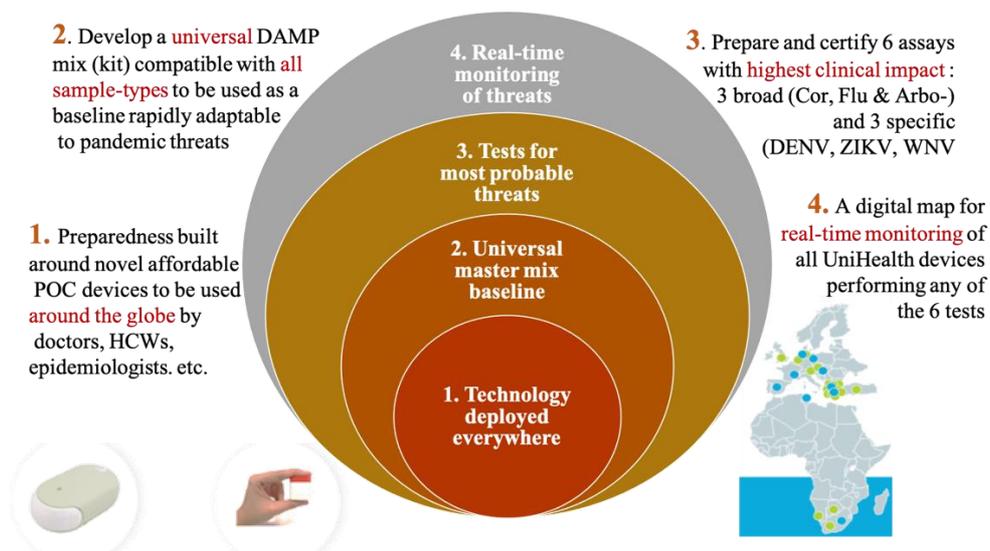


**Prof. Electra Gizeli**, head of **Biosensors lab**, is the coordinator of the recently funded competitive project under the specific call “*Pandemic preparedness and response: in vitro diagnostic devices to tackle cross-border health threats*” within Pillar II “Health”. The successful proposal, entitled “Development of diagnostic ecosystem for detecting and monitoring emergency-prone pathogens across species, globally and in a unified way” has been selected among several other proposals for a 3-year funding with a total budget of 7.035 M€ of which 964K€ goes to IMBB.

In this project the coordinator brings together a consortium of 12 partners, including key academic, industrial, regulatory, clinical and dissemination players in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics. The project builds on partners’ unique expertise on the development of portable and connected diagnostic tools to achieve broadly applicable, affordable and accessible diagnostic devices for emerging pathogens. Key objectives of the proposed work are the following:

- Development of robust diagnostic solutions based on a novel isothermal amplification methodology
- Provide assays for broad screening of Corona, Flu and Arbo-viruses
- Deliver assays for Dengue, Zika and West Nile Virus detection in humans, animals and mosquitos
- Validate, certificate and release IVD-approved novel solutions
- Develop an ecosystem for global monitoring of pandemic-prone diseases

The project concepts are illustrated in the figure below.



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