

RIF PROPOSAL NUMBER	TITLE	COORDINATOR	HOST ORGANIZATION	Collaboration Country Organisations	PROJECT BUDGET	RIF FUNDING	PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY
BILATERAL/FRANCE/1116/0003	Disinfectant exposures and type II diabetes the CONSTANCES cohort	Konstantinos Makris	Cyprus University of Technology	INSERM	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	This bilateral networking project will serve to enhance a collaboration between the two networking organizations from Cyprus and France to investigate type II diabetes (T2D) risk factors in occupational settings (nurses), a chronic disease that is particularly impacting both participating countries' gross domestic products. The research project idea that will be used to sustain the collaboration is based on the hypothesis that commercial cleaning and disinfection products (halogenated disinfectants) are composed of active ingredients possibly linked with metabolic alterations leading to insulin resistance pathophysiology and to T2D development. These products are widely used in health care facilities by nurses in the whole EU making this particular occupational group, an interesting case to study. Our group in Cyprus is already studying the effect of disinfectants on T2D for nurses in Cypriot hospitals. The objectives of this networking study are to: i) determine the association between disinfectant use in occupation settings and the incidence of type II diabetes for nurses enrolled in the French CONSTANCES cohort, which is the largest national cohort of the general population in France and ii) enhance the networking capacity of the two collaborating institutions by allowing for exchange visits of early career investigators between the two organizations. Based on this seed project, this Cypriot-French collaboration is expected to grow stronger by forming larger consortia with larger sample sizes in prospective proposal calls at the EU level. The project is innovative, because the hypothesis linking disinfectant exposures to T2D or other metabolic outcomes for nurses has not been tested elsewhere.
BILATERAL/FRANCE/1116/0006	Monitoring and treatment of cyanobacterial contaminated surface waters	Maria Antoniou	Cyprus University of Technology	University of Rennes 1	5.000,00 €	5.000,00 €	CYANOS is a two-year project with interdisciplinary activities that combines surface water monitoring and on-site water treatment for the restoration of eutrophic surface waters. The project will address issues related to eutrophication, water scarcity, global warming, and climate change that greatly contribute in surface waters quality deterioration and availability, and force the usage of reduced quality water for drinking and irrigation purposes. Specifically, CYANOS aims to monitor the seasonal variation of cyanobacterial harmful algal blooms (cyano-HABs) in the surface waters of Cyprus and France and explore emerging on-site treatments to control their formation. Since the scientific knowledge regarding cyanobacterial harmful bloom formations (Cyano-HABs) in Cyprus is scarce, researcher from the University of Rennes 1, France will lead the monitoring and sample characterization for cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins efforts. On the other hand, the AQUA group of the Cyprus University of Technology, will be in charge on the application of emerging technologies for the on-site treatment of cyano-HABs.