



## EU Horizon 2020 SUNI-SEA project

The project aims to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases. To achieve this, it is essential for people to be aware of risk factors and how to tackle overweight, hypertension or smoking, or to contact experts as soon as possible. This is called primary prevention. Furthermore, people with any signs of susceptibility to illness need to be diagnosed as soon as possible and given personal support. This is called secondary prevention. We want people diagnosed with illnesses to receive proper treatment, both medicines and lifestyle support, to prevent complications affecting their well-being. This is called tertiary prevention. We can do part of this work in communities and part of this work in primary health care facilities.

Scaling-Up Noncommunicable Diseases Interventions in Southeast Asia (SUNI-SEA) is funded by the European Union. It is implemented in Indonesia, Myanmar and Vietnam from 2019 to 2022. The objective of the SUNI-SEA project is to verify effective strategies for expanding the evidence-based prevention and treatment programs for diabetes and hypertension. The project will provide evidence to support self-sustaining initiatives, to achieve sustainable development goals.

The project will define critical success factors in measures to increase hypertension and prevent and treat diabetes by validating:

- (a) contextual factors for the effective and efficient implementation of non-communicable disease interventions (NCDs);
- (b) the main components of community-based interventions and health facilities;
- (c) the most cost-effective and sustainable enlargement or “scaling up” strategies.

The project will create learning and teaching materials, draw lessons from these three countries and provide recommendations for the worldwide implementation of NCD reduction strategies.

SUNI-SEA will contribute to the evidence base of the Global NCD Alliance and the World Health Organization.

The team from Trnava University participates in this project as the main coordinator of Work Package 3, which focuses mainly on the application of scientific evidence in community and clinical prevention of hypertension and diabetes. At the same time, the University is involved in the preparation of the MOODLE-based learning platform.

The "SUNI-SEA Scaling Up NCD Intervention" project is coordinated by the [University of Groningen](#) (Holland). Apart from the University of Trnava (Slovakia), the partners of the project are also the [University of Passau](#) and [HelpAge International](#) UK. Partners in Asia are Universitas Sebelas Maret (Indonesia), University of Public Health (Myanmar), University of Thai Nguyen for Medicine and Pharmacy and Research Institute of Health Strategy and Political Institute (both in Vietnam). In Indonesia, the affiliated partners are the National Health Insurance System and the Ministry of Health.

Chief Project Coordinator for Trnava University: prof. MD. Martin Rusnák, CSc., contact: [martin.rusnak@truni.sk](mailto:martin.rusnak@truni.sk)

Project Team Members: prof. MD. Viera Rusnáková, CSc., MBA; prof. MD. Adriana Ondrušová, PhD., MPH; assoc. prof. Marek Majdan, PhD., MSc.; assoc. prof. Martina Žáková, PhD.; Kristína Grendová, PhD., MPH; Jarmila Pekarčíková, PhD., MPH; Dominika Plančíková, PhD.; Juliana Melichová, MSc.; Patrik Sivčo, MSc.; MD. Tran Minh Hieu, BSc.; Phuong Truc Pham, BSc.