



REGIONAL INITIATIVE OF EXCELLENCE

*The Excellent Sub-Carpathian region – a comprehensive environmental study
at the University of Rzeszów for the benefit of the region*

„Excellent Sub-Carpathian region” is an interdisciplinary project proposing a comprehensive approach to assessing the environment and its resources in the context of ecosystem services, particularly in terms of sustainable and health tourism.

The research conducted will enable the identification of **the region's natural assets**, which are often overlooked or underestimated. These assets can help distinguish the Sub-Carpathian region, strengthen its identity, and position of sustainable tourism as a recognizable product of the area.

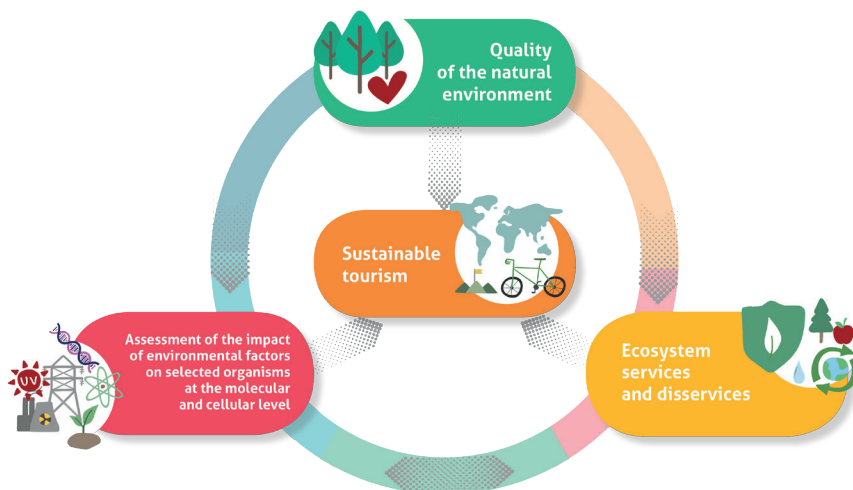
The development of tourism in Sub-Carpathian region must be connected to sustainable practices and actions that preserve the region's rich natural and cultural heritage.

The results of comprehensive environmental research will be instrumental in establishing strategies for tourism development in the region, as well as strategies for urban and subregional development, all in line with sustainable tourism principles.

Providing the university with **highly specialized equipment** will expand its research service offerings, particularly in environmental quality monitoring, and will support the undertaking of new research and development projects.



The **primary goal** of the „*Excellent Sub-Carpathian region*” project is to elevate the level of scientific activity, enhance educational quality, and bolster the prestige of the University of Rzeszów both nationally and internationally. Scientific research will focus on three interconnected areas that significantly impact on sustainable tourism - a priority development direction outlined in the strategic documents of both the country and the region.



NEW LABORATORIES within the RID

- A valuable endogenous resource of the region is its rich and unique flora. As part of the project, the **Sub-Carpathian Biodiversity Center** has been established, which includes a collection of regional plants, a palynological collection, and a diatom collection. This center will be complemented by the DNA Barcoding Laboratory, where a virtual herbarium will be created.
- Good air quality is essential for human health and well-being and is even a requirement in areas recommended for various forms of tourism, particularly health-promoting tourism. The new **Air Monitoring Laboratory** will enable a comprehensive analysis of pollutants—both chemical and biological.
- The **Environmental DNA (eDNA) Laboratory** will allow for effective biodiversity monitoring, rapid detection of plant and animal pathogens, and the identification of biological environmental pollutants.

CONTACT:

Professor Idalia Kasprzyk – Head of the *Excellent Sub-Carpathian region* project
ikasprzyk@ur.edu.pl, biuro.rid@ur.edu.pl