

EUROPEAN  
BIOTECH  
WEEK



# Unravelling the Potential of Biotechnology

2014: 2<sup>nd</sup> European Biotechnology Week

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[www.biotechweek.org](http://www.biotechweek.org)

# Biotech: Solutions for a Global Challenge

*"The world's population is moving past seven billion and quickly towards the nine billion person mark. This rapid and significant population growth will be accompanied by equally significant economic growth, particularly in China and India. When combined, the population growth and its corresponding economic surge requires societies around the world to not only adapt to the health implications of an already changed climate and environment but also seek more efficient and less environmentally impactful ways to grow food and manufacture goods. Within the social imperative of addressing these global challenges lies the enormous opportunity for the innovative solutions biotechnology delivers. Whether in Europe, Canada or elsewhere, biotech innovation is becoming increasingly central to the global competitiveness of the industries and sectors that form the economic foundation of economies. In this context, National Biotech Week represents an important opportunity to acknowledge the global challenges and opportunities faced by all of society while also showcasing the many important industrial, health and agricultural solutions biotech provides in addressing these challenges. On behalf of the member companies of BIOTECCanada and Canada's biotech industry more broadly, congratulations to EuropaBio and its partner biotech associations on celebrating the second annual European Biotech Week."*



**Andrew Casey**  
President and CEO of BIOTECCanada,  
now celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Canadian National Biotech Week



## Participating Biotech Associations



# Spotlight on Biotech during European Biotech Week

The European Biotech Week was inspired by the long standing Canadian National Biotech Week and launched in Europe in 2013, on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of the structure of DNA molecule. Europe is a collection of diverse Member States each with their particular strengths in the different sectors of biotechnology and all facing the common challenge of how to better communicate about the science, the benefits and the role that the biotechnology has in responding to many of our grand societal challenges today and tomorrow.

Following on from the great success of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of European Biotech Week in 2013, the second edition of European Biotech Week took place this year **from 6 to 12 October, with more than 100 events and activities in 14 European countries.**

## Raising awareness of the benefit

European Biotech Week was created to offer the opportunity to all stakeholders from industry to academia to public and private institutions to individual citizens to engage in awareness raising and discussion about the science, the products and the benefits that biotechnology brings in areas as diverse as healthcare, agriculture, food, energy, water sanitation and biochemical processing among diverse audiences using different media and initiatives.

**For the second edition of the European Biotech Week**, European National Biotech Associations across Europe joined forces with universities, cultural and research centers, government institutions, schools, universities, policy makers, large and small biotech companies, science museums, as well as end users such as patients and farmers to highlight biotech's achievements to date and to debate future opportunities for the sector.

## More than 100 events and activities across Europe

More than 100 events and manifold activities took place across Europe to highlight the benefits and applications of biotech: from high level policy debates, to award-winning industry events and company site visits, to workshops and career fairs for students, to social media competitions, theatrical performances, photo exhibitions, flashmobs and roving laboratories with hands-on biotech experiments, there was something for anyone with a curious mind and an interest to find out more about biotech during this edition of European Biotech Week.

In Brussels, with a new European Parliament having just been elected and the hearings of the incoming college of EU Commissioners taking place, this 2<sup>nd</sup> edition unveiled a "Biotech in your everyday life" exhibition which was on show on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the European Parliament during the entire week as well as a series of topical round tables and site visits to biotech companies and laboratories for European and Belgian officials working in the capital. A new initiative in this year's edition was the **#mybiotech social media campaign** developed by EuropaBio as part of the Growing Voices initiative that reached over 50.000 ag-biotech scientists and students with a strong passion for plant sciences and resulted in a multitude of self-made videos and pictures showing why they are involved in plant sciences.

Underlining the come-back of biotech companies on European capital markets, EuropaBio was invited to open the Euronext markets in Brussels during European Biotech Week. The bell ceremony also marked EuropaBio's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Most Innovative EU Biotech SME Award and the 1<sup>st</sup> ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum taking place that day which saw a number of the most talented European Biotech companies awarded for their commitment to finding solutions to some of our most pressing societal challenges.

We cannot possibly do justice to the more than 100 events and activities that took place in a few lines, so please take a look inside this magazine to find out what happened where in Europe during the second edition of the European Biotech Week<sup>1</sup>. Congratulations to all of the National Associations, companies, academics, school students, cultural and research centers, and of course the public, who took part this year. It was a great success and we look forward to seeing you all as well as new partners next year for the 2015 edition from 12 to 18 October!

<sup>1</sup> An interactive list of all the events that took place as well as of the media and social media coverage and some of the materials used can be found on the dedicated website [www.biotechweek.org](http://www.biotechweek.org)





# Belgium



## European Biotech Week “Biotech & Beer” cocktail reception opened the one-week interactive art work display in the European Parliament > Brussels

With a new European Parliament having just been elected and the hearings of the incoming college of EU Commissioners taking place, this 2<sup>nd</sup> edition began with a public interactive artwork display, showcasing our innovative and vibrant sector, at the European Parliament in Brussels.

MEPs and other passers-by were encouraged to “play the DNA game” on our touch screen TV and to learn more about how biotechnology is already a part of our everyday lives. Videos, posters and other educational materials showed a wide variety of biotechnology applications such as: DNA profile matching, tissue engineering, crop protection, fresher and healthier food, cheese, beer and wine making, stone washing denim, cotton materials, washing clothes at lower temperatures, environmentally friendly bio-plastics, rare disease therapies, vaccines, life-saving insulin treatments for diabetics, and lots, lots more!

To see some of the material that was displayed, simply visit [www.biotechweek.org](http://www.biotechweek.org). You'll be surprised at how often you are already using biotechnology every day!



*EuropaBio 'Biotech & Beer' reception opened the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of European Biotech Week on October 06, 2014*



*Runners up and judging panel of this year's EuropaBio Most Innovative EU Biotech SME Award pictured with the 2 winners: French healthcare biotech SME Erytech Pharma and Bio-on, an Italian industrial biotech SME*



## The funding landscape for biotech in Europe and EuropaBio's Most Innovative EU Biotech SME Award > Brussels

The European funding landscape and opportunities for biotech SMEs were discussed in front of an audience drawn from industry, policy and media. Key speakers included Ruxandra Draghia-Akli, Director, Health Directorate, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission; Yu Zhang, New Products & Special Transactions, Research, Development & Innovation, European Investment Bank; Jos Peeters, Managing Partner, Capricorn Venture Partners; Philippe De Backer MEP.

This year's award ceremony had a particular focus on financing, with the European Investment Bank presenting their new "Growth Financing Facility" for funding innovative companies in the EU, as well as the European Commission illustrating their new "SME Instrument" under Horizon 2020. Additionally, an overview of the new package of Public Private Partnerships (PPP), announced recently by the Commission, was given, with a particular focus on IMI II and the new PPP for biobased industries.

During the event, the winners of the 2014 "EuropaBio Most Innovative European Biotech SME Award" were named. Antti Peltomäki, Deputy Director General, DG Enterprise & Industry at the European Commission, who presented the award during the ceremony, presented the 2014 award to both French healthcare biotech SME Erytech Pharma and Bio-on, an Italian industrial biotech SME – as winners.

## ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum > Brussels

The first ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum gave R&D intensive biotech SMEs the opportunity to pitch their innovation research and financing requirements in front of an international jury consisting of about 40 business angels, venture capitalists, corporate investors and other industry experts. Participation was based on prior selection by the judging panel and the top 28 most attractive companies to investors were invited to join the forum on 9 October 2014.

## Syngenta/VIB site visit > Ghent

**A visit to the Ghent Innovation Center, part of Syngenta, and the Plant Systems Biology department (PSB) of the Vlaams Instituut voor Biotechnologie (VIB) was organised for policy makers and media in cooperation with bio.be and EuropaBio.**

More than 20 visitors from European institutions and industry stakeholders took a tour of the research labs, followed by visits to the VIB plant phenotyping platform PHENOVISION and its GM-poplar field trial. Ghent Innovation Center is Syngenta's center of excellence for RNAi technology and support Syngenta's rice breeding and trait pipelines that will help the development of integrated solutions to rice growers. PSB's mission is to integrate genetics, genomics and biocomputing to unravel the biology of plants and to further explore their potential to build a sustainable world.



## Genzyme site visit > Geel

**A visit to the new facilities of Genzyme in Geel was organized in cooperation with bio.be and EuropaBio.**

The group, which was composed of European Parliament policy makers and educators from the bio-chemistry sector, visited the manufacturing facility located in the city of Geel. The visit gave participants the opportunity to find out more about rare diseases and orphan medicinal products. Genzyme is Sanofi's global center of excellence in rare diseases and multiple sclerosis (MS). It pioneered in developing protein replacing therapies for rare, genetic diseases.



Site visit to the new facilities of Genzyme in Geel



## EuropaBio opens the Euronext markets in Brussels to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> Most Innovative EU Biotech SME Award > Brussels

In the context of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of European Biotech Week across Europe, on 8 October, EuropaBio was invited to the Euronext markets in Brussels at the dawn of a new day for the biotech industry on a number of European stock exchanges. The event also marked the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Most Innovative EU Biotech SME Award taking place later that day in Brussels, as well as the first ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investor Forum taking place the following day.



## Biotech: trends & expectations > Brussels

**A high-level seminar organised by bio.be on the future expectations and hurdles of the biotech sector on a global and European level, with a special focus on Belgium.**

Key note speeches were delivered by Tom Heyman (Janssen Pharma Belgium), Jo Bury (Managing Director VIB) and Jack Staloch (VP Cargill, Director R&D Biotech), followed by Siegfried Bialojan (Head E&Y Life Sciences Mannheim) giving an insight in the global situation and Carlos Tenreiro (EC DG Competition) explaining the new state aid guidelines for R&D&I. After an round table, where Joanna Dupont (Industrial biotech Director EuropaBio) and Patrick Van Beneden (VP GIMV life sciences) joined the others, "cooperation, vision & leadership" were highlighted to be equally as important as "funding". The Minister for Finance, Koen Geens closed the day.



*"Biotech: trends & expectations" seminar in Brussels*



## Science | Business policy roundtable supported by EuropaBio > Brussels

**Science | Business organised a half-day, high-level policy roundtable meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup> in the European Parliament titled: *Lost in translation? How to get healthcare biotech from lab to clinic, for a healthier, wealthier Europe.***

Hosted by MEP Kay Swinburne with the keynote delivered by Anne Glover, Chief Scientific Advisor to President Barroso, the discussion focused on the healthcare biotech value-chain and its social and economic implications. 50 senior stakeholders from the European institutions, industry, academia and the NGO community heard about the obstacles to success in Europe in translating medical discoveries into patient care, and discussed solutions relevant to the new Parliament and Commission.

## Digital showcase - #mybiotech: share your passion for plant sciences

A social media campaign addressed to plant scientists, researchers and science students was initiated on the EuropaBio's Growing Voices platform.

Plant science often appears on social media for the wrong reasons, with fictitious scare stories about "frankenfoods". This is why, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the European Biotech Week 2014 (06-12 October 2014) we wanted to showcase how many people are proud to work in plant sciences and what we get up to on a day-to-day basis. We wanted to show people that plant scientists are dedicated people trying to find solutions to the big problems facing the world – hunger, malnutrition and environmental protection.

We reached over 50.000 people by having people sending out a coordinated tweet from their Twitter account and sharing simultaneously their passion on social media, turning our individual voices into a collective shout.



**Be part of #mybiotech**

Tell us how your research project is contributing to a more sustainable future. Tweet this using the hashtag #mybiotech. By sharing this you will inspire others to do so and redress the balance of the debate online.

For more information and resources please go to [growingvoices.eu/mybiotech](http://growingvoices.eu/mybiotech)

EUROPEAN BIOTECH WEEK

[growingvoices.eu/mybiotech](http://growingvoices.eu/mybiotech)



*Science-Business Round Table "Lost in translation? How to get healthcare biotech from lab to clinic, for a healthier, wealthier Europe."*



## Visit of students from the Technical University of Munich > Brussels

On October 8, EuropaBio presented to a delegation of 39 students from the Technical University of Munich at the Representation of Bavaria to the EU. The international students actively interacted with EuropaBio' staff members on current regulations and policies around biotech in Europe, in particular GMOs. They also had the opportunity to visit the European Parliament and meet a number of MEPs who are interested in the technology.



*Seminar with students from the Technical University of Munich, Brussels*



## Denmark



## First Biotech Agora > Copenhagen

The 1<sup>st</sup> Biotech Agora was hosted by the University of Copenhagen and sponsored by Denmark's Life Science cluster Biopeople and Bioneer, a subsidiary of the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and approved by the Danish Ministry of Science and Technology as an authorized provider of technological services – a GTS entity.

The aim of the Biotech Agora was to create an informal meeting place where the biotech & pharma industry could meet the life science researchers for mutual exposure of state of the art R&D -and partnership creation.

Over 200 scientists, students and representatives from biotech companies visited the 100 exhibition booths installed at the event. This was the perfect opportunity to showcase their biotech projects and have informal matchmaking and discussions of technology, project plans and possible collaborations.





# France

## “Rendez-Vous de Concarneau: where industry meets Science” > Concarneau

More than 50 people took part in the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Rendez-Vous de Concarneau* that took place during the second European Biotech Week, where topics discussed included Blue Biotechnology, Industry Clustering, European Marine Biotech Research and Innovation and Aquaculture. On this particular edition, 14 countries were represented, including France, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Denmark, The Netherlands, Germany, USA, Tunisia, UK, Lebanon, Ireland, French Polynesia and Oman.



6<sup>th</sup> edition of the “Rendez-Vous de Concarneau: where industry meets Science”

## Second Parliamentary Meeting on Innovation > Paris

The *Maison de la Chimie*, that is to say, the House of Chemistry, was a natural host to discuss a topic such as innovation, and the debates revolved around much more than just the field of chemicals – information technologies, robotics or even philosophy represented a good share of the exchanges. The event proved to be a success, as more than 250 people coming from important companies, government agencies or directly the Parliament attended the meetings.

This 1/2 day event attracted more than 250 participants from industry, French institutions and many national French MPs.

Participants were also attracted to an exhibition on biotechnology including the Evolution of the Revolution timeline setting all the incredible advances of biotechnology in chronological order.



Anne-Yvonne Le Dain, MP (department of Hérault)  
Damien Abad, MP (department of Ain)  
Patrick Hetzel, MP (department of Lower Rhine)



The Evolution of the Revolution timeline



## InnoPlanta Forum “Green Biotechnology – Status and Prospects” > Berlin

About 80 farmers, scientists and industry representatives participated at this year's InnoPlanta Forum, one of the most important discussion platforms for plant biotechnology in Germany ([www.innoplanta.com](http://www.innoplanta.com)).

Carl-Albrecht Bartmer (President of the DLG) emphasized in his speech that plant breeding nowadays requires all available tools, including genetic engineering. Prof. Wolfgang Nellen (President of VBIO) highlighted problems and strategies of science communication in green biotechnology. Finally, Patrick Moore (Co-founder of Greenpeace) presented his Allow-Golden Rice-Now campaign which fights for the approval of GM-Vitamin-A-Rice.

The InnoPlanta Prize 2014 was awarded to the journalist Katrin Blawat (Süddeutsche Zeitung) and the theologist Sebastian Moll.

Farmers, scientists and industry representatives took part in this year's InnoPlanta Forum in Berlin



## 8th European Business Development Conference > Dresden

More than 100 business developers and other decision makers from the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry and investors gathered for two days in Dresden at the 8th European Business Development Conference organized by the German Biotechnology Industry Organization, BIO Deutschland. “Big deals, big data, better drugs” was the topic of this year's conference that was also accompanied by an exhibition on IT-solutions for Big Data and e-health.

Nigel Sheail, Head of Global Business Development & Licensing (BD&L) at Bayer HealthCare in his opening keynote forecasted a strong future for partnerships and specialists for BD&L in general.



8th European Business Development Conference in Dresden. Session on biosimilars





# Italy



## Italian Forum on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioeconomy > Genova

Over 100 people joined this year's 4<sup>th</sup> Italian Forum on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioeconomy – IFIB, a workshop organized by Assobiotech – the Italian Association for the Development of Biotechnology – together with Innovhub-SSI, the Italian Biocatalysis Center, Chamber of Commerce of Genova. This edition aimed at making a survey of research projects in the industrial biotechnology field with the goal to strengthen the network in the Euro-Mediterranean area and to promote industry-university partnerships.



## Biotech in our plates: a debate about a problem which may not be one > Ozzano Emilia

In collaboration with Bologna University and the National Biotechnologist Association, around 100 participants joined an open debate about the biotech presence from farm to fork yesterday, today and tomorrow.



100 participants attended "Biotech in our plates? A debate about a problem which may not be one" conference

## Nanotechnology and health > Bergamo

In collaboration with Associazione BergamoScienza

The conference concentrated on some extraordinary developments of nanotechnology fine-tuned by the Italian Technology Institute in Genova, which include the creation of artificial “carriers” able to selectively release drugs on single damaged cells; creation of totally biodegradable plastic materials derived from vegetal waste; creation of responsive plastic for prosthesis with functional features similar to original organs, such as retina and skin.



## Can the brain be repaired? > Bergamo

In collaboration with Associazione BergamoScienza

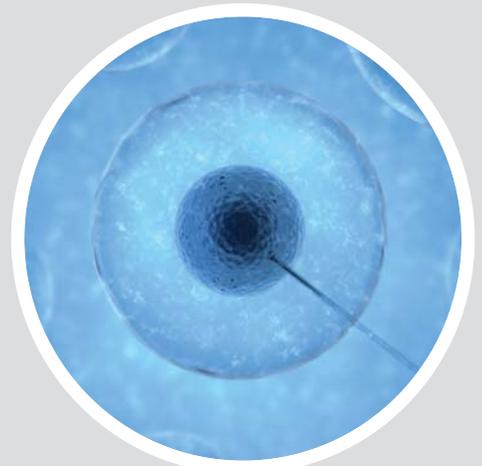
Clinical experimentations with foetal dopaminergic neurons transplants in patients affected by Parkinson’s disease gave evidence, for the first time, that damaged neurons in the brain of an adult man can be replaced with new healthy neurons. Nowadays, dopaminergic neurons can be produced in high quantities starting from stem cells and they are immediately ready to be used in patients. A better comprehension of the mechanisms of involuntary movements induction arising in transplant patients will lead to a treatment and a prevention of this adverse effect.

On account of this, available data today justify the interest in responsibly coming along to the production of dopaminergic neurons in order to study them.

## Biotechnology: new scenarios in medicine and health industry > Rome

In collaboration with CNBBSV, ASIS, Assobiomedica, Assobiotec and Farindustria

The National Committee for Biosafety, Biotechnology and Life Sciences, Assobiotec and ASIS (Associazione Studi sull’Industria della Salute) intended, in this meeting, to take stock of the situation about new scenarios in medicine in areas like oncology, neurology and cardiology and about their repercussions in the health industry. In the course of the meeting, doctors, exponents of the industry world, economists and patient associations met with the aim of understanding how Italy intends to place itself in the future.



## Green Biotech: between tradition and innovation > Lecce

In collaboration with Associazione di promozione sociale BioBANG, University of Salento, CHR-NANO, a wide overview on plant biotechnology with speeches on the science principles, the contribution to economic development and the pipeline of innovation. The participants had also the opportunity to discover how all of these can improve the future economy of Italy.

## Use of cord blood stem cells for non-hematological purposes > Rome

**The use of stem cells coming from cord blood proved to be a fact for hematologic and onco-hematologic transplants. Cord blood is also rich in non-hematopoietic stem cells, whose therapeutic applications are object of experimental, pre-clinical and clinical studies first involving patients with neurologic, autoimmune and rejection pathologies.**

The event, in collaboration with Policlinico Gemelli, provided the opportunity to discuss this topic. The event was attended by 50 people.

## Technology transfer and business creation > Milan

Technology transfer is the main instrument in the virtuous process of promotion of the high-innovation level research. How to favour technology transfer among research centers and biotech companies? At what point are we and which are the perspectives and the demands in order to make biotechnology a stimulus for the competitive development of the country?

The event, in collaboration with Netval, answered these questions.

## From research to future products bioPmed award 2014 > Canavese

In collaboration with bioPmed and Bioindustry Park Silvano Fumero SpA, the event underlined the role of business in transforming research results in the field of health innovation. The best five projects had the opportunity to present their innovations to a wider audience of citizens and professionals.





## The sea: a resource for the bioeconomy > Naples

In collaboration with Comune di Napoli, Consorzio Technapoli, 130 people joined the event this year to discover how Naples and the Campanian area can aim at becoming a strategic point where the excellent basic research in the marine biotechnology field can turn into the creation of new industries and new occupation.



## From green chemistry to human health > Padua

**In collaboration with CNR, dipartimento di Scienze Biomediche e dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Tecnologie dei Materiali e Dipartimento di Scienze Bio-Agroalimentari**

The event's objective was to present some original initiatives linked to the activity of CNR researchers in the biotechnology field. In particular, the results of the research done in the fields of muscular and nervous degenerative diseases and new therapeutic approaches were presented. Also, some researchers from CNR in the environment of green chemistry applied to human health problems participated and contributions from the supervisors of the Venetian biotechnology industry were brought to the discussions.

## Biotechnology today: a challenge for the future > Varese

**In collaboration with Assobiotec, Insubria University and the participation of the Chamber of Commerce**

Around 200 high school students, teachers, young researchers and general public had the chance to assist to discussions about the current evolution of biotechnology in the green, white and red areas, presented by university professors engaged in research. In the modern world, while searching for a gateway to sustainable development, the conference showed that biotechnology offers new tools and approaches for improving the quality of life, for environmental protection and for bio-based energy production.

## From CNR biotechnological research to the market > Pula, Sardinia

**In collaboration with Sardegna Ricerche (promoted as a BioTTasa partner)**

Meetings gathering 70 researchers and companies under the project BioTTasa, with focus on the areas of diagnostics and development of innovative drugs, gene therapy, biosensors in the agro- food field and the environment, biodiversity and bioenergy.

BioTTasa is a project funded by the Ministry of Economic Development - Department for Development and Economic Cohesion - Directorate-General for the encouragement of entrepreneurial activity - Division VIII of Funds Notice RIDITT.

## Multidisciplinary approaches for the development of biotechnology in the biomedical and agri-food > Palermo

**In collaboration with Istituto di Biomedicina ed Immunologia Molecolare (IBIM), Istituto di BioFisica (IBF)-Palermo, Area della Ricerca CNR-Palermo, Dipartimento STEBICEF UniPA**

The event included seminars on the application of biotechnology in the field of biomedical and agri-food and some hands-on experiments in the laboratory such as: processes of DNA extraction; methods of diseases diagnosis; interaction of radiation with biological material; quality methods in the field of food for the identification and extraction (or not) of benefits.



## Start-up in Bioeconomics, official satellite event of the IV European Conference of Bioeconomics Stakeholders > Turin

In collaboration with Università di Torino and Expo TO 2015

This event was a chance to present the Italian start-up businesses active in different bioeconomics fields: energy, chemistry and agri-food. 200 people discussed about the European, national and regional politics for bioeconomics, starting from the Report on Bioeconomics achieved by the Intesa San Paolo Study Centre.

## Development and competitiveness in the country: the role of biotechnology > Rome

The European Commission identified biotechnologies among the Key Enabling Technologies (KET) able to contribute, as an added value, to the re-launch of several sectors of the traditional industry and to the management of many challenges that our society faces in numerous fields, like health, agriculture, energy and environment.

Held in collaboration with EY, Associazione NOVA Network Orizzonti Valori Azioni, the event represented a moment of encounter, analysis and comparison of institutional level, with the aim to define a strategy allowing to look at biotechnologies, even in Italy, as an instrument of growth and competitiveness, besides being a vehicle for an incomparable qualified occupational and juvenile development.

## We are not alone: the microorganisms living with us > Lodi

In collaboration with Parco Tecnologico Padano, Illumina

How understanding microbics communities can help health, quality and sustainability? The human being always took advantage of microorganisms to improve the quality of life and he learned to know some of them. This event was an interesting journey into metagenomics applications both in research and in industry.



## Genomics for the development of prevention methods, diagnosis and personalized medicine, DNA and Facebook > Pula, Sardinia

In collaboration with Sardegna Ricerche (promoted as a partner of Enterprise Europe Network)

The meeting offered cause for reflection about the employment of DNA sequence data for different purposes: research oriented to diagnosis and personalized medicine, or to divulgation and social use.

## A hundred years of molecules for life: from structure to function > Teramo

In collaboration with ANBI

By celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Crystallography, ANBI Abruzzo and the Teramo University organised an event to communicate the importance of such method and the biotechnological approaches linked to it. In particular, crystallography allows knowing the three-dimensional structure of proteins (enzymes, receptors) at a very high resolution, so as to design molecules suitable for the identification of themselves, and to develop ligands (inhibitors, agonists or antagonists) in order to modulate their function. During the event, 300 people were given examples in which the study of the crystallographic structure revealed fundamental to get the function of key proteins in several biotechnology application fields.



*"A hundred years of molecules for life: from structure to function" conference in Teramo*

## Is Prometheus really released? Science, technology and society in the Third millennium > Rome

The meeting aimed at representing the value of research, innovation and technology not as frightful instruments, but as incredible means at the service of man.

The purpose was to make clear that the true science, exercised with professionalism, exertion, sacrifice and humility, based on solid ethical principles and led by rigorous scientists, always puts into the service of man and it recognizes the protection of human life as a main purpose. During the meeting, the “Premio Giornalistico Assobiotec” was awarded to Riccardo Iacona, author and presenter of “Preso diretta” (RAI3). With this award, Assobiotec wanted to call the attention to the value of the correct information of science, indispensable means of progress and wealth, therefore pointing out the merit of who concretely strives to promote it in an impartial and professional way.

## Job opportunities in biotech > Padua

In collaboration with Università degli Studi di Padova - Biotecnologie Farmaceutiche di Padova, Comune di Padova, financed with contribution of ESU – the Regional Agency for the Right to Education, the event was an excellent opportunity for over 200 graduates in biotechnology, biomedical and biopharmaceutical fields to discover future career opportunities.

*Over 200 students participating at a career fair in Padua*



## Role of specific diseases and its socio-economic impact on the Italian situation > Milan

In a study presented by American Academy it was demonstrated that in 4,500 patients subjected to an allergene-specific immunotherapy there was a significant reduction of health care total costs, of outpatient costs exceptive of immunotherapy-related assistance, of pharmacy costs, compared to the same number of patients treated with drug therapies, without even considering the indirect costs of lost working (or school) days, costs of clinic transfers and so on.

Held in collaboration with Anallergo, Lofarma, ITA – Sede di Milano, the event aimed at showing to the public and to institutional stakeholders the key role of specific immunotherapy in terms of health of patients and of development in a sector on the rise.

## Biological drugs - Opportunity and Innovation > Gerenzano

In collaboration with Areta international, PALL Life Sciences

The purpose of the seminar was to define and exploit the opportunities of the research and development of biological drugs in a context of rising demand for innovative products. The seminar was opened by presenting an overview of the European biopharmaceuticals market: trends that show a continuous growth of the sector.

## The life cycles and reproduction of organisms in the laboratory > Lesina

In collaboration with CNR- ISMAR

The use of techniques of microbiology, along with the experience of research groups, allows developing several techniques used for the monitoring of marine ecosystems and species reproduction in ISMAR laboratories. Several biotechnology activities developed in the institute were showcased: reinoculation of algal lineages in monoxenic pure cultures; ecological/reproductive cycles with of sea urchin fertilization techniques and many more.

## Is Biotechnology in our plate? > Bologna

In collaboration with ANBI, Università di Bologna, a discussion around an issue that perhaps does not exist

The discussion highlighted where biotechnology can be found in the long run, from the seeds of plants, going to the health of the animals, and to the human health.

The objective was to identify at what point the division between “traditional biotechnology” and “innovative biotechnology” should be made and if this point is to remain fixed over time, despite the progress of scientific research.



## From the description to the synthesis of the living > Trento

**In collaboration with MuSe Museo delle Scienze**

DNA, Genomics and converging technologies are the three great revolutions that anticipate Synthetic Biology. In the presence of biologist Carlo Alberto Redi, the meeting focused on the fields of biomedicine related to these new techniques and approaches, such as cell therapies with stem cells, the post-human and parenting multiple spatial biology and synthetic organisms.

## Biopharmaceuticals: new research objectives > Rome

In collaboration with Istituto di Farmacologia Traslazionale, the event included a brief presentation of the scientific topics of the Institute of Translational Pharmacology focused on the study of new molecular targets diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic, on preclinical and translational research and the regulatory aspects of the drug, with the ultimate goal of applying scientific knowledge to the development of new technology platforms that implement the current diagnostic and therapeutic tools.

## Discovery Lab 2.0: Research for passion > Naples

**In collaboration with CNR**

The institutes of the National Research Council, IBB and IEOS, carry out biomedical, molecular and clinical research with applications in the disease imaging. The research, starting from molecules of biological interest and cell biology, investigates the molecular mechanisms of disease, to develop tools for diagnosis, prevention and therapy. The lab became a meeting place where the dialogue between researchers and kids aimed at spreading scientific knowledge and creating curiosity about the world of research.

## Genetic tests as a model of clinical impact in biotechnology > Rome

**In collaboration with Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù - IRCCS, CNRB**

Genetic tests are the most important translational product of genetic research applied to medicine. The meeting aimed at showing the transformation of traditional genetic tests and the new expectations of personalized medicine, their impact on oncological diagnoses, the news about non-invasive prenatal diagnosis genetic tests, the employment of Next Generation Sequencing techniques in diagnosis of rare diseases, the Italian and European scenarios.



*"Use of cord blood stem cells for non-hematological purposes" conference in Rome*

## Stem cells in regenerative medicine: new perspectives for the therapy of ageing-associated diseases > Chieti

In collaboration with **Fondazione Università G. d'Annunzio**

Regenerative medicine represents a new multidisciplinary approach for the therapy of degenerative pathologies affecting several human organs (cardiovascular system, musculoskeletal system, nervous system). The purpose of this initiative was to show the newest approaches of regenerative medicine in the field of *in vitro* trials and on animal models, so as to lay the foundations for future collaborations to accelerate the transition toward the clinical phase.

## Drug products for Advanced Therapies: clinical aspects and perspectives for their clinical development > Rome

In collaboration with **Istituto Superiore di Sanità**

Drugs for advanced therapies include all therapeutic interventions of new generation defined as: genetic therapy, cellular therapy and tissue therapy. The advanced therapies already represent, in many cases, the only chance to treat relevant and widespread pathologies, like anaemia, cystic fibrosis and many cancer forms. Important developments in the future are predicted, especially in the research of treatments focused to cure many cancer forms.



## Brilliant Paths > Bari

**In collaboration with CNR- ITB , ARTI and H-BIO**

The study of scientific disciplines combines to cultural and ethical aspects, essential to the promotion of an active European citizenry. Investments in research and development, education and formation are crucial to face the challenges of contemporaneity. Life sciences and biotechnology are considered the most promising technologies, leading to a knowledge-based economy in relation to diffusion, elaboration and application of new learning.

## Study courses and professional education in biotechnology sector > Sassari

**In collaboration with Università di Sassari – Corso di studi in Biotecnologie**

The event was organized in a session of 3 seminars (1 exponent of the academy, 1 of the industry, 1 of the Technology Park), an excellent occasion to show academic and post-academic job experiences and integration in industrial sectors of research and development. Academic researchers guided the visitors groups in the laboratories of the departments of Biomedical Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture, to practically show the world of research in the field of biotechnology for life sciences and agri-food.

## A journey into the world of proteins > Bari

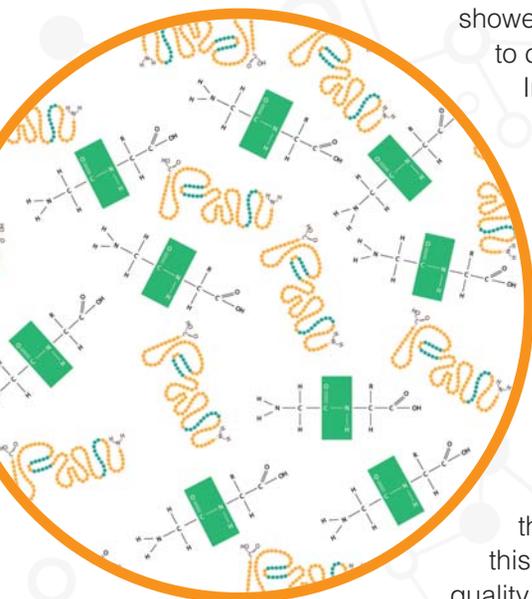
**In collaboration with CNR-IC, ARTI and H-BIO**

A journey into the world of the proteins from the structural point of view showed how biological molecules interact with specific proteins and how to create drugs. Finally, the participants debated a movie made by the Institute to illustrate crystallography.

## Challenges and results in the development and production of new gene or cellular therapies > Milan

**In collaboration with MolMed**

The event envisaged to deal with the importance of the interaction between Academy and Industry. The access of patients to highly innovative technologies is actually easier to put into effect thanks to the continuous interaction between Academy and Industry: this allows to combine science and technology with development and quality requests, thus satisfying the clinical needs for which, at present, a solution is still lacking.



## Biodiversity and Biotechnology: two resources for agriculture in the Mediterranean > Valenzano

**In scientific and organizational collaboration with Assobiotec, the National Research Council CNR – Department of Bio Agro & Food Science and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute**

60 participants, mainly young researchers from Italy and other countries, had the chance to listen to speeches from top Italian researchers engaged in agricultural and animal genetics, forestry, food science and microbiology, focusing on the contribution to the needs of Southern Europe and Middle East.

The meeting was opened by the General Secretary of CIHEAM, Cosimo Lacirignola and hosted by the former President of the Agricultural Committee of the European Parliament, the Hon. Paolo De Castro, who animated an intense debate with the speakers and the public. The event ended with a roundtable attended by the speakers, the directors of the Regional Agency for Innovation, of the Agriculture Innovation Office of the Regional Government, of the CNR green biotech branch and the Assobiotec representatives.



## Nanobiotechnology: unveiling the Lecce progress > Lecce

**In collaboration with Associazione di promozione sociale BioBANG, Università del Salento, CHR-NANO**

The Salento University is proud to have one of the major Nanotechnology centers in Europe, the CNR-NANO of Lecce. With the support of its experts, the participants had the opportunity to examine in depth the secrets of nanotechnology: in the last decade the application of nanotechnology in the biomedical research field was more and more exploited. The knowledge on a nanometric scale opened new surprising application scenarios, from diagnostics to therapy.

## Let's make research: science in direct > Naples

The event was an informative meeting addressed to children. Some issues of great interest were discussed, ranging from stem cells, nutrition and health, systems model, to biofuels.

## From molecular marker to the diagnostic system > Tramariglio Alghero (SS)

**In collaboration with Porto Conte Research**

Top researchers at Paolo Conte Research presented a development itinerary of an IVD system, starting from studies about discovery biomarkers, through design and validation of a diagnostic prototype. A guided visit to the laboratories of proteomics, genomics and diagnostic systems showed the phases and the study technologies linked to the biomarker discovery and the development of immunodiagnostic markers.



## Drug development > Tramariglio Alghero (SS)

**In collaboration with ViroStatics**

The event looked into the development itinerary of a drug in a SME in the field of HIV/AIDS (discovery and preclinical development phases). The main purpose of ViroStatics Research and Development is the drug development in fields of viral infections, of tumors and inflammatory diseases, sectors in which unmet medical needs exist, and cannot be faced by the drugs currently available. Such innovative drugs have, as a target, a human protein which plays a key role in the process of viral infections, oncogenesis and inflammation.

## FutureCamp Europe Bio-agrofood > Milan

**In collaboration with Women and Technologies, Associazione Donne e Tecnologie,**

The 2014 edition resulted in the participation of over 100 students, parents and teachers and introduced them to the role of biotechnology in the food chain.

The debate involved not only academic professors and delegates of sector companies, but also undergraduate students emerging for their innovative projects, graduate students and Erasmus students, able to share their international experiences, fundamentally important today and, even more, for future jobs.

## Personalized medicine and Bioethics > Colletterto Giacosa (TO)

**In collaboration with Bioindustry Park Silvano Fumero SpA, Associazione KITE**

**With Prof. Gilberto Corbellini (La Sapienza University, Rome)**

The advances in biotechnology today offer opportunities that were unimaginable some years ago. From the application of biotechnology and new knowledge, coming from genetics, about the diagnosis and cure of human pathologies, a big challenge is born: personalized medicine, able to prevent diseases and maintain, or improve, our health. The event was an opportunity to discuss its ethical and social challenges.



## Ageing and rare diseases > Genoa

**In collaboration with CNRB, Politecmed and Tecnobionet SI4Life**

“Population ageing” and “rare diseases”: two themes with high social impact debated during this event. Both subjects notably interest public opinion, who wants to gain understanding of these problems. This considers the current situation in Liguria, in which the aged population reaches very high age limits, with consequent need to incur remarkable healthcare costs, both for appropriate therapies and rehabilitative activities, a very complex problem at the bottom of necessary interventions about rare diseases, which register a high incidence in the region also thanks to the presence of qualified institutes of research and assistance.

## Yeasts in research > Bari

Yeast is known to the public to be the main actor in making wine, beer and bread, but it is also a model to study the programmed cell death, whose well-known form is apoptosis: in multicellular organisms, apoptosis guarantees the correct embryonic development, cellular differentiation and the regulation of immune responses.

Over 50 visitors had the opportunity to discover experimental procedures related to the use of yeast in biomedical research.

## Open Doors at Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine (Tigem) of Naples > Pozzuoli (NA)

**In collaboration with Tigem, Fondazione Telethon**

Some of Tigem's successes are the discovery of 25 genes underlying rare genetic pathologies rare genetic pathologies, the development of a gene therapy for a serious form of hereditary blindness, and the discovery of a cell system fundamental for the disposal of toxic substances, which is opening important scenarios for the identification of effective therapies against various degenerative diseases, not only genetic and rare, but also widespread like Parkinson and Alzheimer.

## Prevention for health, sustainability, economic development of the Country > Rome

**Prevention is one of the issues that the Ministry of Health has decided to tackle under the presidency of the European Union, both for the positive effects of improved general health status collectively and individually, and for the positive impact on the sector of medical care and the functioning of health systems.**

The event aimed at providing a platform for the industry's most prominent figures to explain how the principle of prevention should be the basis for any kind of healthcare system, for health reasons, but also for the positive effects that the prevention has on the economic sustainability of the system.



## Protocols of Molecular Diagnostics and Personalized Medicine > Milan

In collaboration with Clonit, DNA on Disk, Rete Ematologica Lombarda

The meeting gathered clinicians, R&D representatives of diagnostics societies, pathologists who use systems of molecular diagnostics, pharma representatives active in the sector of molecular-targeted therapies and representatives of public decision makers at a regional and national level.

## How to become a Nobel Prize > Udine

In collaboration with IGA Technology Services Srl, Istituto di Genomica Applicata, activities for scholastic groups of High School classes IV-V, a game to know the chemical-physical DNA properties and to understand how to read the information of a DNA sequence.



## In our DNA > Bergamo

In collaboration with Parco Tecnologico Padano, Cesvip Lombardia, Workopp, WorkCoffee, Genessere

How can we know what and how to eat in order to feel healthy? Our DNA can help us! Nutrigenomics is a new science looking inside our genetic code in order to give us important information about what we can do to better prevent pathologies such as obesity, hypertension, diabetes. Studying the genetic code can also help to understand our nutritional needs to minimize eating disorders: coeliac disease, intolerances and allergies actually origin from our DNA.

In BergamoScienza you will find a laboratory to discover it, understand it and to know how to turn this knowledge in a healthier lifestyle, in collaboration with scientists and nutritionists.





DNA

## Brilliant Helices > Bologna

For schools | All about DNA

START Laboratory of Creative Culture is a project promoted by the Bologna Municipality and by Golinelli Foundation for the diffusion of the scientific and artistic culture, of knowledge and creativity.

Addressed to children from 2 to 13 years old, the event focused on scientific tours and interactive educational activities combining art, science and technology.

## Forensic genetics and DNA fi with CLIL method > Bologna

Education course | @Life Learning Center

The education course aims at using CLIL method and presenting to teachers an example of didactic module about the analysis of genetic profiles that can be used and experimented in class.

## Find out about the DNA that's in you! > Milan

In collaboration with IFOM Istituto FIRC di Oncologia Molecolare

"Find out about the DNA that's in you!" was the You Scientist laboratory on DNA addressed to all middle school students willing to know more about research. Each student had the chance to purify the DNA from his own cells and to see with his own eyes one of the most important molecules of life.



## DNA in your pocket > Milan

In collaboration with Museo Nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci, activities for group of students in the interactive laboratory of Biotechnology and Genetics.

Scrape off, separate, extract: thanks to enzymes, soap and brushes, we can put into a vial the two meters-long DNA, present in each cell.

## D.N.A. Diverse Not Aliens: travel in the world of the cell breathing the air of biotechnology > Bresso

In collaboration with Scienza Under 18, the event aimed at communicating how science is “made” in class.

A didactic exhibition about biology addressed to middle school students, as part of Scienza under 18, a project about scientific education conceived by the teachers of the Experimental Institute “Rinascita A.Livi”, Milan.

## And if it were possible to print in 3D... > Lecce

In collaboration with Associazione di promozione sociale BioBANG, University of Salento, CHR-NANO

Practical demonstrations on the potential of a product entirely developed by young students from Salento University, together with Open Biomedical Initiative. 3D prints are today a fact, and they open new applicative scenarios in biotech field: from the construction of prothesis to the fulfilment of scaffold for growth and cellular differentiation.

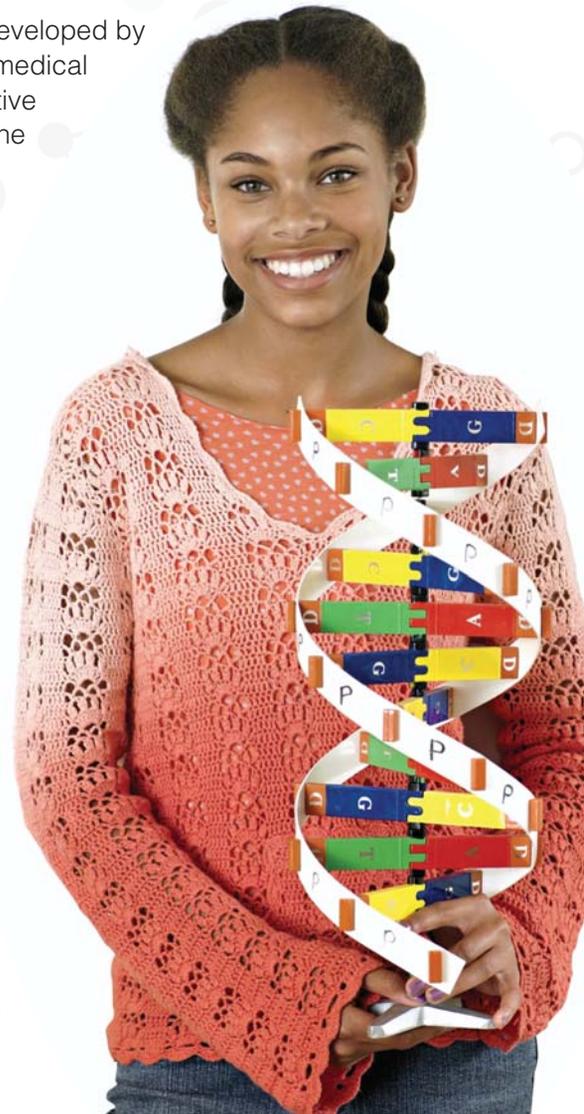
## I'm in. Biotechnology: research, school and territory > Trento

In collaboration with MuSe Museo delle Scienze, Scuola di dottorato in Biomolecular Science dell'Università di Trento e con Enti di ricerca del Trentino, the event focused on presentations and experimental activities offering an overview of the so-called Omic Sciences, discipline linked to molecular biology and genetics, which summarize the evolution of study of DNA towards proteins.

## “Journalist for a day” contest > Campoverde di Aprilia (LT)

In collaboration with AbbVie, Scuole Superiori

AbbVie Italia gave students a chance to know and visit the most well-advanced laboratories and production lines. They also had the chance to take part in the “journalist for a day” contest and have their articles published in the company's internal magazine.



## In our DNA. How knowing our DNA can help us to live better > Bergamo

In collaboration with Parco Tecnologico Padano, CASVIPLAB, Bergamo Scienza, Genessere, 300 people joined the interactive laboratory experiments. The participants were able to discover DNA extraction techniques and later to debate on the implications that new knowledge will have on our lives.

## Brilliant Helice > Bologna

In collaboration with Fondazione Golinelli, fun and interactive activities, animations and lab experiments revealed the discovery of DNA and its applications, to children, teens and families.

## PlayDecide: Stem cells and Orphan Drugs > Ancona, Milan, Venice

At three separate events, held in Ancona, Milan and Venice, stem cells and orphan drug issues were analyzed and debated from the different points of view of many key players: rare disease patients and all professionals in research, treatment and government (researchers and associations, health professionals, students, institutional representatives). The discussion also analyzed the social impact of the ethics, science and economics behind stem cell research.



*Participants debate during the session of PlayDecide: Stem cells and Orphan Drugs*



## Telling science, operating instructions > Lodi

In collaboration with ANBI, Parco Tecnologico Padano, Scientific Cast, Italbiotec, Prometheus Magazine, an educational day to help researchers discover the available instruments for an effective communication of science.



## Knowing the Genome to Nourish the Planet > Udine

Held in collaboration with IGA Technology Services Srl, Istituto di Genomica Applicata, the discussion focused on how biotechnology can contribute to the challenge of nourishing the planet. The Genomics Institute and IGA Technology sequenced the highest number of plant organisms for food preparation in the world and they mapped the genome of vine, peach tree, olive tree, coffee, durum wheat.



## PlayDecide @ BiotechWeek: reflection on stem cells > Bologna

**PlayDecide is a discussion game to talk in a simple and effective way about controversial issues.**

In collaboration with Minerva Associazione di Divulgazione Scientifica and ANBI, the initiative was developed in order to create a discussion game between students and biotechnology researchers. 100 students playing different roles: patients, politicians and professionals in research, treatment and government. Top researchers in biotechnology field at Bologna University joined the initiative as moderators and facilitators of the discussions with students.

## At the frontiers of science: a laboratory among researchers, patients, industry and institutions > Venice

**In collaboration with UNIAMO, Università degli Studi di Ancona, l'Università Milano Bicocca, il Dipartimento di Scienze della Salute di Unimi e Folsatec-SEMM, l'Università Ca' Foscari (Venezia)**

The frontiers of research, with the new ethical-normative scenarios and the health perspectives they open up, are frontiers in which patients affected by rare diseases, because of their complexity and vulnerability, end up performing the role of pioneers and public. Starting from highly complex themes like the use of stem cells and the orphan drugs, over 100 students, young researchers, patients, professionals, industry and institutions joined the discussions.

## FlashMob@BiotechWeek > Bologna

Organised in collaboration with Minerva Associazione di Divulgazione Scientifica, ANBI Italia Unita per la Scienza and BioBang, the flashmob in Bologna took people on a very entertaining journey explaining the process of cell division by mitosis.



## Theatrical performance: The return of Frankenstein, or: the emotions of science > Colleretto Giacosa (TO)

In collaboration with Bioindustry Park Silvano Fumero SpA, Associazione KITE

With Omar Ramero e Giulia Brenna, the theatrical performance was a true spectacle on how science can be filled with emotions.

The Frankenstein myth has always been negatively associated to power and the abuse of technology that acts on biology. However the creature is far from being a monster. He is an individual provided with deep feelings and he is able to feel strong passions. His “return” represented an entertaining demonstration on how science is not composed only of “cold” cells and neurons, but also of feelings and emotions.

## The many faces of Biotech – Photography exhibition > Siena

In collaboration with Toscana Life Sciences, Archivio Associazione Sclavo , Comitato Siena Candidata Capitale della Cultura 2019, Comune, Novartis, University of Siena, fun interactive laboratory activities for kids and a photo exhibition showcasing the human side of science and the real impact it produces on our everyday lives.



## Open Doors > across Italy

Visits to research laboratories and biotech companies took place throughout the Italian edition of European Biotech Week:

- > Merck Serono S.p.A. – Guidonia Montecelio, Bari
- > Sardegna Ricerche - Pula
- > IRB Spa - Member of Croda Int. plc – Altavilla Vicentina (VI)
- > Istituto di Scienze Neurologiche – ISM
- > UOS di Catania - Catania (CT)
- > UOS di Catanzaro - Roccelletta di Borgia (CZ)
- > Istituto di Biomedicina ed Immunologia Molecolare – IBIM - Palermo
- > IGA Technologies Services - Udine
- > Institute of Marine Science-ISMAR – Lesina (FG)
- > Areta international - Gerenzano
- > Dipartimento di Medicina Veterinaria, Università di Bologna – Ozzano Emilia (BO)
- > Istituto di Farmacologia Traslazionale - Rome
- > Istituto di Endocrinologia e Oncologia Sperimentale “G. Salvatore” – IEOS - Napoli
- > Istituto di Biostrutture e Bioimmagini – IBB - Napoli
- > Istituto di Cristallografia – IC - Bari
- > Istituto di Tecnologie Biomediche – ITB - Bari
- > Molmed - Milan
- > AbbVie – Campoverde di Aprilia (LT)
- > Istituto di Biomembrane e Bioenergetica – IBBE - Bari
- > Farmalabor – Canosa di Puglia (BT)
- > Grape SRL – Alba (CN)
- > Istituto di Bioscienze e BioRisorse - IBBR sede di Napoli – Napoli
- > Porto Conte Ricerche – Tramariglio Alghero (SS)
- > ViroStatics – Tramariglio Alghero (SS)
- > Fondazione Telethon – Pozzuoli (NA)
- > Fleming Research – Milan
- > Clonit – Milan



Visit to Porto Conte Ricerche in Sardinia



Merck Serono S.p.A. opens its doors during European Biotech Week



# Lithuania



## Workshop „Bioeconomy in Lithuania – prospects for the future“ > Vilnius

More than 50 people from industry and science, also politicians and representatives of media met in the Lithuanian Ministry of Economy, on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. They discussed reserves of biomass in Lithuania and possible fields of application of these renewable resources.

## „Mobile Bioclass“ in Lithuanian schools

The traveling laboratory, called “Mobile Bioclass”, is designed to promote biosciences among school-children and inspire them to pursue career in sciences. They get to work with real scientific instruments and conduct hands-on biotechnology experiments in order, for instance, to detect DNA molecules and identify genetic markers. The educational programme also includes lectures, discussions and training sessions designed to foster interest in science. The „Mobile Bioclass“ started its activities in Lithuania in 2011. Up until now, the „Mobile Bioclass“ has already visited over 100 schools in 70 cities of Lithuania. The „Mobile Bioclass“ visits schools on a regular basis. All visits are free of charge. The „Mobile Bioclass“ is a joint project of company Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics and Vilnius University. „Mobile Bioclass“ visited 2 Lithuanian schools during European Biotech Week.

## Seminar on Life Sciences for school children > Vilnius

A two-day seminar for school children in the Institute of Biotechnology, Vilnius university. It is a regular event. For more then 10 years every autumn 50-70 life sciences oriented school children are invited to the Institute of Biotechnology. They attend 2-3 lectures, also they take part in experimental exercises and excursion to laboratories of the institute. This year the seminar was organized on the 9-10<sup>th</sup> October.



„Mobile Bioclass“ laboratory



Workshop on the prospects for the future of the bioeconomy in Lithuania

Students take part in the Life Sciences seminar at the Institute of Bio technology, Vilnius University



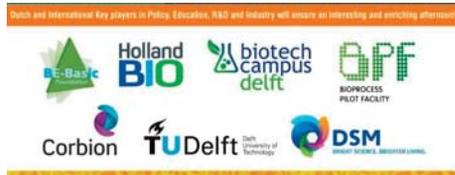


# Netherlands



## Webinar “Biotechnology and Agricultural Residues”

Biotech Week started with the webinar "Biotechnology and Agricultural Residues", in which Dutch knowledge institutions, government and industry had a live debate on the development of the biobased economy. Key players from across the biotechnology value chain shared insights, followed the potentially valuable organic waste streams and talked about the innovative ways to turn these streams into high value bio-based products.



## Food Innovations: Past, Present & Future > Utrecht

### Technology essential for sustainable and healthy food

The Dutch edition of Biotech Week ended in Utrecht with a showcase of promising innovations that contribute to feeding the increasing world population in a sustainable matter. Bayer CropScience announced a new salt-tolerant rice variety, which will be introduced to the market in 2016. DuPont shared light on the role of food enzymes in lowering the carbon footprint in the food supply chain. KeyGene and GENALICE showed how their combined technology and software speeds up plant breeding to a whole new dimension. Despite the fact that technology and food often cause tension - and this topic was heavily discussed in the panel debate – it was concluded that technology is absolutely essential for sustainable and healthy food.



Paul Van Liempt, journalist, BNR Nieuwsradio



Fred van Heyningen, Global Head Food & Agri Banking, Rabobank





# Portugal



## Conference on how biotech can help revitalize Portugal's Economy > Lisbon

Top executives of international biotech companies, along with patient advocates, investors and politicians, debated about Portugal's competitive advantages and how biotech can revitalize Portugal's economy in the near future.



# Romania

## European Biotechnology Days > Cluj-Napoca

The Agricultural University of Cluj-Napoca hosted a three-day international conference under the umbrella of the European Biotechnology Days which attracted around 200 participants: students, journalists, researchers and representatives of NGOs.

The agenda covered a multitude of biotechnology-related topics, among which medical biotechnology, animal biotechnology, plant biotechnology, bioenergy, bioinformatics, immunology, industrial industrial biotechnology & environmental biotechnology and brought together speakers representing several universities from Italy, Spain, Slovakia, and Romania.

Dr. Nicolae Hristea, executive director of the Romanian Biotech Association, made a contribution to the event by talking to those present about the role of technology in unlocking the potential of agriculture and food industry in the EU.



*Dr. Nicolae Hristea, executive director of the Romanian Biotech Association, talking about the role of technology in unlocking the potential of food industry in the EU*





## Spain

asebio

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antama

### “Marine Biodiversity & Biotechnology applied to Human Health” conference > Madrid

The conference “Marine Biodiversity & Biotechnology applied to Human Health” was organized by the Complutense University of Madrid and attended by Biology and Pharmacy students and professors.

Fernando de la Calle, Head of the Microbiology Unit at PharmaMar, a Spanish company that looks for innovative drugs of marine origin, explained the discovery of drugs from an industry point of view. He focused on how they use biotechnology to solve some of the problems related to drug synthesis, illustrating it with the real case of a semi-synthesis process to manufacture one of their drugs.

### Visit with students at the AlgaEnergy facilities > Madrid

ASEBIO, in collaboration with FEBiotec, organized a visit with students of Biology from the University Autonoma of Madrid to the AlgaEnergy’s PTEM plant in Madrid.

During the visit, the students visited the laboratory facilities and were able to learn about the processes, techniques, uses and applications of microalgae.



*“Marine Biodiversity & Biotechnology applied to Human Health” conference in Madrid*

*Visit to the AlgaEnergy’s PTEM plant in Madrid*

## VIDEO 'Voices of agricultural biotechnology in the European Union'

On the occasion of the European Biotech Week, ANTAMA Foundation launched the video "Voices of agricultural biotechnology," a piece that included statements from scientists, experts and farmers about the value of genetically modified (GM) crops and the European commitment in this area.

## 'Biotechnology as a strategic tool in the future of food' and 'Science vs Pseudoscience in biotechnology' > Madrid

A group of lectures on agricultural and food biotechnology held by Daniel Ramón (Scientific Director of Biopolis), José Antonio López Guerrero (Doctor of CC. Associate Professor of Biology and Microbiology, Autonomous University of Madrid) and José Miguel Mulet (Professor of Biotechnology at the Technical University Valencia and researcher at the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Plants IBMCP). The speakers addressed the following topics: "Agricultural Biotechnology: Values and Myths", "Food Biotechnology" and "Science vs Pseudoscience".



## Conference on plant biotechnology > Madrid

On the occasion of the European Biotech Week, Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) held a conference on plant biotechnology, an event discussing advances in biotechnology to improve agricultural activity with direct applications in improving the environment and human health. Elena Caro Bernat (Center for Biotechnology and Plant Genomics UPM-INIA) who spoke about nitrogen-fixing cereals and Francisco Barro Losada (Institute for Sustainable Agriculture AS-CSIC) spoke about no gliandinas GM wheats.



## Biotechnology and communication, two different languages? > Madrid

Held by the Communication Association in Biotechnology (ACB), the discussion forum debated the value of communication in the field of biotechnology and the challenges it faces.



## First day of Biotechnology > Madrid

In the framework of the European Biotechnology Week, ASAJA Cádiz held the 'First Day of Biotechnology' in which the present and the future of biotechnology in the European Union was analyzed. The event included presentations from Pedro Gallardo (ASAJA – Cádiz, vice-president), Francisco Barro (CSIC Researcher creator of biotech free gluten wheat) and Soledad Juan (Director of ANTAMA Foundation).

The speakers emphasized the need for the European Union to open agricultural and food biotechnology to their farmers to be competitive so that also European consumers will be able to benefit from genetically modified crops with nutritional improvements, the new generation of agricultural biotechnology.

## Digital showcase: Book sweepstakes on agricultural biotechnology

On the occasion of the European Biotech Week, Spanish biotechnology association ANTAMA Foundation hosted three Facebook contests inviting readers to compete for some of the reference books on agricultural and food biotechnology: 'The ingenuity and hunger', by Francisco García Olmedo; 'Scientific debates: GM'; 'MANÁ', by Daniel Ramón and Pedro Uris. The contests caught the attention of around 200 people.

## Digital showcase: What you need to know to discuss agricultural biotechnology?

**The European Biotech Week was an excellent opportunity for ANTAMA Foundation to open several discussion topics about agricultural biotechnology on ANTAMA's public website: "What you need to know to discuss agricultural biotechnology?" and "Questions and answers about agricultural biotechnology".**

Are GM crops safe for human health and the environment? Is there sufficient data on the long-term effects? Do GM crops have benefits for the farmers? Do GM crops contribute to reduce pesticide applications? Can GM, conventional and organic crops coexist? These are some of the questions addressed to the readers.

## Digital showcase: Biotech in your everyday life

In collaboration with the Spanish Association of Science Communicators

In collaboration with the Spanish Association of Science Communicators, the activity focused on creating a digital community of influential bloggers using an online platform called Biotekis ([www.biotekis.es](http://www.biotekis.es)). The main focus was on identifying ways in which biotechnology has helped people in their everyday lives.

Biotekis



## Digital showcase: Citizens social media competition

The Spanish association ASEBIO launched a competition on social media (particularly on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) encouraging citizens participation in the activity of outreach of biotechnology. The action started with the preparation of materials for discussions and the dissemination throughout the networks on 6 October, coinciding with the celebration of the European Biotech Week. The winners got the chance to win nutrition or DNA tests.





## Swiss Biotech™ Fall Day > Yverdon-les-Bains

More than 80 persons attended the Swiss Biotech™ Fall day in Yverdon-les-Bains on October 7.

Presentations of topics on innovative drivers in Next Generation Health Care in the field of Orphan Medicines and Companion Diagnostics were discussed during the network breaks. The speakers received an innovative give-away which was produced in 3D printing commemorating the day, produced by young apprentices in Switzerland.

## TEDD Annual Meeting > Waedenswil

The use of biologically more complex cell models is being promoted by the continually rising numbers of compound failures and the increasing cost of drug and substance development. The TEDD Competence Centre pools and transfers knowledge and technologies in order to promote the further development and routine application of in vitro 3D cell culture. By combining diverse skills through integrative cooperation among our research and industrial partners, we are able to cover the entire development and value chain as well as form a powerful and successful network. The focus of this year's TEDD annual meeting was:

- Drug development and predictive toxicology
- Regenerative Medicine
- Personalized Medicine



Swiss Biotech Fall Day



*TEDD Annual Meeting in  
Waedenswil*





## United Kingdom

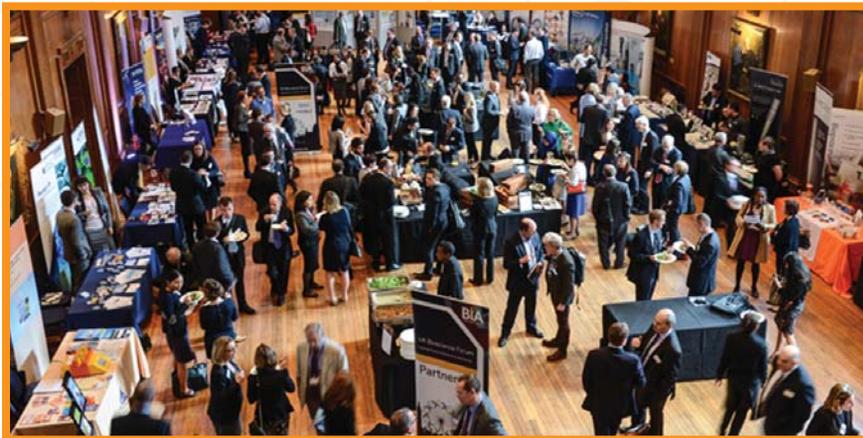


### UK Bioscience Forum > London

The BioIndustry Association (BIA) held its award-winning UK Bioscience Forum on 7 October at the Royal College of Surgeons in London. Some 360 attendees gathered to hear from keynote speakers, including Financial Secretary David Gauke, Lord Drayson and a closing speech from new Life Sciences Minister George Freeman MP, as well as some excellent presentations and panel discussions. The event also saw the launch of two key documents from the BIA: the State of the Nation 2014 report with EY; and the UK Life Science Manifesto 2015-2020, which was developed with new partnership United Life Sciences.

### European Medicines Agency – EuropaBio Information Day > London

Closing the week, on Friday 10 October the European Medicines Agency (EMA) held an exchange day with EuropaBio at Canary Wharf in London, attended by around 50 stakeholders from companies and the EMA itself. The day was opened with a keynote speech from Professor Guido Rasi, Executive Director of the EMA, and included three interactive sessions on 'Fostering Innovation', 'Personalised Medicine' and 'Parallel Advice between EMA and HTA'.



*Participants networking during the UK Bioscience Forum in London*



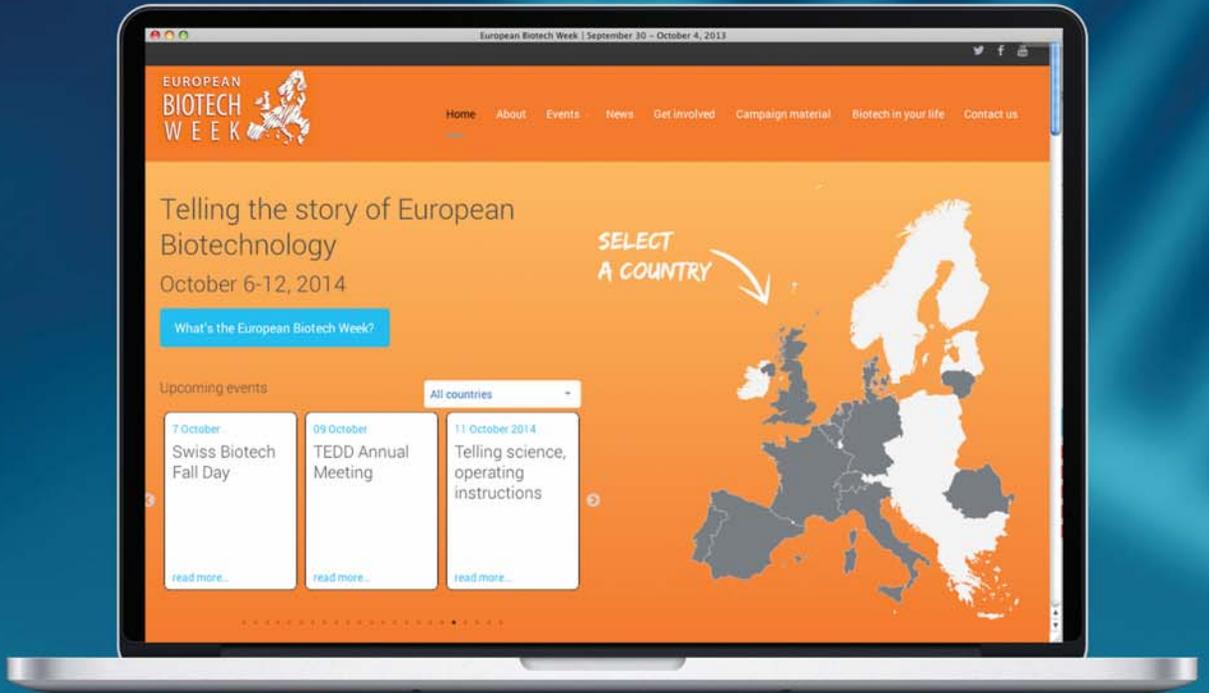
# See you at the next European Biotech Week!

12-18 October 2015





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# Biotech & Agriculture



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<http://btwk.eu/15VELzG>

**Bioplastic**  
<http://btwk.eu/15VELQo>

**Cheese**  
<http://btwk.eu/14NHLOC>

**Bread**  
<http://btwk.eu/18460rG>

**Detergents**  
<http://btwk.eu/1a37Az>

# Industrial Biotech

Agricultural biotech is helping you to have access to safe and affordable food while enabling more food to be grown using less land, less energy, less water and producing lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Industrial biotechnology uses enzymes and micro-organisms to convert renewable raw materials, instead of fossil fuels, into biobased products in sectors such as chemicals, food and feed, detergents, textiles, pharmaceuticals and energy

Healthcare biotech is helping you to live healthier for longer by providing you with medical choices and solutions. Currently more than 20% of all marketed medicines is biotech and it is estimated that by 2015, 50% of all medicines will come from biotech



**Plant-made pharmaceuticals**  
<http://btwk.eu/188KYID>

**DNA: Did you know**  
<http://btwk.eu/17R6Zc>

**DNA double helix**  
<http://btwk.eu/1aEkhDe>

**Crime scene biotech**  
<http://btwk.eu/1845v54>

**Insulin**  
<http://btwk.eu/1e5dPWs>

**Vaccines**  
<http://btwk.eu/15mk1oh>

**Tissue engineering**  
<http://btwk.eu/16myl4f>

**Advanced Therapies**  
<http://btwk.eu/18WwY5C>

**Musculoskeletal disorders**  
<http://btwk.eu/15TCaMN>

**Rare disease**  
<http://btwk.eu/1el76ZF>

# Biotech & Health

# EUROPEAN BIOTECH WEEK



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