Incentives grants and state aid

Biotechnology Sector in Spain

September 2016 Edition
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**INTRODUCTION**

The biotechnology sector in Spain continues growing year after year. To a large extent, this is due to its transversal character, because more and more companies from different sectors incorporate biotechnology activities to their products and services.

Proof of this, there has been a growing increase of the turnover of biotechnology companies in the Spanish GDP. And that evolution has been constant, even in the years of the crisis. As evidence we have the values of 2014, year when that economic figure stood at 10.35%, and 2008, when biotechnology just supposed 2.98% of GDP. The value of 10.35% has even equaled digits of tourism in the country, one of the pillars of the Spanish economy.

Currently, Spain ranks as the second country with the highest number of biotechnology-related companies in the world, only behind the United States.\(^1\) In addition, Spain is leader in personalized medicine and in the development of innovative drugs for the treatment of cancer, Alzheimer's disease, autoimmune and infectious diseases, ranking among the top ten European countries in drug development.\(^2\)

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\(^1\) Data from OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)  
\(^2\) Data from Beyond Borders Report, 2014
Part I

PART I.A- GENERAL APPROACH TO THE SECTOR
Biotechnology Subsectors

Depending on the uses to which scientific and industrial areas subject to biotechnology, it can be divided into various sub-sectors. In Spain the most appropriate distinction according to the current development, is as follows:

✔ Red Biotechnology: Health.

By introducing biotechnology and its products, the pharmaceutical industry has taken an important step. In fact, the great advances in the area of molecular diagnostics and advanced therapies have allowed the beginning of personalized medicine.

This type of biotechnology comprises approximately 50% of all biotech companies in Spain. These companies are mainly engaged in products for human health, not only with regard to drugs, but also products and services related to molecular diagnostics, both to treat and to prevent disease.

Oncology segment remains as the leader because it is the most researched sector worldwide. Also is remarkable the number of initiatives related to the study of central nervous system and the infectious and inflammatory diseases.

In summary, in Spain now are available opportunities in various fields within the red biotechnology, such as:

- Molecular diagnostics and personalized medicine,
- Therapies for human health (oncology, autoimmune diseases, inflammatory, infectious, nervous system, rare diseases, advanced therapies, bioinformatics, dermatology, cosmetics, vaccines, etc.)

The intention is to do further research on innovative medicine and drugs, their technological progress and the corresponding regulation.
Green Biotechnology: Agriculture, cattle raising and forestry.

The basic premise is to improve competitiveness, not only in agriculture but also in cattle raising and forestry. This is achieved increasing resistance and productivity of species.

For that, in the field of agriculture, efforts are directed mainly to obtain more efficient and sustainable crops. This has caused an increase in the use of transgenic crops and like consequence, an increase in the cultivated land area worldwide. In Spain, although vegetal genetic engineering is still in a relatively early stage, its influence is increasing.

If we talk about sustainable agriculture, currently the main biotechnological challenges to promote it are: increasing production in the cultivated land; achieving less dependence on fossil fuels, pesticides and fertilizers; implementing less harmful agricultural techniques; decreasing losses throughout the process; achieving an increase in the quality of the final product.

With respect to functional foods, consumption and production of these are increasing mainly in developed countries.

In the green biotechnology, the developments carried out include the following areas:

- Functional food,
- Environment,
- Agriculture

White Biotechnology: Industrial.

The main objective is to optimize industrial processes, replacing polluting technologies for cleaner ones. And the main benefits that are being achieved consist in improving production processes, development of new products and reduced environmental impact from industry.

Currently, the use of enzymes and certain microorganisms is allowing to obtain biodegradable products, which in turn enables sustainable economic development.
It is noteworthy the increase in the application of biotechnological processes to generate energy, constituting one of the main sources the biomass. This is because both, the US and the European economies, have as one of their priorities reducing the oil and fossil fuels energy dependence.

As additional data, it is expected that by 2025, 30% of the raw material to be used by the chemical industry will come from renewable sources. [3]

The initiatives related to this sector are:

- Biotechnological applications for the application of energy,
- Biopolymers and bioplastics,
- Bioprocesses and other bioproducts.

✔ **Blue Biotechnology: Biotechnology marine and aquaculture.**

Currently, around 35% of the fishery products consumed in the world come from aquaculture. This percentage is increasing, but nevertheless international fisheries are overexploited. For this reason, the development of blue biotechnology could allow a profitable production and with a controlled environmental impact.

The development of this sector would allow the production of food through the cultivation of marine organisms, using resources from seas and oceans as a source of natural products, or even as a source of alternative energy.

It is also important to note that marine biotechnology is one of the main sources from which the red sector, the white sector and the green sector obtain raw materials, to develop new drugs, to make biofuels from algae or to make improvements in food products.

However, blue biotechnology is still probably the least developed in Spain. There are projects and initiatives in the field of aquaculture. Galicia, the Canary Islands and Andalusia, because of their relationship with the sea, have become the main points of development in the field. Even it should mention that Galicia leads the Spanish aquaculture production.
Only to indicate other initiatives undertaken in Spain around this sector, we can mention the search of synthetic dyes for the textile industry in the seas, given the difficulties presented by the materials used today in the industry. Seaweeds are a raw material for it. Likewise, in the field of biofuels, Spain has bio gas stations supplying these products. This is a promising field, and in which currently are already carried out some developments aimed at developing those biofuels, also through algae and other microorganisms, such as cyanobacteria.

To this must be added the use of marine raw material for the development of drugs for various diseases, or even as a preventive medicine.
Some figures of the Biotechnology in Spain

According to data from 2014, the employment generated by the sector has been increasing, reaching a total of 177,973 professionals working in this field (see Figure 1). (4)

The turnover of the sector has also been increased, exceeding 107,700 million euros in 2014, an increase of 13.28% over the previous year (see Figure 2).

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Figure 1: Evolution of the job creation in the sector of biotechnology in Spain

Figure 2: Evolution of the turnover in the sector of biotechnology in Spain

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(4) Source: Biotechnology module - Technological Innovation in companies Survey, 2014 - National Statistics Institute INE
With respect to the turnover and the transversal character aforementioned, 51.55% of the turnover is attributed to companies that have biotechnology as a secondary line of business, while 41.4% is generated by companies in which biotechnology is a necessary tool for production. The remaining 7.04% is attributed to the dedicated biotechnology companies.

Private domestic investment in biotechnological R&D has recovered after a fall of two years. This number grew a 3.75% in 2014, more than 533.8 million euros. This undoubtedly is remarkable, since the general trend is that private investment in science is declining.

If we group the companies according to their productive sector, food companies (62.7%) and human health (25%) stand out as companies using biotechnology. However, in the case of companies dedicated to biotechnology, human health represents 61.9% and food and nutrition 28.8% (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Distribution of Spanish biotechnology companies according to their area of specialization

Regarding the internationalization of Spanish biotechnology, the total number of subsidiaries abroad amounted to 141, with US as the country with the largest number, with 21 locations in that market.
With regard to the regionalization of biotechnology in Spain, Catalonia continues as the region with the greatest number of companies using biotechnology (21.21%), followed by Andalusia (11.83%) and the Community of Madrid (11.52%). In 2015, 52 new biotech companies were created in Spain. Of these companies, a total of 19 were created in Catalonia, 11 in the Basque Country, 4 in Andalusia and 4 in Galicia.
The companies that make up the biotechnology sector have a varied profile, and therefore, their needs are different. However, regardless of the color of the biotechnology, the main problems to which the sector faces are: for SMEs, access to finance, and for larger enterprises, access to innovation.

As a plus point to facilitate the development of initiatives in this sector, we can mention the educational level of workers and the cooperation with customers and suppliers. In addition, internationalization and exports play a key role as facilitators of development, and therefore remain one of the strategic priorities of the biotechnology sector. Preferred markets are the European Union and North America, followed by Japan, Brazil, South Korea and Israel.

Currently, Spain also has a Spanish bio-economy strategy. Through the same, concrete measures are proposed as part of big lines of action, in order to place the Spanish bio-economy as an essential part of the economic activity in the country, using as tools, among others, the close public-private partnerships and enhanced interaction between the Spanish and international science and technology system.

With regard to the activity of risk capital, in September 2015 the new management company specialized in biotechnology, Columbus Venture Partners was established. In its management team are professionals related to the health, risk capital, pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. Also, in April 2016 was announced the establishment, under the INNVIERTE Program of the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI), from the fund Columbus Innvierte Life Science FCR with an expected volume of 50 million euros, with the aim of invest in the biotechnology sector companies.

Finally, it is noteworthy that according ASEBIO (Spanish Association of Biotechnology Companies), the fundamental premises to be considered for the development of the sector are:

- More ambitious public investment in R&D+i.
- Economic and structural measures to relieve the pressure on the short / medium-term cash from companies.
- Opting for a coordinated innovative public procurement.
✓ Public investment as leverage and boosting private investment.
✓ Measures to promote specialized risk capital sector.
✓ Simplified process for obtaining deductions on corporation tax.
✓ Promotion of fusions and acquisitions among biotech SMEs.
✓ Encourage the development of capital markets.
✓ Elimination of joint and several liabilities of members of consortia aid recipients.
Part II

Part II.A - AVAILABLE AID SPECIFICALLY FOR THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY
In this section, we will introduce the aid available specifically focused on the Biotechnology area. For this purpose we have designed an individual file for each of the alternatives, including the following info:

**The call and the body.**

We include here the name of the specific call and the body that grants it.

**Activity Aided**

Here we describe in detail the purpose of the aid (might be more than one): job creation, R+D+I, tangible and intangible investments, consulting and external expertise, marketing, etc.

**Type of aid**

It makes clear the financial modality which the aid is based on. For instance, when it comes to non-repayable grants, loans, or even if it is possible to combine both or any other modality.

**Beneficiaries**

It will list the kind of organisations who will be able to start applications: Partnerships, individual businessmen, companies, universities/colleges, technological centres, public administrations, NGOs, etc.

**Description of the aid**

It includes a brief description of the scope of the aid and its main purposes. It also contains summarised information about the requirements and features the projects need to be funded by the aid, and also obstacles and challenges that are meant to be solved by the programme.

**Call Deadline**

Here it will be pointed out: the time limit to hand in applications, stating the start and finish date of the call, as well as the whether the call is structured in a single stage or in multiple cut-off.

**More info link**
The link to the call at the convening body’s web page, so that those who are interested on obtaining more information can check it out.
BIOTECHNOLOGY SECTOR

SUPPORTING R+D PROGRAMMES IN THE FIELD OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOMEDICINE 2016

BODY: SODERCAN

Activity Aided
Job creation – Improving regional companies’ competitiveness

Type of aid
Subsidies and non-reimbursable aid.

Beneficiaries
Partnerships - individual businessmen – Commercial companies

Description of the aid
Programmes in the field of Biotechnology and Biomedicine. Companies from Cantabria, Tecnological Centres and Referral Centres take part in the projects, highlighting, in this case, the attendance of agri-food companies.

This sectorial call of aid is organised within the I+C=+C programme. The budget at this field is € 1,000,000 worth and its target is the strengthening of the Cantabrian industrial network, facilitating creation, settling and business growing processes, and the quality jobs creation linked to R+D+I activities who push up the competitiveness of local companies, preferably supporting those which include technology sharing with other agents.

Call Deadline
2016 Call is already finished. However, it takes place on an annual basis

More info link
Follow the link
### Activity Aided
- **Start-Up**

### Type of aid
- Participating loan or capital

### Beneficiaries
- Innovative businesses

### Description of the aid
Caixa Capital BioMed and Caixa Innvierte BioMed II are venture capital companies that support innovative companies in the health sector in the fields of medical technology, new therapies, diagnosis and services. Mainly, they invest in A Series, both leading the operation and taking part of an investment union. The invest from 500,000 euros to 3,000,000 euros for each company, depending on the needs of the project.

The main investment areas include: New therapeutic agents, diagnosis and tests closer to the customer, advanced therapies, medical tools and technology, eHealth and telehealth.

### Call Deadline
- Check it out with the grantor

### More info link
[Follow the link](#)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Aided</th>
<th>Evaluating of the companies in order to classify and value them within the PROFARMA framework.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of aid</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical industry companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of the aid</td>
<td>This is a joint programme between the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism, the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness and the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. Its key target is boosting competitiveness of pharmaceutical industry in Spain, through modernisation of the sector and enhancing of those activities which could bring higher added value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call Deadline</td>
<td>2016 Call is already finished. However, it takes place on an annual basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More info link</td>
<td>Follow the link</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Following, there are included the aid involving the biotechnological sector within the **European aid programme Horizon 2020**

For further information about H2020 programme, please see the ICEX-INVEST IN SPAIN guide regarding H2020 programme, which can be found [here](#).
**INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP**

**NANOTECHNOLOGIES, ADVANCED MATERIALS, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION**

**Name of the call**: BIOTEC-05-2017, Microbial platforms for CO2-reuse processes in the low-carbon economy

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector to which it is addressed</th>
<th>Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Environment - Other activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Object of assistance</strong></td>
<td>R &amp; D + i - Investments tangible and intangible - Environment - Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Type of aid</strong></td>
<td>Subsidies and grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>Consortia and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of the aid</strong></td>
<td>Proposals should address current limitations of CO2 reuse technologies based on microbial platforms, and need to cover one or more of the following issues: Microbes with an improved ability to convert CO2 as a feedstock into chemicals and plastics; Discovery of new, more active and robust enzymes for improved bio-catalysis; Design of new synthetic microbial systems to produce useful enzymes; Improved microbes with resistance to impurities; Exploring the potential application sectors of the products and technologies to be developed.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Term of the call</strong></td>
<td>The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment. First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016 Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Link for more information</strong></td>
<td>Follow the link</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Follow the link
### Sector to which it is addressed

Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Energy efficiency and clean energy - Chemical industry - Environment - Other Activities

### Object of assistance

R & D + i - Investments tangible and intangible - Marketing and trade promotion - Environment - Other

### Type of aid

Subsidies and grants

### Beneficiaries

Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

### Description of the aid

The objective is to optimise already existing or newly developed platform cell factories for the production of platform and fine chemicals and biofuels (excluding pharmaceuticals), following the cascading use of resources. Proposals should include areas such as bioinformatics, systems biology and synthetic biology where appropriate. Furthermore, applicants should take into account integrated approaches from sourcing of renewable biomass to bioconversion and downstream processing, including the final consumers of the bio-based product.

### Term of the call

The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment.

First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017

### Link for more information

Follow the link
**INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP**

**NANOTECHNOLOGIES, ADVANCED MATERIALS, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION**

*Name of the call: BIOTEC-07-2017, New Plant Breeding Techniques (NPBT) in molecular farming: Multipurpose crops for industrial bioproducts*

**Sector to which it is addressed**
- Agrifood - Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Environment - Natural resources and extractive industries - Other activities

**Object of assistance**
- R & D + I - Investments tangible and intangible - Aid to agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries - Environment - Other

**Type of aid**
- Subsidies and grants

**Beneficiaries**
- Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

**Description of the aid**
Proposals should use technologies that avoid final genetic modification products, with plants amenable to be used as green factories in order to yield industrial high-value products. Proposals should address at least one of the following areas: Minor, underutilized and non-food crops suitable for the extraction of bioactive compounds; Crops that grow more efficiently and have higher yields of the target bioproduct, while being more tolerant to adverse environmental conditions; Improved plant-based low-cost platforms for commercial production of bioproducts.

**Term of the call**
The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment.

- First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
- Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017

**Link for more information**
[Follow the link](#)
Sector to which it is addressed
Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Chemical industry - Environment - Other Activities

Object of assistance
R & D + i - Investments tangible and intangible - National and International Cooperation - Environment - Other

Type of aid
Subsidies and grants

Beneficiaries
Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

Description of the aid
With a view to intelligent testing strategies (ITS) for nanomaterials, it is of high priority to develop and adopt realistic and advanced in vitro tests which have the potential to substantially improve the relevance of in-vitro approaches. Therefore, new or advanced models, such as co-culture models, 3D cultures or primary cell models should be developed for relevant endpoints lacking, or having inadequate, in-vitro models.

Term of the call
The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment.
First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017

Link for more information
Follow the link
INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

NANOTECHNOLOGIES, ADVANCED MATERIALS, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION

Name of the call: NMBP-12-2017, Development of a reliable methodology for better risk management of engineered biomaterials in Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products and/or Medical Devices

Sector to which it is addressed
Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Environment - Other activities

Object of assistance
R & D + i - Investments tangible and intangible - National and International Cooperation - Environment - Other

Type of aid
Subsidies and grants

Beneficiaries
Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

Description of the aid
The development of new biotechnology-based products needs to be complemented with a scientifically valid identification of the potential hazards from these biomaterials to human health and to the environment, together with the monitoring and reduction of the risk that these new technologies pose. Current knowledge is still incomplete and the established methods may be inappropriate for specific materials. Projects are expected to initiate and support standardisation of the proposed biomaterials and methods.

Term of the call
The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment.

First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017

Link for more information
Follow the link
### Sector to which it is addressed

Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Other activities

### Object of assistance

R & D + i - Investments tangible and intangible - National and international cooperation - Quality - Other

### Type of aid

Subsidies and grants

### Beneficiaries

Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

### Description of the aid

Proposals should advance the field of medical regulatory science and practice, through the development and validation of science based regulatory knowledge and standardisation of innovative technical tools and methods. Proposals should focus on the development of new regulatory standards and tools that are based on scientific principles that already have a Proof-of-Concept at the laboratory scale. Where appropriate, proposals should make use of the opportunities for obtaining scientific advice from medical regulatory bodies to support the qualification of innovative development methods.

### Term of the call

The call has 2 stages. The abstract should be presented in the first stage. The complete proposal must be submitted in the second stage, only if the summary has received a positive assessment.

First stage: From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
Second stage: From October 28, 2016 to May 4, 2017

### Link for more information

Follow the link
### INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

**NANOTECHNOLOGIES, ADVANCED MATERIALS, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION**

**Name of the call:** NMBP-15-2017, Nanotechnologies for imaging cellular transplants and regenerative processes in vivo

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<td><strong>Object of assistance</strong></td>
<td>R &amp; D + i - tangible and intangible investments - Other</td>
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<td>Consortia and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description of the aid</strong></td>
<td>Proposals should focus on the following:</td>
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<td>- Development of highly sensitive imaging approaches enabling discrimination of living cell and tissue transplants based e.g. on optical imaging, magnetic resonance imaging and / or nuclear medicine techniques;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Monitoring should be highly sensitive, in best case allowing for detection of single cells and cell morphologies;</td>
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<td>- Possibility of non-invasive whole body monitoring in large animals;</td>
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<td>- Development of clinically applicable imaging approaches, taking into account medical regulatory aspects;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Interpretation of the data with theoretical models (to be developed if necessary).</td>
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**Term of the call**

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- **First stage:** From May 11, 2016 to October 27, 2016
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**Link for more information**

[Follow the link](#)
INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP
HORIZON 2020 DEDICATED SME INSTRUMENT 2016-2017
Name of the call: SMEInst-03-2016-2017, Dedicated support to biotechnology
SMEs closing the gap from lab to market – Phase 1

Sector to which it is addressed
Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Industrial products and equipment - Other activities

Object of assistance
R & D + i - tangible and intangible investments - Other

Type of aid
Subsidies and grants

Beneficiaries
Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

Description of the aid
The SME instrument consists of three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 or directly to phase 2. In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed in order to verify the technological/practical as well as economic viability of an innovation idea/concept with considerable novelty to the industry sector in which it is presented.

The large numbers of SMEs taking part of the EU industrial biotechnology sector are characterised by their research intensity and long lead times between early technological development and market introduction. They therefore need to be supported to overcome the so-called “valley of death”. SMEs working in the field of industrial biotechnology and ideas/concepts involving the use of systems and/or synthetic biology, are invited to apply for funding.

Term of the call
Fourth term: From September 8, 2016 to November 9, 2016
Fifth period: From November 10, 2016 to February 15, 2017
Sixth period: From February 16, 2017 to May 3, 2017
Seventh period: From May 4, 2017 to September 6, 2017
Eighth term: From September 7, 2017 to November 8, 2017

Link for more information
Follow the link
INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

HORIZON 2020 DEDICATED SME INSTRUMENT 2016-2017

Name of the call: SMEInst-05-2016-2017, Supporting innovative SMEs in the healthcare biotechnology sector – Phase 1

Sector to which it is addressed
- Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences - Chemical industry - Other activities

Object of assistance
- R & D + i - tangible and intangible investments - Other

Type of aid
- Subsidies and grants

Beneficiaries
- Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

Description of the aid
The SME instrument consists of three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 or directly to phase 2. In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed in order to verify the technological/practical as well as economic viability of an innovation idea/concept with considerable novelty to the industry sector in which it is presented.

The challenge includes either:
- “Cell technologies in medical applications” (all phase 1 and phase 2 deadlines in 2016 and 2017), or
- “Clinical research for the validation of biomarkers and/or diagnostic medical devices” (only at the first cut-off date in 2017 and for phase 2 applications).

Term of the call
- Fourth term: From September 8, 2016 to November 9, 2016
- Fifth period: From November 10, 2016 to February 15, 2017
- Sixth period: From February 16, 2017 to May 3, 2017
- Seventh period: From May 4, 2017 to September 6, 2017
- Eighth term: From September 7, 2017 to November 8, 2017

Link for more information
Follow the link
### Sector to which it is addressed
- Agrifood - Environment - Other Activities

### Object of assistance
- Support for agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries - Environment - Other

### Type of aid
- Subsidies and grants

### Beneficiaries
- Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

### Description of the aid
The SME instrument consists of three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 or directly to phase 2. In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed in order to verify the technological/practical as well as economic viability of an innovation idea/concept with considerable novelty to the industry sector in which it is presented.

SMEs can play a crucial role in developing resource-efficient and cost-effective solutions to secure sufficient supplies of safe, healthy and high-quality food and other bio-based products, by developing productive, sustainable and resource-efficient primary production systems, fostering related ecosystem services and the recovery of biological diversity, alongside competitive and low-carbon supply, processing and marketing chains. Actions under this topic are expected to contribute to one or a combination of several challenges addressed by Societal Challenge 2 of Horizon 2020 with regard to terrestrial resources.

### Term of the call
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INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

HORIZON 2020 DEDICATED SME INSTRUMENT 2016-2017

Name of the call: SMEInst-03-2016-2017, Dedicated support to biotechnology
SMEs closing the gap from lab to market – Phase 2

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Follow the link
INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

HORIZON 2020 DEDICATED SME INSTRUMENT 2016-2017

Name of the call: SMEInst-05-2016-2017, Supporting innovative SMEs in the healthcare biotechnology sector – Phase 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sector to which it is addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biotecnología, farmacia y ciencias de la vida – Industria química - Otras actividades</td>
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<th>Object of assistance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I+D+i – Inversiones materiales e inmateriales – Otros</td>
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<td>The challenge includes either:</td>
</tr>
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<td>- &quot;Cell technologies in medical applications&quot; (all phase 1 and phase 2 deadlines in 2016 and 2017), or</td>
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<tr>
<td>- &quot;Clinical research for the validation of biomarkers and/or diagnostic medical devices&quot; (only at the first cut-off date in 2017 and for phase 2 applications).</td>
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### Sector to which it is addressed
- Agrifood - Environment - Other Activities

### Object of assistance
- Support for agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries - Environment - Other

### Type of aid
- Subsidies and grants

### Beneficiaries
- Consortiums and associations of companies - Individual entrepreneur - Commercial Company - Other

### Description of the aid
The SME instrument consists of three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 or directly to phase 2. In phase 2, innovation projects will be supported, that address the specific challenges identified and that demonstrate high potential in terms of company competitiveness and growth underpinned by a strategic business plan. Activities should focus on innovation activities such as demonstration, testing, prototyping, piloting, scaling-up, miniaturisation, design, market replication and the like aiming to bring an innovation idea (product, process, service etc.) to industrial readiness and maturity for market introduction, but may also include some research.

SMEs can play a crucial role in developing resource-efficient and cost-effective solutions to secure sufficient supplies of safe, healthy and high quality food and other bio-based products, by developing productive, sustainable and resource-efficient primary production systems, fostering related ecosystem services and the recovery of biological diversity, alongside competitive and low-carbon supply, processing and marketing chains. Actions under this topic are expected to contribute to one or a combination of several challenges addressed by Societal Challenge 2 of Horizon 2020 with regard to terrestrial resources.

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### Link for more information
Follow the link
Part II

Part II.B- AVAILABLE AID FOR R&D+I SECTOR
This section includes other relevant assistance programs that may also be applicable to the biotechnology sector, despite not being specifically targeted. There are included, among others, aid targeting R&D sector, which may be comprised by projects from health, pharmacy, food, agriculture and bioenergy sectors, for example, that base their innovation in the use of biotechnology, or developments in biotechnology applications with multiple uses.

Being more generic support, you can only a collection of them, indicating where more information can be obtained. Invest In Spain - ICEX publish monthly guide of state aid and incentives that can be consulted on its website for further information.

- **Tax incentives for R&D+i**
  More information [here](#).

- **Project R&D+I financing - CDTI**
  More information [here](#).

- **Aid to new business projects of innovative enterprises (Neotec Program)**
  More information about the regulatory bases [here](#).
  More information about the Call 2016 [here](#).

- **Regional incentives**
  More information [here](#).

- **Official Credit Institute ICO**
  More information [here](#).
✓ Aid by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology for the implementation of activities in the field of science, technology and innovation culture promotion

More information about the regulatory bases [here](#).
More information about the Call 2016 [here](#).

✓ Financial support for R&D projects in the field of Connected Industry 4.0

More information about the regulatory bases [here](#).
More information about the Call 2016 [here](#).

✓ INCENTIVES TO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES to INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION IN ANDALUSIA DURING THE PERIOD 2015-2018

More information about the regulatory bases [here](#).
More information about the Call 2016 [here](#).

✓ Guarantee SGR

More information [here](#).

✓ AID FOR THE REDUCTION OF COSTS OF FINANCING OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES FROM GALICIA, HOLDERS OF LENDING OVER 25,000 EUROS, IMPLEMENTED THROUGH COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND MUTUAL GUARANTEE SOCIETIES

More information about the bases and the call [here](#).

✓ HELPS TO BUSINESS INVESTMENT PROJECTS, cofinanced by the European Regional Development Fund, UNDER THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ERDF 2014-2020 GALICIA

More information about the bases and the call [here](#).
More information about the modification of the bases [here](#).
✓ LOAN PROGRAM TO FUND CURRENT AND INVESTMENT IN THE AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY OF GALICIA, WITH EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK (EIB) FOUNDS

More information about the bases and the call here. More information about the modification of the bases here.

✓ SUPPORT PROGRAM TO ACCESS TO OPERATIONAL FINANCING (CURRENT ASSETS) OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES, IMPLEMENTED THROUGH COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH MUTUAL GUARANTEE COMPANIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS GALLEGAS (RE-SOLVE 2016)

More information about the bases and the call here.

✓ AID SERVICES OF POTENTIAL COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS, PROFESSIONALIZATION AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT (RE-ACCIONA PROGRAM), COFINANCED BY THE European Regional Development Fund UNDER THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ERDF 2014-2020 GALICIA

More information about the bases and the call here.

✓ INCENTIVE PROGRAM AS QUALIFIED BUSINESS INITIATIVES FOR USE TECHNOLOGY-BASED (IEBT)

More information about the bases and the call here.

✓ AID FOR NEW ENTREPRENEURS, cofinanced by the European Regional Development Fund, UNDER THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ERDF 2014-2020 GALICIA

More information about the bases and the call here.

✓ GRANT OF AID FROM THE R&D+I BUSINESS PLAN, FOR THE YEAR 2016

More information about the regulatory bases here. More information about the Call 2016 here
SPECIFIC CALL FOR FINAL BENEFICIARIES OF THE SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURS. (JEREMIE No. 05B / 2016)

More information about the Call 2016 here.

ERDF - Innterconecta

More information here.

PUBLIC AID TO PROMOTE PUBLIC-PRIVATE COOPERATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN THE FIELDS OF RIS3MUR

More information about the regulatory bases here.
More information about the Call 2016 here.

INNOVA-ADELANTE PROGRAM IN CASTILLA LA MANCHA

More information about the regulatory bases here.
More information about the Call 2016 here.