

BioFIT | 6th edition | 28th & 29th November 2017 | Strasbourg, France

A record number of attendees and meetings during BioFIT 2017

Vaxinano (FR) and Cardior Pharmaceuticals (DE) awarded as the most innovative start-ups 2017

12th December 2017, Strasbourg (France) – 1,200 delegates from 30 countries, 2,700 one-to-one meetings, 1,000 licensing opportunities, 100 exhibitors, 80 speakers. During its 6th edition, BioFIT confirmed its position as the leading event for technology transfer, academia-industry collaborations and early-stage innovation in the field of Life Sciences. BioFIT is also becoming the marketplace for pre-seed, seed and Series A investment. BioFIT gathers big pharma, biotech start-ups and SMEs, TTOs, researchers and investors in the same place, focused on the same goals: Entail new partnerships, source innovative and competitive early-stage R&D projects, facilitate the emergence of collaborative projects and increase licensing opportunities in Life Sciences.

BioFIT 2017

28th & 29th November 2017 | Strasbourg, France



1,200

Delegates



30+

Countries
represented



2,700

One-to-one
meetings



1,000+

Licensing
opportunities



15

Conferences
and roundtable
discussions



80

Speakers



100

Exhibitors

2,700 meetings scheduled, a 10% increase versus 2016

BioFIT 2017 was once again an **unmissable event for the actors from the Life Sciences sector**. In six editions BioFIT has quadrupled its number of attendees from 300 to 1,200 and has convinced every year more and more organisations to host their events.

BioFIT is the privileged moment to **source early-stage innovations, to initiate collaborations between academic and industrial sectors, to get access to seed investment** and to provide keys to gain insight into the trends from the sector thanks to its 4 main activities: One-to-one meetings, conferences and roundtable discussions, presentation sessions (Start-up Slams and Licensing Opportunity Presentations) and exhibition.

In addition to scheduling business meetings, the partnering platform allowed participants to offer licensing opportunities.

2017 Participants included:

Pharma, Biotech: Astellas Pharma, Basilea Pharmaceutica International, Bayer, Bayer Animal Health, Boehringer Ingelheim, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health, Ceva, Daiichi Sankyo, Evotec, Ferring Pharmaceuticals, GSK, Ipsen Innovation, Johnson & Johnson Innovation, Kissei America, Kyorin Pharmaceutical, Kyowa Hakko Kirin, Laboratorios Rubio, LFB, Lilly, Merck, MSD, MSD Animal Health, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi, Servier, Syngulon, Takeda, TiGenix, Trianni, Vetoquinol, Virbac, Zoetis...

TTOs and Academia: Ascenion, CNRS, EMBLEM, FIST, Imperial Innovations, LifeArc, Max Planck Institute, SATT Network, University of Birmingham, University of Cambridge, VIB...

Investors: Broadview Ventures, Edmond de Rothschild Investment, Fund+, High-Tech Gründerfonds, Merck Ventures, Novartis Venture Fund, Sofinnova Partners, Thiel Capital, Truffle Capital, TVM Capital...

20 start-ups selected to pitch during BioFIT amongst 70 candidates, 2 start-ups chosen as the most innovative this year

Investors and industrials need a marketplace to identify the latest early-stage innovations that they can invest in or in-license; the emerging companies and academic spin-offs need a place where they can find their potential future investors and partners. For the first time, BioFIT rewarded the two most innovative start-ups among the 20 start-ups selected by the steering committee of BioFIT 2017.

More information about the pitching start-ups: www.biofit-event.com/agenda-startup-slams/



The winners of the 2017 Start-up Slams are: **VAXINANO (FR)** and **Cardior Pharmaceuticals (DE)**.

VAXINANO develops solutions to improve the protection of human and animal health. Their first field of investigation is vaccination. The focus of VAXINANO is to use nanoparticles as a delivery system. The innovation of VAXINANO is multifaceted: These nanoparticles mimic viruses, parasites, and bacteria and do not inoculate them, as a result this solution is free of reversion risk. Their nanoparticle delivery agents are synthesised from starch and lipids, 100% "bio-sourced". VAXINANO's nanoparticles are fully eliminated from the body within 72 hours (by GIT), they are optimised for mucosal (nasal) administration but can be also administered by standard routes. These vaccines solutions are highly stable and are able to sustain exposure to temperatures of 40°C for more than 6 months. VAXINANO achieved a world premiere proof-of-concept with Toxoplasma Gondii vaccine using a non-life attenuated parasite in mice and sheep. The result was 100% protection of animals treated by nasal route after oral challenge. VAXINANO's R&D platform allows the company to both improve existing vaccines currently on the market and to develop novel vaccines for today's yet untreated diseases.

Cardior Pharmaceuticals GmbH is dedicated to becoming world-leader in design, research and development of non-coding RNA-based therapeutics for cardiovascular diseases. Therefore, the company generated a proprietary RNA technology to revolutionize the treatment of heart failure, which represents an unmet medical need in one of the world's leading causes of death with 40 mio patients worldwide. Current conventional pharmacotherapies are still inefficient only being able to ease the symptoms and slow down the pathological process. In an innovative approach Cardior is developing a new class of drugs, targeting non-coding microRNAs responsible for heart failure. The most promising lead compound is a synthetic antisense oligonucleotide inhibiting a molecular target causing pathological cardiac growth, autophagy and weak contractility. This new therapeutic agent will be the first treatment to stop and reverse cardiac remodeling resulting in restored normal cardiac function. Additional goals are the development of companion diagnostics and targeted delivery systems. Cardior has access to a large patent portfolio consisting of several back-up candidates for heart failure therapy and diagnostics. The company aims to market its products in collaboration with strong strategic pharma-partners after clinical validation.

Distinguished speakers

Throughout the conferences, **80 international speakers** including Andrew Fried (IBM, UK), Grit Zahn (Eternygen, DE), Peter Opdam (MSD Animal Health, NL), Tony Hickson (Imperial Innovations, UK), Duncan Holmes (GlaxoSmithKline, UK), Philippe Pouletty (Truffle Capital, FR), James Peyer (Apollo Ventures, DE), Sofia Ioannidou (Edmond de Rothschild Investment Partners, FR), Sascha Berger (TVM Life Science Management, DE) and many others, discussed around the issues and the trends on accessing and financing early-stage innovation.

The plenary session dealt with "How can we overcome the shortage of bioentrepreneurs in Europe?" and gathered 300 attendees.



More information about the conferences: www.bit.ly/26eBRb1

An exhibition that keeps on growing

More than 100 organisations exhibited this year, record number for BioFIT ever since its creation in 2010. This clearly shows the actors' wish to be increasingly present and visible.



Hosted Events: BioFIT brings numerous organisations together

BioFIT 2017 hosted three events, with one objective: **Support and facilitate collaborative research by fostering public/private collaborations.**

R&D dating for Animal Health and Innovation

The R&D animal health and innovation meetings are organised by the French association of animal health industry (SIMV) and hosted within BioFIT. This event will lead to business to business meetings (BtoB) to initiate high-level exchanges between research departments of the health industry (veterinary and human), and public research, as well as biotechnology companies (start-ups). The aim is to continue to enhance new partnerships between public and private sectors (or private-to-private sector). This event provides a perfect opportunity to promote more innovative and better value animal health research, by strengthening the leading position of France in Europe.

LabEx Medalis Conference

The Drug research centre Medalis (Laboratory of Excellence (Labex)) created in July 2011, and aiming to develop innovative drugs for cancer or inflammation treatment, decided to host its annual conference within BioFIT 2017. This conference gathered 80 attendees and dealt with the following topics:

Session 1: Translational research at Medalis: From lab to biotech

Session 2: Early projects, early opportunity: Find your match

Session 3: Nature and nurture of an Academic drug discovery Centre

Open Data Challenge

The Open Data Challenge is a call for projects that encourages open innovation initiatives between companies and public institutions facing digital challenges and SMEs which provide innovative technologies. Launched during summer 2017, the first phase of this project ended in September 2017 with the selection of three companies for their innovative solutions aimed at resolving the EFS's (French Blood Agency) blood forecasting needs.

Networking evenings: The welcome reception and the BioParty

Two social events (the welcome reception and the BioParty) were organised to continue to network while having a break from the two-day convention BioFIT.



BioFIT 2018

BioFIT's next edition will take place on 4th and 5th December 2018, in Lille (France).

A promotional poster for BioFIT 2018 in Lille, France. The poster features a central image of a person in a white lab coat and a person in a dark suit. Text on the poster includes "Save the Date", "4th & 5th Dec. 2018", "LILLE, France", "7th edition", and the BioFIT logo. The BioFIT logo consists of a stylized 'B' and 'F' with a red and blue color scheme. Below the logo, the text reads "Biofit FOSTERING INNOVATION & TRANSFER" and "LILLE 2018 - FRANCE". At the bottom, it says "A 360° approach to source early-stage innovations in Life Sciences".

Any question?

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Eurasanté is an incubator, a technology transfer facilitator and a leading cluster in the fields of biotech, nutrition and healthcare in the Northern France region. It assists French and foreign companies, entrepreneurs, scientists and clinicians with their innovation and development projects. The regional network includes more than 1,000 companies working in Life Sciences and Healthcare. It benefits from an exceptional location in the heart of Europe (near Paris, London and Brussels). The Life Sciences sector in the Northern France region gathers a total of 28,000 employees. Eurasanté also promotes the Eurasanté Bio-business Park which hosts 7 hospitals, 4 universities, 7 specialised schools, more than 150 companies and 50 laboratories. In addition, Eurasanté organises 4 international partnering events annually, which aim to increase and improve interactions between academia and industry and encourage additional innovative sector collaborations: BioFIT, MedFIT, NutrEvent and AgeingFit.



The Nutrition Health Longevity (NHL) Cluster is a dynamic network focusing on the main issues at the crossroads of health, biotechnology and nutrition. The NHL Cluster aims to federate public and private partners around R&D projects, which lead to innovative products in the fields of nutrition and health. The NHL Cluster's activity is centred on the prevention and treatment of life-style related diseases, such as metabolic and cardiovascular pathologies, neurodegenerative and inflammatory bowel diseases. Its objective is to gather and support players from the health and food sectors in the design, the development and financing of their future products and processes.



As a French world-class cluster dedicated to therapeutic innovations, Alsace BioValley is the one-stop contact to optimise any R&D development or business project in Europe, both in drug development and medical technologies. Located in Eastern France, part of the famous French-German-Swiss BioValley and with a unique concentration of international life sciences & healthcare players, Alsace BioValley helps any Life Sciences & Healthcare companies or academics interested in new projects and partnerships in Europe to search outstanding scientific or industrial partners to develop very innovative R&D projects, to find the best innovative technology, patent or scientific expertise, or set up and locate in Eastern France. Alsace BioValley has also agreements with BioWin (Wallonia), CQDM (Quebec), JBA (Japan Bioindustry Association), Biopro (Germany) and Basel Area (Switzerland).

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