

BioFIT | 7<sup>th</sup> edition | December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | Lille (France)

## BioFIT 2018: A transitional edition to reinforce its position of leading partnering event in Europe for early-stage innovation in the Life Sciences field

*For its seventh edition, which will be taking place on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, in Lille (France), BioFIT will be welcoming more than 1,200 participants from 35+ countries, over 80 international speakers and hosting even more events than in previous years, widening the scope of the topics discussed. The BioFIT partnering tool, the aim of which is to pre-organise one-to-one meetings with the participants will also for the first time be giving attendees the opportunity to find potential bioentrepreneurs with backgrounds & expertise that are particularly hard to find in this industry. Such exciting new opportunities are sure to appeal to this year's participants!*

### Responding to the increasing need to find CEOs and business developers

BioFIT, the leading European partnering event for technology transfer, academia-industry collaboration and early-stage innovation, is having an additional feature added to it this year. Its purpose? To capitalise on the secret to its success: The partnering tool, thanks to which, in 2017, no less than 1,000 deals have been generated. Now, for the 2018 edition, the partnering platform will be **connecting CEOs with backgrounds that are too rare in this industry with the start-ups and companies that are on the lookout for them**. To increase the visibility of this new opportunity, BioFIT will be partnering up with Walloon incubator: WBC Incubator to organise for the first time a “*Would-be CEOs Networking Lunch*”.

### A conference programme that aims to widen the scope of the topics discussed

This year, BioFIT will be devoting part of its conference programme to **investment trends, pre-seed, seed and Series A in the Life Sciences field**. It will also focus on showcasing new categories of players who are financing early-stage projects. And what better means of practicing early-stage investment than being able to simultaneously single out the 20 most promising young European entrepreneurs in the Life Sciences? This is what the “Start-up Slams” are all about. The slam sessions will be organised into different categories, covering such topics as cancer and immuno-oncology, diagnostics, neurodegenerative and cardio-metabolic diseases, and so on. They are what attract more than 80 investors, making BioFIT the **key marketplace for pre-seed, seed, and Series A investment in the Life Sciences**.

For 4 editions now, SIMV (the French association of the animal health industry) has been bringing together industries and academic actors from the Animal health sector at the convention. Participants will also be able to attend sessions where pitches will be made by suppliers who are involved in animal health, as well as conferences where speakers will be exploring the “One Health” topic which could potentially help justify comparative medicine and, therefore, cross-industry collaboration.

All in all, more than 80 international speakers with many different backgrounds from academia, industry, TTO and investors will be discussing issues and trends in the Life Sciences field. The conference programme's agenda includes: Bernd Stowasser, **Sanofi** (DE), Caroline Barelle, **Elasmogen** (UK), Gábor M. Lamm, **EMBLEM Technology Transfer** (DE), Tiina Urv, the **National Institutes of Health** (US), Alain Chevallier, **Truffle Capital** (FR), Pascal Sempé, **IBM Watson Health Solutions**, IBM (FR), Nick Clarke, **Pfizer** (UK), and more.

## Hosted events that are opening up new horizons

With each passing year, BioFIT has been organising ever more hosted events, with themes that go with one another. This year, the following organisations will be present:

- The **European Institute of Genomics and Diabetes** (Egid), with its biennial symposium about “The gut, incretins and diabetes”,
- The **European Alliance of Diagnostic Clusters**, with a session about new European regulations regarding in vitro diagnostics,
- **Roche**, with a day of conferences about innovation in health

Finally, proof that BioFIT is the industry’s European point of reference when it comes to partnering events is that it is now being chosen by many European consortiums as the place to organise their meetings, and will this year feature: The **Imode project** (delivery of subcutaneous pharmaceutical molecules), the **SMMIL-E project** (organs on a chip involved in cell therapy and drug screening), and the **PATHACOV project** (early diagnoses of human pathologies by analysing volatile organic compounds in exhaled air).

>> *Discover two innovative Life Sciences companies in the Lille region (the young and promising CRO ImaBiotech and the European Institute of Genomics and Diabetes) on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, thanks to the press tour being put together by BioFIT’s organisers. Register and learn more here: [www.biofit-event.com/press-tour-biofit-2018/](http://www.biofit-event.com/press-tour-biofit-2018/)*