



CENTRAL EUROPEAN BUSINESS FORUM OF BIOTECHNOLOGY & INNOVATIVE BIOECONOMY

Eastern spritz

“Go West, life is peaceful there”, the Pet Shop Boys sang in 1993. Yet in 2010, it is the East of Europe that is attracting global attention for both peaceful and economic reasons. In the teeth of a global recession, Poland’s economy grew by 1.5% in 2009, far exceeding its neighbours to the West. This economic growth extends into Poland’s biotechnology sector, flourishing as the excellence of Poland’s research is translated into fast growing young biotechs. It is thus no surprise that the Bioforum in Lodz is in its 9th year. In 2010, more than 800 participants will converge on the former textile capital and, for a few days, will turn it into the biotech capital of Eastern Europe. A trade fair, exhibition, seminars and workshops and hundreds of BioBusiness meetings will demonstrate the vitality of the scene.

To talk about biotechnology in Eastern Europe for a long time has been not a lot more than floating educated guesses. In autumn 2009 Europa-Bio and Venture Valuation AG put an end to this. In the report “Biotech in the new EU member states” they took a detailed look at the sector in Bulgaria, Cyprus, the

Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, plus the non-members Croatia and Turkey.

According to the survey 260 biotechnology companies are currently operating in the 14 countries. Although the biotechnology sector in these countries is on av-

erage smaller and less developed than that of their Western European neighbours with some countries stand out. Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic, followed closely by Estonia, are leading the group and are already on par with some Western European countries.

These 4 countries report the highest numbers of biotechnology companies and the most developed biotechnology sectors among the 14 countries analysed. Thanks to 5 large enterprises, with an overall workforce of 4,500 Poland reports the highest numbers of biotechnology workers.

Of the 52 Polish biotech companies 33 are providing services, a ratio which mirrors the industry in the rest of Europe. If the sturdy performance during the financial crisis is any measure, the biotech industry in Poland and other countries will gain more confidence. The BioForum Lodz is the stage where this confidence will be expressed by new cooperations and achievements.

› QUICK FACTS

WHEN?

Wednesday 19 - Friday 21
 May 2010

WHERE?

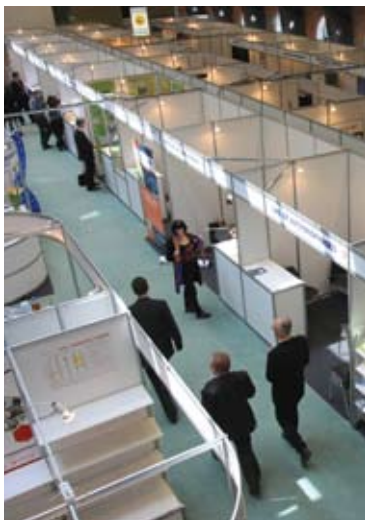
Andel's Hotel
 ul. Ogrodowa 17,
 91-065 Lodz
 Poland

Phone: +48 42 2996083
www.cebioforum.com

SOCIAL EVENT

Dinner at the factory

All participants are encouraged to join the Biobusiness Social Event organized in the Manufaktura Centre. The occasion allows for more informal business talks in the surroundings of the reconstructed 20th century complex of factory buildings. Experience the unique character of Lodz in this well recognized part of the city, nearby the area of BioForum .



FREE REGISTRATION

Online access

Entrance to the event is free of charge for the visitors registered online. The online registration gives access to all the Seminars & Lectures, Trade fair part (Exhibition) and Poster Presentation (R&D projects, Scientific Services).
www.cebioforum.com

NETWORKING



Latvian comeback

As its neighbouring countries Lithuania and Estonia, Latvia was heavily pounded with the financial crisis. One escape route out of the recession could be biotechnology. Latvia has strong historic ties to the sector, with the main research fields begun in the Soviet era continuing their development today. Food technologies, the fermentation process and biogas are also important areas of research at both the University of Latvia and at Latvia's Agricultural University in Jelgava. According to the Latvian Investment and Development Agency, one-quarter of all Soviet drug technology was designed and manufactured here.

Since Latvia's integration into the European Union, demand for biotech development has grown. The University of Latvia's Institute of Microbiology and Biotechnology, founded in 1993 as the successor and inheritor of rights of the Latvian Academy of Sciences Institute of Microbiology, has been reinvigorated since the fall of the USSR.

According to the report "Biotech in the new EU member states" by EuropaBio and Venture Valuation AG not more than 6 biotech-companies are operating in Latvia. ScanBalt, a borderless biotechnology network in the Baltic Sea region, is more generous in its counting, with 28 companies recorded as active. Each of them is keen on the Central European market. The BioForum Lodz as the main event for biotechnology in Central and Eastern Europe has always seen a strong Latvian presence, with 10 companies attending in 2010.

PROGRAMME

› Highlights

Wednesday, May 19

Survey of the biotechnology industry in Central and Eastern Europe

The potential of life sciences in academics and business will be shown by representatives of several countries from the CE region. Among others: Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Slovenia, Romania.

Management of biotech enterprises

How to gain success with a biotech business - Company and project management directed for both start-up managers and scientists leading research projects with the purpose of commercialization. Differences between general management and specialization in the biotech field - manager skills, requirements of the particular bio sector. Good practices, tips and study cases.

Thursday, May 20

Business-Science Deals

Business based on Intellectual Property Rights - buying/selling patents, licensing.

TOP 5 biotech SME from CE

The success path will be presented by SMEs chosen on the basis of their business achievements and inspiring innovations. Significant issues for start-up business will precede the case studies session.

BioBusiness panel

A session hosted by consulting company Deloitte. One of the main subjects: Fund raising for life science companies - EU grants, enterprises at early stage of development. Alternative financing options for young companies from CE region is presented by NewConnect market, which is operated by the Warsaw Stock Exchange.



FINDING BUSINESS PARTNERS

BioPartnering

One-to-one meetings are pre-scheduled online. They enable direct communication with business partners, investors, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies and R&D team leaders from the Central European Region (CE). The main goal of BioPartnering activity at BioForum 2010 is the exposition of CE biotech enterprises and research groups to business partners from inside and outside of CE. 2009 more than 230 such meetings were scheduled. Registering is possible at www.cebioforum.com

GREETING

Bridging the biotech communities



Dear colleagues,

The mission of BioForum is to link and integrate regional biotech communities of Central Europe with key players of the global biotech industry. BioForum annually gathers research and key industry players, who present their potential and areas for cooperation.

I strongly believe that direct contacts and face to face business interaction is much more effective in creating opportunities for the developing biotech industries of Central Europe compared to official, centralized initiatives.

We have to transform our determination into tangible success. I hope that through your participation and engagement, BioForum will contribute further to bridging the biotech communities of Central Europe, converting the vast potential into innovation and profitable ventures."

Tadeusz Pietrucha

CEO Bio-Tech Consulting Ltd.

THE VENUE



Andel's Hotel Lodz

BioForum will take place in the New Business Centre of Hotel Andel's, which is the first conference centre in the city to take in up to 800 people. The Centre is placed in an unique building combining the former spinning factory of Izrael Poznanski with a modern and daring design.



Exhibition

The exhibition hall is located in the centre of the event, serving as hub for informal meetings and networking. BioForum promotes promising biotechnology, life science and pharmaceutical enterprises in the productive and rapidly developing Central Europe (CE) and helps to develop competitive biotech market in the Region. More than 100 participants are expected to display their offers in the BioForum exhibition space, open to meet customers and partners.

THE CITY

Lodz

Lodz is the third-largest city in Poland. Located 135 kilometres south-west of Warsaw in the central part of the country, it has a population of around 750.000. The heyday of the city was in the 19th century. A constant influx of workers, businessmen and craftsmen from all over Europe transformed Lodz into the main textile production centre of the Russian Empire. By the end of World War II, Lodz had lost approximately 420,000 of its pre-war inhabitants.

Today no major textile company has survived in Lodz. Now the fastest growing Polish city is reinventing itself as a cultural hub. This development started after the war. In 1945 Lodz remained the only large Polish town besides Krakow which war had not destroyed. The creation of the National Film School gave the town a role of greater importance from a cultural viewpoint, with Roman Polanski as the most famous alumni of Holloy-Lodz. Interesting post-industrial architecture, extensive museum collections, and a number of festivals have turned Lodz into an attractive tourist destination.

