

BIOSPAIN 2023 concludes its eleventh edition with record-breaking participation figures

- The President of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Pere Aragonès i Garcia, and the General Manager of Amgen and member of the Board of Directors of AseBio and the Board of Trustees of Biocat, Fina Lladós, officially close the fair.
- Over 2,100 attendees and more than 220 exhibitors gathered over the course of the three-day congress.
- BIOSPAIN has evolved into a platform for fostering the next generation of startups, with over 5,000 one-to-one meetings and more than 30 startup presentations to investors.

Barcelona, September 28, 2023 - The International Biotechnology Meeting, BIOSPAIN 2023, held from September 26 to 28 at Fira de Barcelona – Montjuïc, organized by the Spanish Association of Biotech Companies (AseBio) in collaboration with Biocat, the Barcelona City Council, and the Government of Catalonia, has concluded its eleventh edition with record-breaking participation figures.

This was highlighted by the General Manager of Amgen and member of the Board of Directors of AseBio and the Board of Trustees of Biocat, Fina Lladós, during the closing ceremony of the fair, attended by the President of the Government of Catalonia, Pere Aragonès i Garcia. Over the course of three days, more than 2,100 people and more than 220 exhibitors participated.

"These have been three exciting days in which Barcelona has showcased the achievements of a sector that is transforming the world at a crucial moment for Europe. Throughout more than 60 roundtable discussions, we have seen how biotechnology is leading a revolution addressing the major challenges of our time," detailed Lladós.

Over the three days of the congress, the biotechnology sector has been positioned as a driving force behind the new healthcare model and a key element in achieving Spain and Europe's strategic autonomy in areas such as the economy, healthcare, sustainable food, and the green industrial transition.

In this way, BIOSPAIN has become a platform for promoting the next generation of startups, with over 5,000 one-to-one meetings and more than 30 startup presentations to investors. "BIOSPAIN is now celebrating two decades during which

the biotechnology industry has experienced astonishing growth. This edition has demonstrated the unwavering commitment of the biotechnology community to investment in science and innovation," emphasized Lladós.

Catalonia, one of the most competitive health innovation hubs

This edition took place in Barcelona, a city that, along with the autonomous community of Catalonia, has established itself as one of the most competitive, dynamic, and vibrant health innovation hubs in all of Europe. In fact, the region ranks first in exports of life sciences and healthcare products in Spain, with an industry that exports over 53% of Spain's products, a business network exceeding 1,350 companies, and employing 247,000 people (7% of Catalonia's employed population).

The President of the Government of Catalonia highlighted the importance of the biotechnology sector in Catalonia, citing that "in the latest national call for advanced therapy development grants, CERTERA, announced on Wednesday, €27.3 million out of the €43 million awarded went to projects in Catalonia. This figure represents 63% of the total."

In his view, BIOSPAIN arrived in Barcelona at a "key" moment for Catalonia, as it has served to boost the development of the healthcare sector in the region and solidify it as one of the main centers of the biotechnology field in Europe. An area that, as he assured, will be one of the "major" drivers of social progress and innovation at the international level. "Catalonia is health, innovation, and business," he concluded.

About AseBio

AseBio brings together 300 entities and represents the entire Spanish biotechnology sector. Its mission is to lead the transformation of the country by positioning science, innovation, and especially biotechnology as drivers of economic growth and social well-being. Among its members are companies, associations, foundations, universities, technology centers, and research institutions that directly or indirectly engage in biotechnology-related activities in Spain.

About Biocat

Biocat is the institution that promotes the life sciences and health ecosystem in Catalonia and works to maximize its economic and social impact. Biocat focuses its strategy on positioning the BioRegion of Catalonia as one of the main European hubs, providing innovative capacity to researchers and professionals through programs to enhance talent and entrepreneurship. It accelerates technology transfer and business growth by supporting technology transfer offices (OTRIs) and startups, fostering the attraction of investors and investment in the ecosystem. Established in 2006 by the Government of Catalonia and the Barcelona City Council, Biocat also drives far-reaching strategic policies and projects aimed at enhancing the country's competitiveness.

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