

# 10 recommendations to enable a 50 billion euro industrial biotechnology market in Europe by 2030

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BRUSSELS, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015** – TODAY, the [BIO-TIC project](#) - The Industrial Biotech Research and Innovation Platforms Centre - towards Technological Innovation and Solid Foundations for a Growing Industrial Biotech Sector in Europe – has launched its final roadmap for tackling barriers to industrial biotechnology in Europe entitled ***'The bioeconomy enabled - A roadmap to a thriving industrial biotechnology sector in Europe'***. The roadmap was introduced at the project's high level policy conference, entitled "[From bugs to business: Unlocking the Bioeconomy in Europe](#)", organised at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts in Brussels. The conference brought together industry, academia, policy makers, innovation agencies and other stakeholders to discuss the actions needed to stimulate the development of industrial biotechnology in Europe.

According to the BIO-TIC partners, the EU market for industrial biotechnology-derived products is expected to increase from 28 billion euro in 2013 to 50 billion euro in 2030. This growth will be largely driven by replacement of fossil carbon materials, reflecting Europe's desire to develop more sustainable and resource-efficient products and processes.

However, in spite of this market growth, significant hurdles remain and hamper the full development of industrial biotechnology in Europe. For example, the principal barrier to fully exploiting the industrial biotechnology opportunities in Europe relates to product cost-competitiveness, both compared to fossil alternatives and to equivalent products from elsewhere in the world. To tackle this and other hurdles, and to ensure that most of this potential is realised in Europe, the BIO-TIC roadmap outlines ten pragmatic recommendations for action. These are to:

- 1) Improve opportunities for feedstock producers within the bioeconomy;
- 2) Investigate the scope for using novel biomass;
- 3) Develop a workforce which can maintain Europe's competitiveness in industrial biotechnology;
- 4) Introduce a long-term, stable and transparent policy and incentive framework to promote the bioeconomy;
- 5) Improve public perception and awareness of industrial biotechnology and biobased products;
- 6) Identify, leverage and build upon EU capabilities for pilot and demonstration facilities;
- 7) Promote the use of co-products;
- 8) Improve the bioconversion and downstream processing steps;
- 9) Improve access to financing for large scale biorefinery projects;
- 10) Develop stronger relationships between conventional and non-conventional players in the value chain.

Nathalie Moll, Secretary General of EuropaBio, which coordinated the project, said 'we are thrilled to see BIO-TIC come to fruition. The roadmap represents a comprehensive summary of expertise and insight from across the Member States. In 10 recommendations, it highlights ways of capturing the huge potential for environmental, societal and economic solutions that this cutting-edge technology offers in the development of a more competitive, circular EU bioeconomy'.

All BIO-TIC roadmaps can be downloaded via the web portal [www.industrial-biotechnology.eu](http://www.industrial-biotechnology.eu).

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**Note to editor:**

**About BIO-TIC**

BIO-TIC project was launched in September 2012 with the vision to establish an overview of the hurdles to biotech innovation and find solutions to accelerate the uptake of industrial biotechnology in Europe. BIO-TIC is a three-year project funded by the FP7 Programme of the European Commission and is operated by 12 partners. These are EuropaBio, Cefic, PNO Consultants, TNO, Dechema, nova Institut, Clever Consult, KTN, IAR, Poyry Management Consulting Oy, Ciaotech and PNO Innovation. The consortium is led by EuropaBio. For more information, visit the project web portal at [www.industrialbiotech-europe.eu](http://www.industrialbiotech-europe.eu).

**About the conference 'From bugs to business: Unlocking the Bioeconomy in Europe'**

The conference brought together industry, academia, policy makers and innovation agencies to discuss the actions needed to stimulate the development of industrial biotechnology in Europe. The event, chaired by Professor Patricia Osseweijer, TU Delft, consisted of keynote speeches by BioAmber, Biobased Delta, Energochemica and Ecover to illustrate the issues and potential of industrial biotechnology in Europe, panel debates on project financing and biomass availability and concluded with MEP Lambert van Nistelrooij and Waldemar Kutt giving the Parliament's and Commission's view on industrial biotechnology respectively. The event included an exhibition of industrial biotechnology-related tools and products and was followed by a trip to the Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> June.

**About the roadmap 'The Bioeconomy Enabled: A Roadmap to a Thriving Industrial Biotechnology Sector in Europe'**

The roadmap is a key deliverable of the EU funded BIO-TIC project which was launched in September 2012 with the aim of identifying hurdles to innovation in industrial biotechnology across Europe and to formulate an action plan to overcome them. The results are based on an extensive literature review, complemented with over 80 expert interviews and 13 stakeholder workshops organised across Europe in 2013 & 2014. It is based on three detailed reports covering market potential, research and development and regulatory/policy issues, available separately as appendices to this document. All BIO-TIC roadmaps can be downloaded via the web portal [www.industrial-biotechnology.eu](http://www.industrial-biotechnology.eu).

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