# FIC Scaling Club

# Market Roadmap New Biotech Platforms















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## Introduction and Group Overview



### **Objectives and targets**

This report was developed through **collaborative interactions** with EIC Scaling Club stakeholders, including **scale-up companies**, **investors**, **corporates**, **and public institutions**.

It provides a **comprehensive snapshot** of stakeholder members' visions and insights on the state of the **new biotech platforms market in Europe**.

The report is designed to help professionals, particularly entrepreneurs, **understand market trends** and **build effective scaling strategies**.

### Topics explored by participants:

- 1. Key technologies shaping the sector
- 2. Future technological trends
- 3. Risks and opportunities of new innovations
- 4. Geographic focus and market potential
- 5. Regulatory hurdles affecting growth
- 6. Importance of strategic partnerships
- 7. Funding priorities for sustainable scaling

### **Purpose of the report:**



... Support companies and entrepreneurs assess their **current market positioning** and define future roadmaps, by benchmarking against peers and leveraging expert insights.

### How it was achieved:



... A blend of **data-driven analysis** and **qualitative inputs**, including surveys, workshops (online and onsite), and indepth interviews with Club members.



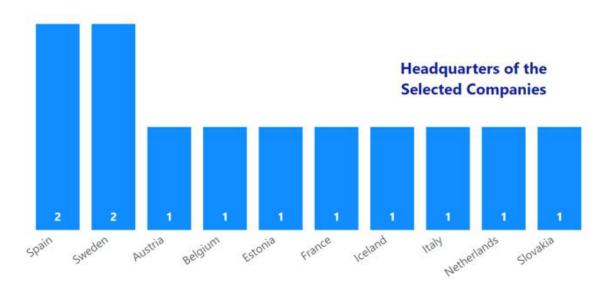




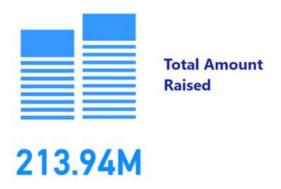
## **Highlights Report Summary**

Data as of 31st October 2024





















## **Members of the New Biotech group**

Club **Stakeholders** Members

Club **Company** Members









Logos displayed with consent. For the complete list, please contact the report author







### **Program mentors**



in

**Vassil Karaivanov** Chairman Sofia Tech Park JSC



**Attila Uderszky** Owner & CEO PLUR Creative Ltd.



**Ali Saib** Conseiller matre Cour des comptes



**Dominique Delporte - Vermeiren** President Groupe VerDel



**Volker Hirsch** Co-founder & Director **Tech North Advocates** 



**Ana Catarina Gomes** in Independent expert



**Antonio Fonduca Managing Director** Venture Diplomat



**Birgit Anderegg** in Founder & CEO ABC & D



**Stavriana Kofteros** in Founder & Partner W11 Ventures



**Devaki Bhatta** MedTech NED and **Investment Advisor** 



**Teresa Carvalho** Consultant World Health Organization



**Anya Eldan** Partner **Edge Medical Ventures** 







## Companies selected in the New Biotech group

Following nominations from stakeholder members for the most promising European scale-ups, these companies were selected based on their applications to the program. Evaluation criteria included:

Technology Maturity Management Expertise

Go-to-market Strategy Competitive Positioning

Investment Potential

Additionally, geographic and gender diversity were prioritised to ensure fair representation of European innovation.



**Amadix:** Develops and commercialises groundbreaking cancer diagnostic solutions to improve survival and quality of life for patients.



**Genecode**: A biopharmaceutical company specialising in novel, disease-modifying drugs for chronic neurological conditions.



**Arctic Therapeutics**: Advances applied genomics, combined with AI, to accelerate drug development and tackle global healthcare challenges.



**Glycanostics**: Revolutionises cancer diagnostics with accurate, affordable, and non-invasive early detection tests.



**Asgard Therapeutics**: Pioneers innovative cancer immunotherapies using direct cell reprogramming technologies.



**Mimark**: Develops biomarkers for women's health, offering solutions for discovery, verification, and validation.



**CellPly**: Designs advanced analytical systems to characterise immune cells, enhancing the efficacy of next-generation cancer immunotherapies.



**Osivax**: A clinical-stage biotech company advancing a new class of universal vaccines and immunotherapies.



**Convert Pharmaceuticals**: A preclinical-stage company focused on developing prodrugs for targeted therapies.



**Ribbon Biolabs**: Innovates in fast, efficient automated synthesis of DNA, empowering research and development processes.



**Elypta**: Utilises a metabolism-based liquid biopsy and machine learning to enable non-invasive cancer detection.



**Sensius**: Improves cancer treatment outcomes and quality of life through moderate tumor heating technologies.









## Key Results and Insights



## New biotech platforms show strong technology developments but face significant funding gaps



#### \$6 Billion

Raised by European biotech companies in 2023, making biotech the top-funded Healthcare subsector



### **Transformative Technologies**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cell & gene therapy are revolutionising drug discovery and precision medicine



#### **Key challenges**

Data misuse, safety concerns and high development costs hinder scalability



#### **Global Competition**

- US: 553 B\$ (2023)
- EU: 381 B\$ (2023)



### **Funding Needs**

Significant investment is required for costly clinical trials to support European biotech growth





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This cohort of companies clearly recognizes the fast pace of innovation that happens in the intersect of advanced biology research coupled with computational advances through artificial intelligence and data sciences. I number of challenges remain for them in order to scale provided the regulatory uncertainties that remain across key markets, talent but most predominantly growth funding with comfort to invest across the intersect of biotech platforms.

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Patrik Sobocki Senior Investment Director, Industrifonden Group President New Biotech Platforms

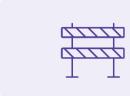
## Fragment regulations and capital-intensive R&D are challenging scaleups' growth



**Regulatory Complexity** Lengthy approval processes delay growth.



**Risk-Averse Investors**U.S. funding is more favorable due to higher risk tolerance



Fragmented Markets
Diverse rules and language
barriers hinder scaling





Zivile Einikyte Venture Scout & Creator of Perception Paradox



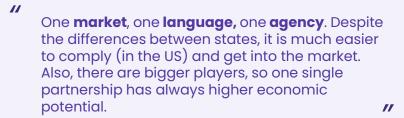
**High Costs**Long timelines and uncertain outcomes increase risks



**Funding Gap**Europe lacks the public funding seen in the U.S.



Reimbursement Issues
U.S. offers faster, higher
reimbursement rates





Ana Catarina Gomes Biotech Innovation Expert & Mentor of the EIC Scaling Club

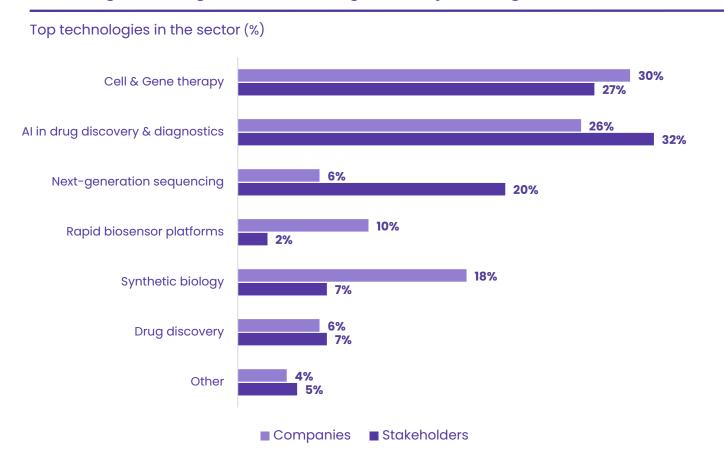






## New cell therapies and AI are poised to disrupt the market

Companies and stakeholders identify AI and gene therapy as the most transformative technologies, driving innovation in drug discovery and diagnostics.



Al and genetics will be the most transformative technologies in the next 3-5 years, particularly in drug discovery and diagnostics. Al-driven algorithms can analyze vast amounts of data more efficiently, leading to faster identification of drug candidates and optimizing the entire R&D process.



Ivar Hakonarson, CEO, Arctic Therapeutics

CRISPR and other gene-editing technologies will continue to revolutionize medicine. Their ability to precisely alter DNA opens possibilities for curing genetic diseases. The growing sophistication of gene-editing tools, combined with decreasing costs, will make them more accessible for widespread application.



Dusan Obradovic
Chairman & Co-founder,
Bold International Group

\* 45 answers collected from survey questions



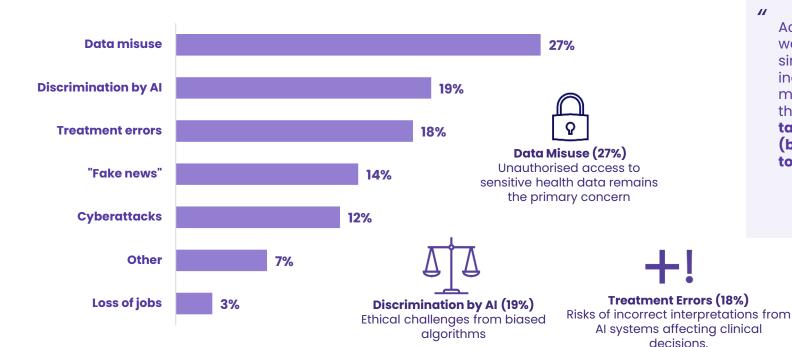




## Al technology face technical challenges related to data misuse treatment

#### Key risks and strategic insights on the use of AI in biotechnology and healthcare

Survey insights highlighting the top three risks of AI in biotech, as identified by companies and stakeholders



Across all industries, we see that the AI hype that was spurred, if not kicked off, by ChatGPT and similar tools, **is slowing down** already. First mover industries are already starting to "pause" in their AI motion and drive and take a step back to scrutinize the rather shot-gun use of AI, **aiming for a more targeted approach**, by "thinking from the end" (bottom-up, rather than the initial and current top-down).



Birgit Anderegg Founder & CEO, ABC & D







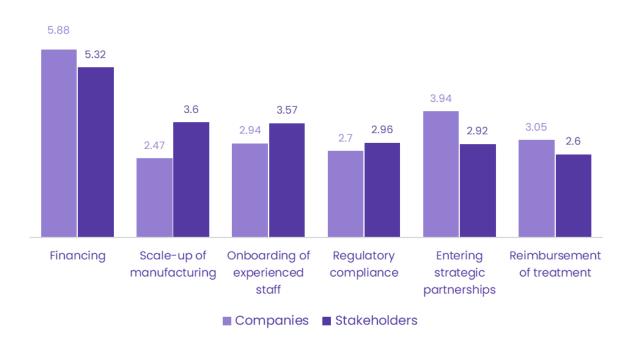
<sup>\* 29</sup> answers collected from survey questions

## Accessing funds and developing strategic partnerships are key challenges faced by scaleups

Financing and strategic partnerships are critical for scaling biotech ventures, while regulatory compliance and manufacturing scale-up also remain significant priorities

#### Most pressing needs in the biotech market

(Average ranking by importance, 1=least important, 6=most important):



<sup>\* 45</sup> answers collected from survey questions (companies and stakeholders)

Complex regulations, fragmented markets, and the long timelines make the investment riskier. To unlock more funding, the EU needs clearer regulatory processes, stronger incentives and better collaboration between academia, industry and investors to build confidence in early-stage ventures.



Borja Ruiz VC Investor, Invivo Partners

For therapeutics, the binary nature and unpredictability makes it an extremely high-risk field. More specialist investors with adapted fund setups (longer lifespans, evergreen funds, etc.) coupled with streamlined regulatory environments to accelerate those phases would improve the environment.



Volker Hirsch Technology Entrepreneur & Investor







## Investments in the sector are largely driven by US fund raises

#### **Global Market Preferences**

**89%** of respondents view the U.S. market as the most attractive for biotech investment.

Based on 45 surveys responses

### **Investment Disparity**

In **2023**, only **17%** of biotech investments were directed to the **EU**, compared to **80%** going to the **U.S.**, highlighting a significant funding gap.

### **Funding Sources**

In **2023**, **53%** of investments came from **venture capital**, while **corporate investments** contributed **15%**, and grants accounted for one-third of the total funding.

### Impact of the Pandemic

Investments surged by **66%** between **2019 and 2020** due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**, with a further **42%** growth from **2020 to 2021**, driven by heightened demand for biotech innovations.



Investment trends in biotech from 2010 to 2023, showing funding distribution across regions and funding types

Source: Dealroom.co Biotechnology funding rounds per company location









# Methodology, authors and EIC Scaling Club contacts



## Methodology: Data Collection and Analysis Approach

The research followed a **quantitative methodology**, grounded in best practices outlined by the consortium members.

The study combined **online surveys** with **inperson and virtual workshops**, designed in collaboration with industry experts to ensure relevance and accuracy. Key activities included:

- **Questionnaires**: Structured questions informed by expert interviews.
- **Workshops**: Sessions for open-ended feedback to capture diverse perspectives.

Participants were invited to provide additional comments, enriching the findings with qualitative insights.



Note: Participation in the study was voluntary, and responses were not anonymous, allowing tracking for research integrity.







## Additional references and reports from the EIC Scaling Club

### **Expert Reports for Further Exploration:**

- 1. McKinsey & Company Generative Al in the Pharmaceutical Industry. Moving from Hype to Reality
- 2. BCG New Drug Modalities 2024
- 3. Stem Cell Council The Benefits and Risks of Gene Therapy
- 4. EuropaBio Impact of the EU's General Pharmaceutical Legislation on Europe's Innovation Ecosystem
- 5. European Medicines Agency Monitoring the European Clinical Trials Environment
- 6. European Medicines Agency Improving the Efficiency of Approval Processes for New Medicines in the EU

### Market Roadmaps from the EIC Scaling Club

Explore key market roadmaps designed to address emerging challenges and opportunities:

Agri & Food Tech	New Space
Battery & Energy Storage	<b>Next-Generation Computing</b>
Cardiovascular Therapies	Renewable Energies
Clean Fuels & Hydrogen	Smart Mobility
Digital Security & trust	

### Scaling Challenges Roadmap from the EIC Scaling Club

The EIC Scaling Club has produced targeted roadmaps to support companies in overcoming specific growth challenges. These include:

Go-to-Market Strategy	<b>Investment Thesis</b>
Strong Board	<b>Lead Investor</b>







### Authors, acknowledgments and Expert Contributions

### **Author**





**Jan Bernlöhr**Division Management Financing

### **Expert interviews**

Contributions from industry leaders and experts provided critical perspectives and guidance for this report:



Nadia Serina
Strategic R&D
Agreements Manager
STMicroelectronics



Patrik Sobocki
Senior Investment
Director
Industrifonden



Vera Codazzi Innovation Network Manager Chiesi Group



**Joao Incio** General Partner Biovance Capital



**Devaki Bhatta**MedTech NED and
Investment Advisor



Volker Hirsch
Technology
Entrepreneur &
Investor







# FIC Scaling Club

## **EICScalingClub.eu**

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## Thank you!

