

## Who we are

The European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) is Europe's non-profit federation of National Biotechnology Associations, Learned Societies, Universities, Scientific Institutes, Biotech Companies and individual biotechnologists working to promote biotechnology throughout Europe and beyond. As the independent "Voice of Biotechnology in Europe", EFB promotes the safe, sustainable and beneficial use of fundamental research and innovation in life sciences, while providing a forum for interdisciplinary and international cooperation..

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# A five-year strategy from 2019 – 2023



**EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF  
BIOTECHNOLOGY**



# Strategic Plan

## The breadth of the contributions of Biotechnology to Society

Biotechnology covers a vast range of fields, spanning the application of living organisms, ecosystems or components from them to meet the needs of Society. Its useful products include novel foods and drinks, biomaterials, smart medicines, vaccines, diagnostic kits, clean water, valuable chemicals from biowaste recycling plants, improved crops and seeds, biosensors and biofuels amongst many others. Traditional biotechnological industries have included production of the yeast, grains, grapes and microbial cultures for the production of bread, beer, wine and dairy products. This was expanded into the production of organic solvents, antibiotics, vitamins, other food supplements, fuels and more recently biopolymers. By far the largest, if not the most glamorous, biotechnology industry is wastewater treatment and the recycling of sewage into potable drinking water. Other large scale industries include many types of bioremediation approaches to decontaminate polluted environments and increase the efficiency of composting. High-throughput nucleic acid sequencing and gene editing offer rapid methods for detecting disease, predicting future health problems, providing intelligent diagnosis, personalized therapies and crop development based upon detailed scientific information rather than traditional trial and error approaches.

## Four core values that motivate the EFB contribution to a knowledge-based, sustainable economy.



The EFB will promote the safe, ethical and sustainable development of a wide range of technologies for applications ranging from agriculture to industry and medicine



Our major role is to provide access to the best available science so that governments and international organisations can base legislation and their activities on sound scientific knowledge.



As an interdisciplinary international organisation, EFB must complement and not compete with national learned societies.



EFB is highly dependent upon volunteers who contribute their time and energy to its activities. Working within the EFB community must always be collegiate, intellectually rewarding and enjoyable.

# Our Vision

A world that embraces the safe, ethical and sustainable use of biological systems, knowledge and products for the benefit of Society and the Environment.

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# Our Mission

The dissemination of the most reliable scientific knowledge to advance the sustainable use of natural resources and the development of novel biological products and solutions to meet global needs.

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# Major aims for the next five years

EFB is a multidisciplinary organisation that provides a forum for communication of advances in front-line research to the benefit of Society through supporting the bioeconomy, the environment and health and to disseminate this knowledge to the general public. The key areas of the EFB activities will focus on the ability of biotechnology to provide sustainable biological solutions.

# Objectives

For the next five years, the EFB will focus on four objectives. The first two are long term goals; the other two are immediate administrative requirements for the next few years.



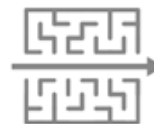
Consolidating current strengths



Diversifying activities as and when opportunities arise.



Strengthening income streams to support additional activities.



Simplifying administration for succession planning.



# Continuing long term goals

## **Objective 1: Consolidating current strengths.**

Aided by a dedicated and highly professional Central Office that provides a range of support, EFB will continue to strengthen its current activities to inform the biotechnology community and stakeholders about the areas in which EFB already does well.

## **Objective 2: Diversifying activities where opportunities arise.**

From its early days EFB strongly supported traditional biochemical engineering (fermenter design; measurement and control of fermentation processes; downstream processing), microbial genetics, eukaryote cell culture and applied biocatalysis. EFB will continue to adapt by organising meetings that present new technological advances to more diverse audiences. EFB will encourage experts to develop activities in areas where it is currently less active.

# Immediate administrative objectives for the next five years

## **Objective 3: Strengthening income streams to expand the activities of the EFB Office.**

Major income sources include the Congress, our Patrons Novozymes and Eppendorf, Institutional Members and the EFB Journal. Although the income from ECB Congresses has increased due to improved marketing by the EFB Office, our Congresses have suffered from strong competition in this market place and require major improvements. The EFB Office is now experienced in helping its Sections run their focused meetings and this has provided an important new income stream. However, it is dependent upon effective collaboration with local meeting organisers. The Federation will focus on increasing income from some activities while out-sourcing tasks where this is more cost-effective.

## **Objective 4: Simplifying administration for succession planning.**

Dual registration in Belgium and Spain for legal, financial and taxation purposes doubles the EFB Office's administrative workload and generates legal anomalies. EFB is working hard to resolve its legal status. The EFB is over-dependent upon a few key people to resolve these and other issues: succession planning is now a priority.

