



# Germany: a hotspot for biotech R&D

Germany offers the perfect ecosystem for discovery, research translation and collaboration - powered by the High-Tech Agenda Germany.

**Connect. Collaborate.  
Build your career.**

Scan to explore  
biotechnology in Germany:



An initiative of:



Federal Ministry  
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Research in  
Germany

  
Land of Ideas



## Biotech in Germany at a glance

Biotechnology is transforming healthcare, agriculture and food systems – enabling AI-driven drug discovery, precision therapies and sustainable biomanufacturing.

Germany combines excellent science with strong partners and a clear goal: to turn ideas into real-world solutions.

### THE NUMBERS BEHIND GERMAN BIOTECH

- Europe's number one for patents in biotechnology: 2,403 (2023-2025)
- 1,020 biotech companies (2024)
- Biotechnology companies in Germany generated €11bn in revenue (2024) and invested €4.6bn in R&D (2024)
- Policy focus: biotechnology is defined as a key technology by the High-Tech Agenda Germany

# Shape your biotech career in Germany

Your research deserves an environment that matches your ambition. Germany's High-Tech Agenda makes biotechnology a national priority - accelerating innovation and supporting the path from discovery to real-world applications.

## What this means for you:



Collaboration-ready ecosystems across academia, industry and start-ups



Strong partners across universities, institutes and companies



International networks and career opportunities



# What makes Germany strong in biotech

Germany is a leading R&D hub: academia works with industry in thousands of collaborative projects involving companies, research institutes and technology parks.

## What you'll find here:



World-class research infrastructure and internationally renowned scientists



Interdisciplinary strength at the interfaces between life sciences, engineering and AI/data



International teams, vibrant campuses and career opportunities across academia, start-ups and industry

## Did you know Germany is at the forefront of key biotech fields?\*



mRNA & RNA therapeutics - a platform innovation that moves fast from discovery to clinical impact



Biocatalysis & industrial biotech - greener manufacturing, scaled through enzyme-driven processes



Molecular diagnostics & lab workflows - the tools and test technologies powering precision medicine





## Germany's biotech ecosystem: four goals, clear pathways

In its High-Tech Agenda, Germany has defined four biotech goals designed to boost innovation, maintain its competitiveness and ensure that research is translated into real-world applications:

### **1. Future healthcare & research translation**

AI-enabled drug discovery, gene and cell therapies, personalised medicine

### **2. Industrial biotech & bioeconomy scale-up**

Industrial biotech and biobased production - scale-up, PPPs and entrepreneurship

### **3. Resilient agriculture & sustainable food systems**

Crop protection, climate-resilient breeding, biotech-made foods and alternative proteins

### **4. Predictive & preventive medicine**

Engineering, biotech and medicine for smarter diagnostics and next-gen medtech

# Key actors & standout institutions

Germany's biotech landscape is diverse - and that's a big strength. Collaborate with the partner type that matches your goal.

## Universities & university hospitals\*

- 1 Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Humboldt-Universität (Berlin)
- 2 LMU Munich and Technical University of Munich (TUM)
- 3 Cluster of Excellence "BioSystemM"

## Non-university & international research\*

- 4 DKFZ (German Cancer Research Center) and EMBL (European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg) - connecting researchers worldwide
- 5 Strong national institute networks - including Max Planck institutes such as the MPI for Infection Biology (Berlin) and the MPI for Molecular Genetics (Berlin)
- 6 and Helmholtz centres such as Helmholtz Munich (German Research Center for Environmental Health)

To turn research into real-world solutions, Germany builds regional collaboration platforms - which is where BioRegions and biotech clusters come in. BioRegions are Germany's regional biotech clusters. Many run bioparks offering labs, clean rooms and other tailored infrastructure.



\* selected examples



## Where to start: clusters, programmes & contacts

It's best to apply directly for individual positions in Germany (PhD, postdoc, research and R&D roles) - and, if you're looking for collaboration, to get in touch with a cluster. To help you take the next step, here are just a few of Germany's best-known biotech hubs - there are many more across the country:

- **Berlin-Brandenburg:** HealthCapital cluster; BiotechPark Berlin-Buch; Science & Technology Park Adlershof
- **Greater Munich and Bavaria:** strong university base (LMU, TUM) and dynamic innovation ecosystem
- **Rhine-Neckar:** strong cluster; includes examples like BioLabs Heidelberg incubator
- **Rhineland-Palatinate:** home to BioNTech and Boehringer Ingelheim, boasting the highest number of clinical studies; e.g. Zukunftscluster curATime

### Germany provides substantial public funding for biotechnology\*:

- **GO-Bio next** - research translation/start-up support in biotechnology
- **BioDigitalHub** - biotech innovation at the interface with AI/digital technologies
- **KMU-innovativ: Bioökonomie & Medizintechnik** - funding for SME-driven (experimental) R&D in bioeconomy/biotech-related value chains and medical technology solutions

**Biotechnology is a key technology in  
Germany's High-Tech Agenda.**



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