

Life Sciences Start-Up Support powered by NGI

Starting up a company is tricky in any sector. It is particularly tough in one that is as fast moving as Life Sciences. The Netherlands Genomics Initiative (NGI) fully recognises this difficulty and has put together a coherent support programme for Life Sciences starters by initiating a series of activities and partnering with existing start-up programmes. The start-up support programme covers various aspects such as coaching/training, financial support and networking activities.



Coaching and Training

Starting a high-tech company in Life Sciences not only requires an in-depth scientific background but also business and commercial skills and expertise. The Life Sciences Start-Up Support Programme offers coaching and training activities to help potential entrepreneurs to define and improve their business ideas and business skills.

New Venture www.newventure.nl

New Venture is a business plan competition that aims to get innovative start-ups off to a good start. Since 1998 New Venture has grown into far more than just a competition and now also offers: critical feedback on a start-up's business plan by investors, entrepreneurs and consultants; answers to questions regarding patents, marketing, production, VAT, etc.; and informative seminars on feasibility, sustainability, marketing, intellectual property and financing.

Venture Challenge

www.venturechallenge.nl

The Venture Challenge is an excellent opportunity for potential Life Sciences start-ups to receive coaching and advice on a range of business issues. In a series of three-day workshops future entrepreneurs are challenged by experienced business coaches to draft a business plan concept, a strategy and a financial plan for a start-up. At the end of the Venture Challenge the participants pitch their case to a jury of seasoned entrepreneurs and investors. The best venture pitch receives a €25,000 prize.

Masterclass BioBusiness

The Masterclass BioBusiness is an executive educational programme, specifically developed for starting entrepreneurs in Dutch Life Sciences. The one-year programme is a balance between developing general management- and entrepreneurial skills and learning specific Life Sciences business-related topics, such as commercialising intellectual property, product regulation and financing. In parallel, a number of realistic Life Sciences business plans are made, enabling the young entrepreneurs to implement the acquired skills and knowledge.



Financing

In Life Sciences, starting a company often requires large investments. In the very early stages of setting up a company, venture capitalists are usually not willing to invest due to the high uncertainties and associated risks. The Life Sciences Start-Up Support Programme offers financial support to potential Life Sciences entrepreneurs in those early pre-seed and seed stages.

Life Sciences Pre-Seed Grant

www.preseedgrant.nl

The Life Sciences Pre-Seed Grant offers potential start-ups an opportunity to proceed towards commercial application of knowledge and start tomorrow's company today! Worth up to €250,000, the Pre-Seed Grant provides superb prospects for those involved in applied research and those looking to exploit their fundamental research commercially by starting up a new business. The Pre-Seed Grant can be used to investigate both technical and economic opportunities for setting up a company in the Life Sciences.

BioGeneration Ventures

www.biogenerationventures.com

BioGeneration Ventures (BGV) is a seed fund for the next generation of Life Sciences companies. BGV invests in Dutch start-ups and early-stage Life Sciences companies. The BGV team is specialised in evaluating and managing early-stage companies. The involvement goes beyond the financial investment. BGV works closely with scientists, academic institutions, entrepreneurs and industry experts to accelerate the development and to optimise the commercial potential of the portfolio company's technologies.

Mibiton

www.mibiton.nl

The Mibiton funds enable young Life Sciences companies to use expensive equipment and facilities. Currently, two funds are open for investment proposals. The Mibiton Share Fund invests in Life Sciences facilities and equipment that will be used by several Dutch Life Sciences companies, and proposals may vary between about €100k to €750k in scope. The Mibiton Solo Fund enables

a young Life Sciences company to acquire more general or dedicated equipment, which will be used to expand its R&D and sales activities. Mibiton Solo investments range between about €50k and €500k.

Network

When starting-up a company, having a good network of other entrepreneurs, possible suppliers, advisors, etc., is crucial for success. Why reinvent the wheel when there are so many others who have the experience to help you?

yels.net www.yels.net

The yels network is a unique, established network for Life Sciences in the Netherlands and caters specifically to Life Sciences start-ups. They promote and support entrepreneurship, the exchange of knowledge and experience amongst members, and make it easier to make business contacts with investors, advisors, incubators and trainers. It offers the perfect initial link to the established Life Sciences sector.

