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To: Higher Education and Research Institutions
in Rhineland-Palatinate

Announcement: Scotland – Rhineland-Palatinate Life Sciences Research Collaboration Fund

The Scottish Government is pleased to announce the launch of a **funding call in support of research collaboration in the fields of life sciences and biotechnology**, jointly funded by the Scottish Government, the Rhineland-Palatinate Ministry for Science and Health, and the Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance.

This initiative is one of a number of activities under the recent Statement of Intent between Scotland and Rhineland-Palatinate, signed by ministers from both governments in March 2021, to promote closer cooperation in the areas of education, culture, higher education and research.

This new funding call is open to Early Career Researchers based in Scotland and Rhineland-Palatinate and will support collaborative research in the fields of life sciences and biotechnology. Applicants can apply for up to €10k for joint research projects. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 15 June**. Full details are in the attached funding guidelines.

Biotechnology is a growing sector for both Scotland and Rhineland-Palatinate. Universities and research institutes form an important part of Scotland's biotech backbone, encompassing areas such as genomics, pharma, diagnostics, molecular biology, antimicrobial resistance, infectious diseases and bioinformatics.

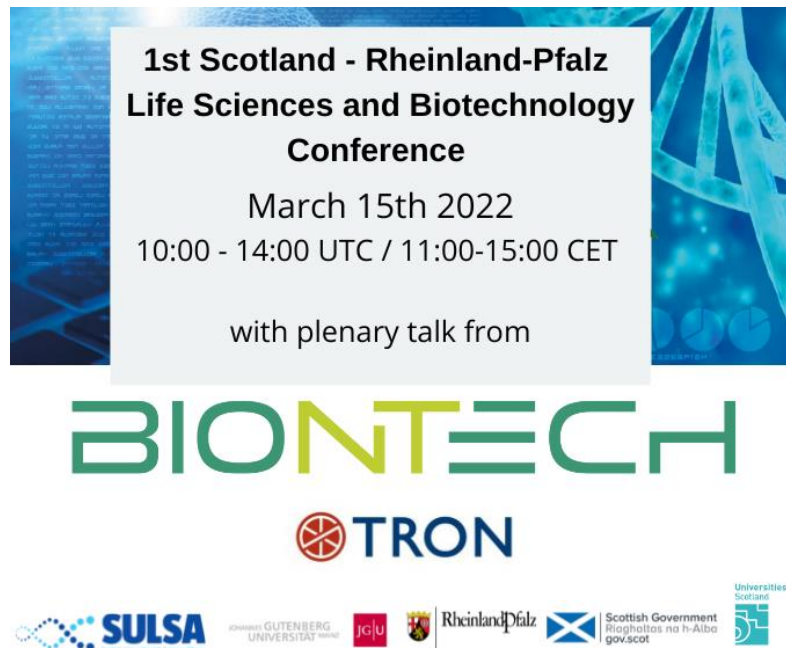
The Life Sciences sector in Scotland:

- Produces 70% of media for biomanufacturing in Europe
- Is responsible for over 50% of Europe's biosafety testing
- Hosts two Cancer Research UK research centres looking at developing novel drug targets, novel diagnostic methods using precision oncology and exploring ways to prevent cancer onset
- Has the largest concentration of animal health and aquaculture researchers in Europe
- Includes the number one location in Europe for research impact in biomedical and health sciences at Dundee



Further information on the funding call will be provided during the following online event on 15th March, for which registration is now open for a general audience:

<https://hopin.com/events/1st-scotland-rheinland-pfalz-life-sciences-and-biotechnology-conference/registration>



**1st Scotland - Rheinland-Pfalz
Life Sciences and Biotechnology
Conference**

March 15th 2022
10:00 - 14:00 UTC / 11:00-15:00 CET

with plenary talk from

BIONTECH

TRON

SULSA JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT JG|U Rheinland-Pfalz Scottish Government Rìghdhalas na h-Aibidh gov.scot Universities Scotland

The event will provide networking opportunities for Early Career Researchers in Scotland and Rhineland-Palatinate to make connections and discuss their areas of research, with a view to laying the groundwork for collaborative research projects that can apply for funding. Representatives from the funding organisations will also be available at the conference to answer questions about the funding call.

Further networking opportunities for Early Career Researchers to establish connections and common areas of interest are provided by the new “Coffee Break” Platform hosted by the Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance at <https://sulsa.ac.uk/coffee-break/>, details of which are in the attached flyer.

We very much look forward to receiving expressions of interest and discussing these during the upcoming conference, and would welcome it if this announcement could be forwarded to relevant members of your institution. We hope that this funding call generates much interest among Early Career Researchers in Scotland and Rhineland-Palatinate, and look forward to exciting research collaboration propositions and further strengthening ties in these fields.

With very best wishes,

Sarah Beddoes

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