

# Empowering Future Biotech Innovators

Entrepreneurial Capacity Building Programme  
for Staff

**October 2025 – December 2025**



**BIOTECH**  
Venture Pathway



[www.biotech-project.eu](http://www.biotech-project.eu)

# Agenda

- 18:05 - 18:10 **Welcome & Introduction - Maria José Miranda Martel** (*Director of Knowledge Transfer & Business Relations, ULPGC & Project Coordinator*)
- 18:10 – 18:25 **About the Training Programme – Ana Belén González Méndez** (*Area Manager, Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Technology, SILO*)
- 18:25 – 18:35 **Practical Info & Next Steps - Rodrigo Duarte** (*Innovation Consultant, Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Technology Area, SILO*)
- 18:35 – 18:50 **Questions and Answers**

# Welcome & Introduction



## **Maria José Miranda Martel**

Director of Knowledge Transfer &  
Business Relations, ULPGC & Project  
Coordinator

# Organizations and entities involved in the Programme

The Biotech Venture Pathway, funded by the **EIT HEI Initiative**, is a multi-phase program that helps **students and staff** from Higher Education Institutions in Biotechnology and Life Sciences innovate, scale, and **transform research into impactful ventures**, while supporting regional economic goals.

## Universities behind the programme



**UAç**  
UNIVERSIDADE  
DOS AÇORES



**Fundación  
Parque Científico  
Tecnológico**



## Companies behind the programme



**CONSULTA EUROPA**  
SMART • SOCIAL • SUSTAINABLE





# Why Biotech, Why Now?

Biotechnology is reshaping **health, food, and the environment**.

This programme equips the next generation of innovators—**students and researchers**—with the skills and entrepreneurial mindset needed to **drive impactful change** in this dynamic field.

To drive innovation, we need **curious, talented minds** ready to tackle challenges. This programme empowers individuals to **become leaders, transforming ideas into solutions** that will shape the future of health, food, and the environment.

**And that's where you come in!**



# Who is It For?



## Academic Staff

Lecturers, professors, and researchers who support teaching, research, and innovation.



## Non-Academic Staff

Administrative staff, project managers, communication officers, and technical support teams who contribute to the institution's operations.

**No previous entrepreneurial experience is needed.** Just curiosity and a willingness to learn!

# About the Training Programme



**Ana Belén González Méndez**

Entrepreneurship, Innovation  
and Technology Area Manager,  
SILO

# Why Should Staff Care?



**Promote a culture  
of innovation in  
their faculty or  
unit**



**Gain tools to  
support  
student  
entrepreneurs**



**Be recognised for  
their efforts through  
certification and  
networking  
opportunities**



**Understand the  
significance of  
biotechnology**



Whether you're a lecturer, research manager, or admin officer, you can play a key role in shaping an innovation-friendly university.



# What is the Programme

- **Free, fully online programme**

Composed of online modules, it will guide you step by step in building the skills and mindset needed to transform scientific knowledge into real-world impact.

- **Fully compatible with other commitments**

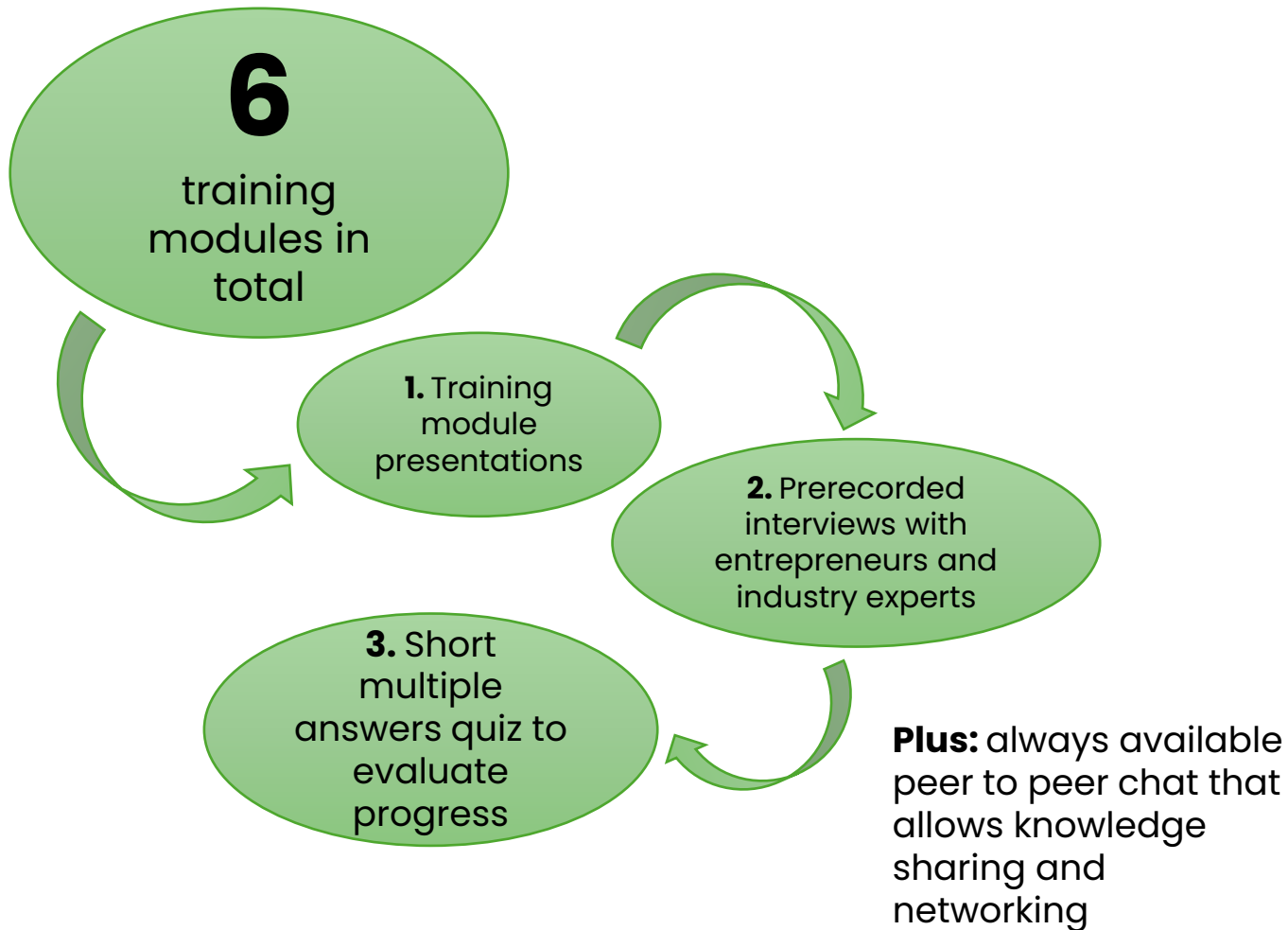
The training programme is fully compatible with ongoing study or work commitments, requiring only approximately **2 hours per week** in total.

- **Follow your own rhythm**

Do the training when you have time, at your own pace.



# Real-World Learning Experience



- 1** **Get the basics** on how to bring innovation into your own research
- 2** **Build confidence** in connecting students to the right people or resources
- 3** **Develop awareness** of opportunities that can help students move their ideas forward
- 4** **Apply practical strategies** to guide, refer, or mentor students — even if you're not a biotech expert

# Training Modules

## Module 1

Fostering  
Innovation in  
Universities

## Module 2

From Research to  
Opportunity

## Module 3

Supporting  
Student Innovation  
& Mentoring

## Module 4

What is  
Biotechnology and  
Why It Matters

## Module 5

Building  
Innovation  
Networks to  
Support Biotech

## Module 6

Technology  
Transfer & IP  
Strategy

# Example of content from the modules





# \* Module 1 Fostering Innovation in Universities

## Spaces for Experimentation



### Safe Environments for Innovation

Universities that encourage trial and error—like hackathons, idea competitions, and innovation grants—create low-risk settings for testing new ideas, benefiting both students and staff.



### How to Support

Back small innovation initiatives and foster trial-and-error learning in classrooms or support systems to promote experimentation.



### Reflection

What small-scale initiative could your team or unit launch to promote experimentation this year?

## \* Module 3 - Supporting Student Innovation

# Mentoring Without Being an Expert

Broadening the Mentor Role

1

### Facilitating, Not Directing

Effective mentors do not need startup or legal expertise. By asking thoughtful 'how' and 'what' questions, offering perspective instead of prescriptive solutions, and referring students to experts, staff provide essential support.

2

### Listening & Connecting

Students need mentors who listen carefully, reflect on their ideas, and help them access institutional knowledge or contacts as needed.



# Pre-recorded interviews with entrepreneurs and innovators, available for you to watch anytime...



**Manuel Luque**

Co-Founder of  
Rethink Medical



**Zuzanna  
Tomkielska**

Researcher working in  
health innovation from  
University of Azores



**Rodrigo de Pablos**

CEO of Bioreplica

## Pre-recorded interviews with industry experts like, available for you to watch anytime...



**Andrea Attanasio**

Head of the Research,  
Innovation, and Social  
Impact Area at the  
University of Calabria



**Duarte Tiago**

Professor of the Introduction  
to Biotechnology course at  
the University of the Azores.



**Ely Rodríguez**

Knowledge Transfer Office  
- University of Las Palmas  
de Gran Canaria



# International Perspectives & Networking Opportunities

Our training programme brings together participants from **4 different European countries**, creating a truly international learning environment. As part of the programme, you'll have the opportunity to **build your global network** through:

1. Monthly networking events
2. Peers chat

**An opportunity to share your best ideas and collaborate on future projects together!**



## Practical Info & Next Steps



**Rodrigo Tudela Martins Duarte**

Innovation Consultant,  
Entrepreneurship, Innovation &  
Technology Area, SILO

# Campus Virtual Platform

The "Campus Virtual" platform from ULPGC will host the courses. It is a user-friendly teaching support platform (Moodle).

## **Flexible learning**

Learn at your own pace,  
whenever and wherever  
suits you.

## **Interactive communication**

Connect with other  
participants through  
group forums.

## **Accessible content**

Watch pre-recorded  
interviews clearly and at  
your convenience.

## **Certification**

Receive a certificate  
upon successful  
completion

# Campus Virtual Onboarding

**Step by step to get you ready to start the training by 1<sup>st</sup> October**

**We will follow up with an email by next week at the latest with the campus virtual onboarding guide.**



## Course Completion Requirements

**90%**

Completion of  
the course  
activities

**5 out of the 6**

self-assessment  
quizzes completed

**75%**

score on each  
quizz. You can  
retake quizzes.

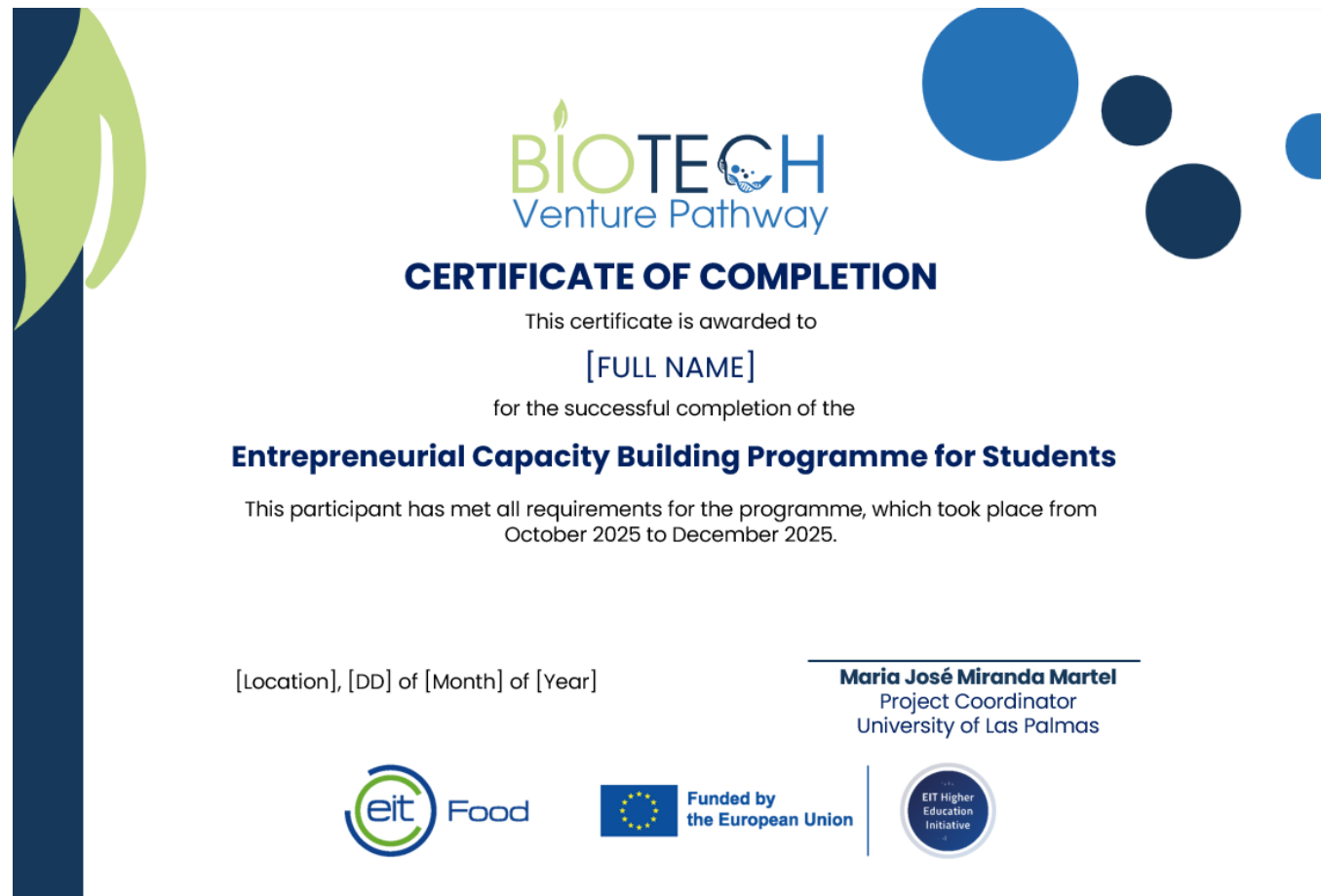
# Certificate

## Certificate Availability:

A certificate will be awarded to participants who complete the course by December 31st.

## Completion Requirement:

To be eligible for a certificate, participants must pass at least 5 quizzes in the course.



# Registration Process

- Register now at <https://biotech-project.eu/training/>
- Registration Deadline: **30th September** – late registrations will be accepted upon request!

## Register today!

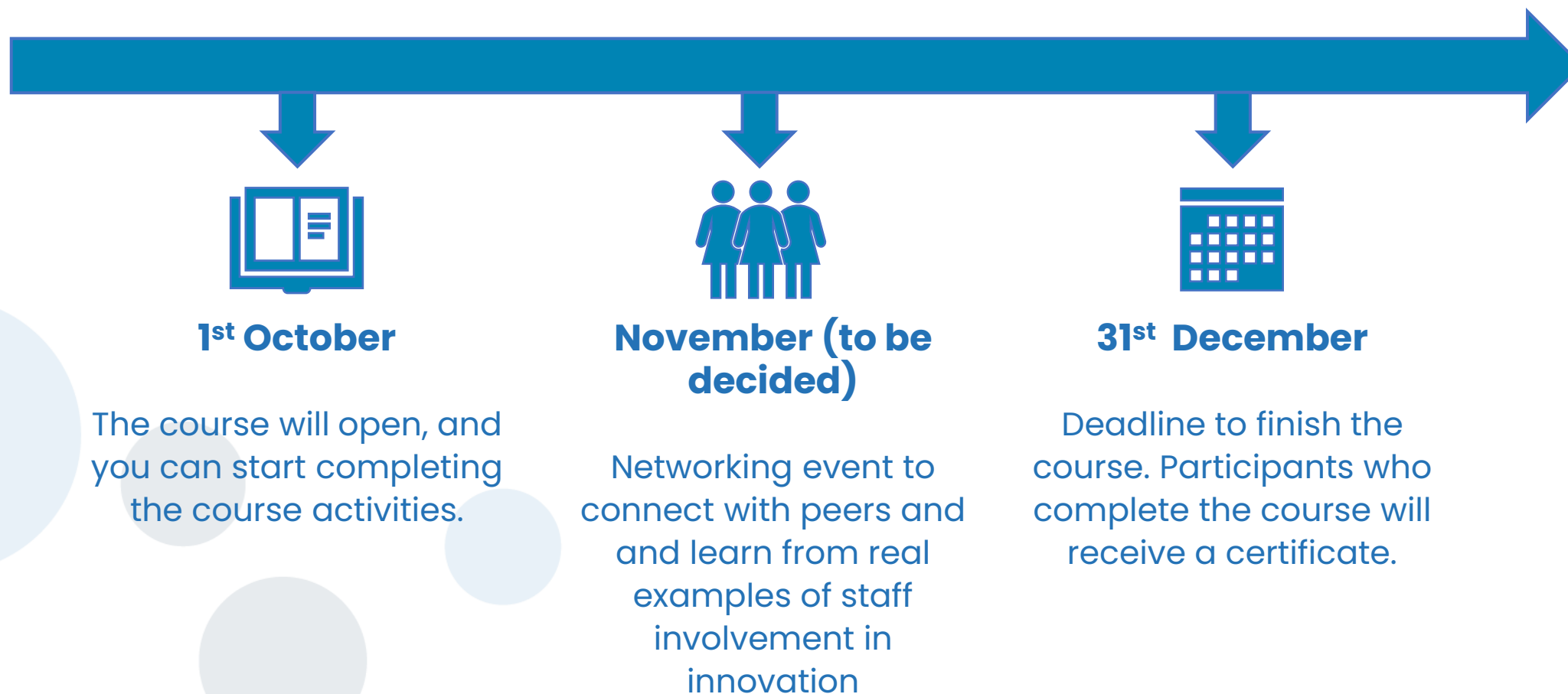
Tell Us Who You Are:

<b>First Name *</b>	<b>Last Name *</b>	<b>ID number (Passport or National ID) *</b> 0 / 12
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Email Address *</b>		<b>I am a... *</b>
<input type="text" value="Type your email address"/>		<input type="text" value="Select one"/>
<b>Please select your preferred training track(s) *</b>		
<small>You can tick both options if you are interested in participating in both programmes</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Researcher Programme <input type="checkbox"/> Academic & Non-Academic Staff Programme		
<b>Country of Residence *</b>	<b>Country of Citizenship *</b>	
<input type="text" value="Select one"/>	<input type="text" value="Select one"/>	
<b>Gender *</b>	<b>University or Institution *</b>	
<input type="text" value="Select one"/>	<input type="text" value="Type the name of University or Institution"/>	

### Consent and Agreement \*

I consent to the use of the data provided in this form for communication purposes related to the Biotech Entrepreneurship Training Programme, including updates, reminders, and information about program activities. I understand this data will be used solely for the administration and successful delivery of the training.

## What is next?





# Thank you!

You can always reach out to **training@biotech-project.eu**, and Simona and Rodrigo (your main contacts throughout the program) will be happy to get back to you promptly with any help you need.

We will upload this presentation as well as the recording on **<https://biotech-project.eu/>**



**Simona  
Silkauskaite**



**Rodrigo  
Duarte**