



International Conference and Knowledge Exchange Day - February 21, 2006

"Growth Factors for Biotechnology" on the 21st of February in Luxembourg.

Workshop 4: Critical Mass

14.20hrs Critical mass in the Grande Region

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Abstract.

R/D activities in biotechnology and biomedicine can only be successful if they are performed on a multidisciplinary way. This is the only approach to be efficient, successful, original and to be able to take into account of the various sides of a product, thus, from its conception to it's use, without forgetting it's recycling.

Whatever the size of the entities, thus including also for big pharma Cies, it's not rational to have all the expertises, in one research centre or industries.

Outsourcing but also synergies developed within network of small companies and R/D research Centres become more and more usual and should be clearly promoted.

In this frame, the notion of borders (whatever their nature : geography, disciplines, institutional, ..) should be abolished.

Some examples of associations will be highlighted during the presentation : multidisciplinary R/D centers and technological platforms (CEIB and GIGA), Biotech Associations (BioLiège), clusters of complementary enterprises (Germany).

This kind of exercise is obviously challenging due to the difference of culture, language, mentality, ways of organization,... But is the only way to achieve a critical mass and to guarantee the success of our enterprises.