

Shaping tomorrow: Biotechnology for Health, Food, Energy, Environment

28 June
2026

Opening ceremony

Francesc Gòdia, President of the European Federation of Biotechnology
Jérôme Van Biervliet, Managing Director VIB

Plenary lectures

Catherine Feuillet, Inari Agriculture, USA
Hyung Joon Cha, Pohang University of Science and Technology, South Korea

Stream 1

Innovations for healthy living

Stream 2

Solutions for a sustainable planet

Stream 3

Manufacturing with microbes

Stream 4

Feeding the planet

Each symposium will include a keynote lecture, invited talks selected from submitted abstracts, and flash poster presentations

29 June
2026

Symposium 1:

Biopharmaceuticals, vaccines and bioprocessing

Stefan Schmidt, Evitria, Switzerland

Symposium 2:

Phytoremediation

Helena Freitas, University of Coimbra, Portugal

Symposium 3:

Transport, metabolism & systems biology

Isabel Rocha, ITQB NOVA, Portugal

Symposium 4:

Developing stress resilient crops

Salma Balazadeh, University of Leiden, The Netherlands

Poster session
Highlight events

Symposium 5:

Cell and gene therapies

Mercedes Segura, Editas Medicine, USA

Symposium 6:

Combatting contaminants with Bacteria and Archaea

Rosa Martinez Espinosa, University of Alicante, Spain

Symposium 7:

Emerging tools for metabolic engineering and SynBio

Marjan De May, University of Ghent, Belgium

Symposium 8:

Gene editing for crop improvement

Holger Puchta, JKIP Karlsruhe, Germany

Plenary lecture

Molly Stevens, University of Oxford, UK

30 June
2026

Symposium 9:

Nanobiomedicine

Chantal Pichon, University of Orleans, France

Symposium 10:

Sustainable biogeochemical cycles

Jana Milucka, MPI Bremen, Germany

Symposium 11:

Prokaryotic cell factories

Kaspar Valgepea, University of Tartu, Estonia

Symposium 12:

Novel crops design

Edwin Van der Vossen, Solynta, The Netherlands

Poster session
Highlight events

Symposium 13:

Production of biopharmaceuticals

Julian Ma, St George's University of London, UK

Symposium 14:

Bioenergy and bioelectricity

Tom Clarke, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Symposium 15:

Eukaryotic microbial cell factories

Nico Callewaert, VIB/University of Ghent, Belgium

Symposium 16:

Soil as a living system

Sofie Goormachtig, VIB/University of Ghent, Belgium

Plenary lecture

Claus Crone Fuglsang, Novonesis, Denmark

1 July
2026

Symposium 17:

Biosensors

Arben Merkoçi, ICN2 Barcelona, Spain

Symposium 18:

Sustainable food and feed alternatives

Kevin Verstrepen, VIB-KU Leuven Center for Microbiology, Belgium

Symposium 19:

Bioprocess engineering, valorisation and upcycling

Nick Wierckx, Forschungszentrum Julich, Germany

Symposium 20:

New food landscape

Mark Post, CSO Mosa Meat, The Netherlands

Symposium 21:

Microbiome and health

Jeroen Raes, KU Leuven, Belgium

Symposium 22:

Biotechnology solutions for new critical materials

Boris Zimmermann, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Symposium 23:

Polymers and bioengineered materials

M. Auxiliadora Prieto, CSIC-Madrid, Spain

Symposium 24:

Sustainable strategies in agriculture

Camila Levy, Rovensa Next, Spain

Plenary lecture

Filip Meysman, University of Antwerp, Belgium