

# 25 years of BioPark Regensburg

## Successful innovation cluster in Eastern Bavaria



Panorama picture company building BioPark

In 1999, BioPark Regensburg went into operation with its first laboratory building and is now the second largest center of its kind in Bavaria with 18,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Together with the sister company TechBase, over 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> of usable space is available in the two technology and start-up centers on the university campus in the city on the Danube, which has a population of 175,000. For years, studies have shown Regensburg to be one of the fastest-growing and most dynamic municipalities in Germany. One reason for this was and is the city's consistent economic development, which has played a key role in shaping the innovative local location with an active cluster and economic policy.

"Small but fine", with this motto we have repeatedly achieved in bringing together the important decision-makers in the cathedral city across all parties and jointly launching innovative projects. All measures were able to be realized with funds from the EU, the federal government, the State of Bavaria, the city of Regensburg and equity capital. As a company in the city of Regensburg, BioPark Regensburg GmbH has been able to develop a very successful cluster policy beyond its pure leasehold business in the Regensburg BioRegion, a region in Eastern Bavaria certified with the silver label in accordance with the European Cluster Excellence Initiative. In particular, the interdisciplinary linking of biotechnology with other industries and cross-cluster approaches with the other three certified clusters on site have led to more and more new activities in the industry, for example in sensor technology or artificial intelligence.

Today there are over 66 companies with 5,600 employees active in the Regensburg BioRegion, over ten times more than 25 years ago. During this period, 71 startup companies were successfully founded, including very successful ones such as Geneart, which today belongs to Thermo Fischer Scientific and employs 400 people at two locations on site.

Over the past 25 years, our companies have raised €800 million, half as equity and a quarter as venture capital or funding. Success has many parents. The location is directly on the university campus, surrounded by two universities and four clinics. The consistent support from the city of Regensburg and the State of Bavaria. A self-supporting BioPark Regensburg GmbH with an annual turnover of €5 million. The local players from universities and business as well as of course the successful start-ups with their innovative approaches.

With our latest project "Healthcare Regensburg – managed by BioPark", with the support of the State of Bavaria, the next interdisciplinary "healthcare industry" cluster was set up in the region, in which 25,000 employees recently generated €3 billion in turnover in Eastern Bavaria. "BioPark-Jump", an accelerator program and incubator, initiated targeted support for start-ups in this field. With the BioPark Innovation Prize at the Regensburg universities, the BioPark 8 Brain Network in which successful start-ups are available as mentors, and the Digital Startup Initiative Oberpfalz, a lively startup ecosystem has been created in Regensburg.



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