Strategic Advisory Group Handbook

A practical guide for experts and advisors
Welcome to IBISBA

IBISBA is a European infrastructure that uniquely produces translational R&D&I services to support an international community of industrial biotechnology stakeholders.

IBISBA is unique in that it brings together, within a coordinated network infrastructure, services that cover the different steps in R&D project pipelines, from bioprocess conceptualisation and design all the way through to pilot phase testing.
Our strengths

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

**Single access** to best-in-class infrastructure across Europe. Finding a comprehensive research infrastructure service offer no longer requires endless, multi-contact searches. IBISBA can work with users to identify the right combination of services to suit their R&D needs.

**Harmonised practices** and delivery of end-to-end bioprocess development – IBISBA founders are working hard to harmonise practices within the different infrastructures that contribute services. The aim is to deliver seamless project R&D pipelines that are accelerated by greater synergy and common practices, including shared standardised procedures.

**Europe-wide access to infrastructure** to researchers across the private and public sectors in all member states and target third countries, thus reducing regional and national inequalities and helping innovators to get access when and where they most need it.

**Digital tools** to support R&D projects – IBISBA provides users with advanced capabilities to collect and manage data and other project-related knowledge assets in a secure digital environment (the IBISBAHub), while ensuring compliance with FAIR criteria.
Our ambition

IBISBA aims to push industrial biotechnology to the forefront of Europe’s bioeconomy transition and thus contribute to the creation of a more environmentally sustainable society. Building on Europe’s historical strengths in the area of industrial biotechnology, IBISBA confers Europe with a competitive edge, fostering early innovation and thus promoting greater industrial autonomy in key manufacturing sectors, from renewable energies, to chemicals, materials, food and fine chemicals for the cosmetics and pharma industries.
IBISBA is pioneering new ways to support research in industrial biotechnology:

**Capitalising** on Europe’s strength in this area and its wealth of excellent research infrastructure, IBISBA aims to surmount the difficulties caused by national barriers, uncoordinated R&D policies and IPR issues.

**Inventing** new ways to translate fundamental knowledge into innovation, developing a 2-way process that involves moving early stage research along the TRL scale towards industrial uptake, while moving industrial know-how down the TRL scale, injecting it into early stage prototypes.

To achieve its ambitions in these two key directions, IBISBA needs advice from a wide range of experts: **Public Research Operators, Member State Authorities, Regional Authorities, Industry.**
Public Research Operators

are owners of first-rate R&D infrastructure. These are vital components of the IBISBA galaxy, since their infrastructure provide IBISBA with the tools and expertise to deliver services. Cooperation between R&D infrastructure operators and IBISBA is paramount to deliver on expectations, harmonising business practices and finding innovative ways to overcome the barriers that prevent smooth collaboration between R&D infrastructure operators and between infrastructures and users.

Define the way that your infrastructure contribute to IBISBA and enhance your European relations network.
**Member States**

Support from Member State authorities provides IBISBA with national and international legitimacy and prioritises it as a strategic European R&D instrument in the field of industrial biotechnology.

Gain precious insight into the latest developments in a strategic science and technology field and receive support for policymaking.

**Public Authorities**

Regional authorities are key, because IBISBA R&D infrastructure operators and users form part of regional R&D ecosystems that support the local economy and spearhead regional science and technology developments.

Play a part in determining how IBISBA can help SMEs in your region and be a part of a Euro-regional network.
Industry

are natural partners for IBISBA, because industry players are both potential users of IBISBA services and contributors to these, helping IBISBA to constantly improve and extend its service offer.

Benefit from the knowledge of IBISBA’s scientific and technology community and be first to benefit from cutting edge services.

Be a part of IBISBA’s large industrial biotechnology multi-stakeholder network and join efforts to promote this advanced industrial technology.
IBISBA'S Strategic Advisory Group

Stakeholder consultation and involvement is implemented through four sub-committees

**MEMBER STATE COMMITTEE**
which also doubles as IBISBA's Steering Committee

**PUBLIC RESEARCH OPERATORS STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE**

**INDUSTRY COMMITTEE**

**EURO-REGIONS COMMITTEE**
IBISBA’s experts constitute a diverse body of specialist advisors that can help IBISBA to stay on track and remain well connected to the specific needs and expectations of Europe’s Industrial Biotechnology community. We would like to work with our advisors in different ways.

**First**, you will be regularly informed of what IBISBA is doing. For this, you will receive regular updates in the form of a biannual newsletter.

**Second**, we would like to marshal your help to define the business case and identify the user community for the future creation of the IBISBA legal entity. From time to time you will be contacted with questions related to your specific expertise. We will be grateful to you for replying to our messages, or participating in short remote meetings. Equally, it will be our pleasure to occasionally invite you to attend webinars that will be more formal thematic events involving the participation of several, if not all, IBISBA advisors.

**Finally**, it will be useful to have one face-to-face event per year, well prepared and designed so that both you, as stakeholders, and us, the IBISBA partners, derive maximum benefits.

How would we like to work with you?
What’s in it for our advisors?

We recognise that being an IBISBA advisor is a serious engagement that will undoubtedly make demands upon your time. Therefore, it is natural that you and your employer expect to receive certain benefits in return.

IBISBA is a unique enterprise that mobilises R&D expertise across Europe. Being part of the inner circle of its stakeholders provides you with the possibility to shape the future role of IBISBA. Whether you represent a member state, a region, an academic institution or an industry, IBISBA will be your partner, sharing its strategic foresight studies, helping to streamline public investments, fostering cooperation between different stakeholders and nurturing innovation in a variety of ways. Moreover, being part of IBISBA’s SAG offers you the opportunity to be at the heart of a unique European Industrial Biotechnology hub that brings together a diverse group of key players that are moving industrial biotechnology forward.
What else is in it for IBISBA?

Beyond providing precious advice and insight, IBISBA partners are convinced that, as a member of the Strategic Advisory Group, you are an enthusiastic advocate of IBISBA. We anticipate that you will help us to spread the word and encourage others to support IBISBA during its early growth phase. Your help in communicating on IBISBA is greatly appreciated.
The **IBISBA Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)** is a formal part of the IBISBA governance structure. In this respect, we encourage the SAG to help us tailor its organisation and define its operating rules to suit all those involved. However, to promote involvement of SAG members in IBISBA’s development we cordially invite SAG members to join one or more of our different workgroups. These are permanent think-tanks that aim to pool knowledge and provide community intelligence on a variety of issues, such as international relations, digitalisation technology, regulatory issues and so forth.

**Visit our website to join one or more workgroups.**
Just in case you are wondering...

Membership of IBISBA’s Strategic Advisory Group is obviously free of charge. Moreover, the IBISBA coordination team has funds to finance events and reimburse expenses incurred by stakeholders when they attend these events. As our guests, stakeholders attending events will be offered the possibility to receive reimbursement (subject to conditions) of their travel, accommodation and certain associated expenses.
IBISBA's other governance structures

Currently IBISBA is receiving funding from two European H2020 projects, which are defined by independent contractual agreements with the European Commission and benefits from distinct governance. Advantageously, the coordinator and the IBISBA coordination team for the two projects are the same. Therefore, for IBISBA stakeholders, their primary IBISBA contacts are the Coordinator (Dr. Michael O’Donohue) and the Project Management Office. Moreover, in the framework of its current activities that are related to its ESFRI status, IBISBA has a:

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

Formed by representatives of Member States that envisage formal support for IBISBA, the role of the Steering Committee is to guide and evaluate any proposals that will lead to the creation of an IBISBA legal entity. Ultimately, Member State representatives will take responsibility for the creation of the legal entity, ensuring that it receives sufficient administrative and financial support from public authorities and agencies and acting as the principal governing board of the future entity.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The fact that IBISBA benefits from funding from two different H2020 projects means that the Coordinator currently operates with two different Executive Committees that are responsible for the proper implementation of the two project workplans. Nevertheless, fortunately there is strong overlap between the two Executive Committees, which means that most business affairs are now being accomplished in a rather seamless manner.

**USER COMMITTEE**

In the future, IBISBA will add a User Committee to its governance structure. However, at the present time we are simply using feedback from users of our Transnational Access Programme to help us to define and refine our services.