

ECOSYSTEM MANAGER

AccelBio is looking for one Innovation **Ecosystem Manager** to join CoLAB AccelBio, within the framework of the project **BioRed: Building Interregional Opportunities for Digital and Green innovation in Red Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals**, funded by the European Union under grant agreement 101225453. BioRed is a 7-country initiative to strengthen regional biotech/pharma ecosystems.

Job summary

We're seeking a highly skilled and motivated Innovation Ecosystem Manager to connect people, tools and opportunities across regions. The Innovation Ecosystem Manager will be responsible for designing and running activities that turn mapping & strategy into collaboration and investment-ready business cases, while nurturing a lasting, open innovation community.

Responsibilities

- Design and deliver multi-stakeholder activities that connect academia, industry, startups, and public entities to catalyze collaboration and new opportunities.
- Map, segment, and continuously update the ecosystem to identify priority stakeholders, gaps, and high-potential synergies.
- Identify, evaluate, engage and support high innovation-potential projects on drug discovery assets and drug discovery platforms
- Build and manage strategic partnerships that convert shared interests into joint projects, pilots, or investment-ready opportunities.
- Curate challenge themes and opportunity briefs that translate needs and strengths into actionable collaboration roadmaps.
- Plan and facilitate community programs (workshops, labs, hackathons, showcases) to generate ideas, teams, and business cases.
- Operate and grow an open innovation/community platform to enable matchmaking, knowledge sharing, and ongoing engagement.
- Develop clear value propositions and communication materials that attract stakeholders and sustain participation.

- Implement simple CRM/KPI framework to track interactions, measure outcomes, and inform decision-making.
- Engage policy and regulatory stakeholders to surface bottlenecks and articulate practical recommendations for adoption and scale.
- Support funding pathways by connecting opportunities to relevant non-dilutive calls, corporate partnerships, or investment channels.
- Ensure compliance with project governance, data protection, and visibility requirements while upholding diversity and inclusion principles.
- Ensure that related project deliverables and milestones are achieved on time and according to quality standards
- Support project managers, project partners and AccelBio Managing Team in the preparation and submission of technical and financial reports, and other project documentation.

Required skills and qualifications

- Advanced degree in a biomedical science field (MSc or PhD).
- 3+ years in cluster/ecosystem building, innovation networks, EU projects, or community programs (health/biotech preferred).
- Proven experience planning and facilitating multi-stakeholder events (workshops, hackathons, roundtables) and running matchmaking/community platforms.
- Strong stakeholder engagement across industry, academia, startups/SMEs, and public authorities.
- Experience with open innovation platforms, community growth, and content curation.
- Strong collaboration skills; self-motivated, service-oriented, flexible, and effective communicator with creative problem-solving ability.
- Proactive work style with ownership of outcomes.
- Outstanding organization, with high attention to detail and accuracy.
- Strong sense of responsibility and integrity.

Preferred skills

- Background working with accelerators or funneling teams into accelerator programs.
- Excellent communication and active listening skills, with the ability to tailor messages to scientific, business, and executive audiences.

- Proven teamwork and collaboration across multidisciplinary stakeholders.
- Immediate availability.

About AccelBio | Collaborative Laboratory to Foster Translation and Drug Discovery

AccelBio is a collaborative laboratory that aims to be the bridge that brings biomedical science closer to the market. With a set of partners that cover all the necessary capacities and expertise to drive drug discovery, AccelBio selects fundamental research discoveries and cutting-edge technology platforms and tools and guides the transformation of breakthrough science into validated and investment-worthy assets. AccelBio complements academic research groups and start-ups with industry-standard drug discovery capabilities - target validation, assay development, high-throughput screening, in silico modelling, medicinal chemistry, in vitro and in vivo testing, IP support and business development. Innovative platforms are also being developed within a well-defined R&I agenda that will further boost drug discovery. By providing these capacities and specialized expertise, AccelBio will de-risk drug discovery assets until they are ready to be out-licensed to industry or established as the foundation of new spin-off companies.

AccelBio consists of the following **associate members**

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|--|---------------------|
| • Instituto Gulbenkian de Medicina Molecular | • BSIM Therapeutics |
| • Instituto Superior Técnico | • TargTex |
| • Universidade de Coimbra | • Valvian |
| • Biocant Park | • Basinnov |
| • Roche Portugal | • Vertical Sentinel |
| | • Biovance Capital |

Monthly remuneration

Monthly gross salary will be defined according to relevant experience and merit of the candidate within the predicted in the funding project. Gross value subject to mandatory taxes as per Portuguese Labor Law.

Start Date and workplace

The contract is expected to start in January 2026 and is maintained for the duration required to execute the outlined work plan; the activities will be developed remotely with possibility to locate at Biocant Park.

Evaluation criteria

The admitted applications will be evaluated based on the quality and relevance of their professional path and their adequacy to the proposed plan, through the analysis of the Curriculum Vitae and Motivation Letter (70% and 10%, respectively) and Interview (20%). Only the candidates with a score above 80% in the CV assessment will proceed to the interview stage.

Jury panel and deliberation

The jury is composed by Bárbara Gomes (PhD, President of the Jury), Silvia Almeida (PhD) and Ricardo Viais (PhD). The panel shall deliberate by means of roll-call voting based on the adopted and disclosed selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed. Minutes of panel meetings shall be taken. These shall contain a summary of events, as well as details of the votes cast by each of the members and their respective reasoning. After all selection criteria have been applied, the panel shall prepare a ranked list of approved candidates and their respective classification. Results will be publicly available at AccelBio website for a period of ten days following results publication. Candidates will be notified by email once this list has been made available. After notification of the results, candidates have ten days to respond. In the following five days (counting from the end of the candidates' response period), the panel's final decision is issued.

Application process

Submission of the CV, motivation letter and Degree(s) Certificates at AccelBio's website, from October 29th to November 30th.

Note: The non-compliance with these requirements will result in the rejection of the application.