

NORTH CAROLINA LIFE SCIENCES TRADE MISSION TO STUTTGART

AGENDA

COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING EVENT with BioRegio STERN
Management GmbH in collaboration with BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH

MAY 09 | 2025 |
Evang. Bildungszentrum Hospitalhof Stuttgart
Meeting Room: Kleiner Lechler-Saal
Büchsenstr. 33, 70174 Stuttgart

9.00 – 09.15 a.m.	Registration & welcome coffee
9.15 – 10.30 a.m.	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction & Presentation of the BioRegio STERN Dr. Margot Jehle, Project Manager, BioRegio STERN (15min)• Introduction from the BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH side Larissa Ketterer, Project Manager, Internationalization / Healthcare industry & Charlotte Schlett, Project Manager Internationalization / Healthcare industry, BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH (5 min)• Presentation of the North Carolina Life Sciences ecosystem Melissa McGurk, International Trade Manager, Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (10 min)• Short company pitches (ca. 2 min each) by North Carolinian and German companies attending the event (30 min)
10.30 – 12.00 a.m.	B2B meetings & general networking over refreshments
12.00 a.m.– 1.00 p.m.	Buffet lunch

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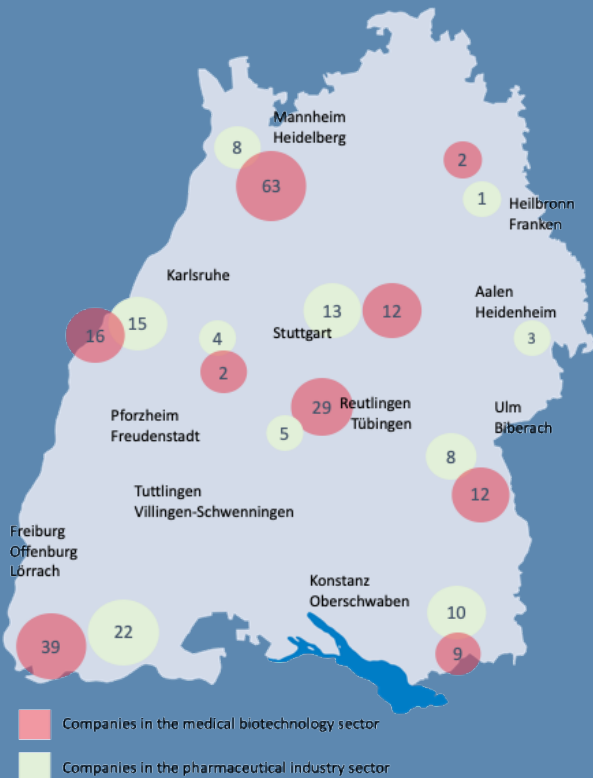
Baden-Württemberg is Germany's leading location for the industrial healthcare economy with a gross value added of 21.1 billion euros in 2023.¹

The healthcare sector in Baden-Württemberg comprises 1,088 companies operating in the fields of medical technology, pharmaceutical industry and medical biotechnology. In 2022, these companies generated a taxable turnover of 24.5 billion euros and employed a total of 92,850 people.

According to the German Economic Institute's Innovation Atlas, Baden-Württemberg is the most innovative region in Germany - measured in terms of research and development intensity, start-up activity and the number of patent applications. Health research is conducted at eight universities, 15 universities of applied sciences, 21 non-university research institutions and five university hospitals.

Companies in the region benefit from a strong network of academic and industry-related research institutions. For example, Baden-Württemberg is home to two sites of the National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT), where a network of four university hospitals is working on pioneering healthcare solutions.

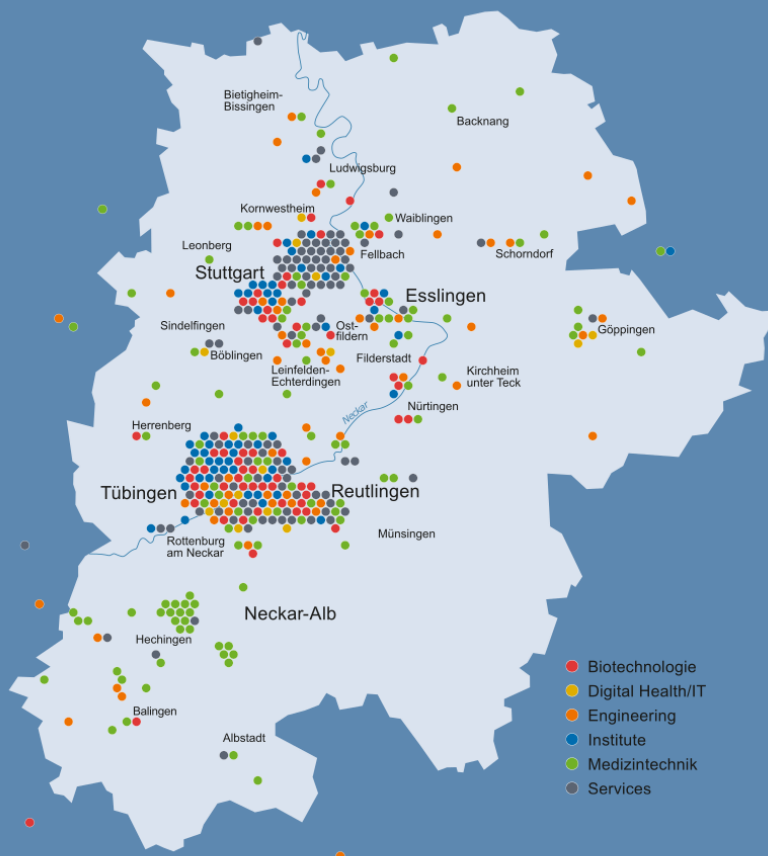
Medical biotechnology plays a key role in driving innovation: 188 companies research, develop and/or produce in the field of medical biotechnology in Baden-Württemberg. The mostly smaller and agile biotech companies or start-ups make a significant contribution to drug development and drug production. Major biotech hubs such as Heidelberg and Ulm highlight the state's outstanding position in the biotech sector, offering excellent infrastructure, a highly skilled workforce, and strong links between science and industry.



¹ Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). *GGR Dashboard*. Retrieved 28th of April, 2025, from <https://ggrdashboard.bmwk.de>.

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The STERN BioRegion covers the regions of Stuttgart and Neckar-Alb and the cities of Tübingen and Reutlingen – known worldwide for their automotive manufacturers – and is also home to over 120 small and medium-sized medtech companies. One of the cluster’s key features is its combination of established family businesses, hidden champions and over 110 fledgling biotech companies.



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ABOUT THE GERMAN SMES & RESEARCHERS



CeGaT GmbH, Tübingen

CeGaT is a global provider of genetic analyses for a wide range of medical, research, and pharmaceutical applications. Founded in 2009 in Tübingen, Germany, the company combines state-of-the-art sequencing technology with medical expertise – with the aim of identifying the genetic causes of diseases and supporting patient care. For researchers and pharmaceutical companies, CeGaT offers a broad portfolio of sequencing services and tumor analyses. CeGaT generates the data basis for clinical studies and medical innovations and drives science forward with its own insights.

The owner-managed company stands for independence, comprehensive personal customer service, and outstanding quality. CeGaT's laboratory is accredited according to CAP/CLIA, DIN EN ISO 15189, and DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025 and thus meets the highest international standards. To obtain first-class results, all processes are carried out in-house under scientific and medical supervision.



erler GmbH automation . Robotik, Dormettingen

erler GmbH is a family-owned automation and robotics company based in Southern Germany. With a strong commitment to quality and innovation, Erler delivers customized automation solutions that support efficient, high-quality production across industries from disinfectants and building materials to safety locks. In the field of process engineering, erler GmbH specializes in integrated control systems for complex, interdependent environments. They offer tailored automation concepts, including plant control systems, process control, and batch or continuous production solutions, meeting the high documentation and quality standards of the pharmaceutical and medical industries. Their technologies also ensure resource efficiency and compliance with cleanroom and ATEX requirements.

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Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Stuttgart

The Fraunhofer IPA, one of the largest institutes in the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, was founded in 1959 and employs almost 1,000 people. The annual budget is over 60 million euros, more than a third of which comes from industrial projects. The 14 specialist departments are complemented by the six business units Automotive, Mechanical and Plant Engineering, Electronics and Microsystems Technology, Energy, Medical and Biotechnology and Process Industry. With this structure, they support the practice partners in improving their market position and accompany their market entry into new application areas. The focus of the strategic cornerstones is on long-term projects with a high level of industry involvement. "Mass Sustainability" aims to combine the lowest possible consumption of resources with the highest possible level of prosperity. "Mass Personalization" also combines the advantages of 'economies of scale and scope'.



Quantitative Biology Center, Tübingen

Research projects in medicine and the life sciences are generating increasingly large volumes of primary data, particularly through OMICS technologies such as genomics, transcriptomics, metabolomics, and proteomics. While experimental technologies have become more affordable, disciplines like data management, high-performance computing, and bioinformatics now play a central role and often account for the majority of project costs. QBiC offers a fully integrated workflow for OMICS experiments from a single source. This includes experimental design, data acquisition, processing, analysis and archiving supported by a robust IT infrastructure and close collaboration with domain-specific experts and their in-house team of bioinformaticians. Their platform enables the integration of complex and heterogeneous datasets, ensuring efficient and reliable data handling across a wide range of research disciplines.

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highQu GmbH, Kraichtal

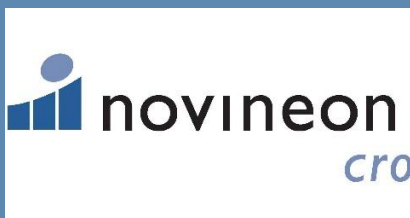
Since 2013, highQu has been delivering premium-quality molecular biology tools in >40 countries. Our portfolio includes robust enzymes and mixes for RT-PCR, PCR, qPCR, reverse transcription, isothermal amplification, less-toxic NA gel stains, and room-temperature-stable protein and DNA electrophoresis ladders. Our reagents feature easy-to-use, fast protocols, enabling researchers to streamline their workflows. One example is our ALLin™ product range, offering all-inclusive formulations that omit nucleic acid extraction, minimize pipetting steps, and save time. highQu is known for its unique add-on services and excellent customer support. Global molecular diagnostic kit manufacturers value highQu as a reliable outsourcing partner for lyo-ready, air-dryable, robust, inhibitor-resistant PCR/qPCR enzymes, mixes, nucleotides, and other PCR reagents. Striving to be a number one supplier for kit producers, we are always ready to go an extra mile to help develop best diagnostic kits together by adapting our reagents to their specific needs and meeting their challenges. Our strategy is simple: Convince through quality, performance, and support.



PEPPERPRINT GmbH, Heidelberg

PEPPERPRINT is an innovative, privately held biotech company based in Heidelberg, Germany, and the leading provider of high-density peptide and protein microarrays for antibody characterization and immune response profiling. Operating since 2011 and profitable since 2014, PEPPERPRINT offers a comprehensive product and service portfolio that now includes T cell epitope mapping and monitoring—making it a one-stop solution for immune fingerprinting, epitope mapping, antibody biomarker discovery, and the analysis of adverse immune effects. With around 30 employees and a global customer base, PEPPERPRINT's technologies have been featured in over 250 peer-reviewed publications.

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novineon CRO GmbH, Tübingen

novineon CRO is a leading service provider for research and regulatory affairs. For over two decades, they have supported manufacturers of medical devices and in vitro diagnostics (IVDs) with clinical and regulatory tasks related to conformity assessment, including clinical evaluations and clinical investigations. As performance requirements for medical devices and procedures continue to increase, working with a CRO (Contract Research Organization) can offer a decisive competitive advantage by minimizing research and approval risks. Together with their clients, they develop targeted, practical, and customized solutions – for biological evaluations, risk analyses, performance evaluations for IVDs, PMCF/PMS activities, or market access outside the EU. In doing so, they collaborate closely with their panel of medical consultants, consisting of recognized clinical experts, enabling them to cover the full spectrum of medical devices. Thanks to their proven and well-documented methodologies, they are certified according to ISO 9001 – a standard their long-standing clients trust.



PHABIOC GmbH, Karlsruhe

PHABIOC GmbH is a German biotech company located in Karlsruhe that develops innovative tools, microplates, and analytical devices for small-scale and high-throughput screening in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Its products are designed to simplify complex laboratory processes, offering efficient and user-friendly solutions that support faster, more precise drug development. With increasing demands for specificity, efficiency, and regulatory compliance in drug discovery—alongside societal pressure to reduce animal testing—PHABIOC addresses a critical need by providing advanced, automation-compatible technologies.

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Synovo

Synovo GmbH, Tübingen

Synovo GmbH is a pharmaceutical research company offering services in the fields of synthetic chemistry, pharmacology, cell engineering and peptide modification.

The company focuses on offering various test methods and models - where possible using human cells, proteins or systems - for the selection of drug candidates with improved absorption, distribution, metabolism and elimination (ADME or DMPK) properties. On behalf of clients in the pharmaceutical industry, Synovo participates in projects in the field of anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive drug optimization and in the improvement of existing technologies for the development of new drugs from proteins and nucleic acids in collaboration with public laboratories.



Varimol

Varimol, Stuttgart

Varimol is an innovative chemistry startup specializing in the development and supply of reagents for bioorthogonal click chemistry. Our focus lies in designing and producing tetrazine and trans-cyclooctene (TCO) derivatives that enable rapid, catalyst-free, and highly selective reactions suitable for applications in living systems. Our product portfolio includes both standard reagents and custom-synthesized compounds tailored to specific research needs. We are particularly noted for our development of clickable metal complexes, which enhance reaction kinetics and water solubility, broadening the scope of click chemistry in biomedical applications. By providing high-quality, ready-to-use reagents and bespoke synthesis services, Varimol supports researchers and industries in fields such as pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and materials science to achieve efficient and precise molecular modifications.



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NMI Natural and Medical Sciences Institute, Reutlingen

Since its foundation in June 1985, an interdisciplinary team of scientists has been conducting application-oriented research at the interface of biological and material sciences. Their mission is to transfer knowledge and technology into practice. Over the years, work at the NMI has laid the foundation for numerous economic innovations. The research work has resulted in spin-offs that have successfully established themselves on the market. They accompany companies and public research organizations from idea creation to market approval and market launch of new products and beyond, because they analyze and evaluate the results with the client after comprehensive testing and thus explore new areas together. The service portfolio also includes sub-projects and individual services, such as first-class consulting, precise technology assessment, successful funding applications, concept development and/or project coordination. In addition, they offer testing services in the accredited area and thus guarantee the highest quality and reliability.

Their fields of research and services are connected to personalized medicine including disease models and resolution of mechanisms, biomarker development and target research bioanalytics, material and surface analyses material development and functionalization as well as microsystems technology. Over the years, the NMI has established itself as a stable bridge between research and industry and has a solid network of collaborations and partners. In addition, the NMI is a member of innBW - the Baden-Württemberg Innovation Alliance.



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ABOUT THE US DELEGATES



Adámas Nanotechnologies

Adámas Nanotechnologies is a manufacturer of nanodiamond materials supporting research and development in the life sciences and biomanufacturing sectors. Adámas provides a library of quantum-enabled fluorescent diamond particles utilized in bio-imaging, sensing, and diagnostics developments. The company's specialized materials allow for nanoscale sensing of physio-chemical parameters, including: reactive oxygen species (ROS), temperature, and magnetic fields at the subcellular level. Nanodiamond reporters provide transformative diagnostic capabilities, such as enhancing LFA immunoassay to ELISA-level sensitivity. Adámas has established collaborative efforts in both academic and industrial sectors, with 25+ patents and 200+ scientific publications.



Aesara

Aesara is a market access and health economics consultancy that provides digital solutions to support pharmaceutical, biotech, and medtech companies in navigating pricing, reimbursement, and health technology assessment (HTA) processes.

The company specializes in evidence generation planning, including clinical trial design, value communications, and market access strategy development, offering tools that help clients analyze data, engage with stakeholders, and optimize decision-making. The company also develops interactive value dossiers and digital tools to improve engagement with regulators and payers.

With a team of market access experts, health economists, and digital strategists, Aesara integrates scientific evidence with commercial strategy to help life sciences companies effectively position their products in global markets. Aesara assists international life science companies in expanding into the U.S. with regulatory, market access, pricing, and commercialization strategies.

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Codetta Bio

Codetta Bio is a life sciences company pioneering advanced multi-omic biomarker measurement tools designed to transform how researchers analyze complex biological systems.

Codetta Bio's integrated platform enables simultaneous analysis of proteins and nucleic acids - combining the precision of digital PCR with the dynamic range of qPCR. This powerful technology delivers rapid, sensitive, and multiplexed biomarker measurements from a single sample in as little as three hours, supporting translational research and clinical trials with comprehensive molecular insights.

Codetta Bio's assays are crafted to deliver integrated, high-resolution data across multiple molecular dimensions. Whether you need precise cytokine quantification, robust gene expression profiling, or the ability to assess immune health, disease pathways, or therapeutic response—all within the same sample—the company's platform offers seamless flexibility and unmatched analytical power tailored to your research needs.



SmaBio Laboratories

SMA Bio Laboratories is a Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) specializing in drug product development, stabilization, testing, and manufacturing for pharmaceutical, biotech, medical food, and veterinary industries. With extensive in-house capabilities, the company offers end-to-end solutions, from early-stage formulation and analytical testing to process development and commercial-scale manufacturing. SMA Bio Laboratories serves small to mid-sized pharmaceutical and biotech companies, medical food providers, and veterinary pharmaceutical firms, delivering customized development and manufacturing strategies. Unlike many CDMOs that require months to initiate projects, the company provides immediate capacity, enabling faster project starts and efficient commercialization.



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Swabbot

Swabbot Solutions, LLC is a company that has developed an innovative automated swabbing device designed to enhance the swabbing process by improving consistency, recovery, cost, and safety. Their flagship product, SWAB-E™, is tailored for hard-to-reach areas such as vessels and large confined spaces, eliminating the need for manual swabbing and reducing the risks associated with confined space entry. This automation ensures accurate and repeatable swabbing procedures, minimizing operational costs and enhancing safety. Additionally, the Swabbot Benchtop (SWAB-B™) is designed for laboratory settings, automating swabbing processes to maintain high standards and improve efficiency.

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ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina



The EDPNC improves the economic well-being and quality of life for all North Carolinians by recruiting new businesses to the state, supporting existing employers, assisting companies with international trade, counseling small business and startups, and promoting North Carolina as a tourism destination.

North Carolina has rightfully earned the title of America's Top State for Business by CNBC in 2022 and 2023.

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AHP International

AHP International (AHPI) is a consulting firm specializing in international trade, export promotion, and foreign direct investment (FDI) facilitation. With a presence in North America, Germany, Poland/CEE, Ukraine, and the Baltics, AHPI offers a comprehensive suite of services aimed at supporting businesses and public institutions in their international activities.

AHPI is a local partner of EDPNC in Europe, supporting companies from North Carolina in market entry, business partner searches, and arranging trade missions to Europe.



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BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH

BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg is the state innovation agency supporting the healthcare industry in Baden-Württemberg. It uses its expertise to support state government and institutions in the areas of biotechnology, medical technologies and pharmaceutical industries. Working together in this way results in a comprehensive range of services for players from companies, research institutions and networks - always with the overarching aim of advancing the biological and digital transformation.



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BioRegio STERN Management GmbH

Since 2001, BioRegio STERN Management GmbH has been active as an economic developer for the life sciences. It promotes innovations and start-ups on behalf of the public sector, thus helping to strengthen the region and the industry as a whole. It is a central point of contact for founders and entrepreneurs, including those from cooperating high-tech sectors such as automation and IT.



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