



# Final Project Conclusions

BIC

<b>Project title</b>		<b>Project duration</b>	
Biomarker Commercialization		October 2017 - September 2020	
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Specific objective</b>		
Capacity for innovation	Non-technological innovation		
<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent budget</b>	<b>Flagship project</b>	<b>EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action</b>
2.55 million	2.29 million	x	PA Innovation
<b>Link to the project library</b>		<b>Link to the project's website</b>	
<a href="https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/bic-106.html">https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/bic-106.html</a>		<a href="https://biomarker.nu">https://biomarker.nu</a>	
<b>Lead partner (country)</b>		<b>Countries involved</b>	
Ideklinikken, Aalborg University Hospital, The North Denmark Region (Denmark)		DK, EE, FI, DE, LT, PL	

### Project summary

#### Teaser

The Interreg project BIC made the commercialization of biomarkers more manageable with respect to regulatory, clinical and business aspects, and paved the way for increased market uptake of biomarkers used in diagnostics and treatment.

#### The challenge

Biomarkers, or markers providing information on the health status of a person, measure cellular, biochemical or molecular changes in human tissues as well as cells or fluids. They contribute to future diagnostics and treatment. The development of biomarkers is time consuming and expensive, requiring the involvement of industry from early stages to better direct the research.

Researchers lacked the knowledge on complex commercialization processes and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) had poor understanding on regulatory frameworks.

The BIC platform intended to facilitate knowledge and best practice exchange among business and research representatives, offering tools that support the commercialization process and maturity assessment.





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### Project's highlights

*The highlights present the project's main achievements and results, e.g. change brought for the target groups, pilots or tests carried out, and exemplary transnational work.*

#### **Valuable tools developed**

The BIC project developed the tools to help researchers, SMEs, and technology transfer officers (TTOs) to cope with complex regulations related to the commercialization processes of biomarkers. Additionally, the tools allow the users to better understand clinical and business aspects. They guide researchers and product developers, step by step, through the technology readiness levels (TRL) and remind them of what they need to think about, within each phase of the process. The partners created the "Master Tool" which allows users to access all tools online in one single portfolio and thus simplify the tools' searchability.

#### **Improved conditions for cooperation**

BIC considerably facilitated the collaboration between the research and business sectors as well as simplified the communication with technology transfer officers by standardising the biomarker development processes. The project equipped researchers with knowledge on commercialization while SMEs received assistance to better consider regulatory frameworks. These target groups, which were well involved throughout the project, can now use a common framework and work better together.

The Interreg project BIC used EUR 2.29 million to evaluate biomarkers' commercialisation processes, simplify its manageability. The project laid grounds for faster and easier biomarker commercialisation that is further upgraded within the project extension phase. This shall speed up the market uptake and improve diagnostics and treatment of citizens across the Baltic Sea region.

### Main Outputs

*The main outputs present the project's main deliveries which are tangible and can be used by others outside the project.*

#### **Master tool**

The "Master Tool" is a functional online solution. It guides researchers and product developers, step by step, through the technology readiness levels and reminds them of what to consider within each phase of the biomarker commercialization. It has been refined through piloting activities and following the feedback of the Project Advisory Board.

<https://biomarker.nu/bic-guide>



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### Follow-up/spin-off activities

*These include specific new activities that have been inspired by or initiated during the project work and will be continued after its implementation.*

The project BIC outputs will be further refined, and developed in a collaboration software solution in the “BIC Bridge” extension project.

Thanks to the pilots within BIC, the extension stage project BIC Bridge was able to integrate 2 SME partners (DIANOX and LabMaster). The collaboration grew even more, with the inclusion of EATRIS (European infrastructure for transnational medicine).

The cooperation will continue, within the extension stage and beyond, which will result in faster, easier biomarker commercialization, and therefore in increased market uptake. Due to the long duration of Biomarker development, effects will not be visible right away, but the partnership will monitor the use of the Master Tool to see its effect on the commercialization of biomarkers.

### Administrative matters

*These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other projects and the main drivers of the project (core partners).*

Initially, multiple tools were planned (Outputs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4), but following the feedback of the Project Advisory Board, the partnership decided to develop one solution that would bring most of them into one single tool (the “Master Tool”). This change was accepted by the MA/JS, as it better fits the needs of the target groups.