

Group 1 - Red Biotech & Medical Devices

Company 1 – Simplified Implant for Advanced Systolic Heart Failure

Category: Implantable Medical Device

Sector: Therapeutic Device

Capital Seeking: 2.5 Mln €

Medtech company (innovative SME) developing the Heart Damper (HD) technology, currently in pre-clinical stage. Our objectives are (1) to provide relief and quality of life to patients suffering from Advanced Systolic Heart Failure (SHF), a costly, disabling and deadly disease affecting a growing number of people and their families, and (2) to address the staggering associated healthcare costs with earlier intervention and a reduction of re-hospitalization rates.

Company 2 - Near-Real-time non-invasive AI-driven diagnostic for early prediction of Kidney Failure

Category: Medical Diagnostics

Sector: MedTech

Seeking: 400k €

The startup is trying to solve faster identification of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) in hospitals. AKI can occur during treatment of systemic critical illness, occurring in about 50% of patients within Intensive Care Units (ICU). AKI leads to a ten-fold increase of mortality rate and 3 B€ of healthcare costs per year in Italy alone but is a global challenge. The challenge for healthcare is that today it is not possible to detect AKI before it becomes advanced, thus limiting data-driven decisions that can support prevention. To solve this problem, U-Care is an innovative medical device that predicts AKI 24 hours before its onset. Combining Artificial Intelligence Algorithms with innovative sensors, U-Care helps doctors in preventing AKI, saving patient's lives and reducing healthcare costs.

Company 3 – Humanized Antibody with unique Mechanism of Action towards the MET Oncogene

Category: Red Biotech

Sector: Biopharmaceuticals

Capital Seeking: 20 Mln €

The startup has developed an innovative humanized antibody targeting the MET oncogene, with a unique mechanism of action and a best in class agent for MET-positive cancer. Strong pre-clinical efficacy is already shown, and it can be used in combination therapy. Backed by over three decades of research focused on a specific oncogene, benefits from a profound knowledge of the biology and pathology that is driven by the oncogene on cancer.

Company 4 – Rapid Multiple Sclerosis diagnosis using only blood

Category: Red Biotech & Medical Diagnostics

Sector: Diagnostics and Therapeutics

Seeking: 4 Mln €

SME is developing an ELISA diagnostic kit for Multiple Sclerosis in order to directly detect antibody from blood. The company's diagnostic kit will enable effective screening, differential diagnosis, and disease management for a 'hard to diagnosis' disease that has historically been difficult for physicians to manage in practice. Accurate results can be delivered in days with only a blood test as opposed to the current reality of months to years that included lumbar punctures and many many followup exams. The company has developed a novel platform for the development of therapeutic target identification. Experiments are underway that leverage the technology to an additional potential MS therapy.

Group 2 - Circular Bioeconomy

Company 5 – High Value Actives from EVO industrial waste (CE)

Category: Circular Economy

Sector: Advanced Materials

Capital Seeking: 1Mln

Using only mechanical and physical process technologies, this innovative SME produces natural active ingredients extracted from matrices of vegetable by-products and processing waste. The products obtained are polyphenolic extracts that are used in the nutraceutical, cosmetic, pharmaceutical, food and phytosanitary industries.

Company 6 – Premium Beer from Bread with Circular distribution model

Category: Circular Economy

Sector: Food & Beverage

Capital Seeking: 1Mln €

Innovative start-up working in food & Beverage innovation with the aim of reducing food waste using circular economy principles. Our first product is a premium beer brewed using the raw material of surplus bread. The supply origin of the bread collected from GDO or restaurant chain partners is traced through the batch brewing process, Co-labeled with that same supplier brand, and then distributed back to the same retailer using a Circular Eco-branding logic.

Company 7 – Water Soluable Bioplastics from Fish Waste

Category: Circular Economy

Sector: Advanced Materials - Bioplastic

Capital Seeking: 750k – 1Mln €

Development, Production and commercialization of a water-soluble bioplastic suitable for packaging applications, made from fish waste. The material was developed in the university laboratory and has high “tuneability” for various properties. Two specific prototypes (one flexible and one rigid) have been tested for different packaging applications.

Company 8 – Fully Biobased Processing for PLA BioPlastics

Category: Circular Economy

Sector: Advanced Materials - Bioplastic

Capital Seeking: 1Mln €

We are developing bioprocesses for the direct production of bioplastic, 100% biobased and 100% compostable, using new microorganisms. Company core business is split in 3 main areas: 1. Research and Development on microbial cell factories and bio transformations; 2. Consultancy supporting companies for developing biotech processes; 3. Engineering and Pilot Applications for production of selected microbial cell factories and bio transformations. A main advantage is a biodegradable and bio-based PLA manufactured without the costly and polluting lactic acid and chemical polymerization steps.

Company 9 – Plasma systems for industrial processing operations

Category: Circular Economy

Sector: Manufacturing - Environmental

Capital Seeking: 2.5 Mln €

Company is specialized in designing and manufacturing resource-efficient systems, based on proprietary atmospheric plasma technology. The main characteristic of the systems is the reduction of water, chemicals and energy consumption. Our products utilize high technology, compact design, easy integration in existing plants and low maintenance. The motivating purpose of our project is to help our clients reduce their environmental footprint while saving significant money.