

## UK Science and Innovation Network Case Study

### BioMed Academy builds UK-Polish innovation partnerships

At the beginning of July 2019 UK Science & Innovation Network in Poland, at the British



Embassy in Warsaw, in collaboration with Nottingham Business School of the Nottingham Trent University organised a one-week upskilling programme for the most innovative Polish biotechnology and medtech start-ups. The workshop was a part of BioMed Academy, a mentoring programme run in partnership with Polish Development Fund.

The BioMed Academy was one of the deliverables agreed by the UK and Polish Prime Ministers at the 2018 bilateral Intergovernmental Consultations as a part of our commitment to develop UK/PL Tech Partnership and thus build new bridges and commercial opportunities between our two countries. The Academy was designed to upskill Polish biotech and medtech start-ups on business development, technology transfer, commercialisation of scientific research and international expansion.



The project involved two training sessions, one organised by Polish Development Fund in Warsaw at the end of June and the second in Nottingham organised by SIN Poland and Nottingham Business School, Nottingham Trent University at the beginning of July 2019.



The UK leg of the Academy included a series of workshops, a visit to two accelerators – BioCity and MediCity, individual mentoring sessions, sales pitching training and networking opportunities with UK experts, innovators, start-ups and investors.

Seventeen Polish biotechnology and medtech startups took part, offering a range of innovations, including transdermal drug delivery systems, a mobile telemedic CTG monitoring device, a drug to prevent

post-traumatic epilepsy and adhesive polymer biomaterials. The delegation was accompanied by SIN Officer for Poland and 4 representatives of Polish Development Fund.

The Nottingham upskilling programme gave Polish innovators the opportunity to learn in detail about the UK pharmaceutical and medical sectors and make the connections they need to expand into the UK market. Following the programme, participants are expected to revise their current business models, secure capital for further growth and expand internationally, including into the UK. While still in Nottingham, 3 companies were approached by UK experts and investors with initial business proposals. Tweets using #BioMedAcademy generated over 213k impressions on Twitter.



The BioMed Academy programme highlighted the UK's excellence in innovation – particularly on business development, technology transfer, commercialisation of scientific research and international expansion - and enabled Polish Development Fund representatives to see first-hand how the UK system of innovation support works.

The programme supported development of a UK/PL Tech Partnership that is going to build new bridges between our two countries, and open up new commercial opportunities in research and innovation.

SIN Poland contact: [malgorzata.kielminska@fco.gov.uk](mailto:malgorzata.kielminska@fco.gov.uk)