

**BIOFISIKA**

**Basque Center for Biophysics**

**STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2017**

# BIOFISIKA

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2017

### PREFACE

The present plan of action for **BIOFISIKA** (2014-2017) has been built up to achieve the following objective: *“to establish a multidisciplinary approach of translational excellence on a molecular, cell and system level focused in the field of biophysics, considering both the basic scientific aspects and their potentially applicable aspects, and acting as a channel to bring basic research interests in these area closer to the production and industrial sectors of our society”*.

**BIOFISIKA** strategic plan was initiated after an in depth debate by the Management Board. The outcome was the establishment of the foundations and objectives for the following years, namely the Center Mission and Vision for this period. Once the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT analysis) were analyzed for all members and the Institution, a triangulation process was used to detect common points and evaluate relevancies. The result of this task, carried out by the Management board, was the formulation of objectives and milestones for the next four years and to design the strategies for attaining them.

**BIOFISIKA** mission is to promote a multidisciplinary program of translational excellence at a molecular and cell level in the field of Biophysics and its application in the areas of biotechnology and health. The center aims at serving as a channel for bringing the interest of basic research in biophysics closer to the productive and service sectors of our society.

**BIOFISIKA** vision is to generate a Center of excellence on an international level focused on a unique and focused research project on Biophysics and with a commitment to technological transfer to the private sector and clinical translation of knowledge.

### High grade of competitiveness and economic sustainability

This goal responds to two main aspects:

- The need to valorize R&D results: All the knowledge generated should be appropriately protected and exploited, both in benefit of the society and in benefit of BIOFISIKA, attaining in the long term a high grade of economic self-sustainability via the Returns on Investment.
  - To foster the advance to a knowledge economy. Emphasizing the need of translational science and the transfer of technology for its exploitation, an economy based on the exploitation of Innovative research advances will be steadily established, promoting the entrance of private capital to the R&D public sector.
- BIOFISIKA **plans to increase** considerably the raising of funds estimated and shown in **Figure 1**:
- **Severo Ochoa Excellence Research Centre distinction** → 4 Million € by 2017
  - **European Research Council (ERC) Programs** → 2 to 4 M€ of additional income to BIOFISIKA.
    - Applying researchers:
      - ANTONIO FERRER MONTIEL (IKERBASQUE BIOFISIKA)
      - BANAFSHE LARIJANI (IKERBASQUE BIOFISIKA)
      - SHIRA KNAFO (IKERBASQUE BIOFISIKA)

## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



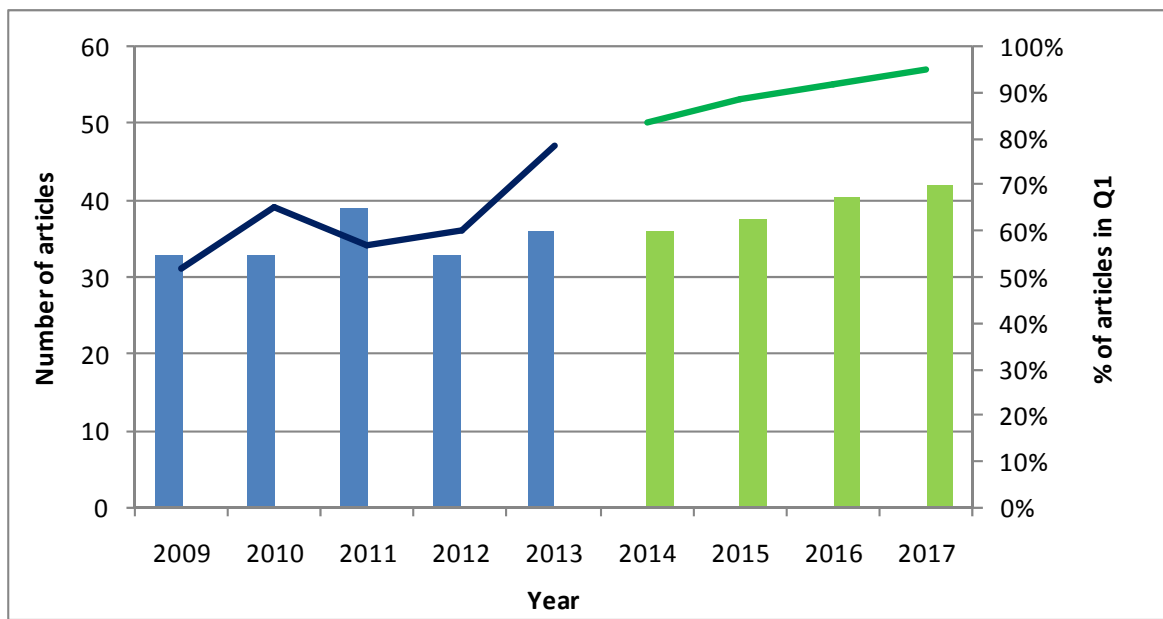
### Promotion of Technology Transfer and the protection and exploitation of the R&D results

The establishment of public-private collaborations is crucial to maximize the R&D investment. BIOFISIKA will strengthen the collaborations with private partners with the aim of funnelling the technology transfer. This is essential for ensuring the exploitation of the generated frontier knowledge.

Complementarily to the establishment of agreements with private firms, another main focus on the exploitation of R&D results will be the protection of the Intellectual Property and its appropriate exploitation, including the creation of spin-offs. For this task, it is planned:

- **Business Development** department led by a business developer.
- **Patent-watch** program for technology protection.
- **BIOFISIKA** Open Innovation Platform (**BOIP**)
- **Light Microscopy Platform (LMP)**.
- **Joint ventures** with technological institutes and industrial partners.
- **Spin-off** creation for the exploitation of results and technologies.

## SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTIVITY



**Figure 3.** Projected increase in the number of Technology Transfer activities in the the 2014-2017 period (red bars) with respect to the 2009-2013 outcomes (blue bars).

## Increase the scientific excellence and its international impact

The scientific productivity and excellence of the research teams has been steadily increasing in the past years. In the 2014-2017 period, the main aim will be to continue increasing the level of excellence in terms of the quality and quantity of the publications and their scientific impact. Thus, a major role will be to promote collaborations that exploit the complementarities and synergies giving rise to stronger manuscripts that can be published in high impact journals such as Nature, Science, Cell, etc.

The following actions are considered in this objective:

- **Scientific productivity increase** in terms of its quality and quantity. The aim will be to have **>60% of the publications in Q1** by 2017.
- **National and EU grant calls application increase.** To participate in national and international grant calls, including **ERC**, must be a key objective for BIOFISIKA.
- **To assist in partner search and in preparing Grant proposals.**
  - R&D Project manager. Assistance in the grant application
  - Subcontracting an specialized company for the management of Horizon 2020 applications.