



Spain Country Report

EU|BICs impact on
Spanish innovation
ecosystem

www.ebn.eu





CREDITS

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About the European Business and Innovation Centre Network

EBN (European Business and Innovation Centre Network) is a not-for-profit that serves a pan-European, global community of people that use innovative business as a driver for regional (economic) development. EBN's initiatives include EU|BIC certification, development and distribution of quality business support programmes, facilitation and initiation of project collaborations, global networking and advocacy for excellent business support actors like the EU|BICs.



EU|BICs, quality-certified European Business Innovation Centres, are on a mission to drive economic development and wellbeing in their regions. There are now more than 130 certified EU|BICs and 46 Associate Members shaping our global community. Becoming an EU|BIC means responding to our mission to use business and innovation as a force for regional development with the best possible actions to create thriving startups and SMEs. In other words, EU|BICs take real steps to ensure that their services are as best as possible to their clients and best advantageous to their regions.

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1. Pan-European EU|BIC community

The community of EU|BICs comprises 160+ quality-certified support organisations and associate members that use business and innovation as a force for regional economic, sustainable, and social development in Europe and beyond. Supported by the EBN Secretariat, our purpose is to use the best possible actions to create thriving startups and SMEs, taking real steps to ensure that our services are best advantageous to our clients and enhancing society in general. Our growing community represents a dynamic and effective way of stimulating innovative businesses: by offering high-quality support services and building connected innovation ecosystems that identify and co-develop innovative solutions.

Our work goes beyond the quality-certified services that we offer along the full innovation support spectrum. EU|BICs and our Associate members incorporated specific and detailed focus areas into our services, including the elements that might otherwise be ignored under a strategy dedicated to solely maximising impact at the expense of the EU|BIC's values, quality standards and the contribution to our shared regional missions.

These have become our community's four specific purposes. **Regional Sustainable, Economic and Social Development**, from its origins until today, we endeavour to build strong innovation networks that support the development of European regions. **Quality Business Support**, we conduct our operations in a manner that delivers the highest-quality support services possible. **Access to Finance**, we strive to provide a steady pipeline of innovative, investment-ready companies and foster supportive investment opportunities. **Scaling European Innovation**, our pan-European nature is a strong asset to bolster the expansion potential of European startups, scale-ups and innovative SMEs.

01.

Regional Sustainable Economic Development

From its origins until today, we endeavour to build well-connected innovation ecosystems that support the economic development of European regions by (i) fostering entrepreneurial innovations, including the acceleration of new enterprises and fostering innovation in existing enterprises; (ii) promoting entrepreneurial culture; (iii) modernising, digitalising and diversifying industries; (iv) stimulating job creation; and (v) partnering strategically with universities, research and science parks, corporates, investors and public authorities to form a vast, diverse, collaborative and connected European business innovation ecosystem.

02.

Quality Business Support

We conduct our operations in a manner that delivers the most excellent innovation support services possible. Our quality-certified, smart selection, ideation, acceleration, and incubation programmes are designed to support startups, scale-ups, SMEs and innovators of all kinds to keep succeeding in achieving their mission. In support of our commitment, we use our position as experts to share best practices with other businesses in our communities and facilitate social capital by getting people to meet and collaborate in mutual innovation projects—leaving no one behind.

03.

Access to Finance

Since inception until today, we endeavour to provide a steady pipeline of innovative, investment-ready companies and foster supportive investment opportunities, including, but not limited to, access to private investments, EU and non-EU grants, loans and equity funds, ensuring the continuity of the businesses and innovations that a competitive European economy needs. With a network of networks also including hundreds of investors, we rely on various tools and programmes to embed innovation to finance, and finance to innovation and share best practices on investment processes.

04.

Scaling European Innovation

Our pan-European nature is one of our greatest assets to bolster the internationalisation potential of European startups, scaleups and innovative SMEs to support those who already operate on an international scale and to reinforce Europe as a global leader in entrepreneurial research and innovation. We apply our understanding of the different needs of our client entrepreneurs throughout the various stages of growth and leverage the support network so they can benefit from the same quality of support in any region they target for expansion.

2. Innovation ecosystem snapshot: Spain

Evolution of the Spanish innovation ecosystem

The concept of incubation to support new innovative companies arises in the beginning of the 80s in Europe, with the primary goal to support the regions most affected by the process of industrial reconversion. Spain joined this new trend later in the decade, with the creation of the first incubators.

Since then, the Spanish ecosystem evolved continuously, with entrepreneurship and innovation policies gaining more and

more relevance. At the same time, the entities and services of support to highly innovative entrepreneurship of technological nature started to consolidate. It happens particularly due to the capacity of this type of entrepreneurship to create highly qualified employment, for its diversification and innovation potential, and for incentivising internationalisation – key elements to create a model with higher gains in terms of value.



Current status of innovation in Spain – incubation/acceleration services, Startups and sectors of activity

According to the European Innovation scoreboard 2022¹, Spain is a Moderate Innovator – considering the European landscape. Amongst others, Spain's relative strengths are sales of innovative products, people's digital skills, educated population and lifelong learning, whereas relative main weaknesses identified are government support on R&D, employment in innovative enterprises and business process innovators. Moreover, entrepreneurial training and government procurement are at par with the EU as drivers of research and innovation. Spain does show a below average performance on climate change related indicators, particularly on the circular material use rate.

Since 2015, Spain has also showed relative decreases in environment-related technologies, government support for business R&D and enterprises providing ICT training.

To overcome such weaknesses, focus on innovation and entrepreneurship is essential. Business incubators and accelerators can play a critical role in improving the overall innovation

capacity of companies in Spain. Innovative startups, supported by the right business support, can increase the performance in the less-developed sectors and services.

The Spanish Startups Association² published the 2020 Social Innovation Monitor study relative to incubation and acceleration ecosystem in Spain. Top 5 services provided by incubators and accelerators in Spain are managerial support, access to finance, office and co-working space and management and entrepreneurship education respectively².

Referring to Informa's 2022 study of startups in Spain³, the number of active companies created between 2016 and 2021 in Spain is a bit over 400,000 companies, of which almost 23,400 are startups (around 5,5% of total). This means that out of the total companies created during this period of time, a short percentage are startups. In this context, it is important to refer to Informa's definition of a startup in the framework of their study: "Startups are companies of recent creation with innovative or technological activity".

1 European Innovation Scoreboard 2022

(https://ec.europa.eu/assets/rtd/eis/2022/ec_rtd_eis-country-profile-es.pdf)

2 Asociación Española de Startups (Se publica el primer mapa de incubadoras y aceleradoras de España | Asociación Española de Startups (asociacionstartups.es))

3 Las empresas Start-ups en España, Informa 2022 (<https://www.informa.es/alta-en-el-servicio>)



3. EU|BICs in Spain: How they contribute to national and European innovation environments

The late 90s and early 2000s marked a rapid increase of EU|BICs founded in Spain. The majority uses the Spanish term CEEI: “Centro Europeu de Empresas e Innovación”. Similar to EBN, the national association ANCES provides the CEEI label, yet specifically on the country level in Spain.

Spanish EU|BICs are mostly business incubators and accelerators, with strong roles also as development and innovation agencies, entrepreneurship and innovation centres, science and technology parks and chambers of commerce and industry. Always they remain focused on the support to entrepreneurs and innovative companies.

Regional coverage

EU|BICs have a strong presence in all regions in Spain, more precisely in:

- Asturias (1)
- Basque Country (4)
- Castilla y Leon (1)
- Aragon (1)
- Catalonia (2)
- Valencian Community (3)
- Murcia (2)
- Castilla-la-Mancha (4)
- Andalusia (3)
- Extremadura (1)
- Madrid (2)
- Canary Islands (1)
- Balearic Islands (1)

Spain counts 26 EU|BICs in total, which accounts for roughly 25% of all EU|BICs in Europe.

In addition, Spain counts with two associate members in Spain, CEEI Navarra and Barrabès.biz.

EU|BIC and ANCES innovation actors

EU|BIC

EU|BIC & ANCES

ANCES



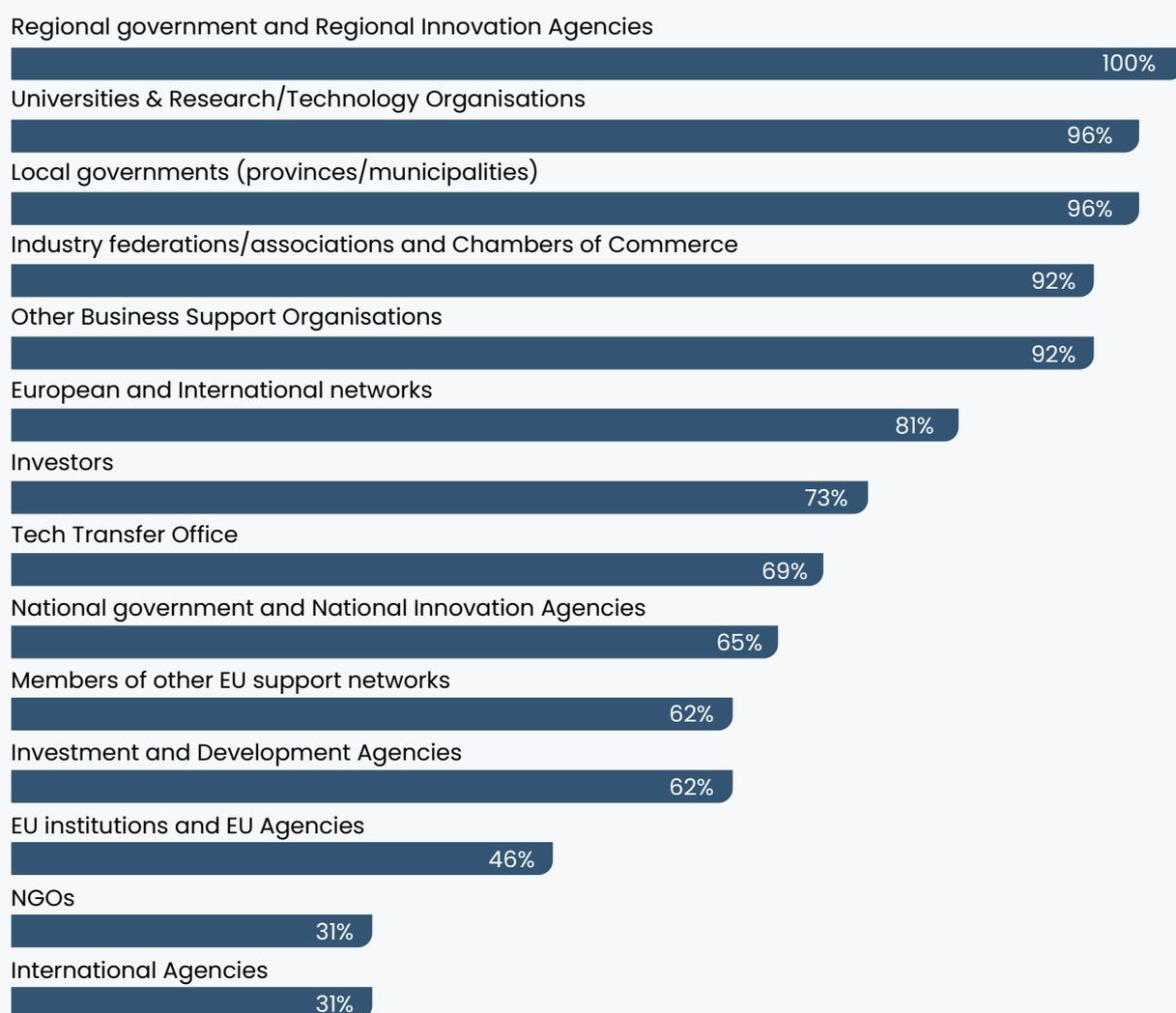
Name	Type of Member	City
ADER	ANCES	Logroño
Ayuntamiento de Madrid - Direccion General de Innovacion y Promocion de la Ciudad	EU BIC	Madrid
Ayuntamiento de Segovia	ANCES	Segovia
Barcelona Activa S.A.	EU BIC & ANCES	Barcelona
Barrabès.biz (Innova Next)	EU BIC	Madrid
BEAZ, S.A.U.	EU BIC	Bilbao
BIC Araba	EU BIC & ANCES	Vitoria Gasteiz (Alava)
BIC BIZKAIA EZKERRALDEA	EU BIC & ANCES	Barakaldo
BIC Canarias - Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias	EU BIC & ANCES	Santa Cruz de Tenerife
BIC Euronova S.A.	EU BIC & ANCES	Campanillas - Malaga
BIC Gipuzkoa	EU BIC & ANCES	Eibar
BIC Granada	EU BIC & ANCES	Armillá
CEEI ALBACETE	EU BIC & ANCES	Albacete
CEEI ARAGON S.A.	EU BIC & ANCES	Zaragoza
CEEI Asturias	EU BIC & ANCES	Llanera
CEEI Bahía de Cádiz	EU BIC & ANCES	El Puerto de Santa María
CEEI BURGOS	EU BIC & ANCES	Burgos
CEEI Cartagena	EU BIC & ANCES	Cartagena
CEEI CASTELLON	EU BIC & ANCES	Castellón de la Plana (Castellón)
CEEI CIUDAD REAL	EU BIC & ANCES	Ciudad Real
CEEI Elche	EU BIC & ANCES	Elche (Alicante)
CEEI Extremadura (FUNDECYT-PCTEX)	EU BIC & ANCES	Caceres
CEEI Guadalajara	EU BIC & ANCES	Guadalajara
CEEI LLEIDA	EU BIC & ANCES	Lleida
CEEI Murcia	EU BIC & ANCES	Murcia
CEEI Navarra	EU BIC & ANCES	Noain
CEEI Talavera de la Reina	EU BIC & ANCES	Talavera de la Reina (Toledo)
CEEI Valencia	EU BIC & ANCES	Paterna
CEI Nodus - Ayuntamiento de Lugo	ANCES	Lugo
Centro de Empresas de la Excm. Diputación Provincial de Cuenca	ANCES	Cuenca
Emprende Linares	ANCES	Linares
Fundació Balear de Innovació i Tecnologia, Fundacióbit	EU BIC & ANCES	Palma de Mallorca
Fundación madri+d	EU BIC & ANCES	Madrid
IGAPE	ANCES	Santiago de Compostela
Parque Científico y tecnológico Cartuja, S.A.	EU BIC	Sevilla
SODERCAN	ANCES	Santander

Ecosystem partnerships

EU|BICs focus on fostering the creation of wide ecosystems of innovation and entrepreneurship, developing flourishing public-private partnerships.

Highlights: All Spanish EU|BICs are partnering with Regional Government and Regional Innovation Agencies. Almost all Spanish EU|BICs (96%) partner with local governments (provinces or municipalities) and Universities & Research and Technology organisations. 94% partner with other BSOs and Industry federations/associations and Chambers of Commerce. Moreover, close to 70% of Spanish EU|BICs are partnering with Tech Transfer Offices and Investors.

Partnerships (% of Spanish EU|BICs)



EU|BICs focus on fostering the creation of wide ecosystems of innovation and entrepreneurship, developing flourishing public-private partnerships.

EU|BICs, together with a wide range of ecosystem partners, take the best possible actions to create thriving startups and SMEs - working in industries ranging from Space, Health, Food, Energy, Smart Materials, and Digital. A key feature of EU|BICs as innovation ecosystem builders and business intermediaries: they are taking real steps to ensure that their services are best advantageous to their clients - and best advantageous to their regions.

EU|BICs are entrepreneurship ecosystems orchestrators, partnering strategically with universities, research and science parks, corporates, investors and public authorities to form a vast, diverse, collaborative and connected European business innovation ecosystem. EU|BICs prepare, promote and create the right conditions for market uptake of scientific breakthroughs, addressing simultaneously technology and the business dimensions - adopting an iterative learning process to the benefit of client companies and to the benefit of thriving territories where entrepreneurs are embedded.

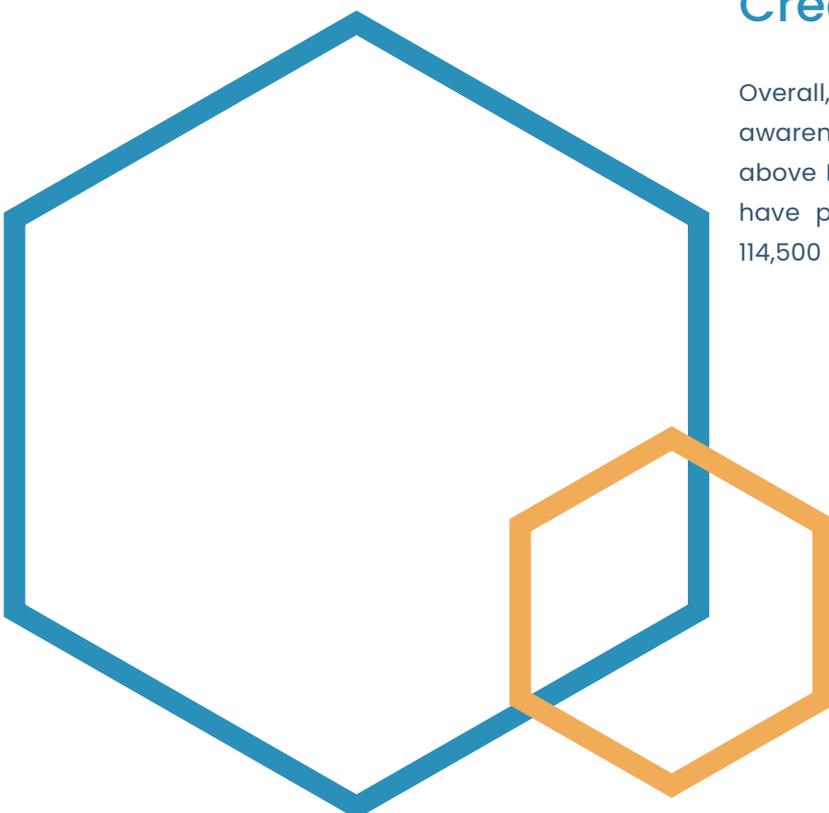
Expertise

Since the majority of EU|BICs are either generic or mixed sector, Spanish EU|BICs have expertise in several areas. Eco-Innovation, Smart Manufacturing, Creative and Cultural Industries and Health are the most common - by this order respectively.

Highlights: Spanish EU|BICs have a strong presence when it comes to sustainability issues, with almost 70% of Spanish EU|BICs with expertise in Circular Economy.

Creating awareness

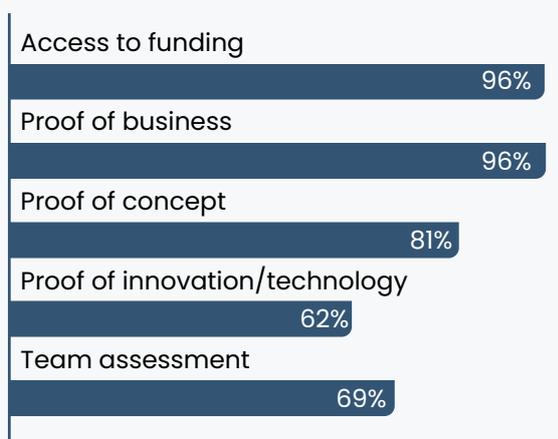
Overall, Spanish EU|BICs are promoting awareness raising events with participation above EU|BIC average. In total, Spanish EU|BICs have promoted over 3,400 events, with over 114,500 participants.



Spanish EU|BICs are providing a steady pipeline of services to client companies, from Entrepreneurship to Startup, Scale-up and even Internationalisation services.

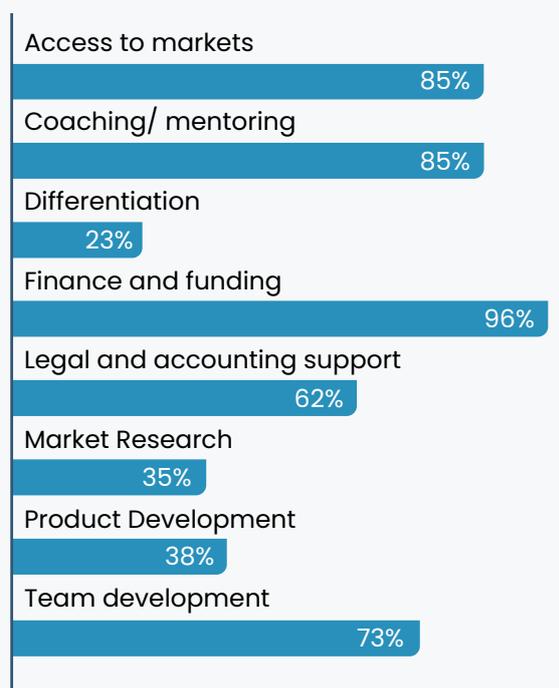
Entrepreneurship services

% Spanish EU|BICs



Startup services

% Spanish EU|BICs



Growth services

% Spanish EU|BICs



Internalisation services

% Spanish EU|BICs



- Aligned with the results of the 2020 Social Innovation Monitor study, Spanish EU|BICs are supporting entrepreneurs, startups and scale-up accessing finance, with almost all EU|BICs providing this type of support.
- Highlight on entrepreneurship services: Almost all Spanish EU|BICs are also providing proof of business, and around 80% proof of concept.
- Highlight on startup services: 85% of Spanish EU|BICs are providing access to market and coaching or mentoring to client companies
- Highlight on scale-up services: 92% of Spanish EU|BICs are providing access to open innovation programmes, and almost 80% access to acceleration programmes and access to markets.

Best practice: EU|BIC BEAZ

BIOK! LivingLab: innovative solutions that contribute to dynamizing the business environment and accelerating innovation processes, created by this EU|BIC in Bizkaia.

BIOK! LivingLab solves the lack of access to innovative solutions for public actors and corporates. The initiative was born to identify public-private challenges that act as catalysts to generate a market and bring clients closer to startups and SMEs. Continue reading on www.ebn.eu.

30% of all startups in Spain are supported by an EU|BIC

Spain counts on 11,100 startups that employ 140,000 workers in total⁴ – according to a report presented in the “South Summit” in May 2022.

Spanish EU|BICs supported over 13,000 entrepreneurs and companies during last year, out of which almost 4,500 were startups. Important to note that this number is reported by EU|BICs considering startups as companies within their first 3 years of creation with an established a strategy for creating long-term profit. Considering the number of Startups accounted in Spain in 2022, and depending on this study’s definition, one can conclude Spanish EU|BICs are contributing significantly to the support of total Startups in Spain.

Long term success and survival rates of companies supported by EU|BICs are higher than those of companies created in Spain between 2016 and 2021

Startups created during the period of time 2016–2021 had approximately 27% medium-high or high probabilities of “failure” (shut down of activities) after 1 year of existence³.

Spanish EU|BICs can pride themselves with a high success rate of the companies they support. **81% of companies still operate 3 years after receiving support by an EU|BIC**. Not only is this value high above EU average, showcasing the quality support of Spanish EU|BICs, but it is also higher than the average 1 year survival rate of businesses created in Spain from 2016–2021 (which is at 73%, considering 27% failure rate after 1 year existence)³.

The most popular sectors of activity of Startups created between 2016 and 2021 is digital, with 46,7% of startups created working in this area.³

⁴ El pais news – May 2022 (El ecosistema emprendedor español alcanzará un valor de 83.000 millones este año | Compañías | Cinco Días (elpais.com))

Sectors of expertise

EU|BICs support all sorts of strategic sectors. Through strong partnerships with universities, technology organisations and many other innovation ecosystem partners, supplemented by expertise in advanced ICT development, technology assessment, intellectual property and partnering/matchmaking, Spanish EU|BICs have a high component of support to the development of innovation in digital – especially software development, IoT, AI, blockchain and cybersecurity.

Furthermore, Spanish EU|BICs support the development of innovative businesses and chains of action in sustainability matters – considering sectors such as energy, circular economy, smart mobility and transport, biotechnology, health, and agriculture technology.

Entrepreneurs and companies supported

The Spanish EU|BICs ensure 5x more consultations towards potential entrepreneurs than the average Spanish incubator/accelerator

In 2021, Spanish EU|BICs received an average of 649 enquiries from potential entrepreneurs, which is 5 times more enquiries than the average incubator/accelerator in Spain in 2020² with a total figure of 16,870. According to this study, incubators/accelerators received on average 121 applications from potential entrepreneurs/companies, for a median of 30 applications.

Number of Entrepreneurs & Companies Supported

Enquiries received

16,870

Entrepreneurs supported

6,490

Startups

4,435

SMEs

2,149

In 2021 alone, companies supported by EU|BICs created 10% more jobs than all startups in Spain over the last 5 years.

From 2016–2021, 38,211 jobs were promoted by startups in Spain³.

In 2021 solely, 4,792 jobs were created in companies supported by Spanish EU|BICs. This number accounts for job creation from any supported company by EU|BICs – startups or other types of companies. Although for this reason a direct correlation cannot be made between these values, job creation in companies supported by EU|BICs in 2021 solely are over 10% of total job creation promoted by Startups in Spain over a period of 5 years (2016–2021).

In 2021, entrepreneurs and companies supported by Spanish EU|BICs raised approximately €305 million in funds to back-up their business ventures





Support in access to finance – In 2021, entrepreneurs and companies supported by Spanish EUIBCs raised approximately 205 million euros funds to support their businesses. Most popular sources of funding were other private and public sources of funding, Venture Capital, EU Funding and Business Angels respectively. Over 2,500 entrepreneurs and companies were supported in accessing funding, over half of which startups.

Funding raised per investor type Million euros

Other Private Funding

€ 62.3

Other Public funding

€ 58.6

Venture Capital

€ 31.4

EU Funding

€ 24.1

Business Angels

€ 22.2

Own organisation's affiliated seed funds

€ 3.3

Banks

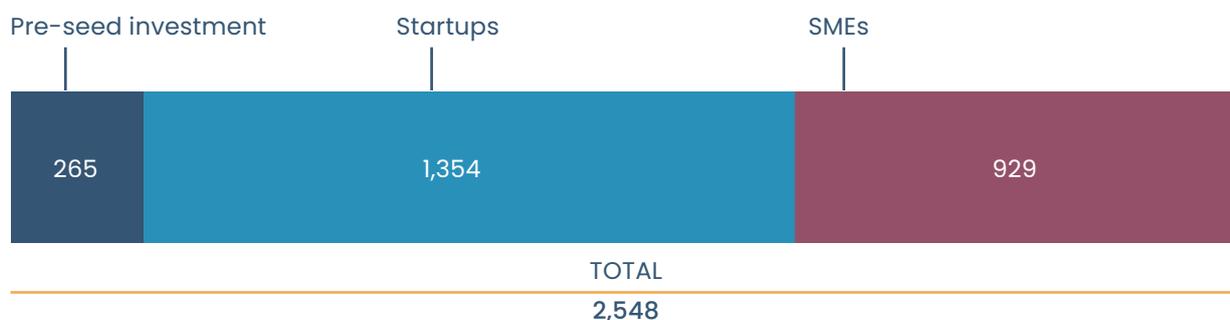
€ 1.1

Crowdfunding

€ 0.9



Number of entrepreneurs & companies accessing funds through Spanish EU|BICs support



88% of Spanish EU|BICs count on internationalisation expertise, and almost 70% are supporting companies accessing international events

Internationalisation

Spanish EU|BICs focus on supporting companies not only to kick off their businesses but also to grow sustainably, and even internationally.

88% of Spanish EU|BICs count on internationalisation expertise, and almost 70% are supporting companies accessing international events. Spanish EU|BICs also supported close to 90 companies access markets in foreign countries, more specifically the French, American, Mexican, Chilean and German markets (by decreasing order of number of companies).

Best practice

QuickGlobal – accelerating the internationalisation of global young innovative companies – by BIC Asturias

EU|BIC ASTURIAS & ASTUREX jointly launched the programme “Accelerator for Internationalization – Quick Global”. This innovative programme aims to speed up the internationalisation of young companies in the technology sphere with a potentially global market or multi-market companies. [Continue reading on www.ebn.eu](http://www.ebn.eu).

Best practice

PROGRAM GLOBAL STARTUPS SOFTLANDING – an initiative by **EU|BIC Cartagena**

The objective of “Global Startups” is to promote startups with high growth potential and prepare them to enter new international markets, as well as to come into contact with technology experts from the most important hubs in the world. The initiative has allowed startups to know the level of competitiveness of their products or services in relation to the existing technology in other markets, as well as to exchange experiences and get advice from successful entrepreneurs, founders of ICT startups and some of the most important business angels in Spain and the world. [Continue reading on www.ebn.eu](http://www.ebn.eu).

ANCES Best Practice

ANCES OPEN INNOVATION, A REFERENCE PROGRAM IN OPEN INNOVATION IN SPAIN

Spanish EUBICs and members of the [ANCES](#) promote [Ances Open Innovation](#), the national open innovation program developed by ANCES, Spanish chapter of EBN. It is a great opportunity for young innovative and technology-based companies from all over Spain that wish to start collaborating with other more consolidated companies.

On their side, the driving, consolidated companies, launch in each edition the challenges that problem-solving startups must solve. The consolidated companies manage in this way to interact with the entrepreneurial ecosystem and obtain from it the solutions to their technological and/or innovative challenges.

In the first 5 editions, Ances Open Innovation has established itself as a benchmark programme in Spain. 50 driving, consolidated companies have already presented their challenges and more than 450 solutions have been received, establishing very interesting relationships and authentic success stories, between consolidated companies and startups.

The initiative provides added value compared to other types of open innovation initiatives, which is territorial richness when it comes to involving leading companies, having with very diverse and active innovation strategies in very varied sectors: agri-food, energy, construction, engineering, tourism, transport, etc- and solutions from all over the Spanish territory.

An example of an Ances Open Innovation success story can be accessed on www.ancesopeninnovation.com.

ANCES Best Practice

EIBT, A POWERFUL TOOL FOR INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY-BASED COMPANIES

The EIBT label (Innovative Technology-Based Company) is promoted and granted by Spanish EUIBICs through ANCES. The brand is recognised by the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism. From 2004 to the present, ANCES has granted this certification to 515 technology-based business projects.

The companies that are recognised with the EIBT label in one of the calls that are opened each year, receive a valuable tool to demonstrate their potential as innovative project before investment stakeholders, aid granting institutions and partners.

The value of this recognition is also materialized in the preferential access of the entrepreneurship project founders, to support and accompaniment programs, networking sessions, open innovation forums, contacts with investors, specialised training, and access to the innovative public procurement market.

EVALUATING EXPERTS

Spanish EUIBICs and members of the ANCES network promote the submission of candidatures, which are evaluated by a jury of experts who belong to different public institutions or private entities oriented towards business innovation such as The European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (Enisa), Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI), Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO), IE Business School (Instituto de Empresa), EOI Business School, Trade Chamber of Spain, IESE Business School, Keiretsu Forum, ESADE Business & Law School - and The Association of Science and Technology Parks of Spain (APTE).

An example of a company being granted with the EIBT label, can be accessed on www.ances.com.

Best Practice: EU|BIC-supported company

EU|BIC GIPUZKOA: THE GIPUZKOAN COMPANY QUIMATRYX LICENSES A DRUG AGAINST CANCER FOR \$92 MILLION

The Gipuzkoan company Quimatrix, which develops a new drug for the treatment of cancers, has reached an agreement with a Chinese company for up to 92 million dollars. The HiDiamond company will develop the entire regulatory preclinical phase and, in addition, will request authorization from the Chinese Medicines Agency to carry out clinical trials of the Quimatrix drug that will be carried out in the Asian country.

The agreement reached by Quimatrix marks an outstanding advance in the development of the drug, since it is a license that includes payments of up to 92 million dollars, linked to the achievement of both development and commercial milestones, plus royalties on sales.

The Quimatrix compound is an epigenetic drug that has already shown high efficacy in solid tumors, such as pancreatic and lung cancer, and in blood malignancies, such as mantle cell lymphoma.

The agreement reached places Quimatrix and the Oncomatrix group as leading companies in the sector, representing a significant income to continue the development of new compounds. [Continue reading on www.ebn.eu](http://www.ebn.eu).



4. About EBN – the European Business and Innovation Centre Network

We believe that in a world seeking to solve our global challenges, innovative entrepreneurs are the force for sustainable, economic development and greater wellbeing for Europe – and beyond.

EBN as a global platform, allows in a continuous way international opportunities both for EU|BICs as for their client companies. EU|BICs naturally move in an international context not only to access best practices, learning and training experiences, but also to cooperate in concrete international project opportunities.

Our pan-European nature is one of our greatest assets to bolster the expansion potential of European startups, scaleups and innovative SMEs. Over 1,000 (1,019) companies supported either with access to international markets (623), or to local markets (396).

- An impactful 90% of EU|BICs have **expertise in internationalisation business support**, whilst 65% of all EU|BICs have this expertise in-house.
- Generally, **internationalisation services** include access to internationalisation events (67%), advise for elaboration of internationalisation plans or strategies (46%), and funding support for internationalisation activities.
- In 2021, EU|BICs **provided support to companies from foreign countries to access their local markets**, mostly companies coming from Spain (84 companies), UK (56), Brazil (41) and Argentina (34). From a different angle, **EU|BICs also provided support to their companies to access foreign markets** mostly in France (105), US (77) and Spain (57).



Member testimonial



EBN is the most profitable network for the performance of FundecytPCTEX. The connection with other EU|BICs and other regional realities gives us a broader perspective on our role as a regional agent and instrument to support entrepreneurship, aligned with the European political framework. The exchange of best practices, the technology campus and the events are a very good source of inspiration for new programmes and services in order to be more useful and impactful for our stakeholders.

I want to draw special attention to the activity of the Special Interest Groups, as a very useful instrument for cooperating on European funding opportunities. Recommending dedicating time to them, because the return is much greater than the effort made.

Finally, I encourage new companies and entrepreneurs located in your incubators to join some EBN activities, such as training or congress, because the networking and financing opportunities are also useful for them."

Francisco Pizarro
EU|BIC FundecytPCTEX

5. Conclusion – The future of innovation

By being part of a leading international community, Spanish EU|BICs are well-positioned to boost solutions to the challenges of our times.

EU|BICs support bold entrepreneurs who offer solutions that are sustainable and innovative to meet societal challenges of the 21st century.

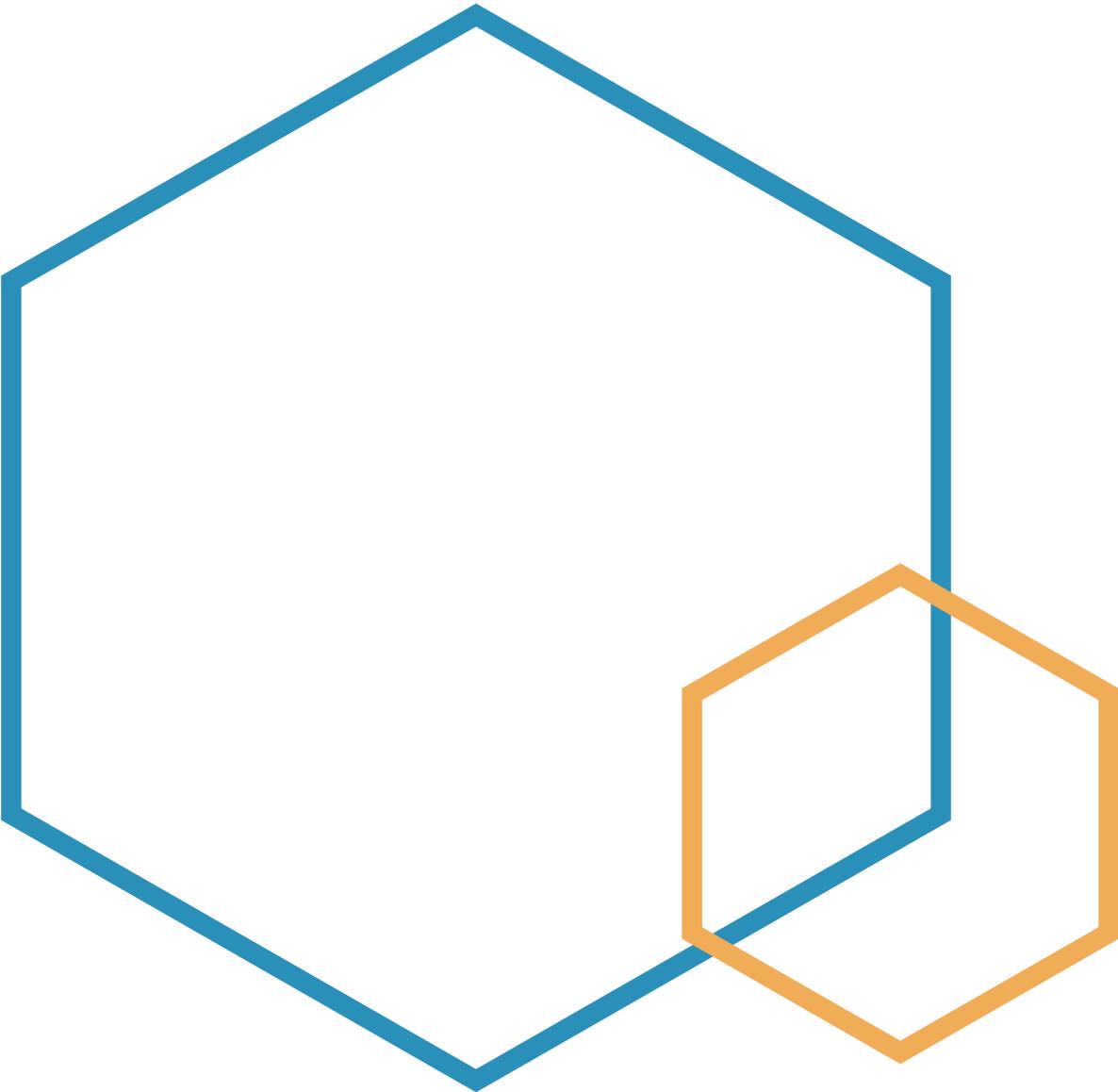
The EU|BIC community acts on its mission to create thriving startups and SMEs contributing to a post-COVID-19 Europe, that is greener, more digital, more resilient and better fit for forthcoming challenges. EU|BICs take real steps to ensure that their innovation services contribute to driving greater wellbeing to all regions in Spain, based on a model of broad and deep geographical coverage.

The next era of entrepreneurship is about raising the bar, levelling the playing field, expanding participation and scaling the networks of business, social, financial and knowledge capital that provide the foundation for successful and sustainable start-ups and scalable businesses. Moreover, leveraging breakthrough technologies and strong partnerships along value chains are key to achieve a successful transition and a sustainable future for our planet. Spanish EU|BICs have an excellent capacity to support startups in accelerating the green and digital transformation – developing the breakthrough innovations of tomorrow, in response to real world needs, creating new jobs and building synergies with Europe's strong traditional industries.



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Representative of Spanish EU|BICs to EBN Board of Directors
EBN President and CEO of EU|BIC (CEEI) Asturias





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