**Parco Tecnologico Padano**

Parco Tecnologico Padano is the engine of the Lodi Cluster which hosts many organisations involved in the ag-biotech sector, including: the Faculties of Veterinary Medicine and Agricultural Sciences of the University of Milan, and public and private research labs. The Park also hosts an enterprise Incubator which makes Lodi one of the main European Agro-Biotech Clusters.

The mission of PTP is to build a business-oriented research network in ag-biotech able to:

- address regional needs,
- perform cutting-edge research to support innovation in the agro-food sector,
- promote the creation of start-up and spin-off companies by offering know-how, incubator facilities and administrative services.

The activities at Parco Tecnologico Padano are carried out in collaboration with producer associations, processors, retailers and other stakeholders.
MISSION

The 4 missions of FPTP:

1. The Foundation aims to promote and support nationally and internationally scientific research, especially through the following activities:

   1. **the creation, development and management of a Technology Park**, open to Universities, Research Institutes, institutions and enterprises. The purpose is to promote and develop stable linkages and synergies between research institutions, companies, associations and organizations, and the connection of these players with the University Park;
   2. **the management of a Technology Research Center of excellence**. Aims of the Center are biotechnological research of excellence in agro-food sector, with particular reference to the livestock sector, agricultural production and food, research on bio-safety, health, nutrition and environment;
   3. **the creation, promotion and management of a center for technological innovation transfer** for associations, institutions and enterprises to facilitate their local integration. The center is an incubator for the birth of economic activities with mainly a biotech focus;
   4. **the promotion, realization and implementation of services and studies** for public and private, regarding food safety.

2. The Foundation fosters training activities to support technology transfer.

3. The Foundation aims at promoting and supporting international cooperation projects through scientific knowledge transfer to the poorest countries for the implementation of development projects in the agro-food sector to contribute, as much as possible, the affirmation of ethical principles along which new technologies should help to reduce the gap between rich and poor countries and should help them to reach better levels of self-sufficiency.

4. The Foundation promotes the realization of the University Center of Lodi.
CeRSA

Parco Tecnologico Padano set up CeRSA, a Centre for Research and Study in the field of Agro-Food. Within CeRSA, 5 Research groups together with 4 Technological Platforms run innovative activities on genomics in order to obtain safer, healthier and adequate food.

RESEARCH SECTIONS

Along with the research groups, a section devoted to international cooperation works with the aim of sharing the obtained results with both developed countries and developing ones. CeRSA runs a wide array of educational activities and scientific dissemination.

✓ Research groups of CeRSA
✓ Technological Platforms

THE THREE PILLARS OF CeRSA

CeRSA activities are focused on three main elements: Research, Development and Application.
CeRSA MISSION

The mission of CeRSA is focused on biotech research of excellence in the field of agro-food, in particular in the livestock sector, agriculture yields, bio-safety, health, food and the environment.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

In order to ensure a high quality of the research, PTP established a Scientific Committee.

ALIMENTA – BUSINESS INCUBATOR

ALIMENTA intends to be an Incubator for academic and company spin offs and start up enterprises in the Agro-Food and Health sector. Thanks to the various services and incentives that the Incubator offers, the new enterprises can get off the ground and grow more easy to a successful company.

The initiative supports potential entrepreneurs in the difficult phase of transforming a scientific idea into a commercial activity. In the Pre-Incubation Phase the Incubator helps entrepreneurs to verify the sustainability of the project and selects the most promising ideas. In the Incubation Phase that follows, the new enterprise will be offered support in the accomplishing of the business plan and will also be offered juridical, financial and organisational advice.

The Incubator is located in the Parco Tecnologico Padano, the most important cluster in the Agro-Food Biotechnology sector in Italy, with presence of University, private research labs and a business park, that strengthen each other reciprocally.

SERVICES FOR ENTERPRISES

Parco Tecnologico Padano offers a wide portfolio of services to answer the main needs of enterprises. These services can be divided into the following categories:

- Traceability
- Characterization
- Certification
- Genetic Improvement
- Veterinary Medicine and Pharma

The available services can be divided in two categories:

- **CONTROLS**: need an initial phase to be adjusted, related to the agro-food matrix that needs to be analysed and to the choice of the most appropriate test method. Thereafter the controls can be carried out on a large number of samples at the Genomic Platform.
- **STUDIES**: are more in depth and can cope with companies' specific complex problems. Fundamental research is therefore required and is often carried out by the Research Sections of the PTP. It takes more time to complete the studies in comparison to the controls, about 3-9 months.