



Brainstorm-symposium on Synthetic Biology October 29th 2015

What

Synthetic Biology aims to design and build biological systems in a modular and flexible way, allowing biological units to be interchangeable and assembled, shared and reused in different contexts and between different laboratories. Synthetic Biology is a "way of working" that will accelerate research. It is also one of the five new Investment Themes of Wageningen UR: an opportunity!

Why

The scope of Synthetic Biology is potentially tremendous: from molecules to ecosystems and for fundamental research as well as for applications. The model based reconstitution of a biological system from its building blocks, is a powerful tool to verify and increase fundamental understanding of that system. Examples of applications are molecules (e.g. vaccines, DNA), cellular devices (e.g. biosensors, light harvesting modules), tailored organisms (minimal microbes, re-programmed plants) and adapted ecosystems (e.g. microbial communities). These can find use in areas such as in health & nutrition, food security, biomaterials & green chemicals, biofuels & energy. Products that contribute to a bio-based economy.

WUR

Coupling science to application, create useful stuff based on in depth biological knowledge, is in our genes. But what are our strongholds, and are there typical Wageningen UR areas? Where are the opportunities and where should we invest?

How; program of the symposium

The aim of this symposium is to help to create a roadmap for the development of Synthetic Biology at WUR. In the morning session, we will inform each other about ongoing initiatives: cases that illustrate the scope and perspectives of Synthetic Biology as currently practised within Wageningen UR.

This is to inspire you for an interactive break-out session in the afternoon. In groups, you will work out self-chosen research cases, implementing principles of Synthetic Biology. Subsequent plenary discussions will help to define the best opportunities and the roadmap and investments to reach these.

Location: Hotel Wageningsche Berg, Wageningen, Netherlands

Costs: FREE, only 100 places available, registration required

Invited: All researchers from Wageningen UR, interested in shaping Synthetic Biology



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www.wageningenur.nl/symposiumsyntheticbiology