



Sif Biotech

Our aim is to utilize bioengineered plants as a medium for high value protein production, ushering in a new era of growth in affordable healthcare.

Our vision

Our vision is to use the plant *Nicotiana benthamiana* as a production platform for recombinant proteins through transient expression. This plant-based method of producing proteins, such as vaccines and various biopharmaceuticals, offers unique speed, ease of scale-up and flexibility. Such production platforms have proven to be exceptionally well suited for virus-like particles (VLPs), that can be used to combat HPV and a broad range of infectious diseases. We believe that this safe and cost-effective manufacturing platform offers great potential to address new challenges in global health.

Why Iceland?

Iceland is perfectly suited for high-tech growth facilities:

- ✓ Access to low-cost renewable energy
- ✓ Access to clean water

Iceland is also an ideal ground for the production of biosimilars:

- ✓ Strong European regulatory system
- ✓ Convenient geographical location between Europe and North America
- ✓ While patents continue to be in effect in the rest of the regulated world, the patent landscape in Iceland supports early entry market launch

Business model

Our focus will be on building production capacity, delivering high quality protein products, focusing on contract manufacturing in the earlier stages. In the long-term we aim to develop and deliver competitive biosimilars.

Market opportunities

The markets for vaccines, antibodies and other high-value proteins are rapidly growing. For example, the market for the recombinant human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines was valued at USD 3.8 billion in 2019 and estimated to reach USD 12.69 billion in 2027. This places it among the products with the highest revenues in the biopharmaceutical market. Patents for vaccines addressing this disease along with other high-value products such as various antibodies are set to expire in the coming years. This makes it the perfect time to develop and launch biosimilars, which are produced in a cheaper and faster way.

Why Sif?

In Norse mythology, Sif is the goddess associated with Earth and the fertile golden fields. This fits well with our main aim at Sif Biotech, which is to utilize plants for versatile, rapid and environmentally friendly production of various protein products.

Team

We are an interdisciplinary team of highly motivated individuals, keen on improving human health in a more efficient way.



Bergþór Traustason (CEO)

- ✓ PhD candidate in Interdisciplinary Bioscience at University of Oxford
- ✓ Experience in pharmaceutical consultancy and R&D



Arna Sigurðardóttir (COO)

- ✓ Chemical engineer
- ✓ Experience in low-carbon energy consultancy and sustainable innovation



Einar Páll Gunnarsson (CFO)

- ✓ Director of finance at Langisjór
- ✓ Experience in product development and marketing



Startup Orkidea
2021



Company Founded
2021



Launch of 1st non-pharmaceutical product
2022



Expanded contract protein manufacturing
2023



Development of biosimilars
2025