

Visions of the future

The Synenergene Forum is a large public event which will discuss the promises and implications of synthetic biology from a societal perspective.

Synthetic biology

From the beginning of this century synthetic biology has emerged as a new engineering science of life. It uses the rapidly increasing possibilities for both 'reading' and 'writing' DNA to design and synthesize living cells and biological systems with functions that do not exist in nature.

Synthetic biology offers new options for innovation in the fields of health care and sustainable production of energy and materials, but may also more and more become a subject of public controversy about potential risks and commercial exploitation of natural resources.

Responsible research & innovation

In order to deal with the governance challenges resulting from this tension, we need to establish conditions for responsible research and innovation (RRI).

During the two-day Forum event we want to share our RRI experiences and achievements with relevant stakeholders and publics and discuss the development of a synthetic biology agenda for the (near) future.

Addressing such an agenda implies a focus on:

- Opportunities of synthetic biology relating to societal challenges
- Concerns about synthetic biology relating to possible negative implications
- Engagement with synthetic biology as a contribution to responsible research and innovation

Further information

SYNERGENE is an EU-funded 'Mobilisation and Mutual Learning Action Plan', involving nearly thirty parties from all over Europe. It contributes to establish conditions for responsible research and innovation (RRI) in synthetic biology.

www.synenergene.eu

Programme

The first day of the Forum is a conference with plenary and parallel sessions focusing on core issues and activities addressed by SYNENERGENE.

During the second day SYNENERGENE and our co-operating partners Mediamatic and NEMO will put synthetic biology 'on stage' through debates, theatrical performances and the BIO·FICTION Amsterdam film festival, allowing for a broad public involvement and networking.

Registration

Participation in the Synenergene Forum 2016 is free, but a registration is required as places are limited.

Please register at:
<http://synbio.nu>

Venue

The Synenergene Forum 2016 will take place in the Amsterdam Science Centre NEMO.

NEMO Science Museum
Oosterdok 2
1011 VX Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www.nemosciencemuseum.nl

The Synenergene Forum 2016 will end on Saturday with an evening programme (including the BIO·FICTION Amsterdam film event), which will take place at Mediamatic (about 500m from NEMO).

Mediamatic
Dijkspark 6
1019 BS Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www.mediamatic.net

Synenergene Forum 2016



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**SYNTHETIC
BIOLOGY**
**VISIONS OF
THE FUTURE**

Friday & Saturday
June 24-25th
Amsterdam



Funded
by the European Union

FORUM Day 1: Conference – towards a synthetic biology agenda

Opening: Future visions of synthetic biology (09.00–10.30)

- 09.00–09.05 Opening by chair Melanie Peters (Director Rathenau Instituut)
- 09.05–09.15 Christopher Coenen (KIT) in conversation with Rinie van Est (Rathenau Instituut): Why are we here today?
- 09.15–09.35 Koert van Mensvoort (Next Nature): Recreating nature and society
- 09.35–10.30 Four pitches on future visions of synthetic biology from:

- Marleen Dogterom (Bionanoscience TU Delft): SynBio recreating life
- Vitor Martins dos Santos (Systems & Synthetic Biology WUR): SynBio re-creating industry
- Alfred Nordmann (Philosophy TU Darmstadt): SynBio recreating biology
- Oron Catts (Symbiotica): SynBio re-creating society

Coffee & tea (10.30–11.00)

Workshop round 1 (11.00–12.30)

1. Synbio practices as RRI laboratory
2. Adaptive risk assessment in synthetic biology
3. Freedom and security in an age of synthetic biology: challenges, concerns, needs

Lunch (12.30–14.00)

Workshop round 2 (14.00–15.30)

1. Synthetic biology, culture and religion
2. Advanced biotechnologies for a responsible bio-economy
3. How to support RRI (in synthetic biology) through funding and science policy making?

Coffee & tea (15.30–16.00)

Closing debate: Towards responsible research and innovation in synthetic biology (16.00–18.00)

- 16.00–16.05 Introduction by Melanie Peters
- 16.05–16.30 Arie Rip (Science, Technology & Policy Studies University of Twente): Challenges for responsible research and innovation
- 16.30–17.50 Debating RRI in SynBio
- Moderators: Melanie Peters and Armin Grunwald (KIT)
- Bernadette Bensaudé-Vincent
 - Jane Calvert
 - Kenneth Oye
 - Sven Panke
 - Sascha Pohflepp
 - Arie Rip
 - Jim Thomas

17.45–18.00 Closing the day: Christopher Coenen in conversation with Dirk Stemerdink (Rathenau Instituut)

Drinks (18.00–19.00)

FORUM Day 2: Synthetic biology on stage

Science café: Synbio vaccine engineering and its societal implications (13:00–14:15)

Synbio futures on stage: Discover how you think (14:30–15:30)

Workshop: Vanilla-flavoured synthetic biology (14:30–15:30)

Coffee & tea (15.30–16.00)

Debate: Civil society meets science (16:00–18:00)

Debate involving Civil Society Forum participants, SynBio scientists, iGEM students, Do-It-Yourself biologists and others

Change of location to Mediamatic

Evening programme with BIO-FICTION Amsterdam (20.00–22.00)

Film screening, including a panel and audience discussion

Final Forum evening programme: Meet your RRI partners (from 22.00)



View from Mediamatic to NEMO Science Museum (Willem Velthoven: Dawn at Mediamatic Biooop CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 | www.mediamatic.net/411799)