



Session	Start-ups/SMEs looking for Finance: pre-seed/angel/seed funding
Title	
Company	MiBioLab (Spin-of project of Research Center Jülich)
Speaker	Vanessa Schmitt
Keywords feedstock (max. 2)	Diverse e.g. sugars, methanol
Keywords technology (max 2)	Automation, Microcultivation
Keywords End-Product (max 2)	Diverse e.g. Proteins, organic acids
Abstract:	
Precision fermentation is a key pillar of the bioeconomy for the chemical, pharmaceutical, food and feed industry, enabling the conversion of renewable resources into sustainable products. However, developing fermentation processes can be very time-consuming and costly. Therefore, the industry needs access to biofoundries that combine synthetic biology, bioprocess engineering, automation and AI to enable the rapid and cost-effective bioprocess development. The MiBioLab is a spin-off project of Research Centre Jülich, funded by Start-Up Transfer.NRW. Having started as a Helmholtz Innovation Lab, MiBioLab has been offering bioprocess development to industry as contract research services since 2018. The USP is its automated microbioreactor platform, as well as its in-depth expertise in microcultivation, data science and Bayesian optimisation. Pilot customers — ranging from start-ups to large corporations in various industrial sectors and countries — value MiBioLab as a trustworthy partner that has delivered valuable bioprocess insights and data, which have proven highly predictive during scale-up (www.mibilab.de/references). Thanks to excellent customer feedback, the plan is for MiBioLab to spin off as a contract research organisation in spring 2026, offering automated bioprocess development services as MVP. The long-term vision is to provide comprehensive biofoundry services. To overcome the initial liquidity gap and enable future growth, the MiBioLab is now seeking investors.	