

Biotech Locations of the Future 2019/20 Winners



THE CITY-STATE OF SINGAPORE HAS BEEN NAMED **fDi**'S FIRST BIOTECH LOCATION OF THE FUTURE FOR ITS IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF JOB CREATION, LOW CORRUPTION LEVELS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION. **CATHY MULLAN** REPORTS

Singapore is ranked first as **fDi**'s inaugural Biotech Location of the Future, followed by Dublin and San Francisco.

According to data from greenfield investment monitor **fDi** Markets, Singapore attracted almost 2000 FDI jobs in the biotechnology sector between December 2013 and November 2018, the highest number of all locations studied. US-based pharmaceutical company Baxter invested in the city-state in 2014, establishing a biologics manufacturing plant in Woodlands Industrial Park. The company credited its investment decision to the city's ecosystem, where "IP is protected, regulations are clear, there is no corruption, where from a logistics point of view you're in one of the best places in the world".

In 2018, Singapore's minister of state for trade and industry said that the biotech sector was to play a key role in the development of the city-state's economy, and the number of local biotech start-up companies incorporated between 2015 and 2017 was double the total between 2012 and 2014.

Singapore scored well on the Global Innovation Index from Insead and the World Intellectual Property Organization, and starting up a business there takes only 1.5 days. More than 150 international destinations are accessible from Changi Airport,

making the city-state a very attractive location for investment.

Dublin's big draw

Ireland's capital, Dublin, ranks second, boasting a strong record of FDI in biotech and R&D. The city attracted 31 R&D reinvestments in the five years to November 2018, contributing to its innovative culture. Companies invested more than \$900m in biotech projects in this period, creating 4500 jobs. Merck Sharp & Dohme, a subsidiary of US-based pharmaceutical company Merck & Co, announced the creation of 350 jobs at a new facility in Dublin by 2021.

San Francisco, arguably one of the most important cities in the US for innovation and technology, ranks third in **fDi**'s study. More than 3300 patents in the biotech sector were registered in San Francisco in the review period, the highest number of all cities analysed.

San Francisco is part of the Bay Area Biotech Cluster, which covers much of northern California, boasts a network of academic institutions, hospitals, pharmaceutical and biotech companies and employs about 52,000 people. In 2015, China-based Wuxi PharmaTech, a leading life sciences and pharmaceutical company, established an office in San Francisco to be closer to the life sciences companies present in the area.

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: OVERALL

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	Singapore	Singapore
2	Shanghai	China
3	Cambridge	US
4	London	UK
5	Boston	US
6	San Diego	US
7	Dublin	Ireland
8	New York	US
9	Cambridge	UK
10	Tokyo	Japan

Methodology

To create a shortlist for **fDi**'s Biotech Cities of the Future 2019/20, the **fDi** Intelligence division of the Financial Times collected data using the specialist online tools **fDi** Markets, which tracks greenfield FDI projects that have been announced, and **fDi** Benchmark. In total, 21 cities were analysed for the study and were chosen based on the locations' track record of attracting FDI in the biotechnology sector. Data was then collected for these locations under five categories: Economic Potential, Innovation and Attractiveness, FDI Performance, Cost Effectiveness and Connectivity. Locations scored up to a maximum of 10 points for each datapoint, which were weighted by importance to the FDI decision-making process in order to compile both the subcategory rankings as well as the overall 'Biotech Cities of the Future 2019/20' ranking. ■



Apply within: Singapore attracted almost 2000 FDI jobs in the biotechnology sector between December 2013 and November 2018

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: INNOVATION AND ATTRACTIVENESS

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	Cambridge (MA)	US
2	San Diego	US
3	Cambridge	UK
4	London	UK
5	San Francisco	US
6	New York	US
7	Boston	US
8	St Louis	US
9	Tokyo	Japan
10	Seoul	South Korea

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	Singapore	Singapore
2	Dublin	Ireland
3	San Francisco	US
4	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
5	Cambridge	US
6	New York	US
7	Boston	US
8	Munich	Germany
9	Shanghai	China
10	London	UK

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: COST-EFFECTIVENESS

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	Suzhou	China
2	Athlone	Ireland
3	Hangzhou	China
4	Seoul	South Korea
5	Shanghai	China
6	Cambridge	UK
7	St Louis	US
8	Dublin	Ireland
9	Berlin	Germany
10	Singapore	Singapore

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: CONNECTIVITY

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	London	UK
2	Paris	France
3	Tokyo	Japan
4	Berlin	Germany
5	Singapore	Singapore
6	New York	US
7	Munich	Germany
8	Cambridge	UK
9	Dublin	Ireland
10	Boston	US

TOP 10 BIOTECH LOCATIONS OF THE FUTURE: FDI PERFORMANCE

RANK	CITY	COUNTRY
1	Singapore	Singapore
2	Shanghai	China
3	Dublin	Ireland
4	Cambridge	US
5	London	UK
6	Suzhou	China
7	Boston	US
8	Hangzhou	China
9	Paris	France
10	New York	US