

PRESS RELEASE

Saudi Arabia Concludes Landmark BIO 2025 Debut as Kingdom Opens Doors to Global Biotech Collaboration

From genomics to regulatory innovation, the Kingdom's presence in Boston establishes it as a major partner in global health science

Boston, MA – June 21, 2025 - Saudi Arabia has concluded its landmark debut at the BIO International Convention 2025, having signed more than a dozen partnerships, launched a national biotech accelerator program with Biolabs and established the Kingdom as a global hub for life sciences. Over four days, Saudi delegates showcased an ecosystem ready for collaboration across scientific discovery, clinical research, and advanced therapeutics.

The Kingdom's presence spanned the entire biotech value chain - from early research to manufacturing, from regulatory frameworks to commercialization pathways.

“Saudi Arabia is stepping into biotech with intention and scale,” said His Excellency the Vice Minister of Health for Planning and Development, Eng. Abdulaziz AlRamaih. *“Biotech sits at the intersection of our health transformation and economic ambition, and we are investing with that dual mandate in mind.”*

Partnerships and Programs Take Center Stage

Throughout the week, Saudi Arabia hosted one of the most active national pavilions at the conference, convening more than 25 entities across government, research, investment and innovation. More than a dozen new memoranda of understanding were signed with international partners, including leaders in genomics, AI-enabled diagnostics, gene therapy, and biomanufacturing.

The Ministry of Health also formally launched its national biotech accelerator program in collaboration with BioLabs, welcoming an inaugural cohort of eight Saudi-founded biotech startups in areas ranging from protein engineering to precision genomics. The launch event brought together venture capitalists, researchers, and biotech executives to discuss the Kingdom's innovation momentum.

The Kingdom's Super Session at BIO 2025 featured senior representatives from the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), the Saudi National Institute for Health (SNIH), the King Abdullah International Medical Research Center (KAIMRC), the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (KFSH&RC), and the Public Investment Fund (PIF). The panel revealed how Saudi Arabia is coordinating across policy, clinical infrastructure, and public investment to create a biotech ecosystem built for scale and scientific depth.

In parallel, the delegation held more than 50 one-to-one meetings with global biotech firms and visited U.S. innovation hubs to explore collaboration in research, manufacturing, and translational medicine. The Kingdom also participated in a dedicated gathering for Saudi research talent studying in the United States, underscoring the Kingdom's long-term commitment to human capital in health and life sciences.

Advancing Genomics and Genetic Medicine

The Kingdom's ambition in genomics also drew significant interest. Through the Saudi Genome Program, the Kingdom has developed one of the region's most comprehensive population-specific genomic datasets, paving the way for earlier diagnosis, localized drug development, and new therapeutic approaches for inherited diseases.

National screening efforts – led by Saudi Arabia's Public Health Authority, Weqaya – are expanding access to genetic risk detection through prenatal and newborn programs. Institutions like KFSH&RC and KAIMRC continue to drive forward clinical trials and translational research, supporting a growing pipeline of personalized treatments rooted in real-world data.

Already, over 130 peer-reviewed publications have leveraged Saudi genomic data to inform rare disease research and advance precision diagnostics. The Kingdom's cell and gene therapy readiness now spans regulation, clinical trials, and talent development, with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority's fast-track approval of advanced therapies positioning it as one of the world's most agile regulators.

A Platform for the Future

Under the National Biotechnology Strategy, with the continued support of HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Saudi Arabia is making biotech central to its national transformation, and the health and economic prosperity of its people.

The Kingdom concludes BIO 2025 with a clear message: Saudi Arabia is open for collaboration, primed for innovation, and committed to lasting partnerships.

About Saudi Biotech

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was proud to debut its first-ever national pavilion at BIO International, being held in Boston June 16-19, 2025. Rooted in Vision 2030, this initiative showcased a fully integrated life sciences ecosystem - combining a future-ready lifestyle, world-class research institutions, streamlined regulation, and digital infrastructure built for speed, scale, and scientific impact. The Kingdom offers a seamless environment for biotech innovation with fast-track clinical trial approvals,

robust regulatory alignment via its ML4-designated Food and Drug Authority, and nationwide digital platforms like NPHIES and the world's largest Virtual Hospital.

Saudi Biotech brings together the Kingdom's leading health and science entities, including the Ministry of Health, Saudi Food and Drug Authority, Saudi National Institute of Health, Public Health Authority, and the Saudi Health Council, all of whom play vital roles in enabling a regulatory environment that supports clinical innovation. It also features institutions powering translational research and IP protection, such as the Research, Development and Innovation Authority, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, and the King Abdullah International Medical Research Center. Funding and investment facilitators were also present, including the Ministry of Investment, Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources, and the Saudi Business Center, alongside localization powerhouses like Lifera, Lean, and the Public Investment Fund. Visitors had the opportunity to explore how talent and livability are central to the Kingdom's strategy through participation from the Royal Commission for Riyadh City and the Premium Residency Center. Finally, NEOM showcased the Kingdom's most ambitious vision - a purpose-built frontier for biotech, precision medicine, and future health.

Visit <https://www.saudi-biotech.com/> to learn more.

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