



<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Start-ups/SMEs looking for finance - pre-seed/angel/seed funding</b>
Pitch Title	Specialty Fats with Enhanced Functionality Through Precision Fermentation
Company	SLIM.Bio
Speaker	Dimitri Verweire
Keywords feedstock	molasses, starch, fruit, C5, lignocellulose
Keywords technology	Precision Fermentation, Yeast, Yarrowia, Synthetic Biology
Keywords End-Product	Plant-Based Meat, Plant-Based Dairy, Cocoa Mimic, Alt-Fats, TAG, Triglycerides, Lipids, Alternative Fats
Amount investment needed	Seed Round: €6.5M
<b>Abstract:</b>	
<p><b>Specialty Fats with Enhanced Functionality Through Precision Fermentation</b></p> <p>With a target addressable market of €17-25Bn, our innovative fats with enhanced functionality are poised to solve major challenges in the food industry. Up to 50% of consumers express dissatisfaction with current plant-based (PB) products. Our fats are designed to improve the taste and texture of these products, driving a broader shift towards plant-based diets. This shift promises substantial sustainability benefits, including a 40-90% reduction in agricultural CO2 emissions and decreased water usage. Our fats also aim to mitigate supply chain issues associated with tropical fats like cocoa, which are plagued by high prices, volatility, and ESG concerns. By providing a stable alternative, we can transform the market and create a more sustainable future for food production.</p> <p>Our groundbreaking synthetic biology platform produces fats through yeast-based precision fermentation, pioneered by the VIB-KULeuven lab of Prof. Kevin Verstrepen. Key differentiators include a yeast strain with high intrinsic fat production under industrial stressors, using C5 feedstock for cost competitiveness, and a proprietary strain engineering toolbox providing us with Freedom-to-Operate and enabling us to optimize fat functionality for superior performance.</p> <p>We have a stable fermentation protocol at 8L bioreactor volume with promising food testing results in plant-based burgers and dairy products. We're raising €6.5M (seed) for a 2.5-year runway to develop a product pipeline (three concepts in plant-based meat, plant-based dairy, and a cocoa mimic) and enhance our platform. Our first product launch is targeted for late 2027/early 2028.</p>	

