



Session 1	Start-ups/SMEs looking for finance - pre-seed/angel/seed funding
Pitch Title	Sustainable chemical manufacturing powered by innovative enzyme technology
Company	Pathfinder Bio
Speaker	Gareth Little
Keywords feedstock	Biobased feedstocks
Keywords technology	Synbio
Keywords End-Product	Sustainable fine chemicals
Amount investment needed	€2.76m (£2.3m)
Abstract:	
<p>At Pathfinder Bio, we are transforming the \$5 trillion chemical industry with our novel, proprietary platform for ultra-high throughput enzyme discovery and improvement. Our mission is to make sustainable chemical manufacturing economically viable by developing superior biocatalysts that enable efficient chemical production. Current manufacturing relies on fossil carbon, with biomanufacturing often unfeasible due to the lack of high-performance biocatalysts in nature. Inefficient biocatalysts lead to high costs and low yields, perpetuating reliance on unsustainable processes. Pathfinder Bio's platform overcomes this challenge through a groundbreaking real-world selection technology (https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-27266-9) that identifies superior enzymes and pathways. Combined with a cell-free biomanufacturing approach, this technology enables cost-effective, sustainable chemical production with higher yields, concentration, and purity than traditional methods. Our beachhead products, currently produced using lab-scale processes, are targeting a total market valued at \$9.5bn, with a focus on the flavours, fragrances, personal care, pharmaceuticals, and agrichem markets, replacing fossil carbon inputs in these industries. Led by Dr. Gareth Little (CEO, gareth@pathfinderbio.co.uk), with 14 years of experience, and co-founder Dr. John Heap, a research leader and 3x founder, including Sound Agriculture (\$155m raised), our team is driven to lead the transition to a green economy. We are currently raising £2.3m in equity investment to bring our products to market, which will drive product and business development, refine our go-to-market strategy, and help recruit top talent.</p> <p>For more information, visit: https://pathfinderbio.co.uk/</p>	