

THE NANOBASQUE STRATEGY

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On December 3 2008, the Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism of the Basque Government launched the nanoBasque Strategy in the framework of the Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Plan 2010. The nanoBasque Strategy is an initiative designed to develop a new economy sector enabled by nanotechnology. It sees nanoscience and micro and nanotechnologies as instruments that can stimulate the transformation and diversification of the Basque business environment. The nanoBasque Strategy is an open and integrating approach made up of vectors and initiatives that covers three main areas of action, namely: company, knowledge and Society. It sets itself the purpose of creating a new model of relations in which both national and international companies, scientific, technological, political and social agents are involved. The expected result is an efficient and integrating ecosystem of innovation that is clearly aimed at the market, based on the cooperation between all parties, where knowledge is both input and result, talent the most precious asset of all, and with the involvement of the entire Basque society. The nanoBasque Strategy strives to boost Basque companies and research agents' presence on international nanotechnology initiatives and markets. The assessment of the nanoBasque Strategy's degree of progress will be set by a means of a combination of metrics in terms of productivity, capacity to diversify the industry fabric, competitiveness and the openness of the Basque nanotechnology ecosystem. Five hundred and fifty million euros are expected to be mobilized in the 2009-2015 period, with a proportion of public funding of 52% on the total funding.

The launch of the nanoBasque Strategy has been accompanied by the creation of a dynamic support agency, the nanoBasque Agency, with the mission of coordinating and managing the development of the Strategy.

