

UiO:Life Science



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Administrativ leader
UiO:Life Science /
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Farmasidagene
11th November 2022

UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO



SPARK

NORWAY

Enhancing innovation and entrepreneurship in academia



UiO:Life Science



UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO

inven2



Oslo
University Hospital



OSLO CANCER
CLUSTER



NORWEGIAN
INFLAMMATION
NETWORK



NANSEN
NEUROSCIENCE
NETWORK



Norway
Health Tech



The
Life
Science
Cluster

LMI

Legemiddelindustrien



Aleap
for health startups

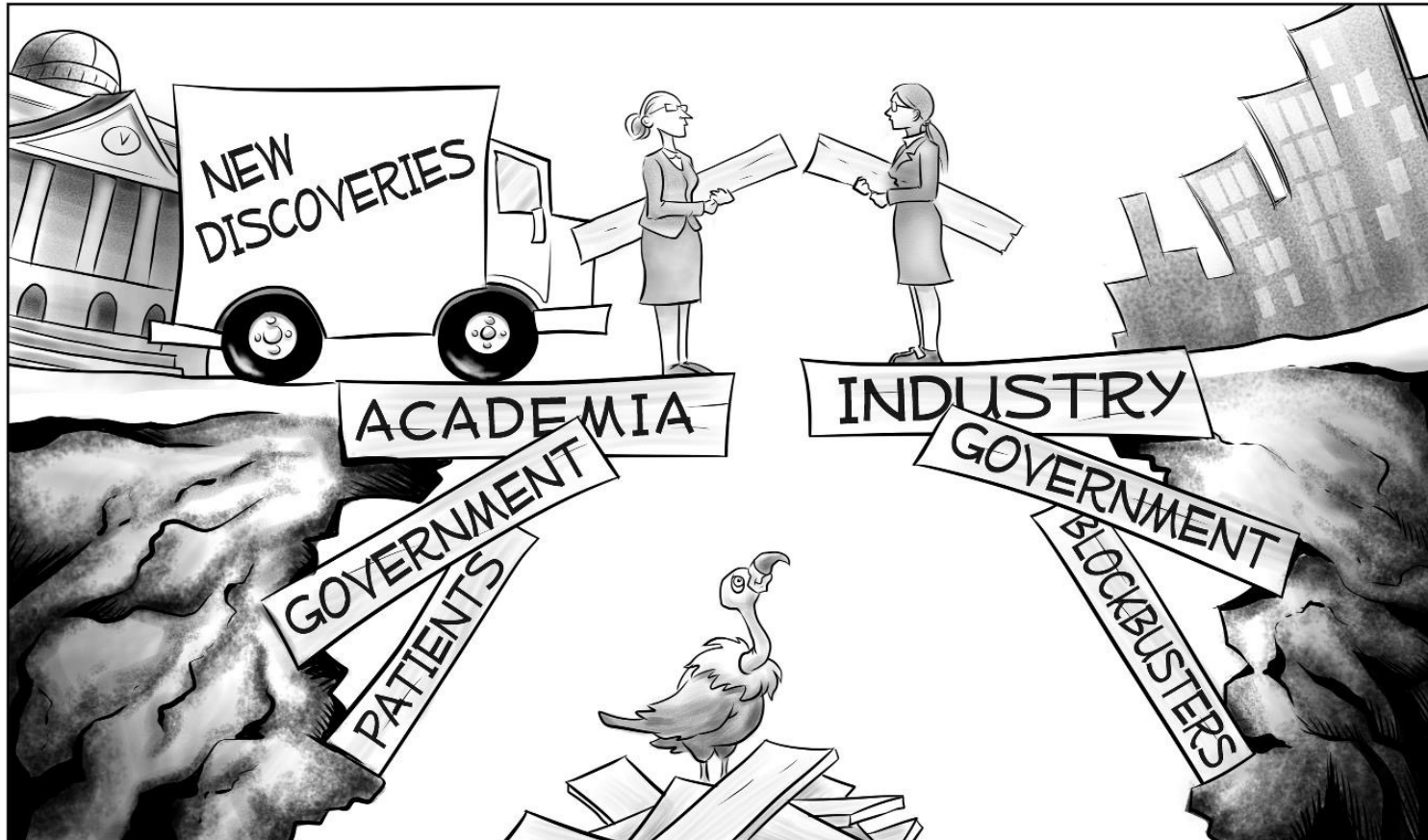


CENTRE FOR
DIGITAL LIFE
NORWAY



Norwegian
Medicines Agency

Purpose – rescuing the lost in translation



Gehr & Garner, Cell 2016

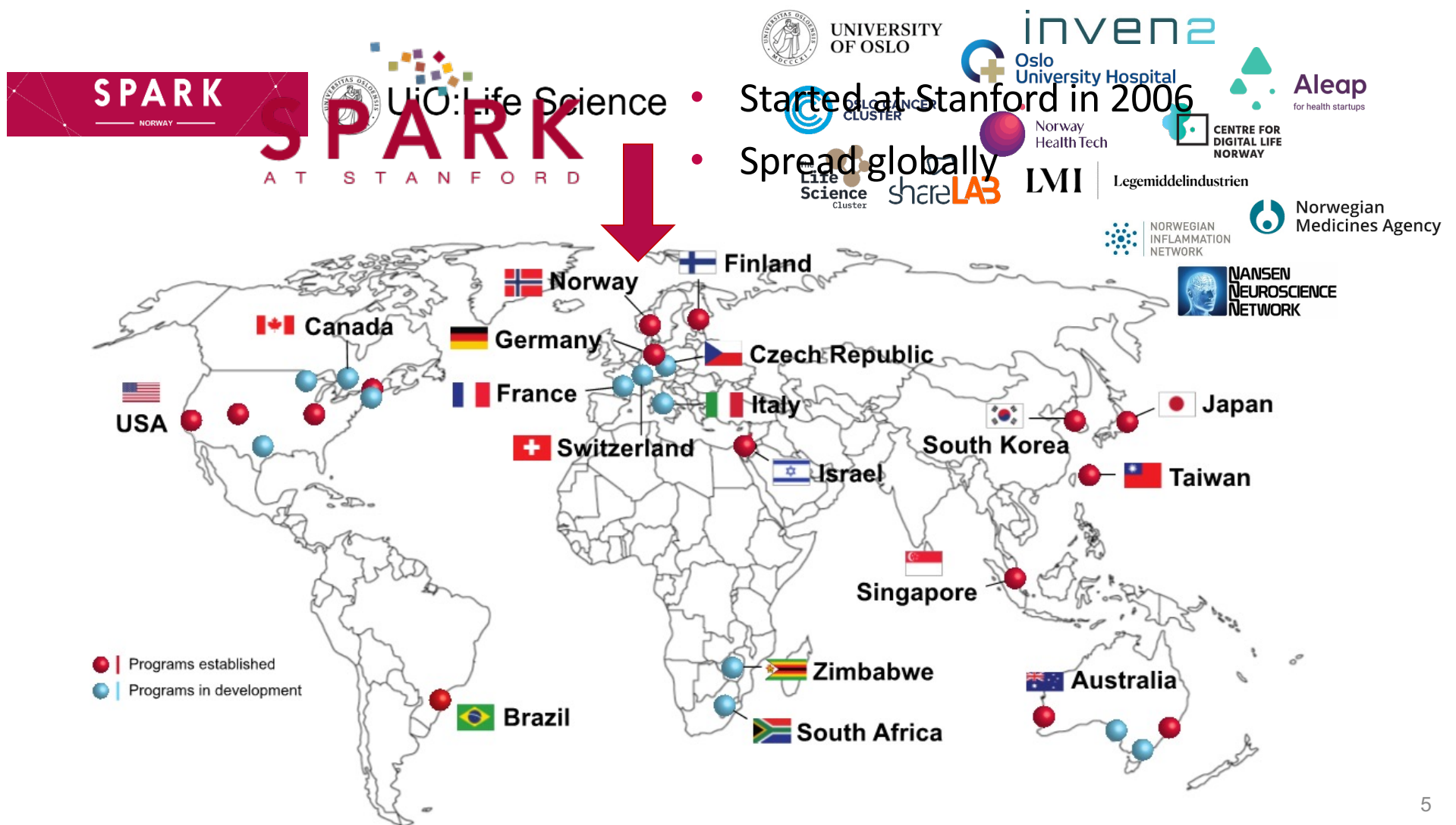
What is SPARK?

Find the product in your idea

Make good projects great

- Partnership between university and industry
- Mentoring by seasoned life science industry executives
- Providing access to commercial networks
- Funding of early-stage projects

SPARK Global



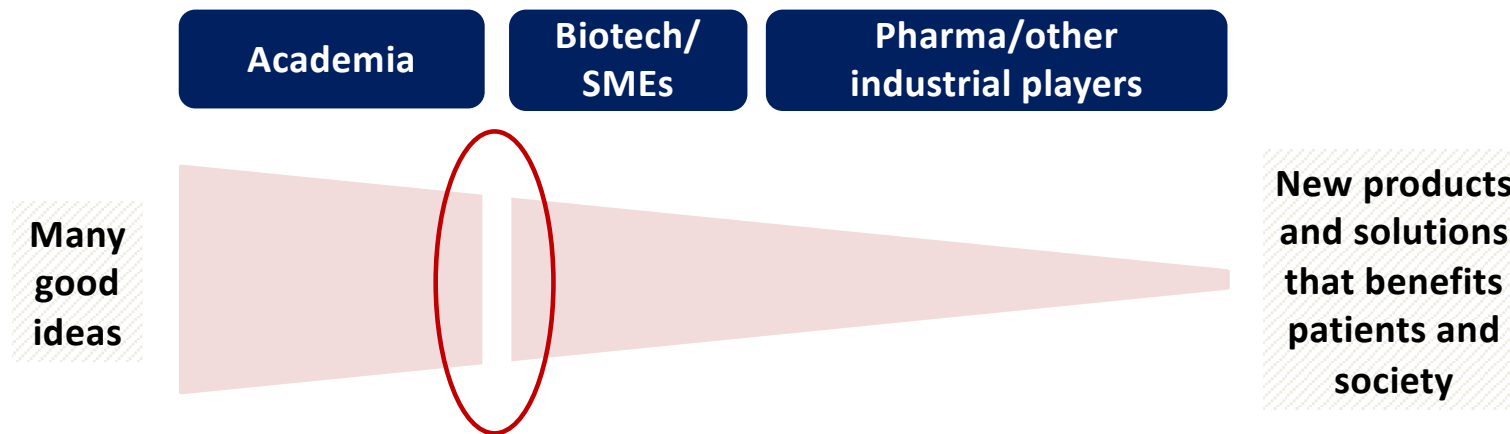
Mission SPARK Norway

- Advance **health-related** scientific discoveries in the **life science** domain towards the clinic or commercialization

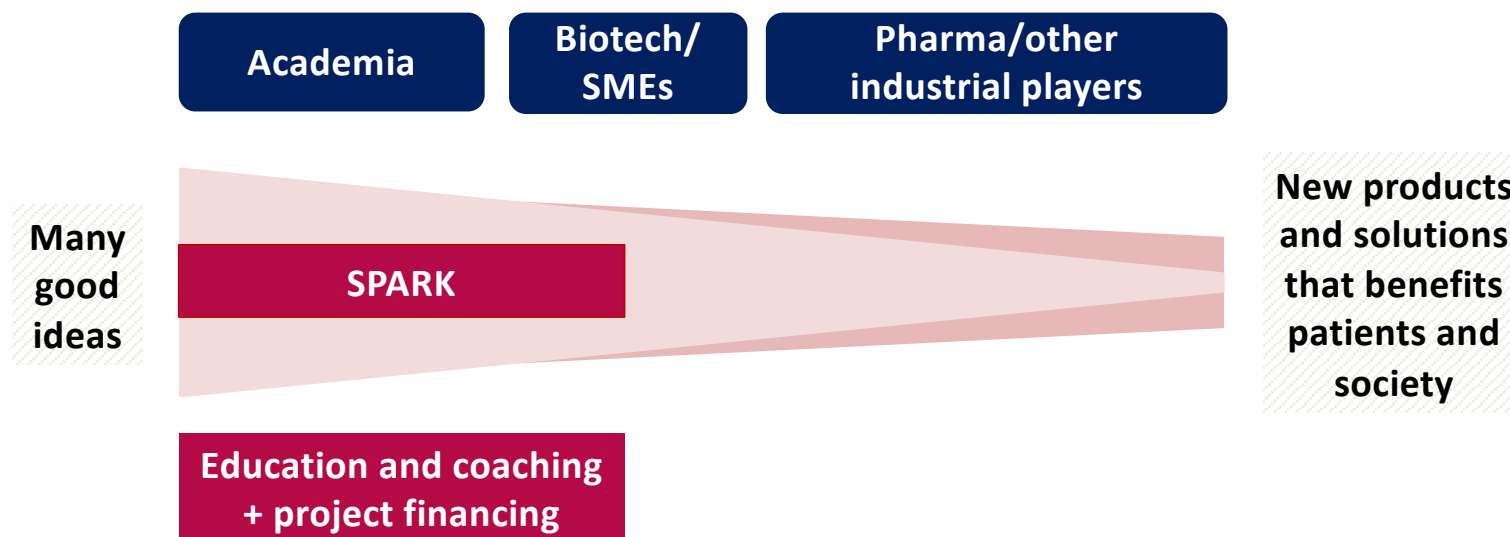


UiO:Life Science

The problem



SPARKing projects



Success criteria

- Based on the project team, stage of project, and development path, have the potential to advance to one of the following with 2 years of SPARK Norway support:
 - Start and develop an investable company
 - Clinical testing
 - Be an attractive licensing option
 - Be at a stage where further funding from other sources can be obtained



UiO:Life Science

The SPARK process

- Annual selection process

First selection by SPARK
Norway management team
and invited experts

Final selection by SPARK
Norway review panel

1

Submit your
application

2

If selected:
Pitch your idea

3

If selected:

- Two year of mentoring
- Access to experts from industry and academia
- Milestone based funding
- Participate in regular meetings

Regular SPARK Norway meetings

Wednesday evening meetings (17:00–19:00) every 2nd week



Mentoring sessions

- Closed meetings (NDA signed)
- SPARKees, mentors, advisers and management team
- Status of 2-3 projects is presented by the project teams
- Q&A, input and discussions
- Social part with food and drinks

SPARK Norway Educational Forum

- Open to the public
- Invited speakers lecture
- Q&A and discussions
- Social part with food and drinks

Forum Series 1: Innovation and business

SPARK Norway Educational Forum

today	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: Funding and partnering 5:00 PM, Auditorium 2, Georg Sverdrups hus, Moltke Moes vei 39	27 Feb.	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: Entrepreneurship and Business Model Generation 5:00 PM, Auditorium 2, Georg Sverdrups hus, Moltke Moes vei 39
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Forum Series 2: Quality, regulatory and IP

20 Mar.	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: Regulatory Compliance 5:00 PM, Auditorium 2, Georg Sverdrups hus, Moltke Moes vei 39	24 Apr.	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: How to make a target product profile 5:00 PM, Auditorium 2, Georg Sverdrups hus, Moltke Moes vei 39
22 May	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: Data Quality and Reproducibility 5:00 PM, Auditorium Smalltalk, Ole Johan Dahls hus, Gaustadalléen 23B	19 June	SPARK Norway Educational Forum: Patenting and trademarks 5:00 PM, Auditorium 2, Georg Sverdrups hus, Moltke Moes vei 39



Building networks and community feeling for the SPARKees

Partners

- 12 partners in SPARK NORWAY
 - All represented in SPARK Norway Management team
- Consist of
 - Business clusters
 - Incubators
 - TTO
 - Hospital
 - Medicines agency



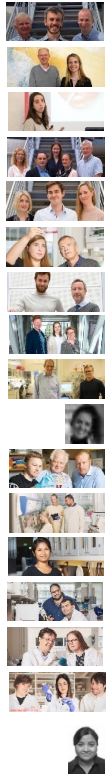
34 SPARK Norway projects admitted

SPARK

NORWAY



Diversity of SPARK Norway projects



Drug development (17)

Targeted pharmacological treatment of ventricular arrhythmias

Novel treatment for heart failure

Novel therapy for ischemic reperfusion injury

Novel therapy for currently untreatable hypertension

mCAR: a universal approach for CART therapy against solid tumors

Human antibodies for therapeutic, selective Notch targeting in rheumatoid arthritis

Tankyrase inhibition in cancer immune therapy

A novel strategy to tailor the pharmacokinetics of IgA antibodies

A biologic therapeutic for pulmonary fibrosis

Novel Treatment for Patients with Glioblastoma

Inhibition of aortic valve calcification

Targeting transcriptional addictions in glioblastoma

Tankyrase inhibition for therapy of fibrotic diseases

p95HER2-CAR T cell targeting metastatic breast cancer on-Target, but no off-Tumor

Targeting the TREM2-receptor for Alzheimer's disease therapy

Metabolism-on-chip

Novel targets for attenuating disease progression in Parkinson's disease

Diagnostics (2)

A Novel Biomarker for Antibody Drug Conjugates

Cancer Stem Cell Prognostics in Patient Prostate Tumor Organoids

Genetic tools

RACeR: Improvement of A Genetic Tool that Enhances Homology Dependent Gene Repair



Med tech/Medical device (8)

Restoration of a functional urinary bladder using cutting-edge technology

IVF Fit©: Optimizing *in vitro* fertilization hormone dosage

Fabuli – Faster and Better Ultrasound Imaging

MyFood – a decision support system to prevent and treat disease-related malnutrition

A medical device for obesity treatment

Development of a new product to relieve the symptoms of dry mouth

Blueskin

A solution to the kneecap fracture problem

One health Healthy soils for a healthy life

Animal health

Petomics: a commercial Norwegian microbiome service for performance animals and pets

Vaccine development (3)

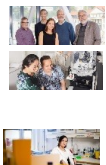
Influenza vaccine that can be rapidly produced to counter an emerging pandemic threat

A novel vaccine technology platform

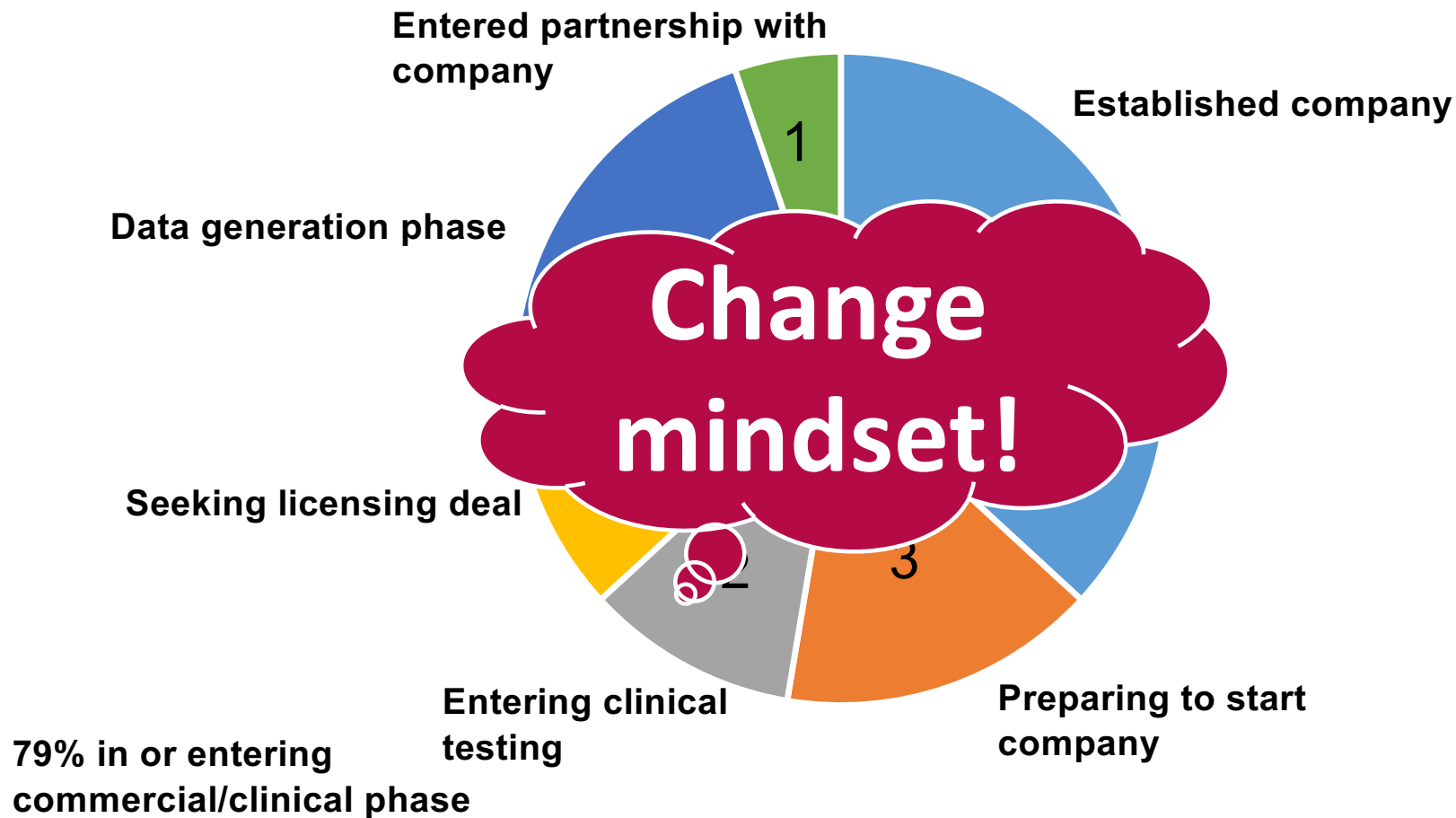
Broadly reactive vaccines against seasonal infectious disease

New production platform

High-Performance Cyclotron Target for Gallium-68



Results from the first 19 projects



Examples of SPARKees entering the next phase



Novel therapy for ischemic reperfusion injury

Now



Optimizing *in vitro* fertilization hormone dosage

Now



A biologic therapeutic for pulmonary fibrosis

Now



Examples of SPARKees entering the next phase



Targeted pharmacological treatment of ventricular arrhythmias

Now **Agiana Pharma**



A novel strategy to tailor the pharmacokinetics of IgA antibodies

Now 
Authera



MyFood – a decision support system to prevent and treat disease-related malnutrition

Now **FoodCapture**

Examples of SPARKees entering the next phase

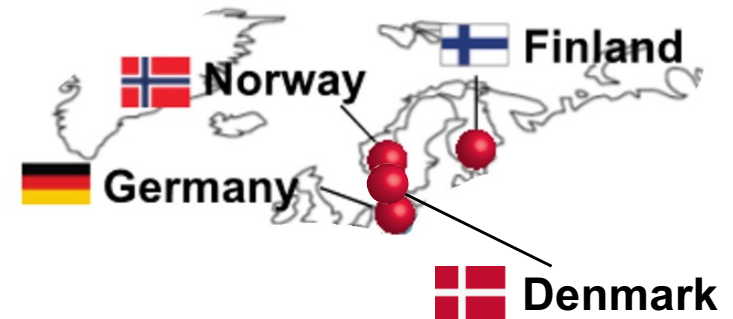


Healthy soils for a healthy life

Now Smartsoil

SPARK Europe

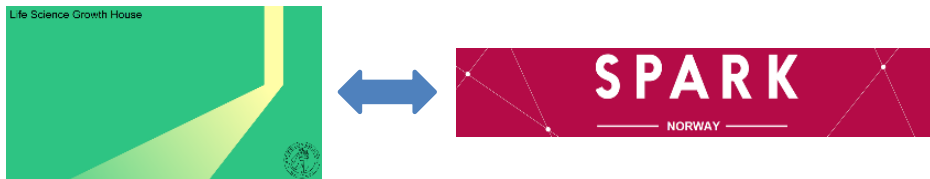
- Building a strong European SPARK network
 - European mentoring events
 - Shared educational program
 - Annual meetings
 - Exchange knowledge and networks, including industrial networks



Future development

Integrate SPARK Norway with Life Science Growth house:

- New innovation unit established at UiO
- Built on many of the same principles as SPARK
- Will mature early phase ideas to “SPARK readiness”



Continue developing the Nordic and European collaboration:

- Shared mentoring and educational events
- Exchange knowledge and networks
- Common events at conferences
 - Slush (side event)
 - NLSDays and more



Find “smart” ways to support our Alumni:

- Keep them in the network
 - Mailing lists, events etc.
- Include them on specific meetings when applicable
 - Investor meetings etc.
- Offer access to nextGEN@LifeScience ORG



NLSDays Fireside Chat with SPARK

29 September 2022
10:00 - 11:00 | Main Hall

SPARK

NORWAY

www.uio.no/life-science/spark
#sparknorway



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shareLAB



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