Set up in October 1986 within the Italian Federation of the Chemical Industry (Federchimica), Assobiotec is the Italian Association for the Development of Biotechnology, representing companies and science & technology parks operating in Italy and involved in various biotech-related fields – pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, agro-food, fine chemicals, environment, processing industry and equipment. They include emerging biotech companies and small to medium enterprises, as well as the biotech divisions of large organisations.

Assobiotec is co-founder member of EuropaBio, the European Association for Bioindustries, created in 1996.

Assobiotec provides entrepreneurial support to Italian and EU biotech developments and is the landmark for Italian companies involved in production and marketing of products derived from biotech applications.

**Assobiotec focuses its main attention on:**
- Regulatory issues affecting production, marketing and use of biotechnology products and their standards harmonisation;
- Fiscal and financial policies aimed at motivating industrial innovation;
- R&D, education and training projects and programmes.

**Assobiotec’s policy is mainly dealing with:**
- Monitoring legislation in the regulatory area;
- Representing Italian bioindustry at National and international level;
- Providing a regular forum for the exchange of information and initiatives of entrepreneurial relevance;
- Taking active part to the reviewing process concerning the rules on industrial property.

**Assobiotec’s activities include:**
- Close interaction with National and international trade organisations dealing with biotechnology;
- Regular contacts with Universities, fostering collaboration between academia and industry in research and education;
- Information services on commercial biotech applications, on patents and on R&D programmes implementation.