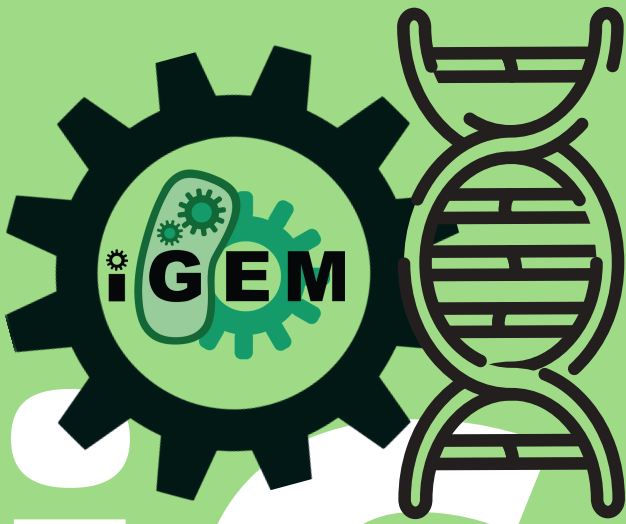


INTERNATIONAL GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MACHINE



iGEM

What happens when a group of students comes together and works on building working biological devices within a summer?

WHAT IS iGEM?

iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) is an annual synthetic biology competition that rewards summer research projects performed by high school, college and graduate teams, while giving them the opportunity to network internationally. The program **has supported over 40000 iGEMers**, both students and instructors, from over **45 countries** around the world since its launch in 2004. **In 2019, 353 teams registered!** iGEMers use synthetic biology as a tool to solve real problems and thus help build a better world. Team achievements are celebrated at the annual Giant Jamboree, where projects from participating teams are showcased and awarded medals and prizes. Many projects end up attracting enough funding and support to make it beyond the competition and become startups.

iGEM GOALS

- Experimental lab work;
- Computational biology;
- Human practices;
- Science communication...

PORTUGAL FINALLY TAKES PART

NOVA_LxPortugal, supported by ITQB NOVA, is the first and only Portuguese team participating in this international SynBio competition. The project PineNematoFight aims to control and prevent the spreading of the Pine Wilt Disease in *Pinus pinaster* (commonly known as maritime pine) using a biocontrol organism, an engineered *Pseudomonas putida* capable of producing a nematicidal compound, spectinabilin.

