LIFE SCIENCE IN UPPSALA

Uppsala

LIFE SCIENCE IN UPPSALA INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE

A Leading Export Region
Uppsala is one of Sweden's most dynamic export regions and a recognized European hub for life science. The city hosts more than 300 active companies with over 6,000 employees and a global turnover of approximately SEK 42 billion.

A Complete Industrial Ecosystem
The industrial base spans biopharmaceuticals, diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, and medical technology. Global leaders such as Cytiva, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Fresenius Kabi, and Galderma operate advanced research, development, and production facilities in Uppsala.

Fast and Efficient Growth
New investments are strengthening biomanufacturing and medtech capacity, while established suppliers, consultants, and logistics partners ensure full value chain support. Uppsala offers a unique combination of industrial strength and innovation that accelerates establishment and expansion.

300+
active companies

6000+
employees

42+
billion SEK turnover

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE THE UPPSALA ECOSYSTEM

A heritage of industrial excellence
Uppsala's modern life science success builds on 70 years of industrial competence originating from Pharmacia where production, people and know-how remained in the region and formed the foundation for today's global leaders

A tightly connected industrial landscape
Global companies such as Cytiva, Fresenius Kabi, Thermo Fisher and Galderma operate advanced R&D and manufacturing facilities within a 15-minute radius, enabling shared talent pools, deep supplier networks and strong innovation synergies

Industrial excellence reflected in export power
Life science is Uppsala's export engine: 15 of the 20 largest exporters in the region belong to the sector. A highly specialised cluster with global reach

cytiva

GALDERMA
EST. 1981

ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC

FRESENIUS

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE CYTIVA

Key center for advanced bioprocess development

Cytiva in Uppsala is one of the world most important life science sites and a key center for advanced bioprocess development. With a long industrial heritage, deep expertise, and a strong spirit of innovation, the Uppsala site plays a vital role in the worldwide development of medicines.

“At our Uppsala site, critical technologies are developed and manufactured that help make life saving medicines available to patients around the world. Research, process development, and large scale manufacturing come together in one integrated environment, creating a unique place where science is transformed into real world impact.” Says *Inga Ljung*

Inga Ljung , CEO Cytiva

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE THERMO FISHER SCIENTIFIC

Centre of Excellence in Diagnostics and Precision Medicine

Thermo Fisher Scientific has a strong presence in Uppsala, where research and development, advanced manufacturing and global operations support its immunodiagnostics business. Building on scientific discoveries originating at Uppsala University more than 50 years ago, Thermo Fisher in Uppsala produces diagnostic solutions used worldwide to support the diagnosis of allergic and autoimmune diseases. Thermo Fisher's presence in Uppsala also includes Olink's proteomics technologies, further strengthening the region's role in diagnostics innovation and precision medicine.~1,250 employees in Uppsala.

"Thermo Fisher plays an active role in Sweden's life science ecosystem, both in Uppsala and nationally. By bringing together talent, research and industry, we support innovation and help enable high-quality diagnostic solutions to reach patients and healthcare systems around the world."
Says *Martin Kjellsson*

Martin Kjellsson, Site Leader & Managing Director, ImmunoDiagnostics Uppsala

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE FRESENIUS KABI

A flagship site for world-leading sterile pharmaceutical production

Fresenius Kabi in Uppsala operates highly advanced facilities for sterile pharmaceuticals, with a strong focus on emulsion-based nutrition products and anesthetic formulations. ~ 850 employees in Uppsala

“Uppsala stands for industrial excellence and scientific rigor -delivering safe, reliable therapies to patients worldwide.”*says Malin Johansson*

Malin Johansson , MSAT, Fresenius Kabi

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE GALDERMA

Galderma is advancing dermatology for every skin story

Galderma´s Uppsala site is the hub for R&D and advanced manufacturing of injectable aesthetics.

This includes both the world-renowned Restylane dermal filler developed and manufactured for the world markets at the site, and the new Biologic drug for treatment of wrinkles also invented, developed and produced in Uppsala.

With major investments in a new state-of-the-art manufactory facility with expanded capacity, the site is scaling to meet growing global demand for next-generation injectable aesthetics. Today there is ~ 700 employees in Uppsala.

“Our expansion in Uppsala marks a new era for Galderma. With advanced manufacturing and world-class expertise, we are strengthening our **Centre of Excellence for Injectable Aesthetics**”, *says Pontus Rundström, Site head*

Pontus Rundström, Site head, Galderma

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Two World-Class Universities
Uppsala University is internationally renowned for medicine, pharmacy, molecular biology, and bioinformatics. The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) leads research in veterinary medicine, sustainable food systems, and One Health.

Bridging Research and Industry
Together with SciLifeLab, Testa Center, Uppsala University Hospital, and the Swedish Medical Products Agency, these institutions create strong links between fundamental research and industrial application.

Continuous Talent Supply
The academic environment provides new knowledge and skilled professionals, with more than 7,000 graduates each year. Specialised vocational programmes, including life-science operator training, add industry-ready talent that supports advanced manufacturing and production needs.

Two

world-class universities

7000+

graduates annually

Uppsala

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Two World-Class Universities
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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE JOHAN ELF

Johan Elf is a professor of physical biology at Uppsala University and member of Royal Academy of Engineering Science, known for pioneering single-molecule tracking and advanced microscopy methods to study molecular processes inside living cells. His research bridges quantitative physical models with biological systems and has led to innovations in rapid antibiotic susceptibility testing.

He has founded the company Astrego Diagnostics, now Sysmex Astrego AB, which employs 100 people in Uppsala and won the £8M Longitude Prize for making the fastest antibiotic susceptibility test in the world.

“As a scientist with an engineering background, I’m driven by solving fundamental problems through technical innovations.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE CECILIA PERSSON

Cecilia Person is a Professor of Materials Science at the Division of Biomedical Engineering at Uppsala University, where she leads the BioMaterial Systems research group focused on developing advanced biomaterials for and through additive manufacturing, commonly known as 3D-printing.

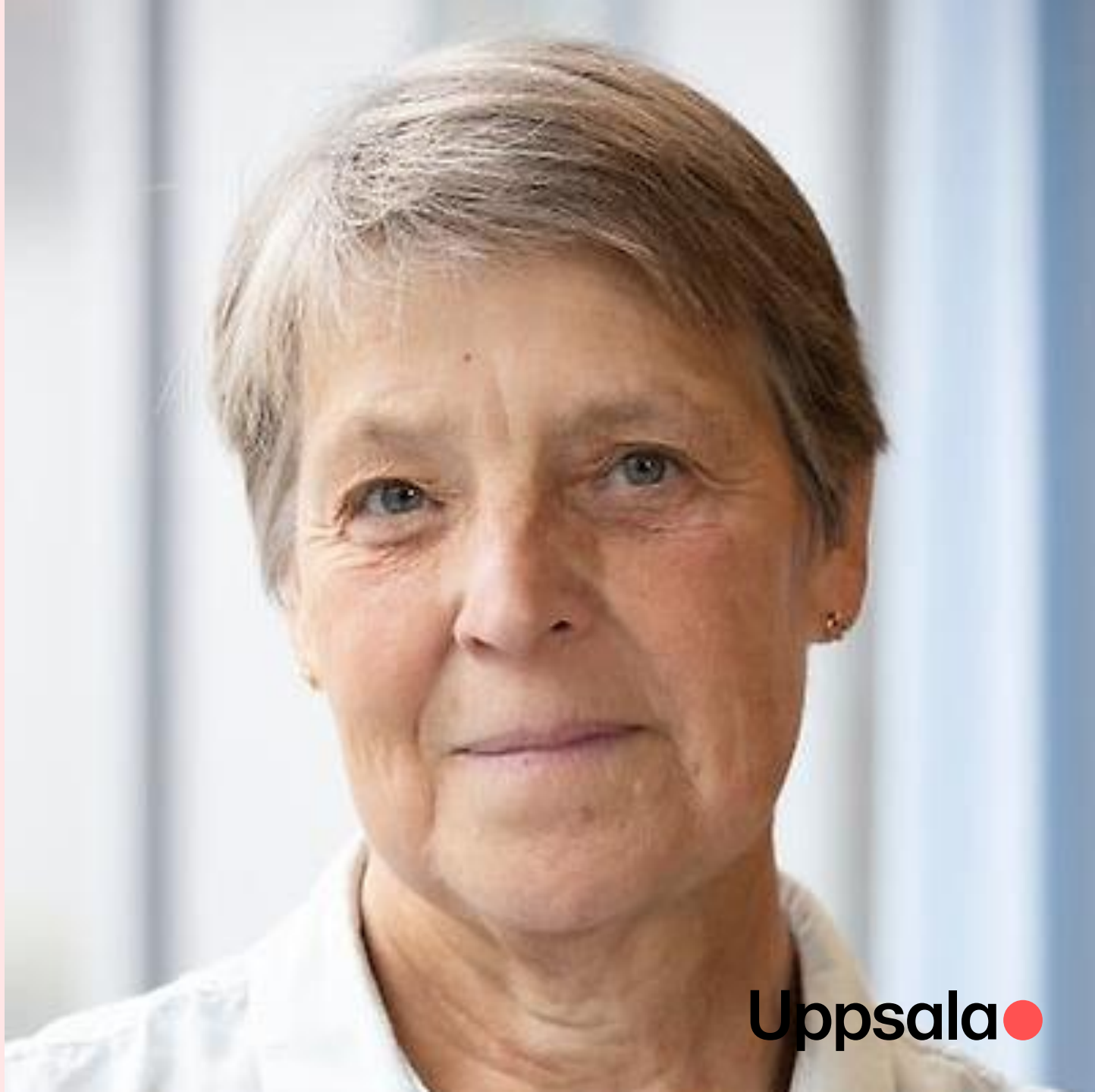
“Additive manufacturing is fun because you can do so many cool things, not only build complex shapes but also tailor microstructures and hence material properties.
It really triggers innovation.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE HELENA DANIELSSON

Helena Danielsson is a professor of Biochemistry at Uppsala University, renowned for her expertise in enzymology, biomolecular interaction analysis, and drug discovery. Her research focuses on understanding enzyme–inhibitor interactions and developing methods that accelerate the discovery of new therapeutics.

She is also the co-founder of Beactica Therapeutics, a company built on her pioneering work in biosensor-based drug discovery

”As a professor at the university, I want to do something relevant, both in teaching and in research. I have collaborated with industry since defending my doctoral thesis.”



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE TOBIAS ANDERMANN

Tobias Andermann is an assistant professor at Uppsala University whose research advances biodiversity monitoring and supports conservation planning on both national and global scales.

His work comines big data, machine learning, environmental DNA, and remote-sensing technologies to develop new tools that quantify species diversity, extinction risk, and the dynamics of ecosystems.

“It was not until my graduate studies that I fully comprehended the scale of the current biodiversity crisis… We need quick solutions, because time is working against us.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE JOELLE RUEGG

Joëlle Rüegg is a professor of Environmental Toxicology at Uppsala University whose research focuses on how endocrine-disrupting chemicals affect neurodevelopment through molecular and epigenetic mechanisms.

Her work integrates mechanistic studies, advanced in vitro models, epidemiological data, and science-to-policy efforts, contributing to improved chemical regulation and risk assessment within the EU.

"I'm fascinated about molecular processes determining the development and functioning of the brain, and I'm driven by my curiosity to learn more about them and how chemicals affect them. I also very much like to be a teacher and mentor for early career scientists."

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE CHRISTEL BERGSTRÖM

Christel Bergström is a professor of Molecular Pharmaceutics at Uppsala University and an internationally recognized leader in drug delivery and pharmaceutical formulation.

She leads large research teams, directs The Swedish Drug Delivery Center, and has received major competitive funding, including grants from the European Research Council and the Swedish Research Council.

“We are on an incredibly inspiring journey that would not be possible anywhere but here in Uppsala.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE TOBIAS SJÖBLOM

Tobias Sjöblom is a professor of Tumor Genetics at Uppsala University, leading research that investigates the molecular alterations driving cancer, with a strong focus on colorectal cancer.

His work has led to clinical innovations, spin-out companies, and the development of new biomarkers—such as the recently patented Signature of Immune Activation (SIA) for predicting patient response to immunotherapy.

”When we are able to determine with a high degree of precision exactly which mutations are the cause of cancer in the particular patient, we can target the treatment and reduce both side-effect risks and pharmaceutical costs.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE JOHAN SUNDSTRÖM

Johan Sundström is a professor of Epidemiology at Uppsala University and a cardiologist at Akademiska sjukhuset.

He also leads major research initiatives, including work on AI-driven diagnostic models that analyze millions of emergency-care records to support faster and more accurate heart-disease assessment.

“This subject engages me deeply. There are significant challenges in healthcare today, and AI comes with a promise to solve many of them. That said, it is not a solution to be taken lightly; we must collectively understand the most likely paths for AI in healthcare in the short and long term.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SARA MANGSBO

Sara Mangsbo is a professor at Uppsala University specializing in cancer immunotherapy and the development of peptide- and antibody-based drugs.

She is also a biotech innovator, having co-founded companies including Immuneed AB and Strike Pharma AB, and her work has earned multiple awards for scientific entrepreneurship.

“I want to take research a step further than just an article. My research has led to companies, job opportunities, and to research resulting in products and drug candidates used in society.”

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MIA PHILIPPSON

Mia Phillipsson is a professor of Physiology at Uppsala University and an internationally recognized expert in immunology and tissue biology.

Her discoveries have led to innovative clinical applications, including the founding of Ilya Pharma, which develops biologic drugs based on engineered lactic-acid bacteria to accelerate wound healing and reduce intestinal inflammation. Phillipsson also serves as co-director of SciLifeLab.

“You must be extremely committed, curious and sometimes stubborn. A bad memory and thick skin are survival factors, as we all fail and grants are rejected. Collaboration and communication has become much more important”

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

International and open culture
Uppsala combines a long tradition of scientific excellence with a dynamic society where innovation, sustainability, and entrepreneurship thrive.

Public – Private collaboration
Close cooperation between public and private sectors attracts international companies and investments. The city offers an attractive living environment for talent and businesses alike.

Uppsala

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Testa Center is an open innovation hub for biological production, helping researchers and companies turn ideas into real-world solutions. The center provides pilot-scale labs, equipment, and expertise to develop and scale products like antibodies, proteins, vaccines, and viral vectors.

SciLifeLab provides researchers in fields such as biomedicine, ecology, and evolution with access to advanced technologies and expertise.

Uppsala

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

STUNS Life Science is a regional collaboration platform that strengthens Uppsala's life science ecosystem by connecting universities, industry, healthcare, and public stakeholders.

STUNS life science supports innovation, business growth, and strategic development through initiatives like BIO-X Accelerate, the Uppsala LIFE conference, and Testa Center, helping maintain Uppsala's position as a leading life science hub.

Uppsala

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Uppsala Innovation Centre (UIC) is one of Sweden's leading business incubators, ranked among the top in the world for supporting innovative startups and growth companies.

UIC supports early-stage and scaling companies without taking equity, offering structured programs that help teams validate ideas, build strategies, scale operations, and reach international markets.

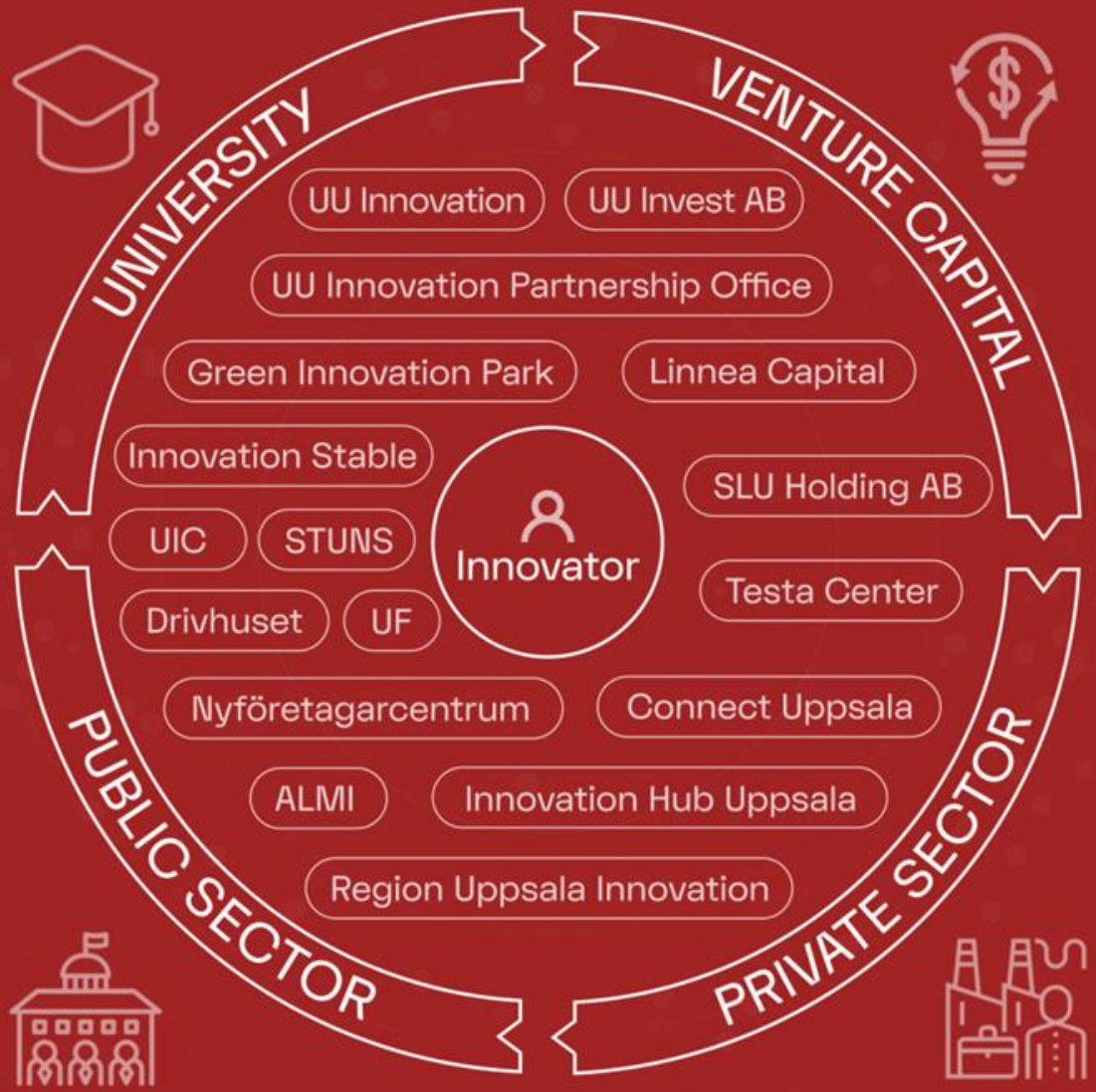
Uppsala

SOCIETY AND CULTURE

The Swedish Medical Products Agency is in the heart of Uppsala's life science ecosystem. As one of Europe's most highly regarded regulatory authorities, it has long contributed significant expertise and capacity to the pharmaceutical and medtech fields and continues to play a vital role in Uppsala's dynamic life science community.

Uppsala

THE INNOVATOR CENTERED ECO-SYSTEM



PAY-IT-FORWARD CULTURE

LÄNSSTYRELSEN UPPSALA LÄN

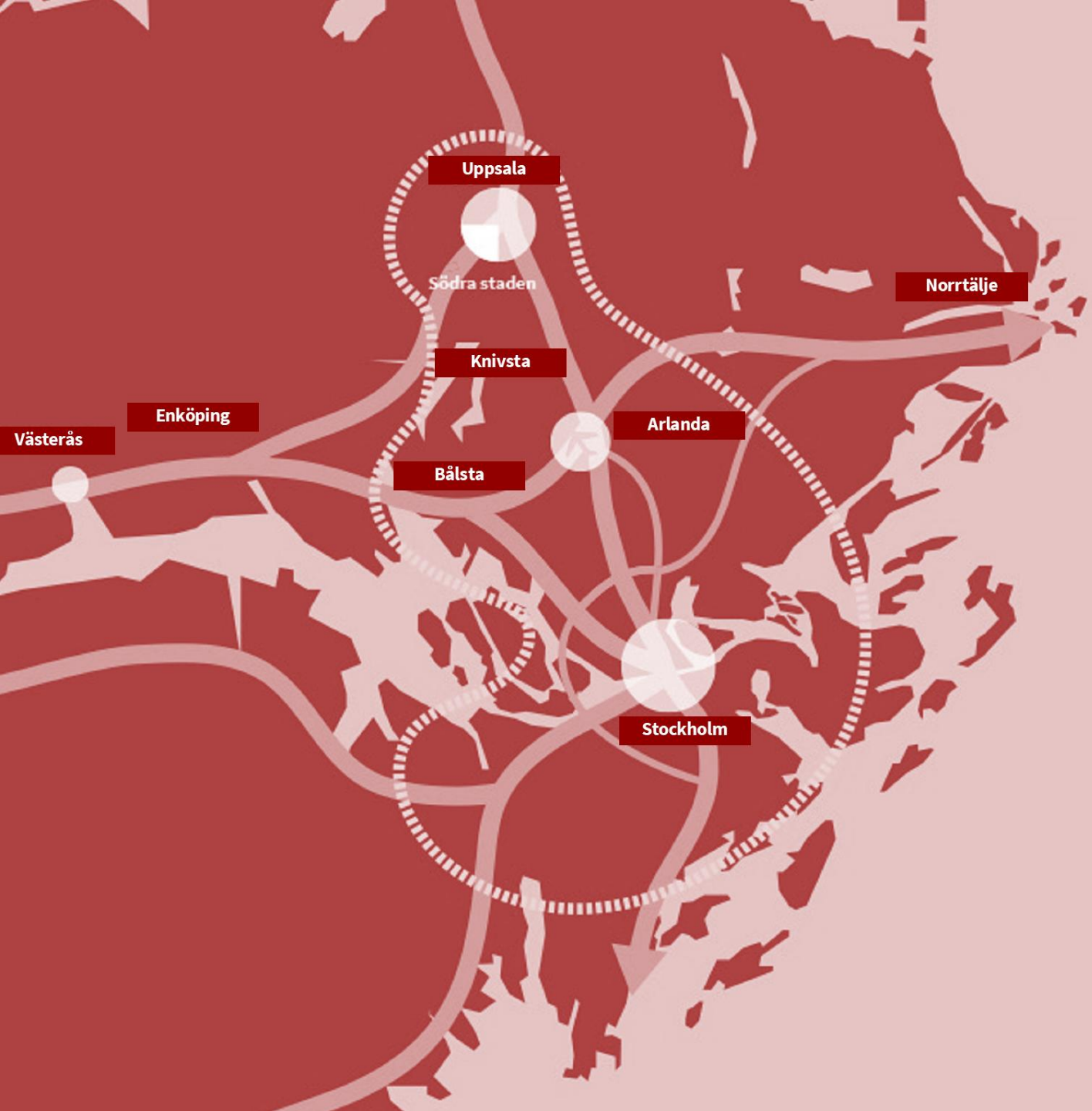
Stockholms Handelskammare

UPPSALA UNIVERSITET

SLU

Region Uppsala

Uppsala kommun



STRATEGIC LOCATION AND CONNECTIVITY

in the greater Stockholm–Uppsala region

Located just 30 minutes from Arlanda Airport, the region offers excellent rail and air connectivity to Europe and global markets.

Its strategic location ensures efficient logistics and access to a skilled pool of labour.

The area is powered by green energy, supporting sustainable operations, and provides a stable environment for business growth.

Uppsala

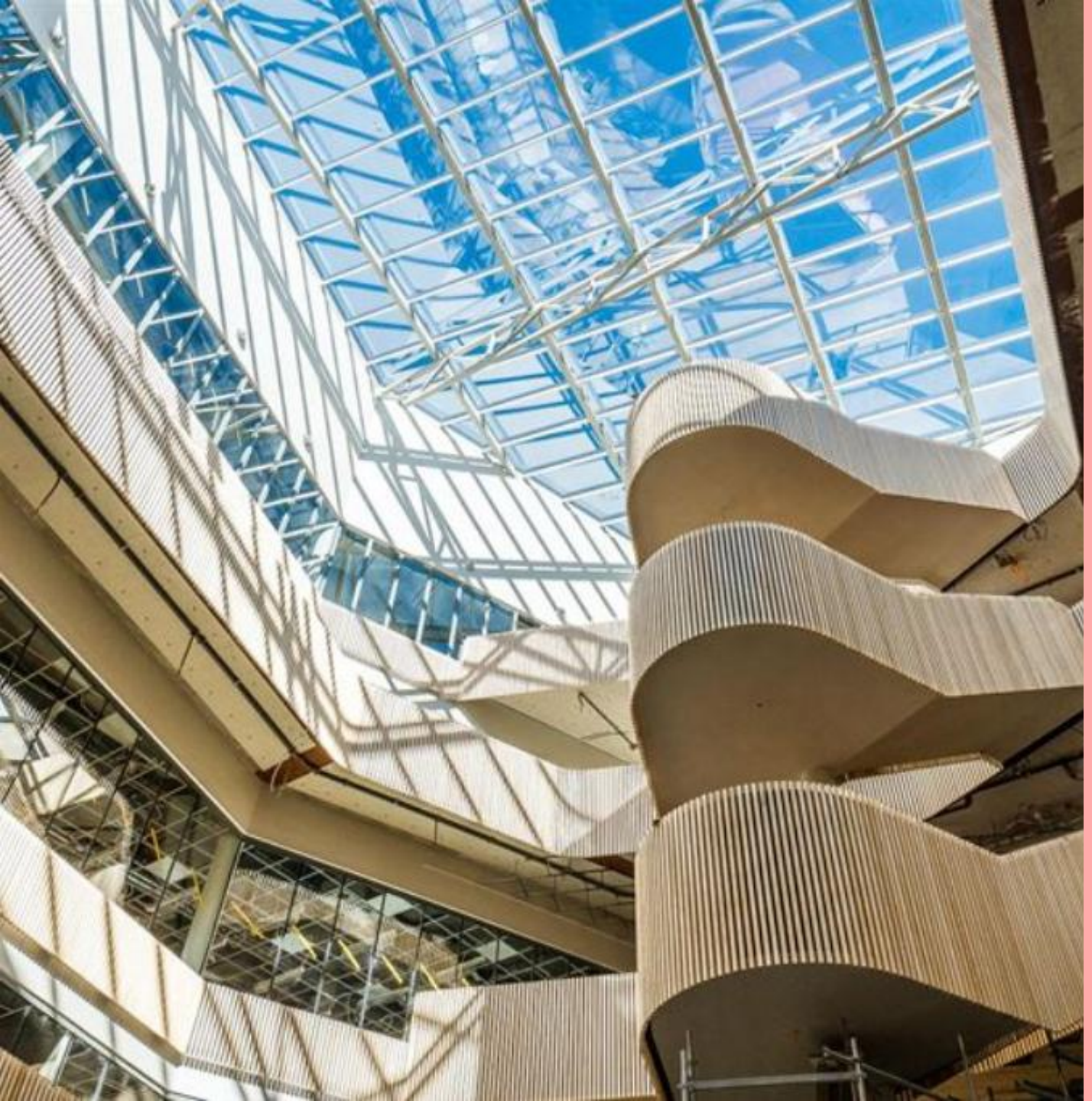
INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS PARKS

Uppsala Business Park (UBP) is a hub for innovation and rapid commercialization in life sciences, built on the strong legacy of Pharmacia. Since 2006, it has evolved into a place where new ideas grow into successful companies.

Today, the park is home to around 100 mainly life science companies, including Beactica, Thermo Fisher, Resitu Medical, Bio-Works, Cavidi, Cytiva, Fresenius Kabi, Nanexa, Novus Scientific, Orexo, and Plantvision, several of which are global leaders.

UBP offers flexible office and lab facilities alongside a collaborative community designed to support growth, networking, and the development of solutions that improve people’s lives.

Uppsala



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS PARKS

Uppsala Science Park home to around 140 companies, including many in life science, as well as Uppsala University, Uppsala University Hospital, the Swedish Medical Products Agency, the National Food Agency, and student organizations.

The park hosts innovative companies such as Ilya Pharma, Ridgeview, CTC, Regsmart, PixlBio, Qlinea, Enaiblers and Gradientech

By fostering creativity and collaboration, the park helps shape technologies and solutions that make a real difference.

Uppsala

INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS PARKS

Främre Boländerna and **Uppsala Central Business District** are emerging as a new hubs for offices, labs, and coworking, alongside world-leading life science companies such as Cytiva, Senzime, Novavax, Stardots, Gyros Protein Technologies, Recipharm and Pharmetheus, as well as the innovation hub Testa Center.

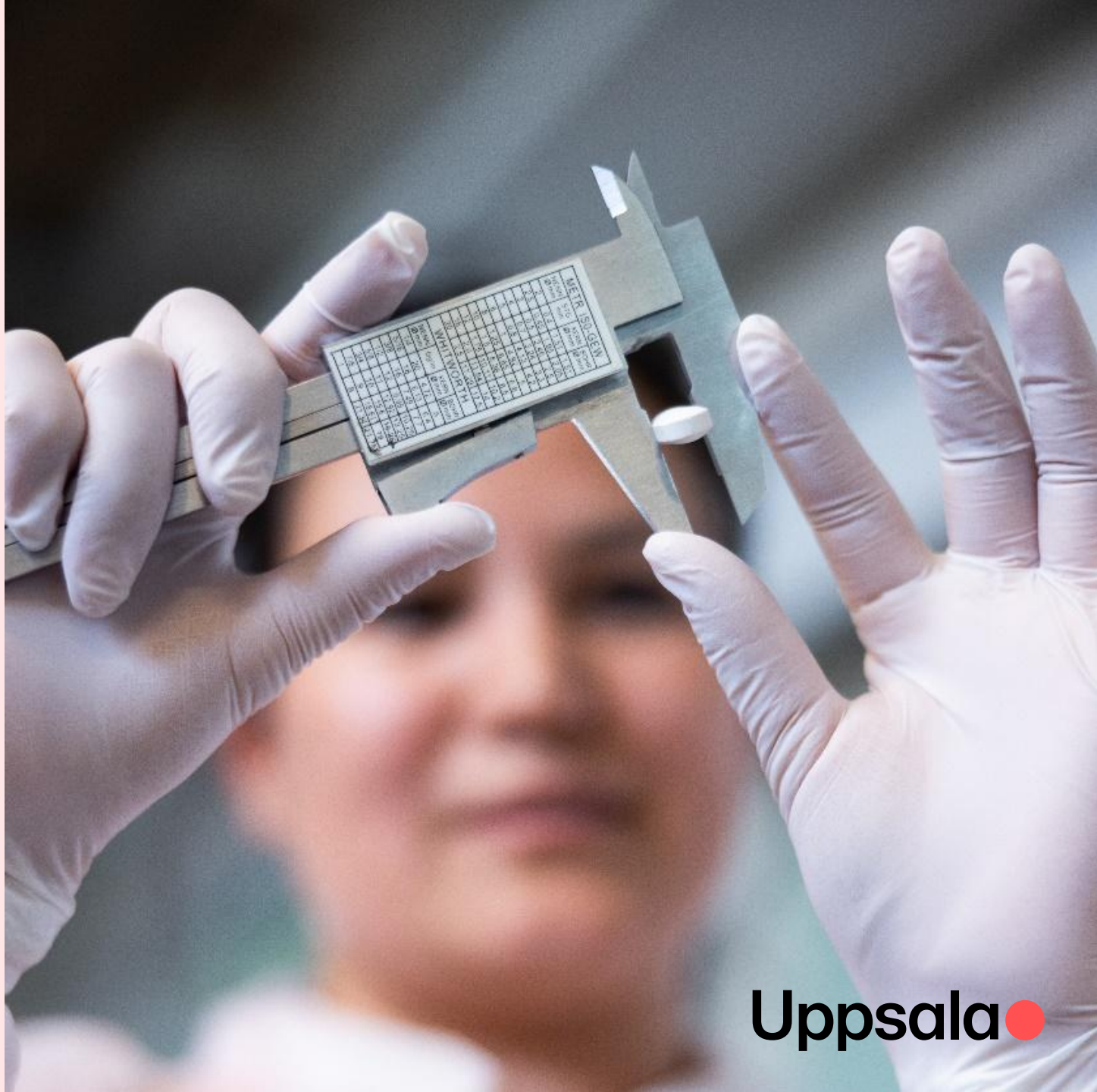
Companies here gain access to collaborations, development opportunities, and global expertise. When complete in 2035, Främre Boländerna will host 10,000 jobs.

Uppsala

NICHES

A hub for manufacturing expertise
Stockholm is focused on market and sales operations. Uppsala is known for its expertise in manufacturing, supported by a range of business services providers and industry-specialized experts.

Global production and R&D operations
Uppsala's large community of foreign owned global life sciences corporations have typically established significant R&D and production operations in distinct business areas close to the city center.



NICHES

This profiles Uppsala in life sciences:

Diagnostics and Precision Medicine

- Immunology and allergy
- Biomarkers
- Proteomics platforms

Separation and Bioprocessing

- Protein purification
- Bioprocess equipment
- Industrial-scale biologics

rooted in Nobel science and Pharmacia

Biologics and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

- Cell and gene therapy
- Advanced drug manufacturing
- CDMO capabilities

Applied Medtech and Dermatology

- Drug–device combinations
- Specialty pharma
- Aesthetics and dermatology

Uppsala

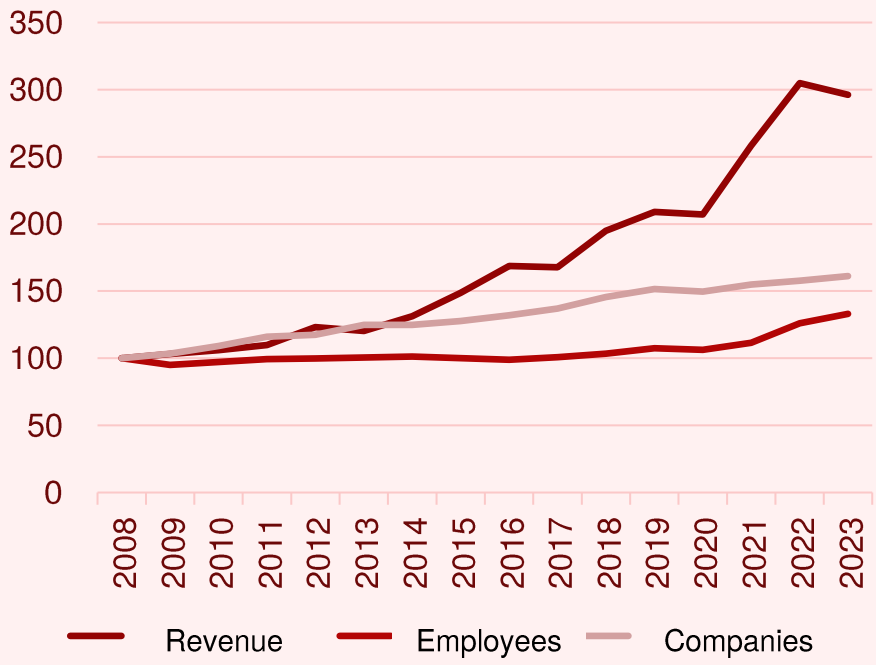
HISTORY

Life Sciences are Uppsala's largest growth sector
Uppsala contributes one-sixth of Sweden's life sciences turnover and employment. Around 300 active companies located in the city employ over 6 000 people, generating an annual turnover of SEK 42 billion.

Over the past five years, the industry has shown strong growth in turnover and employment, driven by global leaders such as Cytiva.

Today, life science combines pharmaceutical strength with clearly defined niches in biotechnology and medical technology, forming a solid base for continued industrial growth and international competitiveness.

The life science industry originated in the 1950s with Pharmacia and has evolved from a pharmaceutical-led sector into a diversified industrial system. Since the 1990s, biotechnology and medical technology have grown alongside pharmaceuticals, supported by a strong ecosystem of specialized suppliers and services.



Uppsala

HISTORY

From Nobel science to industrial impact

Uppsala is one of the few life science hubs built directly on Nobel Prize–winning research. Theodor Svedberg and Arne Tiselius established world-leading expertise in separation science. Their discoveries laid the foundations for: macromolecule research, analytical technologies, industrial-scale biotechnology

This scientific legacy became industrial capability. This scientific capability created the conditions for industrial scale translation

HISTORY

Pharmacia a system builder, not just a company

Pharmacia created far more than products, cultivating a foundation of talent, infrastructure, and a collaborative culture that linked industry and academia.

From this environment emerged global platforms such as Sephadex in separation science, Biacore/SPR in biosensing, Healon in ophthalmology, and breakthroughs in diagnostics and allergy testing, innovations that shaped Uppsala's life science landscape and still resonate worldwide.

Pharmacia functioned as a platform company long before the term existed.

Uppsala

HISTORY

From one giant to an ecosystem

When Pharmacia dissolved, knowledge, people, and infrastructure remained in Uppsala.

Former units evolved into companies such as Cytiva, Thermo Fisher/Phadia, Galderma, Olink, Recipharm, and Sobi, creating a diversified and resilient life science ecosystem.

What endured was not ownership, but competence, culture, and connectivity, forming the foundation of today’s thriving innovation landscape.

Uppsala

LIFE SCIENCE IN UPPSALA

SUMMARY

INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE

Uppsala is a leading European life science hub with **300+ companies**, **6,000 employees**, and **SEK 42+ billion turnover**.

The city hosts global players like **Cytiva, Thermo Fisher, Fresenius Kabi, and Galderma**, supported by a complete value chain and strong logistics.

New investments strengthen biomanufacturing and medtech capacity.

Key Facts: 300+ companies, 6,000 employees, SEK 42 billion turnover, 7,000 graduates/year

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Two world-class universities, **Uppsala University** and **SLU,** drive research in medicine, pharmacy, molecular biology, and One Health.

Together with **SciLifeLab** and **Uppsala University Hospital**, they bridge research and industry. Over **7,000 graduates annually** secure a steady talent pipeline.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

Public–private partnerships foster innovation and attract global investment.

Modern facilities in **Uppsala Business Park**, Uppsala **Science Park**, and **Främre Boländerna** offer proximity to research and industry.

Uppsala

Uppsala