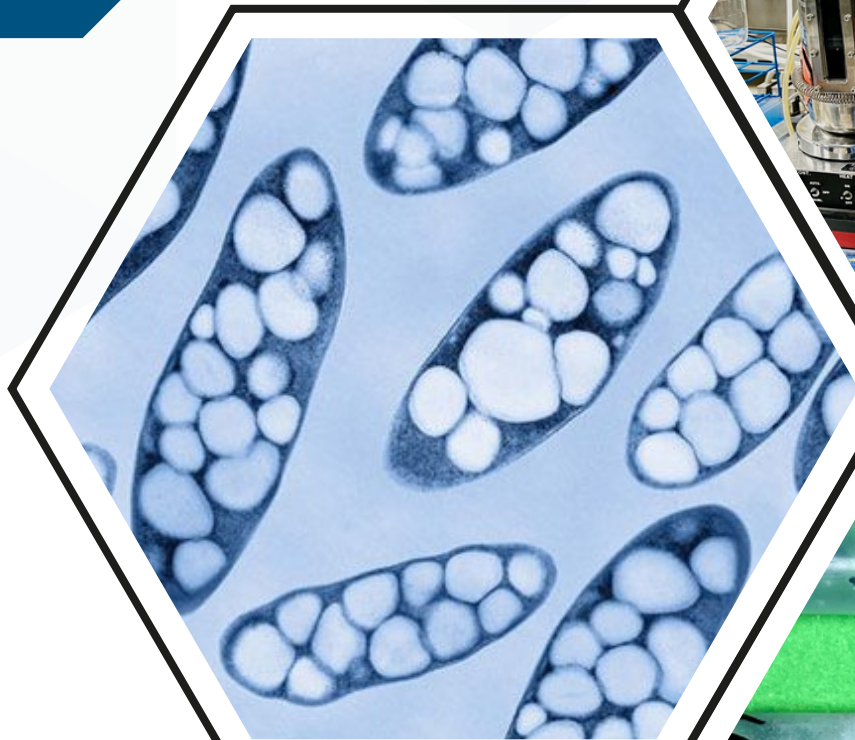


ISBP 2024

International Symposium on Biopolymers

Towards Safe and Sustainable Biopolymers for our Future

4th Announcement



Organised by:



Co-organised by:



Industry Day Co-organised by:



GO!PHA
Global Organization for PHA

Invitation

Dear Colleagues,

The International Symposium on Biopolymers (ISBP) has established itself as a successful conference series dedicated to the exploration of biopolymers. Since its inaugural meeting in Toronto in 1988, the symposium has been held biennially, traversing cities such as Barcelona in 1990, Göttingen in 1992, Montreal in 1994, Davos in 1996, Tokyo in 1998, Cambridge in 2000, Münster in 2002, Beijing in 2004, Minneapolis in 2006, Auckland in 2008, Stuttgart in 2010, Cairns in 2012, Santos in 2014, Madrid in 2016, Beijing in 2018, and most recently, Sion, Switzerland, in 2022. With great delight, we announce the 19th edition, ISBP 2024, scheduled to take place from October 20 to 23 on the beautiful Penang Island of Malaysia.

The ISBP 2024 aims to showcase the latest advancements in various aspects of biopolymers with the theme of 'Towards Safe and Sustainable Biopolymers for our Future'. The topics to be explored include engineering advances in biopolymer synthesis, biosynthesis and characterization of novel biopolymers, exploring building blocks for bio-based polymers, biodegradation pathways, environmental impacts of biopolymers, sustainable feedstocks for biopolymer production, challenges in industrial production of biopolymers, PHA waste management, exploration of other biopolymers and bio-based polymers, applications of novel biopolymers in various industries, and rubber biosynthesis and biodegradation.

The ISBP 2024 logo draws inspiration from the unique appearance of polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA) granules, a type of storage polymer that accumulates within bacterial cells. The logo ingeniously incorporates the essence of these granules by subtly integrating their visual representation into the letter 'B', resulting in a captivating design.

We anticipate that ISBP 2024 will stimulate further advancements in the realm of environmentally friendly polymers and their diverse applications. We are particularly excited to organise this event in conjunction with the commemoration of 100 years of research in PHA, initiated by the French researcher Maurice Lemoigne in 1926. Your participation holds immense value, and we extend our sincere gratitude for your contribution.

We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming you to the enchanting Penang Island, which CNN Travel has listed among the top 22 Best Destinations to Visit (2022).

Prof. Kumar Sudesh
Chair,
ISBP 2024
Universiti Sains Malaysia



Organiser.

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Penang, Malaysia
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Co - organisers.

National Institutes of
Biotechnology Malaysia and
Malaysian Bioeconomy
Corporation



Scientific Committee

Prof. Alexander Steinbüchel	(University of Münster, Germany)
Prof. Ann-Christine Albertsson	(KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden)
Prof. Anthony J. Sinskey	(Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA)
Prof. Bernd Rehm	(Griffith University, Australia)
Prof. Dieter Jendrossek	(University of Stuttgart, Germany)
Prof. Georg Gübitz	(University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria)
Prof. George Guo-Qiang Chen	(Tsinghua University, China)
Prof. Kevin O'Connor	(University College Dublin, Ireland)
Prof. Kumar Sudesh	(Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia)
Prof. Luiziana Ferreira da Silva	(University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Prof. M. Auxiliadora Prieto	(Spanish National Research Council, Spain)
Prof. Manfred Zinn	(HES-SO University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland, Switzerland)
Prof. Maria A.M. Reis	(NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal)
Prof. Roger Marti	(HES-SO University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland, Switzerland)
Prof. Richard Alan Gross	(Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA)
Prof. Sang Yup Lee	(Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, Korea)
Prof. Tadahisa Iwata	(University of Tokyo, Japan)

Plenary Speakers



Bernd Rehm
Professor Dr.
Griffith University
Australia



M. Auxiliadora Prieto
Professor Dr.
Spanish National
Research Council
Spain



George Guo-Qiang Chen
Professor Dr.
Tsinghua University
China



Tadahisa Iwata
Professor Dr.
University of Tokyo
Japan

Keynote Speakers



Takeharu Tsuge
Professor Dr.
Tokyo Institute of
Technology
Japan



Stanislav Obruca
Professor Dr.
Brno University of
Technology
Czech Republic



Manfred Zinn
Professor Dr.
HES-SO University of
Applied Sciences
and Arts
Western Switzerland
Switzerland



James Winterburn
Dr.
The University
of Manchester
United Kingdom



Dieter Jendrossek
Professor Dr.
University of Stuttgart
Germany



Jasmina Nikodinovic-Runic
Professor Dr.
University of Belgrade
Serbia



Ken'ichiro Matsumoto
Professor Dr.
Hokkaido University
Japan



Alexander Steinbüchel
Professor Dr.
University of Münster
Germany



Kevin O'Connor
Professor Dr.
University College
Dublin
Ireland



Keiji Numata
Professor Dr.
Kyoto University
and RIKEN
Japan



Rajni Hatti-Kaul
Professor Dr.
Lund University
Sweden



Roger Marti
Professor Dr.
HES-SO University of
Applied Sciences and Arts
Western Switzerland
Switzerland



Ipsita Roy
Professor Dr.
University of Sheffield
United Kingdom



Maria A.M. Reis
Professor Dr.
NOVA University Lisbon
Portugal



Jun Li
Professor Dr.
National University
of Singapore
Singapore



Mohamad Suffian Bin Mohamad Annuar
Professor Dr.
Universiti Malaya
Malaysia



Chaorong Tang
Professor Dr.
Hainan University
China

Invited Speakers



JST - PRESTO Session

Invited Speakers



Event Calender

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
20 October 2024		Registration & Welcome Reception	
21 October 2024	Opening Ceremony, Oral & Poster Sessions		Excursion
22 October 2024	Oral & Poster Sessions		Gala Dinner
23 October 2024	Industry Day, Oral Sessions and Closing Ceremony		

Registration

On-site registration will be available exclusively for **general participants** who miss the registration deadline of September 30th, 2024. If you are unable to register online by this date, you can register in person on October 20th, 2024.

Registration fee

	REGULAR FEE	
PARTICIPATION CATEGORY	LOCAL (MYR)	INTERNATIONAL (USD)
STUDENT	2000	450
RESEARCHER & INDUSTRIAL EXPERT	3000	700

Call for Papers

You can register as an oral (limited) or a poster presenter. Each registered participant is eligible for one presentation only. Please submit an abstract using the [abstract template](#) prepared by our Scientific Committee. The official language is English, and selected papers will be published in [Elsevier's Polymer Degradation and Stability](#) and Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology. Participants can submit papers to the Conference Special Issue, which will be open from **23rd October 2024** onwards. Adherence to these guidelines will facilitate the review process by the Scientific Committee. We appreciate your contributions and look forward to your active participation.

Information for Presenters

Oral

Oral Presentation Requirements:

- **Duration:** The allotted time for each speaker excluding Q&A session is as follows:

Plenary	: 30 minutes
Keynote	: 20 minutes
Invited	: 15 minutes
Oral	: 15 minutes
Short Oral	: 10 minutes

followed by 5 minutes for questions and discussion.

- **Format:** Presentations should be prepared using PowerPoint (PPT).
- **Submission:** Please note that you can submit your presentation prior to your scheduled presentation slot during the symposium.
- **Equipment:** A laptop, projector, and laser pointer will be provided at the venue.

Poster

Poster Presentation Requirements:

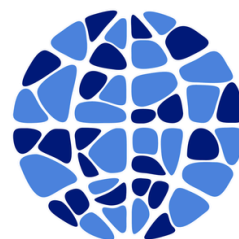
- **Poster Size:** The maximum dimensions allowed for the posters are **A0 (84.1 cm x 118.9 cm) in portrait orientation.**
- **Printing:** Please bring a printed copy of your poster to the event. On-site printing will not be available.
- **Mounting:** Posters will be mounted on provided boards using a staple gun. You will be guided to your assigned poster location upon arrival.
- **Poster Evaluation:** The poster viewing session will take place throughout the event and the poster evaluation session will take place on the **22nd of October from 3.35pm to 5.30pm (Malaysian time zone).** Thus, we request that you be available to present your poster to the judges during this time.

Industry Day

(23rd Oct 2024)

(Co-organised with GO!PHA)

On **Wednesday, 23rd of October 2024**, Industry Day will centre around the latest advancements in the production, processing, and application of biopolymers in Malaysia and worldwide.



GO!PHA

Global Organization for PHA

Industry Day at ISBP 2024 is focused on the theme "**Enabling a New Wave of Industrialisation in Bio-based Biodegradable and Compostable Materials.**"

The event focuses on exploring the policy, regulatory, and investment landscape for bioplastics, highlighting global and local industry success stories. Sessions include plenary talks, breakout discussions, and presentations on industry collaboration, all aimed at driving the growth and implementation of bio-based materials. This platform brings together key stakeholders from the regulatory, investment, and industrial sectors to foster innovation and sustainable industrialisation.

The day wraps up with an Award Ceremony honoring outstanding contributors in the field, including the **ISBP Lifetime Achievement Awards, Industry Award, Best Poster Awards** and the **Bernard Witholt PHA Award**.

Concurrent Events

SATREPS OPT Project Mini-symposium

Join us on the **22nd of October** for an insightful session at the **Setia SPICE Convention Centre**. This session brings together leading experts to discuss the latest developments on the application of under-utilised oil palm biomass, ongoing projects, future plans, and collaborative opportunities within the SATREPS OPT Project. This session will provide a unique platform to share progress, challenges, and innovations, fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual learning.



Moonshot Workshop on Marine Biodegradation of Polymers

Scheduled for the **23rd of October**, also at the **Setia SPICE Convention Centre**, this workshop will delve into cutting-edge research and technology on the biodegradation of polymers in marine environments. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions and expert-led presentations. The focus will be on understanding the mechanisms of marine biodegradation, exploring innovative solutions, and discussing the environmental impact and future directions of this critical field of study.



WORKSHOP ON THE PROJECT "RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE DEGRADABLE PLASTICS WITH BIODEGRADABLE INITIATION FUNCTION"

Excursion

- **Departure time** (from SPICE to attraction sites): 16:30
- **Arrival time** (from attraction sites back to SPICE): 21:30

*Please note that the times mentioned are estimates

- Outdoor Attraction to UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Georgetown
 - Clan Jetty
 - Armenian Street
 - Kapitan Keling Mosque
 - Fort Cornwallis
- Food & Beverages (Outdoor Location)
 - Jetty Food Court
 - Armenian Street
 - Little India
- Indoor Attraction
 - Gurney Plaza
 - Gurney Paragon
- Food & Beverages (Indoor Location)
 - Gurney Plaza
 - Gurney Paragon

In case of rain: An in-bus tour will be arranged to cover key attractions, allowing participants to enjoy Penang's highlights from the comfort of the bus in a dry and enjoyable setting.

*All listed locations are subject to change

Here's a short list of things to bring for the excursion during ISBP 2024:

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Raincoat or an umbrella
- Reusable water bottle
- Camera or smartphone for photos
- Small backpack for personal items
- **Cash** for local purchases and food
- Any **personal medications** needed

Be sure to check the excursion details for any specific requirements. For more information, visit the [ISBP 2024 website](#).

Conveniences near Setia SPICE Convention Centre

Nearby conveniences	Location (approx. distance)
Convenience store	<u>Happy Mart (260 m)</u> <u>7-Eleven (500 m)</u> <u>Family Mart (600 m)</u> <u>MiX Store (1.4 km)</u>
Hypermarket	<u>Sunshine Square (1.5 km)</u> <u>Giant (1.6 km)</u>
Cosmetics store	<u>Guardian (650 m)</u>
Telecom (sim card)	<u>Digi Store (1.1 km)</u>
Eatery	<u>Spice Pisa Cafe (400 m)</u> <u>Golden Triangle 1 & 2 (700 m)</u> <u>Arena Curve (850 m)</u> <u>D’Piazza Mall (1 km)</u> <u>The Promenade (1 km)</u> <u>Elit Avenue (1.3 km)</u>
Pharmacy	<u>Rheco Pharmacy (250 m)</u> <u>Mega Kulim Pharmacy (450 m)</u>
Clinic	<u>Klinik Relau 16Jam (450 m)</u> <u>Dr Ng Clinic (700 m)</u>
Hospital	<u>H Medical Centre (within the venue)</u> <u>Pantai Hospital Penang (1.4 km)</u>
ATM/Bank	<u>Euronet ATM (within the venue)</u> <u>Public Bank (280 m)</u>
Money changer	<u>Rahimas Forex (1.4 km)</u>

*Using transport or [ride-hailing](#) services is highly recommended for destinations more than 500 metres from the venue.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What will the weather be like in Malaysia during ISBP 2024?

October in Penang, Malaysia, is typically warm and humid, with temperatures ranging from 25°C to 30°C. Light rain is possible, so bringing an umbrella or a light raincoat is recommended.

2. What is the dress code for ISBP 2024?

The dress code for the symposium is business casual. For the gala dinner and award ceremony, formal or semi-formal attire is preferred.

3. Is on-site registration available?

Yes, on-site registration will be available for **general participants** who missed the online registration window. However, we encourage participants to register in advance to ensure a smooth check-in process.

4. What meals will be provided?

Tea breaks and lunch will be provided during the event. For special dietary requirements (e.g., vegetarian or gluten-free), please inform the organisers in advance.

5. What is the nearest airport to the ISBP 2024 venue?

The distance from Penang International Airport to the Setia SPICE Convention Centre is approximately 6.1 kilometers (about a 10 to 15-minute drive). The convention centre is conveniently located close to the airport, making it easily accessible for participants attending ISBP 2024.

6. What languages will be spoken during ISBP 2024?

The official language of ISBP 2024 is English, and all presentations, discussions, and printed materials will be in English.

7. Will Wi-Fi be available at the venue?

Yes, free Wi-Fi will be provided at Setia SPICE Convention Centre for all ISBP 2024 participants. Details for accessing the Wi-Fi network will be available at the registration desk.

8. What payment methods are accepted for on-site registration?

On-site registration can be paid via credit/debit card and cash. International participants are encouraged to use credit cards to avoid currency exchange issues.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

9. What type of identification is required for registration?

Please bring a valid photo ID (passport, driver's license, or national ID) for verification during on-site registration.

10. Is there a childcare service at the venue?

At this time, childcare services are not available at ISBP 2024. Participants are encouraged to make their own arrangements if needed.

11. Can I get a certificate of attendance?

Yes, all participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

12. Are there any nearby hotels recommended for participants?

For your convenience, we recommend booking accommodations near the symposium venue, Setia SPICE Convention Centre in Penang, Malaysia.

Recommended Hotels:

[1. Amari SPICE Penang \(5-star\): 190m from SPICE.](#)

[2. Olive Tree Hotel \(4-star\): 550m from SPICE.](#)

[3. AC Hotel by Marriott Penang: 1.5km from SPICE.](#)

[4. Eastin Hotel Penang: 5.5km from SPICE.](#)

Contact hotels directly for reservations, modifications, or cancellations.

13. What is the parking situation at the venue?

Parking is available on the Setia SPICE Convention Centre for participants. However, spaces may be limited, so we encourage carpooling or using public transport if possible.

14. How can I become a sponsor for ISBP 2024?

If you're interested in becoming a sponsor, visit our [website](#) for more information.

15. What is the expected attendance for ISBP 2024?

We are expecting over 250 attendees from around the world, including leading experts, researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers in the field of biopolymers.

Additional Information

- **PROGRAMS**

The scientific programs and list of posters are available on our website
<https://isbp2024.com/symposium-program/>

- **WIFI ACCESS**

Name of the network: Yes
Username: ISBP 2024
Password: isbp2024

- **BUILDINGS**

Setia SPICE Convention Centre

- Ballroom 3 & 4: LG (Lower Ground)
- Function Room 7, 8 & 9: GM (Ground Mezzanine)
- SPICE Cafe: LG (Lower Ground), near the prayer room

Operating hours: 09:00 – 18:00 (Monday – Sunday)

- **WATER DISPENSERS IN THE CONVENTION CENTRE**

Water dispensers are available throughout the convention centre, including in all rooms, the Ballrooms, Function Rooms, and the Grand Foyer

- **WORKSPACE**

- VIP Room (VIP Room 2): A designated space for VIPs
- Multipurpose Room (Function Room 3): A room for speakers and presenters to prepare before their presentations
- Committee Room (Function Room 4): A room designated for ISBP's committee meetings

- **RESTROOMS**

Restrooms are available on every level of the building.

- **RESPONSIBILITY**

There is CCTV surveillance in the Convention Centre, and any unfortunate incidents will be reported to the Police or Auxiliary Police. It is advisable to keep an eye on your personal belongings at all times, as the organisers are not responsible for any theft or damage to equipment.

Additional Information

- **PRAYER ROOM**

A prayer room for Muslims is available on the same level as the Ballrooms (LG), located near the restrooms

- **RECEPTION DESK**

In front of the Setia SPICE Grand Foyer, the reception desk opens at 8 AM

- **TAXI SERVICE**

It is recommended to use the [Grab app](#) for a convenient and hassle-free journey during the convention.

Address: Setia SPICE Convention Centre

- **EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTACT NUMBER**

- Ambulance: 999
- Police: 999
- Fire: 999

- **Time zone:** Malaysia Time (MYT)/UTC+8/GMT+8

- **Currency:** Malaysian Ringgit (MYR/RM)

- **Electricity:** Type G plug (UK electrical socket/electrical plug), 230 – 240 V, 50 Hz

- **Visa:** Visa Requirement by Country – Malaysian Immigration Department (If you require an invitation letter to support your visa application, kindly email isbp2024@gmail.com)

- **Weather:** Either sunny or rainy throughout the year, with an average temperature range of **28 – 31 °C (82 – 88 °F)**, event venue is air-conditioned (**26 °C/79 °F**)

Contact Information

ISBP 2024 Secretariat

E-mail: isbp2024@gmail.com

Website: isbp2024.com

Social Media

Feel free to connect with us via our social media platforms listed below:



[Linkedin](#)



[Instagram](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Youtube](#)