



AS TRANSFER CITY PARTNER :

BILBAO

CITY INFORMATION

Bilbao is the largest city in in the Basque Country with 346.000 inhabitants; 1.000.000 people in the Greater Bilbao, as the city-region is locally known. The Basque Country's financial capital, Bilbao has a thriving business ecosystem driving innovation and technological development in the region. Business sectors include startups and established businesses in ICT, Creative and Cultural Industries and Advanced Services.

The Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Network has in Greater Bilbao :

- [Technology Park of Bizkaia](#)te and Technological Research Centers ([Tecnalía](#) and [Ik4](#))
- Basque Public University, Deusto University and Mondragon Unibertsitatea (altogether, over 30.000 students)
- Entrepreneurship : [BAT](#), Bilbao Berrikuntza Faktoria, Bilbao Auzo Factory

Local Industry 4.0 ecosystems' challenges

- Further elaborate AS Fabrik as a concept
- Develop a model to make sure that the educational work of As Fabrik is complemented by other aspects, such as partnership brokering and startup boosting.
- Promote connection between industrial companies with the advanced services sector in the city → contribute to smart specialization
- Urban challenges and innovations
- Shortage in IT profiles hindering development of key enabling technologies
- Very low interest of women in STEM
- Highly ageing population
- Environmental, social and digital transitions

Industry 4.0 policy focus & actions

- **Urban-regional collaboration** between public institutions and private companies.
- **Smart specialisation** through further development and specification of the city's reference sector, the Knowledge Intensive Business Services.
- Pilot project where different levels of public institutions collaborate with **KIBS companies and VET centers** to identify gaps and needs of the talent ecosystem and co-construct solutions to address these challenges.

