

Pablo Catarecha Zoido

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Professional Profile

A plant biotech scientist willing to link science and market through tech transfer and innovative solutions

My name is Pablo Catarecha Zoido, and I am currently working as a technical scientist at the Centro de Biotecnología y Genómica de Plantas (UPM-INIA/CSIC). This position is only the last stage in a multifaceted career that is both scientific and entrepreneurial.

My scientific career started as a PhD fellow after majoring in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, in 1999. After achieving a PhD degree in 2004, I worked at the Centro Nacional de Biotecnología (CSIC) both as a post-doc researcher and as the technical manager of the plant in vitro culture and transgenesis facility.

Throughout this period, I started working in the field of plant molecular genetics and molecular biology from a basic point of view, to later steer towards plant physiology and nutrition with a more intense stress in the applied aspect of research. The aim was to value scientific research as useful real-world tools.

In line with the previous goal, I achieved an MBA degree at the IE Business School in 2008, and shortly after my career was shifted from science to business in 2010. I worked as an independent R&D consultant involved in several projects dealing with outreach, marketing and project writing at spin-off, tech-based companies in the energy, psychology and biotech sectors, as well as with the writing of a business plan for a start-up company in the electronics sector.

In 2020, I resumed my scientific career at the position I am holding now, with a stress in technical development and innovation regarding lab techniques.

Taking together all my previous experience, I have become aware of the vast amount of knowledge that never gets to be marketed and lies unused in the drawers of the research labs. It is my intention to ease their way from science to business through entrepreneurial solutions linking lab work and their potential target markets.