

# SOCIAL RESPONSABILITY REPORT 2021



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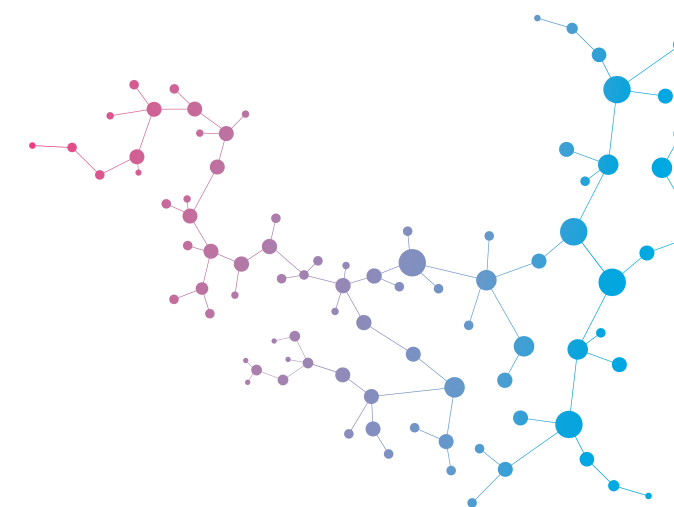
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**Bial**  
Keeping life  
in mind.





# Message from the CEO



ANTÓNIO PORTELA | CEO

**A**t BIAL, we work on a daily basis to improve everyone's health and quality of life. This purpose of ours is intrinsically linked to our responsibility as a company regarding society and sustainable development.

Our firm commitment to sustainability is a fundamental condition in our operations management and, also, when we define our targets and growth ambitions – acknowledging our role in a more equal, inclusive, sustainable, and better world for all.

It is with this role in mind that, daily, we act in accordance with the highest ethical patterns, with a clear focus on reducing our environmental footprint and supporting our communities, along with promoting a healthy and inspiring work environment for our employees. As certain as we are of these purposes, we have renewed our commitment to Global Compact and meeting its ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

We want to make sure we leave a better world for future generations. We believe that this is a mission of all of us.





# I BIAL

## MISSION & VALUES

**F**ounded in 1924, BIAL's Mission is to discover, develop and provide new therapeutic solutions within the Health area.

"Keeping Life in Mind" is our motto.

We are motivated by the Vision that inspires us: To be a company with an international dimension based on innovative medicines.

We want to meet people's Health needs, by playing an active part in global economic growth. We also want to contribute to the construction of a knowledgeable society, one that is competitive and dynamic, based on scientific development and innovation. The Values which guide us reflect our identity:

- Caring for Health
- Invest in Quality and Innovation
- Excellence in scientific research
- Integrity and high ethical standards
- Rigour, responsibility and teamwork
- Respect for universal values

## INNOVATION IN HEALTH

**W**e believe that, to better serve the interests and needs of everyone, we cannot limit ourselves to the production and supply of medication, we must go beyond. This is why we have decided that a strategic focus for BIAL should be the research of new therapeutic solutions.

To be able to contribute to the development of mankind, we feel we should discover, innovate, and actively contribute to the treatment of the many diseases that affect human beings and their quality of life. To live every single day in a spirit of creativity and evolution, within a highly professional business sector, means engaging our employees, our shareholders, our customers, and our suppliers in the BIAL project.



**Bial**  
Keeping life  
in mind.





BIAL invests over 20% of its turnover in Research and Development (R&D). The 2021 EU Industrial RD Investment Scoreboard ranked BIAL in the 362<sup>nd</sup> position among the top 1,000 European R&D companies.

Our R&D projects are developed at the R&D Centres in Trofa, near Porto, Portugal, and in Boston, USA. BIAL's research focuses mostly on the neuroscience and the cardiovascular system, with the aim to contribute to therapeutic development, providing the market with products that improve people's quality of life.

In recent years we have patented several new drugs worldwide. The average amount of time the pharmaceutical industry spends on researching a new medication is between ten to fourteen years and research investments can reach 1 billion Euros. During this process, thousands of molecules are left behind, either because they are not effective or safe, or because they have undesirable side-effects on the human organism.

In 2009 BIAL put Portugal on the world map of therapeutic innovation, by launching the first medicine researched and patented in Portugal onto the market – an antiepileptic drug, that is available today in different European countries and in the USA. BIAL's second medicine, for Parkinson's Disease, is also commercialised in several different European countries, USA, Japan and South Korea.

In 2020 BIAL established an affiliate in USA, BIAL Biotech Investments Inc (BIAL Biotech). BIAL Biotech is a research center of excellence for the development of genetically-defined Parkinson's disease therapeutics.

Since 2005, and in recognition of our commitment to research and development, BIAL is part of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), the prestigious federation of the leading research companies in the European pharmaceutical sector.

As a national industry, we also feel compelled to contribute actively to economic and social development, by fostering the construction of a society founded on the pillars of knowledge, competitiveness, cooperation, science and innovation. BIAL is a founding member and an associate of the Health Cluster Portugal, a pole of competitiveness in health whose mission is to make Portugal a competitive player in the research, design, development, manufacture and marketing of health-related products and services. BIAL is also a founding member of Business Roundtable Portugal, an association that aims for the economic growth of the country and sets its eyes on integrating Portugal in the most developed countries in Europe.

BIAL is a member of APIFARMA (Portuguese Pharmaceutical Industry Association), an entity whose main mission is to foster innovation and the development of therapies that address the needs for treatment and prevention of new diseases, as well as providing medicines that will improve the health and the quality of life for all populations.

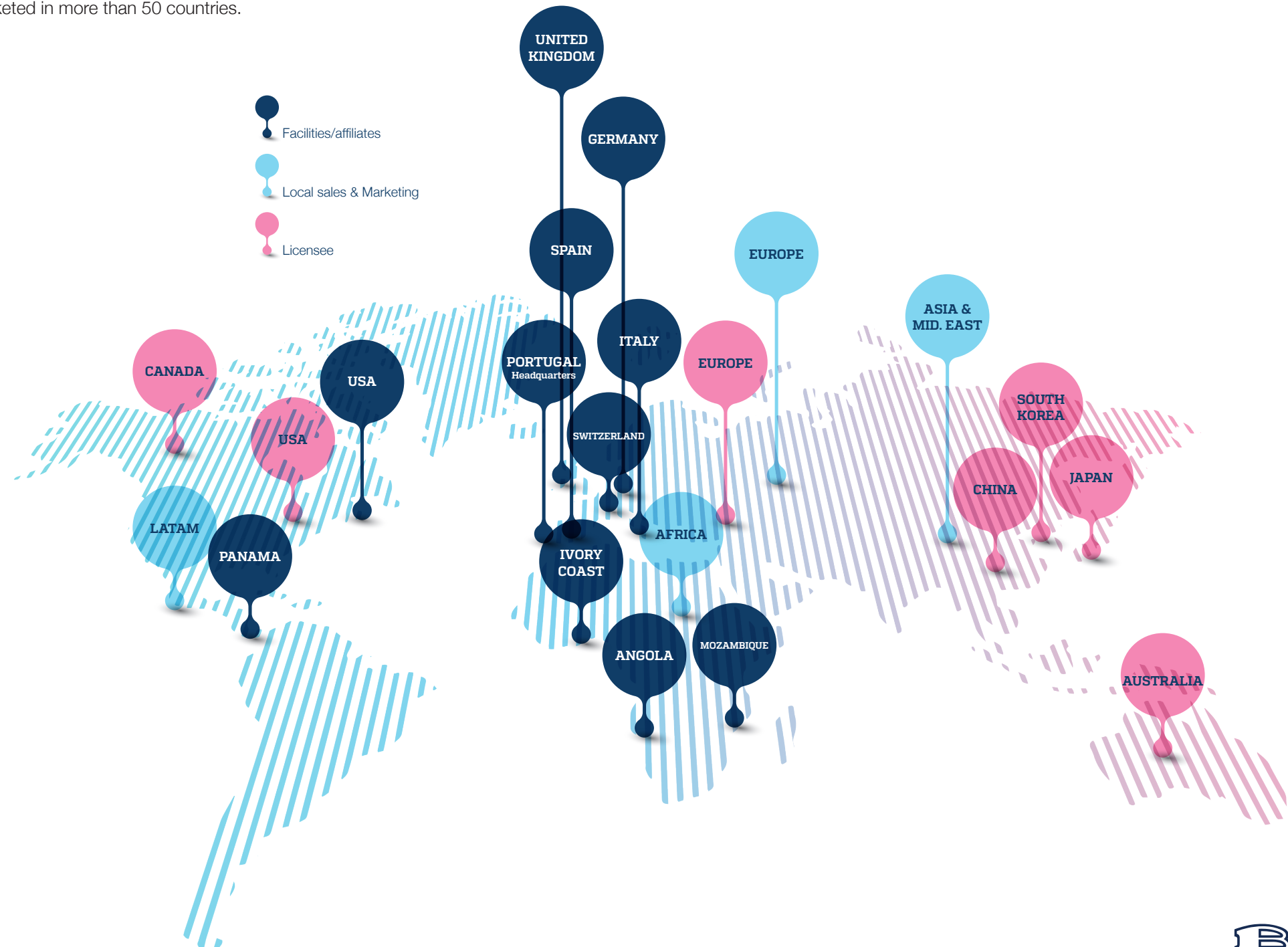
By carrying out its mission, the pharmaceutical industry defends high ethical and quality standards, which combine social responsibility and the duty of solidarity.





## BIAL IN THE WORLD

Investment in internationalisation is one of the main strategies of the BIAL group. In recent years, we have extended our presence around the world. Today, our products are marketed in more than 50 countries.







## II BIAL and the 10 Principles of the United Nations Global Compact

### HUMAN RIGHTS

#### The People

13

- Principle 1: **BIAL supports and respects the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;**
- Principle 2: **BIAL guarantees no corporate complicity in the human rights violations.**

**T**he human factor is a priority in BIAL Group's management policy. We believe that our employees are the cornerstone of the Group's success, recognised today by public and private institutions as a benchmark in the labour market.

BIAL has consistently and steadily created relevant job opportunities. In 1995 BIAL employed 250 people, nowadays we are almost 1000 employees.

Our commitment is reflected in the quality and qualification of our employees. BIAL is proud of its extremely thorough selection and recruitment process, as it seeks to attract, select and retain skilled workers, with the best qualifications. This factor can be proven by the percentage of employees with higher education degrees which is 83%. Also, 11% of the employees have a PhD.



In 2021 Bial completed 116 recruitment processes and created 24 new jobs.

Recruitment  
Processes



New  
Jobs



### Human Rights

**W**e are constantly focused on respecting Human Rights in all our activities and within the relationships with our stakeholders.

BIAL does not make any kind of discrimination and our processes always call for equal opportunities.

Group Bial gathers employees from 32 different nationalities. At the headquarters, we count with 13 different nationalities. Our Research & Development Area, that represents 19% of the workforce, employs 173 employees, from 18 different nationalities, 71 of them hold a PhD people and, as a result of our commitment to internationalisation, our products are in more than 55 countries across Europe, America, Africa and Asia.

When integrating non-Portuguese Employees into the company, we support them regarding housing, choice of school for their children and in handling the documentation necessary for their permanence and integration in Portugal. All these Employees have access, in the first year of work, to individual Portuguese lessons, which help their integration in the country, in the company and in the respective function.

It is also important to state that BIAL has never been involved in any case related to Human Rights violations and the Group has a Code of Ethics and Conduct, read and accepted by all employees, which emphasizes the topic of the respect for the non-violation of Human Rights.

On a regular basis, we also carry out an Internal Satisfaction Survey, where any situation which might contradict the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, may be reported confidentially and anonymously.







## LABOUR PRACTICES

- Principle 3: **BIAL supports freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective negotiation;**
- Principle 4: **BIAL condemns all forms of forced and compulsory labour;**
- Principle 5: **BIAL condemns all forms of child labour.**

**B**IAL's strategy is future-oriented, protecting the basic principles that any company should ensure in order to be socially responsible.

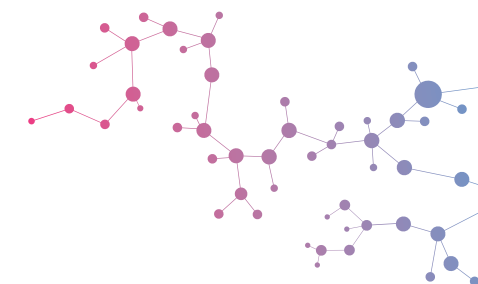
Below we have examples of some situations which reflect BIAL's activity development, aiming the sustainable growth while respecting society and human beings.

- BIAL has a proactive policy that ensures the development of employees through talent management programs, such as training and development actions, as well as several opportunities for internal and international mobility.
- Health and safety are a constant priority so BIAL complies with all legal and regulatory requirements related to the health and prevention of work-related accidents. This fact is recognized and validated by the occupational Health and Safety Management System, in accordance with the requirements of OHSAS 18001.

In 2021, there were 13 work accidents, two of them resulting in more than 30 days of absence. The total number of days of absence due to work accidents was 142 working days, the longest absence was 42 working days. The absenteeism rate was 4.6%.



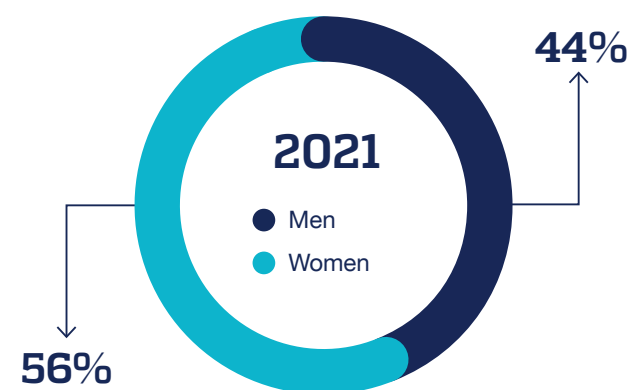




- Principle 6: **BIAL guarantees the elimination of employment discrimination.**

**T**he BIAL Group does not engage in any discriminatory practice in recruitment processes, namely pertaining to disability, gender, religion, political or sexual orientation, marital status, nationality, ethnic origin or union membership. For example, 56% of the company employees are female.

Distribution by gender

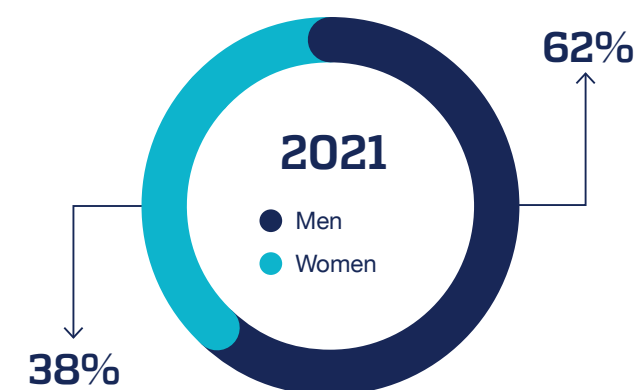


Geographic location

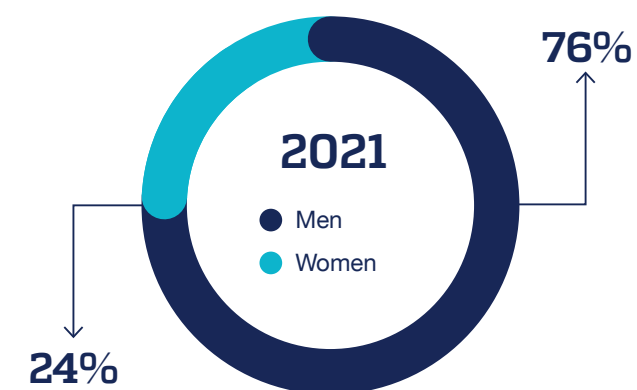


Regarding management positions, 24% of the top management positions and 43% of the middle management positions are held by women. In total, 38% of the management positions are held by women.

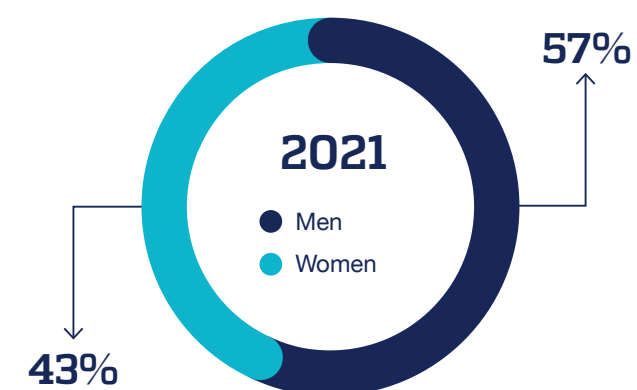
Management positions



Top management



Middle management

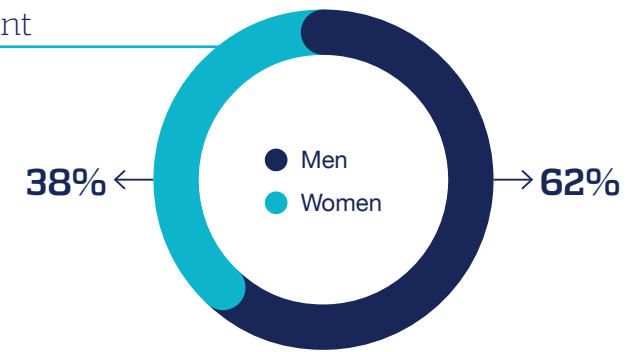




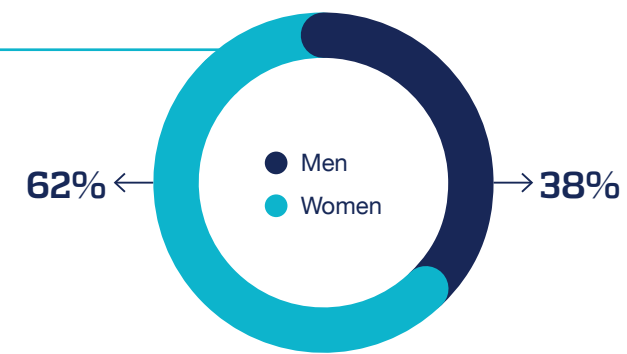


## Employees by function and sex

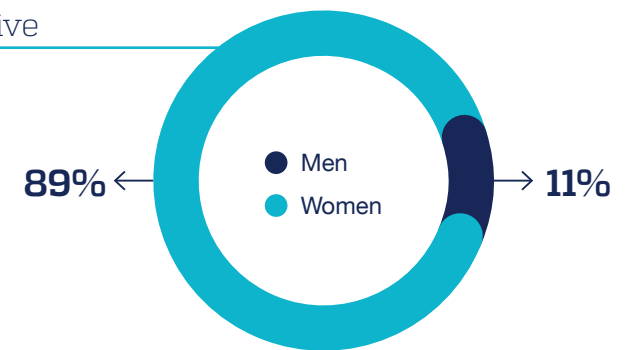
18,8% | Management



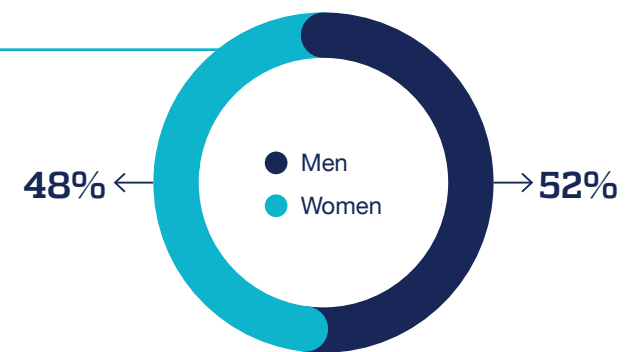
66% | Technical



2,9% | Administrative

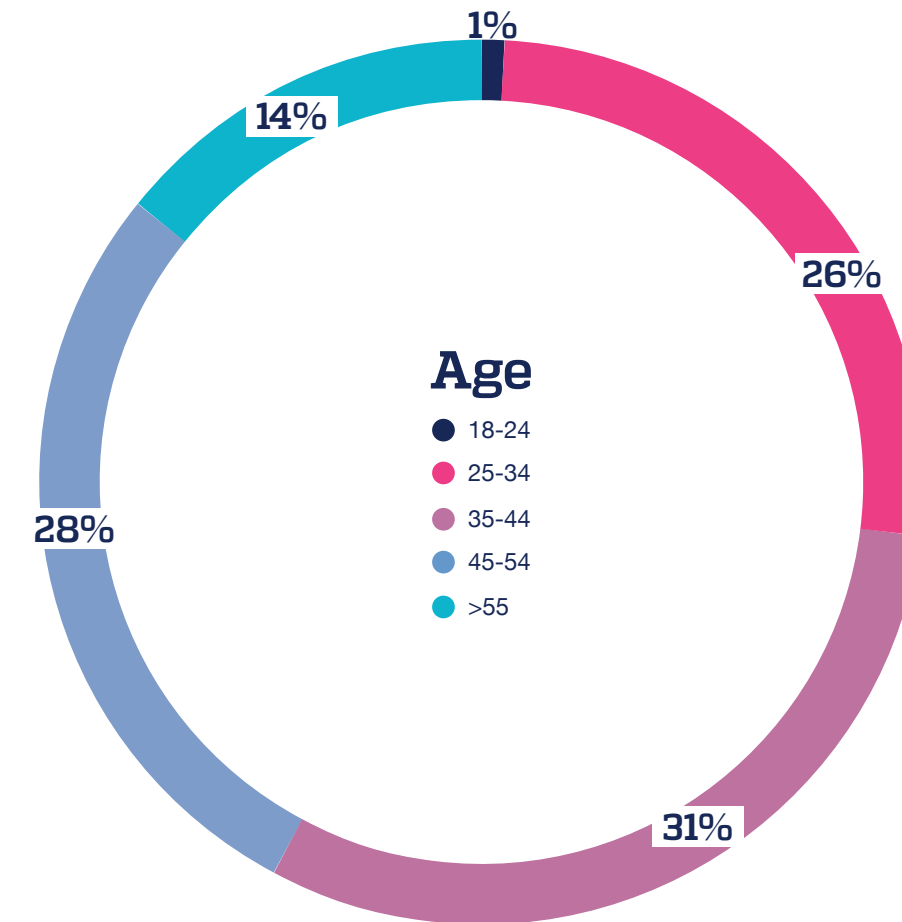


7,6% | Productive

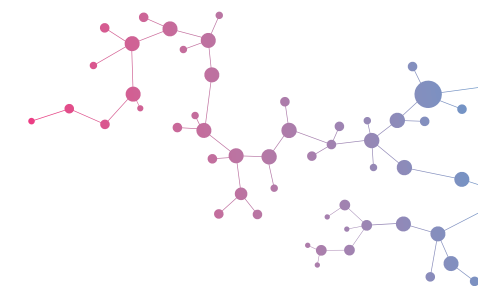


## Seniority average

BIAL presents an average of 9 years of seniority. Regarding the average age, employees have an average of 42 years, distributed as follows:







## Labour relations

**B**IAL aims to develop the best practices pertaining to the management and relationship with people. Labour relations are no exception.

As part of APIFARMA one of BIAL's main responsibilities is to follow the guidelines and rules of the Collective Employment Agreement of the Pharmaceutical Industry, an existing convention between companies involved in the sector who are members of the Association. This collective agreement regulates the sector's activities within the Labour Law, Establishment of Employment Relations, Vocational Training, Safety, Hygiene, Health and Safety, among others.

BIAL is also part of the "ISO Group", a project developed in partnership with Infarmed (Portuguese Authority of Medicines and Health Products I.P.), which gathers a work group of representatives of each industry to harmonise procedures and promote potential synergies between the participating entities.

It should also be emphasised that BIAL gives priority to job security and stability and is proud of having approximately 89% of employment contracts as permanent.

## Human Resources Policies

### Turnover and Mobility

**A**t BIAL we favour the internal turnover of our employees, with almost all existing opportunities within the Group being disclosed internally, thus offering our people integration through new roles and departments, as well as working in different countries. In 2021 the rate of recruitment processes completed with internal employees was 16%.

Whenever BIAL enters a new market and/or creates international teams, the integration of business processes, values, ethical principles and BIAL's culture are priority. Nevertheless, always based on individuality respect, specificities and differences of the communities where we are present.

### Performance Management

**P**erformance Management is crucial and an essential management tool to assure employee/organisation alignment. At BIAL performance appraisal is carried out annually, based on the evaluation of the (corporate, departmental and individual) goals, strengths and areas needing improvement, which result in a development plan with specific actions and measures.



In this evaluation, employees are given the opportunity to reinforce their career by “mapping” needs and expectations, to promote the development of specific training plans. This also enables us to gain a more detailed perception of the interests, motivations and ambitions of the employees in a short and medium-term, as well as align them with the strategic needs of the BIAL Group.

### Training and Development

**A**t all functional levels, we promote teamwork and an ongoing training systems which allows updating and expanding skills and competencies of our human resources.

With the intention to generate high levels of motivation and performance, BIAL develops programs aimed towards individual performance. In 2021 approximately 108 training hours were provided to each employee, proving BIAL’s commitment to the qualification and professional valorisation of people. Below are some examples of training programs implemented at BIAL:

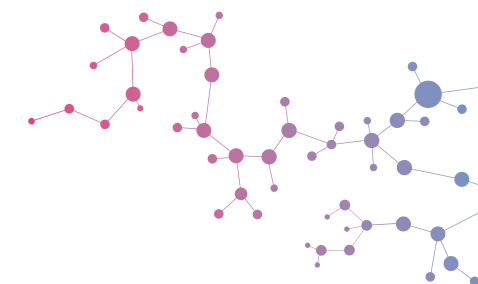
- **Induction Training** – Defined and aimed at all employees who start working for the company.
- **Executive Coaching** – Provided annually to a group of employees with the main goal of providing them with key skills to better perform their roles.
- **Leadership Training** – Through partnerships with distinguished institutions, each year, BIAL provides its leaders with leadership training. “myTEAM” and “BIAL Tools” are examples of programs which have been developed.



- **Management and Leadership Good Practices Program.**
- **Curriculum Enrichment** – BIAL annually contributes to or finances the costs of employee graduation, master, PhD and MBA studies, which may be considered as an added value to the business and to the employees.
- **Language Training** – Given each year so that, over time, all employees can improve this skill to promote, optimise and speed up the internationalisation process defined for the Group.







- **Internal Training** – Annually, several internal training plans are provided to all employees with topics on process updates, procedures or equipment. Our employees are also trained in key areas such as Best Practices in the Pharmaceutical Industry, Occupational Health and Safety, Pharmacovigilance, among others. It is important to state that the Code of Ethics and Conduct is accessible to all new employees in the company. Once again, proving our commitment to offer training, BIAL has also developed an e-learning platform.

### Internal satisfaction

Since the opinion of our employees is important to overall growth, every 2 years we conduct an Internal Satisfaction Survey. This survey is an opportunity for all employees to voice their views on several issues related to their work.

In the last edition, in 2021, the overall employee satisfaction with the company reached 84.8%. This instrument allowed us to collect a set of information that led to the implementation of new measures that aim to further improve the level of satisfaction of our people. In 2021 Bial made a big investment in Wellbeing matters. This instrument made it possible to collect a range of information that led to the implementation of new measures that aim to further improve the degree of satisfaction of our people.

### Internal communication

As BIAL is present in over 55 countries and has around 1000 employees, internal communication is key to a good organisational climate.

Through our intranet all relevant information is shared and available to all employees.

Annually there is an event commemorating the anniversary of the company where the Chairman, the CEO and the Directors of the different areas share information about the present status and the future of the company. In addition, international meetings are annually held with all Directors to share information and make decisions on the definition/adjustment of the company's strategy.

BIAL has been creating a virtuous circle of satisfaction between the Company and its employees, defined as a priority of the internal motivation and the support of a cooperative and collaborative spirit. The high level of permanent and open dialogue is a source of pride, which is recognised both internally and externally.



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### Quality and the Environment as Principles

- Principle 7: **BIAL supports a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;**
- Principle 8: **BIAL promotes environmental responsibility;**
- Principle 9: **: BIAL promotes the use of environmentally-friendly technology.**



Quality is understood as being a responsibility for all. Its improvement must be constantly sought out and developed as a determinant factor towards the accomplishment of our goals.

Health, Safety and the Environment are also an integral part of our commitments. The strategies as well as the development and optimisation efforts in our processes, products and services respect both the Environment and all those who live in it.

These commitments will be ensured by all areas of the Company, through the following principles:

- Guarantee the quality and safety of the drugs manufactured, in harmony with the health and safety of employees as well as of the environment;
- Strictly comply with regulatory, technical and normative requirements which apply to our activity or others to which BIAL subscribes;
- Stimulate the improvement and development of the employees' skills, recognising their contributions as a way of professional growth, job satisfaction and commitment to quality, health, safety and the environment, so as to maintain an organisation which values initiative, teamwork and knowledge sharing;
- Demand, from suppliers, the strict compliance with the specifications and requirements for different materials, products and services, as well as acting responsibly with regards to health, safety and the environment, stimulating their participation in the improvement of their processes, products and services;
- Continuous improvement of the system performance, for us to have merit in the acceptance of the Health Community, regulating entities and society in general.







Certified in 2001, BIAL was the first pharmaceutical company and the first operating in the healthcare area to obtain Certification for its Environmental Management System from ISO 14001.

The main environmental aspects which directly and indirectly depend on our activity are periodically monitored in a systematic manner, namely:

- Waste production
- Water consumption and wastewater
- Energy consumption
- Carbon neutrality
- Promotion of legal compliance for “Entities that work on behalf of or for the Organisation”

### Waste production

**I**n 2021 the overall production of waste was 224.4 tonnes. In total all of it was sent to licensed operators.

In 2021 the production of recyclable waste (plastics, aluminium, glass, cardboard, paper...) at BIAL corresponded to 70% of the total waste generated.

BIAL monitors its paper consumption and in 2021 several measures were implemented in this area, namely: Reduction of white paper consumption through process digitization, replacement of single-use paper with 100 % recycled paper, acquisition of cartons, leaflets and cardboard boxes with FSC (*Florest Steward Council*) certification, i.e. the raw materials for our cartons come from sustainable managed forests.

In addition to recyclable waste, BIAL produces hazardous waste resulting from the return of products from the market (pharmacies, wholesalers) and from production leftovers. In 2021, hazardous waste amounted to approximately 51 ton, corresponding to a 34% reduction compared to 2020.

To improve the waste management BIAL has adopted the following measures:

- Forwarding of solvent waste produced for recovery/ regeneration;
- Change in the final destination of some types of waste, considering closer destinations;
- Publication of informative articles in the internal newsletter;
- Placement of a new, more appealing and informative image on the internal recycling points;
- Campaign for the employees' collection of waste of infrequent types (ink cartridges, light bulbs, small electrical appliances, batteries, etc....).



## Water consumption and wastewater generated

During 2021, 14 168 m<sup>3</sup> of water from the public supply system were consumed. This water was used for human consumption as well as for the production process. In order to reduce not only costs, but also environmental impacts associated with the use of public water supply, the fire-fighting network, the irrigation, washing and cooling systems of the company use untreated water obtained from a borehole and 5 618 m<sup>3</sup> were consumed.

The volume of wastewater produced and treated in 2021 in our Industrial Effluent Treatment Plant was 9985 m<sup>3</sup>, corresponding to 70% of total consumption of drinking water.

## Energy consumption

Energy consumption is mainly associated with two types of “sources”: Electricity and Natural Gas, the total of which is recorded under Primary Energy, TEP. Energy consumption has shown some fluctuations over the past 10 years, alternating with positive and negative variations from one year to another.

Under the applicable legislation, BIAL is considered an intensive energy consumer, and an Energy Rationalization Plan is in progress. In 2021, BIAL's facilities consumed a total of approximately 1 242 TEP, with the consumption profile decreasing 12% in comparison to the previous year.

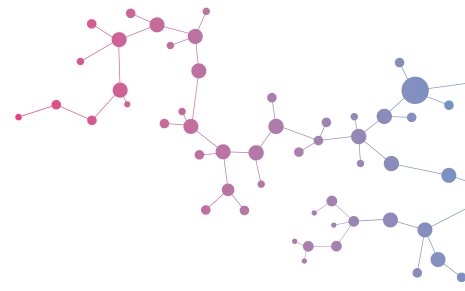
Reinforcing the commitment to sustainability, BIAL has a Self-Consumption Production Unit (UPAC) of 1244 photovoltaic solar panels, occupying an area of about 2500 m<sup>2</sup>, on the roof of the headquarters building.

In 2021, UPAC produced 671 kWh, resulting in a reduction in emission of 315 ton CO<sub>2</sub>.

This project reflects BIAL's commitment and responsibility to continue to incorporate sustainability into its business management, as well as its ambition to protect the Environment and contribute to a sustainable economy.







### Promotion of legal compliance for “people working on behalf of or for the organisation”

Throughout 2021, BIAL continued to promote training and awareness actions regarding the Environment, with special emphasis on subcontracted entities.

In 2022, BIAL will continue committed to monitoring the effectiveness of the Environmental Management and Occupational Health and Safety Systems, along with their evolution in time, while paying special attention to the compliance within the applicable legislation and continuous improvement.

### Occupational health and safety (OHS)

BIAL promotes a healthy and safe working environment, adopting the necessary measures to prevent accidents which may occur during the course of work and minimizing or eliminating the risks, where possible.

Within the training/awareness and communication context, several actions were developed with all employees, both in conference rooms and at the workplace. Various emergency drill exercises were also conducted. In 2021, several actions were conducted, namely in areas such as the Environment and OHS, focusing on Waste Management, Good Environmental and OSH Practices for Service Providers, Emergency Response (fire extinguisher training), Mass Training, Ergonomics (included classes of labor gymnastics), Chemical Agents, Individual Protective Equipment, Height Work, Manual Load Handling, Electromagnetic Fields, Safe Driving of Vehicles.

In terms of health, in addition to the usual auxiliary diagnostic tests that support the medical fitness assessment, two additional campaigns were also developed: audiometric tests and optometric tests.

With regards to the choice of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), this is performed by taking into account the risks to be protected and the characteristics of the employees who will use it. In addition to providing all PPE required for the tasks to be performed, BIAL replaces them whenever they are damaged or have expired.

Technical audits to the facilities are also carried out, with the objective of verifying the safety conditions of workplaces (work equipment, environment, PPE, fire-fighting equipment, exposure to chemical, biological and physical agents) as well as verifying legal compliance. These audits also screen machines, the use of shields and other aspects related to OHS. These audits result in reports which include the findings and corrective measures suggested.

### ANTI-CORRUPTION

- Principle 10: **BIAL works against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.**

BIAL has been in the market for over 98 years and throughout these nine decades, has worked in compliance with the highest ethical standards. This has always been part of the company's DNA.

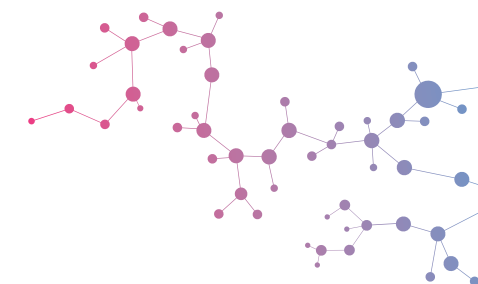
BIAL has a Code of Ethics and Conduct that establishes the principles which govern the company's activity and the relations with its partners. Since BIAL's image and success depends on each of its employees and because group's strength, integrity and ethics are part of daily activities, BIAL will continue to work responsibly, seeking to make a difference, offering everyone a longer and better life.

- BIAL conducts all activities according to the highest ethical standards reflected in our Code of Ethics and Conduct. BIAL complies with any and all laws, directives, regulations, standards or national, international or regional rules, associative codes, policies, procedures and ethical, deontological and moral standards, applicable to our activities in all geographical locations where we operate.
- On a regular and continuous basis, BIAL promotes global and local training and awareness-raising actions. All actions reinforce the duties of transparency, ethics, and integrity that are expected of our employees, as well as of the hierarchies in promoting an ethical culture at BIAL. All new employees, regardless of their function, are trained according to the Code of Ethics and Conduct.
- Bribery and corruption are against BIAL's core values; they are unethical and contribute to inequality. Therefore, we have a zero tolerance policy regarding bribery and corruption practices.

As part of our commitment towards integrity and high ethical standards in the conduct of our business activities, each and every Officer, Employee or legal person working on behalf of BIAL, is strictly prohibited from (and from attempting to) offering, giving, soliciting, accepting or receiving any goods, services or amounts, with the intention of obtaining illegitimate economic or business benefits or advantages.







- Failure to comply with the Code or with the Laws, Procedures and Ethical Standards may lead to (administrative, civil and criminal) penalties for BIAL, causing significant business disruption and harm to BIAL's reputation, and personally towards each one of us. It may lead also to disciplinary action including possible enforcement of legally permitted penalty.
- BIAL has internal and external mechanisms to report irregularities or noncompliant behaviours which are not in accordance with the principles outlined. We aim to ensure and monitor that all employees comply with ethical and conduct principles provided.





## III Social Responsibility

**BIAL**

**B**IAL's social responsibility policy is an integral part of the company's management practices and dictates the relationship with its various stakeholders. It involves several areas: people management, quality and environmental protection policies, various initiatives to promote/support scientific research and association with humanitarian causes and social organisations throughout the world.

We are not alone in this mission. Over the course of recent years, BIAL has allied with several institutions and bodies that share our vision of cooperating to build a more responsible and sustainable planet.

Aiming to contribute towards the promotion of sustainable economic progress, we are a member of the UN Global Compact, acting in accordance with the ten principles regarding management practices.

Climate change is a real problem which affects current and future generations.

We are signatory to Caring for Climate, a declaration by the members of the Global Compact that promotes solutions towards climate problems which affect our planet.

Thinking of a more sustainable future, in 2018 BIAL joined The Porto Protocol initiative as a founding member. This forum brings together entities from different fields and aims to promote the discussion of ideas, while sharing experiences and recommending solutions to reduce ecological footprint.

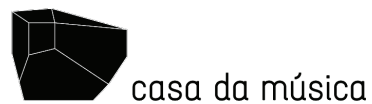
BIAL is part of "Porto de Futuro", a pioneering and innovative educational program in the country, which is a response to the need for a greater involvement from the civil society in schooling, recognising the key role of Education in the sustainable development of a more competitive and dynamic society. In this program, BIAL supports a Group of Schools in the Porto region and, among various programs, we highlight the "Braço Direito" project. This project aims to have students come to BIAL for a work day as the right hand of one of our employees, accompanying them on their daily tasks and activities.

Furthermore, every year, some of BIAL's employees volunteer to train students from one of that Group's schools on topics such as Family, Citizenship, Economy, among others.



**Bial**  
Keeping life  
in mind.

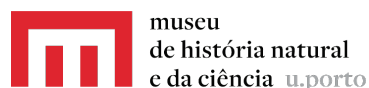




casa da música



the porto protocol

Dignitude<sup>+</sup>FUNDADOR  
SERRAVESSTAND4  
GOOD

BIAL is also a member of *EPIS – Empresários Pela Inclusão Social* (Businessmen for Social Inclusion). This association was created in 2006 and is focused on Education, with special emphasis on reducing school failure and early drop-out.

BIAL is a partner of Stand4Good, an association that aims to support university students that, although living in an unfavorable economic situation, were not eligible to scholarships. We've been working together since the association's beginning and we grant 10 University Scholarships each academic year.

We also highlight BIAL's participation in the "Banco do Medicamento" initiative, a protocol between the *Ministério da Solidariedade e Segurança Social*, Infarmed, Apifarma and "União das Misericórdias". This is a platform for access to free medicines through donations made directly by pharmaceutical companies, through social institutions that have medical and pharmaceutical services. In the Health area, we also have partnerships with several medical societies and patient associations which aim towards training, education and awareness of the various issues that affect the health of the population.

In 2021, BIAL joined *Iniciativa Educação*, namely *Ser Pró* project that aims to improve the quality of education and training in Portugal by promoting and integrating young people in School and reducing the deficit of skilled technicians in Companies. BIAL is a partner in the Pharmacy Technician course at Gondomar Secondary School, contributing as a specialist in the Pharmaceutical Industry.

Also, in 2021, the *Clube Amigos dos Animais* was created, an initiative of BIAL's employees who share a passion for animals. The club aims to be a facilitator of communication and information sharing on initiatives and actions that each of the members already carry out, or are aware of, by previous participation in associations dedicated to animals. During 2021 several internal initiatives were carried out, such as a donation in kind and a solidarity sale.

Every year we collect food products, school books, toys and clothing to support charitable institutions. Once a year a blood donation and bone marrow collection is also held at BIAL's premises, by *Instituto Português de Sangue e Transplantação – IPST*.

BIAL gives special attention to supporting the local community where it is based in, namely the *Câmara Municipal da Trofa*, local schools in Trofa and Maia districts, as well as local sports clubs and associations.

Additionally, BIAL maintained its participation in several entities and institutions whose aim is the sustainable development of the planet and the creation of a more fair and responsible society with a focus on promoting people's quality of life, culture, health, quality of the environment, and research and development.

## BIAL FOUNDATION

With the aim in disclosing and promoting science and research in Health, BIAL created, in 1994, the BIAL Foundation. It is an institution of public utility, whose mission is to promote and motivate scientific knowledge of the human-being, both from a physical and spiritual point of view.

Over the years, the BIAL Foundation has recognised and stimulated scientific research by awarding Prizes and Grants for Scientific Research, collaborating with the scientific community from around the world.

F U N D A Ç ã O

Bial

Instituição de utilidade pública  
Institution of public utility

Aimed at motivating medical research and publishing works with great repercussion in medical research, the BIAL Foundation promotes the *Prémio BIAL Medicina Clínica*. This award aims to reward an original, intellectual work of medical nature, with a free theme and directed to clinical practice, representing a work with results of great quality and relevance.

PRÉMIO Bial  
DE MEDICINA CLÍNICABial AWARD  
IN BIOMEDICINE

In addition to the monetary value of 100 thousand Euros, the *Prémio BIAL Medicina Clínica* also includes the publication of the winning article, with a first exclusive edition to be distributed free of charge among health professionals. Honourable Mentions may also be attributed (a maximum of two) in the amount of 10 thousand Euros, each.

In 2018, with the objective of widening the scope of the BIAL Foundation action and recognising the most remarkable and relevant discoveries in biomedicine, the BIAL Award in Biomedicine was created, which from 2019 onwards - year of its first edition - is attributed in the odd years alternating with the *Prémio BIAL Medicina Clínica*. This new Award, with a value of 300 thousand Euros,

Bial  
Keeping life  
in mind.



distinguishes an article of biomedical nature published in the last ten years that reflects a work of high quality and scientific relevance.

In honor of the doctor and great immunologist Maria de Sousa, the Ordem dos Médicos and the Bial Foundation decided to promote, in an exclusive partnership, from 2021 onwards the Maria de Sousa Award. The award has a value of up to 30 thousand euros/each, and aims to support young Portuguese researchers, aged 35 or under, with scientific projects in the area of Health Sciences, including an internship at an international center of excellence.

## PRÊMIO Maria de Sousa

The Grants for Scientific Research are aimed to encourage research in Psychophysiology and Parapsychology areas and can go as far as up to € 60,000 per project. The competitions already conducted have already benefited of more than 775 projects of around 1600 researchers from 29 countries.

With the same goal of encouraging the neurophysiological and mental study of Man, the BIAL Foundation has been organising, every two years since 1996, the “Behind and Beyond the Brain” symposium, which is currently an international forum for the discussion and expansion of research in the field of Neurosciences and Parapsychology.

BIAL Foundation is sponsored by the President of the Portuguese Republic, the Conselho de Reitores das Universidades Portuguesas and the Ordem dos Médicos.

