

## **Martina Lutterová: Consultant for health innovation and mentor**

„If I should tell what is the most important skill in my career I would say curiosity and the ability to ask the right questions. I am open to new opportunities and not afraid to learn new things along the way. “



Foto: private

Martina Lutterová  
LABORY55.com  
Small enterprise (11 - 50 employees)  
Sector: Health, Personal care  
Position: Co-founder and product developer

I am an independent life science consultant and co-founder and product developer at a small company in skin care. I have a Master degree in fermentation chemistry and biochemical technologies and a PhD in biochemistry from the Slovak University of Technology. After several years of working as a researcher in Slovakia, I decided to try something new and started a job at a small biotech company in pharmaceutical development in Austria. I worked as a researcher and later a leader of a small research group.

After moving to a research position in another company, I soon became interested in the business part of the company activities asking questions about how the business processes in the company work and how the company is doing. Based on that, they asked me to start working as a project manager. I built the project management department from the scratch and was responsible for both internal projects and projects with big pharma companies. I was also involved in what you could call business development, introducing our product to large pharma companies and discussing possible collaborations with them. Additionally, my work included legal issues such as non-confidentiality agreements, material transfer agreements etc.

I didn't have any project management or legal training before, so I had to learn many new things along the way. I managed successfully, but I think having some project management included in the PhD training would be useful.

Building upon my experience in the business sector, I started working as an independent consultant for the life science sector in Slovakia, focusing on biomedicine and pharmaceutical development. I support academic teams in the development of commercial products. I also collaborate with public sector authorities and was one of the co-founders of Biohub at the Slovak Ministry of Health. I especially enjoy being a mentor for Lifbee Academy, where I guide young scientists in developing their business ideas. Recently I have also started my own business in the field of cosmetics.

If I should tell what is the most important skill in my career I would say curiosity and the ability to ask the right questions. I am open to new opportunities and not afraid to learn new things along the way. Communication skills are also extremely important throughout my working life.