

## **WA4STEAM angels invest in EXHEUS, a biotech start-up that has developed a unique RNA test to improve people's health**

- ***WA4STEAM is an association of 120 women business angels that invest and support STEAM<sup>1</sup> related start-ups led by women***
- ***EXHEUS, has developed a unique technique that analyzes gene expression, using artificial intelligence, to optimize performance, health and nutrition***
- ***EXHEUS, founded in 2020 in Barcelona, is a spin-off, of IIB Sant Pau, the Research Institute of the "Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau", " Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya" (UPC) and Summit S.L.***
- ***WA4STEAM business angels have invested over €1.3million in 22 women-led STEAM start-ups since its foundation in May 2018, in its endeavor to increase the number of women founders in these areas I***

***Barcelona (Spain), May 11 2021.*** WA4STEAM business angels have completed its investment in the first seed capital round of Exheus, a biotech company that has created a unique Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) test that analyses and measures the activation and expression of the 22.000 genes in the human body.

Exheus technology is capable of sequencing RNA from a small blood sample analyzing. It uses artificial intelligence algorithms to analyze variations and generate the most complete health report in the world. Exheus main purpose is to create a real-time optimization tool to improve the quality of people's life in terms of their diet, sports performance, and well-being.

After 20 years of research, the technology has been validated in different sport disciplines and pilots are being developed with European sports clubs. The Exheus Blue Boost test to detect and correct the activation of genes to improve sports performance and the Exheus Nutri Diet test for the activation of genes affecting health and wellbeing are already available through the Exheus website <https://exheus.com/tienda/>

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<sup>1</sup> STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Architecture and Mathematics

Founded in 2020, amidst the covid-19 pandemic, Exheus is a spin-off, from the IIB Sant Pau, the Research Institute of the “Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau,” Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya” (UPC) and Summit S.L.

The project was born as a result of the doctoral thesis of Dr. Emma Roca, a biochemist and worldwide elite athlete, to analyze the effect of high intensity sport on ultra-trail runners together with Dr. José Manuel Soria, Exheus Chief Scientific Officer and Genetic and Rare Diseases Researcher and Dr. Alexandre Perera, Exheus Chief Technology Officer, bioinformatic engineer and expert in artificial intelligence. The founding team was completed within the framework of the Collider Accelerator program, with Dr. Teresa Tarragó joining as CEO and Pol Cervera as director of operations.

Exheus long term vision is to become the largest database in the world of RNA, leveraging the learning involved in obtaining all this data, their great capacity for innovation (two patents filed) and a team of leading professionals in this field.

For WA4STEAM, an all-women business angels’ association committed to support and invest in start-ups led by women in STEAM, the investment in EXHEUS represents a further step in achieving their mission.

According to WA4STEAM members and co-leaders of the investment due-diligence team *“EXHEUS is an innovative start up offering the possibility of using artificial intelligence to improve people’s lives in aspects such as nutrition, sports training and anti-aging strategies. That’s why I invested in it”* explains Eli Abad, while for Monica Perez *“EXHEUS technology and the strong women scientists part of the founding team makes the investment fully aligned with WA4STEAM objectives”*.

For Teresa Tarrago, Exheus CEO *“We share WA4STEAM business angels’ aim to support and raise awareness over women scientist and researchers in STEAM and we are pleased to have them as one of our investors”*

WA4STEAM and international all-women business angels’ association with 120 members in 6 countries aims to increase the number of women entrepreneurs in STEAM by providing access to seed capital and raising awareness over female role models in STEAM

WA4STEAM, business angels have invested more than EUR1.3million in 22 women-led STEAM start-ups since its foundation in May 2018.

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## **About WA4STEAM**

WA4STEAM is a non-for-profit association of women business angels that provide seed capital and support to STEAM start-ups led by women.

WA4STEAM aspires to be a relevant member within the international ecosystem of business angels and entrepreneurs in STEAM helping women-led STEAM projects become profitable enterprises.

WA4STEAM's main objective is to increase the number of women business angels and of women entrepreneurs in STEAM.

WA4STEAM's members are more than business angels driven by profitability and aim to become strategic partners, nurturing women future leaders and role models.

The broad skill set of its members, its dual approach to investing, driven by socio-economic profitability and technological impact, together with its strong values, make WA4STEAM a unique organization.

For more information visit [www.wa4steam.com](http://www.wa4steam.com)

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**About Exheus**

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