

## **CIC nanoGUNE CONSOLIDER, THE BIG CHALLENGE OF THE SMALL**

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The Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism of the Basque Government has recently launched a so-called nanoBASQUE2015 strategy designed for the development of a new industrial sector in the Basque Country that would be enabled by nanotechnology. In the framework of this initiative and the Spanish Consolider-Ingenio program, a new R&D center (the Nanoscience Cooperative Research Center nanoGUNE) has been created with the mission of addressing both basic and applied nanoscience world-class research for the competitive growth of the Basque Country. In this talk, I intend to give an overview of the current status of this challenging project, which we call 'the big challenge of the small' not only because it refers to the science of the small but also because it represents a big challenge for a small but successful country that is currently aiming at becoming an innovation reference in Europe.