

Fabio Lima



After an internship in Novartis Chemical Development in 2011–2012 as part of his Diplôme d'Ingénieur at INP-ENSIACET, Fabio went on to do an MSc at the University of Toulouse with a 6-month placement with Prof. Steve Buchwald at MIT to work on C–N cross-coupling reactions (2013). He then did a PhD with Prof. Steve Ley at the University of Cambridge, UK (2014–2018), where he developed photoredox C–C cross-coupling reactions using boronic acid derivatives. He then completed a Postdoctoral stay with Dr. Joerg Sedelmeier in Novartis Chemical Development to develop novel flow chemistry methods to access pharmaceutical ingredients.

Fabio then joined Global Discovery Chemistry (Biomedical Research) in 2019 to build the newly created GDC Catalysis Lab under the leadership of Dr. Cara Brocklehurst. His laboratory leverages HTE chemistry solutions and lab automation to eliminate synthetic bottlenecks encountered in Medicinal Chemistry Programs at Novartis. His team is supporting 700 chemists worldwide and aims at identifying quickly synthetic methods that enable efficient synthesis of challenging targets, SAR exploration, (Micro)libraries and scale-up campaigns across multiple disease areas. Fabio is also passionate in promoting computer assisted synthesis tools at Novartis. During his career Fabio has co-authored 13 publications and 3 patents, he is also representing Novartis on the advisory board of the Open Reaction Database.