



Dear Reader,

the past months of Euro-BioImaging have been really dynamic and it is now time to start materializing everything we have planned and aimed for in the past 3 years. In a few months the Preparatory Phase, funded by the European Commission, is reaching the end of its mandate. After this date, Euro-BioImaging will enter in the transition phase that will set the ground for European infrastructure implementation. Now the key question is: how are the future partners (i.e. national funders) going to build Euro-BioImaging?

Euro-BioImaging has strong support from its scientific community: in the 1st Open Call for Nodes, 2200 researchers expressed their need for open access to cutting-edge imaging infrastructure. Even more importantly, 71 imaging facilities from 19 countries submitted their Expression of Interest, wishing to open their doors to these European and international researchers. This major feedback is only the peak of an iceberg - underneath there are hundreds of research institutions and half a million researchers in Europe who will potentially benefit from a European imaging infrastructure.

Now is the time for all of us to pull on the same string - to talk to funders on multiple levels and convince them that there are plenty of good reasons to support Euro-BioImaging, at the national as well as at the European level.

In this respect, Euro-BioImaging has gathered representatives of national funders from 21 countries and the international organization EMBL. The national delegates are currently preparing to set up the Interim Board which will guide Euro-BioImaging through the transition phase towards its official launch as a newly established international organization.

This will be the focus of the Euro-BioImaging Stakeholder Meeting that will be held in Heidelberg on November 25-26th, 2013. Although this will be the last Stakeholders Meeting of the Preparatory Phase, it is just the beginning of much more concrete discussions and negotiations between all parties. Reserve your place to this important event by registering through our website, and of course

enjoy the read!

## News

# 1st Euro-BioImaging Open Call for Nodes

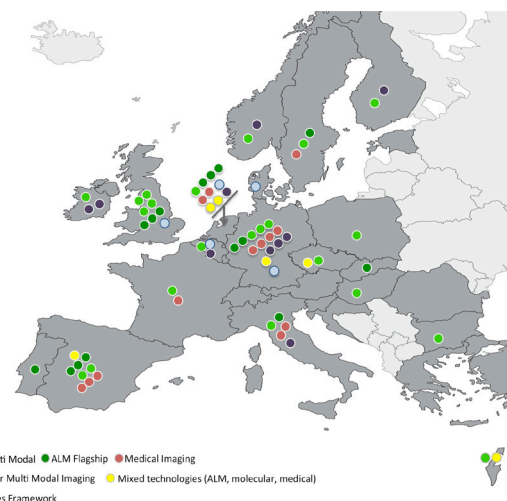
In 2013 Euro-BioImaging made one of the most important steps towards the construction of a European imaging infrastructure - in spring this year we called imaging facilities and laboratories to officially express their interest to become a Euro-BioImaging Node. Nodes will provide access to most requested imaging technologies to researchers from all over Europe, complemented by the top expertise, service and training to use them.

A total of 71 proposals for Euro-BioImaging Nodes were submitted by 221 institutions from 19 European countries. They were reviewed by an international Independent Evaluation Board (IEB), comprising some of the world's best imaging scientists and infrastructure experts (see list of IEB members on Euro-BioImaging webpage). The Board evaluated strengths and weaknesses of all proposals and recommended Nodes for support by the national funders.

To become a Euro-BioImaging Node, 25 Expressions of Interest (Eoi) are highly recommended by the Independent Evaluation Board, and 20 Eois are recommended.

The Board also pointed out improvements that could be made to the presented plans for construction of Nodes. Their report has been forwarded to the members of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) of Euro-BioImaging which, during the preparatory phase, is the communication platform for all Member States interested in Euro-BioImaging (learn more about this group in the next section of this newsletter).

Node applicants have already started negotiation with their national funders and IWG representatives, to secure funds for the upgrade and establishment of their Node at the national level. Following these national decisions, the future Euro-BioImaging Member States will make their final selection of the Nodes that should become operational at European level.



*Distribution of applications for Euro-BioImaging Nodes. Each circle represents one Expression of Interest for the Node offering following technology areas: Light green - ALM Multi Modal, dark green- ALM Flagship, Red- Medical Imaging, Dark purple - Molecular Imaging, Yellow- Mixture of ALM/ Molecular/Medical Imaging, Blue-Data Infrastructure: Challenges Framework.*

## Facts & Events

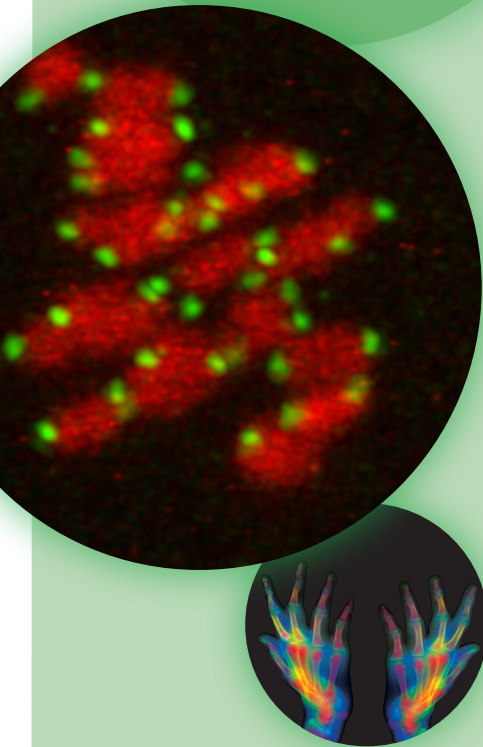
Secure your participation to the **5th Euro-BioImaging Stakeholder Meeting, November 25-26, 2013, EMBL, Heidelberg**. Registrations are now open on [eurobioimaging.eu](http://eurobioimaging.eu)

### New to Euro-Biolmaging?

Euro-Biolmaging is one of 13 Biological and Medical Sciences Projects included in the roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI).

Euro-Biolmaging is open to everyone interested.

For more information, please visit:  
[www.eurobioimaging.eu](http://www.eurobioimaging.eu)



## Euro-Biolmaging implementation: next steps

Euro-Biolmaging is approaching transition from preparatory to implementation phase. During the Preparatory Phase the Steering Committee guided activities of Euro-Biolmaging, and together the Consortium partners made remarkable progress towards infrastructure development.

A smooth transition to implementation is ensured through the Euro-Biolmaging Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), which was launched in January 2013 at its first meeting in Vienna. This group currently comprises national representatives from 21 countries, who are mandated by their ministries and/or national funding bodies, and EMBL. In 2013, the IWG provides the platform for interested Member States to start discussion on the Euro-Biolmaging infrastructure model and to prepare the Euro-Biolmaging Memorandum of Understanding for the countries' signatures by the end of Preparatory Phase. The signatories will form the so-called Interim Board, which will be in the driving seat in the next year during transition. The Interim Board will define and decide on the final Euro-Biolmaging governance structure, finance plan, users' access policy etc. based on the recommendations made in the Preparatory Phase Consortium. Based on this work, the countries together will decide on the statutes of an International Consortium Agreement, which will serve as Euro-Biolmaging's charter and will ultimately establish it as a pan-European research infrastructure supported and owned by its Member States.

Through conference calls and physical meetings, IWG delegates are in continuous communication. The group remains open for new countries and international organizations to join anytime.

If you like to contact your country delegate, we will be happy to send you their contact details. Please email one of our project managers (on the left of this page).

## India Biolmaging 2nd Annual Meeting

India Biolmaging – the new Indian initiative for imaging technologies in the life sciences – had its 2nd Annual Meeting in Bangalore on Sep 7th. Again, they invited Euro-Biolmaging representatives to participate in this meeting, and together they formulated and signed a Collaboration Framework Agreement. The goal is to establish a long-term alliance, which will mutually benefit India Biolmaging and Euro-Biolmaging in providing imaging infrastructures to support research in the areas of biological and medical sciences. The two infrastructures will exchange best practice in the areas of user access and experience, user and facility staff training, facility operation and management. Furthermore they plan the exchange of users for advanced courses in innovative imaging technologies and participation of Indian facility staff at high-level "train-the-trainer" courses run by Euro-Biolmaging.



*Prof. Satyajit Mayor, Director of the National Centre for Biological Science in Bangalore, India and Jan Ellenberg, Euro-Biolmaging scientific coordinator for biological imaging, sign the agreement.*

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