



Euro-BioImaging

European Research Infrastructure for Imaging Technologies in Biological
and Biomedical Sciences

WP12
User Access

Task 12.1
Define Requirements

Deliverable 12.3

List of potential funding sources to
support Euro-BioImaging users

Task leaders

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1 Background

Euro-Biolmaging will be a distributed research infrastructure and provide open user access to a complete range of state-of-the-art imaging technologies in biological, molecular and medical imaging for life scientists in Europe and beyond. In addition, Euro-Biolmaging will offer image data services and training for infrastructure users and providers.

The potential user community for Euro-Biolmaging is enormous and comprises approximately 500.000 life scientists in Europe (including students, postdocs, senior scientists, research group leaders, scientists in industry etc). In 2012, Euro-Biolmaging carried out a test-operational phase (proof-of-concept studies) to demonstrate that a distributed imaging infrastructure offering open access can operate successfully and boost European life science research. In only four weeks, 228 researchers from 25 European countries and abroad (including USA, India, Australia, Singapore) submitted project proposals and 110 user projects were prioritized and conducted at 41 imaging facilities located in 14 European countries. 21 projects have already led to publications in peer reviewed journals and another 21 manuscripts are currently prepared (Oct 2013).

Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback from this test-run and the 2200 future user projects submitted as part of the 1st call for Nodes in 2013, Euro-Biolmaging foresees 1.500 - 2000 user access requests for its first year of operation.

Access to Euro-Biolmaging research infrastructures (RIs) will be attractive for European users if excellent and exclusive technology is being provided and if costs for user access are reasonable. In the large Euro-Biolmaging Survey users and providers were asked what cost models for access to RIs they preferred. Perhaps not surprisingly, the largest portion of potential users preferred free access over shared and full cost models, while providers preferred a shared cost model (see Figure 1).

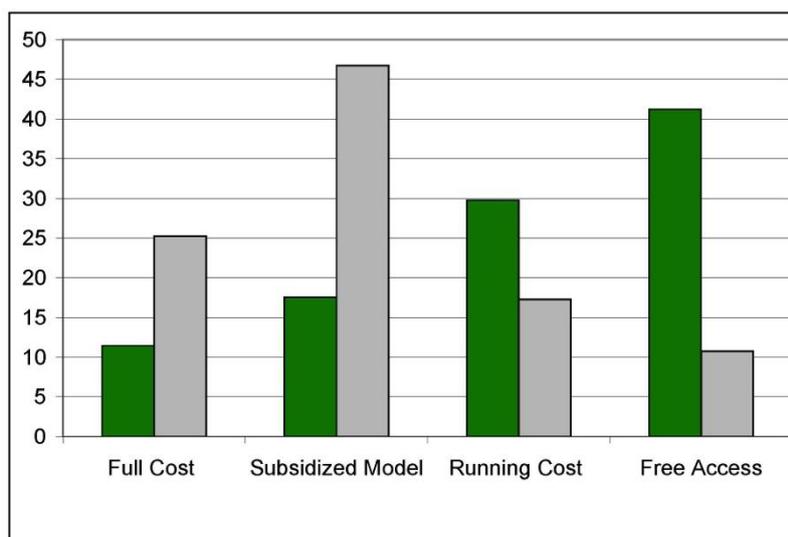


Figure 1: Preferred cost models of potential Euro-Biolmaging users (results from Euro-Biolmaging survey:

<http://www.eurobioimaging.eu/content-news/outcome-european-wide-survey-imaging-research-infrastructure-needs-and-supply>)

During the Euro-Biolmaging proof of concept studies (PCS) broad interest in open access by potential providers and users of RIs has been documented. Both providers and users took part in this experiment without any monetary compensation offered by Euro-Biolmaging. In the consecutive evaluation of the PCS, providers confirmed their interest in providing access to users providing that sufficient funding allowed upscale of their respective facilities' capacity in terms of instrumentation, personnel or other aspects (i.e. Euro-Biolmaging Node construction) as well as funding for operational costs (i.e. Euro-Biolmaging Node operation).

Regarding Node construction, in many European countries a large fraction of national investments, i.e. 202 million Euros have already been made into potential future Nodes of Euro-Biolmaging, that have formally expressed their interest to contribute their capacity to the pan-European infrastructure (see 1st Open Call for Euro-Biolmaging Nodes on <http://www.eurobioimaging.eu/content-news/outcome-1st-call-euro-bioimaging-nodes>).

Another 142 Million Euros has additionally been applied for by such potential future Nodes in the framework of national infrastructure funding instruments. Because of Euro-Biolmaging, these funding commitments are now coupled to open user access in many countries, which adds significant value to the investment by impacting many more scientists than comparable investments in the past. In addition, coordinating the procurements for the whole country by the national Biolmaging chapters has led to large cost savings.

Regarding Node operation and user access costs, the most important results of the PCS evaluation were:

- users required support and/ or access to the following RI aspects: instruments (71/76), technical assistance to run instruments (70/76), Methodological setup (e.g. design of study protocol) (61/76), Data processing and analysis (60/76), Training in infrastructure use (55/76) (Question 5). Therefore coverage of corresponding costs should be treated with high priority.
- Surrounding logistics (travel, accommodation, etc.) in the PCS was mostly arranged by the users without support from the providers (Question 6) and the majority of users welcomed this approach. The largest proportion of users travelled more than 500km to access the RI (Question 8). Therefore funding to cover users' travel costs has to be available. Most probably users will raise these funds themselves through national or European travel grants .
- 26% of users received specific funding for PCS participation (apart from free access), while 74% used non-specific funds available to them. Many comments made by the PCS users in the evaluation survey demonstrate that travel funding is a critical issue.

In summary the survey, PCS results and outcome of 1st Open Call for Nodes demonstrate that funding for user access is a multidimensional issue that will require coordination and support by the Euro-Biolmaging Hub and communication with respective funders at all levels. While funding for Node construction is directly and individually negotiated between Node applicants and their national funders, funding for user access – in particular transnational user access – will be discussed with national funders for national user access, Euro-Biolmaging Member States for common funding opportunities for European-level access activities, European funders and funding mechanisms (e.g. H2020) for transnational user access of European and international users.

National funding sources for users are the core topic of the present report. Please refer to D12.6 for the complete evaluation report on the Euro-Biolmaging PCS, and to D4.5 for the report on financial requirements of Euro-Biolmaging Hub and Nodes.

2 User Access costs and funding models

2.1 Cost requirements for User Access

Access to research infrastructure causes various types of cost items. Extent and types of costs vary for different types and levels of access. In the course of the 1st Open Call, 71 Nodes' Expressions of Interest identified those costs in their application forms for the different imaging technologies they plan to offer. Each Node applicant submitted a detailed cost concept, comprising costs of hosting a user, providing service and infrastructure. The needed capacity for this includes: (1) support staff: facility manager, bio/optical- technicians, operators, image analysis specialist, admin staff; (2) building automation, heating/air conditioning, electricity, (3) software licenses, membership fees, other contributions to the hosting organization; (4) upgrades and replacement purchases required for keeping the infrastructure and equipment on an adequate level, reflecting the state-of-the-art; consumables, indirect administration costs associated with the requested staff etc. Based on the submitted Cost Concepts, it can be concluded that the annual operational costs for running Nodes in imaging technologies, are about 20% of the Node construction costs, which means that 5 years of Node operation equal the costs for Node construction.

Based on the results of the Euro-Biolmaging Proof-of-Concept Studies and the Node applications, we estimate the cost per user access in the order of € 9.000 for biological imaging, € 13.000 for molecular imaging, and € 62.000 for medical imaging (see Table 1).

**Table 1: Euro-Biolmaging Node –
Operational costs for Euro-Biolmaging user access**

| Type of cost | Costs |
|---|--------------------|
| Biological Imaging: Operational Cost/Node/30 User per year (€ 9.000 / User) | € 0.27 Mill |
| 15 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/450 Users | € 4.05 Mill |
| 25 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/750 Users | € 6.75 Mill |
| Molecular Imaging: Operational Cost/Node/30 User per year (€ 13.000 / User) | € 0.39 Mill |
| 15 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/450 Users | € 5.85 Mill |
| 25 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/750 Users | € 9.75 Mill |
| Medical Imaging: Operational Cost/Node/30 User per year (€ 62.000 / User) | € 1.86 Mill |
| 15 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/450 Users | € 27.9 Mill |
| 25 Euro-Biolmaging Nodes/750 Users | € 46.5 Mill |

Extrapolating the number of PCS applications (228 user applications in 8 weeks) to one year and based on the Nodes' Expressions of Interest accompanied by over 2200 user research proposals, Euro-Biolmaging expects to serve up to 750-1000 users per year

with 30 users per Node on average (range of 10-120 Euro-Biolmaging users per Node). This is a conservative estimate, as Euro-Biolmaging as an open access infrastructure still is unknown to the European life science community at large. Future user numbers could be much higher than currently anticipated based on the PCS. The final number of Euro-Biolmaging Nodes will depend on the actual user demand, and the user number per Node will vary between technologies and countries.

2.2 Funding models for User Access Costs

For funding user access costs, three potential cost models were discussed within Euro-Biolmaging:

- Under **Free Access**, users do not pay for any of the costs related to the services, instruments, consumables or expertise they make use of. Users only have to cover their travel and accommodation expenses from other sources.
- Under a **Shared Cost** model, users will be charged specific percentages of costs for instrumentation, services and consumables and expertise they make use of, plus their expenses for travel and accommodation.
- Under a **Full Cost** model, users are charged the entire costs of the instruments, services, materials and expertise they make use of, plus their expenses for travel and accommodation.

Table 2: Three cost models for user access to Euro-Biolmaging Nodes.

| | Free Access | Shared Cost | Full Cost |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Travel | User | User | User |
| Housing | User | User | User |
| Daily expenses | User | User | User |
| Instrument hours | Provider | Shared | User |
| Support & Training personnel hours | Provider | Shared | User |
| Expertise | Provider | Shared | User |
| Consumables | Provider | Shared | User |
| Electricity | Provider | Shared | User |
| ... | | | |

The open access to Euro-Biolmaging aims to be free at the point of service for academic users and should be based exclusively on the scientific excellence of the research project proposed by the user.

Since Euro-Biolmaging Nodes will continue to be part of the national research infrastructure system, Euro-Biolmaging services will typically only constitute part of the overall imaging facility budget. Cost to provide internal and national user access would continue to be shared by the Member State and institution hosting the Node. Cost to provide new access for Euro-Biolmaging users including especially transnational access will be shared by the Euro-

Biolmaging Member States and existing European funding mechanisms, e.g. transnational and infrastructure access instruments in Horizon 2020.

Costs for Node operation and maintenance are envisioned to be covered by

- i) Member State/institution hosting the Node - to provide internal and national user access.
- ii) A common Euro-Biolmaging budget paid for by the Euro-Biolmaging Member States - to provide national and transnational user access from Euro-Biolmaging Member States.
- iii) Other European funding mechanisms e.g. Horizon 2020 – to provide transnational user access.

For Euro-Biolmaging user access, Euro-Biolmaging strongly advocates a “fund the user” concept, which would recover operational costs through the actual usage of a Node. This will guarantee that the services remain of the cutting edge quality that scientists need and provides the incentive for a national institution to host a Euro-Biolmaging Node. Different types or subgroups of users may be charged applying different cost models (e.g. academic users vs. industry users). To establish this system, Euro-Biolmaging plans a start-up funding mechanism that underwrites the initially required up-front investment into the Node capacity until the steady state level of users has been reached. After this initial phase, Node operational funding should be user access driven. Please see also D4.4 for more information on the funding strategy for Node operation.

The Euro-Biolmaging funding model will now be discussed in the Euro-Biolmaging Intergovernmental Working Group and with national funding agencies, and results will feed into the Euro-Biolmaging user access cost model. The final cost model will reflect the requirements of the different imaging technologies offered as well as the scale of effort needed for different user projects. The proposed Euro-Biolmaging cost model will be presented to the Euro-Biolmaging Interim Board and elaborated further taking also the nature of participating Nodes into account.

3 User Funding Sources

3.1 European Science Foundation (ESF)

The ESF comprises science funding organisations from most ESFRI countries and connects the major national science funding agencies. Many of these organisations offer funding for research projects. Users will be informed about suitable funding programs and opportunities and invited to contact their national agencies for suitable programs and alternative local, national and international institutions. Here, we provide a list of ESF member organisations and contact persons (status 01. May 2013) including the contact information.

Appendix 1 - ESF member organisations (status 1.05.2013)

1 Austria

**Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen
Forschung in Österreich (FWF)**
Austrian Science Fund

<http://www.fwf.ac.at>

Dr. Reinhard Belocky

reinhard.belocky@fwf.ac.at

2 Belgium

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)
Fund for Scientific Research

<http://www2.frs-fnrs.be>

Dr. Nadège Ricaud

nadege.ricaud@frs-fnrs.be

**Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-
Vlaanderen (FWO)**
Research Foundation Flanders

<http://www.fwo.be>

Dr. Olivier Boehme

olivier.boehme@fwo.be

3 Bulgaria

Българска академия на науките (BAS)
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

<http://www.bas.bg>

Dr. Simeon Anguelov

sanguelov@cu.bas.bg

Научни изследвания
National Science Fund of Bulgaria

<http://www.bulfund.com>

Dr. Violeta Milkova

v.milkova@mon.bg

4 Croatia

**Hrvatska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti
(HAZU)**

<http://www.hazu.hr>

Ms. Jelena Dukic

jdukic@hazu.hr

Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Hrvatska zaklada za znanost (HRZZ)

Croatian Science Foundation

<http://www.hrzz.hr/>

Ms. Josipa Badari

josipa@hrzz.hr'

5 Cyprus

Ίδρυμα Προώθησης Έρευνας (RPF)

Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation

<http://www.research.org.cy>

Ms. Constantina Makri

cmakri@research.org.cy

6 Czech Republic

Akademie věd České republiky (ASCR)

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

<http://www.cas.cz>

Mr. Robert Zika

zika@kav.cas.cz

Grantová agentura České republiky (GAČR)

Czech Science Foundation

<http://www.gacr.cz>

Mrs. Blanka Javorova

blanka.javorova@gacr.cz

7 Denmark

Danmarks Grundforskningsfonden (DG)

Danish National Research Foundation

<http://www.dg.dk>

Dr. Vibeke Schrøder

vs@dg.dk

Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab

Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters

<http://www.royalacademy.dk>

Dr. Henrik Slaatorn

hs@royalacademy.dk

Det Frie Forskningsråd - Sundhed og Sygdom (FSS)

The Danish Council for Independent Research -
Medical Sciences

Dr. Allan Hegelund

ahe@fi.dk

Det Frie Forskningsråd - Natur og Univers (FNU)

The Danish Council for Independent Research -
Natural Sciences

Mr. Lars Johannsen

johannsen@ps.au.dk

The secretarial functions for all five Danish
research councils are assumed by:

Forsknings- og Innovationsstyrelsen (FIST)

Danish Agency for Science, Technology and
Innovation

<http://www.fi.dk>Mr. Rune Odgaard
Jensen

ruoj@fi.dk

8 Estonia**Eesti Teadusagentuur (ETAG)**

Estonian Research Council

<http://www.etag.ee>

Ms. Ülle Must

ylle@archimedes.ee

9 Finland**Suomen Akatemia/Finlands Akademi**

Academy of Finland

<http://www.aka.fi>

Ms. Leila Häkkinen

kirjaamo@aka.fi

Tiedeakademijaosto/Sektionen för Vetenskapsakademierna

Delegation of the Finnish Academies of Science
and Letters

<http://www.tsv.fi/international/akatemi>
[at](#)

Ms. Irina Piippo

irina.piippo@tsv.fi

10 France

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|---|---|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) French National Research Agency | http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr | Dr. Nakita Vodjdani | nakita.vodjdani@agencerecherche.fr |
| Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) National Centre for Scientific Research | http://www.cnrs.fr | Dr. Francesca Grassia | Francesca.Grassia@cnrs-dir.fr |
| Institut National de La Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (Inserm) French National Institute of Health and Medical Research | http://www.inserm.fr | Mr. Richard Salives | richard.salives@inserm.fr |

11 Germany

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|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) German Research Foundation | http://www.dfg.de | Dr. Priya Bondre-Beil | Priya.Bondre-Beil@dfg.de |
| Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren (HGF) Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres | http://www.mpg.de | Dr. Berthold Neizert | neizert@gv.mpg.de |
| Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (MPG) Max Planck Society | http://www.helmholtz.de | Ms. Ute Gerlach | ute.gerlach@helmholtz.de |
| Union der deutschen Akademien der Wissenschaften Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities | http://www.akademienunion.de | Mrs. Nicole Hartmann | nicole.hartmann@akademienunion.de |

12 Greece**ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΡΕΥΝΩΝ (NHRF)**

National Hellenic Research Foundation

<http://www.eie.gr/index-en.html>

Mrs. Christina Toka

international@eie.gr

Ίδρυμα Τεχνολογίας και Έρευνας (FORTH)Foundation for Research and Technology –
Hellas<http://www.forth.gr/>

Mr. Vassilios Dougalis

dougalis@iacm.forth.gr

13 Hungary**Magyar Tudományos Akadémia (MTA)**

Hungarian Academy of Sciences

<http://www.mta.hu>

Ms. Katalin Hajós

hajos.katalin@titkarsag.mta.hu

Országos Tudományos Kutatási**Alapprogramok (OTKA)**

Hungarian Scientific Research Fund

<http://www.otka.hu>

Dr. Andrea Balla Balogh

balla.andrea@otka.hu

Mr. Előd Nemerkenyi

nemerkenyi.elod@otka.hu

14 Iceland**RANNIS**

Icelandic Centre for Research

<http://www.rannis.is>Dr. Magnus Lyngdal
Magnusson

magnus.lyngdal@rannis.is

15 Ireland**Health Research Board (HRB)**

Irish Research Council

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)

<http://www.hrb.ie><http://www.research.ie><http://www.sfi.ie>

Dr. Caitriona Creely

ccreely@hrb.ie

Dr. Gemma Irvine

girvine@research.ie

Dr. Ruth Freeman

ruth.freeman@sfi.ie

16 Italy**Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)**
National Research Council<http://www.cnr.it>

Mrs. Anna D'Amato

antonella.guidi@cnr.it

Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN)
National Institute for Nuclear Physics<http://www.infn.it>

Dr. Roberto Pellegrini

Roberto.pellegrini@Inf.infn.it

17 Lithuania**Lietuvos Mokslo Taryba (LMT)**
Research Council of Lithuania<http://www.lmt.lt>

Ms. Jurgita Stonyte

jurgita.stonyte@lmt.lt

18 Luxembourg**Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR)**
National Research Fund<http://www.fnr.lu>

Professor Marc Schiltz

marc.schiltz@fnr.lu

19 Netherlands**Nederlandse Organisatie voor
Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO)**
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research<http://www.nwo.nl>

Ms. Cynthia Naus

naus@nwo.nl

Dr. Jan Karel Koppen
Secretaryj.koppen@nwo.nl
e.elidrissi@nwo.nl

20 Norway**Norges Forskningsråd**
Research Council of Norway<http://www.forskingsradet.no>

Dr. Terje Emblem

tem@forskingsradet.no

21 Portugal

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Academia das Ciências de Lisboa Lisbon Academy of Sciences | http://www.acad-ciencias.pt/ | Professor Armando J.L.O. Pombeiro | pombeiro@ist.utl.pt |
| Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) Foundation for Science and Technology | http://www.fct.mctes.pt | Dr. Olga Dias | <i>olga.dias@fct.pt</i> |

22 Romania

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Consiliul National al Cercetarii Stiintifice (CNCS) National Council for Scientific Research | http://www.cncs-uefiscdi.ro/ | Ms. Monica Cruceru | monica.cruцерu@uefiscdi.ro |
|--|---|--------------------|----------------------------|

23 Slovak Republic

| | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|--|
| Slovenská akadémia vied (SAV) Slovak Academy of Sciences | http://www.sav.sk | Mrs. Iveta Hermanovská | hermanovska@up.upsav.sk |
| Agentúra na podporu výskumu a vývoja (APVV) Slovak Research and Development Agency | http://www.apvv.sk | Dr. Sonja Ftáčnikova | agentura@apvv.sk ftacnikova@apvv.sk |

24 Slovenia

| | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Javna agencija za raziskovalno dejavnost Republike Slovenije (ARRS) Slovenian Research Agency | http://www.arrs.gov.si | Ms. Tina Glavic Novak | Tina.Novak@arrs.si |
|---|---|-----------------------|--------------------|

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|---|--|---|---|
| Slovenska Znanstvena Fundacija (SZF) Slovenian Science Foundation | http://www.szf.si | Dr. Edvard Kobal | edvard.kobal@szf.si |
| 25 Spain | | | |
| Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) Council for Scientific Research | http://www.csic.es | Mrs. Volga del Castillo | volga@orgc.csic.es |
| Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad (MINECO) Ministry of Economic Affairs and Competitiveness | http://www.mineco.es/ | Ms. María Vallejo Abascal | maria.vallejo@mineco.es severino.falcon@micinn.es |
| 26 Sweden | | | |
| Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande (FORMAS) Swedish Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning | http://www.formas.se | Mrs. Viktoria Halltell | viktoria.halltell@formas.se anna.ledin@formas.se; cathrine.beijer@formas.se |
| Riksbankens Jubileumsfond Vetenskapsrådet (VR) Swedish Research Council | http://www.rj.se http://www.vr.se | Dr. Marja Wikse Dr. Annette Moth Wiklund & Dr. Lars Wärngård | maria.wikse@rj.se annette.moth.wiklund@vr.se; lars.warngard@fas.se |
| 27 Switzerland | | | |
| Schweizerischer Nationalfonds (SNF) | http://www.snf.ch | Ms. Elisabeth Schenker | r4d@snf.ch; eschenker@snf.ch |

Swiss National Science Foundation

28 Turkey

Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Arastırma Kurumu (TÜBİTAK)
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey

<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr>

Professor Yunus Cengel yunus.cengel@yahoo.com

29 United Kingdom

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk>

Dr. Rowan McKibbin rowan.mckibbin@bbsrc.ac.uk

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk>

Dr. Edward Clarke Edward.Clarke@epsrc.ac.uk

Medical Research Council (MRC)

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk>

Dr. Mark Palmer mark.palmer@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk

Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk>

Dr. Sonny Rathod ncpresearchinfrastructures@nerc.ac.uk

Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

<http://www.stfc.ac.uk>

Dr. Peter Fletcher peter.fletcher@stfc.ac.uk

3.2 Euro-Biolmaging engagement with national funders to discuss funding strategies for user access

Euro-Biolmaging has been in close contact with science funding organisations from the very beginning to discuss early on the Euro-Biolmaging user access model, funding requirements for infrastructure construction and operation, funders' expectations and requirements on the finance and cost planning:

- The Preparatory Phase Consortium comprises 5 national funding agencies among its 38 Beneficiaries (BBSRC, DFG, ZonMW, NWO, CNR). Their representatives have been active partners of the Consortium, chairs or members of WP4 Finance Planning and members of the Steering Committee.
- During Preparatory Phase, the Consortium organized 5 Stakeholder Meetings, a funders' table, and 3 Intergovernmental Working Group meetings, all attended by representatives from national funders across Europe (more than 23 different countries). The Euro-Biolmaging Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) has been established to constitute the Euro-Biolmaging Interim Board that will take on the responsibility for infrastructure implementation during the Interim Phase starting on 1 Dec 2013.
- National chapters of Euro-Biolmaging are established in 23 countries: AT, BE, BG, CR, CZ, DK, FI, FR, DE, GR, HU, IL, IR, IL, LU, NL, NO, PL, PT, ES, SE, CH, UK, TR. Their national coordinating persons speak on their behalf with the national funders, including new funding mechanisms for national user access. In many cases, Euro-Biolmaging supported the national chapters in their first meetings with funders by participation of the Scientific Coordinators or Project Managers. In most countries, these activities have led to an increased visibility of imaging technologies in the life sciences and in some cases funding was granted for national coordination activities and/or open access infrastructure construction and operation.
- At the European level, the Euro-Biolmaging project management is in constant dialogue with the European Commission on future opportunities for funding tools in Horizon 2020, in particular regarding transnational user access, training activities and international collaboration.

Work Package 4 – Finance planning has compiled a report (Task 4.1, deliverable D4.1) on national funding sources for the construction and operation of Euro-Biolmaging, which will be made accessible to interested users. In parallel to this report, WP4 is finalizing D4.4 on the long-term funding model and D4.5 on financial requirements of Euro-Biolmaging Hub and Nodes. Chapter 2 of this report summarizes information from these two deliverables.

3.3 Euro-Biolmaging Access Policies - User Funding Database

The Euro-Biolmaging user access policy has now been finalized at the end of the Preparatory Phase and has been forwarded to the Intergovernmental Working Group. As part of this policy quality assurance measures will be defined comprising web-based user surveys. It is suggested to include questions on user access grants. The responses could be fed into a database of funding sources for Euro-Biolmaging users, which will be accessible on the Euro-Biolmaging web access portal. This evolving list will be maintained by the Euro-

Biolmaging Hub. The information on grants on the Euro-Biolmaging website will be a most valuable source of information for future users. A similar approach was already applied during the Proof-of-Concept Studies, when individual funding opportunities for enabling user access (grants for travel and accommodation by individual national funders; EMBO-short-term fellowships; etc.) had been published to facilitate user access.

Please also refer to Report D12.7 and D12.8 for the Euro-Biolmaging User Access Policy.

4 Summary

Within each European Member State, numerous funding sources of different scale and purpose are open for applications by future Euro-Biolmaging users, including national, regional or institution specific funding programs. Interested users will be informed about access grants by the responsible national agencies as listed for example above and on the future Euro-Biolmaging website for further research on suitable funding options.

In addition, during the construction phase of Euro-Biolmaging, negotiations with interested European and national funders will be conducted to supply suitable grants for access and other funds as required for future users.