



Euro-BioImaging

European Research Infrastructure for Imaging Technologies in Biological and Biomedical Sciences

WP3 Process Plan

Task 3.2
State-of-the-art inventory map

Deliverable 3.5
Tools and strategy for coordinating / performing surveys

Task leader
Helmholtz / CAHTA

Additional Task Contributors
EIBIR / EMBL

May 2011

Deliverable 3.5

Tools and strategy for coordinating / performing surveys

May 2011

1	<i>Executive summary</i>	3
2	<i>Survey – Design and technical implementation</i>	3
2.1	Survey preparation by Euro-Biolmaging WPs	3
2.2	Survey structure and questions	4
2.3	Technical implementation	5
2.4	Pilot run and launch of survey	5
2.5	Data analysis of the survey and next steps	5

1 Executive summary

Euro-Biolmaging will provide a clear path of access to biological and biomedical imaging technologies and address the respective unmet needs and requirements of European scientists. According to its open and inclusive nature, Euro-Biolmaging continually seeks the input from all Stakeholders during the meetings of Working Groups (related to the Euro-Biolmaging Work Packages) and the annual Euro-Biolmaging Stakeholder meetings. During the Preparatory Phase - in June 2011 - Euro-Biolmaging additionally runs a European-wide survey which is open for public consultation and especially targets all European imaging infrastructure users, providers, funders and industry representatives.

The data collected will provide important input for the development of Euro-Biolmaging eligibility criteria for future infrastructure nodes, the Euro-Biolmaging working plan (Task 3.3), the Euro-Biolmaging vision (Task 3.1) and finally into the business and construction plan of the Euro-Biolmaging research infrastructure (Task 3.4).

The survey is a key step of the Euro-Biolmaging preparatory phase for developing the inventory map of existing imaging infrastructure in Europe and for identifying the needs and requirements of future infrastructure users and providers to include them into the Euro-Biolmaging research infrastructure business plan.

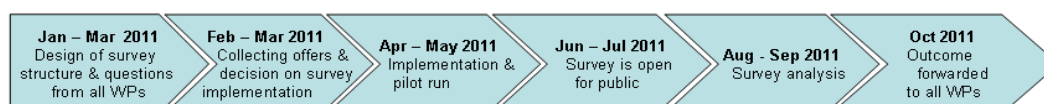
The survey has been developed with the input from all Euro-Biolmaging Work Packages and was launched on May 31, 2011 (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y2WTGBF>) using the online software tool www.surveymonkey.com and will be closed on July 15, 2011. The survey is openly accessible via the Euro-Biolmaging website (www.eurobioimaging.eu), and it is advertised in Nature, European Radiology and MAGMA (*Magnetic Resonance Materials in Physics, Biology and Medicine*). In addition, all Euro-Biolmaging Stakeholders (approx. 700 individual persons) as well as additional 750 individuals suggested by the Euro-Biolmaging WP Chairs received an email invitation to participate in the survey on May 31st.

2 Survey – Design and technical implementation

2.1 Survey preparation by Euro-Biolmaging WPs

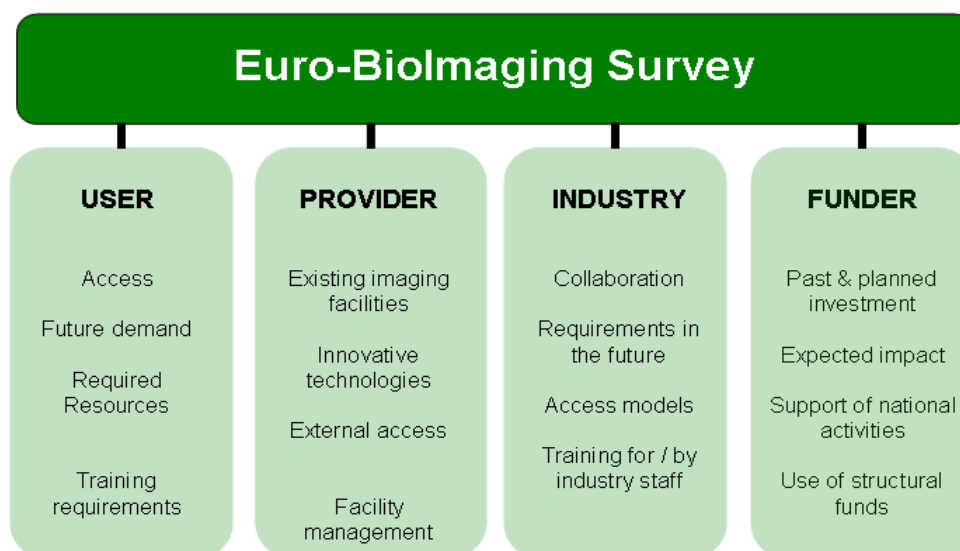
During the first Euro-Biolmaging Steering Committee meeting in January 2011, the process for designing and implementing the survey was decided. WP3 provided the template for drafting the survey questions to WP4, WP6, WP7, WP8, WP9, WP10, WP11, WP12 and WP13. WP1 streamlined all incoming survey questions into a single comprehensive survey and sent the final catalogue of questions to all WP Chairs for approval.

Timeline of survey implementation



2.2 Survey structure and questions

The survey addresses imaging infrastructure users, providers, funders and industry representatives in the fields of biological and medical sciences. To keep the number of questions at a minimum per participant, each participant is requested to first provide basic information about the professional background. The answers will direct the individual participant to a tailored set of questions reflecting his/her professional profile.



Infrastructure Users are invited to provide their feedback, for example, on

- (un)availability of access to innovative imaging technologies and related resources
- willingness to travel to access an imaging research infrastructure
- (un)met needs and requirements on imaging storage and analysis tools
- imaging probes and specimen (types and numbers investigated/year)
- (un)met training needs and requirements
- ...

Infrastructure Providers are invited to provide their feedback, for example, on

- provision of (open) access to existing innovative imaging technologies and related resources
- management of existing imaging facilities
- existing and future (open) access policies for imaging facilities
- needs and requirements to open existing imaging facilities for external users
- development of imaging probes and (openly) accessible probe repositories
- existing training activities in biological and biomedical imaging
- ...

Industry representatives are invited to provide their feedback, for example, on

- existing collaborations with imaging facilities in academia
- requirements for future collaborations with openly accessible imaging facilities
- training activities and training requirements for industry staff
- ...

Funding organizations are invited to provide their feedback, for example, on

-
- previous and planned investments in biological and biomedical imaging research infrastructure
 - awareness of ongoing national and regional imaging infrastructure activities
 - expectations regarding a pan-European research infrastructure for biological and biomedical imaging
 - willingness for participation in the Euro-Biolmaging preparatory phase
 - ...

2.3 Technical implementation

WP 3 set up a timeline for the survey implementation and developed a list of criteria for selecting a software tool (user friendliness, branching, data security, etc.) based on the experience and information available from other ESFRI projects of the first generation.

After discussion with 10 professional companies who are offering their services for survey implementation and the detailed evaluation of 3 concrete offers, it became clear that none of the offers could meet the complexity of the Euro-Biolmaging survey in the given timeline and budget. At the first WP3 meeting in Brussels on March 31st, 2011, it was decided to use WP1 and WP3 internal resources for realizing the survey with a freely accessible online tool. WP1 accepted the responsibility and set up the survey in accordance with the above mentioned structure in www.surveymonkey.com.

2.4 Pilot run and launch of survey

In May 2011, a pilot run of the survey using www.surveymonkey.com was conducted and 3-4 individual persons per participant category (users, providers, industry, funding organization) were invited to participate. The overall feedback was very positive and in many cases feedback for optimization coming from different persons was targeting the same questions. Therefore the pilot run was very helpful to remove last technical weaknesses and to re-formulate not optimally defined questions.

The survey was officially launched on May 31st, 2011. The launch and survey link are published on the Euro-Biolmaging website, advertised in Nature, European Radiology and MAGMA (*Magnetic Resonance Materials in Physics, Biology and Medicine*). In parallel, all Euro-Biolmaging Stakeholders (approx. 700 individual persons) as well as additional 750 individuals suggested by the Euro-Biolmaging WP Chairs have been personally invited by email to participate in the survey. Furthermore, all Euro-Biolmaging partners are invited to put the survey link on their own institutional website for advertisement.

2.5 Data analysis of the survey and next steps

The data collected in the Euro-Biolmaging will be analyzed with professional support from database and survey experts. After professional processing, the data will be forwarded to the work packages according to the original survey questions related to this WP. The data will feed into numerous Deliverables of all Work Packages as defined in Annex I - Description of Work.

Most importantly, the data will provide important information for the inventory map of existing imaging research infrastructure in Europe and contribute to the definition of the Euro-Biolmaging eligibility criteria for future nodes.