

Euro-Biolmaging proof-of-concept studies in biological imaging

During Preparatory Phase, the Euro-Biolmaging Consortium will conduct proof-of-concept studies (PCS) in the technical Work Packages WP6, WP7, WP8, WP9, WP10 and WP11 to provide scientifically, technologically and geographically rich sampling of running sites and projects. The proof-of-concept studies will be key to test and refine standardized execution and access protocols for running Euro-Biolmaging imaging facilities, assess potential pitfalls for running these resources, and will be very useful to identify current community needs for access to different imaging technologies. The studies will identify potential bottlenecks for providing access to these technologies and return important suggestions for the eligibility criteria of future Euro-Biolmaging nodes in the construction phase.

The PCS shall be performed resembling and testing future access policies for the different imaging technologies. They shall serve the user needs in order to produce high quality data for publication. After completion, sites and users will be asked to report on and evaluate the respective PCS (e.g. access policy, performance, training).

For **WP6 *Advanced Light Microscopy – General Access***, the PCS will be conducted to provide user access to general imaging technologies in basic biological imaging. They will run at a number of predefined sites¹ distributed across Euro-Biolmaging member states, which offer integrated access to a broad range of biological imaging technologies. Up to two sites per country - willing and able to offer “in kind” user access for the PCS - will be identified by the National Coordinating Persons in each participating country based on

- technological excellence, leading nationally and/or in Europe
- ability to provide open access for national and/or transnational users
- robustness of running a facility to meet user needs

In **WP7 *Advanced Light Microscopy – Access to Innovative Technologies***, PCS will be conducted to provide user access to innovative technologies in biological imaging, comprising high throughput microscopy for systems biology, super resolution microscopy, correlative light-electron microscopy, and functional imaging. They will run at up to 4 predefined sites¹ per technology which are willing and able to offer “in kind” user access to one of the above technologies. The sites will be chosen by the WP7 Technology Coordinators from proposals made by the ALM national coordinating persons.

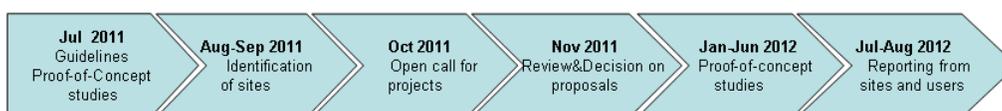
The decision for WP7 PCS sites should be based on the following criteria

- technological excellence, leading in Europe
- ability to provide open access for transnational users
- robustness of running a facility to meet user needs
- complementary to the already identified PCS site(s).

¹ The choice of sites is for the purpose of carrying out proof-of-concept studies only. Future Euro-Biolmaging Nodes for the Construction and Operation phases will be chosen independently in a separate open call once eligibility criteria for infrastructure nodes have been finalized.

The selection of research projects to run at WP6 and WP7 these sites for proof-of-concept studies will be through an open call for users who wish to visit the PCS sites to access the provided imaging technologies. The user project evaluation will be a 2-step process: First, a panel will review the proposals and select projects suitable for the proof-of-concept studies, based on standardized draft guidelines that will be published with the call. Secondly, the PCS sites will take the final decision on which project to run at which site. Transnational user requests from Europe will be prioritized.

The instrumentation and facility staff costs are in kind contribution of the participating proof-of-concept sites. The costs for consumables, accommodation and travel will be financed by the user. Information about potential funding sources for users e.g. EMBO short-term fellowships will be made available on Euro-Biolmaging website.



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