Euro-BioImaging ERIC:

Expression of Interest
for Euro-BioImaging Node Upgrade

Data protection:

All application data will be held securely according to the Euro-BioImaging ERIC Personal Data Policy. The gathered information will be available only to selected members of the Euro-BioImaging Hub Office and to the Euro-BioImaging Scientific Advisory Board for processing and evaluation, and the Euro-BioImaging Board for their decision-making.

Instructions:

Please fill in all questions in this document, entering as much information as needed to provide the Scientific Advisory Board a reasonable view of the situation, supporting a successful evaluation of your application.

The completed form, in pdf format, must be sent to info@eurobioimaging.eu alongside all supporting documents.

The supporting documents are:
1. Letter demonstrating support of the National Representing Entity on the Euro-BioImaging Board
2. Single PDF of all Letters of Intent from Users
3. Where the Node Upgrade leads to the formation of a multi-sited Node, please provide additional documents supporting the described/foreseen legal model, if available (in a single PDF file)
4. Document demonstrating communication with funders, where applicable
5. Document demonstrating commitment of the institution hosting the new facilities, including the statement to provide open access for Euro-BioImaging users up to at least 50% of the newly created capacity for Euro-BioImaging as well as the additional support, signed by the legal representative of the Institution and stamped.

Templates for all documents are available on the Call for Node Upgrade page.

If you would prefer to receive this blank template as a word document or if you have any questions, please feel free to email us at info@eurobioimaging.eu.

Your Euro-BioImaging Hub Office

Contact details

Name of the Node applying for upgrade

Contact person representing the Node
Name:
Function of the contact person:
Email:
Phone number:

A. Abstract

Please provide a short summary of the application, describing the existing and upgraded node, the additional technologies/services which will be included, the strengths contributed by the new facility(ies), alongside core information about the new institution(s). (350 words)

B. Basic Information about the facilities to be included in the existing Node

B1. Please indicate the number of hosting institutions/facilities composing the upgraded Node

B1.a Please enter the name(s), addresses and hosting Institutions of all the new facilities which are subject of this EoI.

B2. Please tick as applicable:

- The new facilities are mature imaging facilities and their upgrade is foreseen for hosting Euro-BioImaging users
- The facilities will be newly created, to offer open access to imaging technologies. The facility staff have leading expertise and capacity/instrumentation in at least one cutting edge Euro-BioImaging imaging technology.

Imaging Technologies you are applying for:

B3. Please list all the additional technologies you are planning to offer through the new facilities

User Need

B4. The new facilities demonstrate the user need for the proposed capacity by submitting Letters of Intent (LoI) from at least 5 potential Euro-BioImaging users. Majority of LoIs should be for transnational user access (except industry users).

B4a. Please provide a substantiated estimate of the number of Euro-BioImaging users/projects to the new facilities for the first two years after Node upgrade.

B4b.How many LoIs do you provide?

B4c. Please upload the single PDF containing all LoIs. Please include as a first page of this pdf an overview table of all LoIs, including the letter writer's institution, target facility (if multiple facilities are included), and topic and technology of proposed project.

B4d. Based on the LoIs, please summarize the expected impact of the granted open access to the new imaging facilities e.g. for the addressed research field and other fields, the technological progress, industry relationship etc. (max 3000 characters)

C. General Review Criteria

C1. Scientific and technical excellence of the new facilities to be included in the Node

C1a. Please describe the scientific and technical excellence of the new facilities to be included in the Node. (max 3000 characters)

C1b. Please describe how the new facilities' scientific and technical expertise expands and/or complement the existing Nodes' capacities and expertise, and how the new facilities address technological, geographical or other gaps in open access infrastructure. Ideally, the provided Letters of Intent (Question B5) should attach to these gaps. (max 3000 characters)

C1c.Please indicate in which scientific fields the new imaging facilities have proven track record:

- Structural Biology
- Cell Biology
- Developmental Biology
- Physiology
- Neurobiology
- Microbiology
- Plant Biology
- Preclinical/Animal Research
- Clinical Research and Clinical Studies
- Interventional Radiology
- Oncology
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Metabolism
- Other (please specify)

C1d. Please provide the overall top 10 publications of the last five years that resulted from science enabled by the new facilities. Make sure to include representative publications from the fields selected in question C1c

C2. European and national significance of the new imaging facilities to be included in the Node

Please demonstrate how the addition of the new imaging facilities into the existing Node affects the Nodes national and international relevance (max 2000 characters)

C3. Geographic coverage of the upgraded Node

Please describe the geographic coverage of the upgraded Node in the national and international context and how the new facilities contribute to expanded coverage and capacity. (max 2000 characters)

C4. Maintenance and update at the new imaging facilities to be included in the Node

Please describe the sustainability strategy for keeping the new imaging facilities cutting edge, providing the maintenance and update plan for the first five years of operation. (max 3000 characters)

C5. Quality assurance at the new imaging facilities to be included in the Node

Please provide a plan for a quality assurance system (covering maintenance of instrumentation, services and procedures) and quality control (covering monitoring of user satisfaction and project success in terms of published results). Please state if such a system is already in place at the new facilities. (max 3000 characters)

C6. User access and Service package

C6a. Please provide the number of total users (external and internal) and the fraction of external users of the new facilities served so far, and describe the access procedure.

C6b. Please describe the typical user access to your upgraded Node. Please also describe how you will organize the single point of contact at the Node. (Max 3000 characters).

C6c. Please describe how you will manage all relevant aspects of administration and coordination of the upgraded Node operation. (Max 3000 characters)

C7. User training at the new imaging facilities to be included in the Node

C7a. Please describe and demonstrate the capacity of the new imaging facilities in user training in imaging technologies (e.g. by providing a number and list of training activities and a number of participants in the last three years).

C7b. Please provide an outlook of planned training events within the next two years.

C7c. Please describe how the training provided by the new facilities relate to other training provided by the existing Node and any joint training plans, if they exist. (Max 2000 characters)

C8. Costs Overview

C8a. Please indicate if specific investments from the national funder are foreseen in association with the Node upgrade and outline the timeframe and scale of such investment.

C8b. If existing support is present that will underscore the upgraded Node, please indicate this, including the scale of funding and what it will be applied for.

C8c. Please upload the respective evidence of the investment e.g. letter of investment from funder

C8d. Please provide estimations of the following cost categories for the additional imaging facilities that will be included in the Node:

- Number and estimated investment value of all imaging instruments which will be available to Euro-BioImaging users through the new facilities to be included in the Node
- Number of staff (FTEs) working at the facilities who will be available for supporting Euro-BioImaging users as needed (e.g. facility manager, bio/optical- technicians, imaging operators, veterinarians, image analysis specialist, admin staff).
- Value associated with additional equipment (servers, animal facilities, other)

D. Technology Specific Review Criteria

D1. Please demonstrate how the new imaging facilities to be included in the Node plan to fulfill technology specific review criteria presented in the 'Technology Specific Review Criteria' document specific for the technologies you are submitting EoI for. Especially refer in detail to the capacities that are of high relevance for your offered technologies and to capacities available to handle technical and administrative matters. (Max 15.000 characters)

E. Eligibility

Please demonstrate your eligibility by addressing the following eligibility criteria

E1. The new facilities commit to provide open access for Euro-BioImaging users up to at least 50% of newly created capacity for Euro-BioImaging.

- Yes, we guarantee the above stated requirement in the attached Letter of Commitment (official document should be signed by the legal representative of all the applying Institutions, stamped and uploaded under question E5.).

E2. In case the existing Node is single-sited, and becomes multi-sited following inclusion of the new facilities, the applicant demonstrates that the multi-sited Node will constitute a legal entity, which in its entirety will become part of the pan-European distributed research infrastructure Euro-BioImaging ERIC and as such a legal contractual partner of Euro-BioImaging ERIC. Please describe the planned legal model of the Node to fulfill this criterion.
In case the new facilities join an existing multi-sited Node, please describe how the new facilities will integrate into the existing legal entity and provide any related evidence (e.g. signed Node agreement).

Note: New models that permit Nodes composed of several different legal entities to act as a single contractual partner of Euro-BioImaging and ensure that it is legally responsible for the performance of all services offered may be developed.

E3. The applicant demonstrates that their National Representing Entity on the Euro-BioImaging Board supports this application, supporting this information by submitting a letter of support signed by the Representing Entity on the Euro-BioImaging Board.

E3a. Please upload the document demonstrating support from the National Representing Entity as a PDF.

E4. The applicant demonstrates that the hosting institutions of the new facilities support the inclusion of the facilities into the Node.

E4a. Please upload the Letter of Commitment from the new hosting institutions as a PDF. Each new hosting institution has to submit their letter of commitment. Please upload one single pdf containing all the Letters of Commitment.

E4b. What kind of support do the institutions commit to provide?

- Scientific expertise
- Administrative support
- Infrastructure
- Accommodation for users
- Other