

The European research infrastructure Euro-BioImaging

EBS. 03-002

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The imaging landscape changed significantly in the last 10 years as the concept of open user access to cutting-edge technologies became valued and well recognized. In Europe, imaging experts from 25 countries joined their forces and draw the vision of a pan-European imaging infrastructure, which gave momentum to the project of founding Euro-BioImaging, a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (the EuBI ERIC). Euro-BioImaging (EuBI) provides open physical user access to a broad range of state-of-the-art technologies in biological and medical imaging for life scientists in Europe and beyond. In addition, it offers image data support and training for infrastructure users and providers and continuously evaluates and includes new imaging technologies to ensure cutting-edge services in a sustainable manner. The EuBI consists of currently 29 complementary, strongly interlinked and geographically distributed Nodes – specialised imaging facilities – to reach European scientists in all Member States. The infrastructure is empowered by a strong supporting and coordinating entity, the EuBI Hub. The Hub provides the virtual access entry point from which users are directed to their desired imaging technology as served by the respective national EuBI Node. Within the Hub, dedicated data management and training activities tailored to the needs of users of the imaging infrastructure will be coordinated. Currently, 16 European countries and EMBL support the implementation of the EuBI infrastructure. The coordinating EuBI Hub will be hosted by Finland (by Turku BioImaging at Åbo Akademi University and University of Turku), Italy (by University of Torino), and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL Heidelberg).

EuBI is a strong partner in the biological and medical research infrastructures cluster project CORBEL (EC H2020 funded). In CORBEL, eleven biological and medical research infrastructures create a common platform for joint services and user access to technologies, biological samples and data required by cutting-edge biomedical research.