

BBMRI.be

Biobanking and
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News

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BBMRI.be annual meeting 2022

After two long years of online meetings, the [BBMRI.be](https://www.bbMRI.be) family was finally united on June 2nd 2022 at our [BBMRI.be](https://www.bbMRI.be) annual meeting!

We were very happy to welcome 53 participants to our meeting. The attendees were not only BBMRI.be members, but also representatives of different stakeholder communities representing patient organisations, industry, the government, research infrastructures and other scientific organisations closely linked to biobanks.

The morning session kicked off with a welcome session by the President and National Node Director of BBMRI.be who presented the main changes on the BBMRI.be and BBMRI-ERIC level in the last year. Thereafter, the (co)chairs of the Working Groups presented the achievements and upcoming activities of the [six Working Groups of BBMRI.be](https://www.bbMRI.be).



In the afternoon, three interactive workshops were organized on:

- The Belgian biobank law
- Communication on biobanks
- Sustainability of biobanks

The participants of the ELSI workshop discussed [the changes in the Belgian biobank law](#) and worked out an approach to define which research falls under the term "genetic research" as defined in the law. This feedback will be included in the guidelines about Belgian Biobank law that the ELSI WG is developing.

In the Stakeholder Involvement workshop, we brainstormed about how to communicate about biobanks. This input will be the basis for a communication campaign about biobanks in collaboration with our different stakeholders.

During the Sustainability workshop, the [TEARDROP project](#) was presented and discussed as a use case for sustainable biobanking. The participants identified the different stakeholders and costs associated with biobanking process. This will be further elaborated on in the Sustainability Working Group.



Many thanks to all the presenters, chairs and attendees for your contribution to this meeting!

Stakeholder Involvement Working Group

In this newsletter, we would like to introduce you to the concept of our Stakeholder Involvement Working Group. In contrast to the other Working Groups of BBMRI.be, the Stakeholder Involvement Working group does not only include BBMRI.be members, but also representatives from external organisations of different stakeholder categories, currently industry and patients. This will in the future be further expanded to other stakeholders (e.g. researchers, governance, funding agencies, ...)



These stakeholder representatives have an advisory role for our Working Group, while the BBMRI.be members have an operational role. They will be consulted on a regular basis to define their needs and expectations and in the validation phase of certain deliverables of the working programme.

Meet our Quality coordinator

We are very happy to introduce our newly appointed BBMRI.be Quality Coordinator to you all! Mieke De Wilde, a familiar face for many members of BBMRI.be, has taken up the challenge to guide us on the road towards ISO 20387 accreditation.

Mieke obtained her Master Degree in both Biology and Biochemistry at the University of Antwerp. After five years of research at the KU Leuven and UAntwerpen, she entered the biobank world as tumorbank manager at the University Hospital of Antwerp. From 2015 onwards, she worked as biobank quality manager in the biobank of Antwerp and since last year in the biobank of the GZA hospital.

As Quality coordinator of the B3-ISO project, Mieke will be the key person of the project that connects all partners involved. She will translate the ISO 20387 standard in the workflow and for each step coordinate with all of the involved biobanks. She will also be the link between the Quality initiatives at the BBMRI.be level and BBMRI-ERIC level.

Mieke will be based at the coordination office of BBMRI.be at the Belgian Cancer Registry from July 11th 2022 onwards. She will get into contact with all of the BBMRI.be biobanks soon to kick-off the B3-ISO project!



Project financed by:



FLASH NEWS

Europe Biobank Week 2022: Roadshow

BBMRI-ERIC and ESBB are delighted to announce the Europe Biobank Week Roadshow. The EBW Roadshow consists of a series of smaller regional face-to-face events covering a fine selection of hot topics in biobanking. The first stop of the EBW22 Roadshow will be in Regensburg, Germany on September, 19-20.

The focus will be on the manifold aspects of Quality in Biobanking. Details of the program can be found [here](#). Registration will open on June 28th!



ISIDORE project: first access call open!

The Integrated Services for Infectious Disease Research (ISIDORE) has announced the launch of its first call for proposals to support scientists with an interest in SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19.

The call is multidisciplinary and open to all (both private and public sector). Read more about the application details on the [ISIDORE website](#).



BBMRI.be IT Forum

On Thursday May 12th 2022, the first IT forum of BBMRI.be was organized. It was the first session of a series of three focusing on the use of software systems in the biobanks for sample/data management. In this first session, we focused on biobanks using the SLIMS system (Agilent). During the two upcoming sessions we will take a closer look to biobanks using other commercial systems (September 15th 2022) and biobanks with in house developed software (October 15th 2022).

[Contact us](#) to receive the meeting link if you want to join .

Kick-off EU-AMRI



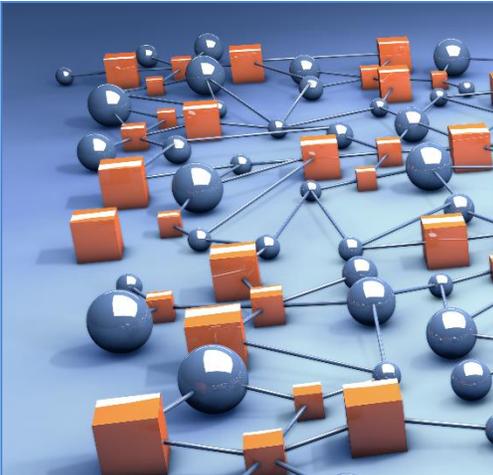
On 5 April 2022, the European Alliance of Medical Research Infrastructures, EU-AMRI was launched in Brussels. This initiative enforces the collaborations between three important health research infrastructures: [EATRIS](#) (translational medicine), [ECRIN](#) (clinical research) and [BBMRI](#) (biobanks).

More about EU-AMRI? Visit eu-amri.org

Join the BBMRI-ERIC CS IT User Forum

The BBMRI-ERIC Common Service (CS) IT User Forum seeks to gather feedback from people who are using the BBMRI-ERIC Directory and Negotiator. By joining the User Forum you have the chance to help with the development of IT resources for the biobanking community. This allows us to provide a more user-friendly experience and adjust according to user needs.

[Read more...](#) and answer our colleagues from the CS IT now!



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