



BBMRI.be annual meeting



Auditor training ISO 20387

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Action Plan BBMRI.be

BBMRI.be Action plan 2026-2029



BBMRI.be is proud to present its new action plan, outlining the strategic priorities and collaborative efforts that will guide our network in the coming term. BBMRI.be brings together biobanks, researchers, institutions, and stakeholders to enhance the quality, accessibility, and impact of biobank-based research. Central to this mission are six dedicated working groups, each focusing on a key area of biobank development and sustainability.

Together, these six working groups form the backbone of BBMRI.be's action plan. Their coordinated efforts will drive innovation, enhance research quality, and ensure that biobanks continue to serve the needs of science and society.

The full action plan can be consulted [here](#)

Quality Handbook for biobanks

The Quality Coordinator of BBMRI.be (Mieke De Wilde) and her QM colleagues developed a harmonized ISO20387:2018 implementation guidance including a quality manual, a glossary and a template library. After meticulous review by 25 experts from 10 countries, the BBMRI-ERIC national nodes endorsed the Quality Handbook for Biobanks.

A great example of partnership across German Biobank Network (GBN), BBMRI.pl, BBMRI.be and Swiss Biobanking to advance harmonized quality standards for biobanks – from the first idea in 2023 to a European reference framework built through shared expertise and teamwork.

[Link to the Quality Hand Book](#)
[Link to the interview](#)

GERMAN BIOBANK NETWORK **SWISS BIOBANKING** **BBMRI.be** **BBMRI.pl**

Authors: Nhu Tuyen Phan^{1*}, Joséphine Uldry^{2*}, Agnieszka Matera-Wikiewicz^{3*} and Anemiek De Wilde^{4*}

Key contributors: Lisa Schrade¹, Cornelia Stumptner², Teresa Escámez³, Joanna Giełska-Oleander³ and Baerbel Foessel⁴

Quality Handbook for Biobanks

A joint initiative of the
¹ German Biobank Network (GBN) / BBMRI.de,
² Swiss Biobanking / BBMRI.ch,
³ BBMRI.pl,
⁴ BBMRI.be.

* Corresponding author: nhu.tuyen.phan@charite.de
† These co-authors contributed equally to this work.

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Annual meeting BBMRI.be

On November 26th, the Belgian biobank community came together for the annual BBMRI.be meeting at UZ Leuven.

After some warm welcome words from Elke Smits, President of BBMRI.be, and Annelies Debuquoy, National Node Director of BBMRI.be, this year's highlight was a dedicated One Health session.



In the afternoon, we continued with two hands-on workshops focused on key biobank challenges:

1. Evaluating, selecting and implementing a BIMS
2. Towards an updated Belgian biobank law

The event was concluded with a tour in the biobank facilities of UZLeuven.

More details on the event can be found [here](#)

Auditor training ISO 20387

Strengthening Quality in BBMRI.be biobanks!

In November, staff from the BBMRI.be biobanks were taking part in an intensive training to become quality auditors for ISO 20387 organised at the Belgian Cancer Registry.

After two intensive and inspiring days, our BBMRI.be biobank staff are now fully trained as peer-to-peer auditors for BBMRI-ERIC.

Read more here:

[Day 1](#)

[Day 2](#)



Europe Biobank Week



The full programme of EBW26, including pre-conference workshops and visits is [now available here.](#)

Have a look and reserve your seat for the workshops!

Looking forward to see you all there!

BBMRI.be in the picture



The latest edition of Science Connection by BELSPO features a spotlight on BBMRI.be, highlighting how we contribute to strengthening biomedical research across Europe.

The article dives into:
The foundations of BBMRI-ERIC and BBMRI.be
The European impact of BBMRI.be
International collaborations enabled through BBMRI-ERIC
The essential role of Quality & Legislation
Future prospects

Read the full article here

[Dutch version](#)

[French version](#)



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The European research infrastructure for biobanking and biomolecular resources in health and life sciences

secretariat.BBMRIbe@kankerregister.org
www.bbmri.be

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