



# ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme

*Susanna Repo*

ELIXIR Heads of Nodes TC, 3 December 2020



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# ELIXIR Staff Exchange Programme



# Staff Exchange Programme

- Significant delays due to COVID-19 on projects initiated in 2020
- Knowledge and Staff Exchange remain important, ELIXIR flexible with e.g. schedules, if travel not possible, encourage exploring other means for exchange
- New call to open 1 January 2021, HoN asked to agree the scope
- Call scope identical to 2020, with small changes proposed to eligible costs



# Staff Exchange call - changes from 2020

- The funds may be used to cover travel costs, accommodation and per diem, and to cover possible costs for outreach and community building activities within the Node (e.g. a workshop). A single workshop alone is usually not sufficient to meet the call objectives. Non-eligible costs are listed in the General Guidelines for the Implementation of ELIXIR Commissioned Services.
- **Exceptionally in 2021, the funding can also be used to cover salary costs up to a maximum of 1 PM per project.** This exception is considered in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and will be reconsidered for future calls. It is expected that if salary costs are included, they are allocated towards the more junior members of the proposal, while it is unlikely that salary costs will be covered for senior members of the application team.
- **Indirect costs up to 25% may be covered if justified by the administration of the applicant's institute, however, the total amount per project cannot go over 15,000 Euro.**

# Travel Grant Scheme

- 19 awards in 2020, before COVID-19 pandemic put stop to travel
- Propose to continue with the Travel Grant Scheme in identical manner as for 2020
- HoN asked to approve the scope

[ELIXIRHON/2020/25](#)



# ELIXIR Knowledge Exchange Scheme

- First pilot in 2019 selected [two projects](#) to be funded under EKES
- Due to COVID-19, both projects have been delayed and thus assessment of the outcomes of the pilot are hindered
- Plan to open a second pilot in January 2021 with expectation to fund 2 projects
- Contact: Katharina Lauer





# Agreement on Project Plans for Commissioned Services



# Agreement on updated project plan

Project name	Total PM	Work Plan year
Project Plan for the Training Platform Task 2: Gap analysis, training materials development and training delivery	12.4	2019-2021
Project Plan for the Training Platform Task 4: Training Capacity Building	5.1	2019-2021

- Details in: [ELIXIRHON/2020/26](#)
- HoN are asked to agree the updated project plans for Training Platform







**White paper for  
the Food and Nutrition community**



Community	Approval Status	F1000R submission	IS submission	Budget from Work Plan
<b>Microbial Biotechnology</b>	Approved May 2019	Pending	Study began 1 June 2020	2019
<b>Intrinsically Disordered Proteins</b>	Approved May 2019	<a href="#">Available on F1000</a>	Study expected start 1 Jan 2021	2019
<b>3DBioInfo</b>	Approved June 2019	<a href="#">Available on F1000</a>	Study began 1 June 2020	2019
<b>Food and Nutrition</b>	<b>White paper ready for approval</b>	Expected end of 2020	Expected HoN TC in Feb 2021	2020
<b>Toxicology</b>	Virtual workshop took place 30 Sep - 1 Oct, white paper expected early 2021			2020
<b>Single Cell Omics</b>	Virtual workshop took place 14 Oct, white paper expected early 2021			2021
<b>Microbiome</b>	Virtual workshop planned, white paper expected spring 2021			2021



## White paper of the Food and Nutrition community

- The HoN are asked to agree that the Food and Nutrition community be considered as a full ELIXIR Community and invite them to present their proposal for an initial Implementation Study to the next possible HoN meeting.

[ELIXIRHON/2020/27](#)





# Request for Proposals for Data Platform Implementation Studies



# RFP for Data Platform Implementation Studies - scalable curation

[ELIXIRHON/2020/28](#)

- Scope:
  - Successful proposals will support the collaboration and integration of data resources within various ELIXIR Nodes, for instance to assist with curation of data resources, to integrate data resources with the literature and mechanisms that support high quality curation.
- Call to be published 10 December, closing date 31 March 2021
- Total budget reserved for call: 830k EUR (from 2020 and 2021 Work Plans)
- Expect to fund 5-8 Implementation Studies
  - Individual proposals should not exceed 18 PMs
- HoN are asked to agree the scope of the RFP for Data Platform Implementation Studies





**ELIXIRHON/2020/29**  
**Community manager - proposal for a pilot**

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# Community manager - the need

- As discussed with the HoN earlier in 2020, there is a need for community managers in some areas within ELIXIR
- The role of such manager would depend on the community but would focus on community coordination, such as:
  - Developing the community, including e.g. the organisation of meetings, hackathons, and workshops to ensure community-wide input
  - Effective communications within the community and externally
  - Operating any steering group or advisory group for the community to ensure governance
- It is not envisioned that a community manager would actively develop software



# Community managers - funding

- In previous discussions with the HoN, the funding allocation considered for a community manager has been around
  - 3 PM per year, i.e. 6 PM for a 24-month period
- This would be funded via Commissioned Services; in the effect, the community manager role is a service that the Hub commissions from one of the Nodes
- The process to select a Node to receive the funds must follow existing Commissioned Services selection processes





# Proposal for a pilot - Bioschemas community manager

- Bioschemas community has indicated a need for a community manager
- Propose to use the Bioschemas community manager as a pilot case to explore how such services could be established and funded via Commissioned Services
- Bioschemas community has an active steering committee, so propose that the steering committee is asked to come back with a joint plan and an agreement of which Node to receive the resources (6 PM for a 24-month period)
- Thus, upon HoN review, the resources could be allocated via the usual CoS route
- But, if more than one Node is interested in the role, then an RFP needs to be prepared and run. This would involve HoN agreeing the scope of the RFP, then call for applications with external peer review (note this would be quite heavy-weight approach for a budget of 6 PM)



# Assessing the process and impact of the pilot

- With the pilot, we would like to take the opportunity to assess:
  - The process, is it feasible, transparent and fit for purpose? How to determine that a community manager is needed?
  - The plans, do the plans demonstrate steps to achieve better management of the community in question?
  - The impact: before deciding to invest in other community managers, or consider the long-term nature of this service, we will look at the impact of this pilot and bring to the Heads of Nodes for discussion



## Action needed and next steps

- **The HoN are asked to agree to proceed with the pilot of selecting a community manager for the Bioschemas community, as described in slide 4**
- As a result of this agreement, the Bioschemas steering committee is requested to develop a project plan for a community manager in time for the February HoN TC, including a justification for the Node receiving the funds and description of expected outcomes
- At the February TC, the HoN will be asked to review the project plan and upon approval, the community manager could start 1 June 2021 (noting that for Commissioned Services, pre-contractual work is allowed)





# Priorities and development of project plans for 2022-23



# Timeline

<b>Project start date 1 January 2022 - the next big batch of Commissioned Services, including Platform funding and Strategic Implementation Studies for Human Data</b>	
30 October 2020	1-page descriptions for projects starting 1 January 2022 submitted to Hub
30 Nov 2020	Nodes to indicate interest to form writing teams
Dec - Jan	Nodes to indicate priority preference for resource allocation Writing of project plans
15 February 2021	First draft of project plans submitted to the Hub in preparation of Node consultation
15 Feb - 1 March	Hub to propose resource allocation
1 March - 30 April 2021	Consultation with Nodes <i>[Note: Two months for an adequate consultation period]</i>
11-12 May 2021	HoN review at the scheduled HoN retreat
16 July 2021	Final Project Plans submitted to the Hub <i>[Note: Deadline is set due to summer period and the HoN requirement to receive document in advance of the meeting]</i>
9 September 2021	HoN agreement on 2022 Work Plan & project plans at the scheduled HoN TC
3-4 November 2021	Board approval of contracts at the scheduled Board meeting
1 January 2022	New projects to begin



## CoS priorities - survey to Nodes

- Please look out for a survey from the Hub, to be sent by Agnieszka Egan, Operations project manager
- Each Node to complete the survey by 31 January 2021
- More Nodes now operate via Representing Entity model: the HoN will provide preference on the overall priorities for the Node

<b>Task</b>	<b>Priority indication</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Node Institute(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
EDP1		Assigned task lead		
ETP1		Participant		
ECP2		Capacity building		



## Commissioned Services in 2022-23

- Platform tasks (19)
- Strategic Implementation Studies
  - Federated Human Data; Rare Diseases; Beacon project
- Data Platform implementation studies (up to 8)
- Roadmap to Infrastructure Services
  - Tools Ecosystem; TeSS; Beacon project
- Plus those with start date 1 June 2021:
  - Community-led Implementation Studies (up to 8)
  - Containers & Workflows
  - Impact & innovation
- And up to 3 Community Implementation Studies

→ **Within the next 12 months, we will initiate over 40 Commissioned Services projects**



## Additional strategic priorities

- As discussed with the HoN in September, there is funding available for an additional 2-3 Strategic Implementation Studies
- Originally planned consultation call on priorities Q1-2021, but, as planning taking place for significant amount of studies, propose to postpone consultations
- This would also give us more time to see the developments around Horizon Europe calls







**2019-23 Programme mid-term review &  
All Hands meeting**

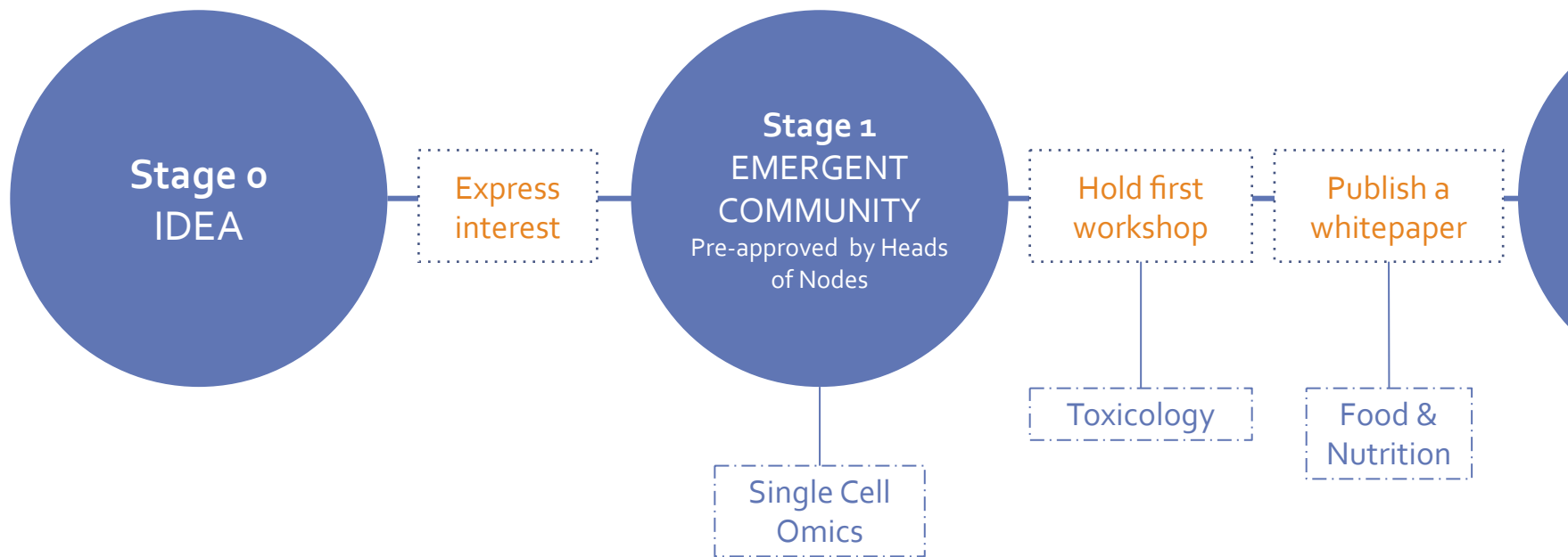


# 2019-23 Programme Mid-term Review

- Will be conducted by the ELIXIR SAB in Prague on Tue-Wed **8-9 June 2021**
  - Currently planning for a socially distanced f-2-f meeting, with a remote connection possibility
- Topics to be reviewed:
  - Strategic Implementation Studies; AAI; Platforms and Mature Communities; Industry, International & Impact work
- Report to be sent to SAB in preparation of the MTR, will use material collated for the Annual Report for this purpose
- HoN retreat 11-12 May, 2021, to be used for MTR preparations
- Hub to prepare templates for all presentations

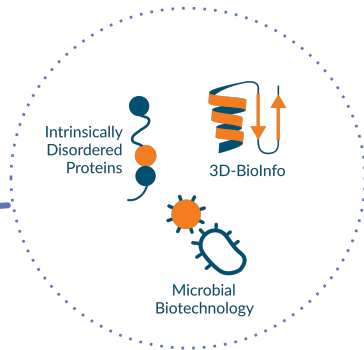


# Robust process to establish and develop ELIXIR Communities



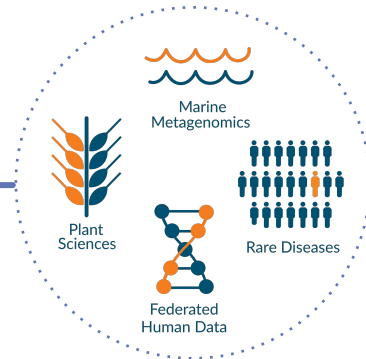
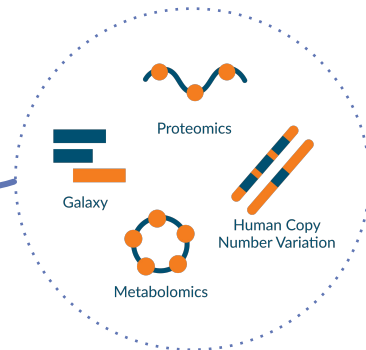
**Stage 3**  
**MATURE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
Approved by Heads of  
Nodes

0-2 years

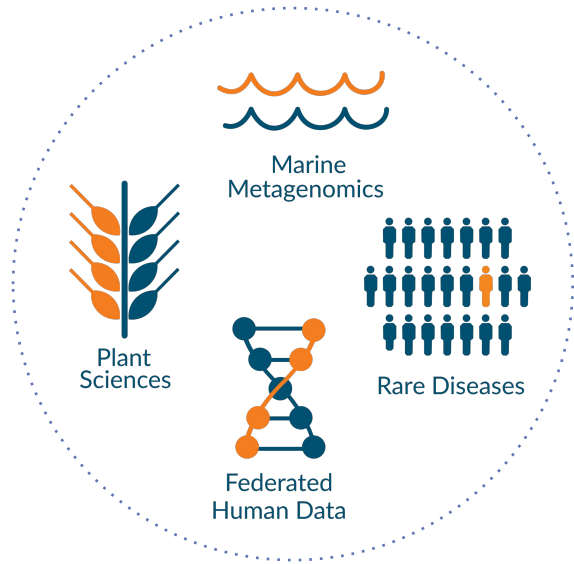


**EXCELERATE**

3-4 years



# Review of Communities - 1



- Original use cases from EXCELERATE, thus mature with +5 years of existence
- Review by the ELIXIR SAB as part of the mid-term review

# Review of Communities - 2



Galaxy



Human Copy  
Number Variation



Metabolomics

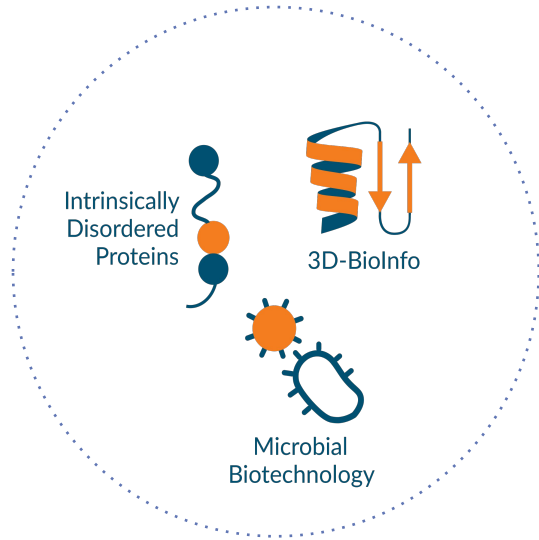


Proteomics

- Have just finished or will soon finish first Implementation Study
  - 3-4 years of existence
- Propose to be reviewed by the HoN
  - Mar-Apr 2021
  - Via a subcommittee of HoN
  - 1 h TC per Community, 20 minute presentation & discussion
  - Focus on the 5-10 year plans of the Community, funding opportunities, Community leadership, etc.
  - Not possible to “fail” the review but more an opportunity for support and alignment



# Review of Communities -3



- 'Youngest' Communities with 1-2 years of existence
- Recent HoN review in the form of white paper and Community Implementation Study review, thus, propose, no additional review needed at this point

# Planning timeline - draft

<b>ELIXIR 2019-23 Programme mid-term review</b>	
Dec - Jan	Preparation of annual report
4 February 2021	HoN TC - timepoint to review draft reports
15 April 2021	Final deadline - All materials submitted to Hub Before sending to the SAB, circulate to HoN for final review
10 May 2021	All materials sent to ELIXIR SAB (1 month prior meeting)
11-12 May 2021	HoN retreat <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Discussion on 2024-28 Programme direction</li><li>- Rehearsal?</li></ul>
1 June 2021	Slides ready / rehearsal?
8-9 June 2021	Mid-term review in Prague





## 2021 All Hands meeting

### All Hands 2021 will be a virtual event

- To take place the week before and during the original All Hands week (31 May-11 June)
- Hub to open a call for virtual workshops in January
- Two keynote webinars, similarly to last year

CONVERGE AGM/review meeting proposed to take place 10 June in Prague (after the mid-term review)





**Thank you!**



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