



**BBMRI-ERIC**

Biobanking and  
BioMolecular resources  
Research Infrastructure

# Biobanking: a gateway for health Summary

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**Biobanking: a Gateway for Health**  
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# *Key issues raised I*

- BBMRI-ERIC the biggest health-related ERIC (reaching out to the whole ERA)
- 3rd December 2013 ERIC status; 16 full members, 5 observers
  - ca 150 mio € Member State investment
- Essential for public health and personalized medicine
- A rapidly developing field
  - Sequencing technology
  - Capturing the value of Big Data for improved health
- Strong emphasis on interdisciplinarity and global integration

# *Key issues raised II*

- MoU with China in preparation
  - Should facilitate/enhance collaboration EU-China in health R&D to better address global challenges
- EU-Africa engagement
  - BBMRI a show case how RIs contribute to building a knowledge-based economy
  - Door opener for European partnership in R&D, economy and politics
- Example: population cohorts and opportunities by using “omics” technologies for better understanding the genetic basis of chronic diseases.
- Proof of concept: Access to samples of 1.9 mio patients (BBMRI-lpc)

# *Key issues raised III*

- IMI largest PPP in health sector (IMI2 3.45 bio €)
  - collaboration across sectors, focus on needs of patients and society
  - Biobanking activities in many IMI1 projects (no horizontal integration)
- Need for quality defined samples and data
  - New opportunities of collaboration with industry (professional solutions, new market)
  - Need for international standards (CEN, ISO standards in developmet)
- Patient needs
  - Innovation necessary to improve health
  - Patients are motivated to donate their samples and health data

# *Key issues raised IV*

- BBMRI-ERIC can provide a bridge linking research to health care and patients
- EU Data protection regulation
  - Several issues of immediate relevance for BBMRI-ERIC
- Legal framework for biobanks in many countries
  - Example Belgium: opt-out for research use of residual human biosamples

# *Key issues raised V*

- Need for an EC policy framework to better use existing resources (observe data protection legislation!)
- We need to overcome existing silos!
  - Engage in a process with all relevant sectors to develop new solutions
  - BBMRI-ERIC could have a major contribution in changing research paradigms
  - Invitation to engage in a structured dialogue



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**THANK YOU!**