

EMBL Introductory Workshop in Latvia

Date, time	17 June, 10:00-14:00 (all times in EEST)
Format	Virtual meeting: registration link
Workshop aim	Latvia recently became a prospect member state of EMBL, joining the organization at a very dynamic time with the new and ambitious scientific Programme in preparation for roll-out in 2022. This workshop aims to introduce EMBL and its offerings to the Latvian research community, including the benefits available from Latvia's membership. Furthermore, the new EMBL Programme and some of its key themes will be presented, to discover possible scientific synergies and nurture collaborations.
Schedule (titles preliminary)	
10:00	<p>Introduction:</p> <p><i>Edith Heard (EMBL DG) and Ewan Birney (Deputy EMBL DG)</i></p> <p>EMBL and its new Programme for Latvia (30 mins, 15 min Q&A)</p>
10:45	<p>Session 1: Microbiome and Microbial Ecosystems Chair: Nils Rostoks, BMC (Latvia) 10 min presentation and 5 min Q&A per speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zamin Iqbal, EMBL-EBI "Hidden Worlds of microbial and plasmid diversity" - Mārcis Leja, ICPM, LU "Participation with the Latvian GISTAR cohort to the One Million Microbiomes from Human Project" - Rob Finn, EMBL-EBI "Accessing new parts of the human microbiome" - Jānis Kloviņš, BMC "Microbiome composition as predictor of disease and drug response"
11:45	Coffee break
12:15	<p>Session 2: SARS-CoV-2 genome sequencing Chair: Alvis Brazma, EMBL-EBI 10 min presentation and 5 min Q&A per speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monta Ustinova, BMC: "SARS-CoV-2 genome sequencing in Latvia to support epidemiological decisions" - Vladimir Benes and Tobias Rausch, EMBL Heidelberg: "EMBL Contribution to Viral Surveillance through SARS-CoV-2 Genome Sequencing" (15 min +5 min Q&A) Dāvids Fridmanis, BMC: "SARS-CoV-2 genome sequencing from sewage samples in Latvia" - Ewan Birney, EMBL on Covid-19 Data Platform
13:20	General discussion and Q&A

14:00

Closing

Participants

Latvia

Uldis Berkis, IS3 Expert for Biomedicine, Medical Technologies, Biopharmacy and Biotechnologies,
Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia

Nils Rostoks, Assoc. prof., Director, BMC

Mārcis Leja, Prof., Director, Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine, University of Latvia

Jānis Kloviņš, Prof., Group Leader, BMC

Dāvids Fridmanis, PhD, Group Leader, BMC

Monta Ustinova, PhD, BMC

EMBL

Edith Heard, Prof., EMBL Director General

Ewan Birney, Deputy Director General EMBL, Director EMBL-EBI

Alvis Brazma, Functional Genomics Senior Team Leader and Senior Scientist

Zamin Iqbal, Group Leader Computational microbial genomics, EMBL-EBI

Rob Finn, Team Leader Microbiome Informatics, EMBL-EBI

Vladimir Benes, Head of Genomics Core Facility, EMBL Heidelberg

Tobias Rausch, Senior Bioinformatician Genomics Core Facility, EMBL Heidelberg

Plamena Markova, Head of International Relations, EMBL

Maria Ananchenkova, International Relations Officer, EMBL
