


Deliverable 4.3: Dedicated calls and reviews for access

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Project website	www.eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu		

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Executive Summary

Context

EPPN²⁰²⁰ (i) provides European public and private sectors Transnational Access to a wide range of state-of-the-art plant phenotyping installations, techniques and methods, (ii) develops these techniques and methods in Joint Research Activities, thereby improving the quality in existing facilities across Europe. The opportunity for Transnational Access to the EPPN²⁰²⁰ installations are widely advertised via regional conferences and web-based information. Calls for Transnational Access to the EPPN²⁰²⁰ installations will be released at regular intervals. Transnational Access will be available based on a simple and transparent access procedure, which ensures that the proposals are technically feasible in relation with the instruments available in the considered installation. This will be obtained via an obligatory interaction between the platform scientist and the user. The proposals will be evaluated by a panel consisting of independent scientists outside of EPPN²⁰²⁰ and representatives of the involved Transnational Access platforms.

Rationale:

A publically accessible EPPN²⁰²⁰ webpage has been established to advertise open calls for Transnational Access. Calls will be opened for the installations with a deadline. User have to upload a proposal using the on-line submission platform. Each proposal will be reviewed and evaluated by an international expert recognized for their expertise in the plant phenotyping and an independent EPPN²⁰²⁰ access provider.

Main Results:

Calls for Transnational Access to all installations will be released in regular intervals, each with a deadline for project submission. There will be six calls during the project duration (December 2017, June 2018, December 2018, June 2019, December 2019 and June 2020).

The first call for Transnational Access has been launched. The evaluation process of applications of the first call will start mid-December 2017. Before submitting a proposal, users interested in performing a Transnational Access experiment can select the platform of interest on the web-based portal and need to contact the responsible scientists at these installations to discuss their experiments and specifically to elaborate the feasibility of the experiment. Based on this discussion, a proposal is submitted to the on-line submission platform prior to the deadline. Proposals will be checked for eligibility before starting the evaluation procedure. Eligible proposals will be evaluated by a scientific panel consisting of at least 50% of independent plant scientists outside of EPPN²⁰²⁰ and EPPN²⁰²⁰ platform responsible scientists. The selection criteria are based on the scientific quality of the proposal, which represents scientific progress potentially leading to publications and the feasibility of the experiment. The submitted proposals will be ranked and selected for Transnational Access by the selection panel.

Authors/Teams involved: Roland Pieruschka, Simone Gatzke (FZJ)

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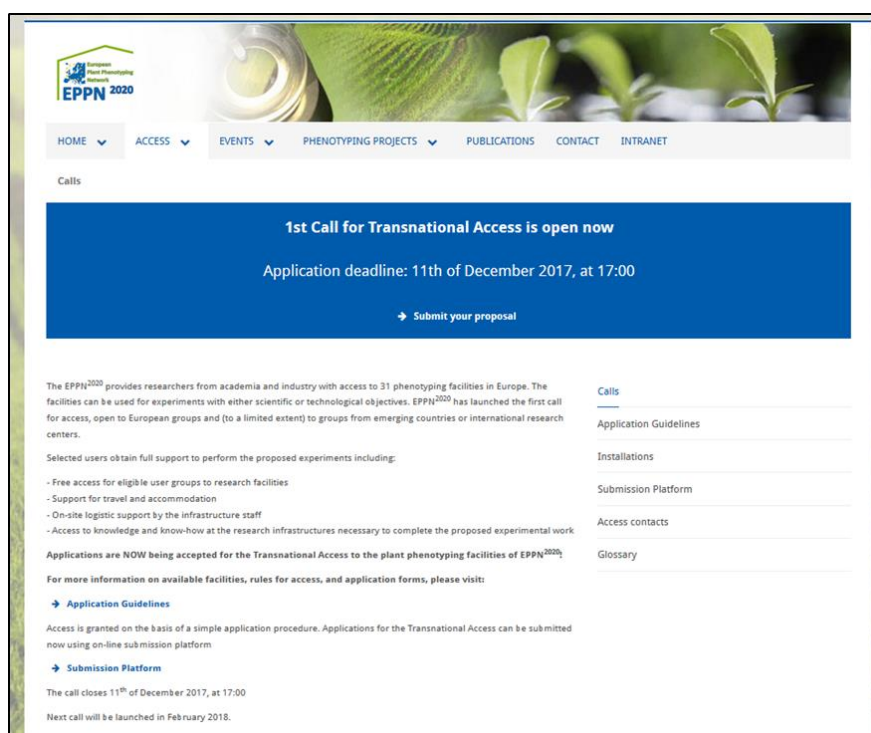
1. DEDICATED CALLS AND REVIEWS FOR ACCESS

The EPPN²⁰²⁰ provides researchers from academia and industry with Transnational Access (TA) to plant phenotyping installations in Europe. TA designs and manages access to EPPN²⁰²⁰ installations for a wide phenotyping community. TA will be available based on a simple and transparent web-based procedure (see also Deliverable 4.2). Before submitting a proposal, users interested in performing TA experiments can select the platform of interest on the web based infrastructure database and need to contact the responsible scientists at these platforms to discuss their experiments and specifically to elaborate the feasibility of the experiment. Based on this discussion, a proposal is submitted to the on-line submission platform prior to the deadline. Proposals will be checked for eligibility before starting the evaluation procedure.

1.1 Dedicated calls for access

TA to the EPPN²⁰²⁰ installations will be advertised through calls, which will be released at regular intervals with deadlines for project submission. In total six calls will be released during the project time (December 2017, June 2018, December 2018, June 2019, December 2019 and June 2020).

The first call has already been launched and has been made publically accessible on the EPPN²⁰²⁰ webpage (https://eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu/Access_Call, see Fig. 1 and Deliverables 4.1, 5.1). The deadline for the first call is beginning of December 2017. First experiments will be possible early 2018.



The EPPN²⁰²⁰ provides researchers from academia and industry with access to 31 phenotyping facilities in Europe. The facilities can be used for experiments with either scientific or technological objectives. EPPN²⁰²⁰ has launched the first call for access, open to European groups and (to a limited extent) to groups from emerging countries or international research centers.

Selected users obtain full support to perform the proposed experiments including:

- Free access for eligible user groups to research facilities
- Support for travel and accommodation
- On-site logistic support by the infrastructure staff
- Access to knowledge and know-how at the research infrastructures necessary to complete the proposed experimental work

Applications are NOW being accepted for the Transnational Access to the plant phenotyping facilities of EPPN²⁰²⁰.

For more information on available facilities, rules for access, and application forms, please visit:

- [Application Guidelines](#)

Access is granted on the basis of a simple application procedure. Applications for the Transnational Access can be submitted now using on-line submission platform

- [Submission Platform](#)

The call closes 11th of December 2017, at 17:00

Next call will be launched in February 2018.

Fig. 1: First call for Transnational Access https://eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu/Access_Call

1.2 Reviews for access

Each application will be reviewed and evaluated by two reviewers, namely an internationally recognized scientist in a research area relevant to the considered application and a scientist belonging to the EPPN²⁰²⁰ consortium. A first screen will be performed based on criteria of feasibility, as evaluated by the relevant access provider and the executive committee. Access providers will be notified about any submissions to their installation via a section of the on-line submission platform (see Fig. 2 and Deliverable 4.2). The review process itself will be initiated only if the access provider confirms the feasibility submitted application. Each proposal section is evaluated and will receive grades from reviewers. Only applications that pass the threshold value for each section can be approved. The evaluation criteria of the submitted application are as follows (see Fig. 3):

- The application demonstrates scientific excellence or (for accesses with technological purpose) a promising technical challenge
- Whenever possible, the proposed project crosses scales for addressing a specific question (e.g. metabolomics to phenotype, platform in greenhouse to field canopy). For that, a priority will be given to applications that aim at extending or complementing an available dataset, explicitly presented in the application
- The application shows how scientific progress can lead to publication or, for technical projects, technological publications, patent or any other diffusion method.

Preference is given to users who do not belong to the EPPN²⁰²⁰ consortium. Special attention will be paid to developing-countries and to young scientists. Additionally, to efficiently address the user demand, high quality applications which were not selected for access to one platform can be re-evaluated for access to other comparable platform, if there is capacity for access. This will allow efficient use of the infrastructure and address the demand.

The final decision will be taken by the executive committee of EPPN²⁰²⁰ based on reviews. In most cases, it will be taken by the TA WP leader and the coordinator, and checked by the executive committee. In difficult cases, the executive committee will take the final decision based on a vote. In so doing, the procedure will apply the principles of transparency, fairness and impartiality. Selected projects and their status will be listed on the EPPN²⁰²⁰ website.

1.3 Accesses

Access providers and users selected for access will be encouraged to sign a bilateral agreement that states how the work will be carried out, how data will be processed, stored and made accessible to a wide community. The agreement will also indicate the ownership of different categories of resulting data (phenotypic data, environmental data, calibrations, workflows and designs). Ownership rules will be based on principles presented in D3.1 (data management plan). The key elements of the data management plan are published on the website to openly inform the access providers and users about the EPPN²⁰²⁰ data policy.

Users will obtain all the logistic, scientific and technological support needed to successfully complete the proposed experiments. During the access experiments user group members will be closely involved in the experiments, in particular for taking adequate decisions during the experiment. They will be integrated into the local working groups. For each experiment, a local staff member and a mentor will support the user throughout the experimental period, by i) discussing and designing in detail the experiments, ii) training the users in standard operating procedures applicable to the installations, iii) supporting the users during the experimental phase, iv) enabling data processing and analysis, v) assisting in data interpretation including the preparation of manuscripts and reports as appropriate.

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EPPN 2020 WEBSITE | LEGAL NOTICE | 23:39 | Logout

EPPN 2020 TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS

CONTACT

Simone Gatzke
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eppn2020@fz-juelich.de

SUBMISSION PLATFORM

- WELCOME >
- AGREEMENT LETTER >

EVALUATOR LOGIN

Login name: s.gatzke

Password:

Forgotten your password? [Please click here.](#)

Login

Fig. 2: Web-based section for reviewers with all relevant guidelines to evaluate submitted proposals (https://eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu/login_evaluator)

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CONTACT

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SUBMISSION PLATFORM

- WELCOME >
- MY PROJECTS >

DESCRIPTION OF FEASIBILITY

Please provide a description of the project that clearly conveys that the project you propose is feasible.

Please address the following questions:

- How was the feasibility assessed?
- Was the feasibility discussed with the access provider?
- Was this access provider consulted in the preparation of the proposal?

Maximum 30 points / Threshold 20 points

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EPPN 2020 TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS

CONTACT

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SUBMISSION PLATFORM

- WELCOME >
- MY PROJECTS >
- GROUP MEMBER >
- GROUP MEMBERS >
- PROJECT DETAILS >
- Project Summary >
- Description of feasibility >
- Description of work >

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Please provide a description of the proposed project including a work plan with e.g.:

- Introduction and background of the project
- Scientific and/or technological question and their relevance addressed by the project
- A detailed work plan including: plant species, experimental conditions, duration, measurements, experimental design, etc.
- Does the project complement previous datasets? Please describe if applicable (e.g. analyses performed on the same plant material in other platforms or in the field, performance of the equipment to be tested during the access, breeding strategy and results)

Maximum 40 points / Threshold 30 points

This information is required for submission.

Save

Max. 10000 characters

The screenshot displays a web interface for the EPPN2020 submission platform. On the left, there is a navigation menu with two main sections: 'CONTACT' and 'SUBMISSION PLATFORM'. The 'CONTACT' section lists Simone Gatzke with a phone number (+49 246161 9778) and an email address (eppn2020@fz-juelich.de). The 'SUBMISSION PLATFORM' section includes links for WELCOME, MY PROJECTS, GROUP MEMBER, GROUP MEMBERS, and PROJECT DETAILS. Under PROJECT DETAILS, there are sub-links for Project Summary, Description of feasibility, Description of work, and Expected outcome.

The main content area is titled 'EXPECTED OUTCOME'. It contains the following text and elements:

- A heading: 'EXPECTED OUTCOME'
- A prompt: 'Please describe the expected outcome and impact of the project:'
- A list of questions:
 - How do you expect to publish the results from the Transnational Access?
 - How will this benefit the question you want to answer?
 - What is the expected impact of the proposed project?
- A score indicator: 'Maximum 30 points / Threshold 20 points'
- A blue information box: '• This information is required for submission.'
- A 'Save' button with a checkmark icon.
- A character limit: 'Max. 5000 characters'
- A rich text editor toolbar with icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, underline, link, unlink, list, and indent.
- A text input area with the placeholder text 'Test'.

Fig. 3: Evaluation criteria for submitted proposals (https://eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu/EPPN2020_call)

Definitions

EPPN²⁰²⁰: European Plant Phenotyping Network - 2020
TA: Transnational Access

Annex 1: Check list

Deliverable Check list (to be checked by the “Deliverable leader”)

	Check list	Comments
BEFORE	I have checked the due date and have planned completion in due time	<i>Please inform Management Team of any foreseen delays</i>
	The title corresponds to the title in the DOW	<i>If not please inform the Management Team with justification</i>
	The dissemination level corresponds to that indicated in the DOW	
	The contributors (authors) correspond to those indicated in the DOW	
	The Table of Contents has been validated with the Activity Leader	<i>Please validate the Table of Content with your Activity Leader before drafting the deliverable</i>
	I am using the EPPN ²⁰²⁰ deliverable template (title page, styles etc)	<i>Available in “Useful Documents” on the collaborative workspace</i>
<i>The draft is ready</i>		
AFTER	I have written a good summary at the beginning of the Deliverable	<i>A 1-2 pages maximum summary is mandatory (not formal but really informative on the content of the Deliverable)</i>
	The deliverable has been reviewed by all contributors (authors)	<i>Make sure all contributors have reviewed and approved the final version of the deliverable. You should leave sufficient time for this validation.</i>
	I have done a spell check and had the English verified	
	I have sent the final version to the WP Leader and to the Project coordinator (cc to the project manager) for approval	<i>Send the final draft to your WPLLeader and the coordinator with cc to the project manager on the 1st day of the due month and leave 2 weeks for feedback. Inform the reviewer of the changes (if any) you have made to address their comments. Once validated by the 2 reviewers and the coordinator, send the final version to the Project Manager who will then submit it to the EC.</i>