



## **Kick Off Meeting**

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 731013. This publication reflects only the view of the author, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## Document information

<b>EU Project N°</b>	731013	<b>Acronym</b>	EPPN <sup>2020</sup>
<b>Full Title</b>	European Plant Phenotyping Network 2020		
<b>Project website</b>	www.eppn2020.plant-phenotyping.eu		

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>N°</b>	D6.2	<b>Title</b>	Kick Off Meeting
<b>Work Package</b>	<b>N°</b>	6	<b>Title</b>	Project Management

<b>Date of delivery</b>	<b>Contractual</b>	31/07/2017 (Month 3)	<b>Actual</b>	30/06/2017 (Month 2)
<b>Dissemination level</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>PU Public, fully open, e.g. web</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>CO Confidential, restricted under conditions set out in Model Grant Agreement</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>CI Classified, information as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC.</b>		

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<b>Version log</b>			
<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Revision N°</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Change</b>
15/06/2017	0	B. Ferreira & F. Tardieu	first version
18/06/2017	1	R. Pierushka	2 <sup>nd</sup> version
26/06/2017	2	All WP Leaders	3 <sup>rd</sup> version
12/07/2017	3	All partners	4 <sup>th</sup> version

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## INTRODUCTION

The EPPN<sup>2020</sup> Kick-Off Meeting took place from 29 to 31 May 2017 in Nice, France. It gathered 42 people and except CSIRO, Australia, each partner organisation was represented. The Kick off meeting was organised in plenary sessions to allow the inclusion of all partners in the discussions and decisions.

The 1st day was organised around introducing the project to each partners as well as the management rules to ensure a smooth and clear management of the project for all.

- François Tardieu presented the rationale of the project and B. Ferreira explained the management aspects.

- Uli Schurr presented the Networking WP (WP5/NA2), together with the EMPHASIS infrastructure because the networking activities will be essentially common to the two projects.

- Each WP leader presented Joint Research Activities (WP1-2-3/ JRA1-2-3) . Networking activities develop methods at the consortium level, for image analysis, data analysis and data management. In each aspect, two levels have been defined. Level one is the minimum threshold for TNA, which all partners should have reached before the end of the 1st year. Level two will be developed after that, and fine-tuned at the 1st annual meeting (2018).

The second day (morning) was dedicated to TNA management (NA1/WP4). Each installation providing TNA was presented by the corresponding partner. The process of TNA was presented by Roland Pierushka, together with some specific TNA management aspects (Bénédicte Ferreira).

To ensure an efficient meeting, a wrap up of all JRA decisions was discussed at the end of each day. The text presented below was displayed and amended. The detailed content of the meeting is presented in the power points that are accessible via the collaborative workspace. A management booklet was also distributed to each partner, which describes operational aspects of the EPPN<sup>2020</sup> Management (electronic version available on the workspace).

	Monday 29 May	Tuesday 30 May	Wednesday 31 May	
8h15				
8h45		<i>Registration incl. Payment for social dinner</i>		
9h45	Arrival of the participants	-Introduction (EPPN <sup>2020</sup> general presentation) (45') -Management issues (15')	NA2/TNA session: platform presentations + Q&A on financial reporting	9h00
10h30		- EMPHASIS Prep presentation (15') -NA2 Networking (30')		
10h50		10:30-10:50 Coffee break	10:50-11:10 Coffee break	10h50
12h45		JRA1 Novel techniques and methods for environmental and plant measurements, including model-assisted phenotyping	NA2/TNA session	11h10
14h00		12:45-14:00 Lunch	Wrap up Session for each WP + General conclusion	12h15
15h50		JRA3 Building a consistent Information System in the different nodes and defining standardisation strategies	12:45-14:00 Lunch	12h45
16h10		15:50-16:10 Coffee break		14h00
18h00		JRA2 Design and analysis of phenotyping experiments across multiple platforms, scales of plant organization, traits and management conditions	<i>End of the Meeting</i>	
18h10		Provisional wrap-up on JRAs		
19h00		<i>Registration incl. Payment for social dinner</i>		
19h45	Welcome Dinner at the venue Servotel St Vincent**** - paid for by Management	Social Dinner on the seaside (Blue Beach restaurant): departure from hotel (bus): 19:00		

Figure 1: EPPN<sup>2020</sup> Kick Off Meeting Agenda

## **WRAP UP : MAIN DECISIONS**

### **A. Joint Research Activities**

#### **1. Interactions between WPs and installations.**

Take the opportunity of EPPN<sup>2020</sup> to improve each of our installations

*ACTION: Give contacts and begin dialogue with each WP*

#### **2. Level 1, having each of our platforms running with the minimum requirements for TA.**

##### **WP1**

Requirement: several sensors per installation, continuous measurements (T, HR, Light)

*ACTION: XD sends a short template with sensor number, position etc.*

Requirement: Calibration of the imaging system via regressions by using plants having different biomass/area at different stages + First camera calibration with known objects

*ACTION: TP ensures that everything is OK for calibration, partners contact him if problems*

##### **WP2**

Requirement: An explicit experimental design is used

*ACTION : Send FvE a short text with (i) sources and directions (if known) of environmental variations in the installation, (ii) how plant positions are defined and recorded in the experiment, (iii) the design, a motivation of why this design is used, which method of randomization is used and why? In case you use a standard design (completely randomized design, randomized complete blocks, incomplete blocks design, row-column design, alpha-design, lattice design, split-plot design, p-rep design, etc.), please indicate the design class you used and its specifications (number of replicates, number of complete or incomplete blocks, number of rows and columns, number of whole plots and subplots, etc). At all times provide a description of the physical lay-out with row and column coordinates and a description of the measurement times / schedules.*

##### **WP3**

- Ensure that sensors can be identified (if possible URI) with their calibration is tracked
- Ontology of environmental variables (new release of MIAPPE): Names, definitions and units of variables provided to users are recorded with controlled vocabulary

*ACTION: Exchanges with PN (sensors) and BU (ontology), helped by Pawel*

#### **3. Level 2: Common activities**

These common activities will be fine-tuned in the next year, but can begin from now on in interaction with WPs:

WP1 Mapping of environmental conditions

Common experiments, root, shoots

WP2 Outlier detection, common "exercise" on datasets

WP3 progress towards a European Information system

## B. Networking Activities

Partners are asked to send the following information to Uli Schurr:

- forthcoming meetings/events, which could be used to connect to user or tech-provider communities
- existing or planned education events/ concepts
- summer schools related to phenotyping
- existing promotion material on your facility (pdf; videos, etc.) to put on the website of EPPN<sup>2020</sup>

## C. NA1/WP4 Management of Transnational Access:

### General considerations on TNA in EPPN2020

- Partners should be very clear with users that TNA requires input and investment from them even once the experiment is over.
- Feasibility needs to be established before application otherwise people and reviewers work for nothing → contact with platforms is a prerequisite for eligible applications.
- In H2020 International/private companies can access on the condition that they publish their results/data (as any public organisation). SME can access and are not required to publish.
- EPPN2020 has to make clear in the call itself that after publication and in any case after time defined in the data management plan, phenotypic data of TNA experiments will be released.
- 2 calls per year: Partners are asked to provide a provisional plan that will be updated at each call: no need to plan everything but at least mention when the platform is NOT available. By M18, the TNA process will be re-assessed and changed if necessary.
- Advertisement for access: this is an EC obligation for partners to advertise TNA opportunities. There will be workshops organised with potential users where access provider present case studies from their installations and posters are also presented for each installation to enable a detailed discussion with the users.

### Review procedure and eligibility/quality check

The review procedure is under the responsibility of the ExCom, who in most cases nominates Roland for handling proposals, or another member for German applications.

1. All applications uploaded on the project website are transmitted to the corresponding platforms.
2. The responsible of the platform confirms if there has been a real exchange with the potential user, and states if the experiment is sufficiently planned/feasible.
3. The next step is in most cases to send the application to two referees (one of the consortium and one external). In a very limited number of cases, the application can be suspended at this stage if there has been no interaction between the applicant and the platform, or if the responsible of the installation considers that the project is not feasible as it stands. In this case, the project may be forwarded to another installation, or the user be advised to re-submit the proposal after an in-depth interaction with an installation.
4. The final decision about accesses is under the responsibility of the ExCom.

### Applications to experiments involving more than one installation

A criteria of excellence is the existence of pre-existing datasets involving the same genetic material for experiments in an EPPN<sup>2020</sup> installation

- EPPN<sup>2020</sup> can help in that via experiments submitted to successive calls.
- Experiments involving more than one installation are possible if one experiment in a platform and one access to an omic platform on samples collected in the experiment. In this

case, users fill 2 separate proposals but explicitly mention the link between these experiment.

### **Eligibility of accesses**

EU rule: scientist belonging to an institution who is partner of the consortium cannot apply (e.g. no one from INRA can apply for access as a leading applicant). There is a tolerance of about 5-10% of all accesses.

- The ExCom will be strict for applicants in the groups directly involved in EPPN<sup>2020</sup>
- If a scientist from the same institution but not in the group uses an alternative affiliation, this can be acceptable.

### **CONCLUSION:**

- The Kick-Off Meeting was essentially aiming to discuss level 1 in JRAs as it is the most urgent: TNA depend on level 1. Level 2 will be discussed later on → All partners need to reach level 1 as soon as possible and in any case before 2019.
- TA is the most important for the EC, so it is essential to report on that. A basic form for TNA will be available on site within weeks, please have a look and comment.
- Data management plan will be made for data involving TNA only (other data, level 2)
- Collaborative workspace will be opened by Benedicte and presentations of the Kick Off Meeting will be available there: <https://intranet.inra-transfert.fr/EPPN2020>.

Overall, the Kick Off Meeting has allowed to:

- Introduce each partner and platform to the consortium
- Interact on the project activities and rules (management)
- Clarify the role of each partner in the different WPs
- Draw an action plan of the project for the coming year.



## PARTICIPANTS' LIST:

The following partners attended the Meeting:

DOONAN	John	ABER
CELLINI	Francesco	ALSIA
PETROZZA	Angelo	ALSIA
SUMMERER	Stephan	ALSIA
HEINSVIG KJAER	Katrine	AU
GATZKE	Simone	FZJ
PIERUSCHKA	Roland	FZJ
SCHURR	Ulrich	FZJ
USADEL	Björn	FZJ
VLOT	A. Corina	HMGU
WINKLER	Jana Barbro	HMGU
BOUREAU	Tristan	INRA
BELIN	Etienne	INRA
GIBON	Yves	INRA
WELCKER	Claude	INRA
CABRERA-BOSQUET	Llorenç	INRA
HILGERT	Nadine	INRA
NEVEU	Pascal	INRA
MULLER	Bertrand	INRA
TARDIEU	François	INRA
FOURNIER	Christian	INRA
KRAJEWSKI	Paweł	IPG
ĆWIEK-KUPCZYŃSKA	Hanna	IPG
ALTMANN	Thomas	IPK
FERREIRA	Bénédicte	IT
VEDEL	Lise	IT
VASS	Imre	MTA
SCHWARTZ	Stefan	Phenospex
ZIVCAK	Marek	SUA
BRESTIC	Marian	SUA
OLSOVSKA	Katarina	SUA
DRAYE	Xavier	UCL
ROITSCH	Thomas	UCPH
HIMANEN	Kristiina	UHEL
PRIDMORE	Tony	UNOTT
MORISSE	Merlijn	VIB
DHONDT	Stijn	VIB
MURRAY	Darren	VSNi
VAN EEUWIJK	Fred	WU
AARTS	Mark	WU
MILLET	Emilie	WU
VIART	Frédéric	ASA



## Glossary

EPPN<sup>2020</sup>: European Plant Phenotyping Network – 2020

JRA: Joint Research Activities

NA: Networking Activities

TNA or TA: Transnational Access