



In November 2015 the European project CORBEL (Coordinated Research Infrastructures Building Enduring Life-Science Services) kicked off (<http://www.corbel-project.eu>).

Our Villefranche Laboratory of Developmental Biology (LBDV) is leading one of the actions of CORBEL for the EMBRC (European Marine Biological Resource Centre): involving promoting the use of marine metazoan models!

More details below for anyone interested, including on a Workshop to be held in Villefranche next month.

CORBEL is a Horizon 2020 initiative linking eleven biological and medical research infrastructures (BMS RIs). The goal is to allow harmonized user access for biological and medical technologies, biological samples and data services to boost the efficiency, productivity and impact of European biomedical research.

The CORBEL project is structured into 9 work packages, of which WP4 drives the development of interactions between European Research infrastructures in selected areas of biological research. The EMBRC, LBDV members are coordinating Use Case 4.4, within WP4: “Marine metazoan developmental models for biomedical research from predictive integrated databases to functional testing”.

One central part of this action is to develop user-friendly genomic databases for three animals, the small hydrozoan jellyfish *Clytia hemisphaerica*, the European sea urchin *Paracentrotus lividus* and the cephalochordate amphioxus (*Branchiostoma lanceolatum*).

The aim is to promote more widely these alternative models to the larger bioscience community, as they have the potential to unlock questions intractable to conventional models. This activity will be undertaken by researchers at five EMBRC marine station sites in Scotland, Italy and France (the three UPMC/CNRS marine stations), interacting closely with other members of the European Research Infrastructures, notably ELIXIR and Euro-BioImaging.

We are organizing a first work meeting to establish how these genomic databases will be developed and which information will be included.

This meeting will take place on 15 & 16 February 2016 at the conference room of the Jean Maetz Building.

A preliminary program is available.

If you wish more information or if you would like to participate please contact [sofie.vanmaele@obs-vlfr.fr](mailto:sofie.vanmaele@obs-vlfr.fr) before 15/01/2016.