

ELIXIR Belgium

Building an ecosystem of services in Life Sciences

Frederik Coppens





The Belgian Node : a short history



Towards a Belgian Node

- December 2013 - Memorandum of Understanding, Belgium joins ELIXIR
- November 2015 - ELIXIR Consortium Agreement, full ELIXIR Member
- December 2017 - ELIXIR Collaboration Agreement, VIB lead, 7 academic partners
 - VIB legal entity for ELIXIR Belgium
 - All Flemish & Brussels universities on board
 - 1 Walloon university
- December 2018 - Sciensano becomes partner



A people infrastructure



ELIXIR Belgium funding

- Belgian Science policy office covers the annual fee
- 2016 – funding to hire a coordinator from Flemish government ((d)HoN in kind by VIB)
 - 1 FTE
- 2017-2018 – infrastructural funding from Flemish government
 - Development of new programme
 - Bridge-the-gap-funding
 - ~5 FTE / year
- 2019-2022 – International Research Infrastructure (IRI) call by FWO
 - Dedicated call for ESFRIs
 - 2-yearly call, funding for 4 years, when funded skip a call
 - ~ 15 FTE / year
 - ~50/50 central node / partners



ELIXIR Belgium funding

- 2023-2026 – renewal of IRI funding
 - Evaluation ongoing
 - ~ 20 FTE / year requested
- 2022-2026 – Belgian Genome Biobank project
 - Lead technical infrastructure – mostly in kind
 - ¼ FTE / year

Embedded in the (inter)national ecosystem



EBRAINS

EIRENE RI

VLAAMS
SUPERCOMPUTER
CENTRUM



Vlaanderen
is supercomputing



Australian
BioCommons



National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health



International projects

- ELIXIR-Excelerate (done)
- ELIXIR-CONVERGE
 - WP lead RDMkit
- EOSC-Life
 - Task lead tools collaboratory & co-lead WorkflowHub
- BY-COVID
 - WP lead Infectious Diseases Toolkit & (federated) data analysis
- EuroScienceGateway
 - Task leads
- Genomic Data Infrastructure
 - Task lead
 - Lead for technical infrastructure in Belgium
- AgroServ
 - Co-lead of WP on data management

Lots of different roles & mandates

- Chair of the Belgian 1+ Million Genomes mirror group ICT
- Member of the 1+ Million Genomes working group ICT
- Member of the Belgian 1+ Million Genomes Steering Committee

- Member of the Flemish Supercomputer Center (VSC) User Council
- Member of the Flemish Open Science Board (FOSB), representing ESFRIs

- Belgian representative in the Strategy Working Group for Data, Computing and Digital Research Infrastructures (SWG DIGIT) of the ESFRI Forum
- Member of the EOSC TF Technical interoperability of Data and Services

- Member of the Galaxy Executive Board
- Co-chair of ELIXIR Galaxy Community



Delivering Services for Flemish Researchers



ELIXIR Belgium services

Interpretation of
Human Research
Data

Plant & Biodiversity
Services

Research Data
Management

Reproducible
Data Analysis

(Sensitive)
Data Infrastructure

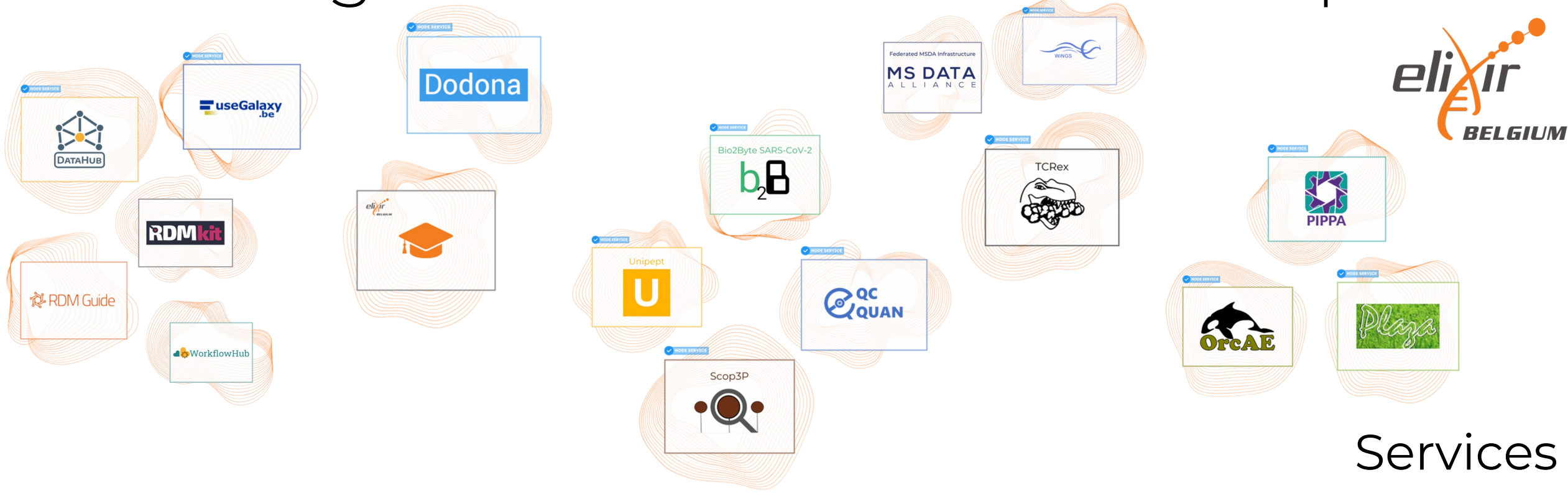
Training

Coordination

Outreach &
Communication



Providing free-to-use Services-on-Top



Hardware infrastructure

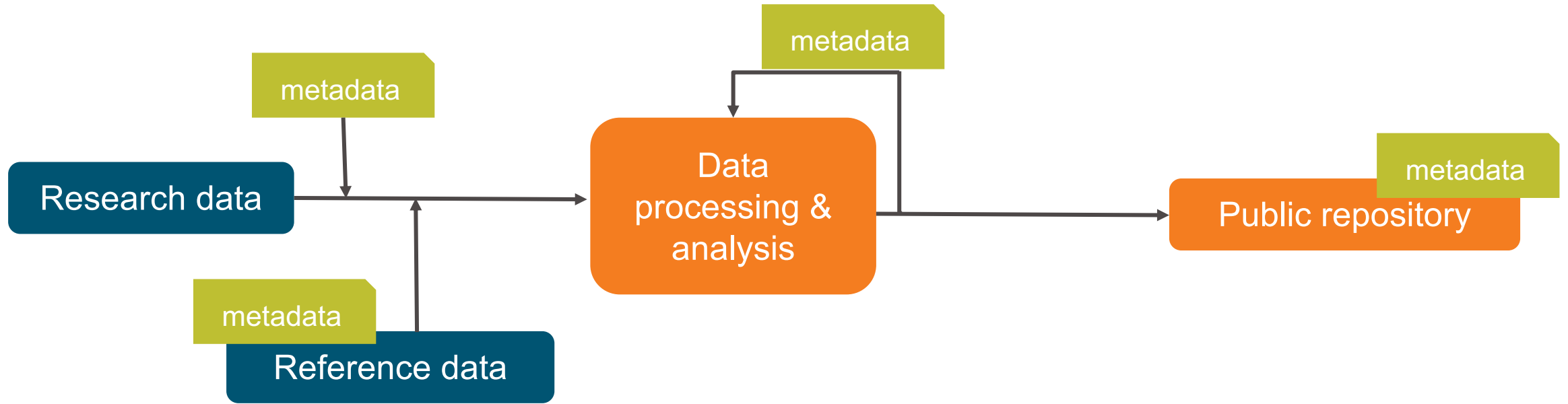




Providing infrastructure services



Enabling FAIR data by design



RDMkit



Galaxy
PROJECT



nextflow

BIOCONDA



Workflow
RO-Crate



elixir
BELGIUM



Scalable data management services



How can we **help** researchers, data stewards and project managers navigate and contribute to this FAIR data repository landscape?



Provides guidance on the
Research Data Management support landscape

<https://rdmkit.elixir-europe.org>



RDM support throughout the entire **life cycle of projects** as outlined in **DMPs**



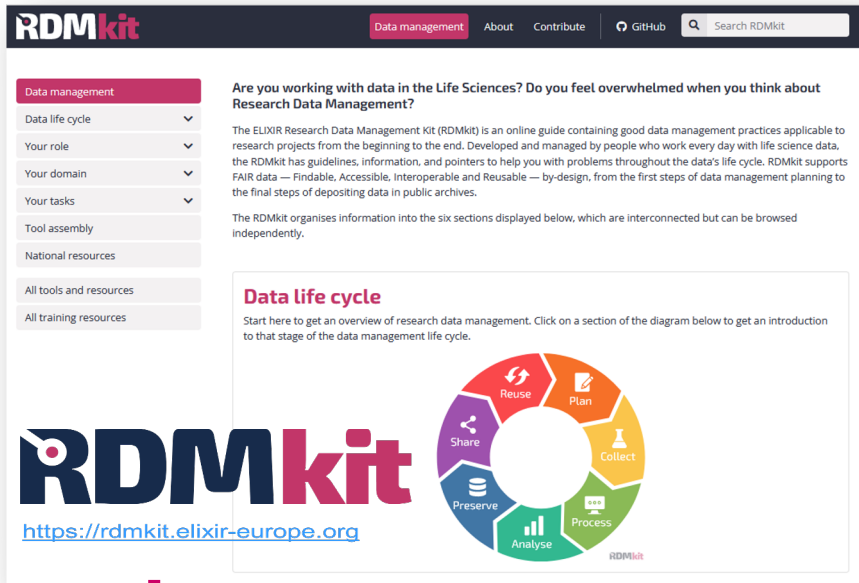
Online focal point for guidance, information, best practice, examples

A screenshot of the RDMkit website. The header includes the RDMkit logo and navigation links: 'Data management', 'About', 'Contribute', 'GitHub', and a search bar. A sidebar on the left lists categories: 'Data management', 'Data life cycle', 'Your domain', 'Your tasks', 'Tool assembly', 'National resources', 'All tools and resources', and 'All training resources'. The main content area features a heading 'Are you working with data in the Life Sciences? Do you feel overwhelmed when you think about Research Data Management?' followed by an introduction to RDMkit. Below this is a section titled 'Data life cycle' with a sub-heading 'Start here to get an overview of research data management. Click on a section of the diagram below to get an introduction to that stage of the data management life cycle.' This section contains a smaller version of the circular life cycle diagram and several interactive boxes: 'Your role', 'Your domain', 'Your tasks', 'Tool assembly', 'National resources', 'All tools and resources', and 'All training resources'. Each box provides a brief description and a 'Show pages' link.

Context and **signpost** for FAIR data resources as a Hub for a RDM Knowledge Commons



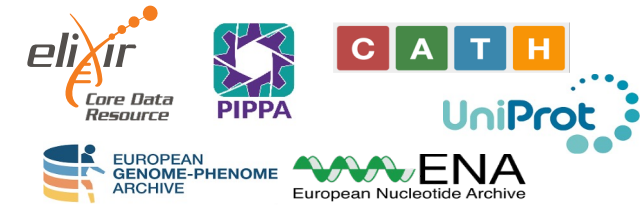
A Showcase for ELIXIR's FAIR Services



Data Management Systems for user projects, supported by Nodes



Public Data Repositories



Registries



FAIRsharing.org
standards, databases, policies

Expert Data Stewardship decision making



Expert Data FAIRification



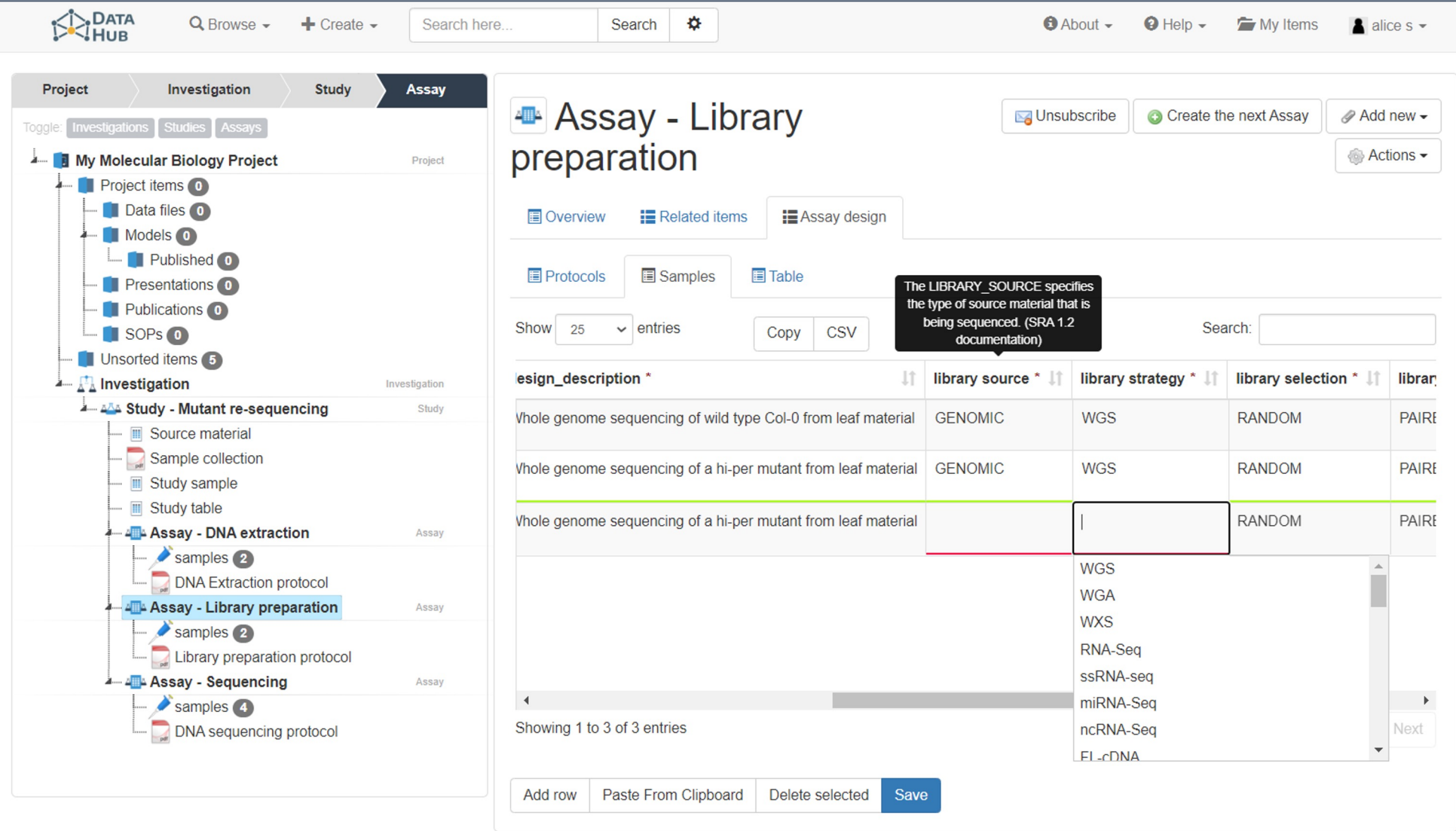
FAIR Services



Standards



DataHub : collection of metadata throughout the data life cycle



The screenshot displays the DataHub interface for an 'Assay - Library preparation' page. The left sidebar shows a hierarchical view of the project structure, including 'My Molecular Biology Project', 'Investigation', and 'Study - Mutant re-sequencing'. The main content area features a table with columns for 'esign_description', 'library source', 'library strategy', 'library selection', and 'library'. A tooltip indicates that 'LIBRARY_SOURCE' specifies the type of source material being sequenced. The table shows three entries, with the third entry selected and its 'library strategy' dropdown menu open, listing options like WGS, WGA, WXS, RNA-Seq, etc.

esign_description *	library source *	library strategy *	library selection *	library
Whole genome sequencing of wild type Col-0 from leaf material	GENOMIC	WGS	RANDOM	PAIRE
Whole genome sequencing of a hi-per mutant from leaf material	GENOMIC	WGS	RANDOM	PAIRE
Whole genome sequencing of a hi-per mutant from leaf material			RANDOM	PAIRE

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries

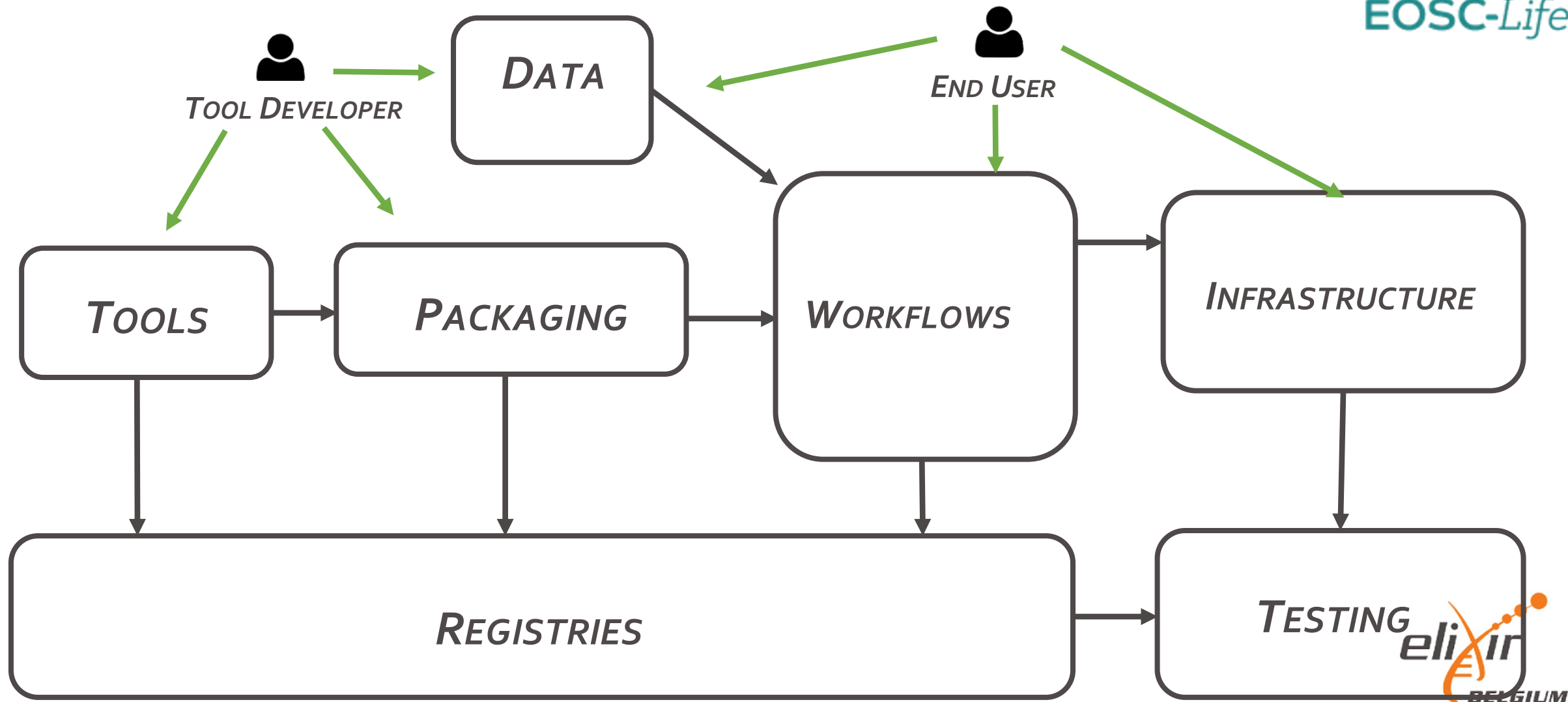
Buttons: Add row, Paste From Clipboard, Delete selected, Save



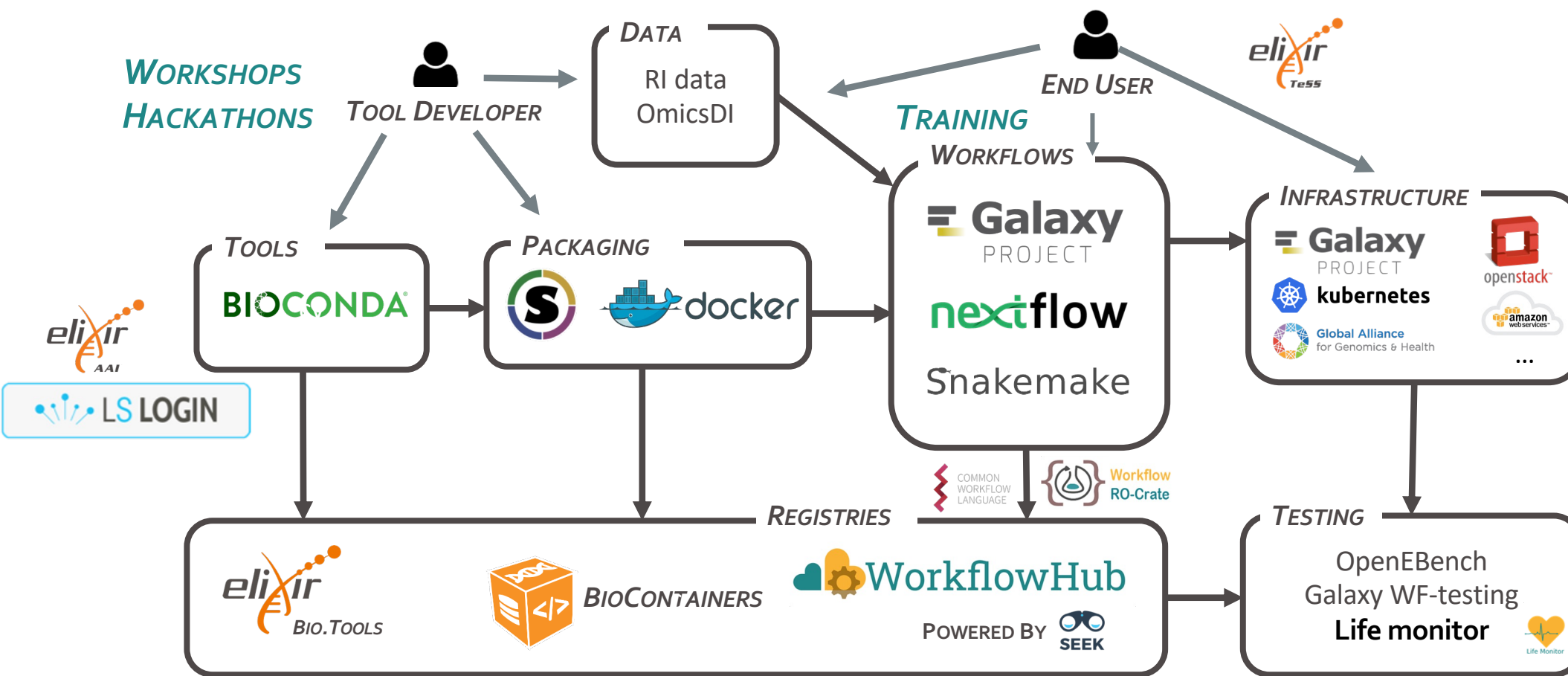
Reproducible analysis services



EOSC-Life Tools Collaboratory Roadmap



EOSC-Life Tools Collaboratory Roadmap



The Tools Platform ecosystem





Workflows as entry point for end-users

 eosc

The logo for EOSC (European Open Science Cloud) features a stylized 'e' composed of two overlapping curved segments, one in teal and one in pink, followed by the letters 'OSC' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.



Galaxy is an **open**, web-based virtual research environment for **accessible**, **reproducible**, and **transparent** computational biomedical research

Galaxy | Workflow Editor x +

usegalaxy.org/workflow/editor?id=7930192474610810

Galaxy Analyze Data Workflow Visualize Shared Data Admin Help User Using 4.1 TB

! Certain large memory tools are temporarily running with reduced memory (RNA STAR, SPAdes, Unicycler) or have been temporarily disabled (Trinity).

Tools search tools

Inputs

Get Data

Collection Operations

Expression Tools

GENERAL TEXT TOOLS

Text Manipulation

Filter and Sort

Join, Subtract and Group

Datamash

GENOMIC FILE MANIPULATION

FASTA/FASTQ

FASTQ Quality Control

SAM/BAM

BED

VCF/BCF

Nanopore

Convert Formats

Lift-Over

COMMON GENOMICS TOOLS

Operate on Genomic Intervals

Fetch Sequences/Alignments

GENOMICS ANALYSIS

Assembly

Annotation

COVID-19: PE Variation

Genbank file output

SnipEff build: Genbank dataset to build database from SnipEff 3 database for ncov (snipeff3) Fasta sequences for ncov (fasta)

Paired Collection (fastqsanger) output

Filter SAM or BAM, output SAM or BAM: CSAM or BAM file to filter Output alignments overlapping the regions in the BED file Filter SAM or BAM, output SAM or BAM on input dataset(s): bam (sam bam)

fastp: fastp on input dataset(s): Paired-end output HTML report (html) fastp on input dataset(s): JSON report (json)

Map with BWA-MEM: Use the following dataset as the reference sequence Select a paired collection Map with BWA-MEM on input dataset(s) (mapped reads in BAM format) (bam)

MultiQC: Results 1 -> Output of fastp MultiQC on input dataset(s): Stats MultiQC on input dataset(s): Plots MultiQC on input dataset(s): Webpage (html)

Samtools stats: Samtools stats on input dataset(s) (tabular) Bam file Reference Realign reads on input dataset(s): Realigned reads (bam)

Call variants: Call reads in BAM format Reference variants (vcf)

MultiQC: Results 1 -> Samtools output 1 -> Samtools stats output MultiQC on input dataset(s): Stats MultiQC on input dataset(s): Plots MultiQC on input dataset(s): Webpage (html)

MarkDuplicates: MarkDuplicates on input dataset(s): MarkDuplicate metrics (txt) MarkDuplicates on input dataset(s): MarkDuplicates BAM output (bam)

SnipEff Extract File: variant input file format output (tabular)

Details

Convert VCF to VCF_BGZIP (Galaxy Version 1.0.2)

Label



Galaxy @ Belgium Analyze Data Workflow Visualize Shared Data Admin Help User Using 9%

Tools variant

Upload Data

Show Sections

using plot-vcfstats

SnpEff Variant effect and annotation

Delly call and genotype structural variants

Lofreq filter called variants posteriorly

medaka variant tool Probability decoding

medaka variant pipeline via neural networks

TB Variant Filter M. tuberculosis H37Rv VCF filter

VCFdistance: Calculate distance to the nearest variant

VCFdistance: Calculate distance to the nearest variant

FreeBayes bayesian genetic variant detector

Delly filter somatic or germline structural variants

SnpEff eff: annotate variants for SARS-CoV-2

Call variants with LoFreq

Call specific mutations in reads: Looks for reads with mutation at known positions and calculates frequencies and stats.

DCS mutations to SCS stats: Extracts all tags from the single stranded

Tools

variant

Upload Data

Show Sections

using plot-vcfstats

SnpEff Variant effect and annotation

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SnpEff eff: annotate variants for SARS-CoV-2 (Galaxy Version 4.5covid19)

Favorite Options

Sequence changes (SNPs, MNPs, InDels)

No vcf or bed dataset available.

Input format

VCF

Select an annotated Coronavirus genome

NC_045512.2: COVID19 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 isolate Wuhan-Hu-1

Output format

VCF (only if input is VCF)

Create CSV report, useful for downstream analysis (-csvStats)

No

Upstream / Downstream length

No upstream / downstream intervals (0 bases)

(-ud)

Annotation options

Select/Unselect all

- Use 'EFF' field compatible with older versions (instead of 'ANN')
- Use Classic Effect names and amino acid variant annotations (NON_SYNONYMOUS_CODING vs missense_variant and G180R vs p.Gly180Arg/c.538G>C)
- Override classic and use Sequence Ontology terms for effects (missense_variant vs NON_SYNONYMOUS_CODING)
- Override classic and use HGVS annotations for amino acid annotations (p.Gly180Arg/c.538G>C vs G180R)
- Old notation style notation: E.g. 'c.G123T' instead of 'c.123G>T' and 'X' instead of ''
- Use one letter Amino acid codes in HGVS notation. E.g. p.R47G instead of p.Arg47Gly
- Use transcript ID in HGVS notation. E.g. ENST00000252100:c.914C>G instead of c.914C>G
- Do not shift variants according to HGVS notation (most 3prime end)
- Do not add HGVS annotations
- Only use canonical transcripts
- Only use protein coding transcripts
- Use gene ID instead of gene name (VCF output)
- Disable IUB code expansion in input variants
- Add OICR tag in VCF file
- Do not add LOF and NMD annotations

History

search datasets

covid-19 original data

33 shown, 2 deleted, 72 hidden

13.28 GB

- 99: data 97 converted to fastqsanger (READ2)
- 98: data 97 converted to fastqsanger (READ1)
- 97: MergeSamFiles on data 96, data 95, and data 94: Merged BAM dataset
- 93: Filter SAM or BAM, output SAM or BAM on collection 89: bam a list with 3 items
- 89: Map with BWA-MEM on collection 60 (mapped reads in BAM format) a list with 3 items
- 88: MultiQC on data 86, data 78, and data 70: Web page
- 87: MultiQC on data 86, data 78, and data 70: Stats a list with 3 items
- 62: fastp on collection 3: JSON Report a list with 3 items
- 61: fastp on collection 3: HTML Report





Applying infrastructure services a pandemic use case



Submission of viral data

Submission overview



docker ENA upload Galaxy container

Galaxy

Remove human reads
(Metagen-FastQC)

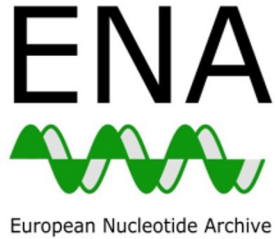
ENA upload tool

tabular metadata files (tsv)

interactive metadata input

raw reads
(fastq, bam/
sam)

metadata
spreadsheet
template



COVID-19 Data Portal



Raw reads
Consensus sequence
Standardized metadata

Different ways of usage

Deploy the container

Laptop
Cloud infrastructure

Brokering

covid19.usegalaxy.be



Public Galaxy instance



```
docker run -p "8080:80" --privileged quay.io/galaxy/ena-upload
```

github.com/ELIXIR-Belgium/ena-upload-container

[Data Management in Simple Steps](#)[Data Management Plan](#) ▼[Data Management for Omics Data](#) ▼[Covid-19](#) ▲[SARS-Cov-2 raw reads submission](#)[SARS-Cov-2 assembly submission](#)

Covid-19 data submission

- [The tools](#)
- [Overview of the submission process](#)

ELIXIR supports the [European Corona action plan](#) and plays an important role in the development of the [COVID-19 Data Portal](#). As the life-science data Research Infrastructure in Europe, ELIXIR is in a unique position to help increase the amount of publicly available Covid-related data and facilitate its processing, publication and reuse.

ELIXIR Belgium promotes and encourages the publication of all scientific data related to the Covid pandemic and provides the tools, know-how and brokering services for researchers to do so. Our first action is to support the submission of SARS-Cov-2 nucleotide sequences to public repositories.

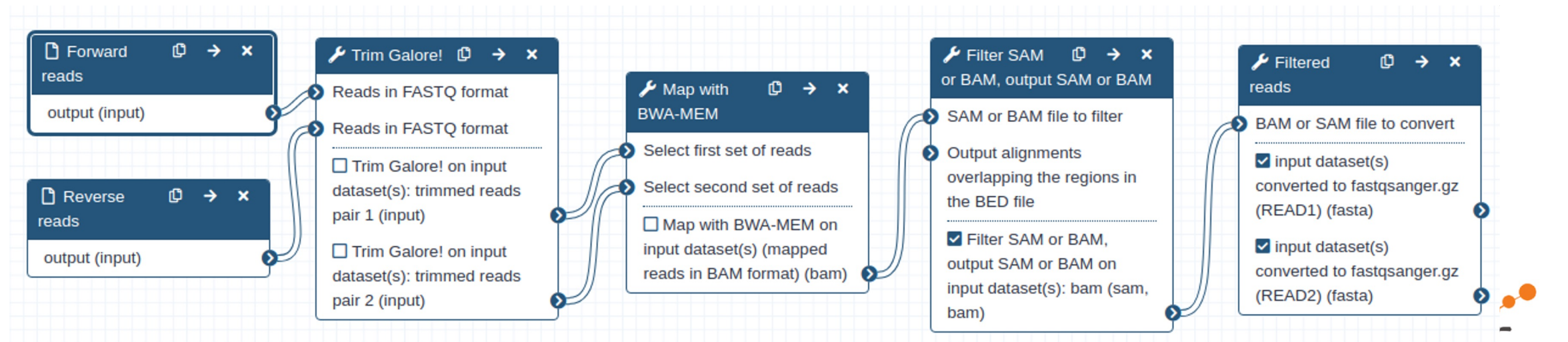
To achieve this, we have collaboratively developed and compiled Galaxy tools and workflows necessary to clean, assemble and submit SARS-CoV-2 sequences to the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA). There are many advantages of using Galaxy including a graphical user interface, access to tools and workflows for pre-processing, downstream analysis and validation of sequences (including SARS-CoV-2 specific: [Mair et al., 2021](#)). Galaxy provides



Enabling data analysis

Removing Human reads

- Standard preprocessing step in different pipelines.
 - <https://covid19.galaxyproject.org/genomics/1-preprocessing/>
- Reached out to ENA for a standard method
 - Repurposed <https://github.com/Finn-Lab/Metagen-FastQC>



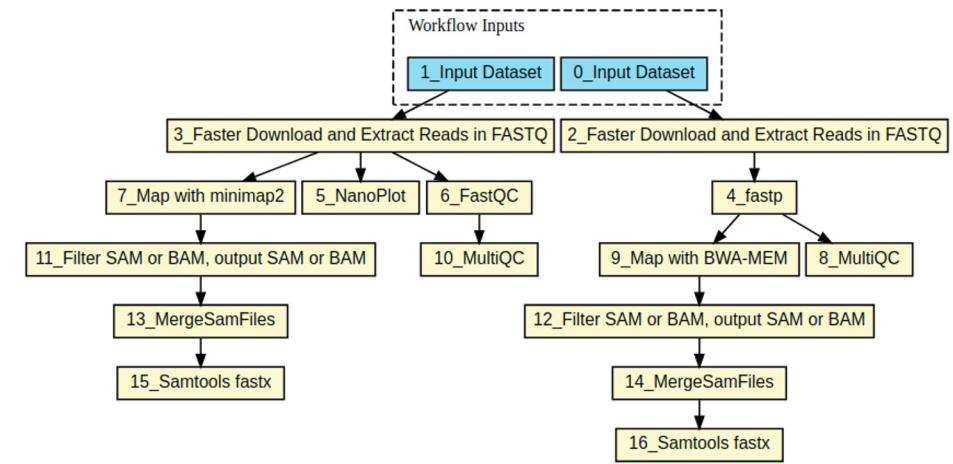
Workflows



- Different approaches
 - Removing of reads mapping to human genome (e.g. Metagen-FastQC)
 - Retain reads mapping to viral genome
 - Combine human & viral genome, retain viral reads
- Galaxy allows using other workflows as you please
 - <https://workflowhub.eu/>
 - <https://workflowhub.eu/workflows/99> (Metagen-FastQC)

Genomics - Read pre-processing Version 1

Preprocessing of raw SARS-CoV-2 reads. More info can be found at <https://covid19.galaxyproject.org/genomics/>



WorkflowHub : a FAIR workflow registry

- Workflow management system agnostic
- Registry & repository functionality
- Workflows may remain in their native repositories in their native form
- Open to workflows from all disciplines and any country
- Based on community standards
- Attribution and credit as a central feature
- Added value services: curation, monitoring, ...
- WorkflowHub Club open community
- Perpetual Development in the open
 - Registering on behalf of makers
 - Regular releases of new features
 - Agile revisions of features



Integration & development of standards



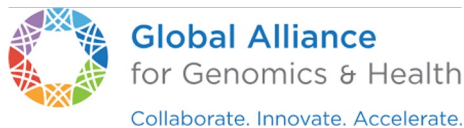
Canonical workflow description

Native or Abstract CWL



Metadata for registration and discovery

ComputationalWorkflow and FormalParameter
ComputationalTool
Schema.org profile and types



API Exchanging Tools and Workflows

GA4GH Tool Registry Service (TRS) API



Specialisation of RO-Crate to package an executable workflow with all necessary documentation.

Exchange format for Workflow Hub.



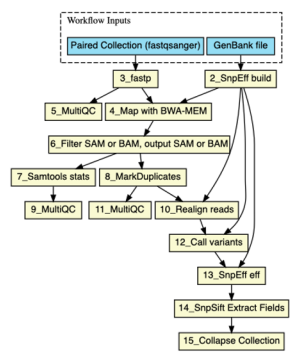
WorkflowHub - usegalaxy.eu integration



Galaxy Europe interface showing a workflow titled "COVID-19 - Genomics [4] PE Variation (imported from uploaded file)". The interface includes a "Tools" sidebar with categories like "GENERAL TEXT TOOLS", "GENOMIC FILE MANIPULATION", and "COMMON GENOMICS TOOLS". The main area shows "History Options" and a list of workflow steps: 1: GenBank file, 2: Paired Collection (fastqsanger), 3: SnpEff build, 4: fastp, 5: Map with BWA-MEM, 6: MultiQC, and 7: Filter SAM or BAM. A "Run Workflow" button is visible in the top right.

Genomics - PE Variation Version 1

Analysis of variation within individual COVID-19 samples using Illumina Paired End data. More info can be found at <https://covid19.galaxyproject.org/genomics/>



SEEK ID: <https://workflowhub.eu/workflows/7?version=1>

Inputs

ID	Name	Description	Type
#main/GenBank file	n/a	n/a	File
#main/Paired Collection (fastqsanger)	n/a	n/a	File

Creators and Submitter

Creators
Dannon Baker, Marius van den Beek, Dave Bouvier, John Chilton, Nate Coraor, Frederik Coppens, Bert Dreesbeke, Ignacio Eguinoa, Simon Gladman, Björn Grüning, Delphine Larivière, Gildas Le Corguillé, Andrew Lonie, Nicholas Keener, Sergei Kosakovsky Pond, Wolfgang Maier, Anton Nekrutenko, James Taylor, Steven Weaver

Submitter
Bert Dreesbeke

License
MIT License

Activity
Views: 504 Downloads: 28
Created: 10th Apr 2020 at 13:52
Last used: 31st May 2021 at 12:57

Tags
covid-19

Attributions
None


NOT an execution platform, but can be coupled to execution platform.

[View on GitHub](#)
[Download RO-Crate](#)
[Run on usegalaxy.eu](#)



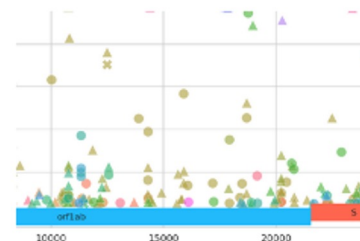
covid19.galaxyproject.org

- Workflows for different disciplines doing COVID-19 research
- COVID-19 Galaxy webinars

 elixir-europe.org/events/2nd-galaxy-elixir-webinar-series

Genomics

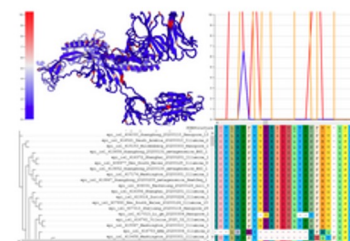
Assembly and intra-host variation



- Assembly
- MRCA timing
- Variation analysis
- Selection and recombination

Evolution

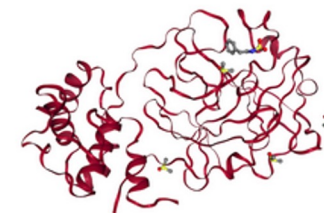
Sites under selection



- Natural Selection Analysis
- Analysis
- Visualizations
- Observable Notebooks

Cheminformatics

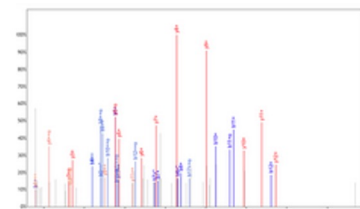
Screening of the main protease



- Compound enumeration
- Generation of 3D conformations
- Docking
- Scoring
- Selection of compounds for synthesis

Proteomics

Mass Spectrometry



- Reanalysis of PXD018117
- Reanalysis of PXD018241

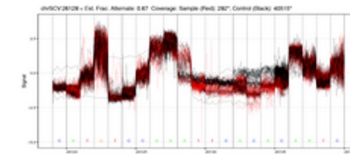
Artic

Amplicon based data analysis



direct RNA-seq

direct RNA-seq data analysis

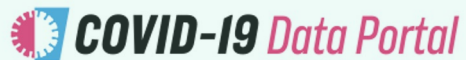


- Pre-Processing
- RNA Epigenetics

DATA ACCESS



National data sources



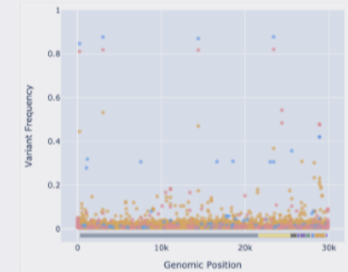
DATA ANALYSIS



DATA DEPOSITION & VISUALISATION



VIRAL BEACON



SHARED DATA



alignment
variants
consensus

**NATIONAL
DASHBOARDS**



**INTERACTIVE
NOTEBOOK**



<https://covid19.galaxyproject.org>

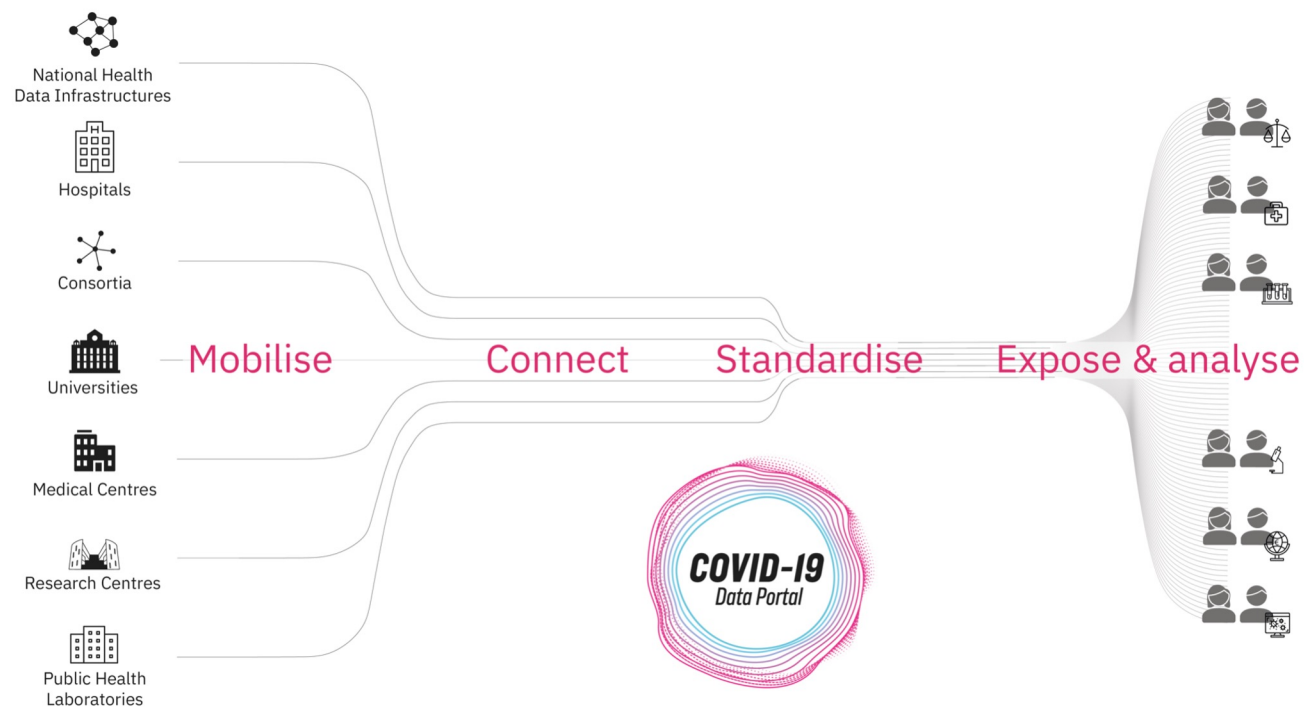
<https://covid19beacon.crg.eu>



Beyond Genomics

BY-COVID

FAIR and open data sharing in support to European preparedness for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases



BY-COVID creates a **multidisciplinary data ecosystem** for COVID-19 which will help enhance pandemic preparedness.

Alignment with other projects and initiatives



Public Health Initiatives



Infectious disease projects

Re CoD ID



European and Global Research Infrastructures

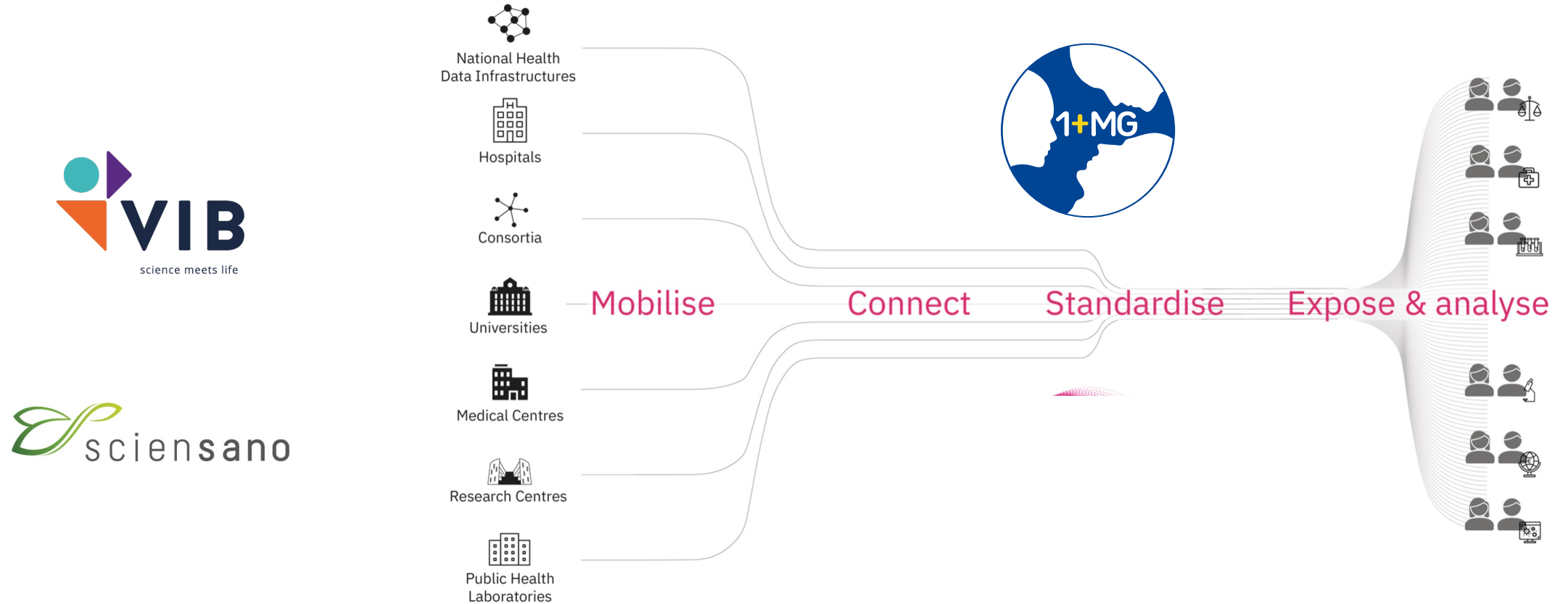


Global Alliance for Genomics & Health
Collaborate. Innovate. Accelerate.



Sensitive Data Infrastructure

linking genotype & phenotype



European Health Data Space
Belgian Genome Biobank (FWO - EWI)
Genomic Data Infrastructure (Digital Europe Programme)



Division of responsibilities

- Hardware Infrastructure
 - Secure storage
 - Secure compute
- Services
 - Secure access to data
 - Trusted Research Environment
- Interoperability
 - Standards e.g. GA4GH
 - Alignment with EU developments
- Data management & ELSI

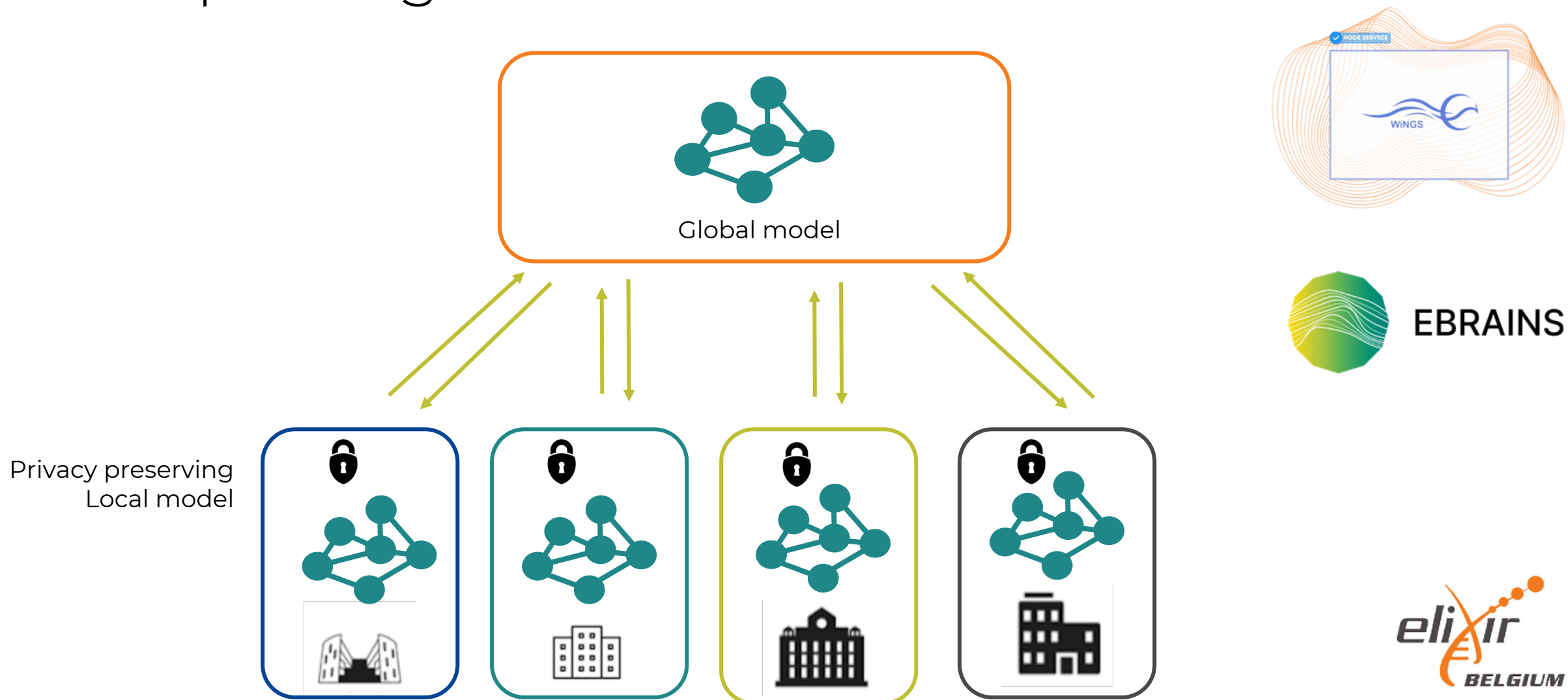




Accelerating research
building tomorrow's services



Federated learning framework underpinning diverse use cases



Biodiversity



Collaborative
genome
annotation



Functional
annotation through
comparative
genomics



Processing
& analysis



Bringing services to the users



Training

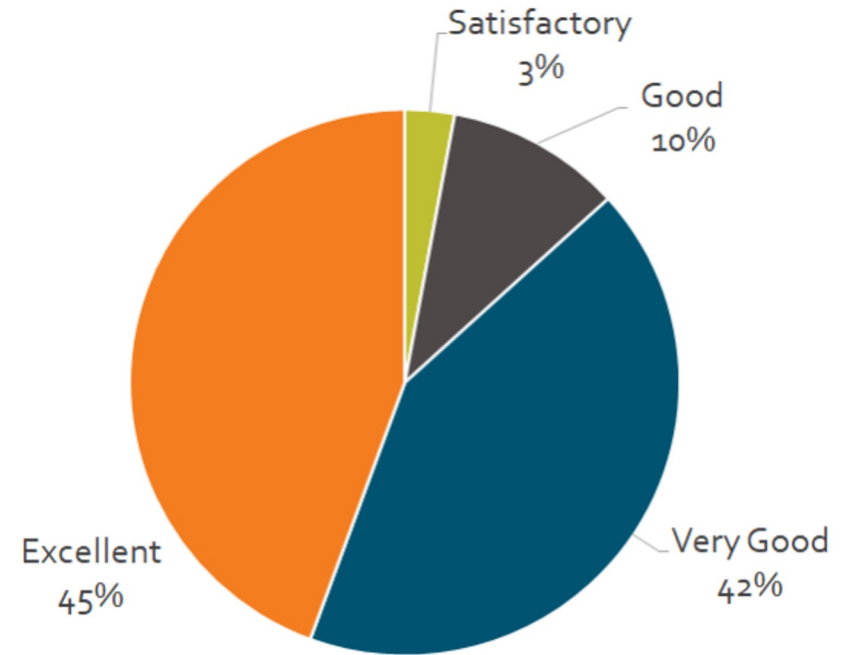


e-Learning

F2F training

Hackathon

Knowledge exchange



“Nicely interactive with hands-on exercises”

“Taking the time to demo parts that may be relevant to certain researchers is a great plus as it allows you to see the course material ‘in the wild’”

Outreach & communication

Continue building the ELIXIR community in Flanders & Belgium

Engage with life-sciences community

Data users

Academia
Industry
Public health

Data
generators

Core facilities
Sequencing Centers
...

Policy
makers

Funders



Thank you

