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IFB/ELIXIR-FR, the french node of ELIXIR

Anne-Françoise Adam-Blondon, Jacques van Helden, Gildas Le Corguillé, Christophe Blanchet, Hélène Chiapello, Christine Gaspin, David Salgado, Julien Seiler, Morgane Thomas-Chollier, Yves Vandenbrouck, et al.

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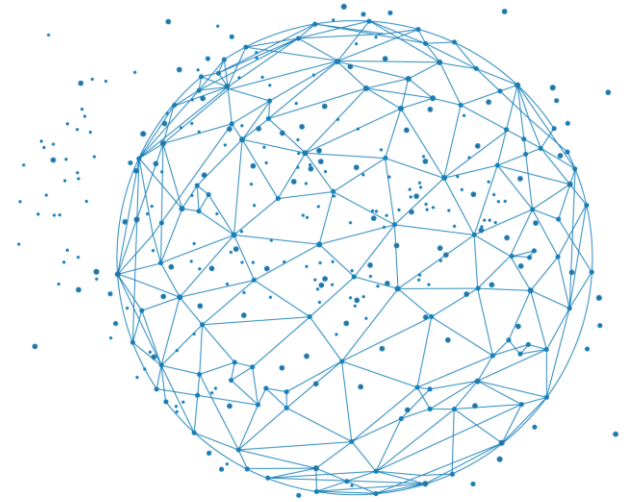


IFB/ELIXIR-FR, the french node of ELIXIR

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ELIXIR and the French Institute of Bioinformatics (IFB)

Two collaborative networks of people building resources and services for research in Life Sciences



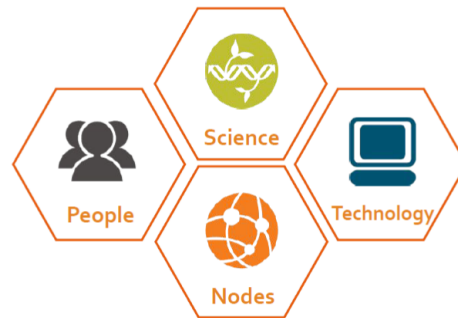


26 nodes: 25 national nodes + EMBL-EBI collaborate in order to:

Enable scientists to access and analyse life science data

Develop people and capacity to benefit science and society

Deliver services to support distributed data management and analytics



Equip national Nodes for successful long-term operations



IFB is a distributed French National Research Infrastructure

- 36 platforms and research teams spread all over France

Coordination: IFB-core

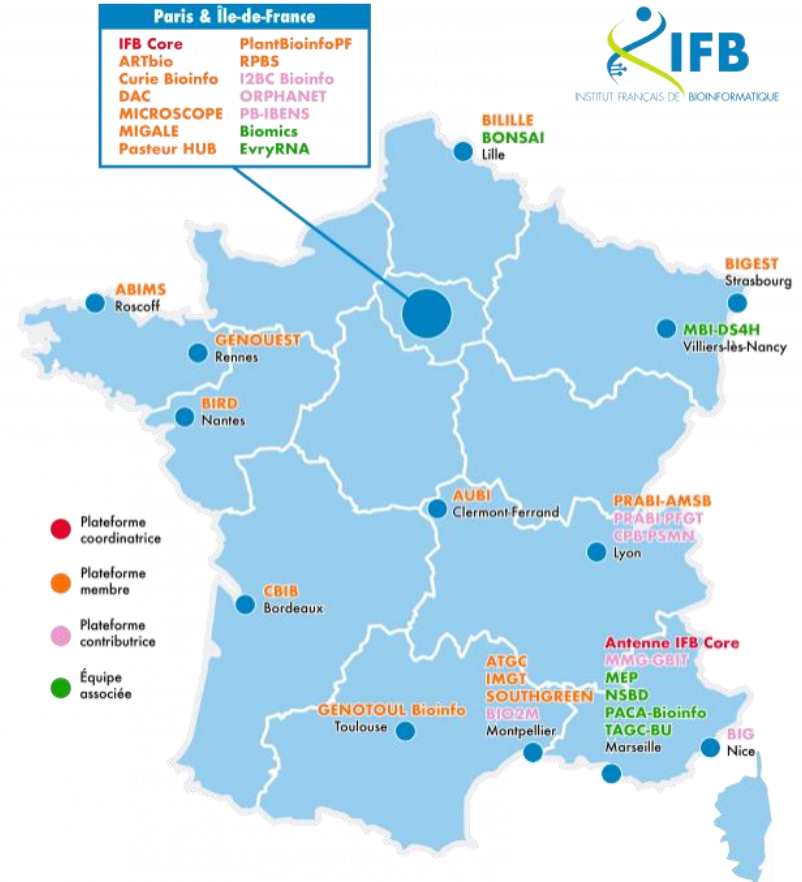
- Multi-research organizations : CNRS, Inserm, INRAE, CEA

Common resources

- Supported by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research since 2012

A large set of expertise in bioinformatics

- >400 experts (~200 FTE)





IFB's domains of application encompass the three scientific priorities of the 2024-2028 programme of ELIXIR



Enabling and responding to advances in cellular and molecular research will drive life science

Connect the latest developments and established data resources to realise the potential of cellular and molecular biology



Biodiversity, food security and pathogens are interrelated societal challenges

Mobilise and integrate molecular data to support transnational research programmes in biodiversity, food security and pathogens

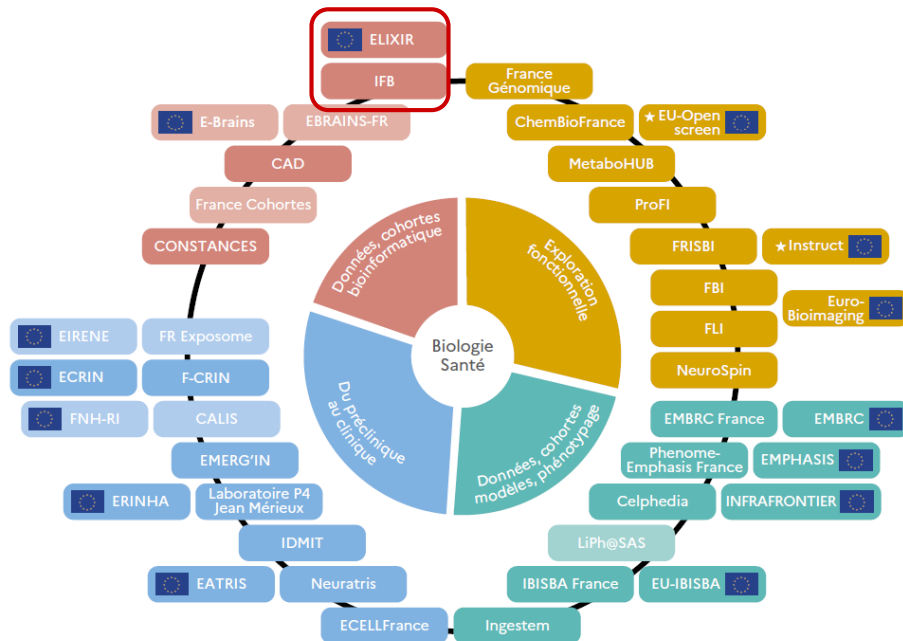


The promise of genomics research to improve health and disease outcomes

Provide the infrastructure to support the discovery, access, sharing and analysis of human genomics data and linked data on a massive scale

Better deliver the data, services and expertise necessary to address important societal challenges

- **Contribution to transversal activities addressing common challenges**
 - Multi-research organizations governance
 - FAIR data management and data interoperability
- **Partnership in large national projects**
- **Enhance partnerships in ELIXIR activities and in European projects**



- **Liaising and networking** with all platforms and most of the communities and contributing to their activities
- **Co-coordinating and contributing to the strategic planning of some of them** FR
- Contributing to **European projects**: 9 since 2020



Technology,

Platforms

ELIXIR Platforms bring together experts from Nodes to develop ELIXIR's technical vision and coordinate activities in defined technical areas. There are five Platforms: Data, Tools, Interoperability, Compute and Training.



Tools Platform

FR

Helps researchers find the best software tools to analyse their data.



Interoperability Platform

Develops and encourages the adoption of standards to describe life science data.



Data Platform

Aims to identify key data resources across Europe and support the linkages between data and literature.



Compute Platform

Develops services to make it easier to store, share and analyse large datasets.



Training Platform

Helps scientists and developers find the training they need, and also provides that training.



Science

Communities

3D-Bioinfo	Biodiversity
Food and nutrition	Galaxy
Intrinsically Disordered Proteins	Marine Metagenomics <small>FR</small>
Metabolomics	Microbial Biotechnology
Plant Sciences <small>Life FR and</small>	Proteomics
Single-Cell Omics	Systems Biology
Toxicology <small>FR</small>	

Human Data Communities

Federated Human Data	Human Copy Number Variation <small>FR</small>
Rare diseases	Cancer Data (focus group) <small>FR</small>



Guy Perrière
ELIXIR-FR Head of Node



Anne-Françoise Adam-Blondon
ELIXIR-FR Head of Node



Angela Sáenz
ELIXIR-FR Node coordinator

Development of the 2022-2025 roadmap



Retreat in Aussois (French Alps), sept 2021 : 2017-2021 achievements



...and brainstorming on the next roadmap



Claudine Médigue
Director of IFB
Head of Node ELIXIR-FR
2017-2022



Gildas Le Corguillé
Interim director of IFB
2022-2023



Jacques van Helden
IFB's scientific coordinator
Head of Node ELIXIR-FR



Anne-Françoise Adam-Blondon
Deputy Head of Node ELIXIR-FR
2018-2023

New road map and new organisation of IFB activities

Infrastructure



- National Network of Computing Resources (**NNCR**)
- Two modalities: **cluster + cloud**
- Compliance to law (**GDPR**)

Tools



- **Development** of dedicated tools
- **Packaging** (conda)
- **Virtualisation** (appliances, containers)
- **Software development practices**
- **Collaborative development, open code**

Support to users



- One stop portal and contact address
- Co-development of the bioinformatic/statistical part of the project
- **DMP**
- Development of **workflows**
- **Data Science**

Task Forces



Knowledge bases



- Development of data and knowledge bases
- Quality and data standards
- Technical support to developers
- Deployment of databases developed up in France

Prospective and innovation



- Identification of emerging needs in bioinformatics
- Funding of Pilot-projects

Training



- **Thematic schools** (NGS, multi-omics, phylogeny, biostat, programming, workflows...)
- **Bring Your Own Data (BYOD)** trainings
- Webinars, MOOC
- **FAIR-data et FAIR-bioinfo training and capacity building**

Open Science & Interoperability



- Data Management
- Data Standards, Ontologies, semantics
- Data brockering
- Machine actionable DMP
- Contribution to the network of RIs

A flavour of IFB/ELIXIR-FR in operations in 2023 - Synergies with ELIXIR



Distributed infrastructure leveraging IFB's platforms forces

- www.france-bioinformatique.fr/en/compute-and-storage
- 9 platforms involved
- 27,000+ HT-cores, 135 To RAM, 14 Po storage

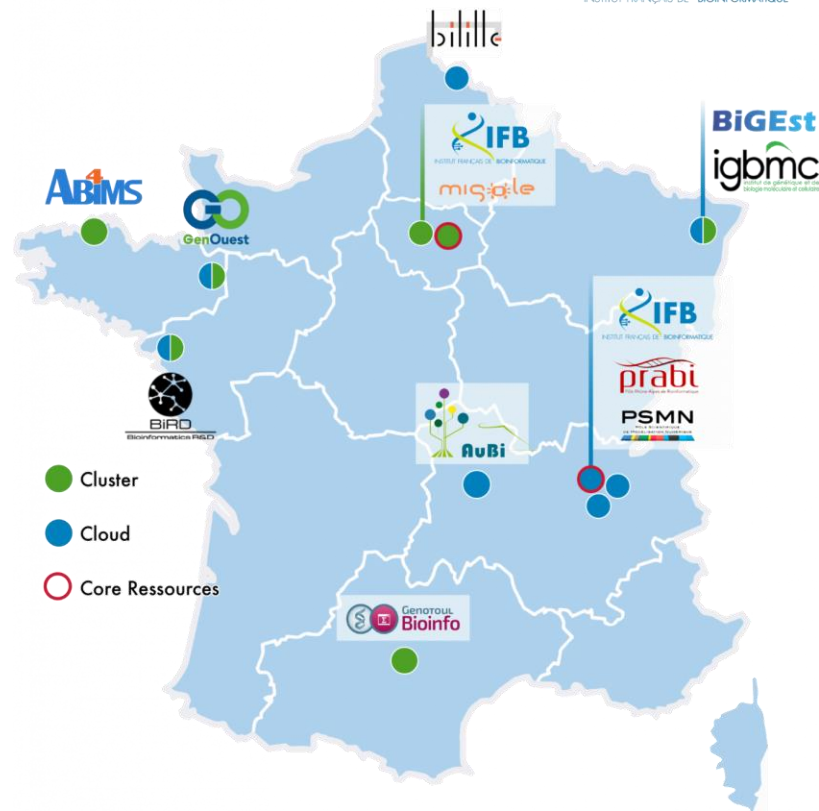
Operation using **complementary technologies**

- 7 **clusters** (SLURM)
- 8 **clouds** (Openstack)

Managed by a **distributed team of experts from IFB's platforms (+ 17 persons)**

- Sharing of experience, best practices, development

Collaborations with other **regional and national computing centers**



Julien Seiler



Gildas Le Corguillé



Christophe Blanchet



Olivier Collin
ELIXIR Tech Coordinator

A few indicators	2021	2022
Total number of active accounts	10 900	10 329
New accounts	2 884	4 272



National activities

- **Software development**
 - Sharing good practices for development
 - Sharing recipes for deployment
- **Deployment of environments for analysis**
 - E.g. [Usegalaxy.fr](https://usegalaxy.fr) (metabolomics, proteomics, covid19, ...)

Tools development and deployment	2021	2022
New tools	19	16
Number of unique users of the platforms web tools	573 244	352 644
Number of uploads of the tools developed by the platforms	16 912	24 307



Vincent Lefort



Hervé Ménager
ELIXIR Tools PF coord
EDAM steering committee



Anthony Bretaudeau
Elixir Galaxy community



Olivier Sallou
Elixir Tech Coord

International/ELIXIR activities

- **Service Delivery Plan (SDP) d'ELIXIR: labelling of French services**
- **Involvement in the coordination of the ELIXIR Tools Platform (Hervé Ménager):** contribution to the strategic planning, coordination of activities, outreach, good practices
- **Involvement in strategic projects for the ELIXIR Tools platform: BioContainers (Olivier Sallou)** Dynamic deployment of virtual environments



- Involvement in the **ELIXIR Galaxy community** (Anthony Bretaudeau): contribution to usegalaxy.eu

National activities

- **IFB web portal:** www.france-bioinformatique.fr
- **Catalogue of the French resources** (in progress)
 - Computing and storage resources, tools, knowledge bases
 - Training material and events
 - Expertises
 - IFB platforms
- **Support of user's projects** by IFB's platforms: data analysis and data valorisation



Sylvain Milanesi



Valérie Cognat

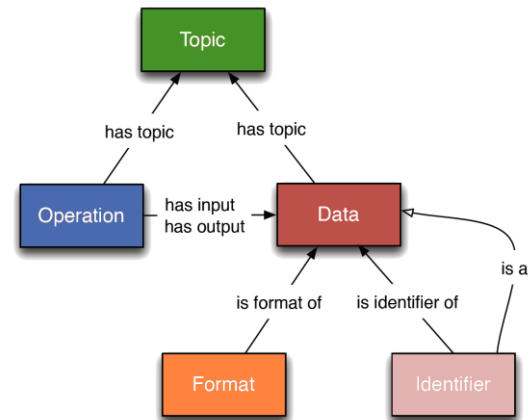


Christine Gaspin

Project Support	2021	2022
Total number	255	309
International	19	37
Private companies	13	13

International activities (carried out by the Tools + the training Task Forces)

- **Automatic synchronisation** IFB's catalogue with ELIXIR's registries:
 - **Bio.tools:** softwares
 - **TeSS:** training material and events
- **Improvement of searches by users, thematic collections of resources, cross referencing:** **EDAM**, bioinformatic ontology co-supported by ELIXIR-FR and ELIXIR-Norway





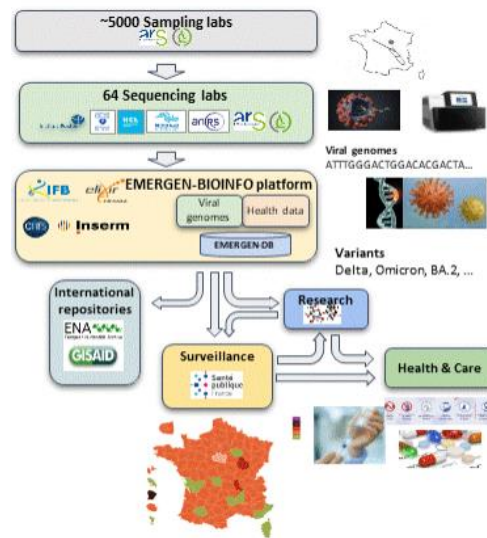
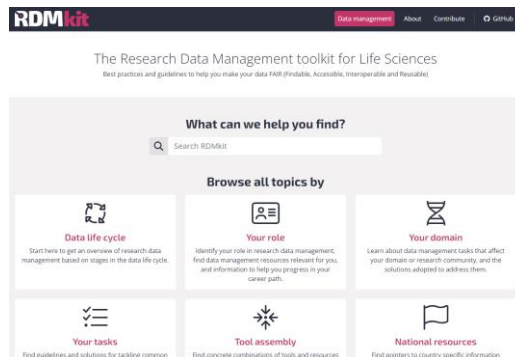
Development of services supporting FAIR data management and reproducible data analysis

- Transversal to all research communities : MUDIS4LS (FR), EOSC-Life (EU), ELIXIR-CONVERGE (EU), ELIXIR-STEERS,
- Dedicated to specific domains of application
 - SARS-CoV-2 surveillance: EMERGEN (FR), ELIXIR-CONVERGE (EU)
 - Antibioresistance surveillance: ABRomics (FR)
 - Agroecology: AGROSERV (EU)
 - Plant Phenotyping: PHENET (EU)
 - Food systems: SAMS – Cloud4SAMS (FR)



ELIXIR collaborative one-stop portal of guidelines and resources to support FAIR data management:
<https://rdmkit.elixir-europe.org/>

Operational interoperability and discoverability of multi-stakeholders data flows



Leverage ELIXIR/ELIXIR-FR “on-shelf” services to support data management and analysis in users projects

- Agroecology: AgroNum-BReIF (FR)
- Biodiversity: AGENT (EU), ATLASea-BYTE-Sea (FR)



anr®





- ELIXIR coordination towards the development of a European Health Data space based on access to a federation of databases
 - **Beyond One Million Genomes (B1MG)**
 - **Genome Data Infrastructure (GDI)**
 - EOSC4Cancer

GDI main objectives :

- Support the EU 1+Million Genomes (1+MG) initiative (Digital Europe policy) ambition
- Establishing a federated, sustainable, interoperable and secure infrastructure based on open community standards.
- Each 20 1+MG signatory countries in GDI
 - Will provide a node or Data Hub
 - Each country manages their own data (e.g. regional hubs):
 - Data hubs provide cross-border data analysis

France:

- October 2022: signature by the French Ministry of Research of the 1+MG consortium agreement
- By 2027 : set-up of an operational national node giving access to genomic and clinical data
 - Leader: the French genomic medicine infrastructure (CAD)
 - IFB/ELIXIR-FR leverage its services benefiting to the data node





National activities

- **Trainings provided under different formats to best address the diversity of training needs**
 - **Schools** for researchers in collaboration with research institutes: [EBaII](#), [ETBii 2023](#)
 - **University Diploma** in collaboration with Université Paris Diderot (2019-2021): **DUBii**
 - **Trainings** for capacity building on FAIR DM and Reproducible analysis: FAIR data and FAIR bioinfo
 - [E-trainings](#) (*in progress*)
- **Common training resources**
 - [IFB's training catalog](#) synchronized with TeSS
 - Management of the trainings and training materials: [Moodle](#), IFB's GitLab

International activities

- Contribution to ELIXIR [Training Platform](#) and **FAIR Training Focus Group** transversal activities
 - [Training Coordinators Group](#)
 - Best practices, FAIRification of the training material: [Manuel FAIR Training](#)
 - Improvement of the discoverability and interoperability of training resources registered in [TeSS](#)
 - [Train-the-Trainer](#)
- “Integrative bioinformatics summer school” organized **in collaboration with ELIXIR-CH** (CAES d’Aussois, FR, sept 2023)

Trainings	2021	2022
Total number of training events	132	160
Total number of trainees	4 458	4 936
Satisfaction rate	95%	92%



Hélène Chiapello
ELIXIR Training Coord.



Olivier Sand
ELIXIR Training Coord.



National activities: development of tool supporting FAIR data management

- **FAIRchecker**: evaluation of the FAIRness of web resources
- Planning (*in progress*)
 - Machine actionnable transfert of information between DMPs and compute infrastructures
 - Improvement of **DMP knowledge models** for projects and for the national infrastructures
 - **Interoperability between DMP softwares**
- Data brockering (*in progress*)



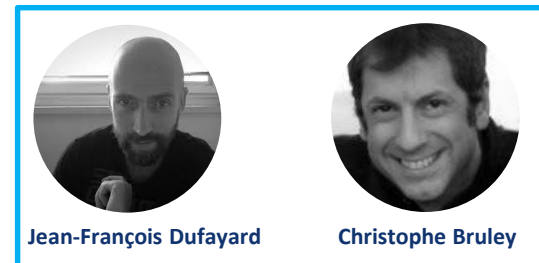
Frédéric de Lamotte



Marie-Dominique
Devignes



Alban Gaignard
Bioschemas steering committee



Jean-François Dufayard

Christophe Bruley

International activities: development of guidelines, standards and ontologies

- Participation to the emergence of the **ELIXIR Data Management community** : definition of its missions, contribution to the network of data stewards
- Contribution to some **Research Data Alliance** activities
- Standards : **Bioschemas**

Liaison with the network
of French Research
Infrastructures for Life
Sciences



- 2022 the French Ministry of Research and Higher Education launches [Recherche Data Gov](#)

- **IFB/ELIXIR-FR is mandated to organize a « thematic reference center » for Life Science data :**

- Development and dissemination of data standards
- Support to data management and data curation
- Data brokering
- Harvesting data for the national data catalog



recherche.data.gouv.fr

Recherche Data Gov at a glance



Modules to support research teams on all issues linked to data:

- [Data management clusters](#)
- [Thematic reference centres](#)
- [Resources centres](#)
- [Institutional reference centers](#)

Modules to deposit, publish and disseminate data:

- [A repository to deposit and disseminate data](#)
- [A registry to search for data published in the repository itself or other external repositories](#)



With a board of 3 deputy directors

Director



Guy Perrière
ELIXIR-FR Head of Node

International
coordination



Anne-Françoise Adam-Blondon
ELIXIR-FR Head of Node

Platform/service
coordination



Morgane Thomas-Chollier

Scientific
coordination



Jacques van Helden

Thank you for your attention!



<https://www.france-bioinformatique.fr/en/elixir-fr/>
Contact us: angela.saenz@france-bioinformatique.fr

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ELIXIR director recruitment open for applications

Deadline for applications is 9:00 BST on Monday 7 August 2023

<https://elixir-europe.org/news/director-recruitment-open>

