

### **Overview of the networking development and output**

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The networking activities of EMbaRC are to establish common approaches and procedures for network activities so that all members of the consortium operate to the standards required to deliver high quality products and services to meet user expectations. To provide outputs delivering outreach to potential new network members, to encourage new users of the member collections and to elucidate and validate business models. The work brings together activities to better deliver high quality biological materials and information to the user. It offers a means of testing the best practice enabling an evidenced based selection of appropriate protocols for handling and storage of microorganisms and associated data. The work addresses key aspects of the legal framework, biosecurity and specifically addresses risk assessment. The goal is to present a common harmonised and transparent operational framework, deliver the BRC standard, reduce user confusion and deliver them the high quality services they demand. The project addresses strategies to encourage deposit of strains subject to publication or publicly funded research, the offer of study visits at partner collections and the production of information resources and tools for capacity building. The EMbaRC project works with the Global Biological Resource Centre Network Demonstration Project in the delivery of its networking outputs. EMbaRC lays the foundation for its European node. Together with the European Culture Collection's Organisation a proposal to establish the Microbial Resources Research Infrastructure has been proposed for the European Strategy for Research Infrastructures road map presenting an opportunity to engage collections in research innovation.