

Projekt-Jahresbericht 2025 (Jahr 2)

Vorhabentitel: „*Exposome Austria Etablierungs- und Industriemodul*“

Förderungssumme: [REDACTED]	bzw. ein Zuschuss von 83% der förderbaren und anerkannten Kosten von [REDACTED]
Geförderte Leistungen	Personalkosten, Sachkosten, sonstige Kosten (Servicekosten der EA FI)

Laufzeit: 6 Jahre (72 Monate; 2023-29)

Projektbeginn: 15.08.2023 (mit der Unterfertigung des Förderungsvertrages, signiert von VR Baccarini)

Projektende: 31.05.2029

Pflichten: Nachweis-, Berichts- und Aufbewahrungspflicht

Beschreibung des Vorhabens

Ausgangslage

- Belastung der Bevölkerung durch bedenkliche Chemikalien aus Umwelt und Ernährung stellt ein ernstes Gesundheitsrisiko dar und kann zu akuten und chronischen Erkrankungen führen.
- Um präventive Maßnahmen ergreifen zu können und die Gesundheit der Bevölkerung langfristig zu verbessern, muss unser Verständnis in Bezug auf die (Ko-)Exposition von toxischen Chemikalien verbessert werden.
- Die zugrundeliegenden molekularen Mechanismen sind derzeit noch weitgehend unerforscht, da ein umfassendes Verständnis der komplexen Zusammenhänge das Monitoring der Gesamtexposition eines Individuums, des sogenannten Exposoms, erfordert wird.
- Die umfassende simultane Messung der (Ko-)Exposition in biologischem Probenmaterial wie Blut oder Urin ist bisher nicht großflächig durchführbar.

Ziele und Mittel

- **Exposome Austria Forschungsinfrastruktur:**
Um der präventions-orientierten Erforschung des Exposoms Rechnung zu tragen, wurde kürzlich die paneuropäische ESFRI-Infrastruktur „EIRENE“ auf EU-Ebene gefördert. Österreich spielt bei der Umsetzung von EIRENE eine Schlüsselrolle, und der nationale Knoten „Exposome Austria“ wurde 2022 an der Universität Wien etabliert.
- **Zugang für österreichischer Firmen/KMUs zur Exposom-Forschung:**
Dieses Projekt trägt dazu bei, die Forschungsinfrastruktur ‘Exposome Austria’ aufzubauen und heimischen forschungsintensiven Firmen den **Zugang zu exzellenter Infrastruktur an der Schnittstelle** zwischen Chemie, Umwelt, Nanotechnologie und Medizin zu erleichtern und dadurch Entwicklung und Innovation zu fördern, damit diese Firmen im internationalen wissenschaftlichen Wettbewerb bestehen können.

Konkrete Zielsetzungen des Projekts

1. Unterstützung der Forschungsinfrastruktur Exposome Austria in der 'Preparatory Phase'
2. Etablierung einer Schnittstelle zwischen FI Exposome Austria und der österreichischen Industrie (KMUs): unbürokratische und effiziente Nutzung von Spitzenforschungsinfrastruktur, um im internationalen Wettbewerb bestehen zu können.
3. Open Access - Schaffung des Zugangs der Firmen zur FI an der Schnittstelle zwischen Chemie, Nanotechnologie, Umwelt und Medizin
4. Stärkung einer Schnittstelle zwischen Wissenschaft und Wirtschaft

Forschungsthemen

- **Innovatives Humanbiomonitoring** - um chemische Belastungen im Sinne der 'Zero Pollution' Ambition und der Sustainable Development Goals der Vereinten Nationen (SDGs) zu erfassen
- **Entwicklung moderner analytischer Methoden**, die internationale Standards und Harmonisierungsbemühungen vorantreiben
- **Kooperation** mit privatem Sektor im Bereich der Nano-Analytik, Humanbiomonitoring und Risikobewertung von Chemikalien

Zusammenfassung: aktueller Status des Arbeits- und Zeitplanes, Kostenaufschlüsselung

<u>AP</u>	<u>Bezeichnung</u>	<u>Umsetzungsstand</u>	<u>Projektjahr 2: verwendete und budgetierte Mittel</u>
AP1	Projektmanagement <i>Jahre 1-6</i>	Dank der finanziellen Unterstützung konnten fachliche Veranstaltungen organisiert und die Mitglieder des wissenschaftlich-strategischen Beirats (aus den USA) zum jährlichen Treffen eingeladen werden.	Sachkosten Reisekosten*
AP2	Exposome Austria Infrastrukturetablierung und -instandhaltung <i>Jahre 1-6</i>	Im Dezember 2024 wurde ein Servicevertrag für das Massenspektrometer ZenoTOF 7600 abgeschlossen. Der Vertrag umfasst auch die Wartung der Binärpumpe AGILENT 1290 INFINITY II High Speed. Die Laufzeit des Wartungsvertrags beträgt drei Jahre (01.01.2025–31.12.2027), bei Gesamtkosten in Höhe von 125.809,92 € inkl. MwSt zahlbar in drei jährlichen Zahlungen. Die Finanzierung dieses Servicevertrags erfolgte aus Mitteln der durch das Ministerium geförderten Projektunterstützung. Dieses Instrument ermöglicht ultra-sensitive, quantitative non-targeted Analysen von kleinen Molekülen in biologischen bzw. Umweltproben. Dies beinhaltet insbesondere organische	Sonstige (Service) Kosten*

		Lebensmittel- und Umweltkontaminanten im Bereich der Exposomforschung. Es ist beabsichtigt, folgende Service im Rahmen der FI Exposome Austria anzubieten: Next Generation Biomonitoring, Non-targeted Analyse, Exposomics und Metabolomics Methodenentwicklung.	
AP3	Open Access zu den Exposome Austria Core Services (Academia & Industrie) <i>Jahre 3-6</i>	Die Betriebsaufnahme des Open-Access-Systems ist erst ab dem dritten Projektjahr vorgesehen. Dieser Prozess wird in enger Abstimmung mit den EIRENE-Partnern durchgeführt, wobei eine Anbindung an das paneuropäische Netzwerk über die österreichische Open-Access-Struktur erfolgt. Gleichzeitig sind die Aktivitäten in den Bereichen Servicebereitstellung und Ausbildung bereits im vollen Gange. Die österreichische ESFRI-EIRENE-Forschungsinfrastruktur konnte im ersten Projektjahr (2024) ein vollständiges nationales Serviceangebot etablieren (für mehr Details s. die Webseite) und dieses sowohl nationalen als auch internationalen Nutzer:innen zugänglich machen. Bis Ende April wurden 29 Anfragen registriert, von denen 20 erfolgreich bedient werden konnten – insgesamt wurden dabei rund 2.000 Proben gemessen.	Erst ab Projektjahr 3 vorgesehen
AP4	Vernetzung der österreichischen Exposom-Community und Training von MINT-Nachwuchstalenten <i>Jahre 1-6</i>	Die Veranstaltung <i>Exposome Austria Days 2025</i> , ein dreitägiger wissenschaftlicher Retreat mit mehreren thematischen Workshops, ist für September 2025 geplant. Sie fördert gezielt die Vernetzung und Sichtbarkeit von Nachwuchswissenschaftler:innen und stellt zugleich eine Plattform für den Austausch erster Ergebnisse aus Pilotstudien, sowie angebotene Services dar, die Forschungsinfrastruktur anbietet. Im Rahmen eines offenen Tages werden zudem Fachöffentlichkeit, Wissenschaftler:innen, Vertreter:innen aus der Staatsverwaltung sowie Industrie gezielt eingebunden, um einen praxisorientierten Dialog entlang aktueller Entwicklungen in der Exposom-Forschung zu fördern. Ziel ist es insbesondere, ein tieferes Verständnis für die konkreten Bedürfnisse und Erwartungen der Community und unserer potenziellen Nutzer:innen an jene Services zu gewinnen, die im Rahmen von Exposome Austria entwickelt werden.	* Sonstige Kosten * Reisekosten
Gesamtkosten im Projektjahr 2 (August 2024-Juli 2025)			€

* Vorläufige Schätzung der angefallenen Kosten.

Exposome Austria**4th Meeting of the Scientific and Strategic Advisory Board (SSAB)**

Wednesday 21-May-2024, 14:00-17:00

Number of attendees: 19 (14 in-person, 5 remotely via Zoom)

Location: Marietta-Blau-Saal, Main Building of the University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria**Facilitator/Rapporteur:** [REDACTED] (MUW)**Presence:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Guests: [REDACTED]**Online via Zoom:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Excused:** [REDACTED]

Agenda

14:00 – 14:10 | Welcome by facilitator/rapporteur (Schernhammer)

14:10 – 15:20 | Progress report *Exposome Austria* (Warth)

- *Background: EIRENE & Exposome Austria*
- *Enabling Science: services, pilot studies & use cases*
- *SSAB 2024: Implementing recommendations*
- *European ESFRI Developments*
- *Finances*
- *Education, Training & Community Building*

15:20 – 15:40 | Break

15:40 – 16:20 | Discussion on progress and specific questions

16:20 – 16:50 | Interim evaluation – Closed session for SSAB members only

16:50 – 17:00 | Next steps

Outline

Page 2: Concise summary of progress during Year 2

Page 3: Concise summary of recommendations by the SSAB

Pages 4-6: Summary of the 4th SSAB meeting

Pages 7-10: Discussion on progress and feedback from SSAB

Page 11: Appendix 1: Flyer & Program of the *Exposome Austria Symposium & Open Stakeholder Day*

Separate PDF: Appendix 2: Presentation from 4th SSAB

Save-the-Date: 5th SSAB meeting May 27, 2026 (2-5 pm) Vienna, in-person (+hybrid option)

Summarized progress report (Year 3)

Exposome Austria (EA) is successfully concluding the final year of its preparatory phase (2022–2025) with significant milestones that transition the research infrastructure (RI) toward implementation:

- 1. Institutional Support and Financial Stability:** EA secured long-term backing via institutional performance agreements and a sustainable funding model combining in-kind funds, third-party funding and user fees. An important milestone was the rectorate's decision to establish a permanent RI management position, strengthening continuity and professionalism.
- 2. Service Establishment:** Five core services for targeted and non-targeted human biomonitoring and exposomics/metabolomics were launched. These cover various biological and environmental matrices with an emphasis on early-life exposure and small-volume sampling methods. Capacity ranges from 200–1,000 samples/year per service, with a target of scaling to 300 - 2,000 samples/year.
- 3. Technological Innovation:** A key achievement is the integration of targeted and non-targeted workflows and for simultaneous analysis of organic and inorganic contaminants, tested in a pregnancy cohort pilot.
- 4. Pilot Studies and Outreach:** Pilot projects have been continued, focusing on maternal and infant health, and integrating dried blood spots (DBS) and minimal-volume sampling. Results were shared at the first *Exposome Austria Symposium*, fostering stakeholder engagement.
- 5. Education and Training:** EA implemented new training modules, including a lab course. Collaborations span graduate students and postdoctoral researchers from Austria, Spain, Italy, and Germany. The Austrian Cohort Initiative and public outreach (e.g. ERA Conference) enhanced national visibility.
- 6. European and Global Alignment:** EA is active in the pan-European ESFRI-EIRENE Management Board and plays a central role in shaping EIRENE's governance and strategic roadmap. Coordination with the US exposome network and other ESFRI RIs is advancing. Discussions regarding the potential hosting of a central ERIC facility for 'Innovative Exposomics Technology' at UNIVIE was initiated at European, ministerial, and institutional level.
- 7. Research Output and Community Engagement:** More than 20 peer-reviewed publications so far, biannual newsletters, and regular consortium/board meetings reflect EA's commitment to impact and collaboration.

Concise summary of recommendations discussed during the 4th Meeting of the Scientific and Strategic Advisory Board (SSAB)

The Scientific and Strategic Advisory Board (SSAB) valued Exposome Austria for substantial progress and provided the following strategic recommendations for the implementation phase (2026-2030):

1. **Evaluation Metrics and KPIs:** Broaden KPIs beyond quantitative metrics to capture deeper scientific impact and societal relevance (*soft factors*). Include qualitative indicators like media presence, policy contributions, and collaborative outputs (e.g., joint grants, shared pilots).
2. **Institutional Support and Sustainability:** Institutionalize additional key roles, such as the lab manager position (3b technician), to maintain operational stability and professionalization of the RI. Monitor and, if needed, adjust the financial model to align service provision with long-term sustainability.
3. **Data Strategy and Integration:** Strengthen collaboration with data-centric RIs (e.g., ELIXIR, BBMRI) and clarify data storage, linkage, and reuse strategies. Consider federated approaches aligned with national and European infrastructures.
4. **Science-to-Policy Interface:** Highlight and expand the policy-relevant dimensions of exposome research. Increase visibility of collaborations with policy-relevant institutions like UBA and formalize them where appropriate. Contribute to early-warning systems, global reporting, and international health conventions.
5. **Strategic Networking and Positioning:** Continue strengthening the integration within EIRENE and beyond (e.g. FP10). Consider the RI's supportive role for successor initiatives like PARC and increase visibility through international partnerships. Continue discussions regarding the potential hosting of a central ERIC facility for 'Innovative Exposomics Technology' at UNIVIE at European, ministerial, and institutional level. This would strengthen the role of Austria as global leaders in exposome research.
6. **Education and Community Building:** Broaden training efforts, support interdisciplinary user access, and expand community events like the upcoming 2025 Exposome Austria Symposium and Retreat to engage additional sectors. Strengthen cooperation with other national ESFRI infrastructures.

Summary

14.00' | Welcome by facilitator/rapporteur (Eva Schernhammer)

Welcomes the attendees (*especially the distinguished guests – [REDACTED] – present for the progress report part, [REDACTED] Federal Ministry of Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure – present for the entire event*), setting the stage for the coordinator's report.

14.06'-15.22' | Progress report Exposome Austria (Benedikt Warth)

1. Introduction and Purpose

- Overview of achievements from the past year and the first three-years of the preparatory phase (2022-2025).
- The aim is to transition from the preparatory phase into implementation.
- Key topics included services, pilot use cases, implementing SSAB 2024 recommendations, and strategic developments.

2. Background on EIRENE (Slides 5-7)

- EIRENE is an European infrastructure (not a project) focused on environmental determinants of health, covering exposures from diet, environment, and lifestyle.
- It aligns with major EU political initiatives such as the Green Deal and Zero Pollution.
- Entered the ESFRI roadmap in 2021 and now unites 21 national nodes.

3. National Node: Exposome Austria (Slides 8-9)

- Established as an inclusive initiative involving four institutions with expertise in exposomics.
- Maintains stability with the original team of seven PIs since 2019.
- Emphasizes training early-career scientists to support long-term research capacity and interdisciplinary collaboration.

4. Service Development (Slides 11-12)

- Core mission: enable high-quality science for the community.
- Established five core services in Austria for targeted and non-targeted biomonitoring and exposomics/metabolomics.
- These services integrate multiple biological and environmental sample types and support research across institutions.

5. Capacity Building (Slide 13)

- Focus on sustainable growth: current capacity at [REDACTED] year in full operation though this will depend on the future needs of the community and the European EIRENE priorities.
- Prioritizes method scalability, affordability, and high-quality data for large-scale epidemiological studies.
- Innovations include combined targeted/non-targeted analysis using minimal sample volumes, streamlining sample preparation, and high-throughput methods.

6. Technological Breakthroughs (Slide 13)

- Integration of targeted and discovery-driven non-targeted analysis within the same workflow.

- Advanced instrumentation enables analysis of both organic contaminants and metals from the same sample extract.
- Demonstrated feasibility with a pregnancy cohort pilot study using minimal tissue and fluid volumes.

7. Pilot Studies and Use Cases (Slides 14-23)

- Several collaborative studies illustrate practical applications, e.g., in maternal and infant health, newborn screening, and international cohorts.
- Successful extraction of lifestyle and exposure biomarkers from small sample volumes (e.g., dried blood spots).
- Infrastructure offered its services to diverse research institutions and international users (*Technical University Munich, Charité Berlin, La Fe Spain, University Augsburg, CeMESS University of Vienna*).

8. Future Directions (Slide 22)

- Consideration of new services including toxicological services and access to the NeoVIP biobank (MUW) and a potential collaboration with the Austrian newborn screening program (Mutter-Kind Pass) in the long-term might be fruitful future directions for advancing preventive medicine.
- Aim to establish baseline exposure levels and explore potential routine monitoring as a public health/prevention tool.

9. Implementing SSAB 2024 Recommendations (Slides 26-38)

- **Institutional Support:** EIRENE is now embedded in three university performance agreements, ensuring long-term support.
- **Health Ministry Engagement:** Collaboration with the Health Ministry is progressing, aligning with national health goals ("GÖG Gesundheitsziel 4").
- **Improved KPIs and Operational Success:** High early performance [REDACTED]
- **Global & European Alignment:** Active role in EU-US exposome initiatives and global roadmap development.
- **Stakeholder & Community Engagement:** Upcoming Open Stakeholder Day will showcase services and foster user and policy dialogue.
- **Education & Knowledge-Transfer:** Published laboratory standard protocol (Springer; *Methods in Molecular Biology*) and new teaching materials enabling exposomics education.

10. European ESFRI Developments (Slides 39-42)

- Numerous European-level meetings held (e.g., Stockholm, Utrecht, Brno-ESFRI week-Jana Klánová presented to all ESFRI delegates, increasing visibility; Prague in June 2025).
- Monthly management board meetings significantly accelerated progress.
- Two main projects: EIRENE Implementation Phase: closed call for roadmap projects (2021); supports coordination and travel; SIRENE Service Grant: A collaborative grant with other infrastructures (e.g. ELIXIR); focuses on European-level service delivery.
- Goal: Scale Austria's successful model to the EU level.

11. Finances (Slides 43-47)

- Initial funding proposal (2020): ~ [REDACTED]

- Actual expenditure matches estimates (██████████ coordinating University of Vienna exceeded expectations in spendings (by ~30%).
- User fees:
 - Generated ~██
 - Revenue used for maintenance, repairs, and new service development.
- Five-year implementation budget remains stable with slight increase to sustain positive momentum.

12. Education, Training, Community Building (Slides 49-55)

- New course in food toxicology with hands-on exposomics focus: small class size (6 students), high supervision ratio. High engagement and positive feedback; more students may be added. Included a PhD student from MUW
- International student collaborations from Germany, Spain, Italy.
- Austrian Cohort Initiative: brings together national expertise in cohort studies within a new project lead by ██████████ Supported by environment and health ministries and BBMRI.at plus Exposome Austria (██████████)
- Active in national awareness efforts (e.g., ERA Annual Conference, HBM report to the parliament by UBA).
- Newsletter and seminars help maintain community engagement.

Category	Activity	Period
Education & Training	4 Incoming PhD Students 2024-2025	Upcoming
	PhD student from IRCCS Milano hosted	10/2024-02/2025
	2 nd year of a practical course in analytical exposomics at UNIVIE	07/2024, 02/2025
	Two selected modules of RI Infrastructure Management Training, EMMRI, Milano	01 and 03/2025
Sharing Experience & Knowledge	Meet & Greet with NIEHS Director and his team in Vienna	10/2024
	Exposome Austria at ERA Symposium 2024	12/2024
	Austrian MS Forum	02/2025
	Exposome Austria at Exposome Moonshot Forum	05/2025
Community Building	Exposome Austria Retreat & Open Stakeholder Day, Horn	Upcoming
	3 rd SSAB Meeting, Vienna	05/2024
	EIRENE Management Board, EIRENE PPP Consortium Annual Meeting, Joint EIRENE-IHEN Meeting in Utrecht	10/2024
	EA Consortium meetings (on-site, remotely)	09/2024
		12/2024
		03/2025
		05/2025
	Newsletter published	Biannual
	8 conferences attended (ASMS; Metabolomics, etc..)	
	EIRENE RI Fact Sheet created	02/2024

15.22' Break

Discussion on progress and specific questions

15.52' [REDACTED] poses four core questions to guide the feedback:

1. Are the proposed KPIs feasible indicators for Exposome Austria in practice?
2. Specific recommendations for whom to additionally invite to the 'Open Stakeholder Day' in September 2025?
3. Should the University of Vienna aim to host a central ERIC facility for 'Innovative Exposomics Technology' and what financial consequences would that have?
4. General impression on the overall development during the preparatory phase and future outlook.

Feedback from individual SSAB members

15.57' [REDACTED]

- **KPIs:** Appreciated the selection and application of KPIs; highlighted the importance of calculating maximal user fee income EA can reach incl. operational capacity and aligning infrastructure scalability with user demand.
- **Strategic Planning:** Suggested using the OKR (Objectives and Key Results) framework to unify institutional goals and link them to KPIs – what is the main goal you want to accomplish.
- **Recommendation:** Think ahead in terms of resource requirements for scaling and positioning EIRENE Austria as a premier facility in hybrid exposomics analysis.

16.00' [REDACTED]

- **Progress Acknowledgment:** Ratified significant improvements in the research infrastructure and its management, positioning Austria among the best managed national EIRENE nodes.
- **European Landscape:** Encouraged attention to the ESFRI 2024 Landscape Analysis and emphasized the importance of national roles in the upcoming ERIC framework.
- **Strategic Emphasis:** Highlighted the need for clearer definitions of national infrastructure roles, enhanced data linkage for large population studies, and more engagement with genomic infrastructures and EOSC.
- **Policy Impact:** Stressed leveraging existing global chemical safety frameworks and European policy initiatives to demonstrate social impact and public health relevance.

16.05' [REDACTED]

- **Balance of Innovation vs. Scalability:** Encouraged balancing technological innovation with service delivery expansion.

- **Collaboration KPIs:** Recommended tracking collaborative outputs such as joint grant applications and pilot projects as indicators of community engagement.

16.11'

- **RI Development:** Applauded the solid growth and services developed.
- **Strategic Opportunities:** Saw significant potential in newborn screening (DBS) expansion and longitudinal tracking of exposures; the genomics aspect could be taken into consideration
- **Genomics Integration:** Advised planning for future linkage between exposomic data and long-term health outcomes via registries and genomic data.

16.13'

- **KPIs and Social Impact:** Supported the alignment with ESFRI metrics but called for inclusion of *soft indicators* like societal impact and contributions to public health.
- **Interdisciplinary Synergy:** Emphasized enhancing cooperation with other infrastructures and sectors, particularly for translating research into policy.

16.17' T

- **Thorough Application of SSAB Recommendations:** Acclaimed the structured response to prior advisory board recommendations.
- **Visibility and Societal Impact:** Advocated formulating qualitative indicators to capture societal relevance and impact on regulatory frameworks.
- **Sustainability Vision:** Reinforced the view that EIRENE will serve as a key component of the long-term sustainability strategy for large-scale European research efforts like PARC (EIRENE as an exit strategy for PARC); recognized the variety of service users and network partners.

16.21'

- **Future Research Program (FP10):** Announced that FP10 will be a standalone program, offering optimism for stable research infrastructure support.
- **Strategic KPI Use:** Encouraged focusing KPI development on measurable outputs and aligning efforts with national strategies on chemical risk and nanomaterials.
- **Confirmed that PFAS** is a highly relevant topic for policy-making. Highlighted this topic as a potential focus in EA mainly for partnering with industry/start-ups (e.g., developing new materials for removal of PFAS from the environment).

16.24'

- **Strong Progress and Integration:** Recognized the evolution and the comprehensive overview provided, noting impressive integration across phases and data types.
- **KPI Development:** Encouraged clear documentation of evolving goals and strategies, especially as the project scales up and increases capacity.
- **Scientific Breadth:** Suggested using bibliometrics to capture the scope and impact of research, including topics, exposures, and collaborator output.

- **Capacity and Prioritization:** Question about how the project will handle capacity limits and prioritize work when demand exceeds resources.
- **Future Opportunities:** Highlighted potential of dried blood spots (DBS) analysis, longitudinal environmental exposure tracking, and engaging more biobank users and biomarker researchers.

16.30'

- **Institutional Progress:** Appreciated the project's impressive growth and its successful establishment as a credible institution recognized by decision-makers and the university leadership.
- **Unified Implementation:** Emphasized the importance of staying cohesive during the transition from preparation to implementation, cautioning against side projects that diverge from the main mission.
- **Governance and Ministry Involvement:** Highlighted the need for greater involvement from the leading ministry and attention to governance and infrastructure as the project aligns with broader European initiatives during ERIC establishment.



16.32':

- **Clarifying Roles:** Emphasized the need to clearly distinguish and define the roles of EIRENE and the national exposome initiatives during the implementation phase.
- **Legal Structure & Ministry Role:** Stressed that establishing EIRENE's legal structure must be led by ministries, not scientists, and noted that the Czech ministry has approved initiating a governing board—pending agreement on the terms of reference.
- **Global Vision & Next Steps:** Highlighted EIRENE's global scope with partners in the US, Australia, and Japan, and outlined plans for the final EIRENE-PPP meeting on June 30th in Prague (invitation of the CZ ministry of science) to engage national delegates and prepare for the formal launch of the governing body after the summit.

16.35'

- **Strengthening Collaboration:** Emphasized the importance of deepening collaboration between Austria's national research infrastructures, particularly between biobanks (BBMRI.at) and Exposome/EIRENE Austria, to leverage their respective strengths in pre-analytical and analytical processes.
- **Avoiding Duplication:** Urged efficient use of existing resources, like volunteer biobanks, to prevent redundant efforts and better serve researchers.
- **Researcher Support & Alignment:** Highlighted the need to align on sample requirements and quality standards, reinforcing the view that biobanks are service infrastructures meant to support, not burden, researchers.

17.00' Concluding remarks by

1. Interim evaluation - report to be circulated and signed (June 2025)
2. SSAB protocol (June 2025)
3. Further establishment of key services and practical work on national pilots
4. Initiate Open-Access module for Austrian SMEs (from 2026 onwards)
5. Exposome Austria retreat/open stakeholder day (Sept 2025)
6. Next SSAB meeting (hybrid): Wednesday, **May 27th, 2026** (2 – 5 pm)

END OF DAY

Appendix 1



Exposome Austria

Symposium & Open Stakeholder Day 2025

Mark your calendar for September 23, 2025!

Exposome Austria invites to its "Symposium & Open Stakeholder Day" bringing together researchers, medical experts, and policy makers dedicated in their work to the intersection of **human health, environment and chemistry**.

Be part of this dialogue driving the global shift from traditional "repair medicine" to more proactive, personalized and preventive healthcare. Do not miss this transformative event. Learn what services the Exposome/EIRENE Austria ESFRI Research Infrastructure can offer.

Have your say in what will be needed in the future!

Why Attend?

-  Connect with leading experts across exposomics-related disciplines, incl. analytical chemistry, metabolomics, paediatrics, epidemiology, toxicology, cancer research, environmental and one health.
-  Get informed and join the community, taking part in building a sustainable Austrian exposomics framework and the first European ESFRI Research Infrastructure for exposome research.
-  Keynote lecture and presentation of results from best-practice demonstrator projects. Ample room for networking with key stakeholders, from academia, industry, and the governmental sector.

Venue



campus HORN*, Lower Austria

* Need a ride? We can arrange a shuttle from Vienna upon request
-- just let us know in your registration!

Supported by our valued partners



Symposium & Open Stakeholder Day			
	Day 2 Tuesday, September 23	Speaker/Moderator	Institution
07:45 - 09:00	 Shuttle Vienna - Horn (NÖ)		
08:45 - 09:20	Welcome Coffee		
09:20 - 09:40	Plenary session	Opening	[REDACTED] BMFWF
09:40 - 10:10		Introduction of Exposome Austria	[REDACTED]
			Harvard Medical School
10:50 - 11:20	Coffee Break (Poster Session & Booth)		
11:20 - 11:35	Services & pilots session	Dried blood spot (DBS) exposomics	[REDACTED] University of Vienna
11:35 - 11:50		Streamlining targeted exposomics for Exposome Austria services	[REDACTED] University of Vienna
11:50 - 12:05		Metallomics, metabolomics and exposomics during pregnancy	[REDACTED] University of Vienna & Medical University of Vienna
12:05 - 12:20		Non-target and suspect screening for PFAS chemicals in the environment	[REDACTED] Environment Agency Austria
12:20 - 12:35		Longitudinal exposure profiling in urine from US nurses	[REDACTED] University of Vienna
12:35 - 13:30	Lunch		
13:30 - 13:40	User reports & new vendor technology	Plasticizers in blood bags	[REDACTED] Medical University of Vienna
13:40 - 13:50		Innovative adsorbents for PFAS capture	[REDACTED] University of Vienna
13:50 - 14:00		Breast cancer exposomics in the ORDET cohort	[REDACTED] ICS Istit. Nazionale dei Tumori University of Vienna
14:00 - 14:20		SCIEX & New Vendor Technology	[REDACTED] Sciex Ltd., France
14:20 - 14:30		PARC and Austrian HBM-Platform: Overview and link to EIRENE	[REDACTED] Environment Agency Austria
14:30 - 15:00	Coffee Break (Poster Session)		
15:00 - 16:00	Panel discussion	Science2Policy and the role of ESFRI-Research Infrastructure in the Austrian FTI landscape	TBD Moderation: Marlene Nowotny
16:45-20:00	Networking Event (Wine Tasting)		
20:00 - 21:00	Shuttle Horn (NÖ) - Vienna 		