

## European Marine Biological Resource Centre (EMBRC): Support and services for marine biological research and innovation

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The European Marine Biological Resource Centre (EMBRC) is a research infrastructure that enables researchers to better understand the ocean's biodiversity. EMBRC aims to advance fundamental and applied marine biology and ecological research, while promoting the development of blue biotechnology. This is achieved by facilitating access to marine organisms and ecosystems, experimental facilities, technological platforms, and relevant services in its 46 marine stations and research institutes in nine European countries including Belgium.

By being part of EMBRC, Belgium remains on the front state of the Blue Economy scenario, with fundamental and applied research and education activities in sustainable aquaculture, exploitation of living resources, blue biotechnology, ecosystem health and marine management. The Belgian EMBRC consortium (EMBRC Belgium) consists of five institutes: Ghent University (UGent), Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), University of Leuven (KU Leuven), Hasselt University (UHASSELT) and Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS).

Each institute provides unique infrastructure and services in line with the goals of EMBRC. All institutes contribute with fundamental, expert-based and state-of-the-art services such as provision of marine biological resources via access to culture collections at UGent and UHASSELT; sample collection facilities at VLIZ and RBINS; access to North Sea marine ecosystems and experimental facilities at RBINS, UGent and VLIZ; and omics and imaging technology platforms at KU Leuven and UGent. UGent coordinates the EMBRC activities for training and education via the MarineTraining platform ([marinettraining.eu](http://marinettraining.eu)) and the coordination of an International Master programme in Marine Biological Resources ([imbrsea.eu](http://imbrsea.eu)).

EMBRC can provide services and facilities, on-site or remotely to all researchers and companies worldwide. To find out which services are available at EMBRC Belgium, explore our website and service catalogue to see how we can meet your research needs: <http://www.embrc.be>

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