

MetaHIT (Metagenomics of the Human Intestinal Tract) is a large integrated project funded by the European Commission at a level of 11.4 M€ for 4 years. It associates 12 European and 1 Chinese institutions and involves scientists of world-wide reputation.

The number of microbes living in our body is tenfold higher than that of the human cells. MetaHIT will study the microbial populations in the human gut. The project focuses on the constitution of a gene catalogue of the intestinal microbiota and interactions of the microbiota with the human host. To generate and analyse the data MetaHIT will develop high throughput technologies and informatics tools. These tools will be used to study obesity and inflammatory bowel diseases.

The research undertaken in MetaHIT will lead to a considerable progress in the understanding of the human metagenome, by the identification of functions of the gut microbiota. Discovery of associations between these functions and human health will open avenues for numerous diagnostic and therapeutic applications.



9:00 - 9:30	Registration and Welcome
9:30 - 9:45 Introduction	Emmanuel JOLIVET , President of the Jouy en Josas INRA centre
9:45 - 10:45 MetaHIT Project	S. D. EHRLICH - INRA, France Peer BORK - European Molecular Biology Organisation, Heidelberg, Germany WANG Jun - Beijing Genomic Institute, China & South Dansk University, Danemark
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee break

11:15 - 12:00
International
Human Microbiome
Consortium
(IHMC)

Participation of
Christian DESAINTEs, Scientific Officer,
European Commission
Jane PETERSON, Programme Director,
National Human Genome Research Institute,
NIH Bethesda, Etats-Unis

12:00 - 13:00
Project environment

Participation of
Marion GUILLOU, President of INRA
Jean-Paul HUCHON, Président de la région
Ile de France (to be confirmed)
Valérie PECRESSE, Minister of Research
(to be confirmed)

13:00 - 14:30

Buffet lunch

14:30 - 16:30
Metagenomics

Masahira HATTORI, University of Tokyo, Japan
Philippe SANSONETTI, Institut Pasteur,
France
Georges WEINSTOCK, Washington University,
St Louis, Etats-Unis
Jean WEISSENBACH, Génoscope,
Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, France
Liping ZHAO, Shanghai Jiao Tong University,
China

16:30 - 17:00

Tea and coffee

17:00 - 18:00

IHMC Steering Committee closed meeting

Place: Centre INRA de Jouy-en-Josas Amphi J. Poly. Bâtiment 440.
Domaine de Vilvert. 78350 Jouy-en-Josas

Information and registration:
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