

# Biodiscovery

## Business Opportunity

The IMB has an exciting new biodiscovery initiative. Accessing biodiversity from Australia's marine and terrestrial flora and fauna provides a basis for the discovery of unique molecules with pharmaceutical potential.

Australian and Asia-Pacific biodiversity has yet to be probed by a systematic and broad spectrum program of biodiscovery that deploys modern molecular biology strategies to target issues of human and animal health and crop protection. The IMB provides a facility available to both private and public sectors to accelerate and focus R&D efforts on drug development from biodiversity. With world class personnel and infrastructure, and a vibrant, innovative, multi disciplinary work environment at one of Australia's leading research universities, IMB brings together biodiversity, high throughput screening, and Australia's unique biodiversity to explore and exploit natural product drug discovery.

## Technology

The program uses bioassays, fractionation, spectroscopic analysis and high throughput screening to explore biodiversity. As a result separate Extract, Fraction and Metabolite Libraries have been established and are managed by a comprehensive database. In addition a Synthetics library is maintained from SAR studies.

The Biodiversity Libraries are then subjected to chemical, spectroscopic and biological profiling in order to detect potent new drug candidates. The advantage of the profiled libraries is to offer accelerated (value added) entry to Targeted Samples for Industry Partners.



## Market

The role of Biodiversity in drug discovery is well established with much of the existing repertoire of drugs either being a natural product, or derived from bioactive natural products. Australia's reefs, rainforests, deserts and wetlands provide a major potential resource for discovery of bioactive and novel compounds. The need for new drugs continues as diseases and pests relentlessly evolve and share resistance to existing pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals. Bio-prospecting from Australian biodiversity remains a potentially untapped source of bioactive and novel compounds.

## Investment Opportunity

We are seeking collaborative partners who are interested in identifying and further developing natural compounds which show activity against a disease or condition.



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