MIRRI-ERIC Leads the Way in the project MICROBES-4-CLIMATE

Braga (Portugal), 01 February 2024 - Unveiling MICROBES-4-CLIMATE: MIRRI-ERIC takes-off the project coordination.

In a momentous stride towards combating climate change and safeguarding our planet's biodiversity, the MICROBES-4-CLIMATE project launches today under the prestigious umbrella of Horizon Europe. This ground-breaking endeavour embarks on an extraordinary journey, rallying 31 committed partners across 13 nations to unravel the intricate dance between soil, microorganisms, plants, and the environment.

MICROBES-4-CLIMATE sets forth with a bold vision: to deepen our comprehension of this intricate network and its pivotal role in shaping the Earth's resilience against climate challenges. With a collective mission to provide unparalleled insights, the project aspires to cultivate a collaborative ecosystem, amplifying our collective wisdom on this critical subject.

At its core, MICROBES-4-CLIMATE recognizes the urgency of addressing the existential threats facing terrestrial ecosystems. Climate change looms as a formidable adversary, intertwining with biodiversity loss to imperil agricultural and forestry landscapes worldwide. Yet, amidst these challenges, lies a hidden ally: microbes, the unsung heroes of the biosphere.

Despite their profound significance, microbes have remained overlooked in the discourse on climate resilience. MICROBES-4-CLIMATE seeks to rectify this oversight, delving into the complex interplay between microbes, plants, soil, and the environment under the shadow of climate change. By illuminating these dynamics, the project aims to unlock novel strategies for bolstering ecosystem resilience and mitigating the impacts of climate variability.

Central to MICROBES-4-CLIMATE's mission is the democratization of knowledge. Through a comprehensive network of world-class research infrastructures, the project will empower researchers worldwide with access to cutting-edge tools, training, and support. This inclusivity-driven approach fosters collaboration across borders, accelerating the pace of discovery and innovation.

Moreover, MICROBES-4-CLIMATE's Transnational Access program serves as a beacon of excellence, inviting curiosity-driven research that explores the frontiers of microbiome science. By bridging fundamental insights with practical applications, the project aims to revolutionize agriculture, paving the way for precision, sustainability, and resilience in food production.

MIRRI is partly supported by the European Union, through the project "Implementation & Sustainability of Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure for 21st Century" (IS_MIRRI21), which has received funding from the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme, under the Grant Agreement no. 871129.

As we embark on this extraordinary expedition, we extend an invitation to all who share our passion for discovery and our commitment to safeguarding our planet's future. Join us in the quest to unlock nature's secrets, where innovation converges with impact, and together, let us chart a course towards a more resilient and sustainable tomorrow.

ABOUT MIRRI:

The **Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure – European Research Infrastructure Consortium (MIRRI-ERIC)** is the pan-European distributed Research Infrastructure for the preservation, systematic investigation, provision and valorisation of microbial resources and biodiversity. It brings together ~50 microbial domain Biological Resource Centres (mBRCs), culture collections and research institutes. MIRRI serves the bioscience and the bioindustry communities by facilitating the access, through a single point, to the broadest range of high-quality microorganisms, their derivatives, associated data and services, with a special focus on the domains of Health & Food, Agro-Food, and Environment & Energy. By serving its users, by collaborating with other research infrastructures and by working with public authorities and policy makers, MIRRI contributes to the advancement of research and innovation in life sciences and biotechnology, as well as for a sustainable, competitive and resilient bioeconomy. For more information, please visit www.mirri.org and https://www.linkedin.com/company/microbial-resource-research-infrastructure/.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

MIRRI
Ana Ferreira
info@mirri.org

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