

Session Cross-cutting: April 13th 09.00 hrs

5s4a: : Waste reduction and novel resources for sustainable production of safe food or feed

Microbiomesupport: Towards Coordinated Microbiome R&I Activities In The Food System To Support (EU And) International Bioeconomy Goals

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Knowledge of the potential of microbiomes, throughout the food chains, is seen as a promising means to ensuring the sustainability of our food system. Although a number of relevant European programmes and initiatives are currently running or are being launched, they are largely fragmented, implying a stringent need for coordinated action. This need for joint action should also be regarded at the international level.

MicrobiomeSupport is a Coordination and Support Action uniting 27 partners with the overall objective to establish an international network of experts and stakeholders in the field of microbiome food systems research and assess applicability and impact of the microbiomes on the food system.

The objectives of the project are:

- Identification and mapping of microbiome activities, programmes and facilities along the food chain and beyond in the EU and worldwide
- Creation of a platform for scientists, regulatory experts, industry, funding and policy organisations as well as support of the International Bioeconomy Forum to implement the 'Food Systems Microbiome' working group
- Improve use of existing data to allow comparability and improved mining of microbiome data
- Define strategic agendas to enable joint international microbiome applications in the food sector and beyond
- Collaboration and coordination in support of a sustainable bioeconomy in Europe and worldwide, in line with the FOOD 2030 policy goals

- Raising awareness and exchange of knowledge across scientific and political communities, including the International Bioeconomy Forum and the general public

The project started in October 2019 and its progress can be followed on www.microbiomesupport.eu or @MicrobiomeEU.

Keywords: microbiome, systems approach