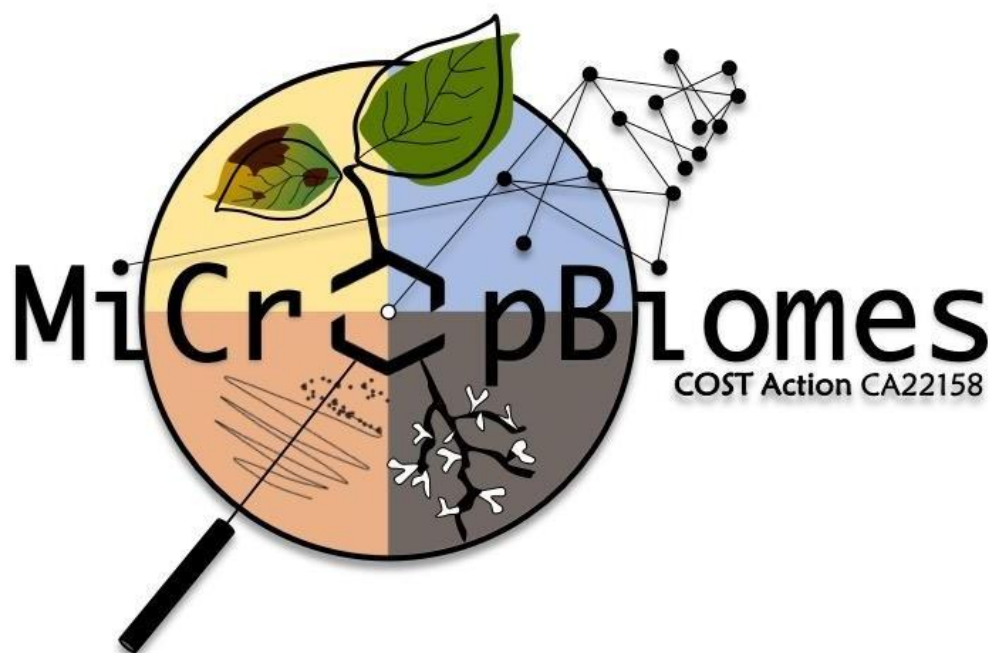
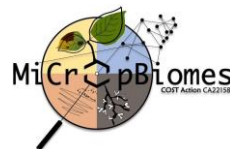


3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE

MiCropBiomes COST Action

Belgrade 3 – 5 June 2026



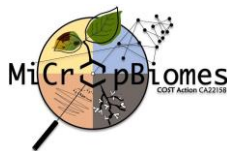


Conference Overview

Registration: Wednesday 8:15 – 9:00 am

Welcome: Wednesday 9:00am – 9:30 am

Wednesday 3 rd June	Thursday 4 th June	Friday 5 th June
9:30 – 10:30 Session 1 Exploiting Plant-Microbiome molecular crosstalks: diversity, distribution and eco-evolutionary perspectives	9:00 – 10:15 Session 4 From current microbial inoculants to synthetic communities	9:00 – 11:00 Working group meetings (WG1 - WG5)
Break	Break	Break
11:00 – 12:00 Session 1 Exploiting Plant-Microbiome molecular crosstalks: diversity, distribution and eco-evolutionary perspectives	11:00 – 12:00 Session 4 From current microbial inoculants to synthetic communities	11:30 – 12:00 Glossary/Terminology Session
		12:00 – 13:00 Education Task Force workshop
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:30 – 14:45 Session 2 Crop microbiomes and plant diseases: from dysbiosis to increased defenses	13:30 – 15:00 Session 5 Crop-Microbiome assembly dynamics under specific environments	14:00 - 16:00 Management Committee Meeting
Break	Break	
15:15 – 16:00 Session 2 Crop microbiomes and plant diseases: from dysbiosis to increased defenses	15:30 – 16:30 Session 5 Crop-Microbiome assembly dynamics under specific environments	
16:00-17:30 Session 3 Communication, and engagement with society		
17:30 - 18:30 Poster session 1	16:30 - 18:00 Poster session 2	
20:00 Welcome cocktail Botanical Garden "Jevremovac"	19:30 Cruise on the Sava and Danube rivers	20:00 Dinner at Skadarlija

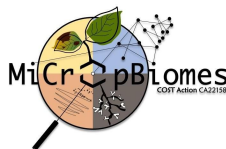


Local organizers

Ivan Nikolić	University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Serbia
Tanja Berić	University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Serbia
Slaviša Stanković	University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Serbia
Jelena Lozo	University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Serbia
Olja Medić	University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Serbia
Iva Rosić	University of Belgrade - Institute of Physics, Serbia
Marina Sokić	University of Belgrade - Institute of Physics, Serbia
Ivana Marić	University of Belgrade - Institute of Physics, Serbia

Scientific committee

Conceição Santos	University of Porto, Portugal
Francesco Spinelli	University of Bologna, Italy
Ahmed Abdelfattah	ATB, Germany
Elodie Vandelle	University of Verona, Italy
Joël Pothier	Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
Anna Bonaterra	University of Girona, Spain
Caroline De Tender	Ghent University, Belgium
Gabriele Berg	TU Graz, Austria
Gordana Racić	Research and Development Institute Tamiš, Serbia
Renata Artimová	Institute of Forest Ecology, Slovakia
Claire Prigent-Combaret	University of Lyon, France
Ralf Koebnik	IRD, Montpellier, France
Tanja Berić	University of Belgrade, Serbia
Ivan Nikolić	University of Belgrade, Serbia



Scientific Program

Wednesday 3rd of June

08:15 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:30 Opening & Welcome by the organizers

Session 1 Exploiting Plant-Microbiome molecular crosstalks: Diversity, distribution, and eco-evolutionary perspectives

Chair: Ahmed ABDELFATTAH

Invited lectures

09:30 – 10:00 Jelena Lozo (University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS): The role of the type III secretion system in plant beneficial bacteria

10:00 – 10:30 Wisnu Wicaksono (Institute of Environmental Biotechnology, Graz University of Technology, AT): The Importance of Microbial Diversity Across Systems for Functional Stability and Resilience

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Oral Presentations

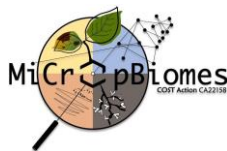
11:00 – 11:15 Daniel Hoefle (Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy, DE): Fruit function beyond dispersal: effect of fruit decomposition on the plant microbiome assembly

11:15 – 11:30 Alexandra Pál (HUN-REN Biological Research Centre, HU): The *Medicago truncatula* nodGRP3C peptide is essential for proper bacteroid differentiation and symbiotic nitrogen fixation

11:30 – 11:45 Manikandan Ariyan (University of Tartu, EE): Plant phylogeny and mycorrhizal strategy shape multi-kingdom soil community assembly in a common garden experiment

11:45 – 12:00 Discussion

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch



Session 2 Crop microbiomes and plant diseases: From dysbiosis to increased defenses

Chairs: Joël F. POTHIER and Renata ARTIMOVÁ

Invited lecture

13:30 – 14:00 Davide Bulgarelli (University of Dundee, UK): Root immune receptors as drivers of the rhizosphere microbiota

Oral Presentations

14:00 – 14:15 Elisenda Castellet Godall (IRTA Cabrils, ES): Rootstock-Dependent Microbial Associations in the Root Microbiome in Response to *Armillaria mellea* soil-borne pathogen

14:15 – 14:30 Dóra Krisztina Balázs (Institute of Biology, Faculty of Science and Informatics, University of Szeged, HU): New peptides for the future biological plant protection - comprehensive investigation of peptaibiotics produced by *Trichoderma* species

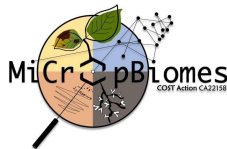
14:30 – 14:45 Ivana Potočnik (Institute of Pesticides and Environmental Protection, RS): Microbial inoculants in cultivated mushrooms: interactions, disease control, and yield promotion

14:45 – 15:15 Coffee break

15:15 – 15:30 Bojana Živanović (Institute for Multidisciplinary Research, University of Belgrade, RS): Impact of *Bacillus velezensis* RD-FC 88 on the primary and secondary metabolism of cabbage cv. Futoški during infection with *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*

15:30 – 15:45 Anže Vozelj (National Institute of Biology, SL): A novel potato endophytic *Fusarium oxysporum* isolate with disease-suppressive activity: genomic and biological characterization

15:45 – 16:00 Discussion



Session 3

Communication and engagement with society

Chair: Ivan Nikolić

Invited lecture

16:00 – 16:30 **Bogdan Žigić (Biofor Systems Ltd, RS):** Microbiological soil analysis in the function of leading and understanding sustainable soil fertility

Oral Presentations

16:30 – 16:45 **Marina Arnaut Stefanović (Foodscale Hub, RS):** Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication in Horizon Europe Projects - Examples of Good Practice

16:45 – 17:00 **Marija Nedeljković (University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS):**

MICROPOLIS: A strategic board game for communicating microbiology

STSM shared experience

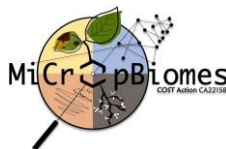
17:00 – 17:10 **Aleksandra Mesaroš (University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS):** The role of HCN-producing endophytes in improving the stress resistance of potatoes (STSM3)

17:10 – 17:20 **Lama Ramadan (Gebze Technical University, TR):** Exploring the power of seed microbiome to improve crops tolerance against drought (STSM6)

17:20 – 17:30 **Monika Faruga (Intermag z o.o., PL):** Transfer of Academic Knowledge on Bioreactor Methods for the Optimization of bacterial cultivation for bioproducts that support the plant microbiome (STSM4)

17:30 – 18:30 **Poster session 1**

20:00 **Welcome cocktail Botanical Garden "Jevremovac"**



Thursday 4th of June

08:15 – 09:00 Registration

Session 4 From current microbial inoculants to synthetic communities

Chairs: Anna BONATERA and Claire PRIGENT-COMBARET

Invited lecture

09:00 – 09:30 Marie Simonin (Institute Agro, INRAE, IRHS, SFR QUASAV, Université d'Angers, FR): Towards Plant Microbiome Engineering: Exploring Seed Microbial Diversity and its Impact on Plant Fitness using Synthetic Communities

Oral Presentations

09:30 – 09:45 Zisis Vryzas (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, GR): European and international approaches to the approval of microbial inoculants and synthetic communities as biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants

09:45 – 10:00 Luis Alejandro Moll Dos Santos (Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, ES): Rational assembly of Bacterial Synthetic Communities (SynCom) for the management of olive vascular diseases

10:00 – 10:15 Discussion

10:15 – 11:00 Coffee Break

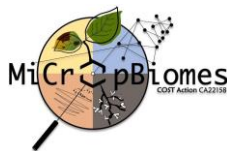
11:00 – 11:15 Izzah Shahid (Universidad Pública de Navarra, ES): Metabolomic and genomic characterization of antifungal *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* strains for designing plant beneficial SynComs

11:15 – 11:30 Martin Stražar (National Institute of Biology, SL): Characterisation of potato microbiota for design of successful potatobiome communities

11:30 – 11:45 Daniele Nicotra (University of Catania, IT): Synthetic communities of core native bacteria induce rhizosphere microbiome restructuring in tomato

11:45 – 12:00 Discussion

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch



Session 5

Crop-Microbiome assembly dynamics under specific environments

Chairs: Elodie Vandelle and Gordana Racić

Invited lecture

13:30 – 14:00 **Jacob Malone (John Innes Center, UK):** How *Pseudomonas* interact with plant roots, and why it matters

Oral Presentations

14:00 – 14:15 **Elodie Vandelle (University of Verona, IT):** Exploring Rhizosphere Microbiomes in Mediterranean Vineyards through Metabarcoding analysis: insights from Italy, Portugal, Morocco, and Turkey

14:15 – 14:30 **Olja Medić (University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS):** Grapevine bacterial communities are shaped by compartment, phenology, and herbicide management

14:30 – 14:45 **Pablo Vargas (IRTA, ES):** Age-Driven Assembly of Root-Associated Bacterial, Fungal, and Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Communities in Almond Rootstocks

14:45 – 15:00 Discussion

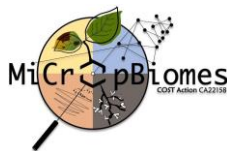
15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 15:45 **Iva Rosić (Institute of Physics Belgrade, RS):** *Bacillus velezensis* SS-38.4 as a preventive biocontrol agent in sugar beet phyllosphere

15:45 – 16:00 **Kamila Bokszczanin (Warsaw University of Life Sciences, PL):** Organic and inorganic mulching drive distinct and persistent rhizosphere microbiomes in *Malus × domestica* orchards

16:00 – 16:15 **Ghita Ammechante (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, MA):** Extreme salinity overrides host specificity in plant-associated microbiomes in Moroccan Sabkhas

16:15 – 16:30 Discussion



- 16:30 – 18:00** **Poster session 2**
- 19:30** **Cruise on the Sava and Danube rivers**

Friday 5th of June

- 09:00 – 11:00** **Working group meetings (WG1 - WG5)**
- 11:00 – 11:30** Coffee break
- 11:30 – 12:00** **Glossary/Terminology Session**
Chairs: Joël F. POTHIER and Renata ARTIMOVÁ
- 12:00 – 13:00** **Education Task Force Session**
Chair: Lara Amorim
- 12:30 – 14:00** Lunch
- 14:00 – 16:00** **Management Committee Meeting**
Chair: Conceição Santos
- 20:00** **Dinner at Skadarlija**

Poster session 1, Wednesday 3 June, 17:30 - 18:30h (A0 Portrait, 84.1 cm × 118.9 cm)

P1.1	Melike Bakır , Erciyes University, TR	Exploring Indigenous Mesorhizobium ciceri Diversity in Semi-Arid Soils: Implications for Chickpea–Microbiome Interactions
P1.2	Irena Budić-Leto , Institute for Adriatic Crops and Karst Reclamation, HR	Indigenous Mycobiota of Maraština Grapes: Effects of Vineyard Location and Environmental Factors on Community Composition
P1.3	Igor Vukelić , Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, RS	Early transcriptional responses of tomato cultivars to <i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> under short-term water deficit
P1.4	Iglė Vepškaitė-Monstavičė , State Scientific Research Institute Nature Research Center, LT	Characterization of pears' carposphere-associated fungal microorganisms
P1.5	Denis Gunia , Leibniz-Institut für Agrartechnik und Bioökonomie, DE	Regional and Management-driven Variation in Apple Microbiome and Resistome
P1.6	Juliana Lukša-Žebelovič , State Scientific Research Institute Nature Research Center, LT	Where resistance hides and emerges: linking cultivable bacteria and environmental resistomes across pasture microbiomes
P1.7	Aleksandra Mesaroš , University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS	Hydrogen cyanide-mediated modulation of drought stress responses in pepper by <i>Pseudomonas urmiensis</i> A32
P1.8	Marija Nedeljković , University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS	Sugar-mediated modulation of Type III secretion system gene expression in <i>Pseudomonas marginalis</i> OL141
P1.9	Marija Anđelković , University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS	Comparative genomic characterization and functional potential of five plant-associated Pseudomonas strains from pepper and sugar beet
P1.10	Tamara Ranković , University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, RS	Comparative analysis of the type VI secretion system gene repertoires in <i>Pseudomonas putida</i>
P1.11	Gergő Terna , University of Szeged, Institute of Biology, HU	Sequence homology of peptaibiotics produced by <i>Trichoderma</i> species in the phylogenetically distant Polysporum and Longibrachiatum clades
P1.12	Hira Ikram , University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, IT	Bioremediation and restoration of a beneficial microbiota in a walnut grove through the input of different biofertilizers
P1.13	Duska Delić , University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Agriculture, BA	Seed microbiome signatures and their influence on early plant growth: A comparative study of <i>Lathyrus sativus</i> and <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> from the Western Balkans
P1.14	David Gramaje , Institute of Grapevine and Wine Sciences, ES	From dysbiosis to defense collapse: a pathobiome view of grapevine esca under abiotic stress
P1.15	Marina Sokić , University of Belgrade - Institute of Physics, RS	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> phylogroup 2 strains from irrigation waters highlight links to epidemic lineages and potential for crop infection
P1.16	Ivana Marić , University of Belgrade - Institute of Physics, RS	Bacteriogenic Fe-nanoparticles as selective antifungal agents
P1.17	Juliana Oliveira-Fernandes , Université de Rennes, FR	Grapevine Microbiome Dynamics Under Black Rot: Insights from the Anna Karenina Principle
P1.18	Tamara Krstić Tomić , Fruit Research Institute, RS	Biocontrol Strategy Shapes Plant Defense: Priming and Direct Antagonism in Sugar Beet—Microbe Interactions
P1.19	Isidora Knezević , Tamiš Research and Development Institute, RS	In Vitro Antagonistic Activity of <i>Trichoderma</i> Species against <i>Fusarium graminearum</i>
P1.20	Walczak Weronika , Intermag sp. z o.o., PL	Multifunctional Microbial Seed Treatments: Integrating Biostimulation, Biocontrol and Microbiome Interactions
P1.21	Stefan Stošić , Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, RS	What is the landscape of plant microbiome research in Serbia? A preliminary bibliometric analysis and the comparison with AI tool

Poster session 2, Thursday 4 June, 16:30 - 18:00h (A0 Portrait, 84.1 cm × 118.9 cm)

P2.1	Katalin Tajti , University of Szeged, Hungary and Biological Research Centre, Institute of Plant Biology, HU	Synergistic Biostimulatory Effects of <i>Chlorella</i> sp. MACC-360 and <i>Kocuria rhizophila</i> FSP120 Co-cultures on <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>
P2.2	Inga Tamošiūnė , Institute of Horticulture, Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, LT	Microbial diversity and phosphorus solubilization potential in the rhizosphere of <i>Sedum acre</i> L.
P2.3	Hesam Mousavi , University of Inland Norway, NO	Mitigating salinity and cadmium stress in rice (<i>Oryza sativa</i> L.) using PGPR and salicylic acid: rhizosphere, health risk, and physiological insights
P2.4	Jovana Todorović , Fruit Research Institute, RS	Effects of an autochthonous PGPR consortium on fruit quality and health-promoting traits of European plum cv. 'Čačanska lepotica'
P2.5	Núria Daranas , University of Girona, ES	Efficacy of two bacterial SynCom prototypes in promoting plant growth and stimulating plant response to stress under controlled-environment greenhouse conditions
P2.6	Louise Mathier , Zurich University of Applied Sciences, CH	FoodN'Feed: Locally adapted beneficial microbiomes and synthetic communities for enhanced grain legume performance and sustainable protein production
P2.7	Tina Arnšek , National Institute of Biology, SL	Assembly of microbial collection, isolated from potato field samples
P2.8	Jurgita Vinskienė , LRCAF Institute of Horticulture, LT	Effect of endophytic bacterial isolates on the regrowth of shoot tips of apple cv. Gala after cryopreservation
P2.9	Marian Malek , Austrian institute of Technology, AT	MICROBES-4-CLIMATE Project: Understanding microbiome-plant-soil-environment interactions for climate-resilient ecosystems
P2.10	Fanni Kovács , Faculty of Science and Informatics, University of Szeged, HU	Effect of Direct Plant–Fungus Interaction on Peptaibol Production of <i>Trichoderma longibrachiatum</i> f. <i>bissettii</i>
P2.11	Bulbul Ahmed , Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, MR	Hierarchical Microbiome Assembly from Desert Soils to Crops Drives Stress Resilience Under Salinity and Drought
P2.12	Refik Bozbuga , Faculty of Agriculture, Eskişehir Osmangazi University, TR	Microbiome and Nematode Interactions in Soil Ecosystems
P2.13	Maria Celeste Pereira Dias , University of Coimbra, PT	Boosting olive drought resilience using <i>Pseudomonas reactans</i>
P2.14	Denise Khouri Chalouhi , ICGEB, IT	Generational root endophytic enrichment through salinity: Bacterial consortia boost rice growth and resilience
P2.15	Jean Legeay , Université Mohamed 6 Polytechnique, MR	The rhizosphere microbiome of wild Poaceae across Morocco and its application to drought resistance of wheat
P2.16	Marijana Pešaković , Fruit Research Institute, RS	Microbial soil amendments shape the raspberry rhizosphere microbiome and enhance bioactive compounds in fruits
P2.17	Danka Kiperović , Institute of General and Physical Chemistry, RS	Microbial Bioremediation and Chemical Sensors: A Modern Solution for Heavy Metal Pollution in Agriculture

