



# Exploring the microbiome potential towards One Health applications





### **The Life Clock**





### Understanding the microbial side



Crucially important to understand the human biology, including:

- Drug response
- Infectious disease
- (Chronic) disease
- Behaviour



## The gut microbiome

- A bioreactor fueled by dietary micronutrients to produce bioactive compounds (environmental and host genetic regulation)
- The intestinal microbiota communicates with peripheral organs in the body
- Alterations of gut microbiota are associated with diseases



# Microbiome: the nexus of environment, agriculture, animal health, nutrition and human health?



Understanding the microbiome functioning might be fundamental to understand the interactions between systems that traditionally have been studied separately

### A global microbiome perspective towards "one health"

- Recognised power of soil and plant microbiomes in enhancing agricultural productivity (provide nitrogen, phosphorus and other essential nutrients, they break down pollutants and suppress the activity of pathogenic microbes)
- Microbiome and climate change (microbes in the oceans produce 50% of the oxygen we breathe, and through photosynthesis remove roughly the same proportion of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere)



 Marine bacteria, archaea, viruses and eukaryotic microbes as global primary producers at the base of the food chain, remineralisation and deposition of carbon



### **Existing microbiome intitiatives**



€ 243 029 725.14 91 funded projects



€ 187 694 294.80 60 projects

National Microbiome Initiative (NMI) of The White House

THE NATIONAL





JPI a healthy diet for a healthy life



International Human Microbiome Consortium



### Where next for microbiome research?



- Moving towards the "One health" concept and going beyond the disciplinary silos
- Engaging new sectors and start new collaborations (i.e. biotech, food and nutrition, cosmetics etc.)
- New business opportunities for industries and SMEs







#### Thank you

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