

*Projects 'MICROBE' and 'BIOINDUSTRY 4.0' funded by the European Commission*

## **MIRRI takes part in two new projects to provide cutting-edge solutions for microbiome biobanking and for the deep digitalisation of industrial biotechnology**

**Braga (Portugal), 03 January 2023** – The **Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure (MIRRI)**, a pan-European research infrastructure that brings together 50 scientific institutions, from 10 countries, has announced today that it will participate in the projects “MICROBE - MICRObiome Biobanking (RI) Enabler” and “BIOINDUSTRY 4.0 - RI services to promote deep digitalisation of Industrial Biotechnology - towards smart biomanufacturing”, both of which will receive funding from the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and innovation programme.

The project MICROBE aims at developing innovative, validated technological approaches and other solutions that would enable to preserve and provide access to microbiome samples and associated data that would, in the long-term, support the development of novel microbiome-based applications. The project is coordinated by AIT - Austrian Institute of Technology, and MIRRI is represented in the consortium by its partner organisation CIRM-INRAE (France).

The project BIOINDUSTRY 4.0, in turn, aims at encouraging the adoption of advanced digital technologies in industrial biotechnology. These include innovative measurement devices for online monitoring, data management tools for data quality, open science, and Artificial Intelligence learning to support bioprocess design. The project is led by IBISBA and INRAE, and MIRRI is represented in the consortium by its partner organisations CECT-UV (Spain) and WI-KNAW (Netherlands).

According to its Executive Director, Luís Soares, “MIRRI is very proud to take part in the projects MICROBE and BIOINDUSTRY 4.0, adding to its current participation in four other Horizon Europe-funded projects in the fields of infectious diseases, cancer, and agriculture”. He adds that “altogether, these participations demonstrate both the scientific excellence and the versatility of MIRRI, which is capable of bringing added-value to top-level projects in fields as diverse as Health, Agro-Food or Environment”.

### **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 from ten European countries – Belgium, France, Latvia, Portugal (headquarters) and Spain are founding Members, while Greece, Italy, Netherlands and Poland are prospective Members, and Romania is a prospective Observer. MIRRI-ERIC has been set up by the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1204 of 16 June 2022, and is a ‘Landmark’ in the Health & Food domain of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap 2021, which lists leading European research infrastructures in several scientific domains. MIRRI-ERIC serves the bioscience and the bioindustry communities by facilitating the access, through a single point, to a broad range of 400,000+ 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-ERIC contributes to the advancement of research and innovation in life sciences and biotechnology, as well as for a competitive and resilient bioeconomy. More information and contacts: [www.mirri.org](http://www.mirri.org) | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/microbial-resource-research-infrastructure/> | [info@mirri.org](mailto:info@mirri.org)

