

PRESS RELEASE - 1<sup>st</sup> TNA open call



# 1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Access (TNA) open call

Open: 31.03.2025

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL UNTIL: 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2025



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## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems are being challenged by Climate Change and Environmental Degradation. Moreover, threats to agricultural and forestry systems represent some of the most serious environmental and socio-economic menaces that the planet and humanity are facing. Climate Change is recognised as a major hindrance to the regulation of global natural cycles, which affect biodiversity, enhances ecosystem services loss, which should be tackled simultaneous. Microorganisms, despite being overlooked and not usually considered in the context of climate change, are key for the healthy maintenance of the biosphere. The whole grasp of the many impacts of Climate Change on the assembly, functions and occurrence of microbiomes is still not wholly-understood. How the rather intricate interactions and relations between microbes-plants-soil, its impacts on crop (plant) productivity, health and efficiency as well as the impacted by Climate Change is still largely unknown. The inner workings of ecosystems still need to be mapped, as well as microbiomes influences on Climate Change mitigation and adaptation. MICROBES-4-CLIMATE intends to provide to the global community researchers, ease of access to a selected cluster of Research Infrastructures and their integrated services coupled with training and scientific and/or technical support. MICROBES-4-CLIMATE project stands out as a Transnational Access programme, which will offer the possibility to users to conduct research leveraging microbes and ecosystems' interactions, its roles in Climate Change resilience, mitigation and adaptation. This high quality access will drive new frontiers of knowledge and incentivise applied research for the harnessing of plant-microbiome interactions to improve the climate resiliency of plants/crops. This could ultimately bolster the resilience and sustainability of food systems.

Bringing together 31 dedicated partners from 13 countries, this groundbreaking project seeks to unravel the intricate interactions between soil, microorganisms, plants, and the environment. The consortium is comprised of five Research Infrastructures: MIRRI-ERIC (7 partners on behalf), ELIXIR (1 partner), AnaEE-ERIC (8 partners), LifeWatch-ERIC, and EMPHASIS (10 partners).

## MICROBES-4-CLIMATE LAUNCHES ITS 1<sup>ST</sup> TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS (TNA) CALL

31<sup>st</sup> of March 2025 – MICROBES-4-CLIMATE (M4C) announces the launch of its Transnational Access (TNA) Call with opening on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 and will run until the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025. This programme offers researchers across Europe and beyond the opportunity to access state-of-the-art research infrastructures (RIs), to promote novel collaborations and further drive for scientific breakthroughs in microbial and environmental sciences.

## ABOUT MICROBES-4-CLIMATE

MICROBES-4-CLIMATE (M4C) is an Horizon Europe initiative dedicated to the tackle of climate change risks that affects biodiversity, agriculture, and forestry ecosystems. By providing access to advanced RIs, training, and scientific support, M4C aims to deepen our understanding of the intricate relationships between microorganisms, plants, and soil within the context of climate change. Moreover, M4C supports curiosity-driven and applied research, with particular focus on improving the resilience of plants and crops, on promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and at advancing frontier knowledge in environmental microbiology.

## WHAT IS TNA?

Transnational Access (TNA) enables researchers to utilise world-class RIs across multiple countries, by offering cutting-edge technologies, expertise, and services. The M4C TNA programme is designed to break down geographical barriers, promote collaboration, and accelerate scientific progress through the delivery unparalleled support, resources, and expertise to the researchers.

## WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

Explore the services by clicking on the 9 displayed options:



Supply of biological resources



Preservation of biological resources



Isolation of microbial resources from soil and plant samples



Identification and characterisation of microbial resources



Soil and plant characterisation technologies



On-site access to facilities for microbial discovery



On-site access to facilities for controlled plant cultivation and phenotyping



Big Data & Machine Learning infrastructure and tools



Remote consultancy

[TNA Catalogue](#)

## WHO CAN APPLY?

- PhD students, postdocs, and researchers affiliated with academic institutions, non-profits, industries, or companies.
- Applicants must have legal affiliation with their home institution and obtain full support from it.
- Fast-track access is available for Ukrainian researchers from government-controlled territories.
- Applicants must apply for at least two services, each from a different RI or M4C beneficiary. Priority will be given to cross-disciplinary projects, integrating microbes and the environment (plants, soil, etc.) to address climate change.
- Users must complete an ethical questionnaire and ensure their projects do not receive double funding (a statement may be required).

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS



- Access requests must be for services located in a different country from the applicant's institution, unless the provider is an intergovernmental organisation such as CABl, a Joint Research Centre (JRC), or an ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium).
- The call is open to EU Member States and EU-associated countries. Researchers from other countries may apply, but total access for non-EU applicants is capped at 20% of the available TNA capacity.
- External users will receive priority over M4C project beneficiaries.
- Proposals must be written in English and submitted via the TNA portal.
- In-person access must be completed within the timeframe of the M4C project.

## FEASIBILITY

- Applicants must consult the facility/service managers before submitting proposals to ensure feasibility.
- Facility managers will assess technical and logistical aspects and confirm alignment with the TNA offer.



## THE M4C RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

The M4C TNA programme is supported by four leading European RIs:



**MIRRI-ERIC**  
(Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure -  
European Research Infrastructure Consortium)

MIRRI-ERIC is dedicated to the preservation, characterisation, and sustainable use of microbial resources for research and innovation. It provides access to biological materials, data, and expertise, supporting advances in biotechnology, agriculture, and environmental sciences.

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**AnaEE-ERIC**  
(Analysis and Experimentation  
on Ecosystems - ERIC)

AnaEE-ERIC focuses on experimental and observational platforms for studying the impact of climate change on ecosystems. It offers controlled environments, in-field stations, and analytical tools to support research on ecosystem resilience and adaptation strategies.

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**LifeWatch ERIC**

LifeWatch ERIC provides advanced e-Science tools and services for biodiversity and ecosystem research. It integrates Big Data, machine learning, and modelling approaches to assess the effects of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

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**EMPHASIS**  
(European Infrastructure  
for Plant Phenotyping)

LifeWatch ERIC provides advanced e-Science tools and services for biodiversity and ecosystem research. It integrates Big Data, machine learning, and modelling approaches to assess the effects of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

## DEADLINE

30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025

## HOW TO APPLY?

For more details on eligibility, services, and application guidelines, check:

[TNA Catalogue](#)

[CWE Platform for  
TNA Application](#)



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For further inquiries, please contact us at:

[contact@microbes4climate.eu](mailto:contact@microbes4climate.eu)

[accessofficer@microbes4climate.eu](mailto:accessofficer@microbes4climate.eu)

