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Microbial Community Ecology Group

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FEMS SSPD 25 - Letter of invitation

Dear microbiologists interested in the FEMS Summer School for Postdocs 2025,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to participate in FEMS SSPD 2025. As the scientific co-directors of the summer school, we are very much looking forward to an exciting scientific agenda, vibrant presentations and discussions, as well as targeted mentoring and career networking with an inspiring and highly international group of postdoctoral participants.

The Summer School will be held from September 2nd to 10th, 2025, at a waterfront venue on scenic Lake Ohrid (a UNESCO city) in North Macedonia. The overarching scientific theme will be **"Harnessing microbial solutions in environmental research and one health."** The school will offer an attractive range of invited speakers, targeted discussions, and mentored group work on these topics.

The Summer School is intended for postdoctoral researchers who wish to explore innovative applications of microbial ecology in tackling environmental challenges, particularly those related to climate change and sustainability. This course will also examine the One Health framework, concentrating on how ecosystem health affects human and animal health. Participants will uncover the potential of microbial solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and bolster ecosystem resilience against multiple stressors. By fostering a deeper understanding of these connections, the course aims to equip the next generation of scientists to recognise and address the environmental dimensions of human health and wellbeing, ultimately promoting sustainable practices that benefit both ecosystem and public health. Such holistic approaches that incorporate environmental and microbiological factors are essential for effectively confronting some of the grand challenges of our time, including the impacts of climate change.

We look forward to welcoming you to Ohrid in early September 2025 to discuss microbiological sciences, support your career development, and jointly enjoy some late summer days in a scenic and secluded location in Southern Europe!

Sincerely,

Prof Dr Joana Falcao Salles

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