

Liberté Égalité Fraternité

Flagship project 2021-2023



Coordinators

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Keywords

Agroecological transition, systems approach, microbial transfers, metagenomics, interdisciplinarity

INRAE unit

UMRF
MEDIS
LEB
OPAALE
Agroecology
UREP
Herbivores

Herbipôle MalAGE

Innovation

Partners

RMT Fromages de Terroirs GIS Filières fromagères sous IG





TANDEM

Microbial flows at the heart of the agroecological transition of dairy systems

The TANDEM project aims to gain a better understanding of how microorganisms in the dairy food chain are transmitted along the chain and how these ecosystems respond to changes that come with an agroecological transition.

In a context of climate change, agroecological practices offer possible solutions to enhance the sustainability and resilience of food systems. These practices are particularly important for farms producing raw milk cheeses, which are influenced by a wide range of holobionts and environmental microbiota, from forage to the final product ingested by the consumer.



Objectives

- Compare agro-ecological and intensive farming systems and study their responses to disturbances.
- Re-evaluate the knowledge of microbial transfers in a field context and with regard to the diversity of connections between humans and microbes in the dairy system.
- The originality of the project lies in:
- The advanced characterisation of microbial transfers for an integrative and functional approach of the whole microbiota at intraspecific scales.
- The identification of microbial indicators along the food chain to assess the impact of changes in practices.
- The deployment of new concepts associated with the contribution of living organisms in these systems.

TANDEM offers new perspectives to better manage transitions in food systems, thus contributing to the three pillars of sustainability (social, economic, environmental) and to global health.



Partners

TANDEM brings together an interdisciplinary consortium combining agronomy, ecology, microbiology, animal and food sciences, bioinformatics, biostatistics and sociology, and involving key players in the cheese industry.

INRAE division	INRAE unit	Expertise
MICA	UMRF	Microbial ecology, milk, cheese
Microbiology and the Food Chain	MEDIS	Microbial ecology, digestive microbiota
Wilcobiology and the rood Chain	LBE	Microbial ecology, air
TRANSFORM		-
Science for Food, Bioproducts and Waste	OPAALE	Microbial ecology, effluents
Engineering		
AGROECOSYSTEMS		
Agronomy and Environmental Sciences for	Agroecology	Microbial ecology, soil
Agroecosystems		
ECODIV	UREP	Microbial ecology, grasslands
Ecology and Biodiversity		
PHASE	Herbivores	Zootechnics, dairy farming
Animal Physiology and Livestock Systems	Herbipôle	Zootechnics
MATHNUM	MaIAGE	Bioinformatics, biostatistics, metagenomics
Mathematics and Digital Technologies		
ACT	Innovation	Sociology, anthropology
Sciences for Action and Transition	Territory	Sociology, anthropology
Partner		Expertise
RMT Fromages de Terroirs (France)		R&D networks, dairy and cheese
		microbiology
GIS Filières fromagères sous IG (France)		R&D networks, PDO-IGP cheeses, production
		systems

