



Microbial Community Structure and Function in Soils

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Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue of *Soil Systems* aims to expand the current state of the art regarding soil microbial communities. Soils harbour the most diverse and complex microbiome on Earth. Soil microorganisms display high metabolic and functional diversity, being involved in nutrient and carbon transformations and shaping the soil habitat through various biogeochemical and biophysical mechanisms, thus representing a key factor of soil resilience. These functions are part of the basis of the so-called “ecosystem services”, which are vital to humans and the environment. Microorganisms are therefore vital for the overall functioning, stability, and sustainability of the ecosystem, determining soil’s fertility and health.

Authors are invited to submit their works on soil microorganisms, including the characterization of their communities and their inter- and intra-kingdom interactions, the definition of their ecosystem functions, as well as the application of novel methodologies for the study of these communities. Research, review and opinion articles concerning our current knowledge of soil microbial communities and their ecosystem functions are invited.

