



EFSA's Scientific Colloquium 29 - Decoding the Microbiome: From Knowledge Gaps to Actionable Regulatory Science

Brussels, Belgium, 23-24 November 2026

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY 1 — Monday 23 November 2026

08:30-09:00	Registration	
SESSION 1 SETTING THE SCENE Chair: TBC		
09:00-09:20	Welcome and introduction to the event	Chief scientist, EFSA (IT)
09:20-09:40	Objectives and framing of the colloquium Questions	EFSA (IT)
09:40-10:00	EU policy and research context Questions	DG RTD
10:00-10:20	International regulatory science perspectives on microbiomes Questions	TBC
10:20-10:50	Coffee/Tea break	
10:50-11:10	Microbiomes and international science capacity for regulatory needs Questions	INRAE / World Microbiome Partnership (FR)
11:10-11:30	Translating microbiome science for regulatory use: where are we? Questions	TBC
11:30-12:00	Wrap-up on morning presentations	Chair
12:00-12:15	Introduction to breakout sessions — objectives, shared questions and analytical framework Questions	EFSA (IT)
12:15-13:15	Lunch break	
SESSION 2 Breakout Sessions Chairs: TBC per breakout group		
13:15-13:30	General introduction to the breakout groups (per Breakout group)	Moderator, TBC (per breakout session)
13:30-15:30	Parallel breakout sessions — PART 1 - Breakout Group 1 Chemicals and the Microbiome — Human Health Risk Assessment - Breakout Group 2 Chemicals and the Microbiome — Animal Health Risk Assessment	Moderator: TBC Rapporteur/co-rapporteur: EFSA (per breakout session)

	- Breakout Group 3 Biological and Microbiome Products – Human Health Risk Assessment - Breakout Group 4 Biological and Microbiome Products – Animal Health Risk Assessment	
15:30–16:00	Coffee/Tea break	
16:00–18:00	Parallel breakout sessions – PART 2	Moderator: TBC Rapporteur/co-rapporteur: EFSA (per breakout session)
18:00–19:30	Close of Day 1 and networking cocktail	

DAY 2 – Tuesday 24 November 2026

SESSION 3 Panel Discussion: Synthesis and Conclusions Chair: TBC Moderator: TBC,		
09:00–09:15	Framing of the panel discussion	Chair, TBC
09:15–10:30	Panel discussion-PART 1 Structured debate around cross-cutting questions	Panellists: breakout moderators plus invited participants (TBC)
10:30–11:00	Coffee/Tea break	
11:00–12:00	Panel discussion-PART 2 including wrap-up and key next steps	Panellists: breakout moderators plus invited participants (TBC)
12:00–12:15	Concluding remarks	EFSA (IT)