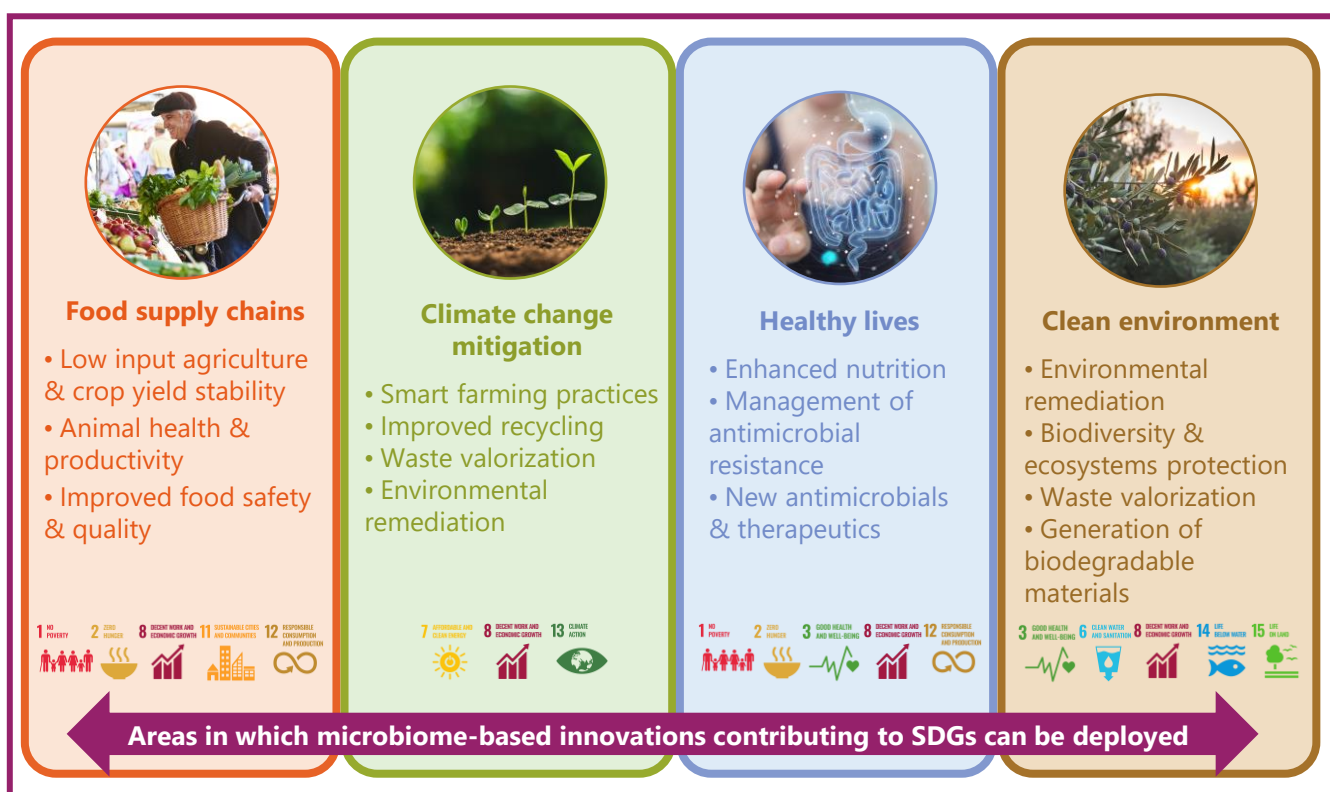


Microbiome innovations for a sustainable future

Policies to promote sustainable bioeconomy are high on national agendas worldwide. Microbiome-based innovations are of vital importance to realize a true sustainable bioeconomy by providing a wealth of bioactive compounds and activities that are beneficial for food production, environmental and human health, as well as waste recycling. Our paper¹ argues that concurrent investment, collaboration, regulatory changes and public outreach is needed to seize the opportunities of microbiome-innovations and achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the European Green Deal.



Our Recommendations

- Research funders need to shape funding programmes that **advance microbiome-related knowledge** to fully understand the systems in which microbiomes function.
- Researchers need to take a **multidisciplinary approach** and practice **international cooperation** involving multiple partners and stakeholders for success.
- Public educators can help create **public awareness** and **foster trust** in future microbiome innovations.
- Law makers need to ensure transparency in national laws and provide **clarity on legal requirements** for the application of microbiome-based innovations.

¹ D'Hondt, K., Kostic, T., McDowell, R. et al. Microbiome innovations for a sustainable future. Nat Microbiol 6, 138–142 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41564-020-00857-w>

