



**CALL FOR PROJECTS 2018**

# MICROBIALS

DIRECT USE OF MICRO-ORGANISMS

CHF 2 million p.a. for innovative and applied projects dealing with the direct use of modified or domesticated micro-organisms. With its initiative, Gebert RUF Stiftung seeks to generate a significant impact by exploiting the potential and widespread use of microbial resources in health and technology. The focus is on applications in human and veterinary medicine, the environment, energy production, water treatment, food science and other areas.

**Submission deadline:** 20 July 2018

**WISSENSCHAFT.  
BEWEGEN**  
GEBERT RUF STIFTUNG

Further information: [grstiftung.ch](http://grstiftung.ch)

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**MICROBIAL RESOURCES IN HEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY** The opportunities for the development of new tools in health care, drug discovery, the environment, agriculture and food production are increasingly limited by the availability of novel chemical compounds. Innovative approaches and solutions are needed. The microbiome is known to contribute significantly to human health and disease, to regulate global biogeochemistry, and to harbour much of the planet's genetic diversity. Microbes play important roles in ecosystems of all types. Despite their small size, the sheer number of microbes living on the planet will influence resource management and distribution. They evolve and adapt rapidly; they provide a largely untapped resource for innovation and technological advances in many fields. Its potential for applications in medicine, the environment, agriculture, energy production and nutrition is clear, yet an innovative exploration of the power of micro-organisms is needed.

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**Stinging Hair of a Stinging Nettle** – Stinging hairs (trichomes) produce a painful stinging sensation by injecting a chemical mixture when touched by humans or other animals. They act like hypodermic needles: after the tip breaks off, a chemical mixture composed of histamine, acetylcholine, 5-HT (serotonin), moroidin, leukotrienes and formic acid is injected and causes pain or paresthesia. Copyrights: © Martin Deggerli 2015, supported by S. Erpel, CCINA, Biozentrum, University Basel.

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