



Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: 'Remaking Health in a Microbial Planet by Crossing Space, Time, Species and Epistemic Cultures — HealthXCross'

FUNDING PROGRAMME: HORIZON 2020

CALL: ERC-2020-STG – Starting Grant

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Raffaetà Roberta

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 1.367.062,50	€1.367.062,50

ABSTRACT:

Microbiome science is popularizing a symbiotic understanding of health and ecology. What microbiome science now knows is that microbes entangle the health of people and environments; what we don't know is how, in this process, new cultural concepts and practices of health may emerge. This project asks: how does health come to be reconfigured in a world entangled through microbial data? HealthXCross is a multi-sited, comparative ethnographic study of how scientists produce and coordinate knowledge within the Earth Microbiome Project (EMP). EMP is a US-founded and transnational research network to enable the collection, comparison and integration of microbial data across time, space and species in order to produce simulations for intervening in both environmental and human health. HealthXCross is an ethnographic inquiry into the implications of the environment being understood as a body - and viceversa - through the analysis of the tensions between the emancipatory and the dystopian effects of dissolving boundaries between human bodies and environments. With this aim, my project will examine 1) how the technology employed in EMP remakes notions of biological diversity by crossing conventional categorizations (space, time, species), 2) how the disruption of standard knowledge is performed as innovation value by making diverse epistemic cultures work together and 3) how these knowledge-making practices shape new trends in healthcare. HealthXCross will create a participatory design with scientists, who are among stakeholders in the public discourse about what it means to be human and how to live in an entangled planet. My project will offer timely insights into the interplay between knowledge making and the shaping of health practices in times of profound ecological, socio-technical and economic transition. HealthXCross will dramatically advance anthropological understandings of the contradictory but constitutive aspects of living together and being in relation.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1 st September 2021	31 th August 2026

BENEFICIARY:

1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia	Venice (IT)	Beneficiary
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