

Dear LifeWatch National Distributed Centre Coordinators and dear RIC members,

Following the successful launch of the first round of Thematic Service Working Groups, LifeWatch ERIC is pleased to announce the activation of a new series of Working Groups for 2025. These initiatives aim to strengthen collaboration between the Common Facilities and the Distributed Centres in the co-development of key Thematic Services, as outlined in the 2022–2026 LifeWatch ERIC Strategic Working Plan.

The 2025 Working Groups will focus on:

- Metagenomics in Biodiversity and Ecosystems
- Semantics / Data Management
- Environmental Monitoring
- Biological Traits and Analysis
- Agroecology
- High Mountain Ecosystems
- One Health (nature assets/natural capital and anthropic activities, agroecosystems, and ecosystems)

We kindly ask you to circulate this invitation within your Distributed Centre to gather expressions of interest from members who wish to contribute to the activities of one or more Working Groups. In doing so, members are invited to indicate not only their interest in participating, but also, if they so wish, their availability to take on a coordinating role. There is no limit to the number of participants per Distributed Centre or per Thematic Service.

Each Working Group is expected to meet regularly throughout 2025 and to organise at least one in-person workshop during the year. Organisers will be supported by the Service Centre's available human resources and, where needed, a dedicated budget to ensure the successful implementation of the events.

To express your interest, please complete the following form:

<https://zfrmz.eu/8epI7vbKejYBS8B76ngc>

In the form, participants can indicate the Working Group(s) they are interested in joining and, if interested, their availability to act as coordinators, including hosting a related in-person workshop.

Thank you very much for your collaboration and continued support.

Sincerely,
Alberto Basset
Vanessa Marrocco
Ant Türkmen