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Rafaella is a PhD student in the Graduate Program in Microbial Biology at the University of Brasília, with a background in microbial ecology of shallow lakes sediments. Additionally, she has a good knowledge in metagenome and molecular techniques for bacterial and archaeal communities studies. Her current research will focus on the spatial and temporal distribution of Bacteria and Archaea communities involved in the nitrogen cycle in the sediment of natural, shallow and oligotrophic lakes of Cerrado. She is interested in ecosystem services mediated by microorganisms in their natural environments.