



VALOSTONES PROJECT

"Valorization of olive stone by-product as a green source of innovative and healthy value-added products in the context of the circular bioeconomy and sustainability"

Second Annual Assembly

 **Venue:** Marmara University, RTE Campus, Faculty of Engineering – Istanbul, Türkiye

 **Date:** Friday, September 26, 2025

About the Project

VALOstones is part of the PRIMA Program, supported by the European Union and funded by the national funding bodies of five Participating States (Tunisia, Italy, France, Morocco and Turkey) for a period of 3 years, (2023-026).

The consortium is composed of seven partners from six countries: University of Gabes and Boukhris OIL (Tunisia), Department of Agricultural, Food, Animal and Environmental Sciences of the University of Udine (Italy), European institute of Membranes, University of Montpellier (France), University of Mohammed V (Morocco), Department of Bioengineering of the Marmara University (Turkey) and BioPowder.com (Malta).

The overall objective of VALOstones is to exploit new opportunities for the management of olive stone biomass in the Mediterranean basin to generate innovative, high added-value products for the food, pharmaceutical and cosmeceutical sectors. The project contributes to the transition towards healthy and sustainable behaviors in the Mediterranean region.

Meeting Purpose

The **Second Annual Assembly** will describe and discuss the second year of VALOstones activities, highlight progress, and outline the next steps for the consortium. It will also be an opportunity to engage with stakeholders, science policy makers, academics, students, and industry representatives from the agri-food, pharmaceutical, and cosmeceutical sectors.





2nd Annual Meeting-Agenda

Friday, September 26, 2025

8:30-9:00	Registration	
9:00-10:00	Welcome Speeches	
	Head of Institute of Pure and Applied Sciences, Marmara University	Bülent Mertoğlu
	Head of Bioengineering Department, Marmara University	Nihat Alpogu Sayar
	Coordinator of VALOstones Project	Hana Maalej
10:00-10:30	Overview of VALOstones	Hana Maalej
10:30-10:45	Presentations of External Advisory Board members	
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-16:00	Work Packages : Results and Future Activities	
11:00-11:15	WP 0 Project Management and Communication	Hana Maalej
11:15-11:30	WP 1 Collection and Characterization of OS Powder	Hana Maalej
11:30-11:45	WP 2 Conversion of OS into Biopolymers	Suming Li
11:45-12:00	WP 3 Extraction, Purification and Characterization of Antioxidants	Abdelhakim Bouyahya
12:00-12:45	Excursion -Center for Nanotechnology & Biomaterials Application and Research (NBUAM)	
12:45-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:15	WP 4 Optimization and Scaling Up	Hana Maalej
14:15-14:45	WP 5 Development of Active Ingredients and Materials	Sonia Calligaris
14:45-15:00	WP 6 Application of Developed Products in Food, Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals	Ebru Toksoy Öner
15:00-15:15	Coffee break	
15:15-15:30	WP 7 Technology Transfer and Market Development of Prototypes	Kathrin Schilling
15:30-15:45	WP 8 Socio-Economic-Environmental Assessment	Hana Maalej
15:45-16:00	WP 9 Dissemination and Exploitation	Hana Maalej
16:00-17:00	Concluding Remarks	



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Mohammed V University
Rabat, Morocco

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2nd Annual Meeting-Registration

Please register your attendance via this form:

[VALOstones Assembly – Registration Form](#)

CONTACTS

For any question, please contact

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2nd Annual Meeting-Venue

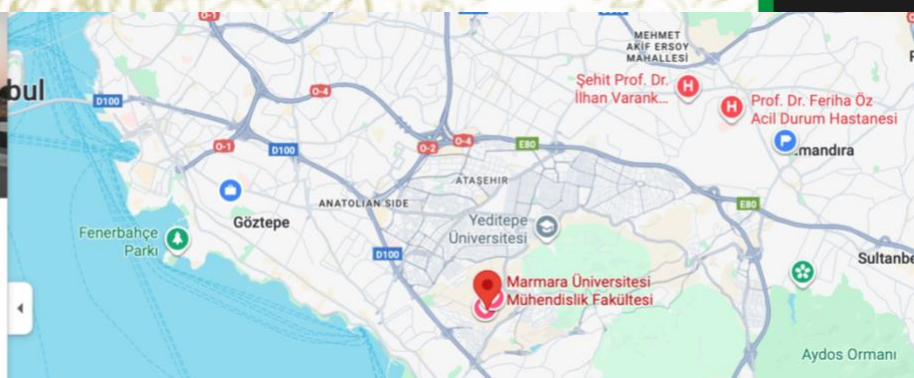


Marmara University Faculty of Engineering

Marmara Üniversitesi Mühendislik Fakültesi

4.1 ★★★★★ (171) ⓘ

University · 📍



<https://maps.app.goo.gl/QY28MKEaFRca1ffu7>

Marmara University
RTE Campus, Faculty of Engineering
M2 Building
Room No: Zo8
Aydınevler, Istanbul



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2nd Annual Meeting

TOURIST & Practical Information

Istanbul is a unique city that bridges Europe and Asia, blending history, culture, and modernity. It is famous for its landmarks such as *Hagia Sophia*, the *Blue Mosque*, *Topkapi Palace*, and the *Grand Bazaar*. Participants may also enjoy a Bosphorus cruise to admire the city from the water.



For more information about Istanbul attractions, events, and cultural activities, please visit the official tourism website: <https://istanbul.goturkiye.com>



HOW TO ARRIVE FROM THE AIRPORT

Istanbul Airport (IST): the main international airport, ~40 km from the city center.

- Taxi: ~40–50 minutes to Marmara University campus (25–30 EUR).
- Shuttle Bus (Havaist): direct lines to Kadıköy, Taksim, Beşiktaş (~5–7 EUR).
- Metro (M11): connects airport to Kağıthane, then transfer to city metro lines.

Sabiha Gökçen Airport (SAW) : mainly used by low-cost airlines, on the Asian side.

- Taxi: ~60–70 minutes to Marmara University (30–35 EUR).
- Shuttle Bus (Havabus): connections to Kadıköy and Taksim (~5 EUR).

ACCOMODATION OPTIONS (near Marmara University, RTE Campus)

Mid-range Hotels:

- Holiday Inn Istanbul – Kadıköy (4★)
- DoubleTree by Hilton Istanbul – Moda (4★)
- Park Inn by Radisson Istanbul Asia (4★)

Budget-friendly Options:

- Kadıköy Park Suites Hotel (3★)
- Zin D Home Dudullu (apart-hotel, good for longer stays)

Luxury Options (city center, easy access by metro/ferry):

- Swissôtel The Bosphorus, Istanbul (5★)
- Çırağan Palace Kempinski (5★, historic Ottoman palace hotel)