



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"

Third Annual Assembly

 Venue: Institut Européen des Membranes (IEM), Université de Montpellier, France
 Date: Friday, 19 June 2026

About the Project

VALOstones is a PRIMA-funded project supported by the European Union and financed by the national funding bodies of Tunisia, Italy, France, Morocco and Turkey for the period 2023-2026.

The consortium brings together seven partners from six countries: University of Gabes (UGT) and Boukhris OIL Mill (Tunisia), Department of Agricultural, Food, Animal and Environmental Sciences, University of Udine (DI4A, Italy), Institut Européen des Membranes, University of Montpellier (IEM, France), University of Mohammed V (UMV-R, Morocco), Department of Bioengineering, Marmara University (MU, Turkey) and BioPowder.com (Malta).

The overall objective of VALOstones is to unlock new opportunities for the sustainable valorization of olive stone biomass in the Mediterranean region by developing innovative, high added-value products for the food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic sectors. Through the implementation of green extraction technologies and circular bioeconomy principles, the project contributes to the transition towards more sustainable production systems and healthier lifestyles across the Mediterranean basin.

Meeting Purpose

The **Third Annual Assembly** marks the final annual meeting of the VALOstones project before its completion. The event will provide an overview of the activities and achievements accomplished during the third year of the project, assess progress toward the project objectives, and discuss the final implementation phase and future perspectives. The meeting will also offer a valuable opportunity to strengthen collaboration and engage with stakeholders, policymakers, researchers, students, and representatives from the agri-food, pharmaceutical, and cosmeceutical industries.



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Rabat, Morocco

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3rd Annual Meeting - Agenda

Friday, June 19, 2026

8:30-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:30	Welcome Speeches	
	Vice director of the School of Chemistry of Montpellier	Julien Cambedouzou
	Coordinator of VALOstones Project	Hana Maalej
9:30-10:00	Overview of VALOstones	Hana Maalej
10:00-15:50	Work Packages : Results and Future Activities	
10:00-10:10	WP 0 Project Management and Communication	Hana Maalej
10:10-10:30	WP 1 Collection and Characterization of OS Powder	Hana Maalej
10:30-10:50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10:50-11:10	WP 2 Conversion of OS into Biopolymers	Suming Li
11:10-11:30	WP 3 Extraction, Purification & Characterization of Antioxidants	Abdelhakim Bouyahya
11:30-11:50	WP 4 Optimization and Scaling Up	Hana Maalej
11:50-12:10	WP 5 Development of Active Ingredients and Materials	Sonia Calligaris
12:10-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:30	Excursion – visit of the Institut Européen des Membranes	
14:30-14:50	WP 6 Application of Developed Products in Food, Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals	Ebru Toksoy Öner
14:50-15:10	WP 7 Technology Transfer and Market Development of Prototypes	Kathrin Schilling
15:10-15:30	WP 8 Socio-Economic-Environmental Assessment	Hana Maalej
15:30-15:50	WP 9 Dissemination and Exploitation	Hana Maalej
15:50-16:30	Concluding Remarks	





3rd Annual Meeting - Contacts

For any question, please contact

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3rd Annual Meeting - Venue



**Institut Européen des Membranes
(Salle de Conférences)**

300 avenue du Professeur Emile Jeanbrau

University of Montpellier

34090 Montpellier, France



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3rd Annual Meeting

TOURIST & Practical Information

Montpellier is a Mediterranean city that blends medieval charm with a lively, modern vibe. It is famous for its landmarks such as Place de la Comédie, Promenade de Peyrou, Montpellier Cathedral, and the oldest European Faculty of Medicine. Participants may also enjoy nearby beaches and sunny weather, and admire pink flamingos in the ponds.



For more information about Montpellier attractions, events, and cultural activities, please visit the official website: <https://www.montpellier-tourisme.fr/>



HOW TO ARRIVE FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE CITY CENTER

Aéroport Montpellier Méditerranée: ~15 km to the city center.

- Taxi: ~15-25 minutes to the city center (~30-40 EUR).
- Bus/Tram: Take the airport shuttle (line 620) just outside arrivals to Place de l'Europe (main tram hub), then take tram line 1 to the city center (Place de la Comédie). Time: ~25–30 minutes; Cost: ~3–4 € total

HOW TO ARRIVE FROM THE CITY CENTER TO THE IEM

- Taxi: ~15-25 minutes to the city center (~30 EUR).
- Bus/Tram: Take tram line 1 to Occitanie Hôpitaux – Facultés, then take bus 13 to École de Chimie. Time: ~30–40 minutes; Cost: ~2 € total.

Or take tram line 2 to Saint-Lazare, then take bus 13 to École de Chimie. Time: ~30–40 minutes; Cost: ~2 € total

Or take tram line 5 to Pôle Chimie Balard. Time: ~30–40 minutes; Cost: ~2 € total

One ticket valid for tram and bus within 1 hour.

ACCOMODATION OPTIONS

- <https://www.trivago.com>
- <https://www.booking.com/>
- <https://www.hotels.com/>