



8th European Summer School on Industrial Biotechnology

Sustainable solutions for local challenges:

In situ valorization of side streams utilizing local biodiversity

Heraklion, Crete, Greece 29.6.-3.7.2026

Monday, June 29th	
09:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:30	Welcome address by Vice rector Overview of the workshop structure by Ioannis Pavlidis
Session 1: Sustainable processes, circular economy	
10:30-11:15	Pablo Domínguez de María , <i>Sustainable Momentum SL, Las Palmas, ES</i> Addressing the CO ₂ production during (bio)catalytic processes
11:15-12:00	Lidia Lombardi , <i>University Niccolò Cusano, Rome, IT</i> Life cycle assessment on waste management
12:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-16:00	Short presentations of participants #1
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-18:30	Short presentations of participants #2
Tuesday, June 30th	
Session 2: Local biodiversity	
9:00-9:45	Paraskevi (Voula) Polymenakou , <i>Hellenic Center of Marine Research, GR</i> Geobiology: Exploring microbial life in extreme environments
9:45-10:30	Panagiotis Sarris , <i>University of Crete, Heraklion, GR</i> Microbes from extreme environments: a potential source of biocontrol agents in food production
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
Session 3: Data management and <i>in silico</i> enzyme discovery	
11:00-11:45	Jürgen Pleiss , <i>University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, DE</i> How to make data FAIR and AI-ready
11:45-12:30	Bettina Nestl , <i>Innophore, Graz, AT</i> Leveraging AI for catalophore-guided enzyme developments
12:30-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-18:30	Lidia Lombardi, Pablo Dominguez de Maria Workshop on LCA analysis and carbon footprint calculations

Wednesday, July 1st	
Session 4: Enzyme discovery	
09:00-9:45	Ioannis Pavlidis , <i>University of Crete, Heraklion, GR</i> Enzyme discovery and evolution for seaweed biorefineries
9:45-10:30	Evina Gontikaki , <i>Foundation for Research and Technology, Chania, GR</i> Nature's first responders: indigenous microbes and the bioremediation of deep-sea oil spills
10:30-12:30	Kelly Velonia Workshop on production of PHB membranes from wastes
12:30-14:30	Lunch break
17:00-19:00	Social event: Guided tour in the archeological museum of Heraklion
19:00-22:00	ESSIB Dinner
Thursday, July 2nd	
Session 5: Case studies	
9:00-9:45	Daniel Pleissner , <i>Leuphana University, Lüneburg, DE</i> Bioremediation and resource efficiency
9:45-10:30	Marina Lotti , <i>University of Milano-Bicocca, IT</i> Enzymatic valorization of agro-food waste as raw materials: selected case studies
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-11:45	Kelly Velonia , <i>University of Crete, Heraklion, GR</i> Production of biopolymers from wastes
11:45-12:30	Georgiana Katunescu , <i>Wageningen University & Research, NL</i> From side streams to sustainable products: technological readiness of circular biotechnology processes
12:30-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-16:30	Kelly Velonia Workshop on production of PHB membranes from wastes
Friday, July 3rd	
09:30-16:00	Visit to winery unit and Bioenergy Crete (lunch included)

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