VALUABLE

VALorisation of fUngAl Biomass using noveL Enzymatic technology

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Authors (Name, affiliation, email)	IDENER team (Idener, sofia.tarin@idener.es, alvaro.cabeza@idener.es)
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1.0	24.02.2023	Initial version, approved by the Consortium

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Abstract / Executive Summary

This deliverable presents the VALUABLE website (https://wordpress.valuable-project.eu/) as an important channel of information available for different interest parties of the project. The website has 2 purposes: a public area, focused on disseminating the project to the general public and stakeholders; and a private area for the partners of the consortium. The structure of the website is formed by different segments, including a stakeholders repository and forum, a contact section, and areas with information about the project with news and publications.

Keywords:

VALUABLE website, communication and dissemination

1.   Objectives

The VALUABLE website (https://wordpress.valuable-project.eu/) is a channel which allows a broad distribution and exchange of information about the VALUABLE project to the main stakeholders and the public. This website has been created for a double purpose. The first objective is to inform the general audience about the project and its status. This is the public area of the website. The second objective is to serve as a storage and information exchange point exclusively for partners of the project. This is the private area.

The VALUABLE official website was launched in February 2023, and since this date, the web will be periodically updated with the latest news of the project, as well as publications and participation in events of different partners of the consortium, newsletters, and extracts of deliverables. It includes illustrative information about the project objectives and results and the interface is user-friendly. Furthermore, the system fulfils the security as well as EU data protection requirements and offers flexible components to modify navigation as well as content quickly, securely, and easily. The website is fully responsive and ensures accessibility on various browsers and systems, including Apple MacOS, Windows PC, tablet, and cell phone.

2.   Structure of website

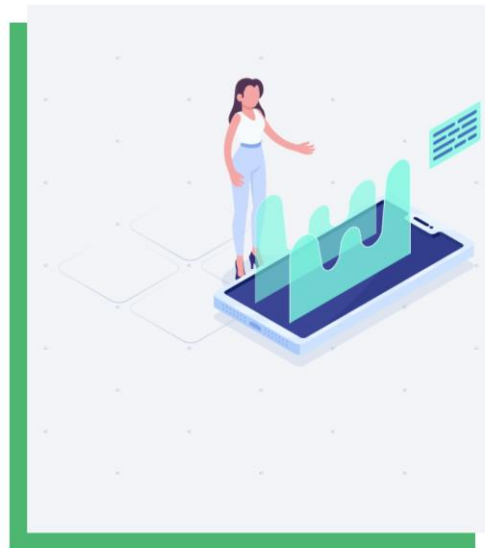The VALUABLE website follows this structure:

- **Home:** this section includes general information about the project, such as the logo, the full name of the project, the main objectives, the challenge, and the proposed solution of VALUABLE. It also includes the logos of the partners and some of the latest news.

Figure 1. "Home" section

- **About:** this segment shows relevant, more in detail information about the project. First, a subsection called Project is presented, with information about the challenge, solutions, and methodology of VALUABLE. There are also 3 more subsections. One subsection contains the objectives of the project, and other with the principal expected results to be achieved.

The last subsection, focused on the partners of the consortium, includes a map where the partners' logos are displayed.

ABOUT

Project

VALUABLE will focus on the demonstration of a platform non-plant-based biomass valorisation process for the production of yeast oils as a viable substitute for fossil-based and plant-based products (such as palm oil) in applications such as cosmetics, adhesives and resins. More specifically, the VALUABLE process will valorise Aspergillus niger biomass feedstock to demonstrate:

· Techno-economic viability of producing oils as a substitute for fossil based and plant-based products for applications in cosmetics and bio-based chemicals (e.g., resins for coatings) markets.

· Better valorisation of fungal biomass waste streams rich in chitin for the production of non-animal derived chitosan and chitosan oligomers for use in applications such as cosmetics and bio-based chemicals (e.g., adhesives) markets.

Objectives

The key objectives of VALUABLE are the following:

1. of the VALUABLE process for the production of yeast oils and chitin:

- emission target of <3.5kg CO_2/kg of yeast oil produced
- cost targets of <1.3€/kg and <3€/kg for yeast oil and chitin respectively
- reduce costs of oil recovery by 10-30%.

To demonstrate the viability of the VALUABLE platform process by upcycling Aspergillus niger fungal biomass waste, from citric acid production, for the production of oils and fully valorising all side-streams (cascading use) by Month 24

2. To demonstrate the viability of the VALUABLE platform process by upcycling Aspergillus niger fungal biomass waste, from citric acid production, for the production of oils and fully valorising all side-streams (cascading use) by Month 24

- Solubilisation of Aspergillus niger biomass to extract chitin from Aspergillus hydrolysate
- Enzymatic conversion of chitin into chitosan (sub-kg scale by M18 and kg-scale by M30) and other derivatives for new applications, including as additives in cosmetics and adhesives products

To demonstrate economic benefit and improved industrial competitiveness

3. To demonstrate economic benefit and improved industrial competitiveness by adopting and implementing VALUABLE (incl. external SMEs such as biomass owners-farmers)

- Development of a business opportunity assessment particularly for biomass owner's, biomass users and bio-based material end-users.
- Preparation of an exploitation strategy through the development of a roadmap covering IP, risk, business models and protection options for project results
- Development of a business plan covering: OPEX and CAPEX modelling as well as market analysis and feedstock sourcing.

4. To develop and transparently communicate the results and activities of VALUABLE and disseminate the key outputs in a clear and inclusive way to improve the understanding of all stakeholders (academia, industry, public and policy makers) and to evaluate the effectiveness of the activities using appropriate evaluation tools such as feedback questionnaires and surveys, google analytics and attendance at events.

Figure 2. "About" section

- **Publications:** in this area, public documents of the project will be shared and available to download.
- **News:** a segment for the latest news of the project, including events, publications, or achievements during the project.

Figure 3. "News" section

- **Stakeholders:** this segment of the website is a stakeholders repository where they can sign up, add their social networks and publications, and stay informed about the latest news and publications of other stakeholders. Moreover, there is a forum where they can stay in touch themselves.
- **Internal:** a private area for the partners of VALUABLE consortium, accessible with a password, that links to an internal repository with material and documents of the project.
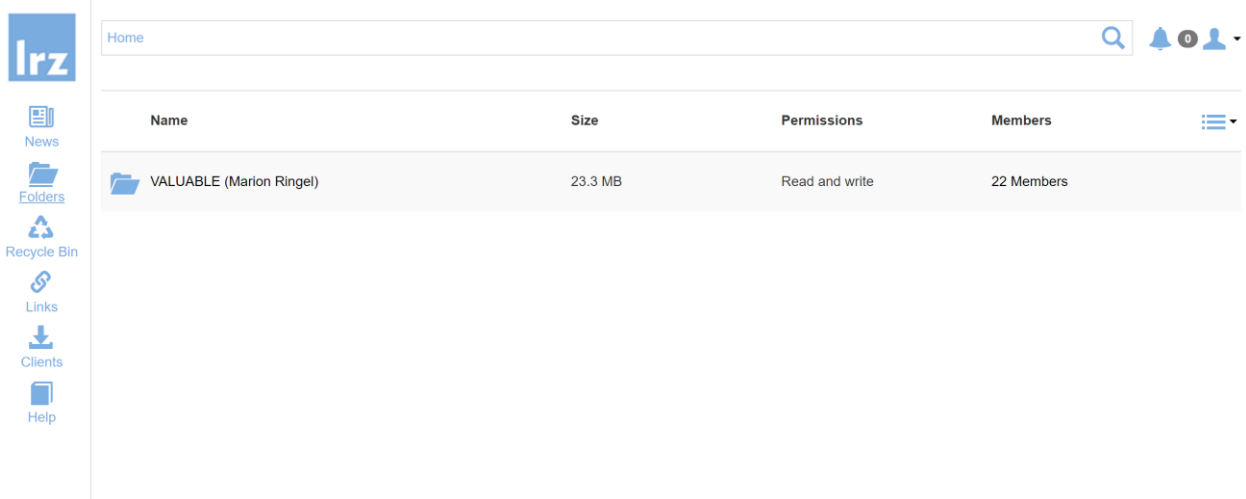

Figure 4. "Internal" section

- **Contact:** in this section, visitors can find the contact information of the project. The emails of both the coordinator and the communication manager, as well as the accounts of social media, are displayed. Visitors can also subscribe to the VALUABLE newsletter by inserting their email in the corresponding box.
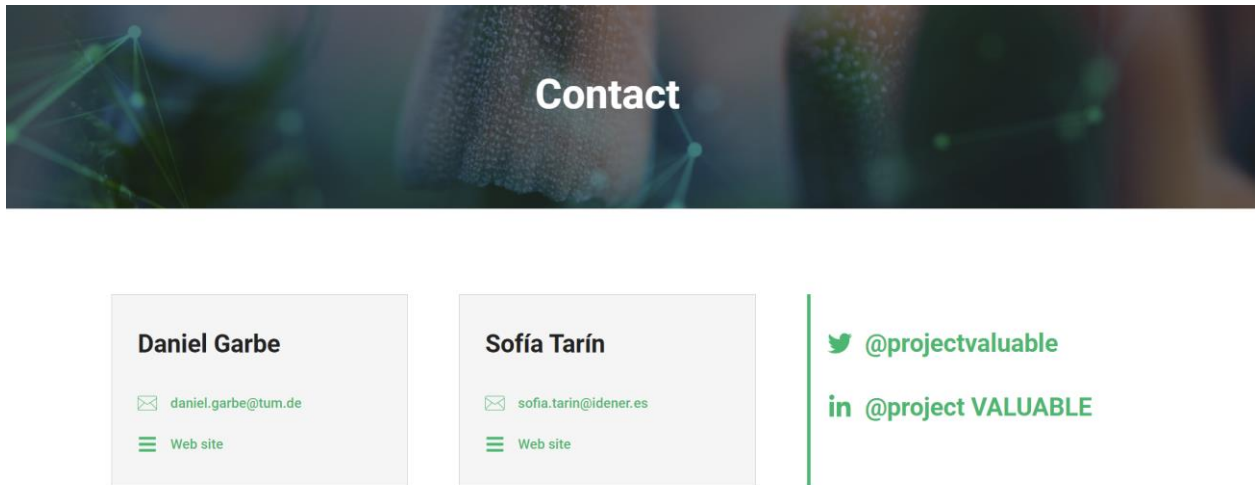

Figure 5. "Contact" section

3.   List of figures