

Press Release

CO2Fokus Project

March 2024

Conclusion of the CO2Fokus project

The CO2Fokus project has officially ended on the 31st December 2023.

The project has focused on the development of a new technology able to produce DME using industrial CO₂ as a raw material, through a single step project. DME (dimethyl ether) is a valuable gas extensively used in the chemical and energy sectors providing an alternative to fossil fuel derived feedstock.

The technology benefits are linked to several applications of DME as a value-added product within the chemical and energy sectors. Indeed, it can be used as a fuel in many processes where fossil fuels are commonly employed at present, such as the transport industry. This does not only reduce the industry's dependence on non-renewable resources, but the emissions derived from its combustion are less pollutant than classic fuel ones.

The project started in mid-2019 and consortium partners worked on the development of the several aspects of the technology through the difficult period of the COVID19 pandemic, which caused the delay of some steps, together with the impossibility to meet in person and to properly promote the project during international events.

Nevertheless, project partners has managed to reach all the necessary results to achieve the final goal:

- The Multi-tubular reactor with 3D printed monoliths has finally been delivered to the SOCAR plant in Turkey and is being integrated for testing. SOCAR is an oil and gas producing company, partner of the CO2Fokus project;
- Solid oxide electrolyser has been up and running again for 1000 hours of operation and is able to produce 3kg of H₂/day;
- The best catalyst formulation has been tested, manufactured and 3D printed

The final conference of the CO2Fokus project has been held in Turkey on the 5th December 2023, hosted by SOCAR, and has been followed the day after by a workshop open to the general public, where the project results have been discussed and other projects have been presented, allowing the sharing of experiences.