

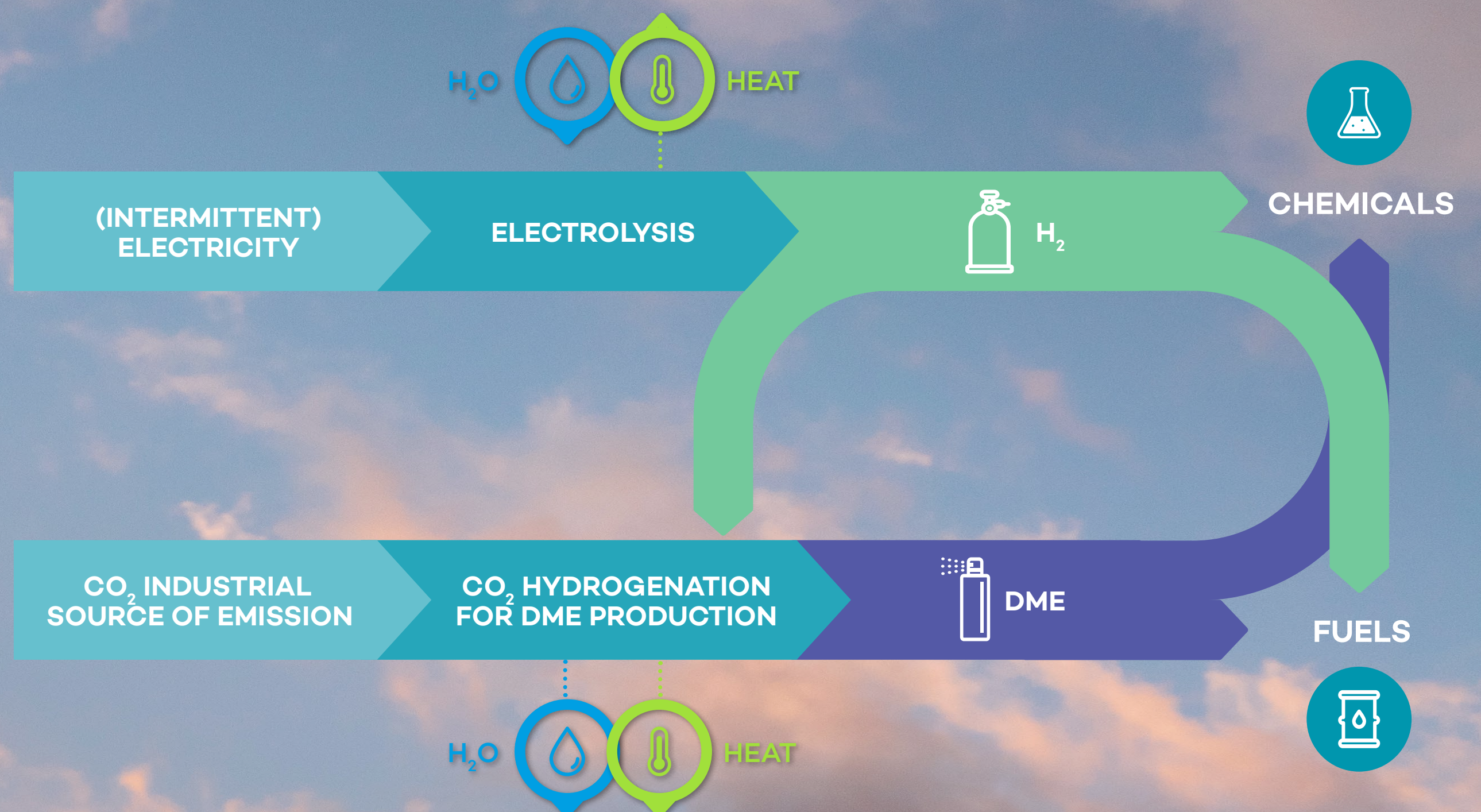
CO₂ utilisation focused on market relevant dimethyl ether production, via 3D printed reactor and solid oxide cell based technologies

Yoran De Vos - Vesna Middelkoop

CONCEPT

At present, DME is commercially produced through an indirect, two-step process involving the production of methanol and its subsequent dehydration.

This process is energy intensive and requires substantial capital and infrastructure investments. CO2Fokus will demonstrate the viability of a single-step process involving the direct and continuous synthesis of DME from industrial CO₂ and H₂ in a more efficient way.



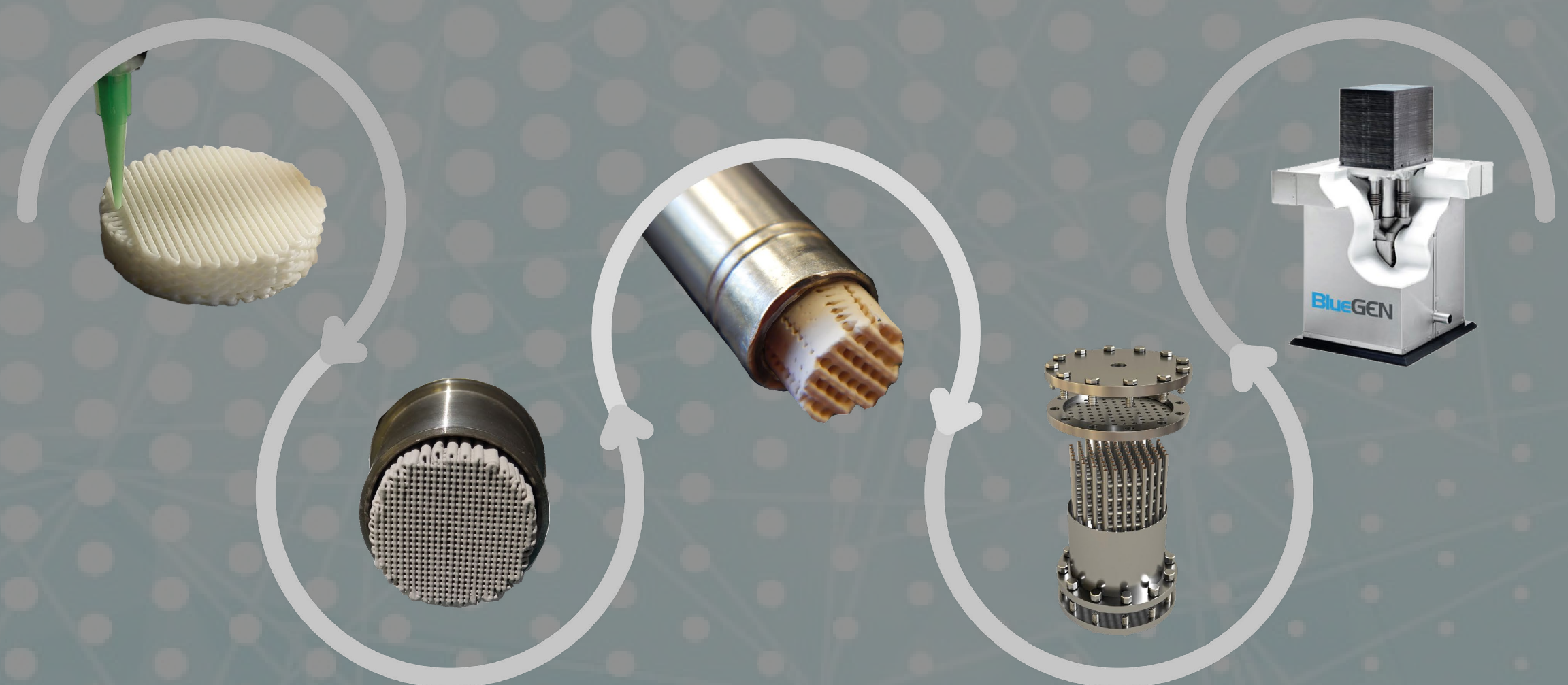
APPROACH

The project will develop cutting-edge technology able to directly convert industrial CO₂ into DME, a valuable gas extensively used in the chemical and energy sectors fostering an alternative to fossil fuel derived feedstock by:

Employing innovative 3D printed multichannel catalytic reactors with > 30 tubes, > 1500 N L/h CO₂/H₂ feed, > 30% CO₂ conversion

Optimising solid oxide electrolyser cells with a power consumption of ca. 3.5 kW in co-electrolysis mode and 50% conversion

Integrating and testing them in an industrial environment of large industrial CO₂ point sources



ADVANCE BEYOND STATE-OF-ART

- Effective controlled deposition of catalyst particles
- Due to their large surface to volume ratio and controlled macrostructure, millichannel reactors offer enhanced mass and heat transfer and 10-20% increase in reaction performance

TECHNICAL ACCEPTANCE ENABLERS

- Tackle potential technological and industries' concerns
- Provide technical guidelines for companies
- Tasks are put in place to provide analysis of environmental, financial and regulatory requirements

