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PRESS RELEASE

CO2FOKUS PROJECT

September 2019

The CO2Fokus project has officially started with the Kick-Off Meeting held in Mol (BE) on the 9th and 10th of July 2019.

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

Unlike conventional indirect synthesis (via methanol), CO2Fokus will employ selective direct conversion of CO2 and H2 to DME while significantly improving the yield and efficiency of the production route.
A multidisciplinary cross-sector approach will be taken to develop innovative reactor technology for DME production. This technology will be tested in an industrial environment with a CO2 point source at end-user partner Petkim's facilities to evaluate its integration and operation under process relevant conditions. CO2Fokus will create a scalable platform for promoting their disruptive technology to the market more effectively and facilitating the technology uptake and adoption across energy-intensive and carbon heavy industries.
The project is expected to play an important role in efforts aimed at tackling climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere, owing to the cost-effective utilisation of CO2.

In addition, the project 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 CO2Fokus project is part of the Horizon 2020 Programme; it will last 42 months with 12 partners from 8 different countries.