



THE HYBRID KICK-OFF MEETING

University of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Italy

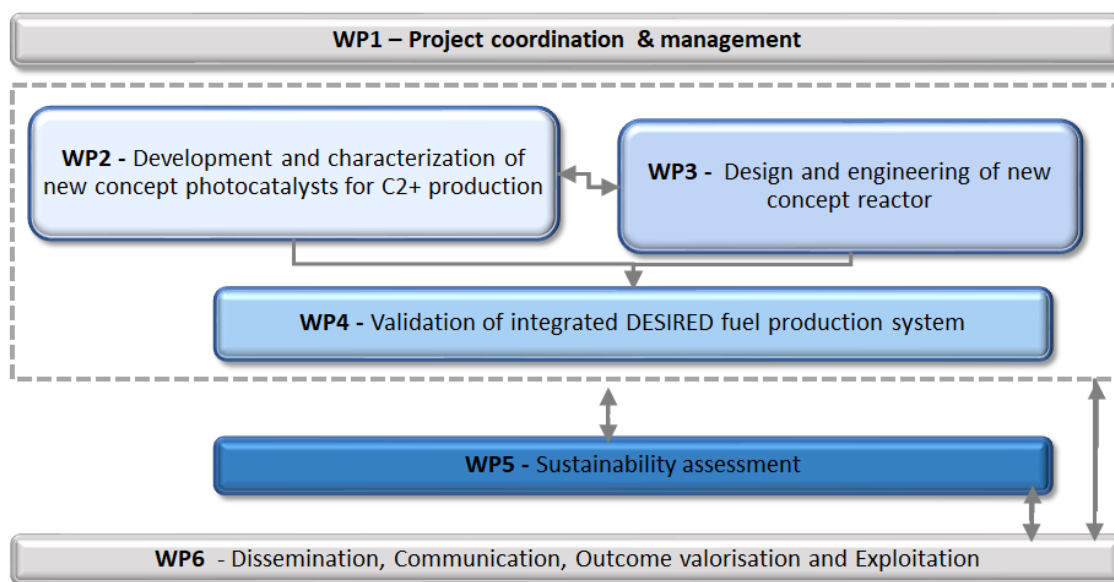
DESIRED: *Direct co-processing of CO₂ and water into sustainable multicarbon products in a novel photocatalytic reactor* is a project funded by the highly prestigious **Horizon Europe Programme**. The project will be implemented within four years by 7 experienced academic and industry partners, from 6 European Member States. The major purpose laying behind the DESIRED is harnessing interdisciplinary approaches for research and innovation undertaken by a consortium complemented by cross-cutting activities to establish breakthrough renewable solar fuels (SF) technology. The DESIRED project will promote impactful dissemination, communication, capacity-building and exploitation activities supporting the exchange of knowledge across and beyond the consortium and project.

The Kick-Off Meeting (KOM) of the DESIRED project took place in Bari, Italy, on the 9th and 10th of November 2022. The first General Assembly was organized by the Project Coordinator, Professor Angela Dibenedetto, who welcomed all participants and introduced the project. In addition, words of congratulations and encouragement came from Rector Delegated for Research and Innovation and Director of the Department of Chemistry of the University of Bari. The project partners introduced themselves and explained in detail their roles and responsibilities in the project. The meeting was dedicated to an overview of the project's implementation plan and the best route forward to achieve a successful interdisciplinary research project.

The first day of the meeting was dedicated to the election of the President of the Assembly and Coordinators of Actions while the floor was given to the Project Officer, Mr. Michal Rekowski from CINEA who focused his presentation on financial and administrative aspects of the project. The President of the Assembly has been elected to preside the General Assembly being an ultimate decision-making body of the consortium. His role is to advise and assist Project Coordinator on the tasks related to the project as well as overseeing the overall project's details. Any action taken within each Work Package (WP) of the DESIRED project will be managed by selected Coordinator of Action to ensure the

performance and progress of subsets with regard to overall work plan. Above-mentioned roles will streamline the project implementation process.

During the second day of the KOM, particular attention has been given to each respective building block of the DESIRED project. The overall work in the project is organized into six complementary WPs corresponding to the DESIRED tasks and objectives. The **WP1** is dedicated to the administrative and financial management. All activities taken within this WP will ensure financial, scientific & technical coordination, project planning and evaluation of the DESIRED progress. **WP2** and **WP3** provide technical foundations. They specifically focus on design and development of the DESIRED technologies for new concept photocatalysts and reactor engineering. The **WP4-5** are dedicated to validation of the DESIRED fuel production system at a laboratory scale and to perform an ILCSA (*Integrated Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment*). Work under **WP6** aims to provide supporting activities such as dissemination, communication, outcome valorization, exploitation, standardization and training. These will broaden and multiply the impact of the DESIRED project. The structure of the implementation plan of the DESIRED project is illustrated below.



The main objectives, expected results and steps necessary for the successful project completion were the subjects of discussion during each WP presentation. In addition, partners took into account the requirements and necessary steps for upcoming deliverables due in months 6 and 12.

Consortium Members



Seven partners from the scientific and industrial sector participated in the KOM organized by **Interuniversity Consortium on Chemical Reactivity and Catalysis (CIRCC; Italy)**, including **Institute for sustainable Technologies (AEE; Austria)**, **Charles University (CU; Czech Republic)**, **EBOS Technologies LTD (eBOS; Cyprus)**, **IMDEA Energy Institute (IME; Spain)**, **Innovative Catalysis for Carbon Recycling and Biopolymers (IC2R; Italy)**, **University of Warsaw (UW; Poland)**.



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More information about the project can be obtained from the project website and social media networks:



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