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ZEOCAT – 3D: OVERVIEW AND MAIN GOALS

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Basic project data

Title	Development of a bifunctional hierarchically structured zeolite based nano-catalyst using 3D-technology for direct conversion of methane into aromatic hydrocarbons via methane dehydroaromatization
Acronym	ZEOCAT-3D
Grant Agreement number	814548
Coordinator	OPTIMIZACION ORIENTADA A LA SOSTENIBILIDAD SL (IDENER)
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End date	30th of September 2022
Overall Budget	€6,764,020
Eu Contribution	€6,764,020
Call	H2020-NMBP-ST-IND-2018
Topic	CE-NMBP-24-2018 - Catalytic transformation of hydrocarbons (RIA)

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The context







Aromatics are esential for some of the most extensive petrochemical products



Their utilization is associated with severe environmental consequences (aquatic species destruction, global warming,..)



Current production methods are cosidered usustainable

The context





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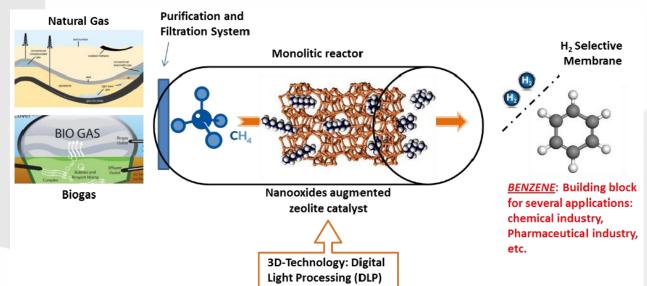
Current production methods are cosidered usustainable

The ZEOCAT-3D project proposes an alternative, which consists of obtaining these high-value chemicals (benzene, naphthalene, among others) from methane from sources like biogas and natural gas through an improved catalytic process called methane dehydroaromatization (MDA).





The goal of the project ZEOCAT-3D is the development of a new bi-functional (two types of active centers) structured catalysts, achieving for the first time a tetramodal pore size distribution (micro-, meso1-, meso2-, macro-porous) and high dispersion of metal active sites for the conversion of methane, coming from different sources as natural gas and biogas, into high value chemicals such as aromatics (benzene, naphthalene, among others) via methane dehydroaromatization (MDA).







Development and production of an improved catalyst



Design, construction and validation of a catalytic reactor



Rational design of catalyst / Multiscale modelling





Development and production of an improved catalyst



Design, construction and validation of a catalytic reactor



- ✓ Improved methane conversion (>50%)
- ✓ Increased selectivity towards benzene (>90%)
- ✓ Enhanced performance (7 times less deactivation)
- ✓ Higher yield rates (up to 80%)



Rational design of catalyst / Multiscale modelling



Challenges and solutions



Challenges and solutions

Challenges of the MDA process

Difficult activation of the C-H bond of CH4 molecule, high reactivity of the products compared to methane, and acid sites of zeolites are occupied by coke deposition.

Problems to solve

The main drawbacks associated the process are low methane conversion, low selectivity towards the desired products and the quick deactivation due to carbon deposition onto the catalyst.

The solution

These problems will be overcome by the use of hierarchical zeolites structures synthesized by 3D-printing and loaded with doped molybdenum nanooxides.

Challenges and solutions (Key elements)



Catalyst

Development and production of improved catalyst, a 3D hierarchical structure with bi-functional activity (two types of active centers).

Reactor

Design, construction and validation of catalytic reactor, with improved productivity for direct methane MDA into aromatics.

Modelling

Rational design of catalyst/multi-scale modelling, for achieving multimodal pore size distribution (micro-, meso1-, meso2-, macro-porous).

Feedstock

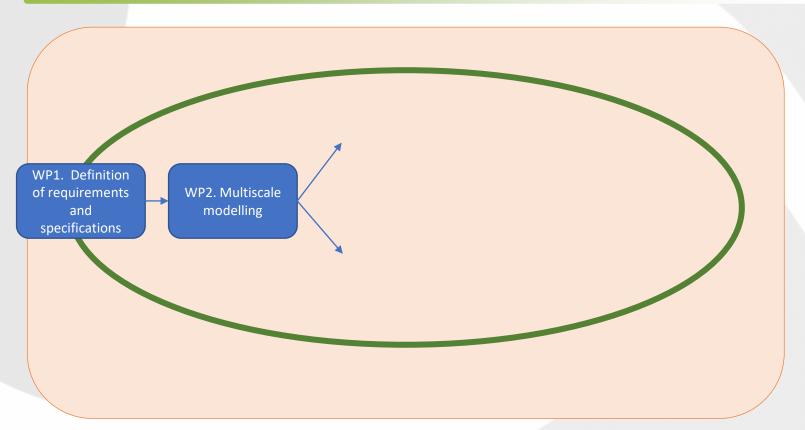
Optimization for different methane feedstock, which will bring enormous advantages for increasing the exploitation of natural gas and biogas.



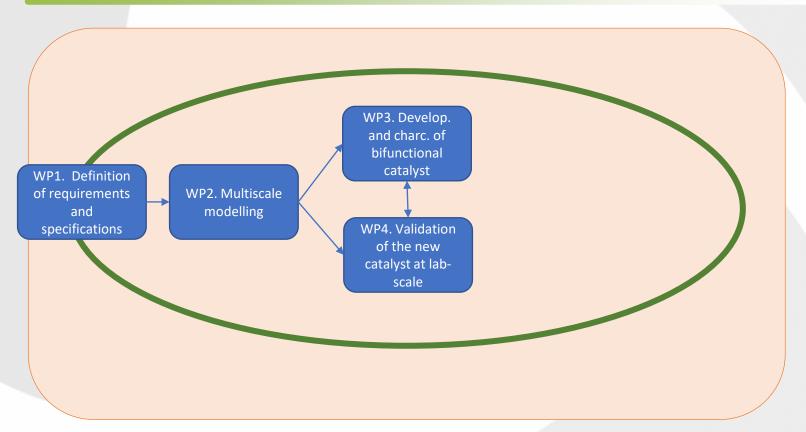




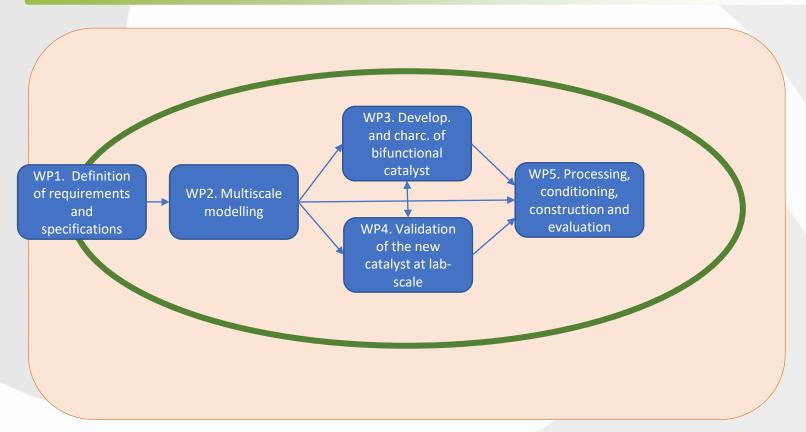




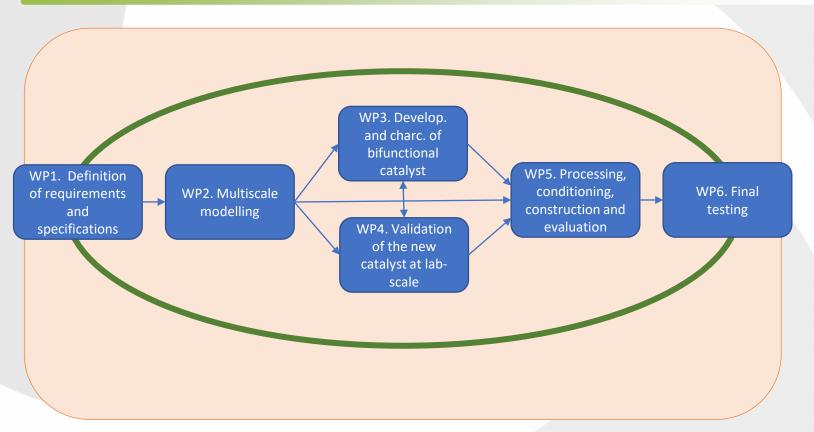




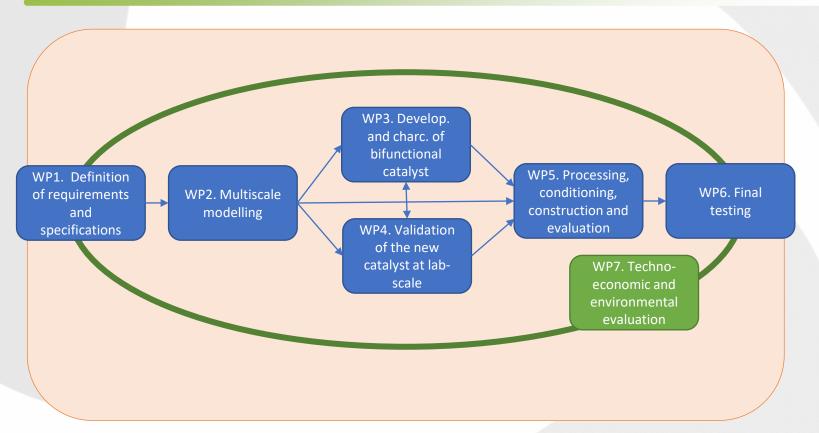




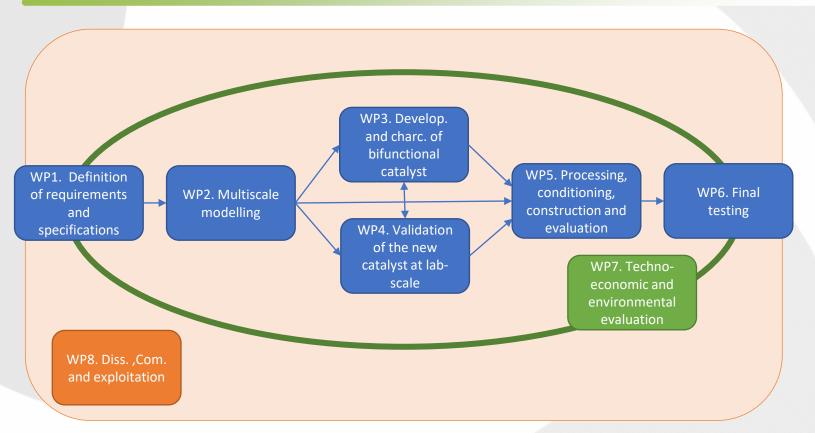




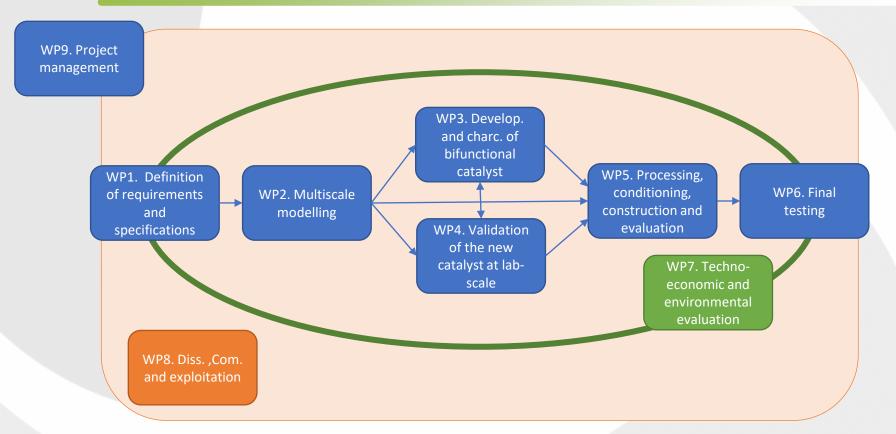














Partners

Partners









Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 2	4 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 3	6 37 38 39 40 41 42
WP1 M1-M6			
WP2: Multi-scale modelling M1-	M34		
WP3: Development an	d characterization of bifunctional cata	lyst M5-M33	
	WP4: Validation of new catalyst	at lab-scale M13-M36	
WP5: Processing and co	onditioning M5-M38		
		WP6: Final testing M27	7-M40
	WP7: Techno-economic and en	vironmental evaluation and risk assessn	nent M12-M42
WP8: Dissemination, communication a	and exploitation M1-M42		
WP9: Project management M1-F	M42		
WP10: Ethics requirements	M1-M42		



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24 / 55 Deliverables submitted	(18 accepted by the	italyst at	ab-scale M13-M36	
Commission) rocessing and condition	oning M5-M38			
			WP6: Final testing	M27-M40
First milestone planned for M29		nd enviro	nmental evaluation and risk as	sessment M12-M42
First milestone planned for M28 WP8: Dissemination, communication and ex		-M42		
WP9: Project management M1-M42				
WP10: Ethics requirements	M1-M42			

Thank you



Any questions?

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