



Development of new methodologieS for InDustrial CO₂-freE steel pRoduction by electroWINning

ΣIDERWIN: A breakthrough technology to decarbonize primary steel production through direct electrification

Webinar November 24th 2021

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 768788







Development of new methodologieS for InDustrial CO₂-freE steel pRoduction by electroWINning

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

José Ignacio Barbero - TECNALIA Webinar November 24th 2021

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 768788



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Welcome

AGENDA

Торіс	Speaker
Welcome and introduction to SIDERWIN project	José Ignacio Barbero (TECNALIA)
The Greening of Steel? Net-Zero Steelmaking for the EU Green Deal: ΣIDERWIN	Jean-Pierre Birat (IF Steelman)
Is electrodecomposition of iron oxide a feasible reaction?	Sevasti Koutsoupa (NTUA)
Is the electrolysis of primary production scalable and industrialisable?	Cédric Flandre (John Cockerill) Thierry Conte (CFD-Numerics)
How decarbonizing primary steel production through electrolysis could play a role in the European power system?	Matthildi Apostolou (EDF) Caroline Bono (EDF)
Does SIDERWIN contribute genuinely to deep decarbonisation?	Anna Kounina (QUANTIS)
Final conclusions	Hervé Lavelaine (ArcelorMittal)



Introduction

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Development of new methodologieS for InDustrial CO₂-freE steel pRoduction by electroWINning

Develop a **breakthrough innovation** compared to the actual steel production process bringing together steel making with **electrochemical process**.

The electrolysis process using **renewable energies** will transform any iron oxide, including those inside the by-products **from other metallurgies**, into steel plate with a **significant reduction of energy use**.



INTRODUCTION



Thank you

for your participation at this Webinar



The Greening of Steel? Net-Zero Steelmaking for the EU Green Deal: **SIDERWIN**

Jean-Pierre Birat – IF Steelman Webinar November 24th 2021

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Index

- Climate change and the EU Green Deal.
- Net-zero pathways (routes) for steel production.
- Two routes focus on electricity: H₂ direct reduction and electrolysis.
- Today, the webinar is focused on electrolysis, the process called ULCOWIN and then ΣIDERWIN.

Climate Change & the EU Green Deal



Net-Zero Pathways (Routes) for Steel Production

Net-Zero Pathways for Steel Production

- Only the reduction part of the Integrated Mill (IM) has addressed Net-Zero "properly".
 - Keep using carbon (coke) and capture CO₂ (CCUS).
 - Blast Furnace with CCUS (top-gas recycling or ULCOS BF, ordinary BF, top-gas recycling BF with plasma at tuyeres).
 - Smelting reduction (HISARNA).
 - Use green H₂ produced by electrolysis of water from green electricity... or NG with CCUS.
 - H₂-reduction is VERY popular these days (hype!!).
 - Use electricity directly to make iron (electrolysis).
 - Use biomass-based carbon, e.g., charcoal or biogas, or...
- The downstream part of the IM still has to address Net-Zero "properly".
- EAF steelmill should reach (near) Net-Zero simply by using Green Electricity.

Two Routes Focus on Electricity: H₂ Direct Reduction and Electrolysis

Electrification is the best way to make REN easily available

IEA study of May 2021: a world scenario to reach 1.5 °C. In 2050:

- Energy demand 8% below today's (+ energy efficiency), GDP doubled, population + 2 G people.
- 2/3 of energy demand come from renewables (REN), i.e., wind, solar, bioenergy, geothermal and hydro. Solar becomes the largest part, increasing capacity 20 times compared to today. Wind increases capacity 11 times.
- Electricity accounts for 50% of energy use, i.e., a 2.5 times increase vs. today.
- 90% of electricity from RENs.

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- All cars are electric, either batteries or fuel-cells. All buildings are at least zero-energy.
- No-fossil fuels used for sea and air transport (synfuels, ammonia, hydrogen, biofuels).

Net Zero by 2050 A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector

lea

Today's program

The program of the webinar was designed by Hervé Lavelaine around some provocative questions:

- Can iron really be scavenged from iron oxide (iron ore) by using electricity, i.e., by electrolysis?
- Can laboratory experiments on electrolysis of iron ore really be scaled up to industrial size?
- What role will the demand from electricity by electrolysis steelmills have with the electrical grid and the whole power system?
- Will ΣIDERWIN truly contribute to Net-Zero?



Thank you

for your attention





Development of new methodologieS for InDustrial CO₂-freE steel pRoduction by electroWINning

Is electrodecomposition of iron oxide a feasible reaction?

Sevasti Koutsoupa-NTUA Webinar November 24th 2021

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Contents

- The theory of iron oxides electrodecomposition.
- The proof of concept.
- Case of alternative raw materials.

What is electrodecompotition?

Decomposition is a type of **chemical reaction** when an **electric current** is passed through the aqueous solution of a compound.



But is this reaction feasible?



Theoretical background



Concerning the Pourbaix diagram* iron oxide reduction is **feasible** under both **acid and alkaline** conditions.

*Pourbaix diagram is **a plot of the equilibrium potential of electrochemical reactions against pH**. It shows how corrosion mechanisms can be examined as a function of factors such as pH, temperature and the concentrations of reacting species.

Advantage of alkaline system;

Avoid the multivalences of iron oxides, only **Fe²⁺** is observed.

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The idea



ΣIDERWIN research program used that knowledge and combined:

- 1. Alkaline water electrolysis know-how.
- 2. Conventional electrowinning of metals.

Production of iron through alkaline electrolysis.



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But what is really happening inside the ΣIDERWIN cell?

Overall reactions: Cathode $Fe_2O_3 + 3H_2O + 6e^- \rightarrow 2Fe + 6 OH^-$ Anode $4 OH^- \rightarrow O_2 + 2H_2O + 4e^-$

 Fe_2O_3 in alkaline media shows poor dissolution at around 2×10^{-3} M in 18 M NaOH at 100 °C.

Not a typical electrodeposition process.



Kanji Ishikawa, Toshiaki Yoshioka, Tsugio Sato, Akitsugu Okuwaki, Solubility of hematite in LiOH, NaOH and KOH solutions, Hydrometallurgy 45 (1997) 129-135.

Mechanism of the cathodic reaction of hematite



The proof of concept

$\frac{1}{2}Fe_2O_3 \rightarrow Fe + \frac{3}{4}O_2$

- Low temperature electrolysis: 110 °C.
- Conductive aqueous alkaline electrolyte medium
 50 wt% NaOH H₂O.
- Electrolysis is applied to 10 µm hematite solid particles rather than dissolved ions.

Laboratory set-up and reduced pellet at NTNU of electrolysis cell, Norway.



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SEM image of iron deposit of UOA, Portugal.



- High reaction rate with current density 1000 A·m⁻².
- Anodic gaseous O₂ production.
- Non-consumable anode.
- Cathodic Iron grown as solid state deposit.
- Non critical elements in electrode materials, Ni anodes.

Case of alternative raw material; BR

- ΣIDERWIN process has tested the alumina by-product known as Bauxite Residue.
- Bauxite Residue contains ≈40% iron oxides but the impurities it contains affect the iron oxide mechanism.





YouTube video: ΣIDERWIN Electrochemical recovery of metallic iron from bauxite residue in aqueous alkaline solution.



Case of alternative raw material; BR



The case of **pure raw material (Hematite)** results in a **91.8% current efficiency** and NTUA experiments with **BR** resulted to **70% current efficiency but at lower current densities than hematite.**



SEM analysis of deposited electrode-Hematite

(10% w/w Hematite, 50% w/w NaOH, 24 h electrolysis, 138 A/m², 110 °C)





SEM analysis of deposited electrode-BR

(10% w/w Bauxite Residue, 50% w/w NaOH, 24 h electrolysis, 138 A/m², 110 °C)





Case of alternative raw material; BR

BR's mechanism may differ from pure iron oxide due to the non-homogeneous distribution of electroactive species.



Cathode before and after of BR's electrolysis.





Case of alternative raw material; scales from steel industry

Mill scale is formed on the outer surfaces of plates, sheets or profiles when they are being produced by rolling red hot iron or steel billets in rolling mills. Contains **Hematite, Magnetite, Wustite and metallic iron**.



Production= 10000tn/year in Greece



Current density (A/m²)	Efficiency (%)
138	91.88
388	97.13



Summary

- The electrowinning of ΣIDERWIN process is considered as a solid-state electrolysis at high alkaline solutions.
- The alternative raw material study is under investigation with different materials to compete as a possible feed for the electrolytic process; even though the mechanism seems to differ. The by-products use of other metallurgies could offer to the ΣIDERWIN process an extra role; the exploitation of "wastes".

Summary

So, the **electrodecomposition of iron oxide** in alkaline enviroment and low temperature is a **feasible reaction in lab-scale** which is characterized of:

- High current density (1100 A/m²)
- High faradaic efficiency (91.4%)
- Low temperature (110 °C)
- Low voltage (1.6 V)
- > High energy efficiency (3.6 MWh \cdot t⁻¹_{Fe})
- > Explore the possibility of alternative raw materials use.

These features lead this technique to industrial scalability.

Thank you

for your attention

Questions?


Is the electrolysis of primary steel production scalable and industrialisable?

Cédric Flandre (John Cockerill) Thierry Conte (CFD Numerics) Webinar November 24th 2021

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Upscaling & TRL

Technology evolution

INDUSTRIAL PLANT Maturity – Several rollouts TRL-9 Industrial pilot TRL-8 plant "flight qualified" Industrial pilot plant in operation TRL-7 Prototype TRL-6 demonstrated in relevant environment ULCOWIN Laboratory setup Components TRL-5 validated in relevant environment Components TRL-4 validated in laboratory Analytical and experimental proof-of TRL-3 -concept Technology concept/ application formulated TRL-2 **Basic principles** TRL-1 reported ΣIDERWIN IDEA Siderwin Webinar 24/11/2021

From a pen size cell to a large cell



CFD simulations for the optimal cell

Overview

- Main challenge: find the right cell design to remove the large amount of oxygen bubbles generated by the electrolysis process.
 - Potential major issue: to get oxygen accumulation in the cell leading to a drastic loss of efficiency.
- Cell design: defined using CFD simulations.
 - CFD for Computational Fluid Dynamics.
 - Two-phase flows modelling in the cell to understand, analyse and optimize investigated designs.
- 1st step: the CFD model has been developed and validated.
 - Objective: to establish a relevant methodology to calculate two-phase flows (electrolyte and oxygen bubbles).
- 2nd step: CFD Models have been applied to design the cell and particularly define:
 - Cell angle to enhance the ability to drive bubbles out of the cell;
 - Anode design and implantation;
 - Degassing device to ensure a proper and smooth removal of generated oxygen bubbles;
 - Inlet distributor and outlet collector designs to reduce pressure drop and ensure a good flow uniformity;
 - Pump specification.

Oxygen bubbles management

Conventional electrowinning design is not applicable for Σiderwin cell design.

Large inter electrodes gap for bubbles and diaphragm.

Electrode extension limited by bubble screening.



- Regarding the large amount of gas in the cell, an innovative design of the cell has to be defined to perform an efficient electrolysis process.
- The main challenges that need to be addressed:
 - 1) Define a cell design that allows a very short distance between anode and cathode to optimize the electrolysis efficiency.
 - 2) Deal with electrolyte and bubbles counterflows.
 - 3) Avoid bubbles accumulation in the cell especially close to the cathode and close to the anode (screening effect).
 - 4) Take advantage of the gas-lift effect (bubble motion gives momentum to the electrolyte that could be used).
 - 5) Perform an efficient gas / electrolyte separation to "send back" a pure electrolyte to the cell.

CFD models





Designed Installation

CFD models

As manufactured

Flow phenomena

• Objective: define the most efficient design to drive bubbles out of the cells and drive back the entrained electrolyte to the main flow with an efficient separation.



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Objectives of CFD simulations

Design the optimal separation device \Rightarrow to ensure a proper gas/electrolyte separation.

Determine the optimal design for the anode \Rightarrow to avoid bubbles accumulation.

 \Rightarrow Reduce the pressure drop through the cell (efficiency loss).

Design the best shape for electrolyte inlet \Rightarrow to ensure a uniform flow entering the anode space.

Determine the optimal cell angle \Rightarrow to control the buoyancy force and gas lift effect.

Main achievements by CFD (1)



Main achievements by CFD (2)



Oxygen Concentration (m³/m³)



Industrialization

$\Sigma IDERWIN - TRL6$

• Design of an industrial pilot – Taking into account return of experience on previous projects / equipment.



$\Sigma IDERWIN - TRL6$

- Upscaling factor **x30**.
- Fully automated.
- High level of **instrumentation**.
- **Industrial** integration:
 - Continuous iron ore supply.
 - Gas collection.
 - Iron plate harvesting system.
 - Vertical extension for low footprint.
 - ➡ Allowing to reach TRL5.



$\Sigma IDERWIN - TRL6$

- Electrification of primary steel production.
 - Flexibility toward energy input.
 - Emphasis on interruptibility.
 - Participation in demand side response (DSR).
- Possibility to enlarge iron oxide sources.
 - Alternative iron oxide sources (Fe-Ni slag).
 - Processing of residues from aluminium route (Bauxite Residues).
 - Fully electrified primary production, no reliance on fossil fuels.
- Radical improvement in **energy efficiency** compared to BF route, 31%, thanks to electricity.

Conclusion

<u> Σ iderwin pilot</u> \rightarrow **Demonstrator** \rightarrow Upscaling feasibility & Technology industrial relevance

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Questions?



How decarbonizing primary steel production through electrolysis could play a role in the European power system?



Matthildi Apostolou & Caroline Bono - EDF R&D Webinar November 24th 2021

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Key idea / Challenge

Analysis of the impact of a ΣIDERWIN industrial development in the future European electricity system (time horizon 2050).

In terms of:

Energy consumption.

Costs and benefits for the power system.

Flexibility potential.

 \mathbb{Z}

CO2 >

Carbon emissions reduction.



Layout and step-by-step approach



edf

Adapting the power system model to meet additional Σ IDERWIN demand (1/3)

Additional demand of approx **471 TWh per year in 2050** (+ 12% in average of EU electricity consumption)

Adaptation of the 2050 electricity mix for each European country (different scenarios).





Evolution of the generation mix in Europe.

Adapting the power system model to meet additional Σ IDERWIN demand (2/3)



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Adapting the power system model to meet additional **SIDERWIN** demand (3/3)



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Impact on the thermal park

Thermal production ranging from -4% for the nuclear variant to +6% for the offshore variant

- Significant impact on the structure of the thermal capacities and generation: peak-load plants (OCGT*) largely disappear because they are replaced by ΣIDERWIN's DSR service.
- No negative impact on CO₂ emissions (gCO₂/kWh).



*Open Cycle Gas Turbines

edf

DSR: A real need for the power system...



Example of flexibility: solicitation of the different generation technologies to meet demand, during a week with very low wind and high demand – Germany, Offshore Dataset.

...that finds an economic place in the contribution to the supply-demand balance

- the full cost of the system is 10 to 15% higher compared to the initial dataset.
- the short-term marginal cost is almost unaffected.
- Savings mainly related to investment costs avoided: several B€/yr for the whole of Europe.

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Synthesis of results (1/2)

The deep decarbonisation of steel industry enabled by ΣIDERWIN is not jeopardized by the impact on power system.

- The European power system is able to meet the additional ΣIDERWIN demand with carbon-free means.
 - Adaptation of the 2050 electricity mix for each European country in order to meet the additional demand yielded by ΣIDERWIN's development (471 TWh per year in 2050).
 - Different scenarios have been studied in accordance with decarbonisation objectives, renewable potentials and acceptability of technologies (e.g., nuclear phase out decision).
 - Production and demand in each country are balanced.
 - Available interconnections are used when balancing supply and demand.
- Despite a strong increase in electricity demand, the impact on CO₂ emissions of the European power system is very low (even positive in certain scenarios) and depends on the choice of technologies used to meet the additional demand of ΣIDERWIN.
- In all scenarios, the carbon intensity of electricity generation (g CO₂/kWh) decreases.
- The flexibility offered by ΣIDERWIN allows for additional CO₂ savings, by replacing a large part of the peaking OCGT* plants: direct savings in thermal generation but also savings due to OCGT* plants not built.

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Synthesis of results (2/2)

Flexibility offered by ΣIDERWIN: A real need for the power system that finds an economic place in the contribution to the supply-demand balance.

- ΣIDERWIN should offer a great flexibility capacity, of up to 39 GW in a European scale, with great responsiveness and without duration or repeatability constraints.
- This flexibility represents a real asset for the European Power System: it could contribute to the balance of the power system.
 - A replacement of peak-load means (OCGT*): 80% of generation.
 - A reduction in CO_2 emissions: 6 Mt of direct CO_2 emissions avoided.
 - Not included: gains related to indirect emissions (e.g., avoiding construction of OCGTs).
 - □ Financial gains (mainly related to investment costs avoided): several B€/yr for the whole of Europe.

Under the assumptions of the study.

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Thank you

for your attention

Questions?





Development of new methodologieS for InDustrial CO₂-freE steel pRoduction by electroWINning

Does ΣIDERWIN contribute genuinely to deep decarbonisation?

Anna KOUNINA - Quantis Webinar November 24th 2021



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Decarbonisation: a planetary journey engaging all sectors

The steel industry is a major contributor of the global GHG emissions



Source: WRI, 2016

A net-zero target in the EU for all sectors

Illustrative emissions pathways to achieve a net-zero target in the EU



Source: World Economic Forum, adapted from the SWP, 2020

- The EU Net 0 Roadmap targets a 30% reduction in 2030 compared to 2018, and being close to neutrality by 2050.
- The steel sector has its part to play, and can follow this reduction pathway with the proper policies and technologies (EUROFER, <u>A Green Deal on</u> <u>Steel</u>).
- The European Green Deal sets the objective of creating new markets for climate neutral and circular products, such as steel, cement and basic chemicals. (European Commission, <u>A New</u> <u>Industrial Strategy for Europe</u>).

Europe can lead the way to the steel sector's decarbonisation



 10% of steel is produced in Europe in 2020 – out of 1878 million tons worldwide.

 By developing innovative technologies to decarbonise its steel sector, Europe can inspire other steel-producing countries.

Source: Worldsteel, 2020

SIDERWIN: a decarbonisation option for the steel sector

Several pathways for decarbonizing the steel sector









\mathbf{V}

Electrolysis of Alkaline iron and smelting in electric arc furnace, or induction furnace (**ΣIDERWIN**).

Direct reduction of iron ore (DRI) with carbonneutral hydrogen produced from methane, and smelting in electric arc furnace.

k

HIsarna[®] process – reduction of ore and up to 50% scrap, combined with Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS).

\mathbf{V}

Carbon Capture and Use (CCU) of smelting gases from integrating blast-furnace works.
ΣIDERWIN's key innovations

ΣIDERWIN allows decarbonisation of steel production through the following innovations:

Electrolysis process to transform iron oxide into metal thus eliminating the Blast Furnace.

\mathbf{V}

Use of **induction furnace** instead of Electric Arc Furnace.

\mathbf{V}

Elimination of lime plant CO, emissions, lime and oxygen input by electrification of the regeneration of the alkaline leaching solution and elimination of the **Basic Oxygen Furnace** by introduction of desulphurised and dephosphorised iron ore.

\mathbf{V}

Elimination of hot rolling CO₂ emissions by **substitution of natural gas** with **induction heating**.

The potential of SIDERWIN in terms of steel decarbonisation



SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS **Direct emissions**

By electrifying steel production, the ΣIDERWIN technology could help reduce the <u>direct</u> emissions of the steel sectors.

SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS From purchased power

The ongoing decarbonisation of the electricity sector in Europe will drive the emissions of electrified steel production down.

SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS From the value chain

High carbon-footprint inputs such as lime will be reduced by the ΣIDERWIN technology, reducing the emissions caused by steel's upstream value chain.

Modelling the $\Sigma IDERWIN$ Technology

System boundaries: from raw materials extraction to factory gate.



Modelling the $\Sigma IDERWIN$ Technology

Data sources:







The decarbonisation potential of **SIDERWIN**

Presentation of Electricity Mix Scenarios



Several scenarios on Electricity mix were assessed to capture the potential of ΣIDERWIN:

\mathbf{V}	\checkmark	\mathbf{V}
2020*:	2050*:	2050 – only renewables:
an average electricity mix « as is » in Europe	the electricity mix in 2050 according to the EU Roadmap	a 100% renewable mix

*Calculations aligned with the <u>EU Reference scenarios 2016</u> report.

other fuels (hydrogen & methanol

Carbon footprint of SIDERWIN compared to the reference technology



- Switching from the reference technology to ΣIDERWIN could allow up to 80% reduction of footprint.
- For the reference technology, scope 1 emissions (direct emissions) represent 65% of the footprint.
- For the ΣIDERWIN routes, scope 2 emissions represents 68% of the footprint.
- With the 2050 electricity mix, this share falls to 53% and is negligible for the renewable mix.

Carbon footprint of SIDERWIN 2050 compared to the reference technology





The potential of SIDERWIN in terms of steel decarbonisation



UP TO 80% FOOTPRINT REDUCTION PER TON

Thanks to its innovations, the ΣIDERWIN technology could allow to reduce the footprint of steel by up to 80% per ton by 2050.

AN ASSET FOR THE EU STEEL ROADMAP

The SIDERWIN technology is thus a precious route for reducing the footprint of the steel sector and attaining its neutrality objective in 2050.

FINAL RESULTS TO COME

Further improvements of the route will be included in the final results Other indicators will be included.

Thank you

for your attention

Questions?



Conclusions

Hervé Lavelaine – Coordinator ArcelorMittal Webinar November 24th 2021

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SIDERWIN ambitions

- An electrochemical route specific to iron element properties.
 - Science is our methodology.
 - It has identified the most opportune route to electrify primary steel production.



Direct transformation of iron oxide into metal.

SIDERWIN ambitions

- A technology scalable to industrial size for mass production of Steel.
 - Technology designed to operate readily close to physical limits thanks to simulation.
 - Technological demonstration is our methodology.



Climbing the Technical Readiness Level scale.

Σ IDERWIN ambitions

- A processing route realising full energy and environmental efficiency.
 - Electrification for physical substitution to carbon.
 - Electrification for energy efficiency and process simplification.



Electrification of all the processing steps.

SIDERWIN ambitions

- A vision of future steel plants:
- 1. Decarbonisation imposes the reinvention of steel production.
- 2. Low impact activity, with lower landscape visibility, lower footprint and lower resource consumption.
- 3. An activity more tightly integrated in power grids, in material networks and in supply chain that contributes to the circularity of material flows.
- 4. An activity sensitive to energy priorities of its surrounding environment thus well adapted to European urban context.

ΣIDERWIN ambitions

• ΣIDERWIN project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 768788".



• "This study reflects only the author's views, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein"

Thank you for your attention