

New app launched to explain benefits of carbon dioxide

November 11 2016

A new app to explain how Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) can be used to make products, therefore lowering emissions, has been launched at COP22 in Marrakech today (Friday 11 November 2016).

The app, developed by an academic from the University of Sheffield with the CyclicCO₂R project, challenges users to make high-value [products](#) like fuels using CO₂.

Carbon dioxide utilization (CDU) uses waste CO₂ as a carbon feedstock in the production of a wide range of useful products. This provides a [sustainable method](#) of production, rather than producing chemicals from petrochemicals.

CO₂ can be used to produce polymers, fuels, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, building materials and many other products.

In the app, users can make products using different sources of CO₂, hydrogen and energy, switching between different EU countries to observe how their decisions affect CO₂ emissions and the amount of renewable energy that would be required.

As well as explaining how CO₂ can be useful instead of being perceived simply as waste and an environmentally harmful product, academics will use the app to research changes in public understanding of CO₂ utilisation technologies.

Katy Armstrong from the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Sheffield and CO2CHEM Network, said: "Carbon dioxide utilisation is a quickly growing, wide field of research, however few people understand what it is and why this is an important area in reducing [carbon emissions](#)."

"Hopefully, by playing the app, they will understand the benefits that utilising CO2 can bring and understand the economic factors that can affect our energy balance."

The app will be launched at the University of Sheffield's event with CO2CHEM and the UK Centre for Carbon Dioxide Utilisation (CCDUUK) at the United Nations Climate Change Conference: COP22 in Marrakech today (Friday 11 November 2016).

Provided by University of Sheffield

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