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# Geothermal and CCUS in Iceland

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# Mannvit is now COWI

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Mannvit, which has a long legacy in geothermal energy consulting, joined COWI in 2023.

Our services in geothermal energy consulting range from technical due diligence and project development to power plant design and operational consulting.

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**>60**  
years  
experience

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**>30**  
countries

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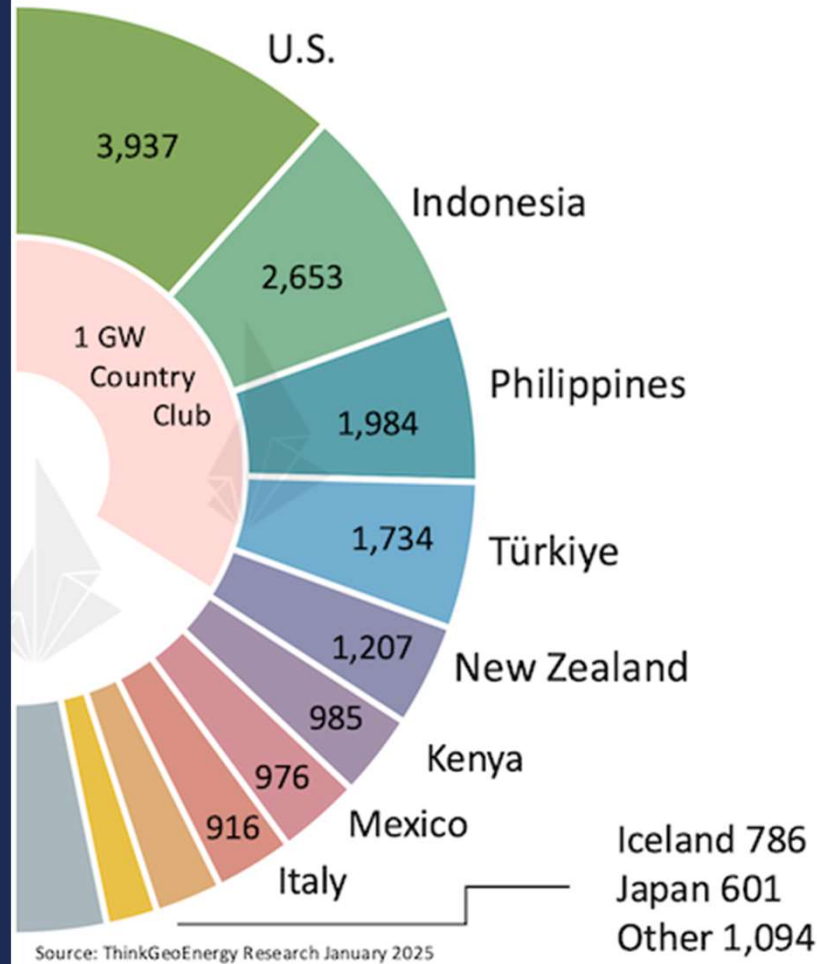
**>2000** MW  
in geothermal  
energy projects

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# Geothermal Energy

*A green baseload energy source*



## TOP 10 Geothermal Countries 2024

Installed Capacity January 2025

**Total 16,873 MW**



# Geothermal Power Plant Emissions

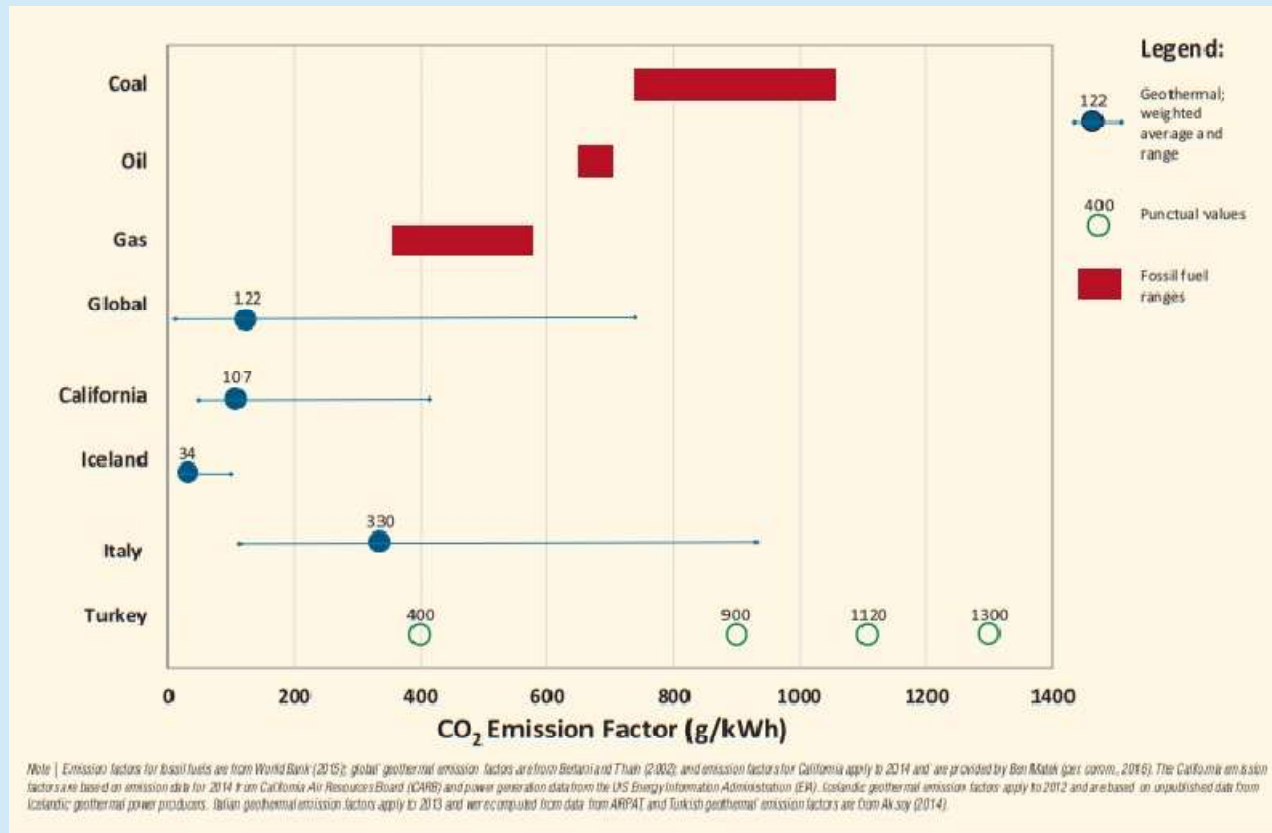
## Low emissions

Geothermal typically has lower emission than fossil fueled power plants, and no CO<sub>2</sub> created

## Site specific emissions

Non-condensable gases (NCGs) are mainly CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, and Ar

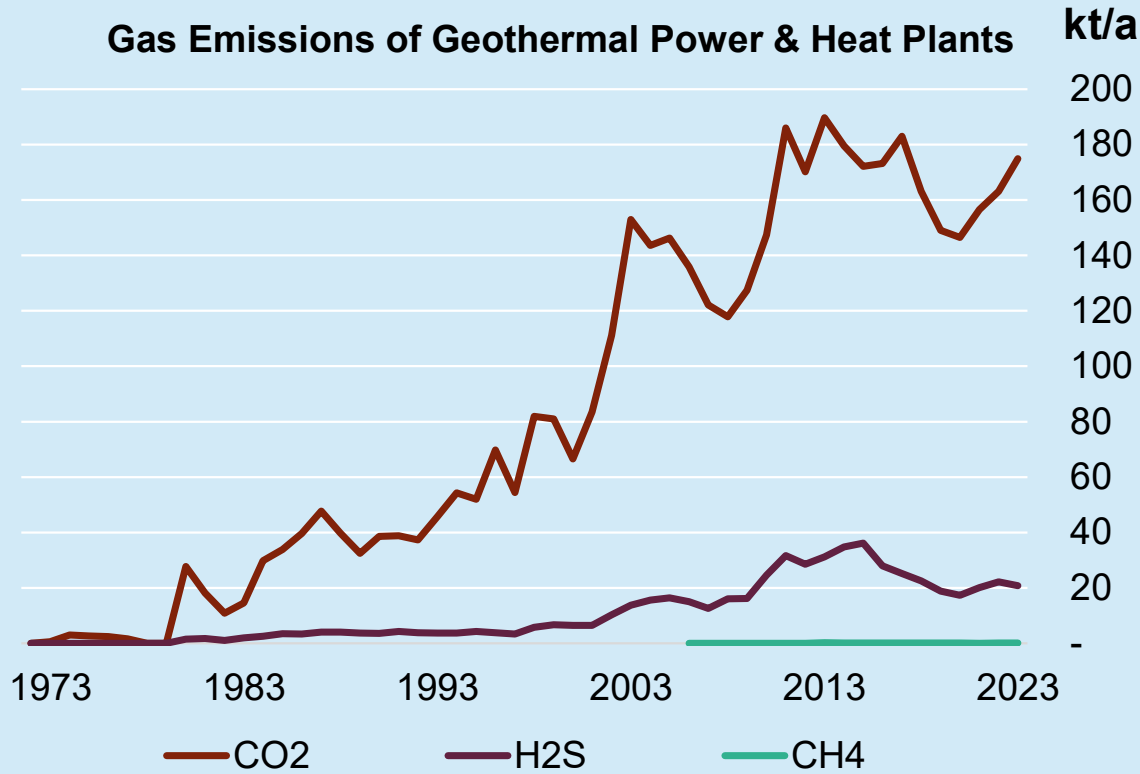
# Emission factors





# CO<sub>2</sub> emission in Iceland

Gas Emissions of Geothermal Power & Heat Plants



Orkustofnun Data Repository OS-2024-12



# Why implement abatement systems for geothermal emission?



Emissions and air quality regulations



Increased awareness and targets for decarbonization



High cost of CCS technology call for some sort of economical or regulatory incentive



# Geothermal & CCS in Iceland

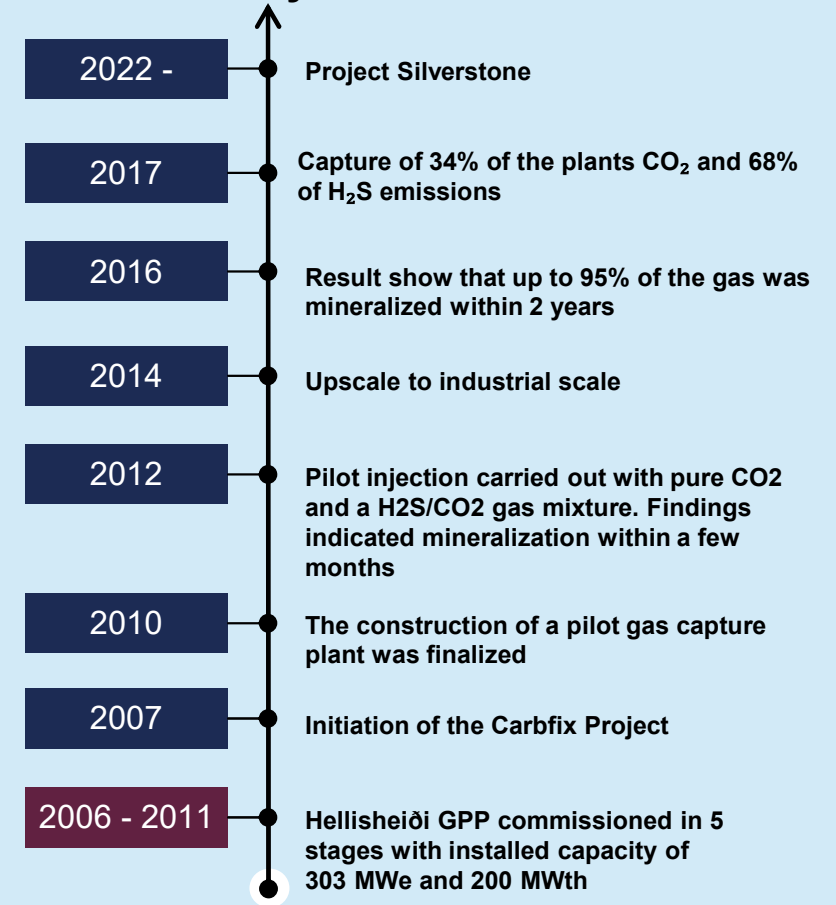
- CCS in Iceland started with the abatement system development in Hellisheiði GPP
- COWI has been involved from the beginning and designed several CCS processes in co-operation with Carbfix in Iceland
- **Water absorption**
  - Suitable when water is readily available
  - Low selectivity
  - Simple system



# Timeline

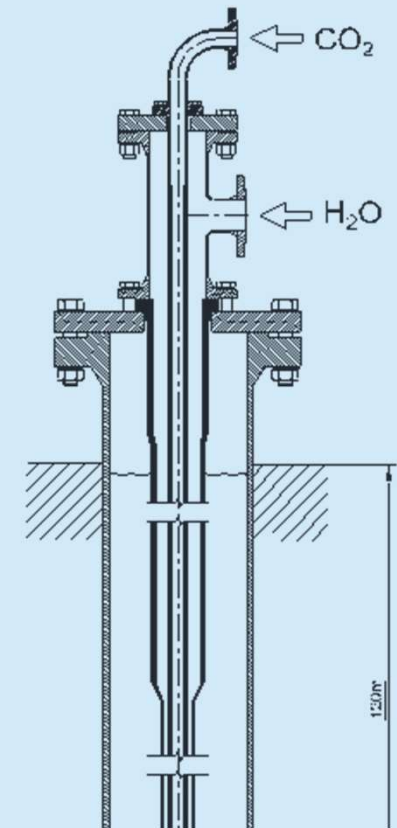
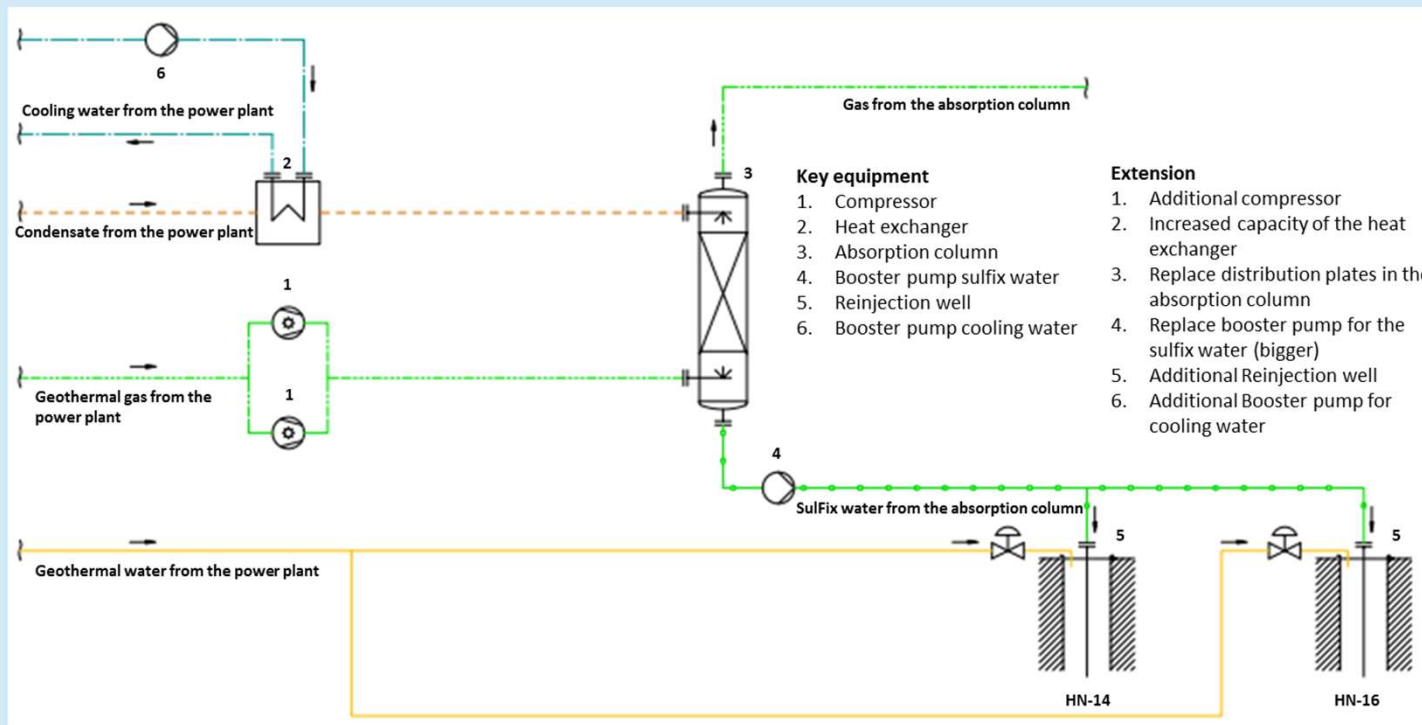


## Abatement system at Hellisheiði GPP



# Carbfix technology

Design of system with water scrubber and gas charged water injection



Design of system with separate injection and sparger to mix in well





# Silverstone, Hellisheiði GPP

EU-funded project to deploy full-scale CO<sub>2</sub> capture, injection, and mineral storage with the Carbfix technology

Detailed design of a new CO<sub>2</sub> capture plant in Hellisheiði GPP with CO<sub>2</sub> capture efficiency of 95% from the plant's current emissions.

Approximately 34,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> will be captured and stored annually.



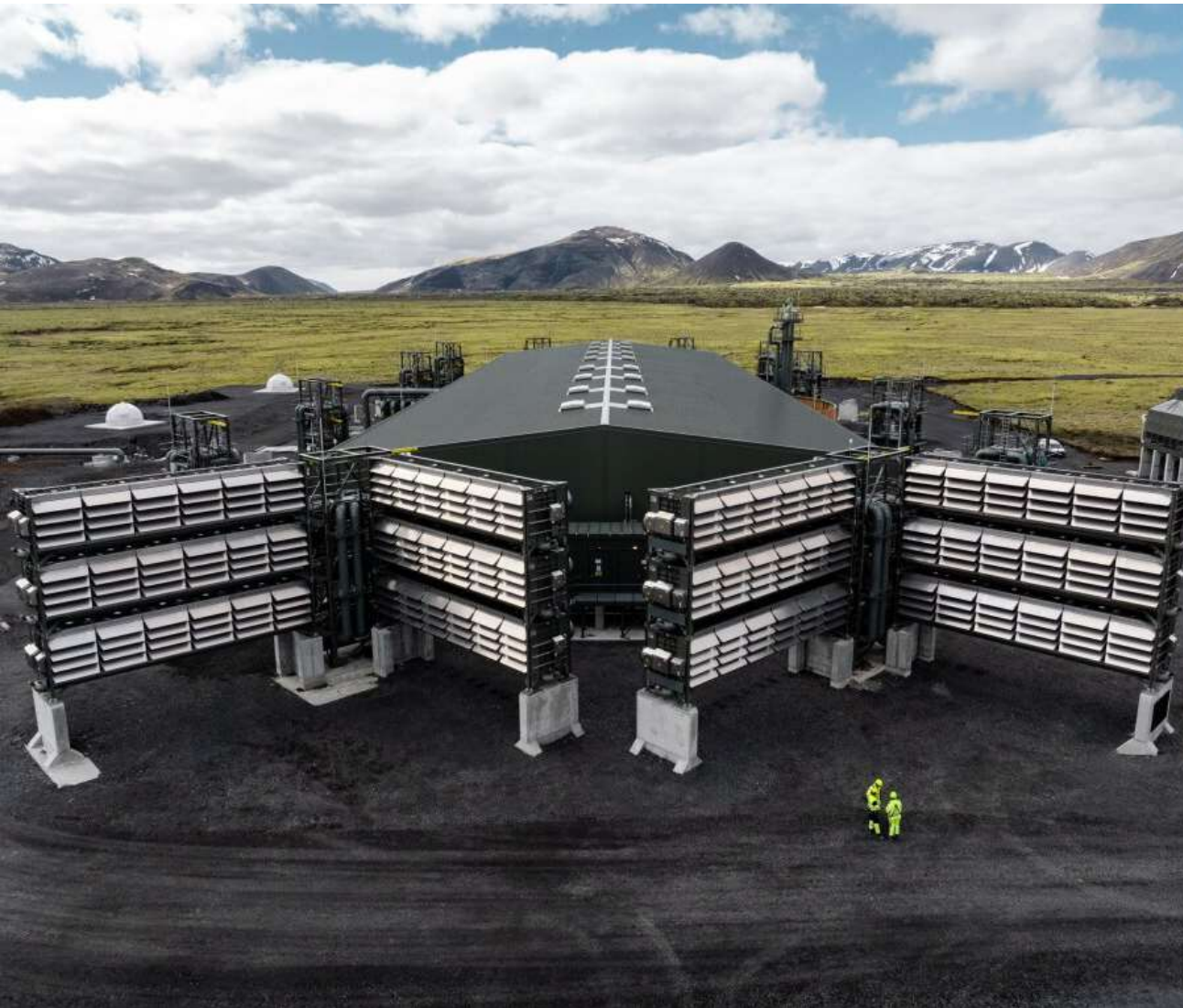
## Pilot plant in Nesjavellir GPP

Capture CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S from the geothermal gases and inject into bedrock, turning it into stone with the Carbfix technology.

Design of a pilot plant, absorption tower, well equipment and connections to the existing system in a power station.

The performance of the system is up to 500 kg/h of non-condensable gas (NCG).





# Direct Air Capture (DAC) Climeworks

CO<sub>2</sub> removal using Climeworks' direct air capture technology.

- › Phase 1 (Orca) captures 4.000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.
- › Phase 2 (Mammoth) captures 36.000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

# Geothermal & CCU in Iceland



## *Turning waste to value*

- **Carbon Recycling International** developed an Emissions-to-Liquid technology for converting CO<sub>2</sub> from Svartsengi GPP exhaust gas to e-methanol
  - The demonstration plant was operated from 2011-2015
- Algae nutrition and enhance growth
  - **Blue Lagoon**
  - **Vaxa Impact Nutrition**
- Other Power-to-X projects are in planning

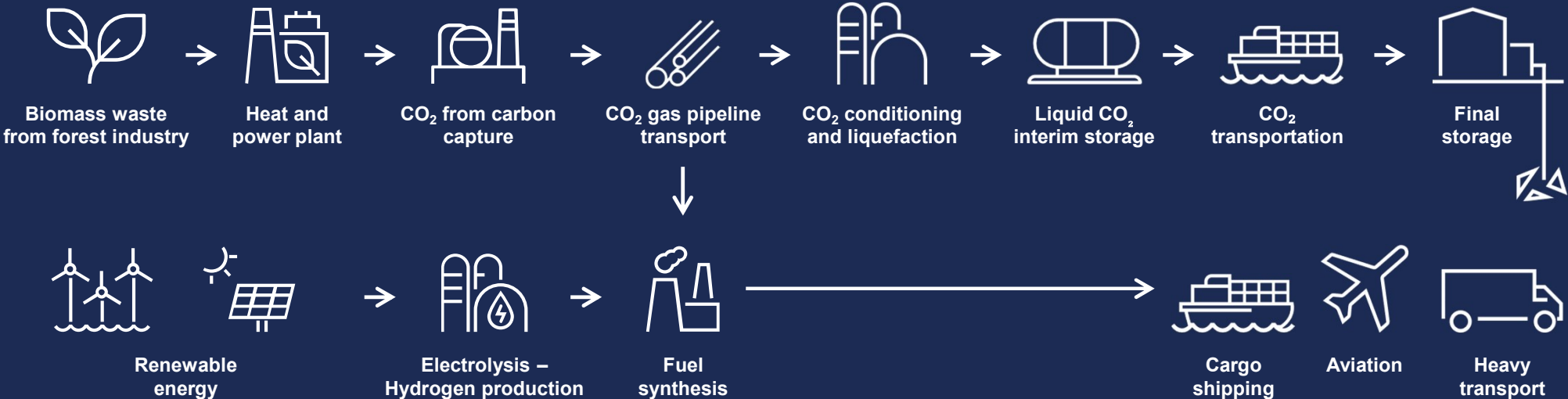


# Co-benefits of using geothermal sources for PtX

- The **stable power** generated by geothermal energy is advantageous as it ensures a high capacity factor
- **Direct use** of geothermal heat sources e.g. heat supply for SOEC
- The non-condensable geothermal exhaust gas might already contain **H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **Oxygen as a by-product** from electrolysers is saturated with water vapour and difficult to liquify. It can however be used for various processes related to geothermal e.g. fish farming



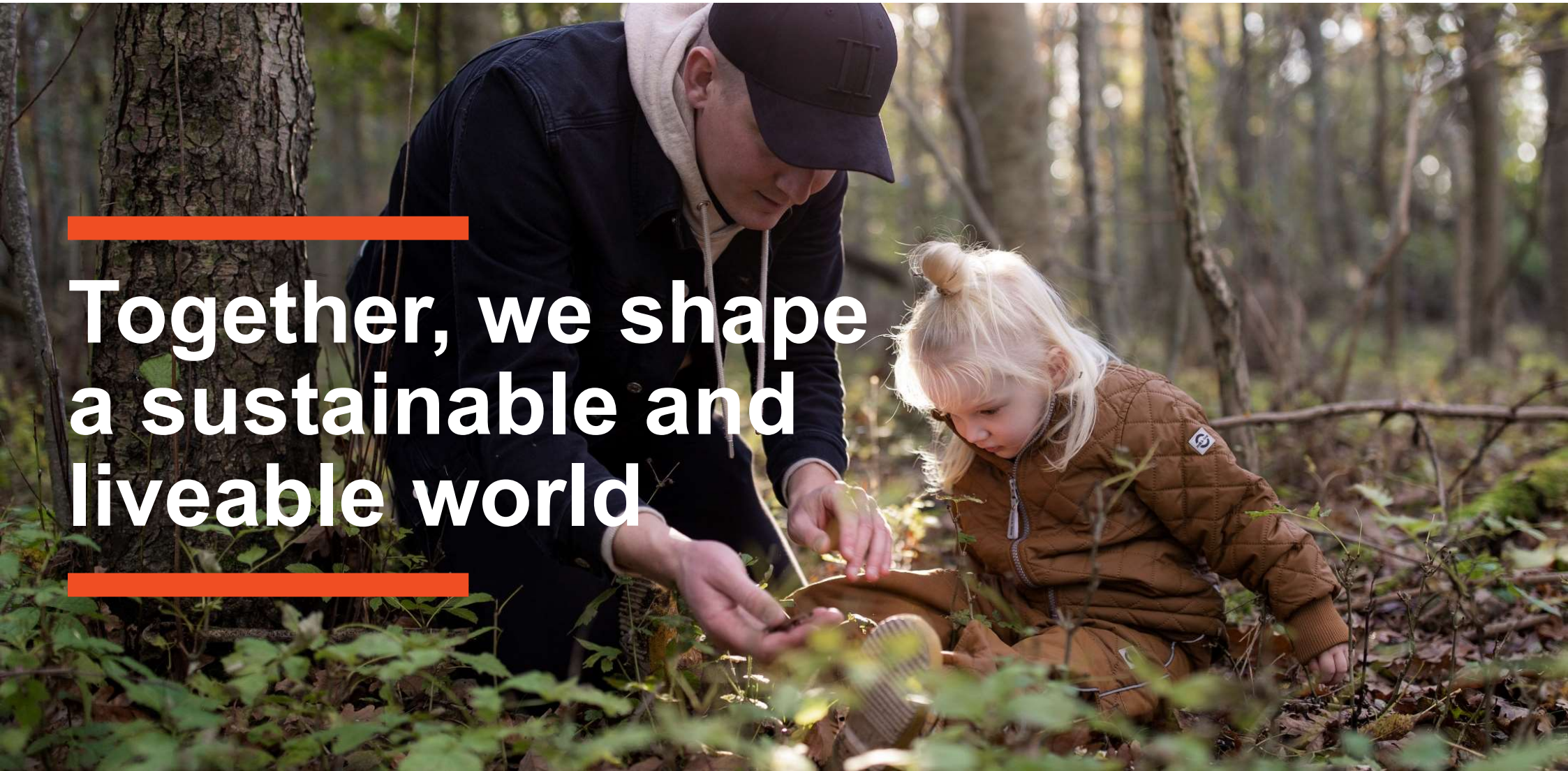
# CCUS value chain



We feel the need from our clients who are seeking to **decarbonize and move towards carbon neutrality**, particularly those with urgent demands for large volumes of certified green fuel.

Examples of industries that could benefit from green methanol or other green fuels:

- Aviation
- Shipping



Together, we shape  
a sustainable and  
liveable world



# Thank you



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