

# FP7 project - SAM.SSA

Sugar Alcohol based Materials for Seasonal Storage Applications

**Workshop and Onsite Demonstration– CiCenergigune**

**Miñano, Alava, Spain**



# Major Outcomes of SAM.SSA Project

Presented by Elena PALOMO DEL BARRIO  
Coordinator CNRS – I2M

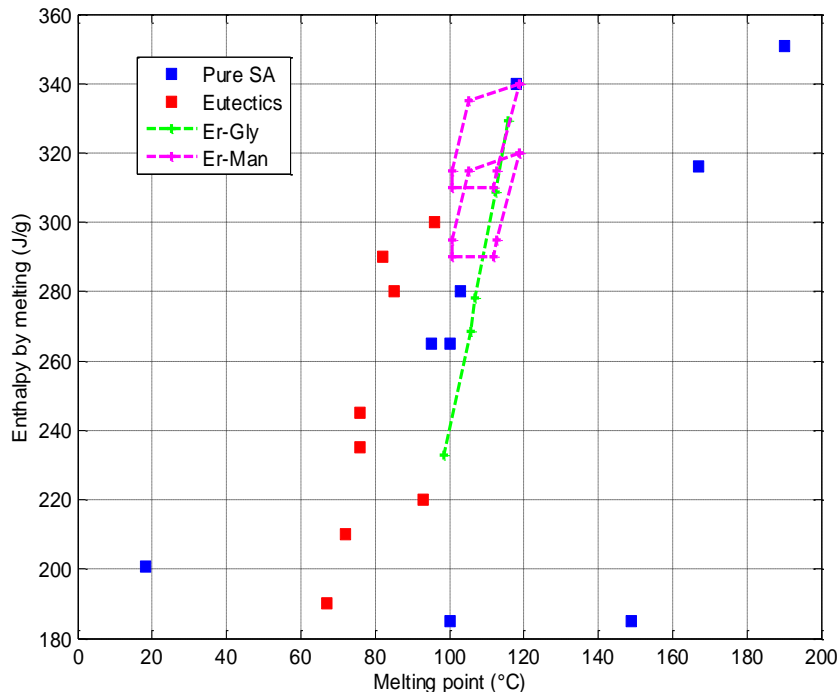


**Provide a thorough impulse on knowledge related to  
fundamental and applied research in the area of storage  
for heating applications**

**In the medium term the materials developed will lead to  
deploy cost effective and fully environmentally based  
energy supply systems**

# PCMs for SSA SA & SA-blends

8 eutectics with melting point less than 100°C and latent heat ranging from 190 J/g to 300 J/g



- Melting point fitted to the application
- High energy density in the range of temperature of use (120 – 190 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>)
- High and stable undercooling
- Moderate-to-low volume changes

- Non toxic, not flammable, not polluting
- Coming from renewable resources (abundant, sustainable)

- Compatibility with commonly used container materials
- Long-term stability (very promising results)

- Acceptable initial cost

## COMPARED TO COMPETITOR MATERIALS

	Charging Temp.	Energy density kWh/m <sup>3</sup>	Thermal losses	Source	Safety	Corrosion	Stability	Price	System complexity
Water	<100°C	30-60		Renewable					
Sodium acetate	<100°C	89	Supercooling						
Zeolite 13X	> 100°C	140	Sorption						
MgCl <sub>2</sub>	> 100°C	472	Reaction						
Zeolite – MgSO <sub>4</sub>	> 100°C	180	Sorption Reaction				Not yet, but promising		
SA blends	<100°C	120-190	Supercooling	Renewable			Not yet, but promising		

## FULL CHARACTERIZATION

- Key thermodynamics ( $T_m$ ,  $\Delta H_m$ )
- Key physical properties in liquid and solid and their variation with temperature
- Nucleation rates and crystal growth kinetics as a function of undercooling
- Thermal stability

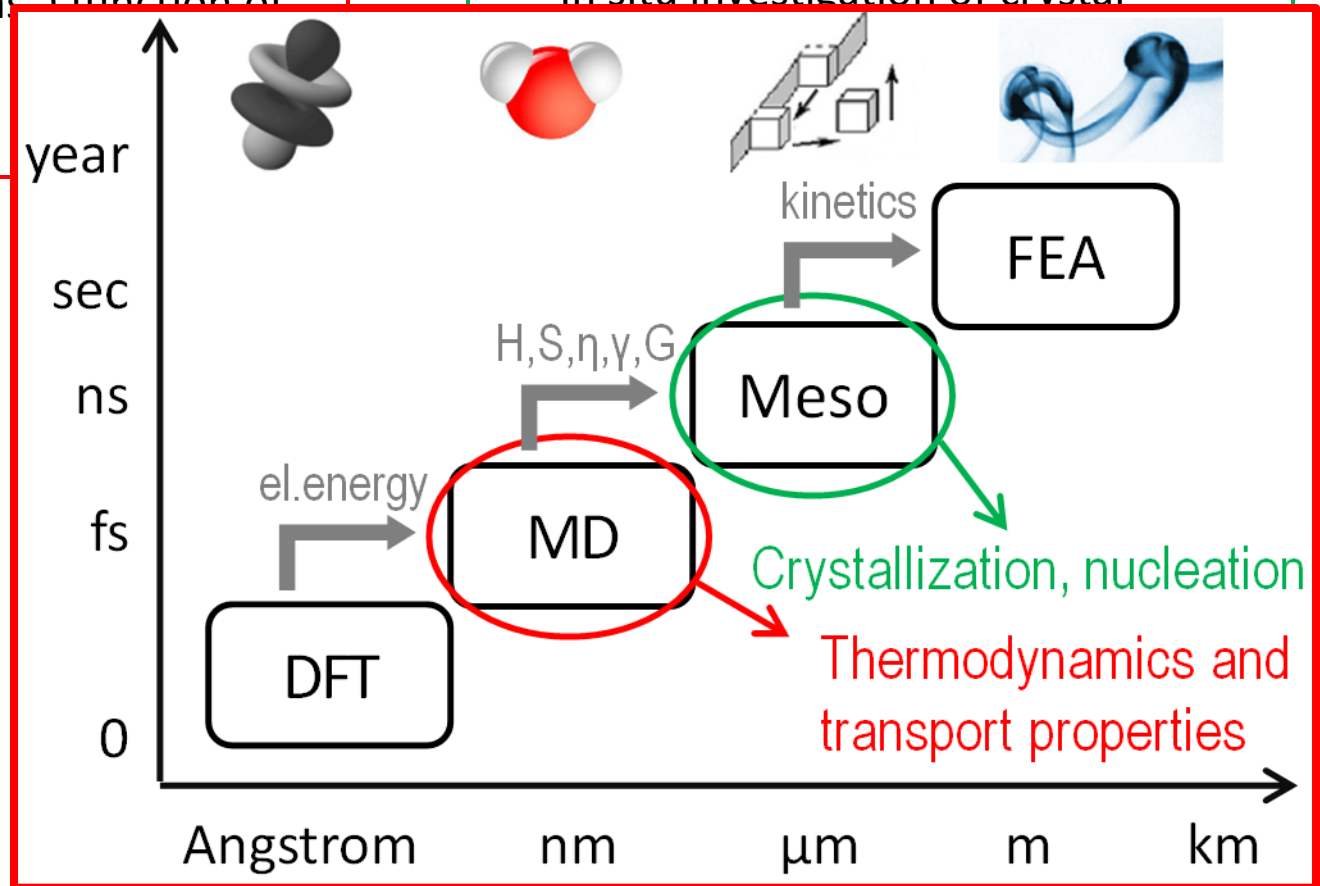
## NEW EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES

- Fast estimation (< 2h) of a phase diagram (screening oriented)
- Determination of heterogeneous nucleation rates
- In situ investigation of crystal

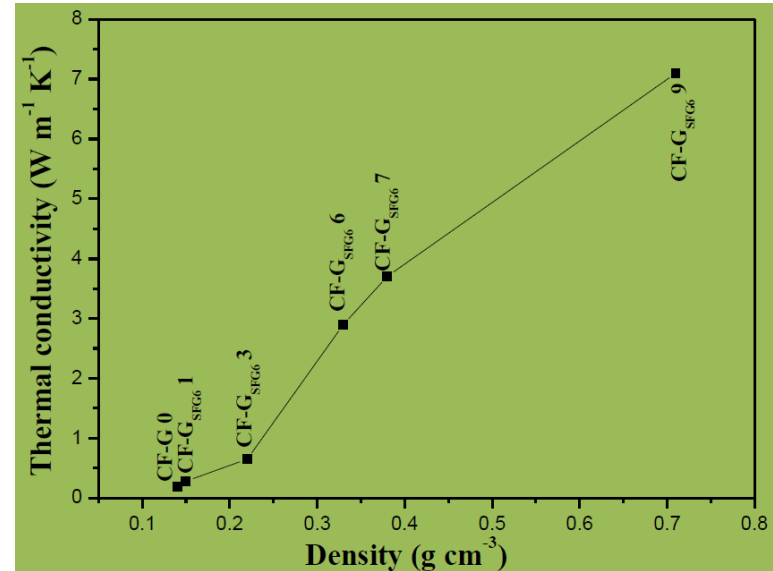
## MULTI-SCALE MODELLING APPROACH



## FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE



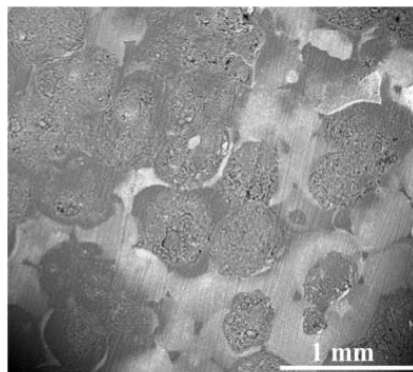
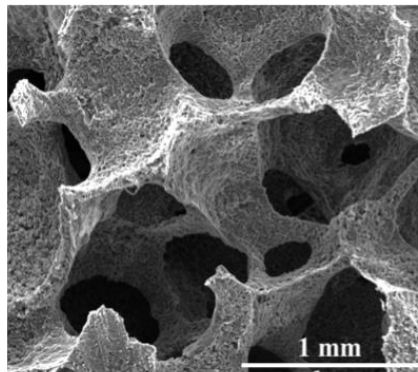
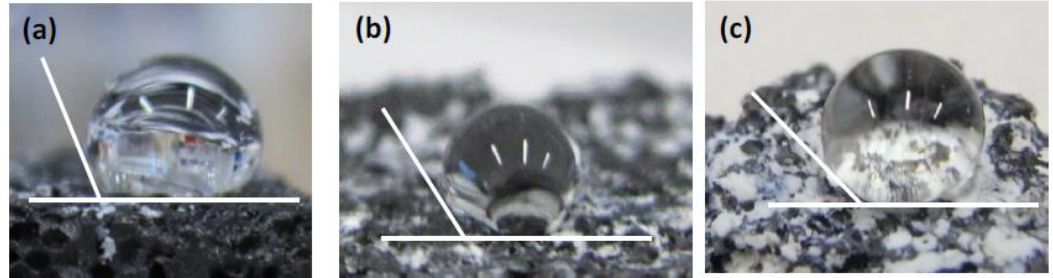
# Taylor-made carbon porous structures for thermal conductivity enhancement



- Produced from cheap, natural precursors
- Highly porous structures with open porosity ranging from 70 to 94%
- Apparent density from 0.15 to 0.70 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- Thermal conductivity up to 7 W/m/K
- Estimated cost: 3 – 7 €/kg
- Easily infiltrated with SA

**USEFULL FOR INCREASING THE  
THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF MANY  
OTHER PCMs**

**HYDROPHOBISATION**  
**achieved** by different  
surface treatments.  
**Fluorination** is the most  
effective in preventing  
heterogeneous nucleation  
on the carbon wall



## **COMPOSITES Carbon/SA**

- Prepared by simple impregnation method and/or infiltration under vacuum
- Infiltration rates up to 92% can be achieved
- The chemical compatibility between the SA (Er and Xy/Er) and the carbon structure has been proven
- The thermal conductivity of the composite is higher than that of the empty foam
- The latent heat of the composite can be predicted by the theory of mixtures



# Microencapsulation of Sugar Alcohols

## Organic (polymeric) shells

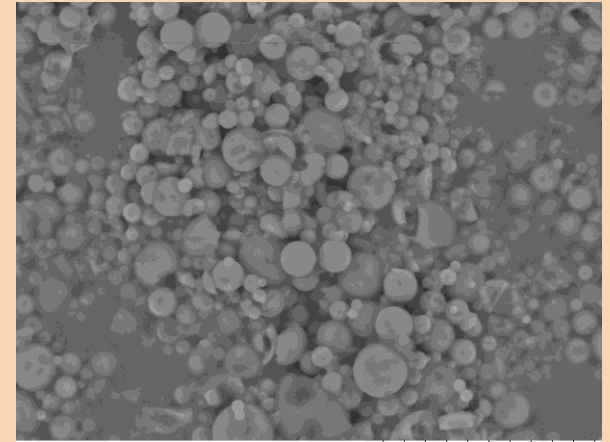
### Polycondensation

Solvent evaporation  
Spray-drying

nm

Feasibility proven in spite of  
the high reactivity of  $-OH$   
groups

Thermal cycling stability  
should be optimized



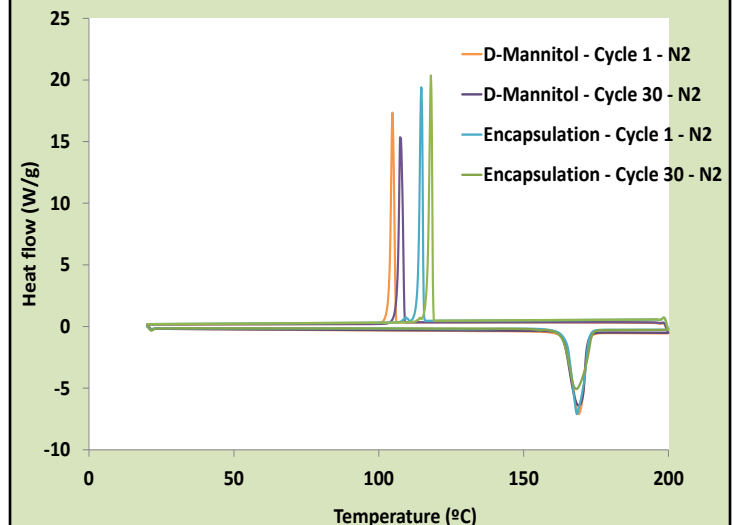
## Inorganic shells

Sol-gel technique  
( $SiO_2$ ,  $TiO_2$ )

$\mu m$

Easy processing  
**Composite SA- $TiO_2$  with  
high performances and high  
thermal stability**

Processing optimization to  
reach reproducibility in  
particles size



## Inorganic shells

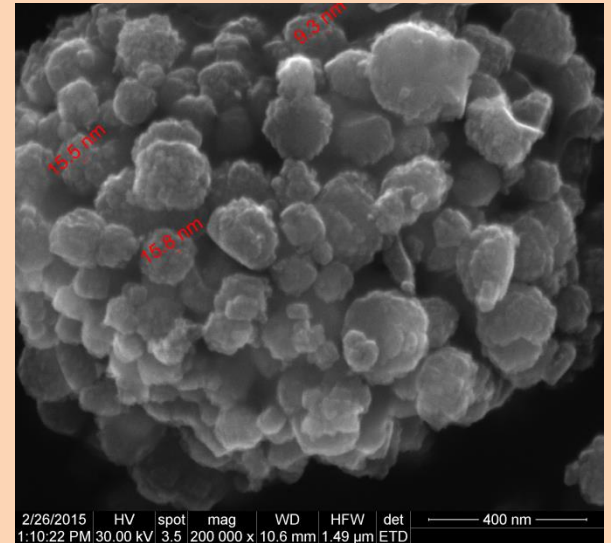
Solvothermal  
encapsulation  
in ZnO

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Low energy consuming  
processing

Composite SA-ZnO with high  
structural stability and  
improved compatibility  
between phases

Optimization of the ratio O/I  
should be performed



## Hybrid shells

Encapsulation via UV-  
curable Monomeric  
and Hibripolymeric  
Building Blocks

0.5 – 5 mm

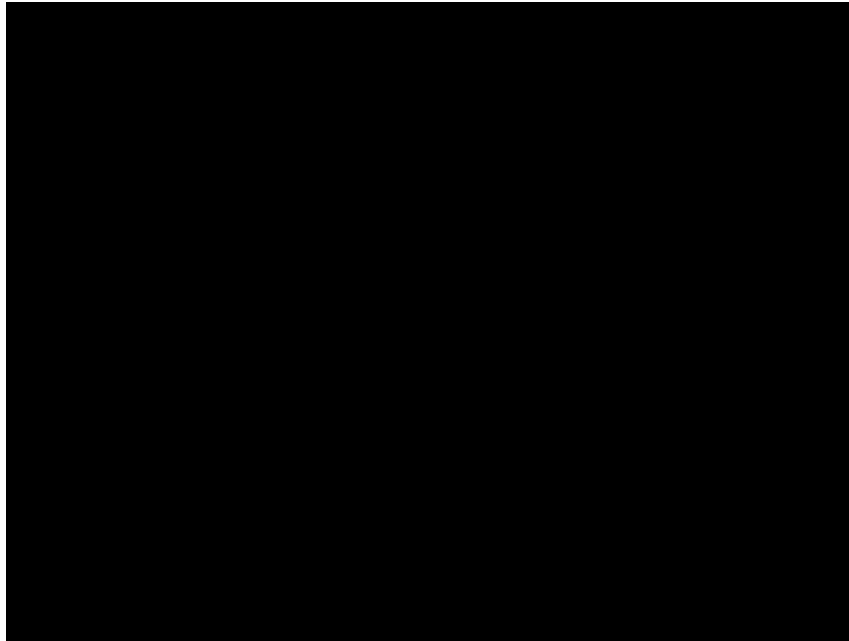
Core-shell type morphology

**Building blocks for high  
strength and flexible  
elastomeric shells applicable**

Further R&D needed for  
integrating nucleation agents  
and to increase processing  
temperature beyond 120°C



# Activation of the SA and SA-blends crystallization



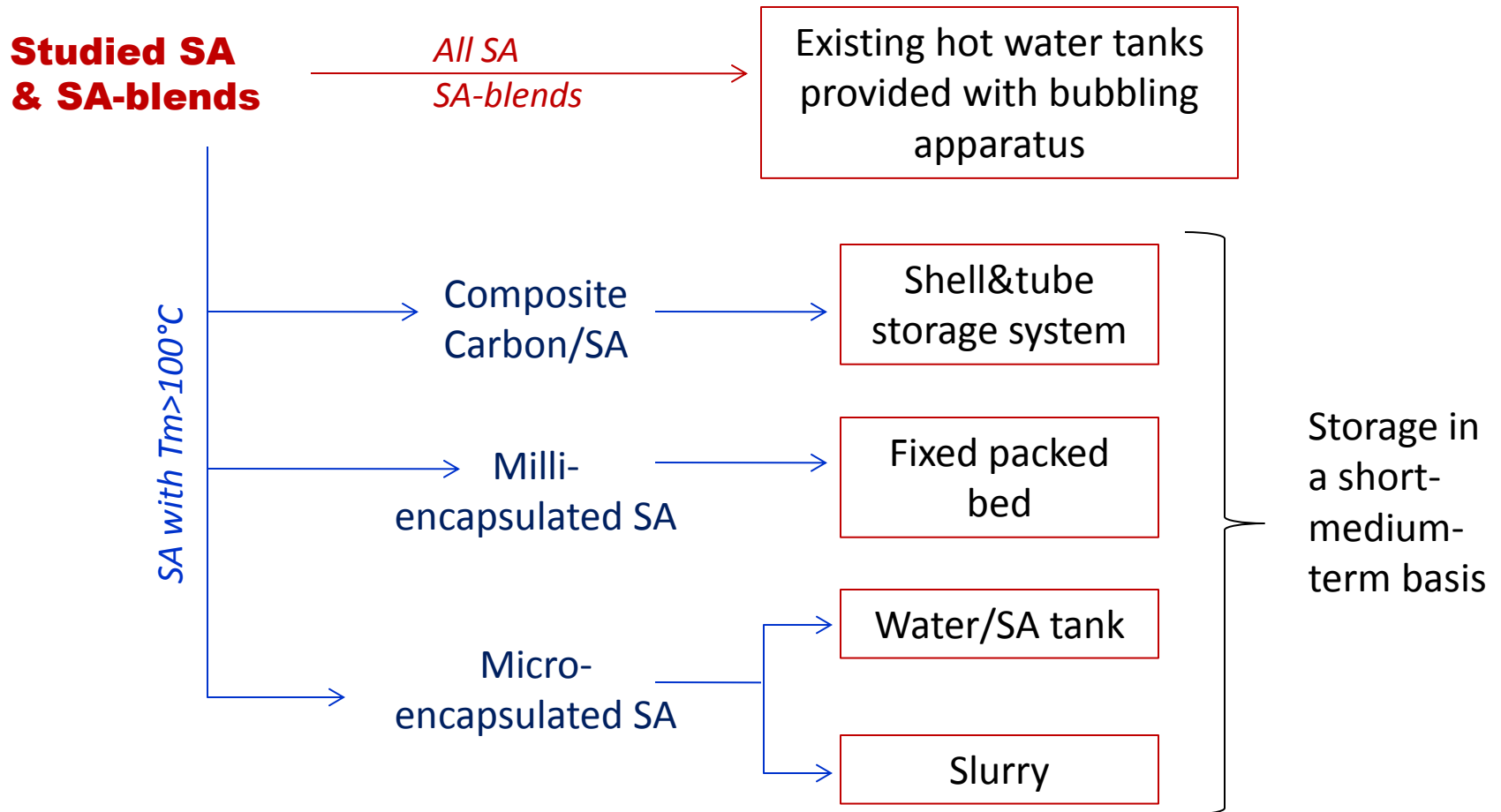
Quite efficient and low intrusive  
Easy implementation

**NEED FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS!!**

## STIRRING BY BUBBLING!

- Allows activating the crystallization of highly undercooled melts of Xy and Xy/Er
- The activation of the crystallization can spread the full system
- Short times of induction and recalescence can be achieved, with end temperatures close to the melting point
- The addition of appropriate solvents can improve the performances
- Mechanisms leading to the nucleation as well as key parameters have been identified

# Routes for SA-based materials integration into the storage system



Thank you for your attention

