



# LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA) OF (E-/BIO-) METHANOL & (E-/GREY-/BLUE-) AMMONIA

BY IFP ENERGIES NOUVELLES  
M. LUCAS, O. GUYON, X. GUICHET  
COMMISSIONED BY CMA CGM

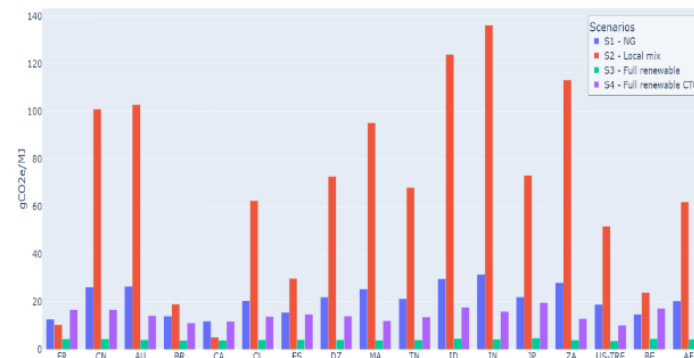
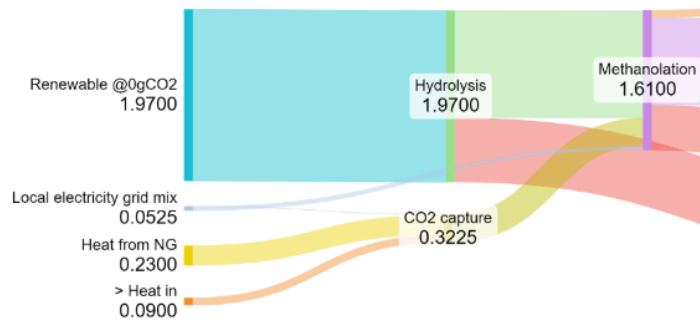
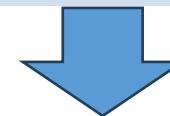


# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. INTRODUCTION
2. EMISSIONS SCOPE REGULATIONS & METHODOLOGY
3. FUEL PRODUCTION SCENARIOS AND ASSESSMENTS
4. SHIP TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT
5. LCA TAKE AWAY MESSAGES

# INTRODUCTION: LCA ON METHANOL AND AMMONIA PRODUCTION

| Product  | Feedstock scenario                      | Production scenario   |
|----------|---|---|
| Methanol | H2 from Electrolysis (e-)               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>3 time horizons</b> (2025,2035,2050)</li> <li>• <b>17 production locations</b> considered.</li> <li>• Transport and bunkering in <b>Rotterdam or Singapore</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Different energy source</b> scenarios (NG, grid or RE powered).</li> <li>• <b>Fuel Well to Wake scope (gCO2e/MJ)</b>, with or without infrastructure footprint.</li> <li>• <b>Container unit transportation work Well to Wake scope (gCO2e/TEUkm)</b>.</li> </ul> |
|          | Biomass based (bio-)                    |   |
| Ammonia  | H2 from electrolysis (e-)               |   |
|          | H2 from Methane Reforming (grey-/blue-) |   |



**Key results include:**

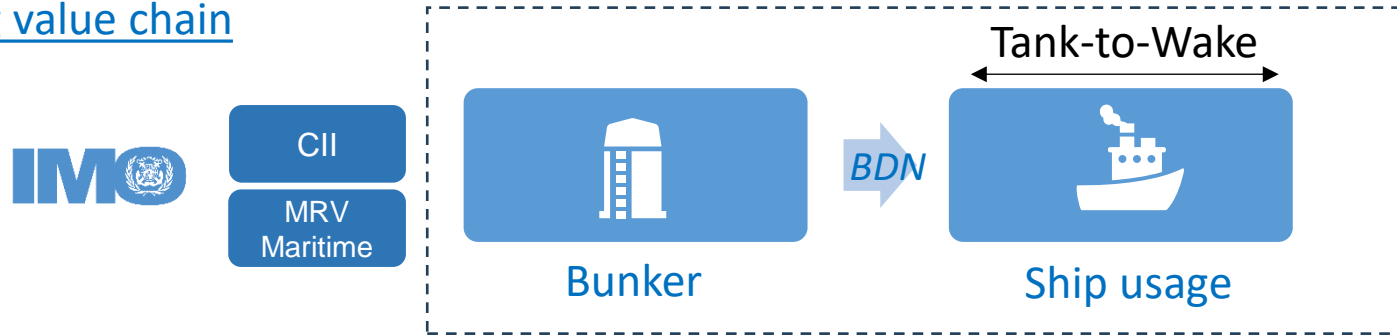
- Energy flow analyses
- Detailed GHG contribution analysis
- Prospective results

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

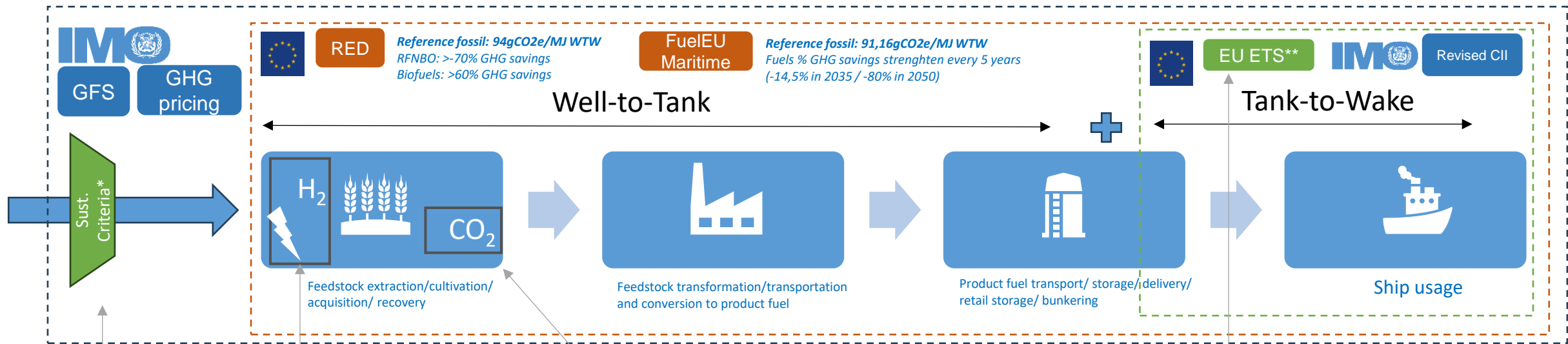
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# REGULATIONS GHG METHODOLOGIES & SUSTAINABLE CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

## Current shipping value chain



## Future shipping value chain



LCA indicators for sustainability (quanti. or quali.). **Yet to be defined.**

Renewable electricity is set to **0 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/MJ** (RED RFNBO DA Annexes)

CO<sub>2</sub> captured **allows to offset TtW emissions.**  
Remains the emissions for CO<sub>2</sub> capture.

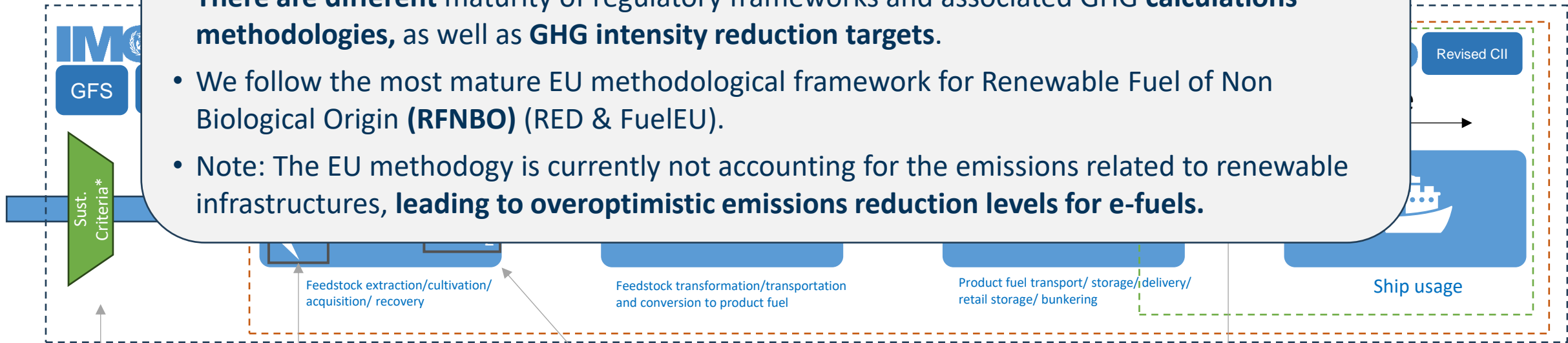
CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions to be considered after 2026

# REGULATIONS GHG METHODOLOGIES & SUSTAINABLE CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

## Current shipping value chain



## Future shipping



### Key messages

- We must now account for measuring GHG emissions from **Well to Wake**.
- **There are different** maturity of regulatory frameworks and associated GHG **calculations methodologies**, as well as **GHG intensity reduction targets**.
- We follow the most mature EU methodological framework for Renewable Fuel of Non Biological Origin (**RFNBO**) (RED & FuelEU).
- Note: The EU methodology is currently not accounting for the emissions related to renewable infrastructures, **leading to overoptimistic emissions reduction levels for e-fuels**.

LCA indicators for sustainability (quanti. or quali.). **Yet to be defined.**

Renewable electricity is set to **0 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/MJ** (RED RFNBO DA Annexes)

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CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions to be considered after 2026

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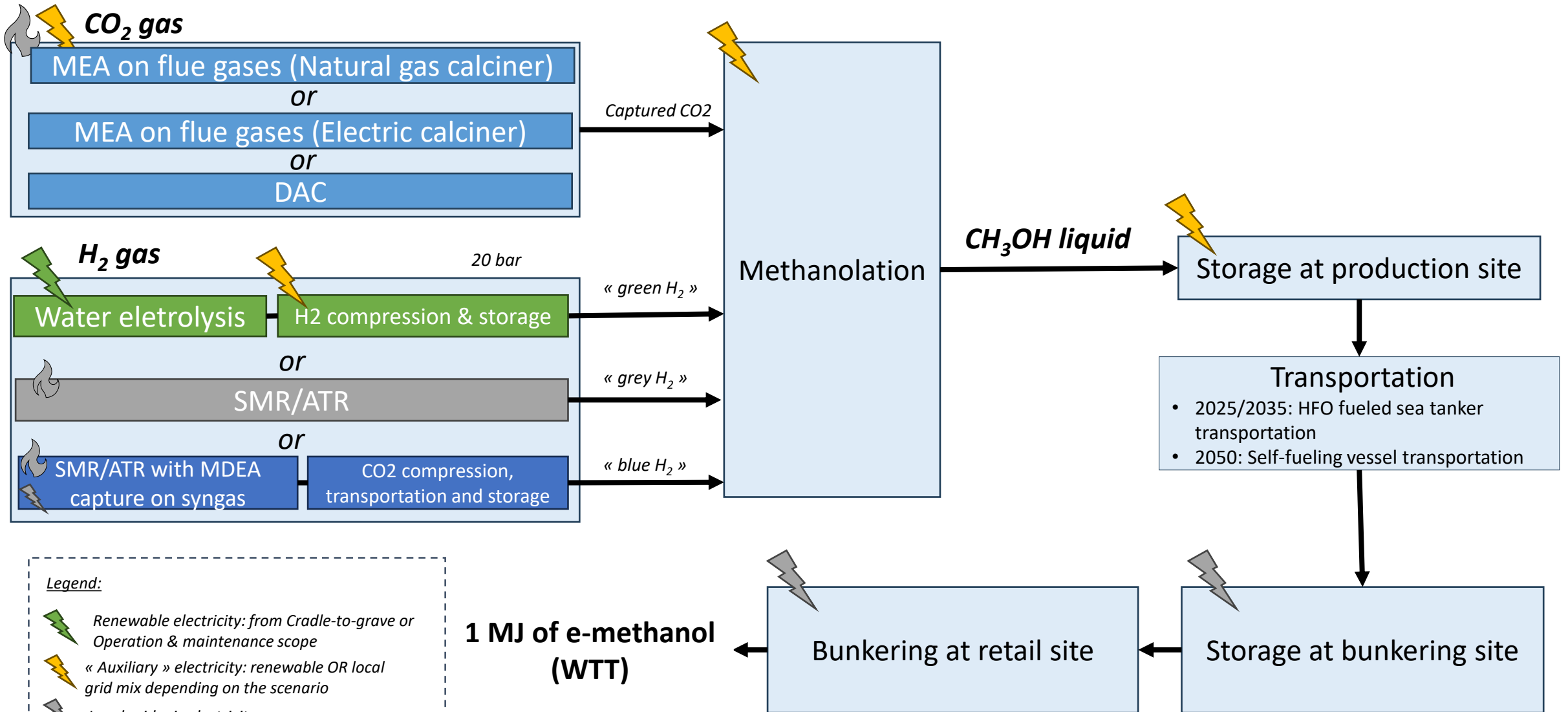
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# METHANOL

## LCA FUEL PRODUCTION SCENARIOS AND ASSESSMENTS



# E-METHANOL VIA METHANOLATION: WTT SCOPE OF MODELLING



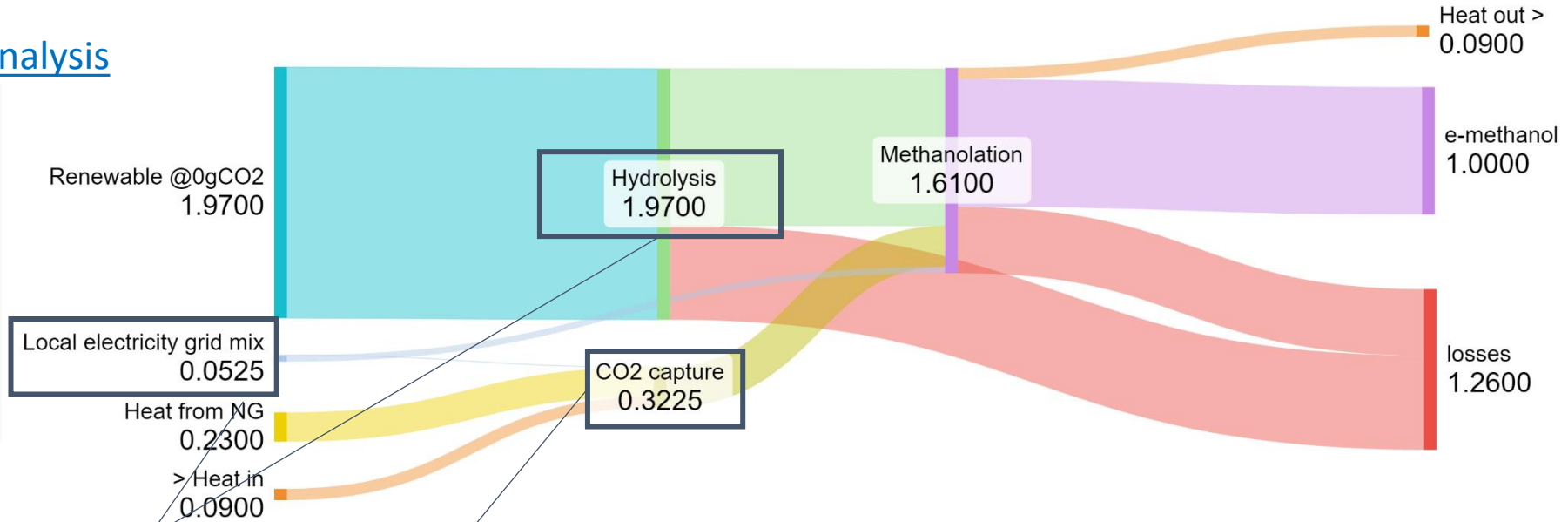
**Legend:**

- Renewable electricity: from Cradle-to-grave or Operation & maintenance scope
- « Auxiliary » electricity: renewable OR local grid mix depending on the scenario
- Local grid mix electricity
- Local natural gas consumption mix

# E-METHANOL VIA NATURAL GAS POWERED CO2 CAPTURE

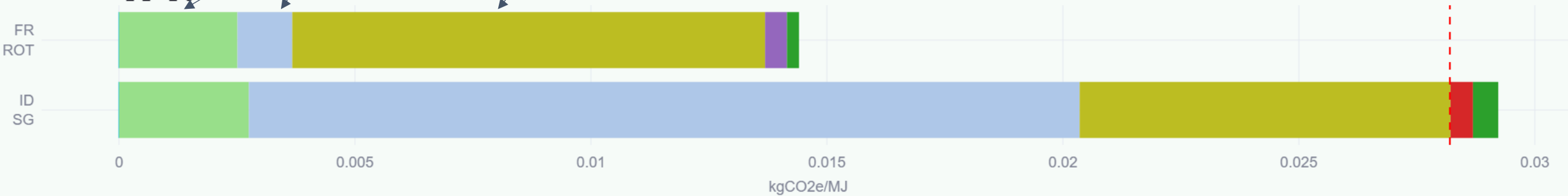
## Energy flow analysis

The methodology proposed by International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy (IPHE) includes scope 1 & 2 emissions for H2 production. Thus considered zero for green H2. This standard is used by IEA, RED and probably future IMO guidelines.



## GHG analysis

Climate change  
Model: Methanol | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
Scenario: Methanol\_E\_CC\_ng

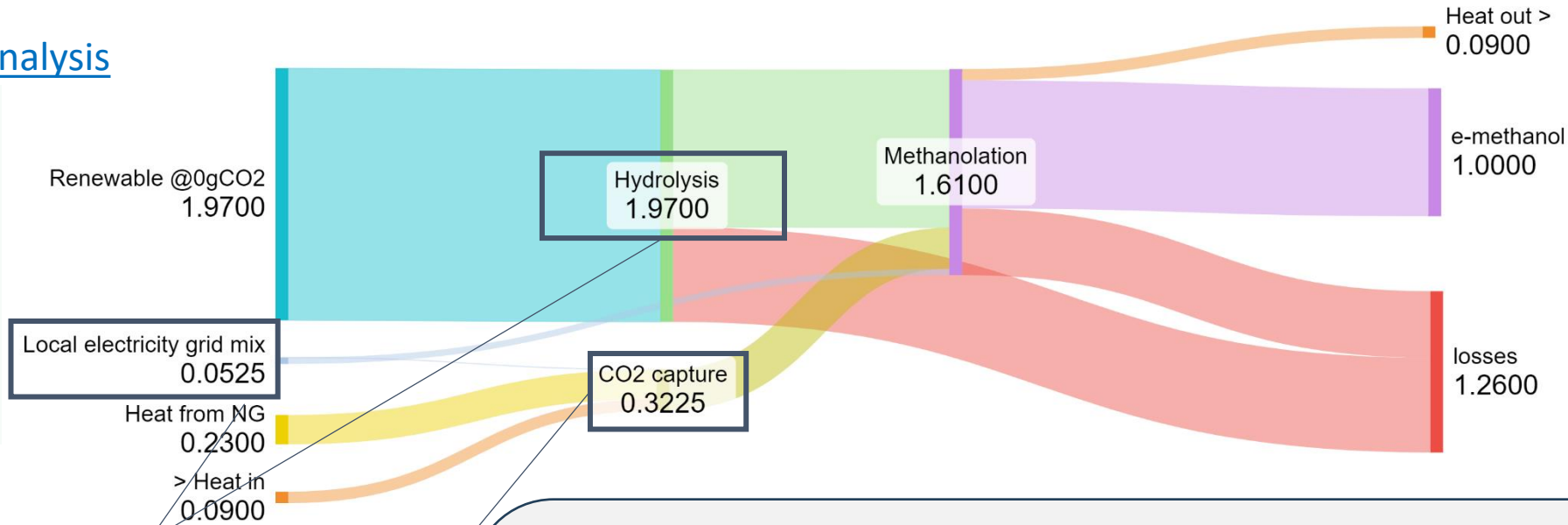


■ H2 production 
 ■ Electricity for methanolation 
 ■ Water for methanolation 
 ■ CO2 capture 
 ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Singapore 
 ■ Transportation, freight, sea tanker 
 ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Rotterdam 
 - - RFNBO threshold

# E-METHANOL VIA NATURAL GAS POWERED CO2 CAPTURE

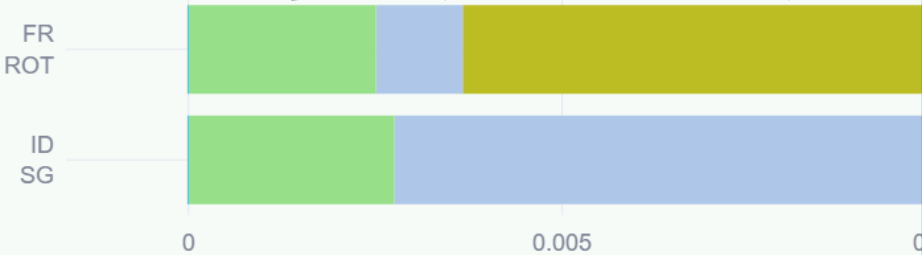
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## GHG analysis

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Model: Methanol | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
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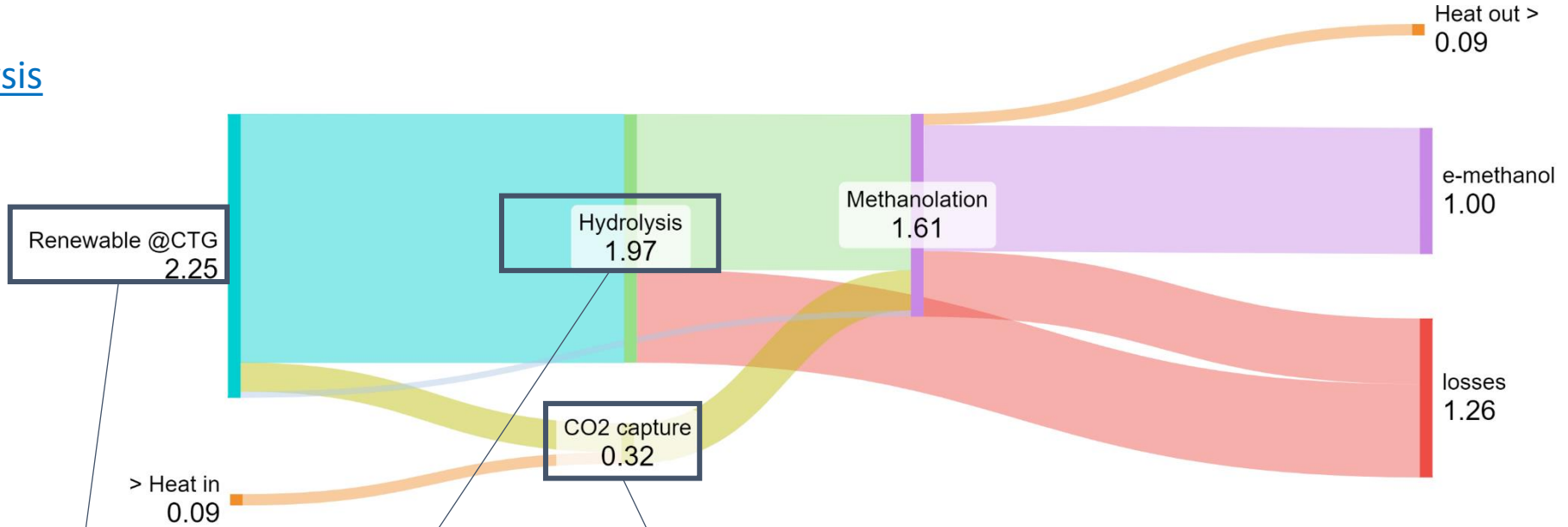
## Key messages

- Energy required for carbon capture has significant impact if **powered by natural gas**
- Auxiliary electricity consumption (e.g., for carbon capture and methanolation) can significantly contribute to GHG emissions if sourced from a high-GHG-intensity electricity mix.
- In this configuration the production of an **RFNBO-compliant fuel is not guaranteed.**

■ H2 production 
 ■ Electricity for methanolation 
 ■ Water for methanolation 
 ■ CO2 capture 
 ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Singapore 
 ■ Transportation, freight, sea tanker 
 ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Rotterdam 
 - RFNBO threshold

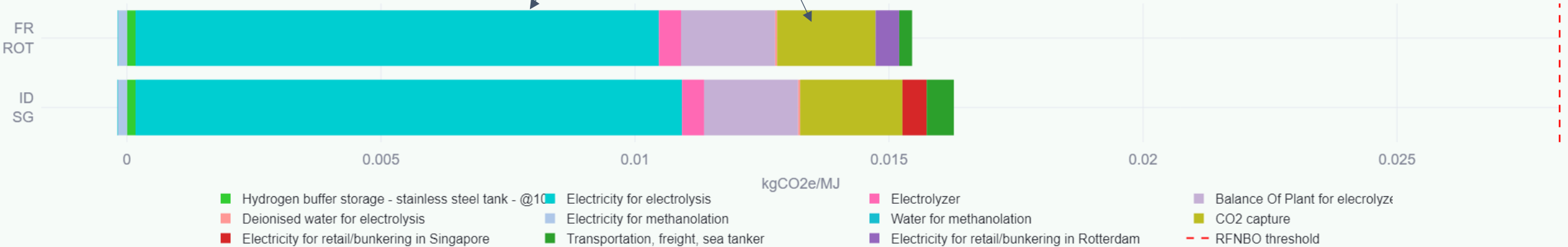
# E-METHANOL VIA ELECTRICITY POWERED CO2 CAPTURE

## Energy flow analysis



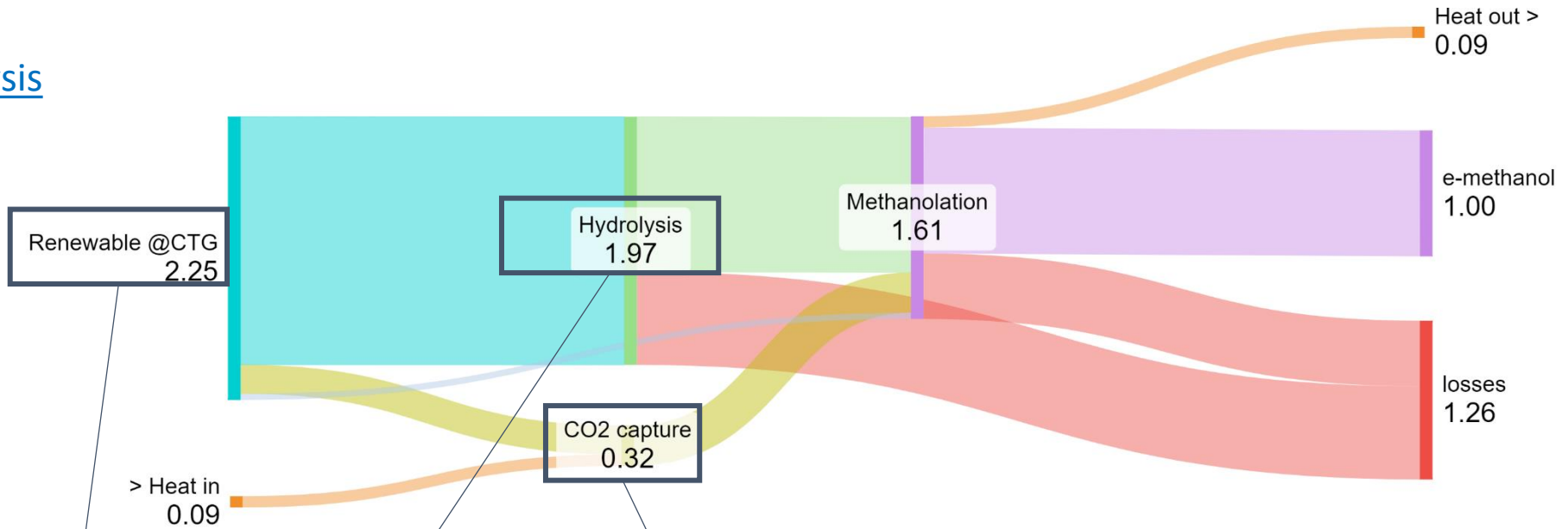
## GHG analysis

Climate change  
 Model: Methanol | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
 Scenario: Methanol\_E\_CC\_rnw\_CTG



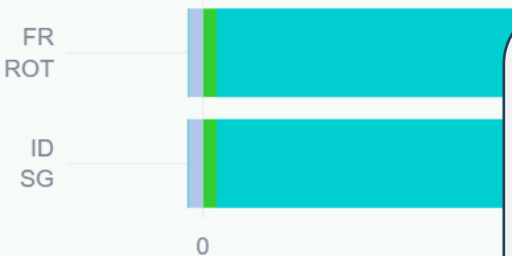
# E-METHANOL VIA ELECTRICITY POWERED CO2 CAPTURE

## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis

Climate change  
Model: Methanol | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
Scenario: Methanol\_E\_CC\_rnw\_CTG

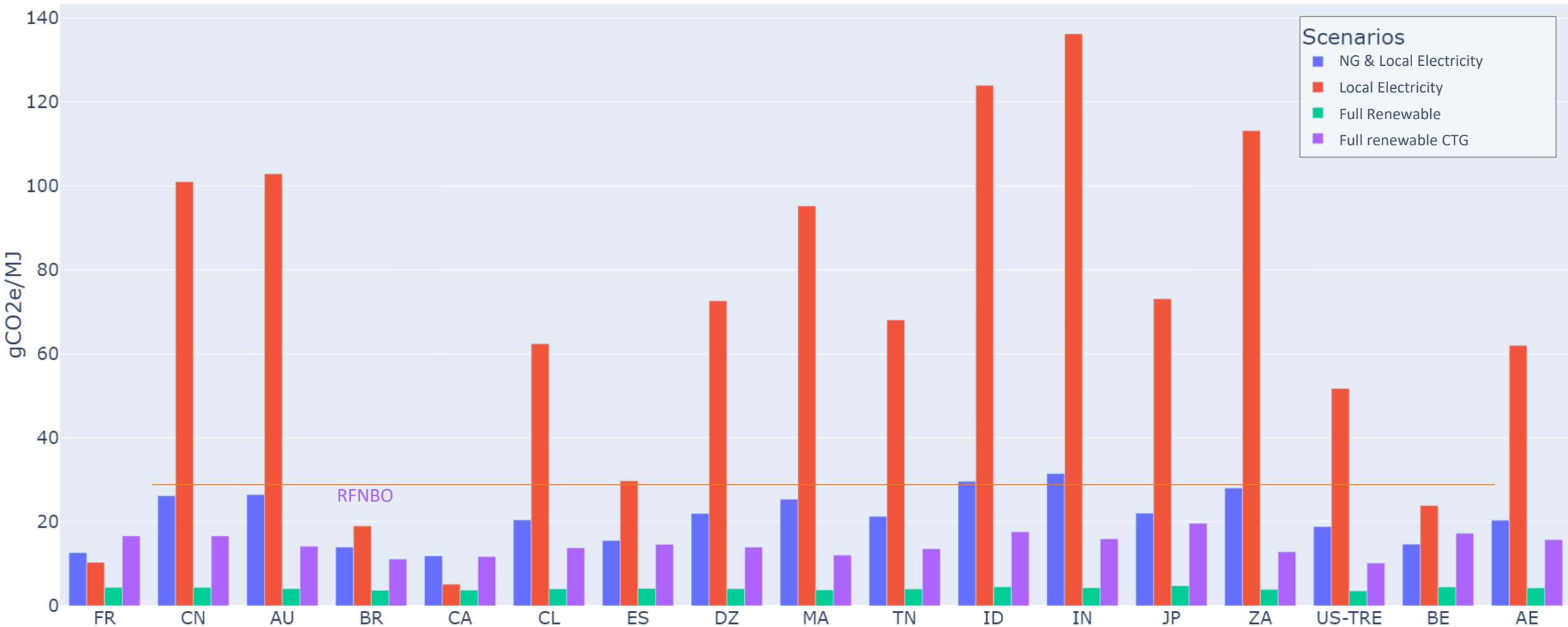


### Key messages

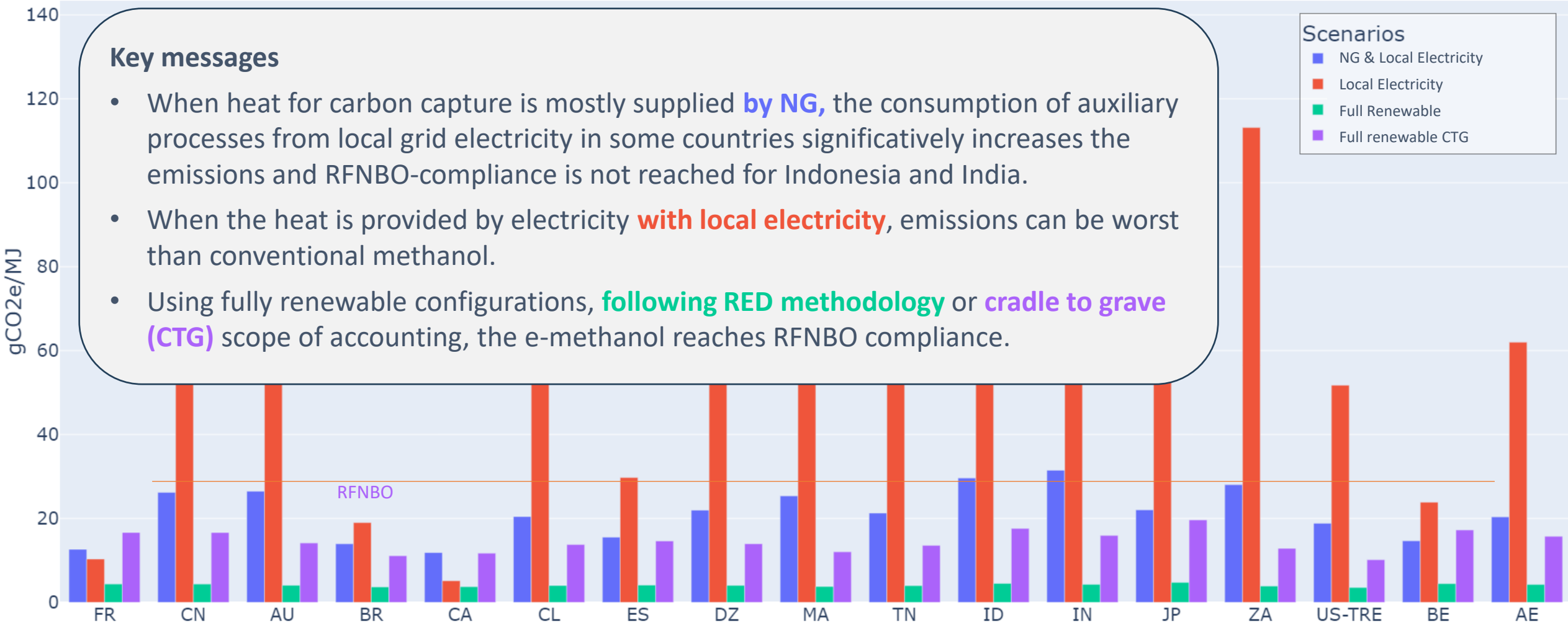
- Electricity powered CC has significantly less GHG impacts than NG, especially using renewables.
- With the cradle-to-grave approach, the renewable electricity has the largest contribution.
- This approach would still enable you to reach RFNBO compliance.

■ Hydrogen bu... ■ Deionised water... ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Singapore ■ Transportation, freight, sea tanker ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Rotterdam - - RFNBO threshold

# GHG EMISSIONS OF E-METHANOL WTW WITHOUT T&C, BY REGION AND CONFIGURATION SCENARIO

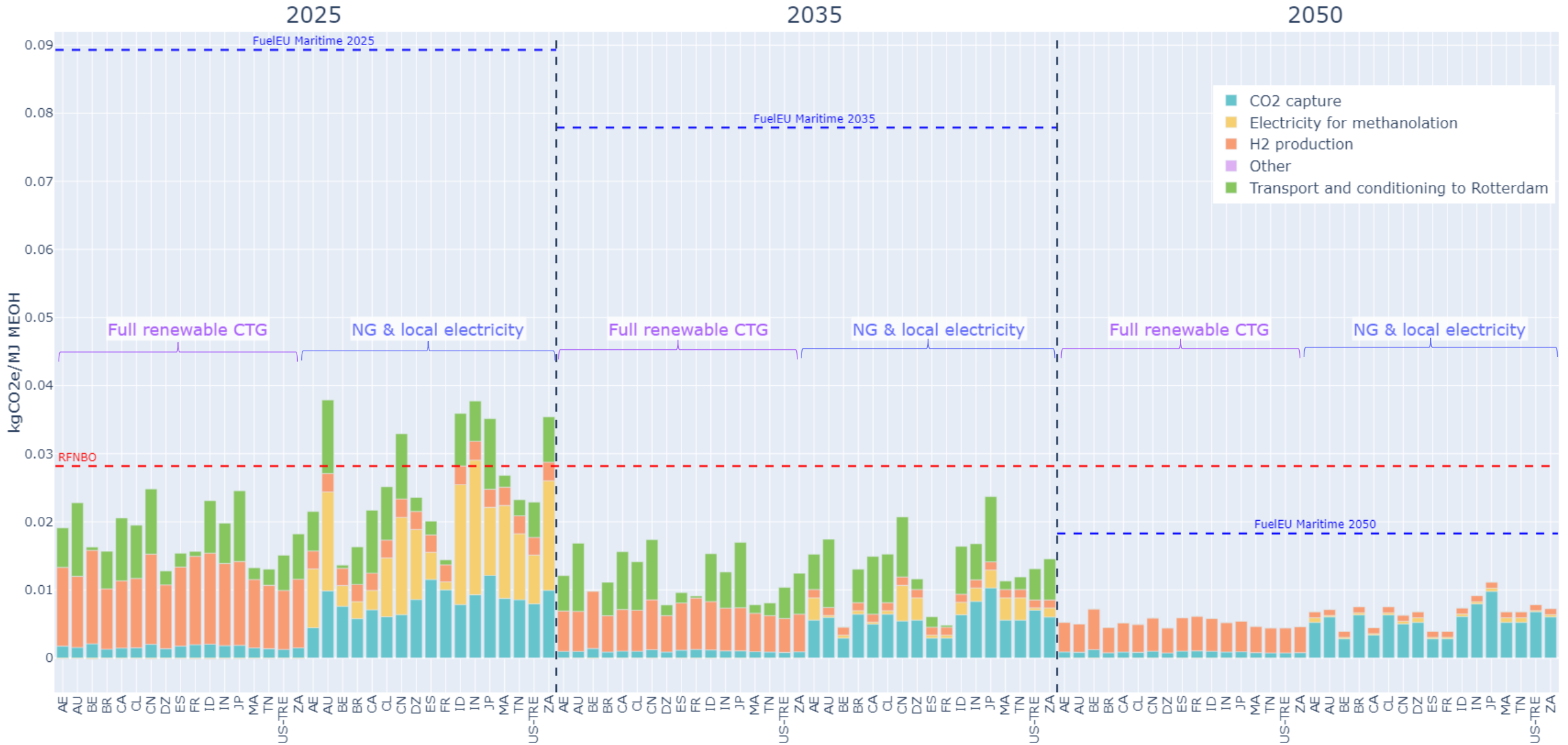


# GHG EMISSIONS OF E-METHANOL WTW WITHOUT T&C, BY REGION AND CONFIGURATION SCENARIO



# E-METHANOL SUMMARY PROSPECTIVE RESULTS BY LOCATION

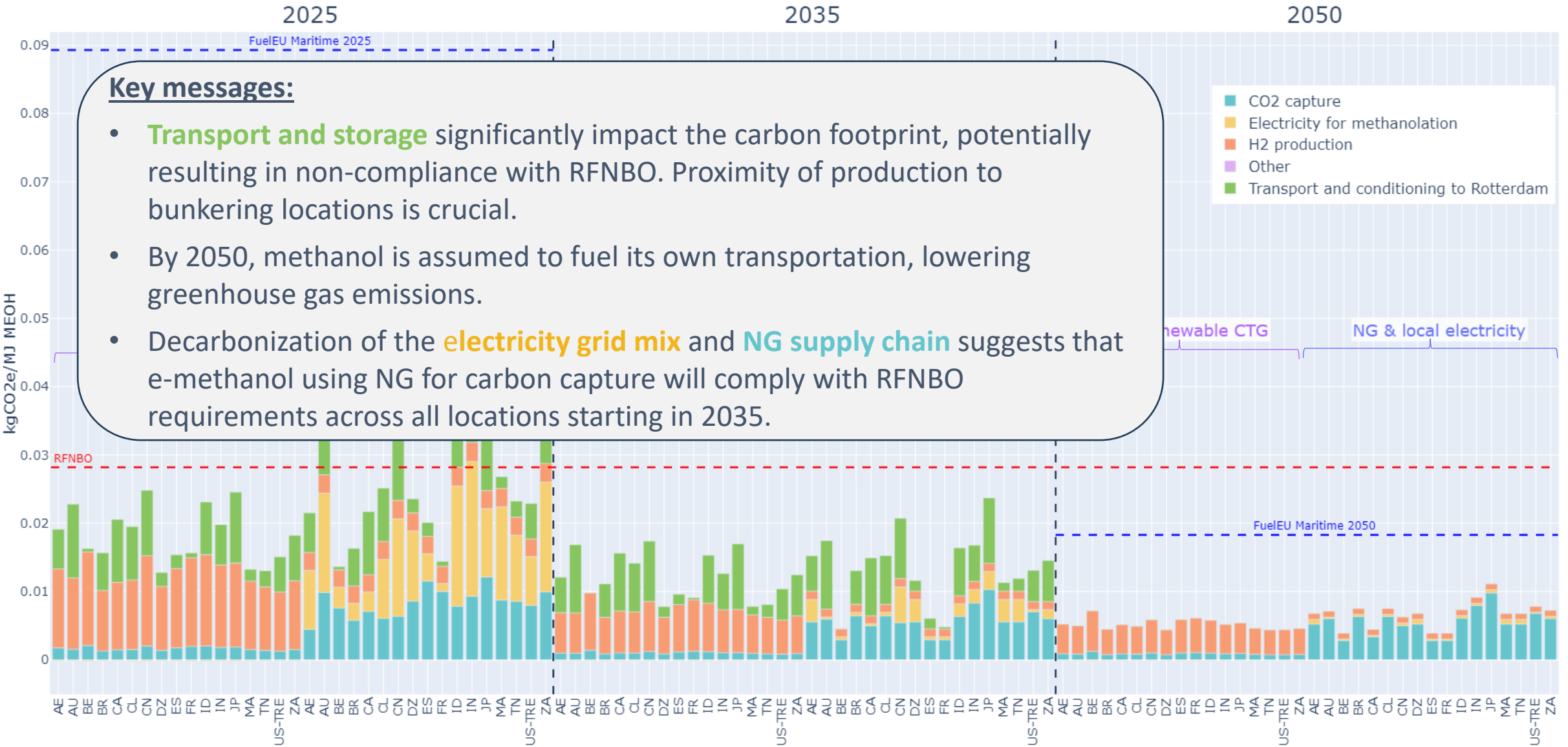
Prospective results for e-methanol produced (with Transport and Conditioning to Rotterdam for bunkering)



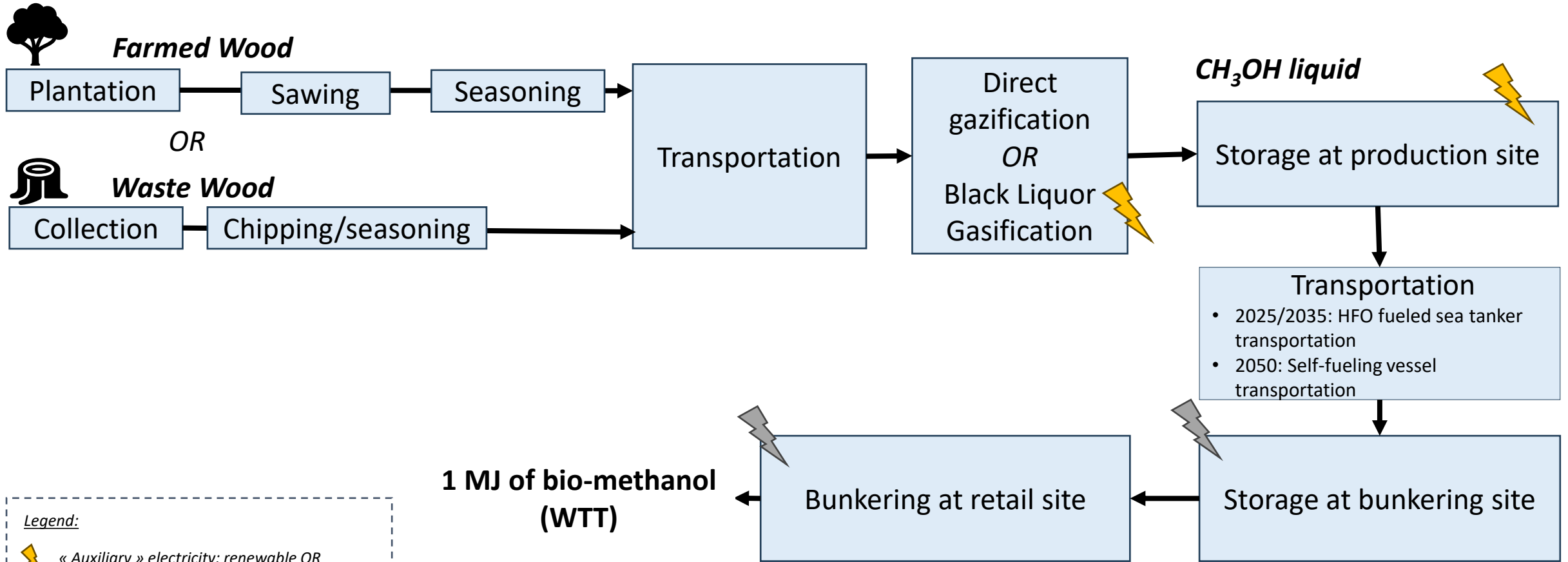


# E-METHANOL SUMMARY PROSPECTIVE RESULTS BY LOCATION

Prospective results for e-methanol produced (with Transport and Conditioning to Rotterdam for bunkering)



# BIO-METHANOL VIA GASIFICATION: WTT SCOPE OF MODELLING

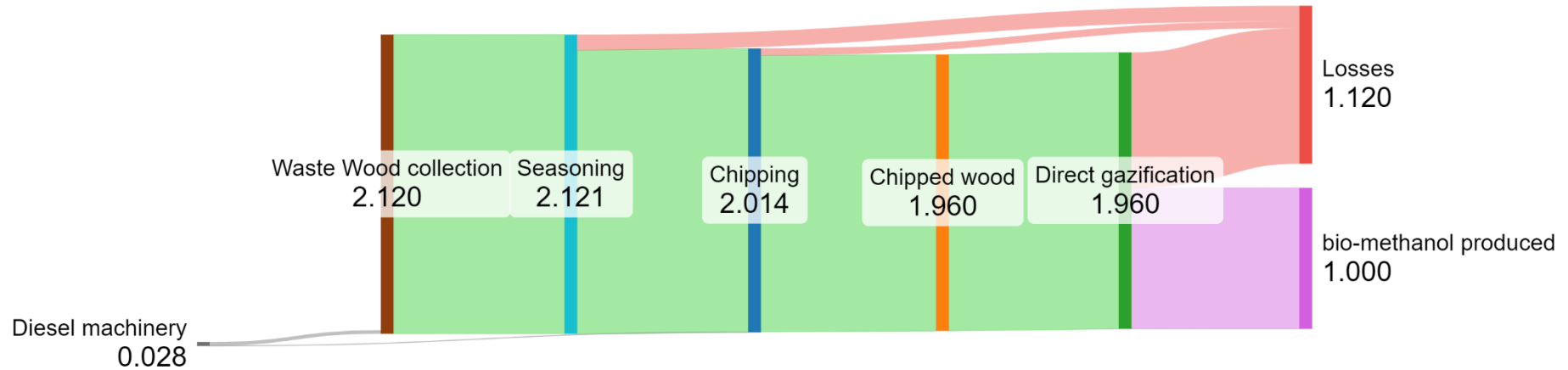


**Legend:**

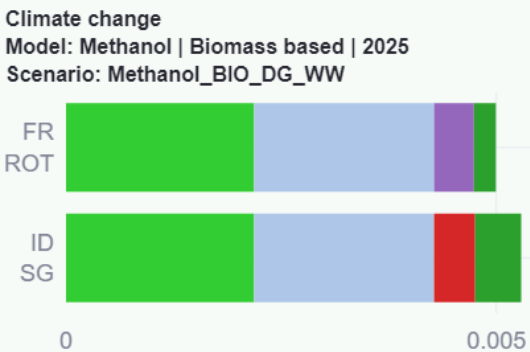
- « Auxiliary » electricity: renewable OR local grid mix depending on the scenario
- Local grid mix electricity

# BIO-METHANOL VIA DIRECT GASIFICATION OF WASTE WOOD

## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis



### Key messages

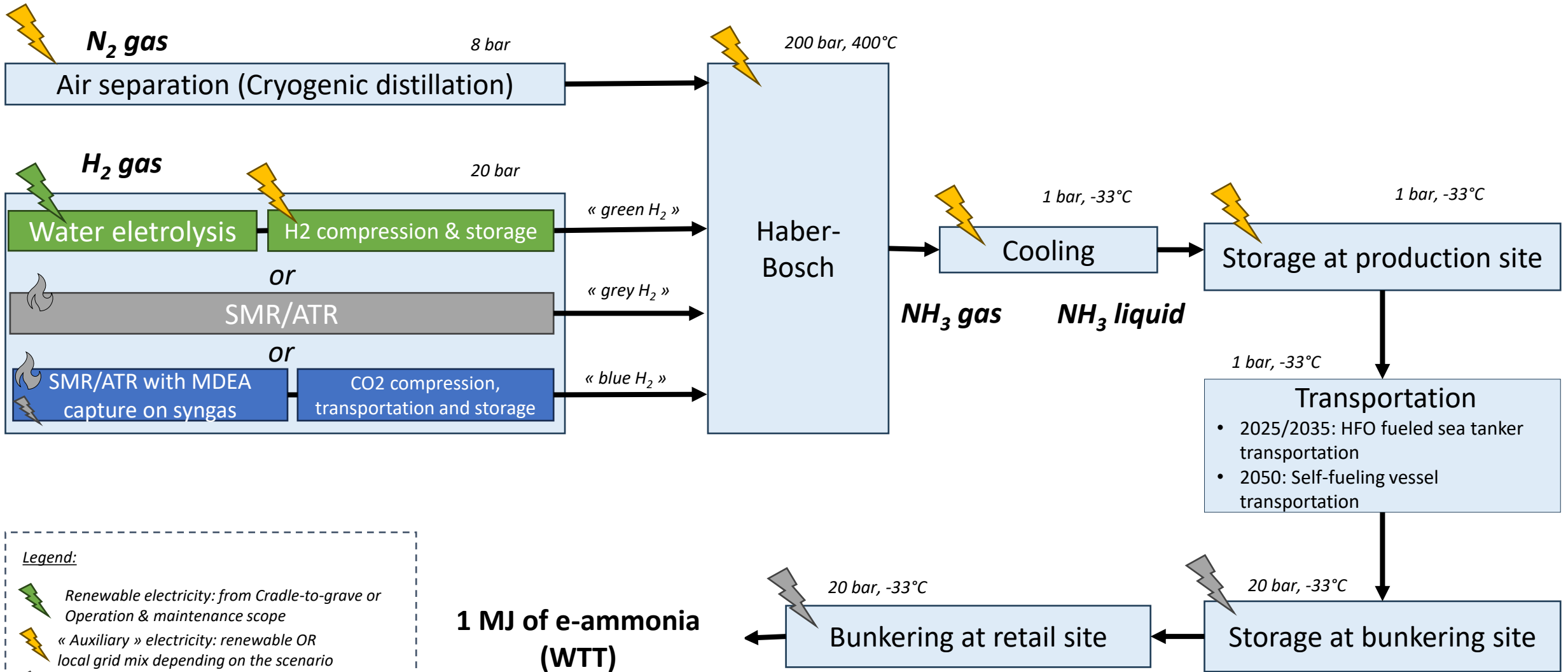
- Supply chain for waste wood and gasification efficiency losses are the most important contributors.
- RED compliance is met in all regions reaching (~95% GHG reduction)

■ Waste Wood transportation ■ Gazification efficiency losses ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Singapore ■ Transportation, freight, sea tanker ■ Electricity for retail/bunkering in Rotterdam - - RFNBO threshold

# AMMONIA

## LCA FUEL PRODUCTION SCENARIOS AND ASSESSMENTS

# E-AMMONIA WTT SCOPE OF MODELLING

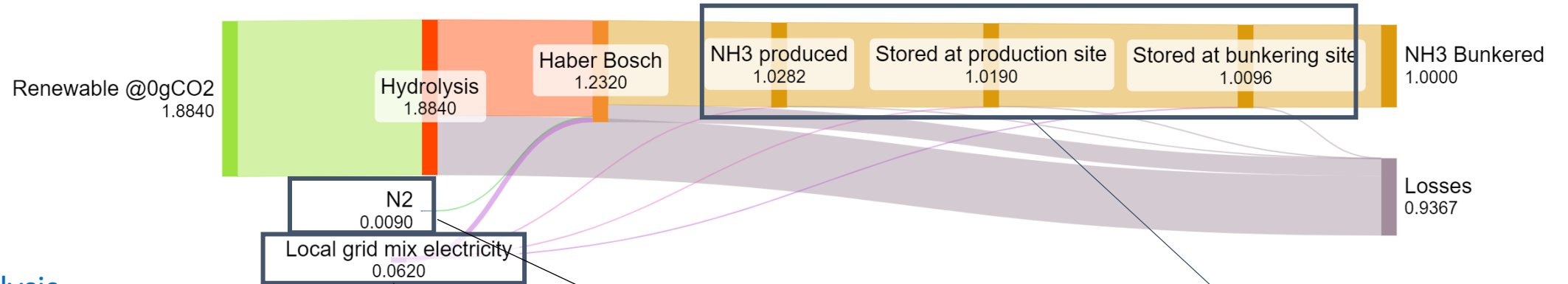


**Legend:**

- Renewable electricity: from Cradle-to-grave or Operation & maintenance scope
- « Auxiliary » electricity: renewable OR local grid mix depending on the scenario
- Local grid mix electricity
- Local natural gas consumption mix

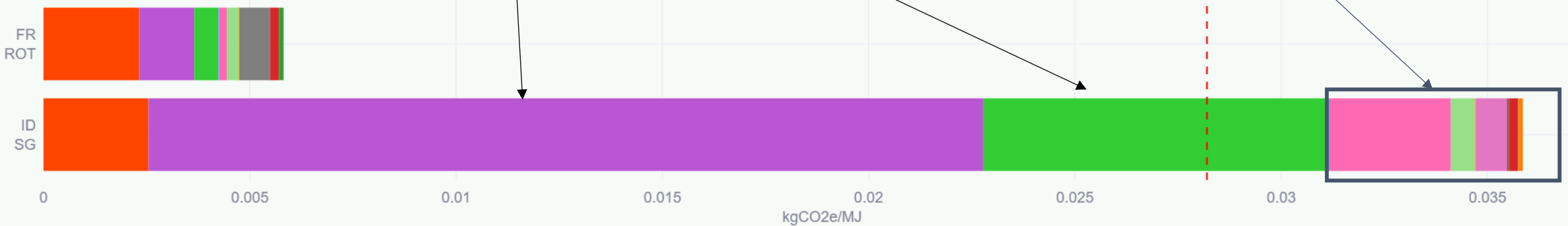
# E-AMMONIA VIA LOCAL GRID ELECTRICITY FOR AUXILIARY PROCESSES

## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis

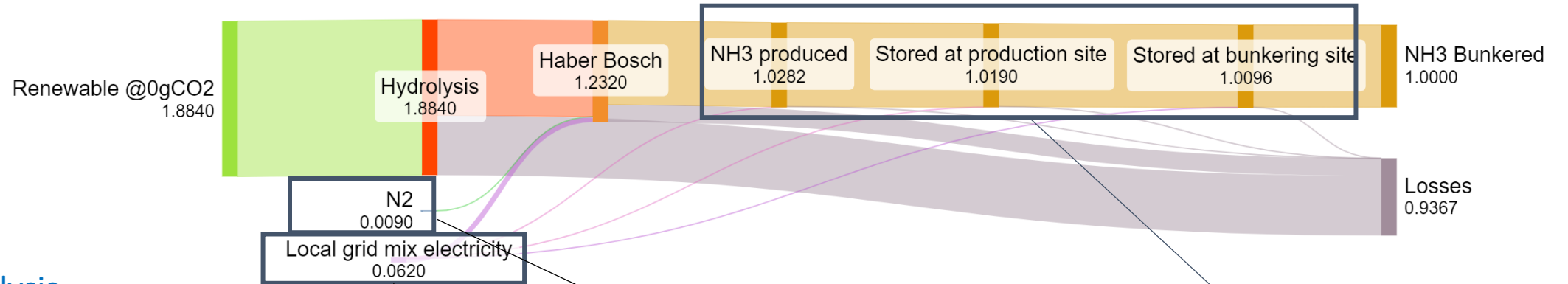
Climate change  
Model: Ammonia | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
Scenario: Ammonia\_E\_aux\_grid



- H2 production
- Electricity for Haber-Bosch
- N2 production
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Storage slips at p
- Electricity for storage at production site
- Storage slips at production site
- Transport of ammonia
- Storage slips at bunkering site
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Storage slips at bun
- Electricity for storage at bunkering site in Singapore
- Bunkering slips
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Bunkering slips
- Electricity for bunkering in Singapore
- Electricity for storage at bunkering site in Rotterdam
- Electricity for bunkering in Rotterdam
- - - RFNBO threshold

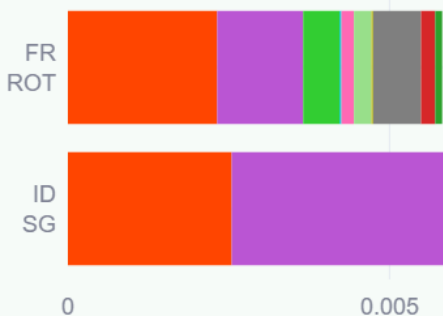
# E-AMMONIA VIA LOCAL GRID ELECTRICITY FOR AUXILIARY PROCESSES

## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis

Climate change  
Model: Ammonia | H2 from electrolysis | 2025  
Scenario: Ammonia\_E\_aux\_grid

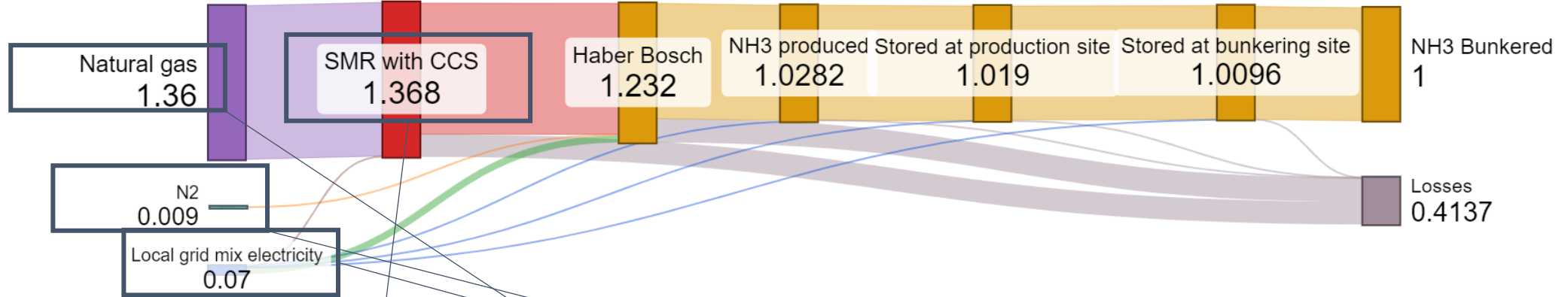


### Key messages

- Even with green H2 feedstock, the use of a high GHG grid electricity for N2 production and NH3 production (HB) can lead to non-RFNBO compliance
- NH3 storage supply chain is more complex than MeOH and could increase significantly footprint in high GHG intensity grid regions.

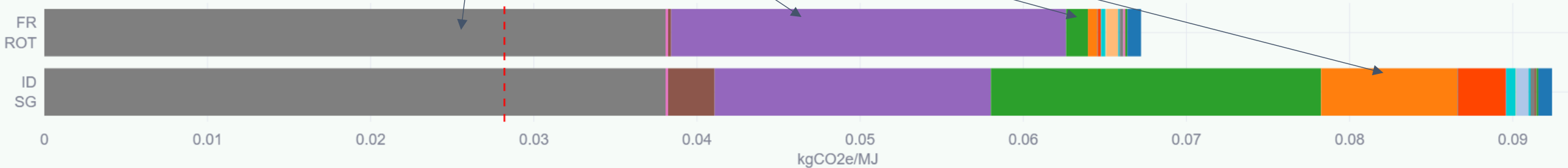
# BLUE-AMMONIA VIA H2 FROM SMR+CCS AND LOCAL GRID MIX FOR AUXILIARY PROCESSES

## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis

Climate change  
 Model: Ammonia | H2 from Methane Reforming | 2025  
 Scenario: Ammonia\_NG\_SMR\_MDEA

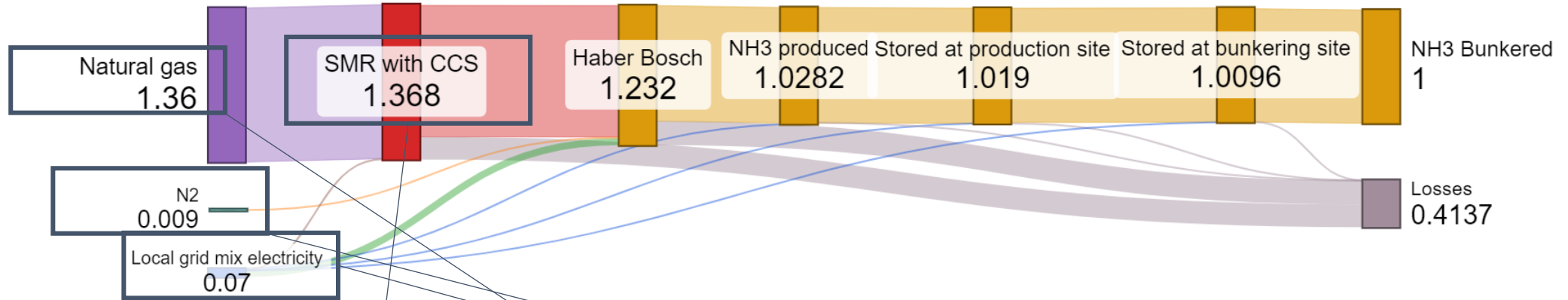


- Direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Natural gas supply chain
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Storage slips at prod
- Transport of ammonia
- Electricity for storage at bunkering site in Singapore
- Electricity for bunkering in Singapore
- Plant infrastructure
- RFNBO threshold
- CO<sub>2</sub> storage and transport 200km pipeline, storage 1000m/20
- Electricity for Haber-Bosch
- Electricity for storage at production site
- Storage slips at bunkering site
- Bunkering slips
- Emissions from fuel burning in furnace
- Electricity for storage at bunkering site in Rotterdam
- Electricity
- N<sub>2</sub> production
- Storage slips at production site
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Storage slips at bu
- Dinitrogen monoxide # asTech - Bunkering slips
- Catalysts&adsorbents
- Electricity for bunkering in Rotterdam

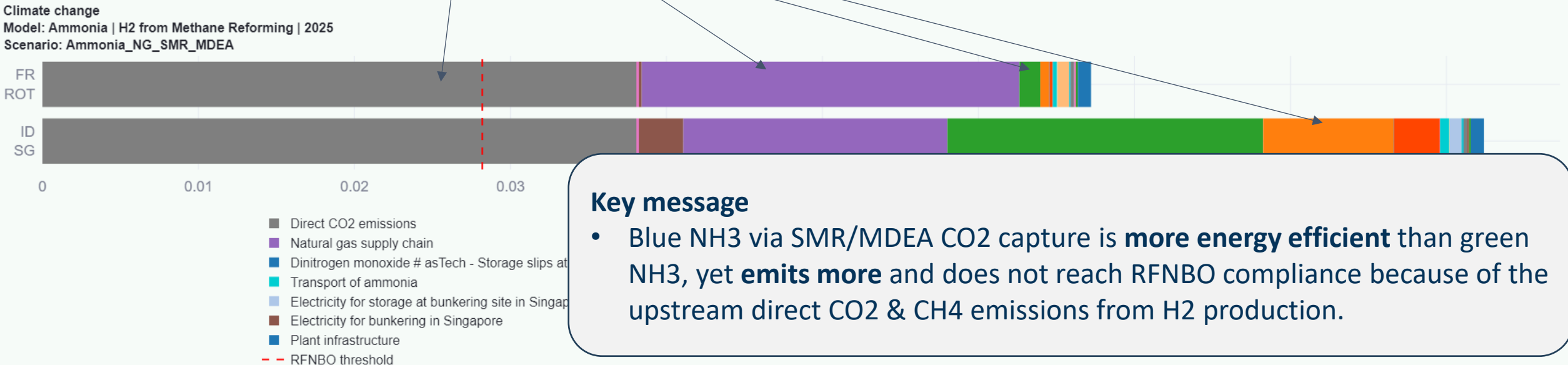


# BLUE-AMMONIA VIA H2 FROM SMR+CCS AND LOCAL GRID MIX FOR AUXILIARY PROCESSES

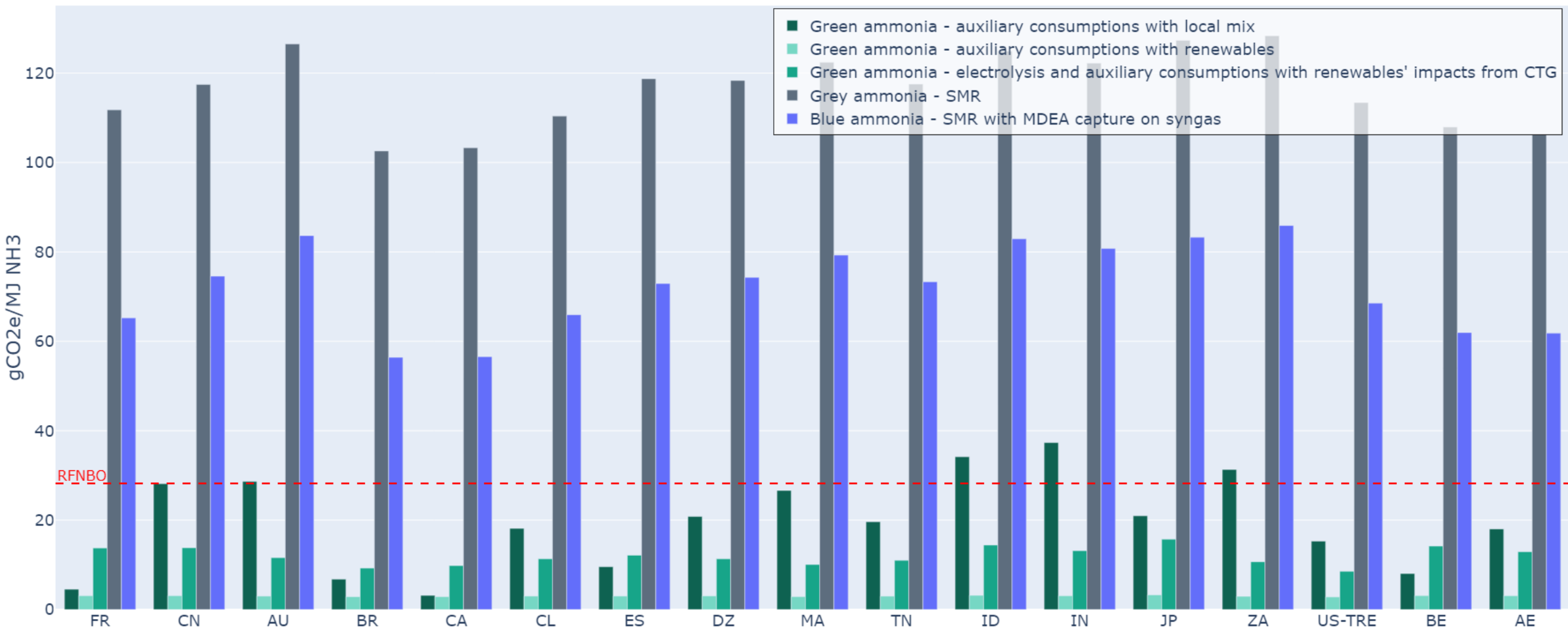
## Energy flow analysis



## GHG analysis



# GHG EMISSIONS OF AMMONIA WTW WITHOUT T&C, BY REGION AND CONFIGURATION SCENARIO



# GHG EMISSIONS OF AMMONIA WTW WITHOUT T&C, BY REGION AND CONFIGURATION SCENARIO

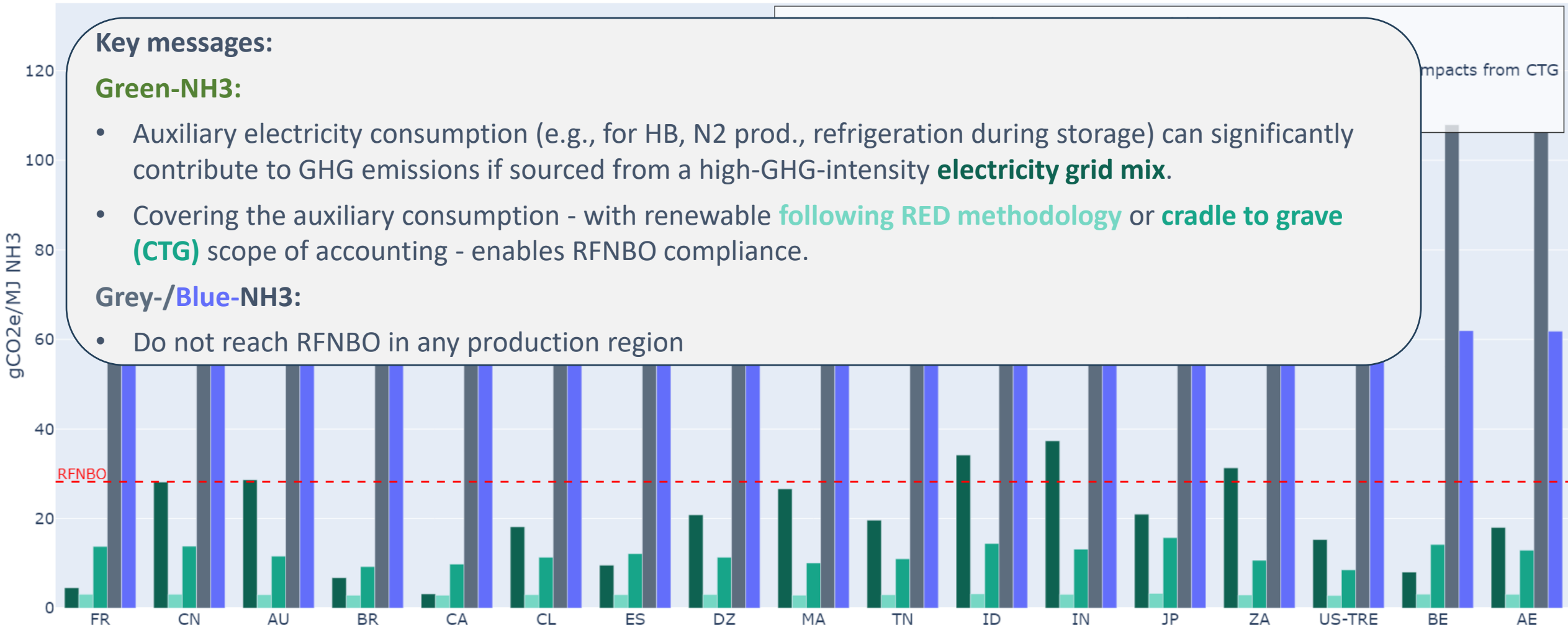
## Key messages:

### Green-NH3:

- Auxiliary electricity consumption (e.g., for HB, N2 prod., refrigeration during storage) can significantly contribute to GHG emissions if sourced from a high-GHG-intensity **electricity grid mix**.
- Covering the auxiliary consumption - with renewable **following RED methodology** or **cradle to grave (CTG)** scope of accounting - enables RFNBO compliance.

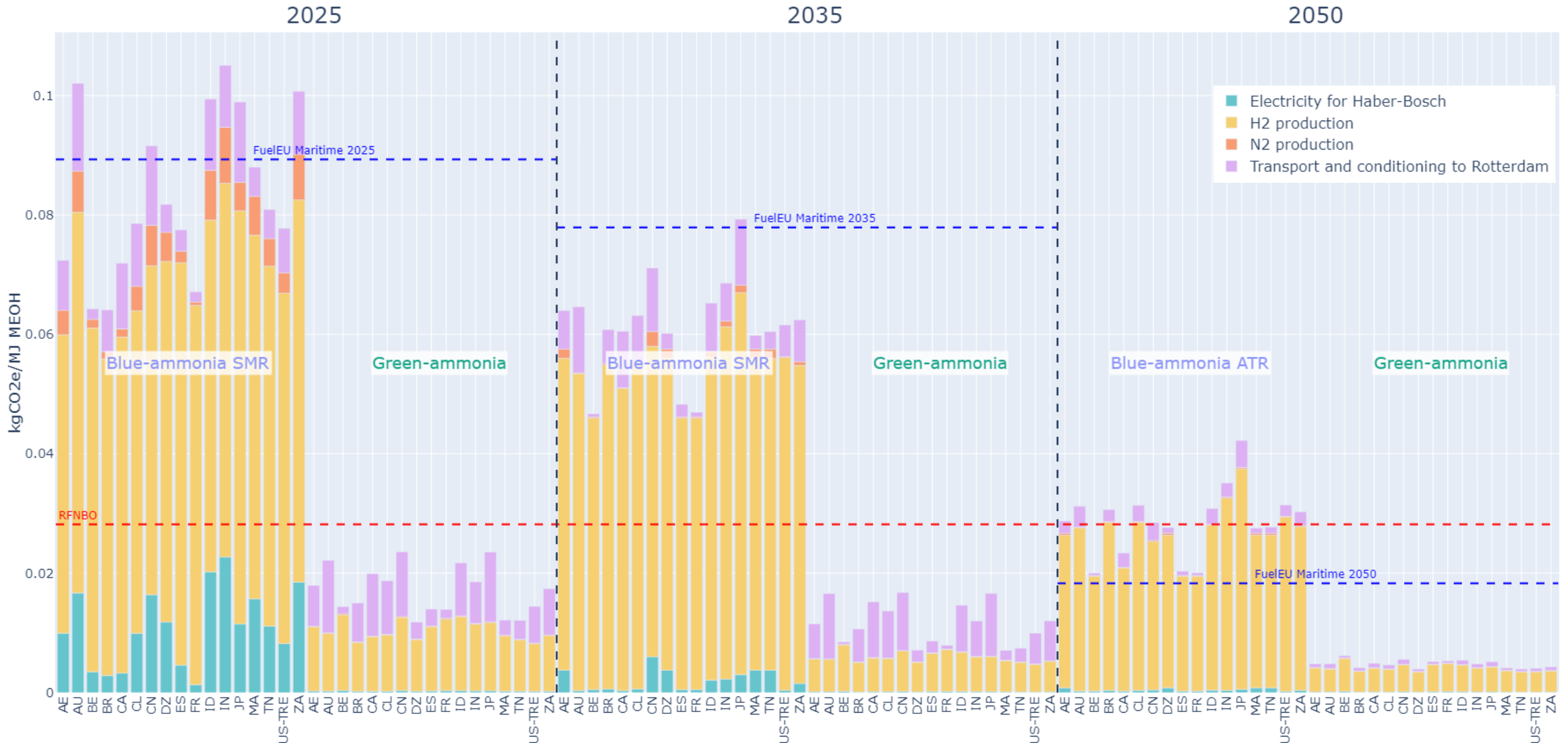
### Grey-/Blue-NH3:

- Do not reach RFNBO in any production region



# GREEN AND BLUE NH3 SUMMARY PROSPECTIVE RESULTS BY LOCATION

Prospective results for green and blue ammonia produced (with Transport and Conditioning to Rotterdam for bunkering)



Note – For Green-Ammonia, GHG emissions scope shown below: cradle-to-grave (whole scope) while regulatory accounting (FuelEU Maritime) is Well-to-Wake (smaller scope)

# GREEN AND BLUE NH3 SUMMARY PROSPECTIVE RESULTS BY LOCATION

Prospective results for green and blue ammonia produced (with Transport and Conditioning to Rotterdam for bunkering)

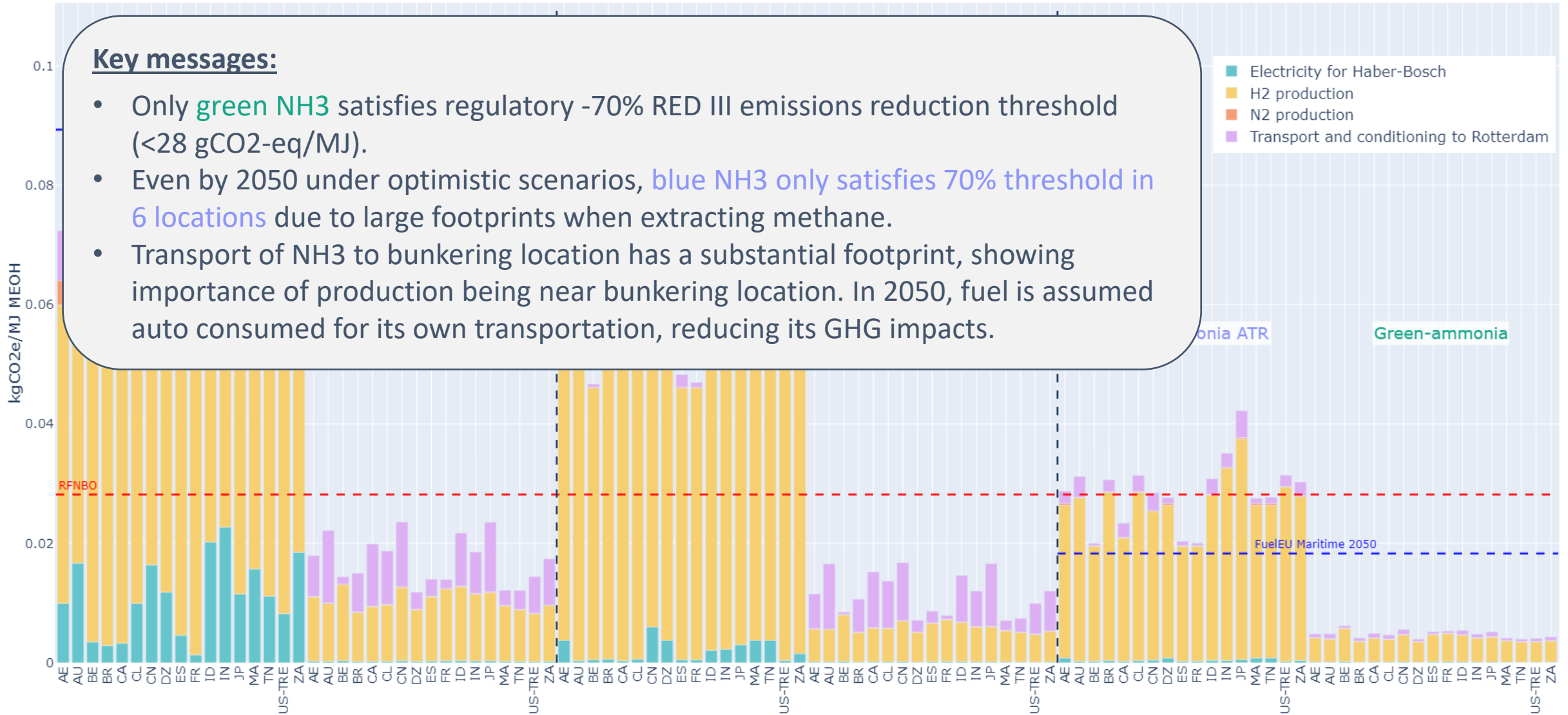
2025

2035

2050

## Key messages:

- Only **green NH3** satisfies regulatory -70% RED III emissions reduction threshold (<28 gCO<sub>2</sub>-eq/MJ).
- Even by 2050 under optimistic scenarios, **blue NH3 only satisfies 70% threshold in 6 locations** due to large footprints when extracting methane.
- Transport of NH<sub>3</sub> to bunkering location has a substantial footprint, showing importance of production being near bunkering location. In 2050, fuel is assumed auto consumed for its own transportation, reducing its GHG impacts.

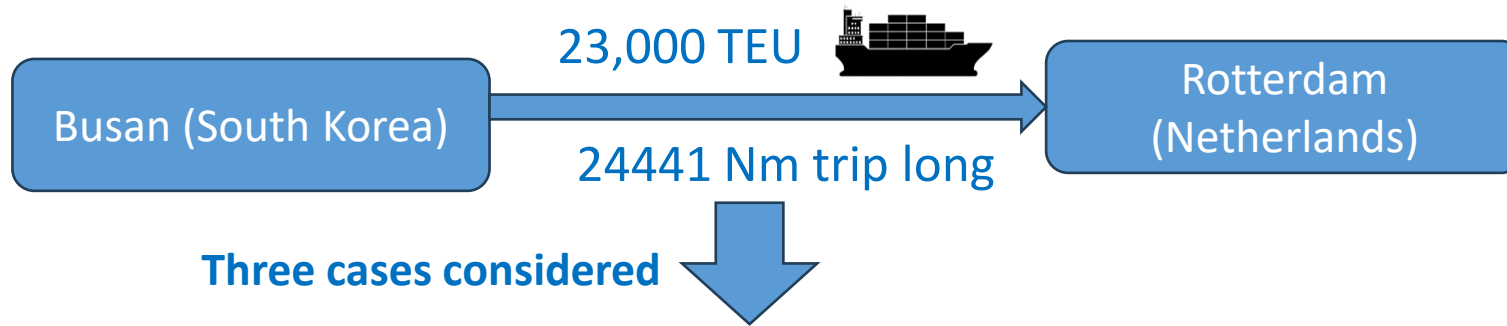


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# FUEL USE FOR SHIP TRANSPORTATION SCENARIOS

## CHANGE OF FUNCTIONAL UNIT CO2EQ / TEU.KM



|                      | Reference scenario  | Methanol scenario  | Ammonia scenario                                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| <b>Fuels used</b>    | VLSFO, MDO          | 13% pilot fuel (VLSO & MDO)<br>87% MeOH<br>-> 102 GWh                                      | 13% pilot fuel (VLSO & MDO)<br>87% NH3<br>-> 115 GWh |
| <b>GHG intensity</b> | 31.18 gCO2eq/TEU.km | <b>Results will depend on the GHG intensity of the fuel, thus its production scenario.</b> |  |

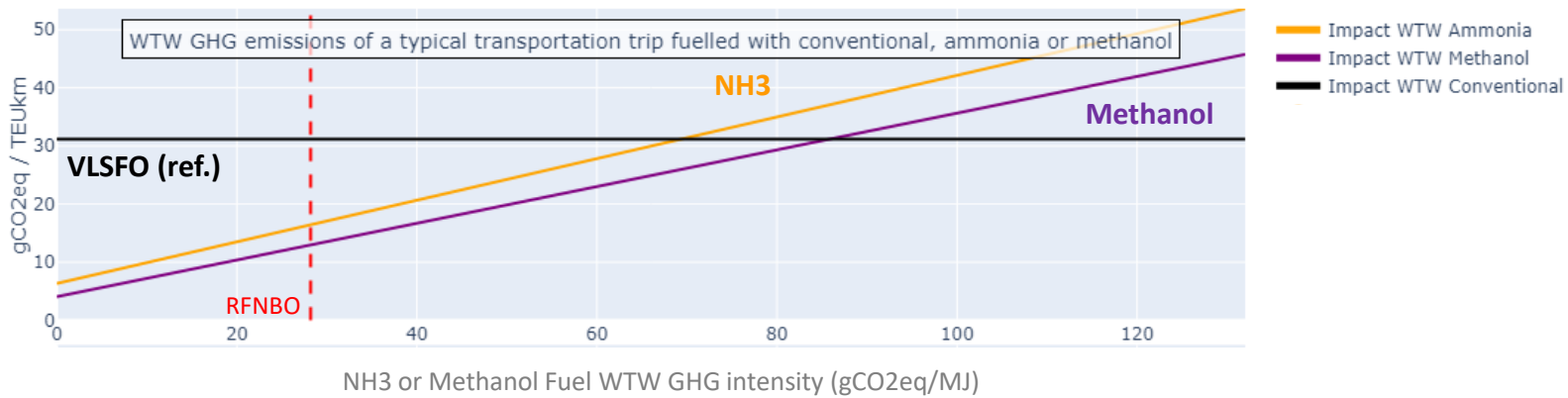


### Note on data:

23,000 TEU Methanol and Ammonia ships do not currently exist. Our ship models rely on the most up-to-date engine model data, which includes test bed results for methanol engine (currently operational) and maker simulations for ammonia engine. However, for the sake of baseline comparison, the same engine configuration (size and number) has been selected. This results in non-optimal configurations for emissions, especially for NH3, where auxiliaries emit significant amounts of particularly N2O.

# COMPARISON OF AMMONIA METHANOL AND VLSFO

Fuel GHG intensity VS Container transportation work GHG intensity summations (1<sup>st</sup> graph) and scenario distributions for NH3 (2<sup>nd</sup> graph) and MeOH (3<sup>rd</sup>) - **Scenario: 2025**



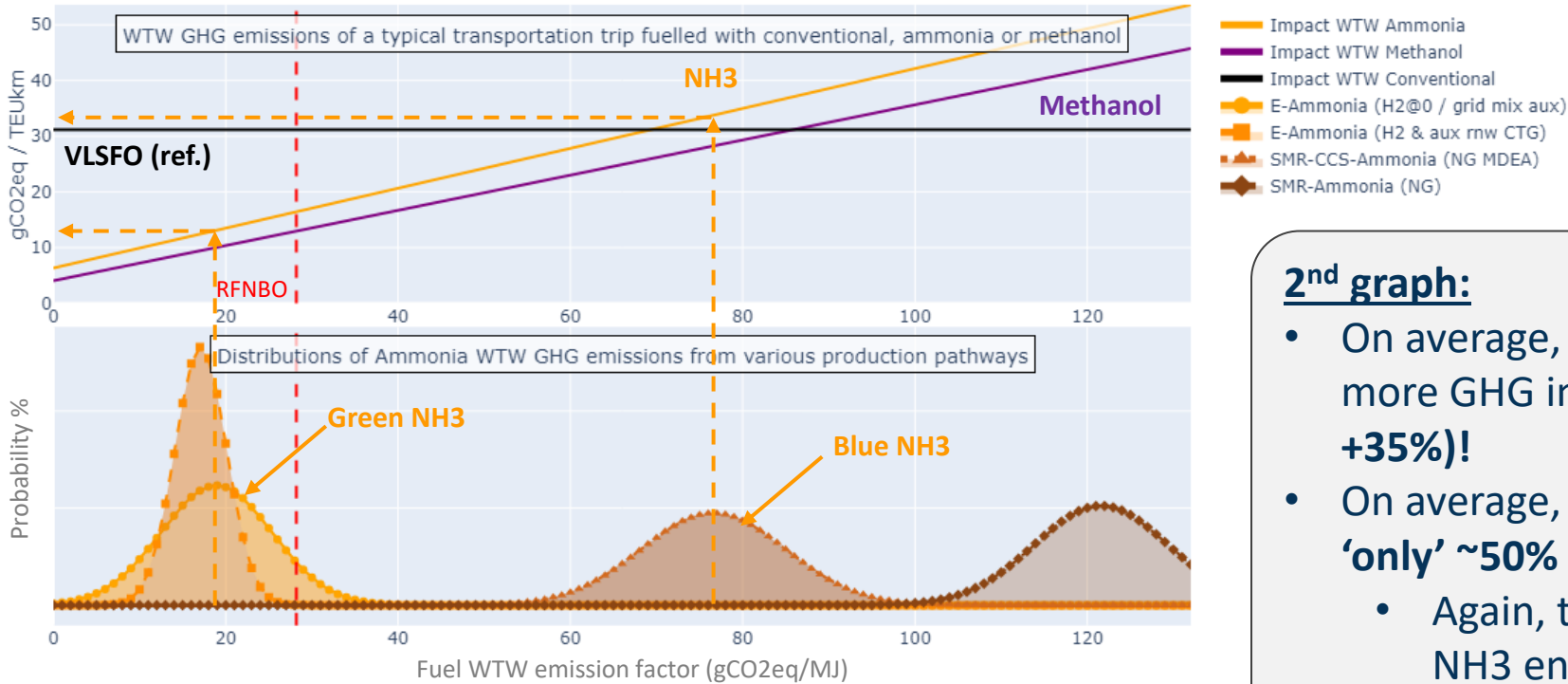
## 1<sup>st</sup> graph:

- For a given fuel emission factor (x-axis), transportation work with **NH3 is more GHG intensive** (y-axis) than with Methanol due to
    - **Lower engine efficiency** (i.e. more energy consumed per unit of output power), partly due to a non-optimized engine size and architecture).
    - Higher needs of (fossil VLSFO) **pilot fuel consumption** to ignite the combustion
    - **N<sub>2</sub>O emissions**, a powerful greenhouse gas
- Engine development, ship architecture, and including a PTO to reduce N<sub>2</sub>O will improve the overall picture.
- The use of cleaner pilot fuel will also reduce the gap between ammonia and methanol in term of emissions, while incurring additional costs and competing with decarbonisation of VLSFO.



# COMPARISON OF AMMONIA METHANOL AND VLSFO

Fuel GHG intensity VS Container transportation work GHG intensity summations (1<sup>st</sup> graph) and scenario distributions for NH3 (2<sup>nd</sup> graph) and MeOH (3<sup>rd</sup>) - Scenario: 2025

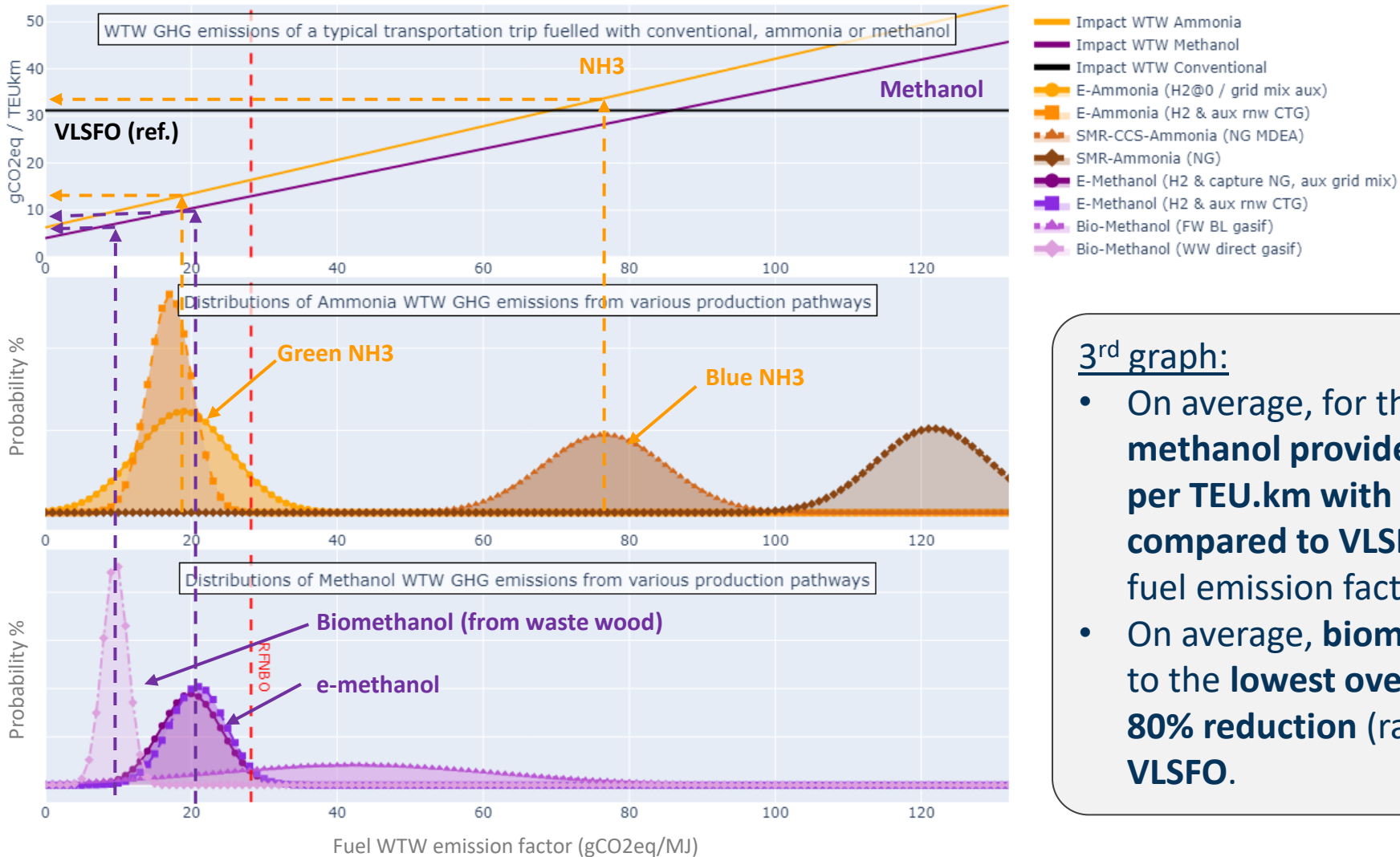


## 2<sup>nd</sup> graph:

- On average, transportation work with **blue NH3** is more GHG intensive than VLSFO (range of -20% to +35%)!
- On average, **green NH3** reduces GHG emissions by 'only' ~50% (range of 35-85%) compared to VLSFO.
  - Again, this highlights the need for R&D on NH3 engines, vessel architecture optimisation + the need of cleaner pilot fuel.
  - Loopholes in the regulatory accounting (not accounting for the infrastructure) leads to "a feeling of better outcome" than stated here.

# COMPARISON OF AMMONIA METHANOL AND VLSFO

Fuel GHG intensity VS Container transportation work GHG intensity summations (1<sup>st</sup> graph) and scenario distributions for NH3 (2<sup>nd</sup> graph) and MeOH (3<sup>rd</sup>) - Scenario: 2025



## 3<sup>rd</sup> graph:

- On average, for this baseline comparison, **e-methanol provides lower overall WTW emissions per TEU.km with 70% reduction (range 60-80%) compared to VLSFO**, despite slightly higher WTW fuel emission factor than NH3.
- On average, **biomethanol from waste wood leads to the lowest overall WTW GHG emissions with 80% reduction (range 75-85%) compared to VLSFO.**

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# LCA TAKE AWAY MESSAGES (1/2)

## Regulations & methodologies

- With RED methodology, **the molecules derived from green H2 show a significant GHG reduction potential (~90% vs RED fossil reference)**. Loopholes in this methodology, currently not accounting for the emissions related to renewables infrastructure, lead to **overoptimistic emissions reduction levels for e-fuels**.
- **Considering the Cradle-to-Grave scope, they can achieve ~80% reduction potential (still passing RFNBO threshold)**.

## Comparisons of fuels

Overall, **Ammonia and Methanol products have similar order of magnitude of WTW GHG results**. However, lower ammonia engine efficiency results in higher overall WTW **GHG emissions at transportation trip level**.

### Ammonia

- **Blue NH3 is not fit for decarbonization**, it emits more overall WTW GHG emissions per TEU.km than VLSFO, on average.
- **E-NH3 is fit for decarbonization** but it provides only **~50% reduction** (range 35-85%) in overall GHG emissions, on average
  - Highlighting need for R&D on NH3 engines and vessel architecture optimisation to improve this figure.

### Methanol

- **Biomethanol is fit for decarbonization**, providing **80% reduction** (range 75-85%) in overall GHG emissions, on average.
  - Providing that it is produced with the appropriate bio-feedstock... and that it is available.
- **E-methanol is fit for decarbonization**, providing **70% reduction** (range 60-80%) in overall GHG emissions, on average.
  - ... but it is **hard to produce** (requires capture of biogenic CO2).

## LCA TAKE AWAY MESSAGES (2/2)

### Comparisons of production regions

- **Transportation and storage** of finished product to the bunkering site has a **significant impact**.
- However, depending on the scenario of production chosen, fuels produced in regions **far from bunkering sites, but with a low-carbon electricity grid, may have lower GHG intensity than those produced nearby with high-carbon grid mixes**.
- Similarly, for products derived from reformed methane (grey or blue) hydrogen, **the natural gas supply chain GHG intensity has a significant impact on the finished product**.

### Prospective results

- GHG impacts are expected to decrease with years (overall global economy decarbonation, technological improvements of electrolyzers etc.).
- Using the produced fuel for its own transportation enables to significantly reduce the final impacts of the WTW product.
- Even by 2050 under optimistic scenarios, **blue NH3 only satisfies 70% threshold in 6 out of 17 considered locations** due to large footprints when **extracting methane**.

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