

Indo-French Seminar on Catalysis for Sustainability

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Thibault Cantat is a group leader at the Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) in France. He obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 2007 at the Ecole Polytechnique, France. Afterwards, he received a joint Director's Postdoctoral position at Los Alamos National Laboratory in the groups of Drs. Jaqueline Kiplinger, Enrique Batista and P. Jeffrey Hay. Upon returning to France in 2009, he started a research group focused on the activation and recycling of CO2, depolymerization of wood lignin and mechanistic investigations using experimental and computational chemistry, at CEA Saclay. He has published 104 research articles (h-index=42). For his contribution on CO2 chemistry, he was awarded the Grand Prix Scientifique of the Louis D. Foundation by the Institut de France (2013), which is the most endowed research prize in France. He obtained a Starting Grant in 2013 and a Consolidator Grant in 2018 from the European Research Council and in 2014, he was a granted a Green Chemistry for Life research grant from UNESCO and IUPAC. In parallel, he provides scientific advice to policy makers and was nominated panel member at the CCUS workshop for Mission Innovation. In 2017, he was an expert and co-author of a report on Carbon Capture and Utilization for the Scientific Advice Mechanism, SAPEA, commissioned by the European Commission. Since 2020, he is the Program Leader on the Carbon Circular Economy at CEA (incl. biofuels, Power-to-X and biomass conversion technologies).