Update on the IMO Future Fuels & Technology Project (FFT Project)

Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency Team

Marine Environment Division, IMO Secretariat

22 | 3 | 2023

Study on the readiness and availability of low- and zero-carbon technology and marine fuels

Update and preliminary outputs, 22nd March 2023

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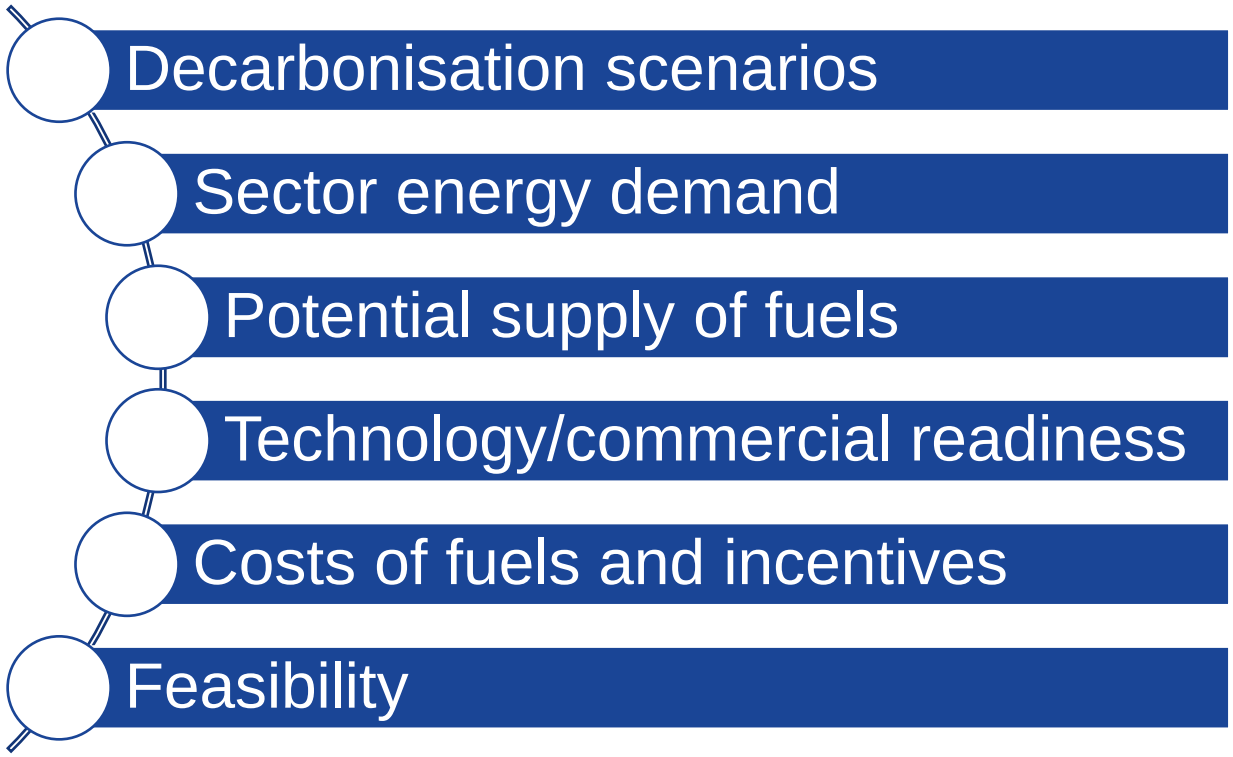
Introduction and context

- Study is part Future Fuels and Technology project (FFT Project)
- Aim: assess state of availability and readiness of low- and zero-carbon ship technology and marine fuels
- Context: provides evidence for use in revision of Initial GHG Strategy
- Study conducted January to March 2023



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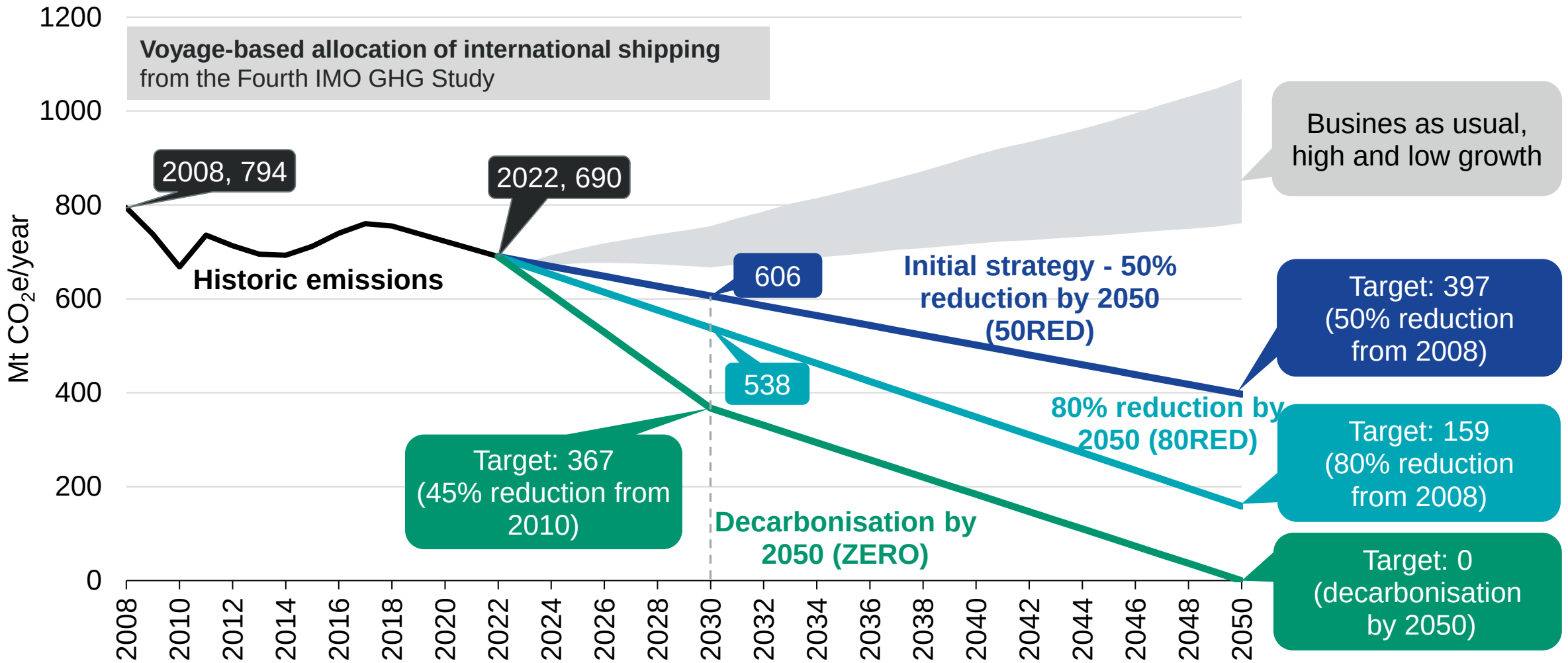
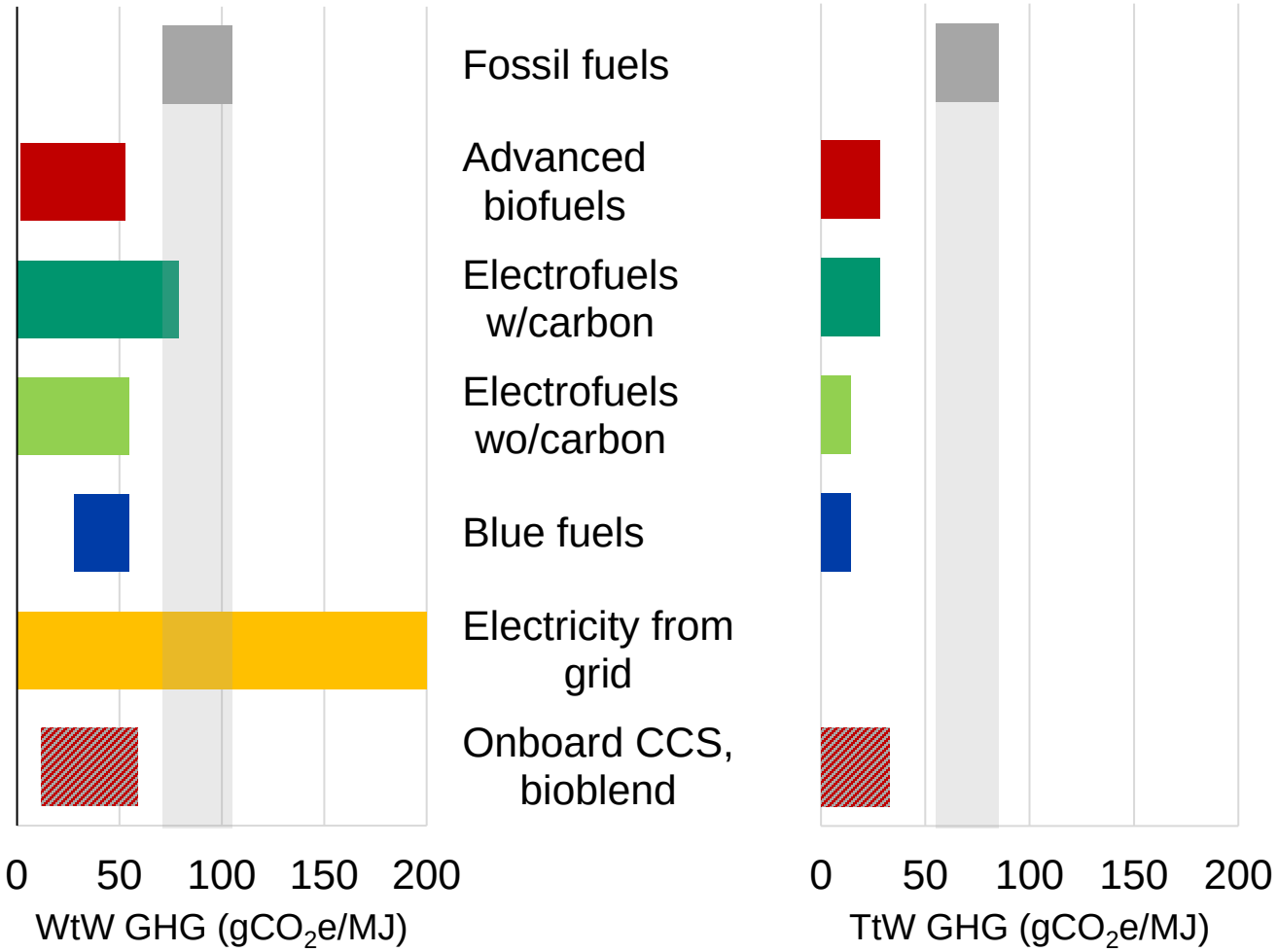
Three working decarbonisation scenarios as options to bound the potential Revised Strategy

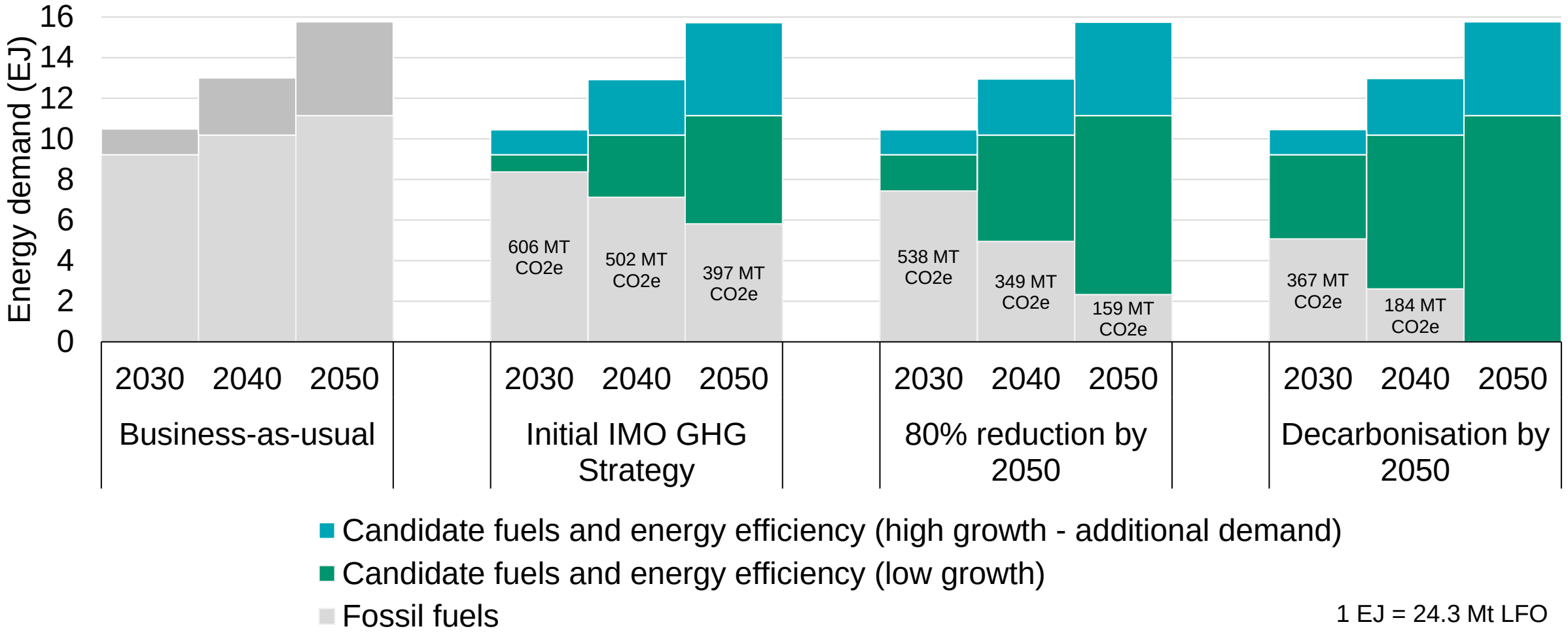


Candidate fuels identified based on well-to-wake and tank-to-wake GHG emissions



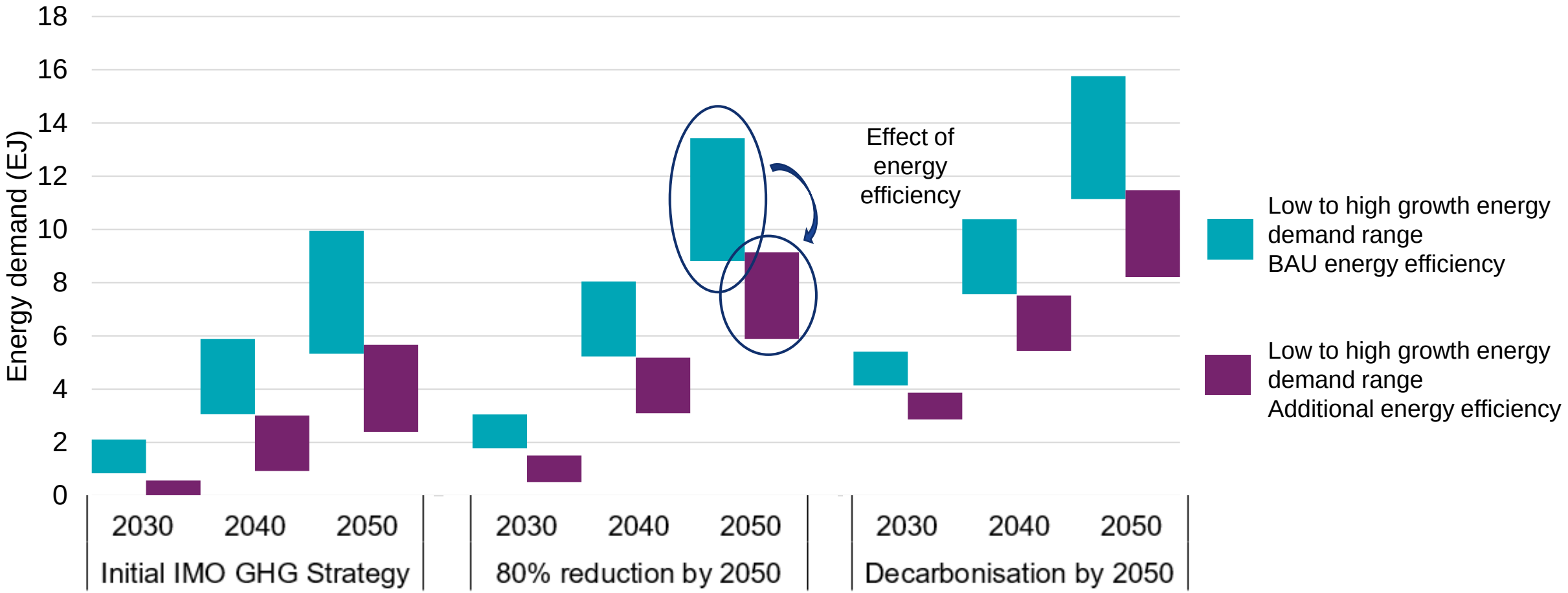
1. Candidate fuels identified from review of WtW and TtW emissions
2. Candidate fuels have significantly reduced WtW emissions.
3. For the purpose of achieving the targets, candidate fuels are assumed to have zero TtW GHG emissions
4. No carbon credits / offsets from other sectors
5. Includes CO_2, CH_4 and N_2O, based on GWP100
6. Not prejudging whether Revised GHG Strategy should cover WtW or TtW

GHG reduction targets determine maximum amount of fossil fuel and minimum energy to be supplied by candidate fuels or energy demand reduction



1 EJ = 24.3 Mt LFO

30% speed reduction and implementing all available energy efficiency measures can reduce demand by 15-27% but still high demand for candidate fuels to meet the decarbonisation ambitions



1 EJ = 24.3 Mt LFO

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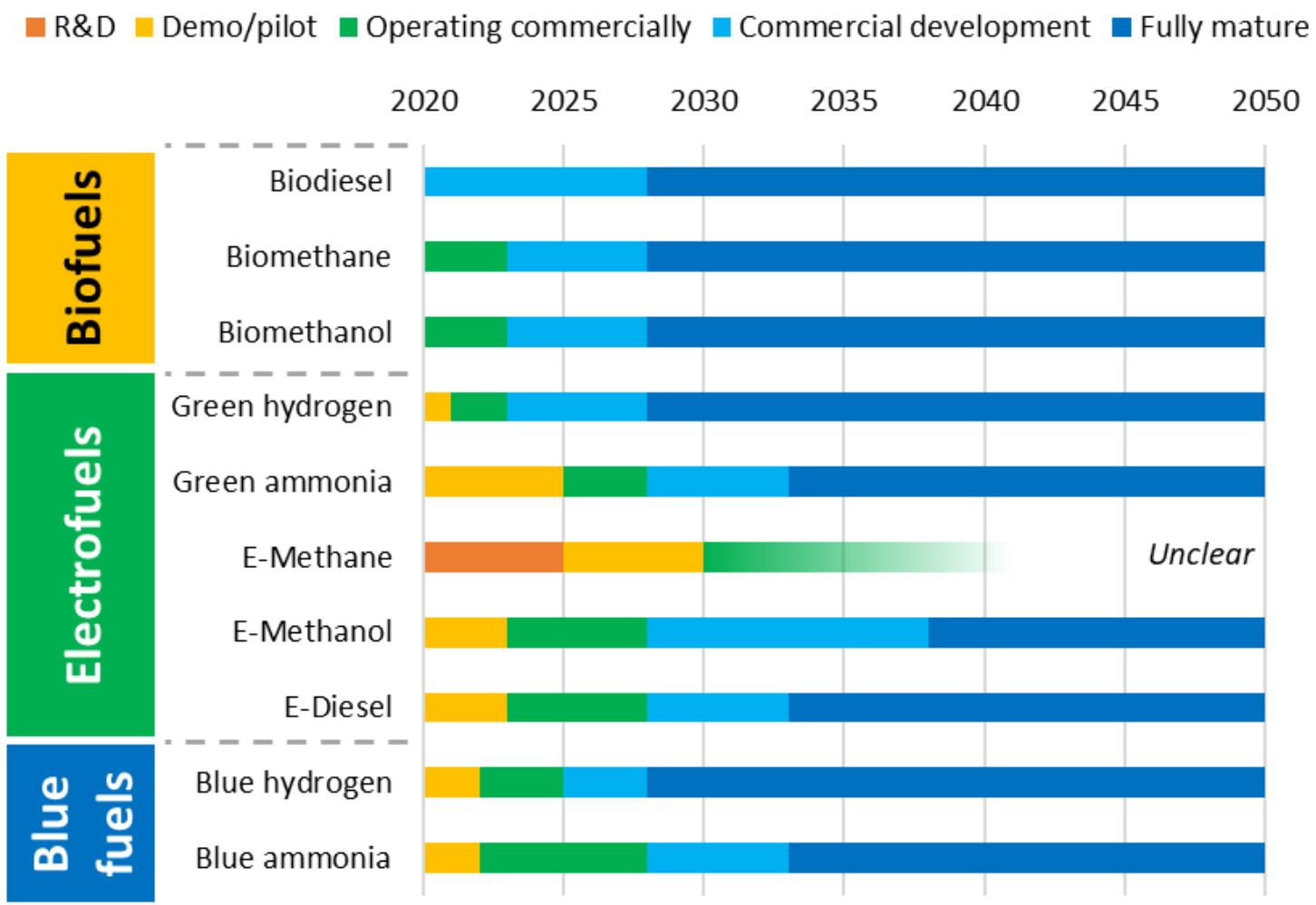
Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) extended to accommodate Commercial Readiness Level (CRL)

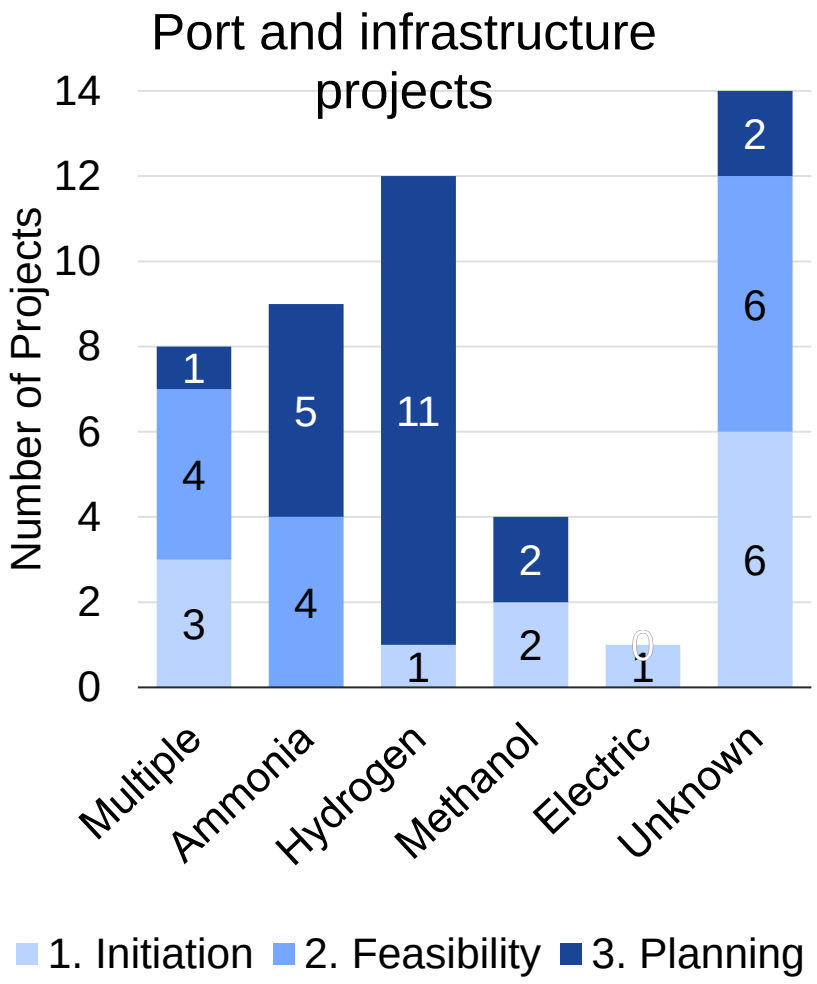
Maturity	Rating	Description of readiness level
Basic research	TRL1	Basic principles of scientific research observed and reported
	TRL2	Invention and research of practical application
	TRL3	Proof of concept with analytical and experimental studies to validate the critical principles of individual elements of the technology
Development	TRL4	Development and validation of component in a laboratory
	TRL5	Pilot scale testing of components in a simulated environment to demonstrate specific aspects of the design
	TRL6	Prototype system built and tested in a simulated environment
Demonstration	TRL7	Prototype system built and validated in a marine operational environment
	TRL8	Active commissioning where the actual system is proven to work in its final form under expected marine operating conditions
Deployment: early adoption	TRL/CRL9	Operational application of system on a commercial basis – technically ready but limited number of vessels/first-of-a-kind facilities
	CRL10	Integration needed at scale: solution is commercial but needs further integration efforts to achieve full potential – may be 100's or a few 1000 vessels or small number of at-scale facilities, small share of market
Mature	CRL11	Proof of stability reached, with predictable growth

The technologies and fuels needed to meet the demand will be commercially ready in time, and earlier than shown if a clear signal of demand is given

- Reviewed 100+ literature sources and consulted / validated with stakeholders
- Evaluated forecast readiness (TRL/CRL):
  - Energy saving and efficiency technologies
  - Fuel production pathways
  - Propulsion tech.: engines and fuel cells
  - Onboard carbon capture
- These graphics are forecasts based on today's situation (ambition, policies)

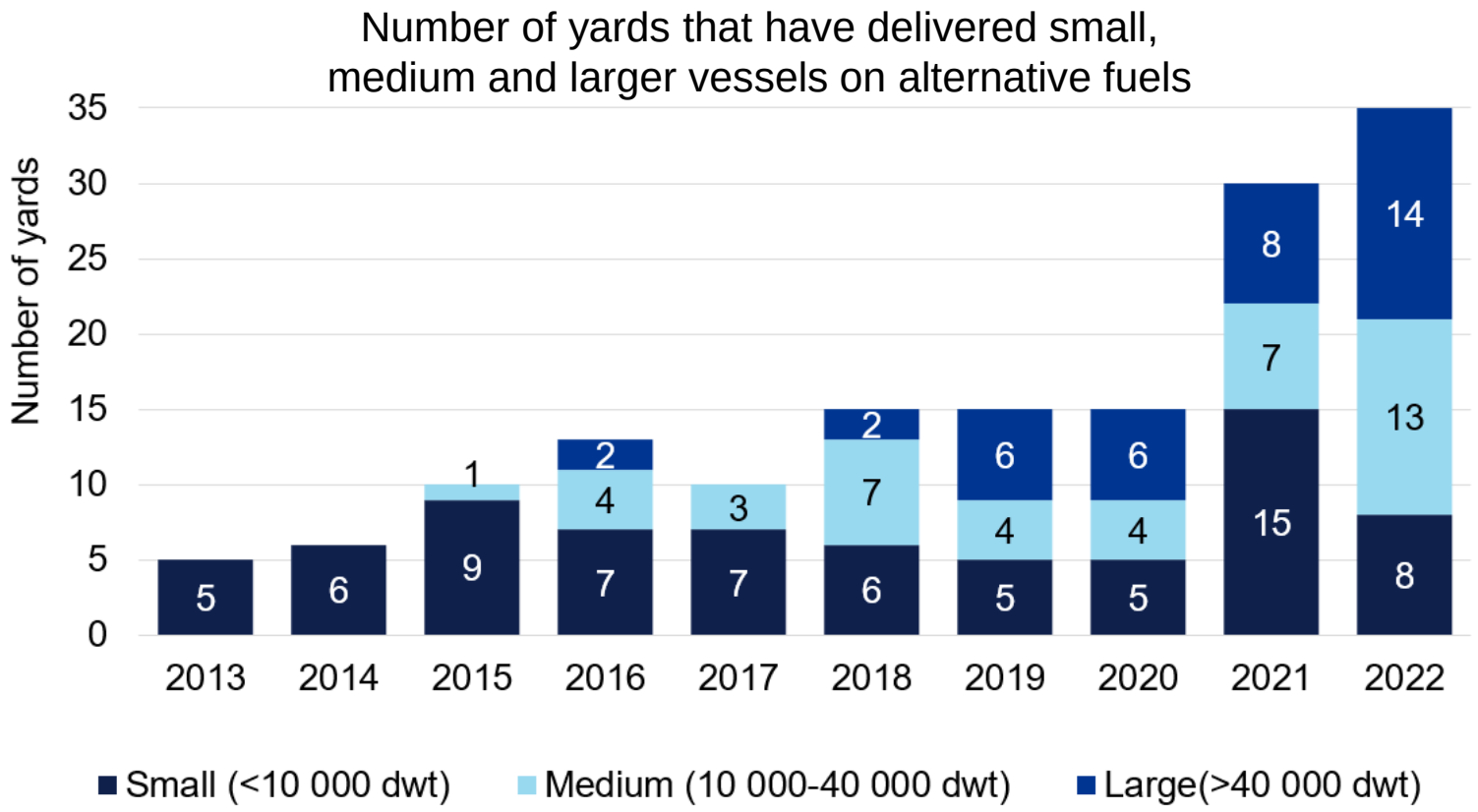


Existing orderbook drives demand for bunker facilities
48 candidate fuel production projects identified



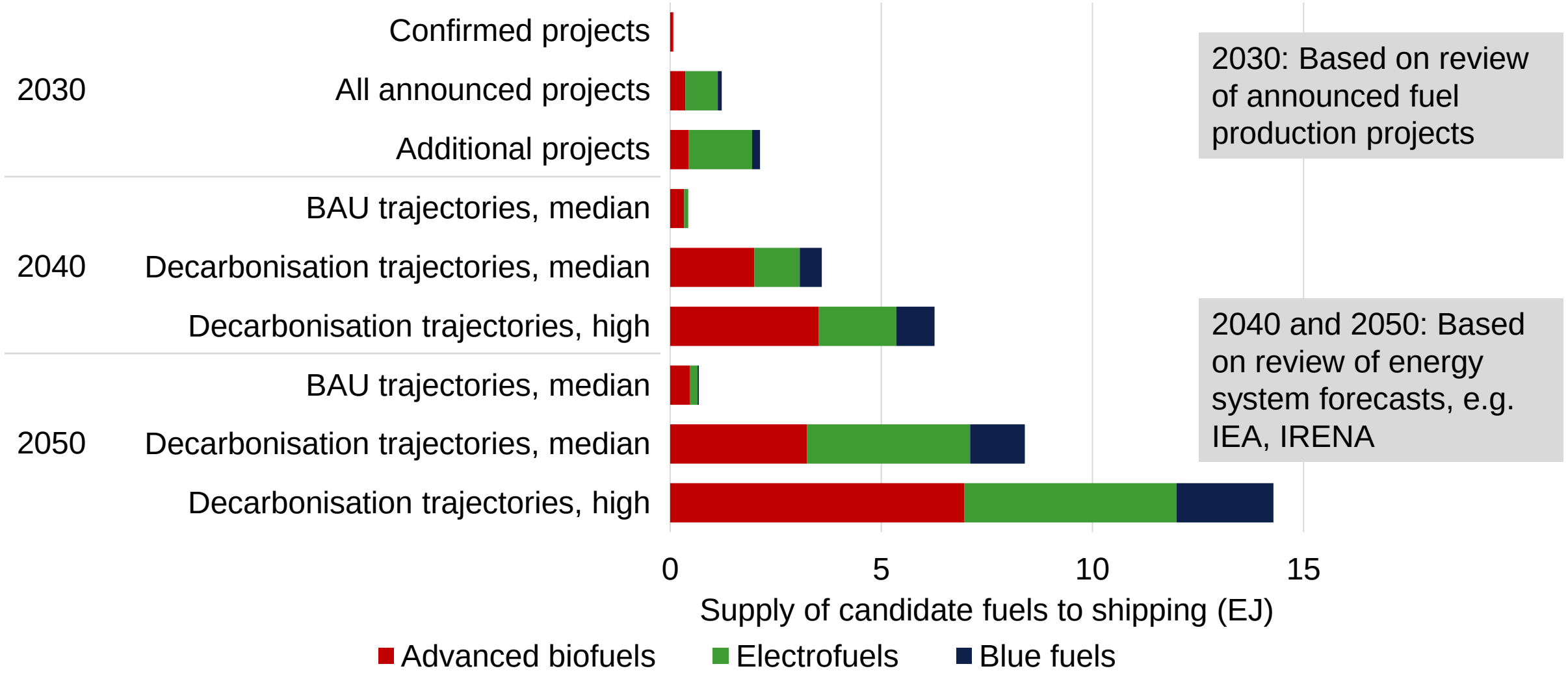
Fuel types	Distribution and storage	Bunkering infrastructure
Fuel oils (e-diesel, bio-diesel)	Can use existing distribution and storage facilities for conventional fuel	Can use existing bunkering infrastructure
Gaseous fuels (e-methane, bio-methane)	Can use existing distribution and storage facilities for LNG	Can use existing LNG infrastructure
Methanol (e-methanol, bio-methanol)	Existing storage and distribution infrastructure: methanol terminals, already traded by ships	Successful demonstration bunkering operations, ship-to-ship bunkering possible. Partially developed bunkering infrastructure.
Ammonia (e-ammonia, blue ammonia)	Existing storage and distribution infrastructure: ammonia terminals, already traded by ships	No bunkering infrastructure today, and no bunkering operations demonstrated. Barriers remaining to be solved.
Hydrogen (e-hydrogen, blue hydrogen)	No existing distribution infrastructure	No existing bunkering infrastructure Local bunkering demonstrated. Barriers remaining to be solved.

Shipyards can scale up to match candidate fuel roll-out



- Increasing number of alternatively fuelled vessels being built
- Diversifying number of shipyards delivering candidate-fuelled vessels
- Historically yards have been able to increase production significantly in a short time
- Capacity to scale up the production and installation of energy converters, energy efficiency technologies and onboard CCS plants over short time periods once demand is clear

Potential for significant supply of energy to achieve decarbonisation scenarios but depends on firm demand

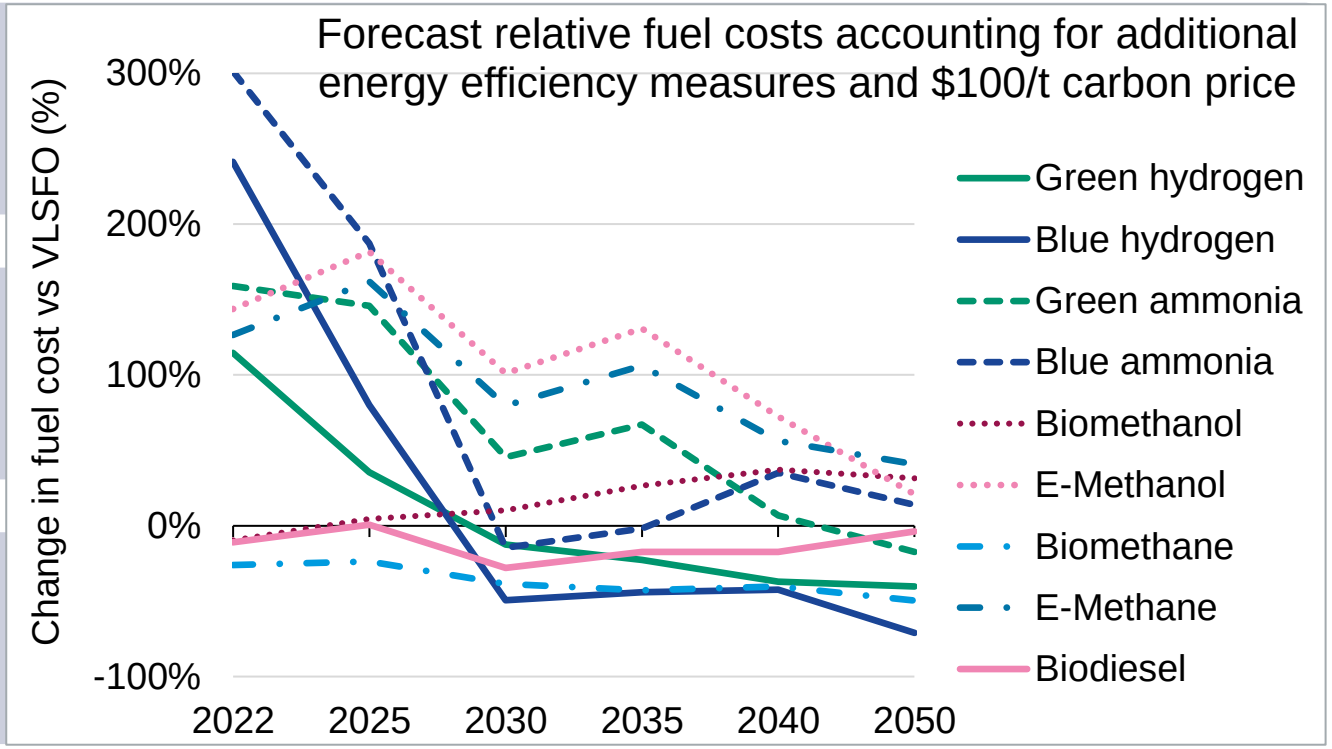


If there is a clear signal of demand, the price differential of candidate fuels is not a barrier to their uptake for the shipping industry

The increased capital costs of vessels using candidate fuels will not be a significant barrier to adoption

Upfront costs of some alternatively fuelled vessels can already be managed today

The high capital costs of onboard carbon capture systems are anticipated to be a barrier to adoption



Higher prices of candidate fuels on their own are not a barrier: the barrier is the current uncertainty, in the absence of a clear demand signal, of when and by how much fuel prices could change.

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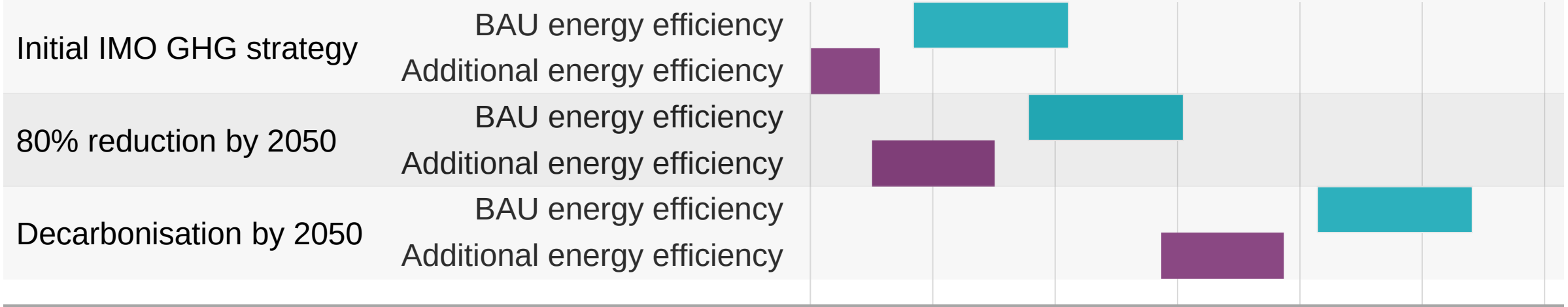
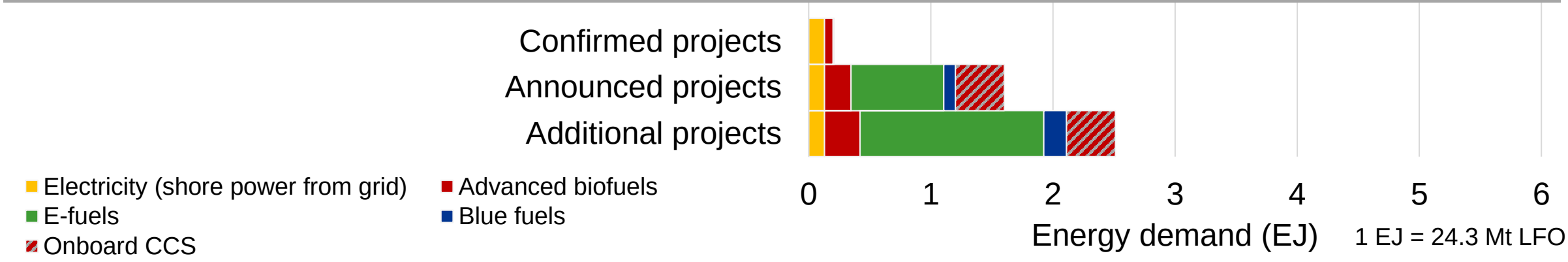
2030 feasibility

Initial IMO GHG Strategy:	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
80% reduction by 2050:	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
Decarbonisation by 2050:	✗	Major gaps

Energy demand (low to high seaborne trade growth range)



Aggregated candidate fuel supply



2040 feasibility

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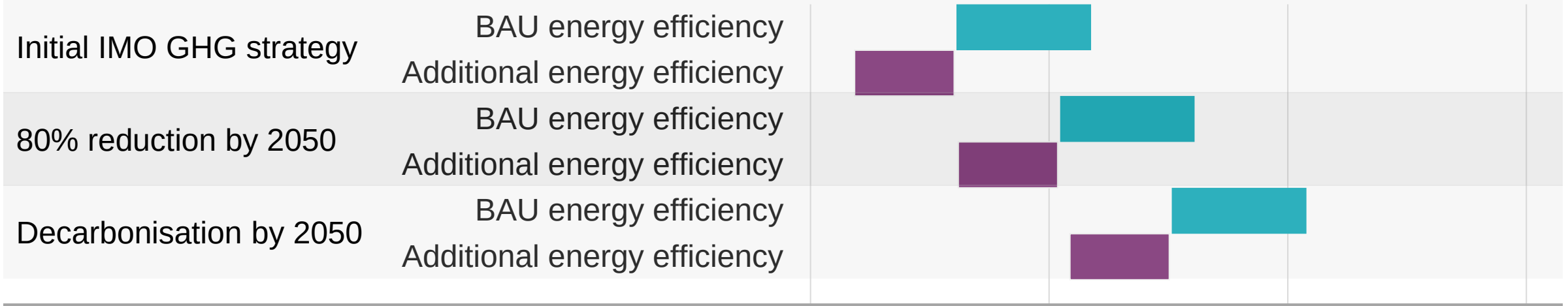

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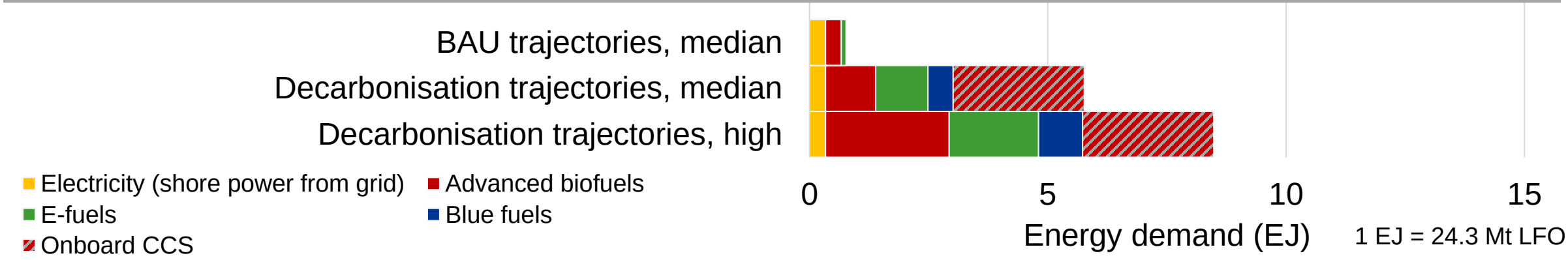
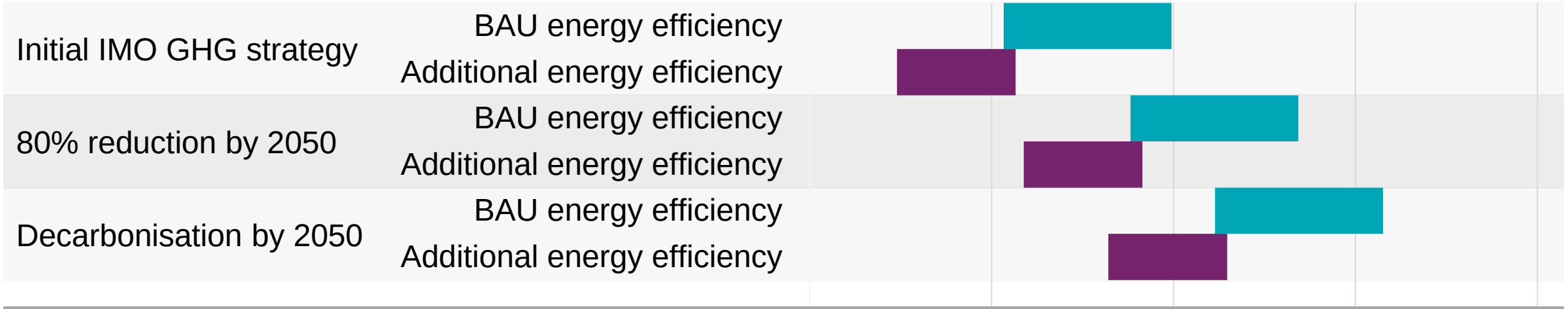


2050 feasibility

Initial IMO GHG Strategy:	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
80% reduction by 2050:	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
Decarbonisation by 2050:	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition

Energy demand (low to high seaborne trade growth range)



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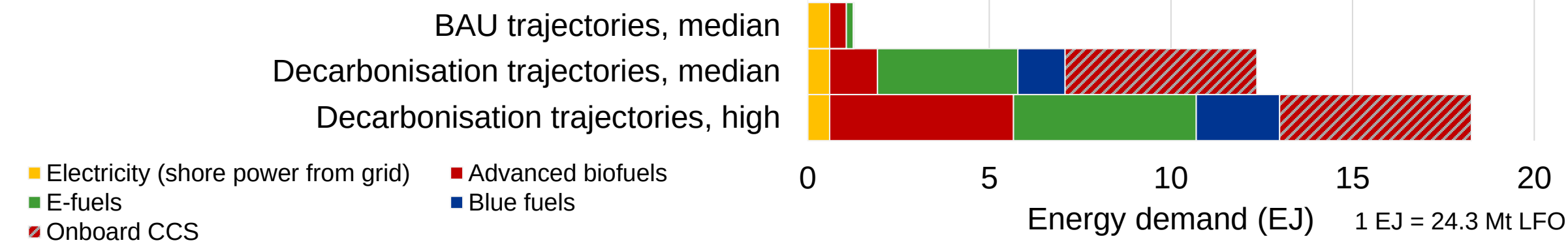

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Conclusions

- Achieving a more ambitious decarbonisation pathway than BAU is not limited by commercial readiness of alternative fuels and technologies, nor infrastructure and shipyard readiness
  - Current forecasts of readiness would accelerate if increased demand is agreed
- A clear signal of demand is needed to enable sufficient supply of candidate fuels.
  - E.g. Revised Strategy AND policies to achieve this, including on energy efficiency measures
  - Clear signal of demand needed very soon to enable meeting interim targets of the decarbonisation scenarios
- All three decarbonisation scenarios considered in this paper are expected to be feasible in 2040 and in 2050 if policies to deliver an increased level of ambition are implemented in the short term
- The higher cost of candidate fuels than conventional fuels is not a barrier to deployment if the demand signal is clear.

Decarbonisation scenario	2030		2040		2050	
Initial IMO GHG strategy	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
80% reduction by 2050	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition
Decarbonisation by 2050	✗	Major gaps	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition	✓	Feasible with increased policy ambition

Thank you – any questions, comments, follow-ups:

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