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## Supporting Information

## Economical synthesis of cyclic carbonates from carbon dioxide and halohydrins using $K_2CO_3$

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• 2d + 2d	
• 2f	

Entry	Solvent	Dielectric const.	Yield (%)
1	Toluene	2.38	6
2	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH	24.5	62
3	Dry DMF	36.7	90
4	DMF	(36.7)	90
4	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	37.5	88
5	DMSO	46.7	88
6	H <sub>2</sub> O	80.1	32

 Table S1
 Effect of Several Other Solvents

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (5 mmol; 22% is 2-bromo-1-propanol),  $K_2CO_3$  (0.76 g, 5.5 mmol),  $CO_2$  (99.999%, balloon). After solvent and  $K_2CO_3$  were stirred in the presence of  $CO_2$  (1 atm) for 4 h at 30 °C, **1a** was added and reacted for 20 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

<sup>c</sup> anhydrous (non-anhydrous and non-deoxygenated).

Entry	Halohydrin	Product	Yield (%)
1	OH ↓↓CI 1f	2f	41
2	OH Br 1g	0 0 2g	61
3	HO <sup></sup> Br <b>1h</b>	2h	83

Table S2 Effect of  $Cs_2CO_3$  as Base for 1f, 1g and  $1h^1$ 

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (5 mmol; 22% is 2-bromo-1-propanol),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (0.76 g, 5.5 mmol),  $CO_2$  (99.999%, balloon). After solvent and  $K_2CO_3$  were stirred in the presence of  $CO_2$  (1 atm) for 4 h at 30 °C, **1a** was added and reacted for 20 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

## Reference

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1. M. R. Reithofer, Y. N. Sum and Y. Zhang, Green Chem., 2013, 15, 2086–2090.



Figure S1. EDX analysis of the precipitate after the reaction of 1-bromo-2-propanol and  $CO_2$  in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$  (Table 1, entry 9).



Figure S2. XRD profile of the precipitate after the reaction of 1-bromo2-propanol and  $CO_2$  in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$  (Table 1, entry 9).



-C**H**2-Br

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHZ, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 5.00-4.92 (m), 4.63-4.57 (m), 4.44-4.34 (m), 3.83-3.74 (m), 3.72-3.49 (m).



 $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHZ, CDCl\_3):  $\delta$  4.15 (s), 1.53 (s).