



DIAMONDS4IF

DISCOVERY, IDENTIFICATION, APPLICATION, AND MONITORING OF DEVELOPED SOLUTIONS FOR INNOVATION FUND

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D9.5 – WORKSHOPS WITH OTHER FUNDED PROJECTS UNDER THIS CALL 1

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| 1.1 | 2.12.2024 | Patrizia Bolognesi | First Draft |
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| Abbreviation | Description |
|--------------|---|
| Al | Artificial Intelligence |
| CCU | Carbon Capture and Utilization |
| CINEA | European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency |
| CORDIS | Community Research and Development Information Service |
| CRL | Commercial Readiness Level |
| CSA | Coordination and support action |
| EC | European Commission |
| EIB | European Investment Bank |
| ETIP | European Technology & Innovation Platforms |
| H2020 | Horizon 2020 |
| IF | ETS Innovation Fund |
| INNEN | INNOVATION ENGINEERING srl |
| MEYER BURGER | MEYER BURGER (Industries) GmbH |
| PNO | PNO Consultants GmbH |
| R&D | Research and Development |
| R&I | Research and Innovation |
| RAAMS | RAAMS AS |
| RWE | RWE Offshore Wind GmbH |
| TRL | Technology Readiness Level |
| WP | Work Package |



INTRODUCTION

Project Summary and Objectives

DIAMONDS4IF project aims to support Horizon2020 (H2020) beneficiary companies in further developing their projects and applying to the ETS Innovation Fund (IF), which helps them overcome barriers in turning R&D (Research and Development) into successful businesses.

One of the main outcomes of the DIAMONDS4IF project will be the production of at least five sound proposals, including detailed plans for scalability, commercialization, and financial models for submission to the IF.

Work Package 9 (WP9) focuses on the collaboration with CINEA and all relevant stakeholders that have an interest in the Innovation Fund programme, including the other CSA (Coordination and Support Action) projects, also beneficiaries of this call.¹ The consortium will therefore organise workshop and events in order to inform about the project, enable knowledge exchange and create synergies. The activities will be complemented by standard dissemination and communication activities.

Purpose of This Document

This deliverable aims specifically to report on the participation in joint workshops, meetings and events with the other CSA projects for the sharing of expertise, and the set-up of further activities (Task 9.1).

In the first chapter, we provide an overview of the objectives and target groups of the project, as well as a summary of the other CSA projects involved.

The second chapter provides an overview of relevant events, meetings, workshops, and activities implemented and attended by DIAMONDS4IF in collaboration with the other CSA projects. All activities and meetings held so far are presented in more details.

Finally, in the third chapter, we illustrate the main conclusions and lessons learned.

¹ CSA projects are funded under the same call: HORIZON-CL5-2023-D2-01-07





1 WORKSHOP PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVE

According to the Grant Agreement (GA) and as described previously in the Dissemination Plan, there are **three different types of workshops** that must be organised by the consortium members (Type 1 and 2) or on invitation by CINEA (Type 3):

- Type 1. → 2 Workshops with other funded projects under this call for knowledge exchange and synergies (PNO); Target group: other CSA (Coordination and Support Action) projects in this call, also other sectors; aim is to improve tools and methods for Innovation Fund project development
- Type 2. → 12 public workshops at 6 large events on Innovation Fund in renewable sectors (all); Target groups: members of sector associations; aim is to present the project and its results (see also Task 9.4)
- Type 3. → Workshops organised by CINEA (participation on demand)."

1.1 Target Groups

The dissemination and communication activities aim to reach a variety of target groups, ranging from stakeholders in industry to European and national policy makers. The following list names some examples for target groups and how DIAMONDS4IF can address them:

- Companies in the renewable energy sector, incl. manufacturing of components and technologies needed, i.e. for energy generation, storage, distribution, and transformation
 - Potential applicants and project owners
- Industrial associations in the sector of renewables
 - Act as multipliers
- Other CSA projects funded under the same call (HORIZON-CL5-2023-D2-01-07)
 - Support for the deployment of R&I (Research and Innovation) results for climate mitigation
 - Exchange of lessons learnt, communication activities, participation in common events.
 - Development of best practices and elaboration of recommendations for the European coordination unit of the ETS Innovation Fund
- CINEA and policy makers
 - o Input and definition of targets for the IF process and templates
 - Recommendations based on the lessons learned, to create a continuous improvement process for the IF tool





- Multipliers for information on Innovation Fund, incl. national contact points and working groups, committees, etc. with relevance to the topic
 - o Create awareness and use further channels for communication

1.2 Workshops with other funded CSA projects under this call

To create the expected impact, to reach as many companies as possible and to generate European synergies as well as to constantly exchange of information, the DIAMONDS4IF partners have actively collaborated with its CSA European "sister-projects":

- REALIZE (coordinated by Euro-Funding),
- 2DPLOY (coordinated by SINTEF),
- LEADS (coordinated by CiaoTech), and
- H2IF (coordinated by CLERENS)

These projects are funded for the same purpose as DIAMONDS4IF but focusing on further technologies and sectors (except for REALIZE), incl. CCU (carbon capture and utilization), hydrogen, and low carbon technologies for energy intensive industries. This big project family in close cooperation with CINEA (The European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency) will facilitate the deployment of technologies and IF proposals in the whole European tech area. Figure 1 shows the five sister projects and coordinating organisations as a joint Innovation Fund support initiative.





Figure 1: Presentation of the five CSA European "sister projects". Source: PNO

In order to encourage the exchange of knowledge and synergies between these projects, the grant agreement of DIAMONDS4IF, as described above, provides for the organisation of two workshops in cooperation with other CSA projects over the three project years. Overall, workshops should be initiated to create fruitful collaboration and cooperation between the projects and the CINEA.



2 WORKSHOPS WITH OTHER FUNDED PROJECTS

As mentioned above, workshops and events with other CSA projects are only a small part of DIAMONDS4IF project activities. Before focusing on specific activities related to other CSA projects, the Table 1 provides a brief overview of relevant events, meetings, workshops and activities in which the DIAMONDS4IF consortium has participated in 2024. The Column "Type of Workshop" include among others also the "Workshops with other CSAs" planned within the Grant Agreement.



Table 1: Snapshot of the list of relevant events in which DIAMONDS4IF participated from January to December 2024, divided by Type of Workshop

| Year | Start Date | End Date | Event name | Sector | Location | Type of Workshop | Nr. of Participants |
|------|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|---------------------|
| 2024 | 19.01.24 | 19.01.24 | Nationaler Informationstag zum EU- Innovationsfonds | Innovation Funds | Berlin | Workshops (Public Event) | 30 |
| 2024 | 31. Jan. 24 | 31. Jan. 24 | Congress Future of Solar (congressolar.com) | Solar industry | Louwman Museum, Den Haag | Workshops (Public Event) | 20 |
| 2024 | 1. Feb. 24 | 1. Feb. 24 | Online: 1th CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | 5 |
| 2024 | 6. Mrz. 24 | 6. Mrz. 24 | Online: CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | 9 |
| 2024 | 10. Apr. 24 | 10. Apr. 24 | Online: CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | 10 |
| 2024 | 22. Apr. 24 | 23. Apr. 24 | CINEA / CSA Cluster Meeting - from horizon2020 to innovation fund support at the CINEA | CINEA/CSA | Brussels | Workshops with other CSA | 40 |
| 2024 | 8. Mai. 24 | 8. Mai. 24 | Online: CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | 10 |
| 2024 | 13. Mai. 24 | 13. Mai. 24 | Online: CSA communication & dissemination regular meetings | CSA C&D | Online | CSA communication & dissemination regular meetings | 7 |
| 2024 | 21. Mai. 24 | 21. Mai. 24 | Online: REALIZE + PNO internal online meeting for the realisation of a webinar in December 2024. 21st Mai 2024 (and several more meetings in the | CSA | Online | Targeted Knowledge- Sharing Meetings with Other CSAs | 4 |
| 2024 | 6. Jun. 24 | 6. Jun. 24 | Online: CSA communication & dissemination regular meetings | CSA C&D | Online | CSA communication & dissemination regular meetings | 10 |
| 2024 | 11.06.24 | 11.06.24 | Session bei DMEC (LOI for Diamonds4IF) | All about IF | The Hague | Workshops (Public Event) | 25 |
| 2024 | 19. Jun. 24 | 21. Jun. 24 | Intersolar Europe | Solar industry | Munich | Workshops (Public Event) | 20 |
| 2024 | 4. Jul. 24 | 4. Jul. 24 | Online: CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | 15 |
| 2024 | 11.07.24 | 11.07.24 | International Solar Manufacturing Initiative (ISMI) Kick-off meeting. | Solar Manufacturing | Online | Workshops (Public Event) | |
| 2024 | 15.10.24 | 15.10.24 | CINEA: SPEAKER INVITATION. Cluster Event on Aviation/Maritime Fuels and Biomethane | Fuels and biomethane cluster event | Bruxells | CINEA invitation | |
| | 17.10.24 | 17.10.24 | Lithium Symposium in Karlsruhe | innovative technologies in the field of direct lithium extraction (DLE): | Karlsruhe | Workshops (Public Event) | 100 |
| | 23. Okt. 24 | 24. Okt. 24 | Second Process Industry Conference: Shaping the Transformation, Brussels, Belgium (Invitation from LEADS/A.SPIRE) | , | in Brussels, at BluePoint, Boulevard | Workshops with other CSA | |
| 2024 | 08.11.24 | 08.11.24 | Online: DIAMONDS4IF / LEADS: Internal online Meeting and exchange on best practices and information on the creation of Videos Tutorials as Tool for dissemination activities. | Knowledge sharing meeting | Online | Targeted Knowledge- Sharing Meetings with Other CSAs | |
| 2024 | 02.12.24 | | Online: 2DPLOY Project: Online, First Cooperation Meeting with other CSAs Participants: Project Coordinators and WP leaders of projects - 2DPLOY, LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, HZIF | | Online | Workshops with other CSA | |
| 2024 | 12.12.24 | 12.12.24 | Online: Webinar on funding opportunities for RE projects: Presentation of Innovation Fund and European Hydrogen Bank | Renewable energy | Online | Workshops with other CSA | 1000 |
| 2024 | 18.12.24 | 18.12.24 | Online: 6th CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | CINEA/CSA | Online | CINEA invitation. CINEA- CSA regular coordinator meeting | |



The inter CSA cooperation in terms of events takes place mainly in two ways:

- 1. Participating as a cluster in public events organized by third parties to increase visibility of the projects and of the Innovation Fund
- 2. And potentially, organizing joint events.

The objective for the DIAMONDS4IF project is to participate at least in **two CSA workshops** during the 3-year period outlined in the GA.

Going into the specifics of the objectives of this report, we can summarise with Table 2 the events already achieved to date and those planned till the end of 2024 with particular reference to the activities carried out together the other CSA projects.



Table 2: Summary of Completed and Planned Workshops, meetings and activities together with the other CSA projects

| Workshop Types 1 ² | Event name | Date | Nr. Participants |
|--|---|--|---------------------|
| Workshops with other CSA | CINEA / CSA Cluster meeting - From horizon2020 to innovation fund support - Brussels, Belgium | Monday, 22 April – Tuesday, 23 April 2024 | 40 |
| Regular meetings | 6 Online: CINEA / CSA regular coordinator meetings | Bi-monthly | 8 |
| Regular meetings | 2 CSA communication & dissemination regular meetings | Regular | 10 |
| Knowledge sharing meeting | Online: REALIZE + PNO internal online meeting for the realisation of a webinar in December 2024. | 21st Mai 2024 (and several more meetings in the following months) | 5 |
| Workshops with other CSA | Second Process Industry Conference: Shaping the Transformation, Brussels, Belgium (Invitation from LEADS/A.SPIRE) | 23 rd October 2024 | 30 |
| on best practices and information on the | | 08 th November 2024 | 5 |
| Workshops with other CSA | 2DPLOY: First Cooperation Meeting with other CSAs, online | 2 December 2024 14:00 – 16:00 | 12 |
| Workshops with other CSA | Webinar on Funding Opportunities for RE Projects, Online (REALIZE+PNO) | 12 December 2024 | 1.000 |
| Workshops with other CSA | Work in Progress: event in 2025 | ~ Q1 -Q2.2025 | |

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ According to the GA, as previously mentioned, only Workshops with other CSA (Type 1)





In the following, more detailed descriptions are presented of the events that have taken place to date in cooperation with the other CSA projects.



2.1 CINEA/CSA Cluster Meeting in Brussels

Since the beginning of 2024, DIAMONDS4IF and its European "sister projects", have started their activities, in close cooperation with CINEA (The European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency). On 22 and 23 April 2024, all 5 CSA project partners had the opportunity to meet in person in Brussels, share best practices, ideas, and experiences.



Figure 2: DIAMONDS4IF Consortium at the Cluster Meeting in Brussels

Context

Establishing synergies between relevant EU funding programs was highlighted as a key element in accelerating R&I results along the EU innovation pipeline towards deployment. This included developing a supply chain of R&I projects, from H2020 to successful Innovation Fund applications in specific thematic sectors, fostering communication and dissemination activities, and leveraging other funding opportunities.

Target Group

The meeting brought together the beneficiaries of the five Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) funded under the call HORIZON-CL5-2023-D2-01-07. It also included colleagues from DG CLIMA, DG RTD, the CINEA Horizon and Innovation Fund units involved in H2020 projects covered by the CSAs, as well as representatives from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking and the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking.





The five CSAs, with durations of 30 to 36 months, commenced their work in January 2024.

Objectives

- Our common objectives were: Share best practices and lessons learned from H2020 project beneficiaries who succeeded in obtaining Innovation Fund support.
- Evaluate tools and approaches used by the CSAs to facilitate successful Innovation Fund applications.
- Promote collaboration, knowledge sharing, and joint communication and dissemination plans, including public events to engage broader sector stakeholders.
- Identify additional funding opportunities from the European Investment Bank.

Organisation of the Workshop

The workshop spanned two half days. The first half-day focused on lessons learned from Innovation Fund applications, methodologies for identifying technology owners in H2020 projects, and tools for supporting Innovation Fund applications. The second half-day featured a world café covering knowledge sharing, sector engagement, and communication activities, alongside a session on alternative funding sources.

Output

In this context, we had the chance to introduce the DIAMONDS4IF goals, our project partners and our selection tool based on our intelligence platform Wheesbee[©]. This experience has also provided valuable insights into the European Commission's expectations and perspectives on the future development of the Innovation Fund program. Additionally, we gained important input on alternative funding opportunities offered by the European Investment Bank (EIB).

PNO also collected lessons learned and recommendations from the five CSAs and shared them with CINEA and the relevant EC Directorates-General for the Innovation Fund. These recommendations, consolidated by PNO, reflect the expertise and insights of professionals actively involved in the five CSAs.

2.2 Regular meetings





CINEA also organised **bi-monthly online meetings to coordinate the various CSA projects**, review their activities and facilitate the exchange of good practices, providing support for the work of the coordinators.

These meetings were complemented **by internal sessions** organised by the coordinators of the five CSA projects, focusing on **communication and dissemination issues**.

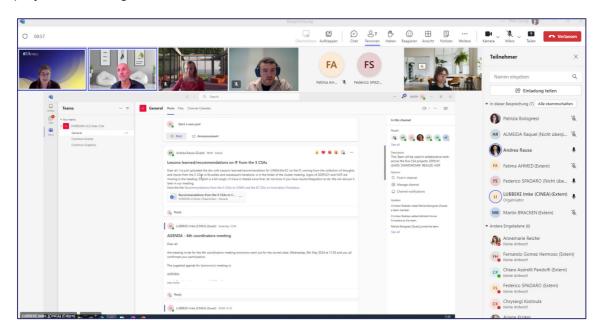


Figure 3: Screenshot from CINEA- CSA coordinator meeting

2.3 Second Process Industry Conference: Shaping the Transformation

On 23 and 24 October 2024, A.SPIRE hosted the second Process Industry Conference in Brussels. A.SPIRE is a partner of the EU-funded CSA sister project: **LEADS**.

DIAMONDS4IF partners participated in the event and at the afternoon poster session, presented an overview of the DIAMONDS4IF strategies for selecting and supporting successful project ideas for Innovation Fund applications.

The conference was a unique opportunity to engage with industry leaders, representatives of European institutions and key stakeholders engaged in the green transition and industrial decarbonisation. It was also a platform to present the activities and objectives of DIAMONDS4IF and to get in touch with the other CSA system project.







Figure 4: PNO expert with other CSA colleagues in Brussels.

2.4 Bilateral Knowledge Sharing: DIAMONDS4IF / LEADS Online Meeting

In addition to the CINEA meetings and monthly meetings of the CSAs to coordinate communication and dissemination actions and organise joint events, **bilateral collaborations** also play a key role between the CSAs. On 8 November 2024, the partners of the DIAMONDS4IF and LEADS projects held an online meeting to exchange information and experiences regarding the production of video tutorials, which PNO has already published on its YouTube page. The meeting was valuable for sharing technical, logistical and organisational knowledge for the creation of video tutorials.









Figure 5: Technical background during the shooting of video tutorials. © PNO Consultants GmbH, 2024

2.5 2DPLOY: First Cooperation Meeting with other CSAs

This online meeting brought together project coordinators and work package leaders from 2DPLOY, LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, and H2IF.

Objective: organize a meeting with all the CSAs coordinators and work package leaders, to share lessons learned, synergizing the Innovation Pipelines and present the upcoming Masterclasses. The participants discussed challenges, explored ways to collaborate on future joint events and masterclasses, and exchanged valuable feedback. This collaborative session provided an opportunity to strengthen coordination and enhance outcomes across the CSAs.



First Cooperation Meeting with other CSAs

Online - 2 December 2024

14:00 - 16:00

Participants:

Project Coordinators and WP leaders of projects - 2DPLOY, LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, H2IF

Welcome and Introductions (15 min)

- o Brief welcome and participant introductions
- o Outline meeting objectives

Overview of the 2DPLOY project and Innovation Pipeline Methodology (35 minutes)

- o Presentation of the 2DPLOY innovation pipeline approach (15 minutes)
- Feedback on the pipeline's design and effectiveness, sharing approaches (20 minutes)

LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, H2IF

Masterclass Development: Content and Collaboration (35 minutes)

- o Draft structure and approach of upcoming 2DPLOY masterclasses (15 minutes)
- Feedback and exploring opportunities for collaboration (20 minutes)
 LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, H2IF
- o Participation in Masterclasses for CSA Stakeholders

Exploring Alternative Funding Schemes (10 minutes)

- CSAs are invited to share insights and findings on alternative funding schemes that could support mutual goals.
 - 2DPLOY, LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, H2IF

Opportunities for Joint Events (10 minutes)

Discussion on potential joint events, potential dates and key objectives.
 2DPLOY, LEADS, REALIZE, DIAMONDS4IF, H2IF

Closing Remarks and Next Steps (5 minutes)

Figure 6: Agenda of the First Cooperation Meeting with other CSAs

2.6 Webinar on Funding Opportunities for Renewable Energy Projects

Since Mai 2024 representatives of the EU-funded REALIZE and DIAMONDS4IF projects met regularly in order to organize a Workshop in form of a webinar after the IF Call on the 3rd of December.





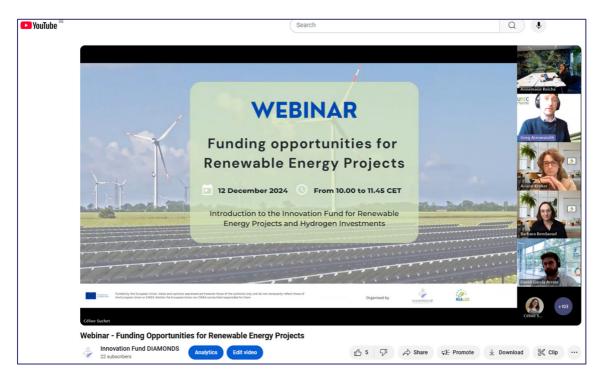


Figure 7: Screenshot of the online Webinar (12.12.2024): funding opportunities for Renewable energy Projects.

Objectives

The REALIZE and DIAMONDS4IF projects focused on fostering collaboration and synergies to improve results by harnessing shared expertise and resources. This should **facilitate the transfer of knowledge** between coordinators, partners, and interested applicants, and promote best practices and ensured alignment with EC communication and dissemination requirements.

The participation was free of charge, as shown in Figure 8, but it was necessary to register at the following link.



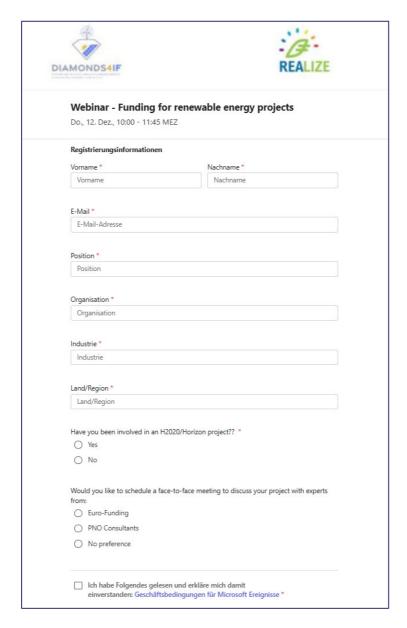


Figure 8: Screenshot of the landing page for the registration

Context

Both the EU-funded DIAMONDS4IF and REALIZE projects support the creation of **renewable energy projects** ready for the Innovation Fund by ensuring project feasibility, providing applicants with the tools to successfully tackle the application process and promoting collaboration between stakeholders, investors and the value chain. These efforts are key to accelerating European decarbonisation and fostering the transition to a sustainable, low-carbon future.

Target Group



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101138004.



Target groups are **renewable energy companies** actively seeking funding or information on the Innovation Fund (IF) and coordinators or partners of Horizon2020 projects focusing on renewable energy.

Several tools and channels were used to promote participation in the project, including a dedicated registration link³, a social media banner, webpage articles (Figure 9), LinkedIn posts (Figure 10), email invitations to pre-identified project partners and the European Commission Horizon Results Platform Newsletter (Figure 11).⁴

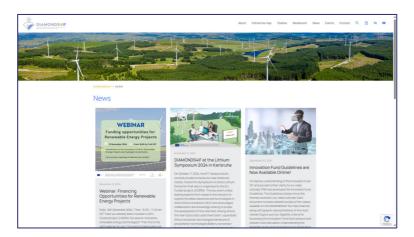


Figure 9: Overview of the DIAMONDS4IF Webpage



Figure 10: Overview of the DIAMONDS4IF LinkedIn account / Events.

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/horizon-results-platform; https://ec.eu/info/funding-



³ https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/7fae0928-c3a5-4781-a4f9-6f803de211c2@a3e77079-00c5-4ae4-8339-4ef04a4806d7/registration



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RESEARCH & INNOVATION



Event

EC Horizon Results Platform & Innovation Fund "Financing opportunities for renewable energy projects" webinar

The European Commission Horizon Results Platform Team and the Innovation Fund invite you to join the webinar: "Financing opportunities for renewable energy projects", Thursday, 12 December 2024, 10:00 – 11:45 a.m. CET

The European Commission <u>Horizon Results Platform</u> Team is delighted to announce a new webinar in partnership with the <u>Innovation Fund</u> and to invite you to join:

"Financing opportunities for renewable energy projects"

Date: 12.12.2024

Time: 10:00 - 11:45 (CET)

Register at the following link

Host: Horizon Results Platform and the Innovation Fund

This webinar is taking place as part of the EU-funded <u>DIAMONDS4IF</u> and <u>REALIZE</u> projects which support the development of Innovation Fund-ready projects by ensuring project viability, preparing applicants for successful Innovation Fund applications, and fostering collaboration across stakeholders, investors, and the value chain to accelerate the European decarbonisation efforts.

During the webinar we will guide interested applicants and Horizon projects' coordinators through the Innovation Fund application process and the Hydrogen Auction Program, providing essential information, support, and helping them seize future funding opportunities to maximise the number of high-quality applications for the upcoming IF calls scheduled for 3rd of December 2024.

Participation is free of charge, but it is necessary to register at the <u>following</u> link.

At the end of the meeting, you will have the opportunity to discuss your project idea in a **separate virtual meeting room** with experts from PNO and/or from Euro-Funding. Do not forget to tick the corresponding box in the registration form!

Please feel free to forward this invitation to project partners who may be interested in submitting a project idea and need further support with their Innovation Fund application.

If you have any questions or are interested in exploring this opportunity further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Figure 11: EC Horizon Results Platform Newsletter



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101138004.



This approach allowed us to reach a wide audience of potential participants. Within a couple of days of the announcement, the registration site reached 1,000 participants, prompting us to close registration and address critical technical details to ensure the success of the event. We therefore decided to create a **waiting list** and offer those who registered the opportunity **to receive a recording of the meeting.** In this context, the online Self-Assessment proved to be a valuable tool, allowing interested participants to conduct an initial assessment to determine whether their project idea is in line with the IF call or not.

Output

During the webinar, as shown in Figure 12, interested applicants have been guided through the Innovation Fund application process, the Hydrogen Auction Program and the Eligibility Criteria for the Battery call, providing essential information and support, and helping them seize future funding opportunities to maximise the number of high-quality applications for the IF deadlines in 2025.

Initially, the idea was to offer participants the opportunity to discuss their project idea in a separate virtual meeting room with experts from PNO or Euro-Funding. Given the high number of registered participants, we opted to remove this option, get in touch with possible interested parties at a later stage and leave a lot of space for the Q&A session.

| | AGENDA |
|---------------|---|
| 10.00 - 10.15 | Introduction and presentation of REALIZE and DIAMONDS4IF - EUREC |
| 10.15 - 10.30 | Introduction to the Innovation Fund programme and call novelties - Euro-Funding |
| 10.30 - 10.45 | Insights into the Innovation Fund award criteria - PNO |
| 10.45 - 11.00 | Tools and guidelines to prepare an IF application - PNO |
| 11.00 - 11.15 | Hydrogen Auction programme - Euro-Funding |
| 11.15 - 11.30 | Eligibility criteria for the Battery call - PNO |
| 11.30 - 12.00 | Q&A |

Figure 12: Agenda of the Webinar

⁵ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSE_Ywt7nYA





Table 3: Main Outputs: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

| Key Performance Indicator (KPI) | Nr. |
|---|------|
| Nr. of registrations | 1000 |
| Nr. of interested on the waiting list | 500 |
| Nr. of participants | 300 |
| Nr. of interested Emails asking for a quick check | 10 |

2.7 Other close collaborations activities

All these activities were complemented by the drafting of:

A final document containing recommendations and "Lessons learnt and recommendations from the 5 CSAs on innovation fund". The document has been sent to CINEA and as well as to DG Clima and DG RTD but it is also possible to view it on the Diamonds4if web page.⁶

Two joined press releases sent contemporarily by some CSA projects, and uploaded online on the Diamonds4if website⁷:

- April 2024: "From Horizon 2020 to market: New projects support mature European technological innovation for a clean and sustainable energy transition through the Innova on Fund programme
- December 2024: €2.4 billion available to fund innovative net-zero technologies.

A first Newsletter in December 2024, presenting all sister project and their activities, published from REALIZE project ⁸, shared from the others CSA projects.

Joint Social media approach.

⁸ https://mailchi.mp/7251865cb4c5/realize-newsletter-6437549?e=f494bdcb7e



⁶ https://www.diamonds4if.eu/mediaroom/

⁷ sent contemporarily by some CSA projects, and uploaded online on the diamonds site.



3 CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

In this report, we have reported on some of the activities already planned and described in the *Dissemination and Communication Plan* that specifically concerned events and activities carried out in **cooperation with CSA projects**.

Until today, significant progress and activities have been organised and participated:

- 4 Workshops with other CSAs projects
- 6 Online meetings: CINEA/ CSAs regular coordinator meeting
- 2 Targeted knowledge-sharing meetings with other CSAs
- 2 CSAs communication & dissemination regular meetings
- 1 Cluster event on aviation/maritime fuels and biomethane (on invitation from CINEA)

Key Outputs:

- An online webinar with REALIZE, addressing critical IF topics after the publication of the 5th Innovation Fund call
- Sharing of recommendations and lessons learned with CINEA and sister CSAs
- Publication of **two joint press releases** for sharing updates and insights with stakeholders
- Joint Social media approach

These workshops and dissemination efforts have strengthened connections among the CSA projects, encouraged the sharing of best practices, knowledge, strategies and provided participants with practical tools and resources for IF readiness.

Looking Ahead:

- Event in 2025: Planning is underway for a collaborative event with other CSAs to showcase progress and foster further exchange
- Newsletters, Press Releases and regular Coordination meetings: Monthly meetings as well as bilateral updates and newsletters will continue, focusing on key themes for the upcoming IF deadline in 2025.

Conclusions:

Deliverable D9.5 highlights the importance of collaboration and clear communication to achieve the project's objectives. Progress to date has laid a solid foundation for further activities, ensuring significant contributions to the innovation funds grant scheme.





4 LIST OF REFERENCES

- DIAMONDS4IF LinkedIn Account, <u>DIAMONDS4IF: LinkedIn</u>
- DIAMONDS4IF Website, Homepage Diamonds4if
- DIAMONDS4IF YouTube Channel, "Innovation Fund DIAMONDS", www.youtube.com/@DIAMONDS4IF
- DIAMONDS4IF webinar recording on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSE_Ywt7nYA
- EC Horizon Results Platform, <u>Newsletter</u>
- REALIZE Website, Homepage-REALIZE
- Webinar Registration Link, <u>Webinar on funding opportunities for RE projects</u>

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