## EU-funded project H2IF kicks off on 23 January in Brussels, Belgium

The EU-funded project "Horizon 2020 to Innovation Fund: up-scaling H2020 projects in the Energy Storage and Hydrogen sectors to the Innovation Fund" (H2IF) officially kicked off on 23 January 2024.

**23.01.2024 Brussels, Belgium** H2IF project kicked off yesterday with the partners meeting in Brussels to lay the foundations for a fruitful 3-year path to support innovation going to the market.



The focus of the project is to promote and facilitate technologically, financially, and operationally mature projects funded under Horizon 2020 to reach deployment phase by means of developing synergies with the ETS Innovation Fund, fostering the continuity of support for European innovation. This extension of the innovation pipeline plays a pivotal role in elevating the outcomes of these projects, propelling them along their readiness path from early-stage technological concepts to fully mature market-ready solutions, ultimately reinforcing the competitiveness of European industries on a global scale. The proof of concept will be achieved to the scaling-up and submission of 3 projects to the Innovation Fund instrument, all of them having been selected due to their high 'climate neutrality' potential and their innovation degree. The coordinators of the three selected H2020 projects are Beyonder, Storengy and Elestor. The Innovation Fund is crucial in promoting sustainable innovation, advancing the Green Transition, driving technological competitiveness, addressing market gaps and scaling up innovative solutions.

H2IF is funded by Horizon Europe under the call HORIZON-CL5-2023-D2-01 and is coordinated by CLERENS, a public affairs and communications consultancy specialised in advocacy, political and regulatory risk assessment, public funding and strategic communications.

The H2IF Consortium includes 7 partners from 4 countries: CLERENS, Zabala Brussels, EASE (Belgium), Dowel, Storengy (France), Elestor BV (Netherlands) and Beyonder AS (Norway). All partners were present to the meeting either in person or online, with representatives from the European Commission DG CLIMA and RTD, and CINEA in attendance as well.

The project consortium is pleased to participate in this collaborative effort and is diligently striving to attain the initial project outcomes!

Contact person at Zabala Innovation: mdelestre@zabala.eu