



CLINSH consortium invests in green and future-proof inland shipping

European project was launched 1st September 2016

A consortium of 17 partners from Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK will be investing in clean waterway transport for the next four years. The main goal of the CLean INland SHipping project (CLINSH) is to demonstrate that emission reductions in inland waterway transport are within reach. CLINSH was launched on 1st September 2016 with support from the European LIFE fund. The total investment budget for greener inland shipping is €8.5 million.

Clean inland shipping

Regional minister Rik Janssen (holding the Water and Environment portfolio) from the Province of Zuid-Holland (lead partner of the CLINSH project): "Inland shipping is an important mode of transport in the European network. With its large and varied fleet, the inland shipping sector strives to provide reliable service. The sector invests to meet customer demand, further improve reliability and reduce emissions. CLINSH will help them do that with information and innovative techniques."

The partners in the European CLINSH network will be testing and implementing innovative techniques, alternative fuels and shore power to speed up the rate of emission reductions in inland waterway transport. Measurements will be collected in a database to provide tools to support new and existing policies on greening the waterways for local, regional and national governments as well as the EU. This data will also enable skippers to gain more insight into what would be the most cost-effective environmental measures for their vessel.

CLINSH consortium

At the invitation of the Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission, a consortium of partners from Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK was formed. The Dutch province of Zuid-Holland is the lead partner for the CLINSH project. The partners include inland ports, universities and trade associations. The partners will be working together and investing in measures to reduce the emissions from inland shipping vessels. Given that the importance of the inland shipping sector extends beyond national borders, financial support from the European Union is vital.

Next steps

Over the next few weeks, the project plan will be developed in more detail and several preparatory steps will be taken. A European tendering procedure will be initiated to select the 30 vessels to take part in the on-board measurements. The official launch meeting will be held in Düsseldorf on 27th October. Communication tools such as a website, regular news updates and social media, will be used to keep the project partners and other interested parties involved and up to date.