



European  
Commission

# LIFE'N Grab Hy

Hydrogen powers silent bin lorries



WaterstofNet in Turnhout, Belgium,  
fuel zero-emission bin lorries with hydrogen.

Photo: LIFE'N Grab Hy

## OUR STORY

We founded WaterstofNet in 2009 to support the uptake of hydrogen as an energy carrier. Our non-profit has since coordinated over 11 demonstration projects with industrial players and government organisations across Europe, helping to install hydrogen fuelling stations and roll out zero-emission mobility.



Innovation



Hydrogen



Air quality

## Larger with Life

From 2015-2019, the EU LIFE Programme is investing over €1.6 million in the €2.7 million LIFE 'N GRAB HY! project to demonstrate that hydrogen can offer an environmentally viable alternative to power heavy duty vehicles. WaterstofNet is coordinating project efforts to build and homologate hydrogenfuelled bin lorries for waste collection in EU cities. Their hybrid electric driveline notably cuts tail-pipe emissions and engine noise.

## EU added value

- **Improve air quality in EU cities**
- **Reduce traffic noise in urban areas**
- **Save 250 megawatt hours of energy**

## Prospects

- **Product launch expected in 2 years**
- **Untapped market, low competition**
- **Extend technology to other vehicles**

## Achievements

- Coordinated the assembly and homologation of two 26-ton **hydrogen-powered** bin lorries
- Deployed waste collectors in **European cities** including Antwerp, Rotterdam and Cologne
- **Cut transport emissions** of poisonous carbon monoxide and cancerogenous nitrogen oxides
- Reduced noise, air pollution and **greenhouse gas emissions** from urban waste collection
- SME **E-Trucks Europe** expanded facilities to produce 50 hydrogen-fuelled bin lorries per year

## Policy support

- Boost **resource efficiency** in line with the roadmap to a single European transport area
- Cut **air pollution** as set out in the Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe
- Support the 2002 Environmental Noise Directive by engineering **silent** heavy duty vehicles

## Contact

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Environment  
& Climate  
Action



# LIFE supporting companies



The **LIFE Programme** has financed green innovation and clean tech solutions since its start in 1992. One of today's key priorities for LIFE is to support close-to-market projects delivering innovative environmental solutions, ensuring that they are sustainable and capable of being widely taken up by society in general, and the economy in particular.

The **Close-to-market initiative's** aim is to help and assist the LIFE projects with market potential to develop towards successfully maintaining project results via commercialisation and upscaling of the proposed innovative solutions.

## How can LIFE support beneficiaries with close-to-market activities?

- Expert review of the close-to-market stage of your project and assessment of the close-to-market potential.
- Help with determining milestones and action points based on project readiness and assisting you with their progress during your project's whole lifecycle.
- Flexibility to use the LIFE project budget to get the necessary expertise including market analysis, detailed business plan preparation, coaching etc.
- Linking you with a network of advisers including the Enterprise Europe Network, coaches and accelerators.
- Assistance with financing and contacts with the investor community through events, introducing you to the SME Instrument and the European Investment Bank Group.
- Networking opportunities through LIFE platforms in order to build business partnerships with other key players.
- Gaining additional publicity for your innovative green solutions through the Innovation Radar platform and via dedicated handouts promoting close-to-market activities of LIFE.

*“LIFE can help you to sustain and thrive even after the end of the LIFE project.”*

## LEARN MORE

 [ec.europa.eu/life](http://ec.europa.eu/life)  [LIFE programme](#)  
 [@LIFEprogramme](#)  [LIFE programme](#)

## HOW TO APPLY FOR LIFE FUNDING

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals.  
Full details are available at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/life.htm>  
<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/your-close-market-proposals-tips-applying>

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