



Eastern
Lights



Co-funded by
the European Union

EASTERN LIGHTS

A ground-breaking CO₂ transport and storage demonstration initiative

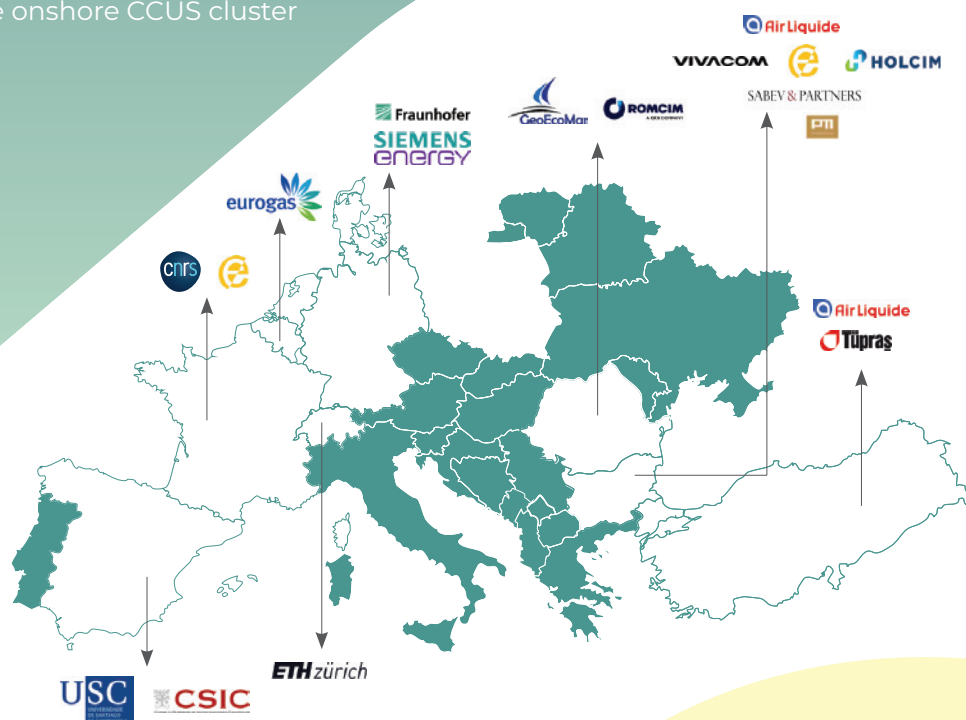
At Eastern Lights, we believe reducing CO₂ emissions from industrial facilities is critical to realizing the goal of limiting global warming compared to pre-industrial levels. Carbon Capture and Storage is essential for reducing CO₂ emissions, but its deployment must be guided by rigorous, site-specific scientific research into the local terrain and conditions. The next phase of the Eastern Lights project will explore possible extension of storage structures into Romania, in order to create an important regional storage hub.

Eastern Lights is an impressive collaborative effort coordinated by Holcim Bulgaria, which brings together the expertise of 19 partners across 8 countries, including respected scientific institutions, industry leaders and community-focused NGOs.

Supported by Horizon Europe funding, this initiative is a first step towards the first large-scale onshore CCUS cluster in Eastern Europe.

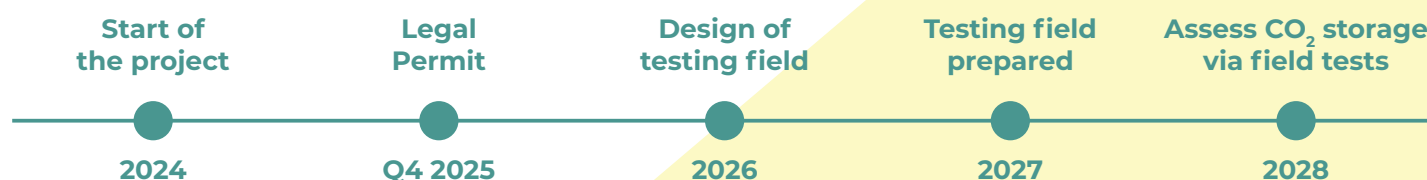
In a Nutshell

-  19 Project Partners
-  8 countries
-  4 years' duration
-  Full budget:
€ 24,215,648
EU funding:
€ 19,122,237



Timeline

We expect to finish our project by 2028, subject to the successful completion of research assessing the potential site and related monitoring tests.





EASTERN LIGHTS

Laying the Foundation for CO₂ Reduction in Eastern Europe

"The Eastern Lights project is our chance to prove that we can safely store CO₂ underground here in Eastern Europe, North-West Bulgaria. This trial is fundamental. The lessons we learn will be the foundation for building the large-scale carbon capture infrastructure required to drastically cut our emissions and help Bulgaria meet its net-zero goals" - **Dimitar Merachev, CCS Project Director, Holcim Bulgaria**

Key Facts

- 🎯 Demonstrate a CO₂ cross-border transport and permanent storage (CCS) system in North West Bulgaria, laying the foundation for CO₂ reduction across Eastern Europe.
- ⚙️ Utilize underground saline aquifers near industrial sources.
- ✅ Top research institutions will study storage viability, while partners will resolve practical pipeline and transport logistics.
- ✅ Prove the cost-effectiveness of CCS to reduce industrial emissions, preserving jobs and fostering green economic growth in the region.

Key players

Experienced Research Teams, Academia, Industry Leaders, Community-focused NGOs.



Expected Outcomes

- 💰 Cost-Effective Emission Reduction
- 📈 Job Retention & Economic Growth
- 🌿 Greener Bulgaria & Net-Zero Ambition

