

Agenda

09:30 ***** Networking Coffee with your Project Officers and peer coordinators *****

10:00 Welcome

10:10 Tour de Table

10:40 Overview from Call Evaluation to signed Grant Agreement

11:00 Key legal and financial considerations for lump sum actions

11:45 ***** Coffee break *****

12:00 Scientific/Technical description of the project – Description of Action (DoA)

12:30 Knowledge Management, Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation

13:00 ***** Lunch break *****

14:00 Hydrogen Europe / Hydrogen Europe research

~14:15 **Bilateral meetings - Schedule planned separately by your PO**

From call evaluations to signed Grant Agreements

- Important role of the JU!

Mirela ATANASIU

Head of Unit Operations and Communication

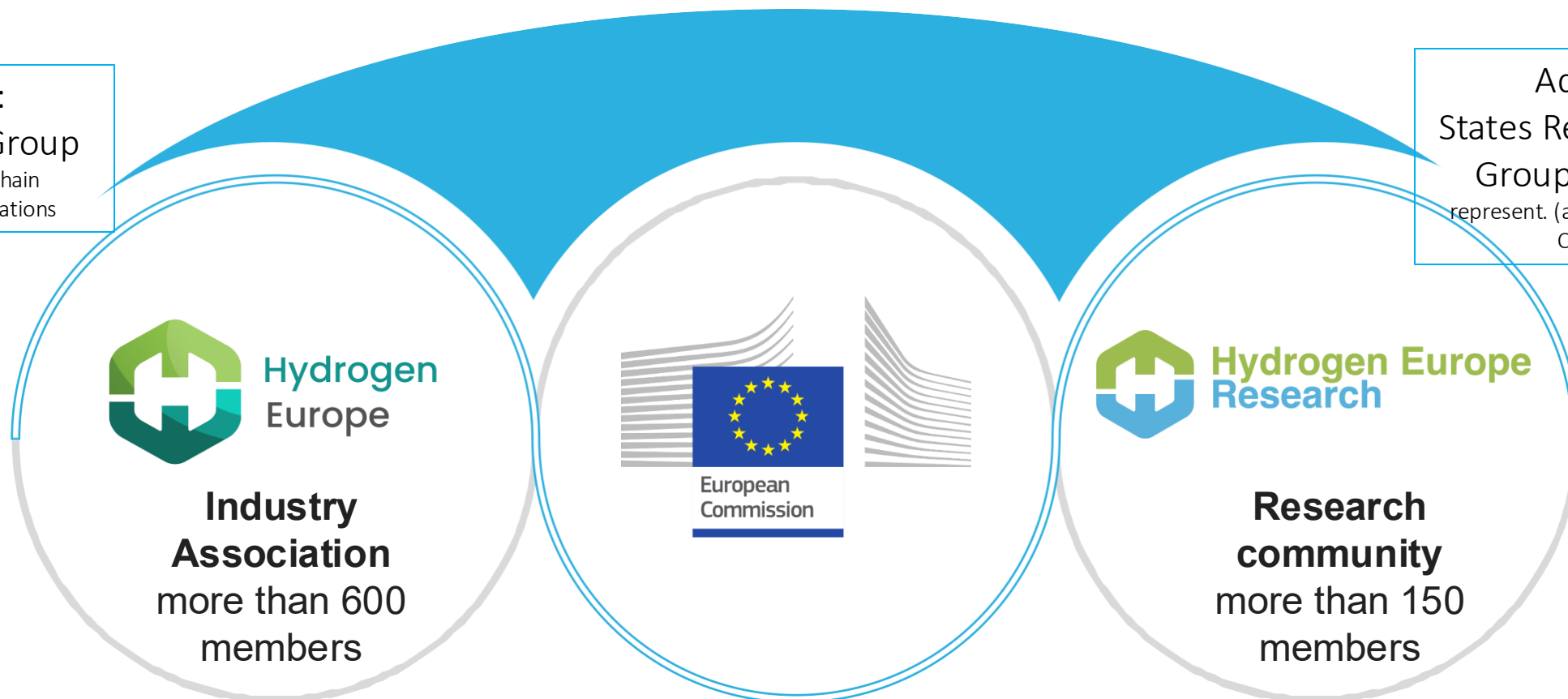


Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking

EU Institutional Public-Private Partnership (IPPP)

Advisory:
Stakeholder Group
incl all H2 supply chain
stakeholders, associations

Advisory:
States Representative
Group incl 36 countries
represent. (all EU and Associated
Countries)



1 billion EURO from Horizon Europe* to implement R&I activities and facilitate the transition to a greener EU society through the development of hydrogen technologies

*** additional 200 million EURO for Hydrogen valleys (under RePowerEU)**

Clean Hydrogen JU Objectives

General/alignment to EU policies

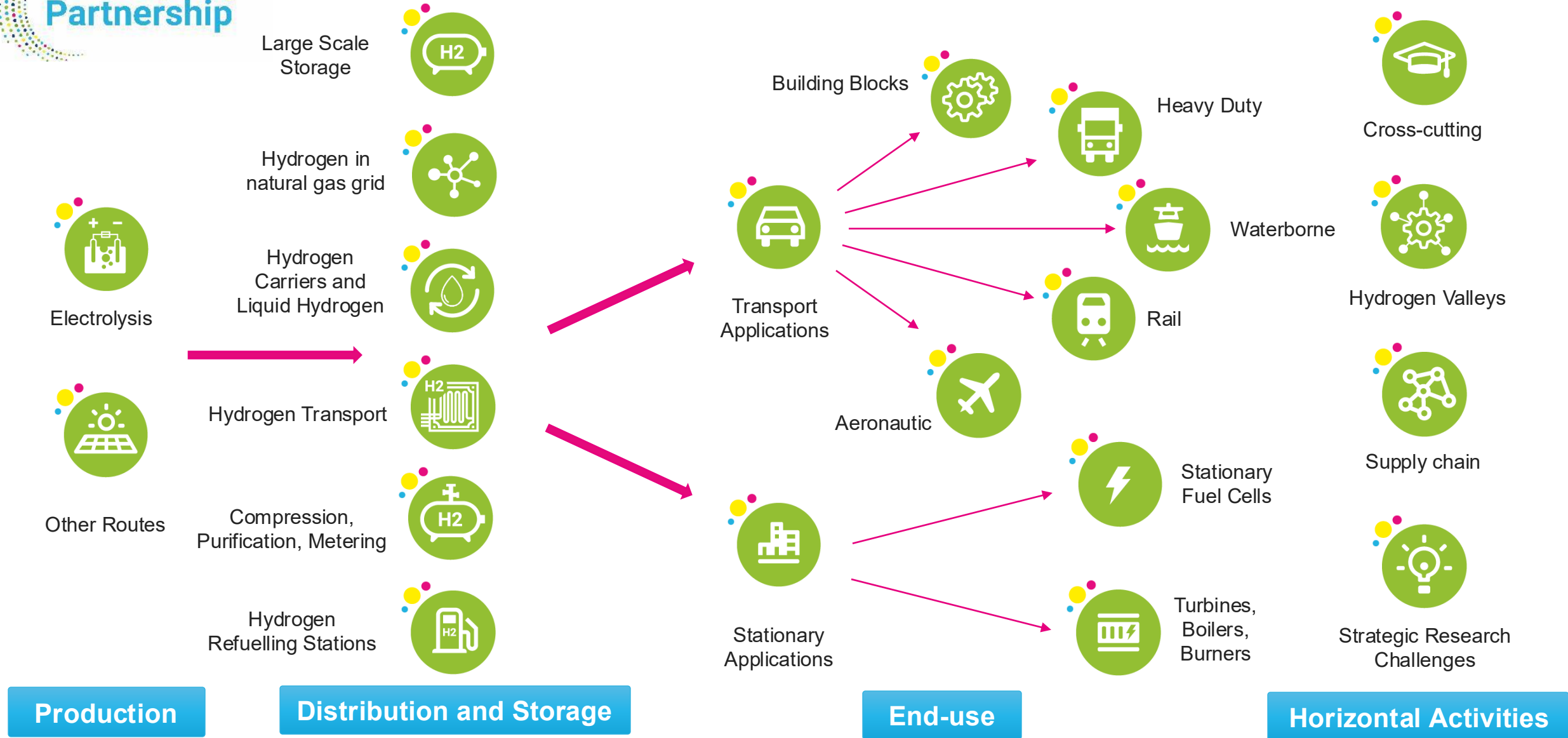
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-  Support the implementation of the Commission's **Hydrogen Strategy**
 -  Stimulate **research and innovation on clean hydrogen** production, distribution, storage and end use applications
 -  Strengthen the **competitiveness of the EU clean hydrogen value chain**
 -  Contribute to the EU ambitious **2030 and 2050 climate ambition incl Green Deal**

Specific/tech to market leadership of the sector

-  Improve the **cost-effectiveness, efficiency, reliability**, quantity and quality of clean hydrogen solutions across **entire value chain**
-  Strengthen the **knowledge/capacity of scientific and industrial actors** along the Union's hydrogen value chain while supporting the **uptake of skills**
-  Demonstrations of clean hydrogen solutions with a view to **local, regional and Union-wide deployment**, aiming to involve stakeholders in all Member States and across **entire value chain**
-  Increase **public and private awareness, acceptance** and uptake of clean hydrogen solutions

SRIA Priorities: R&D across the whole hydrogen value chain

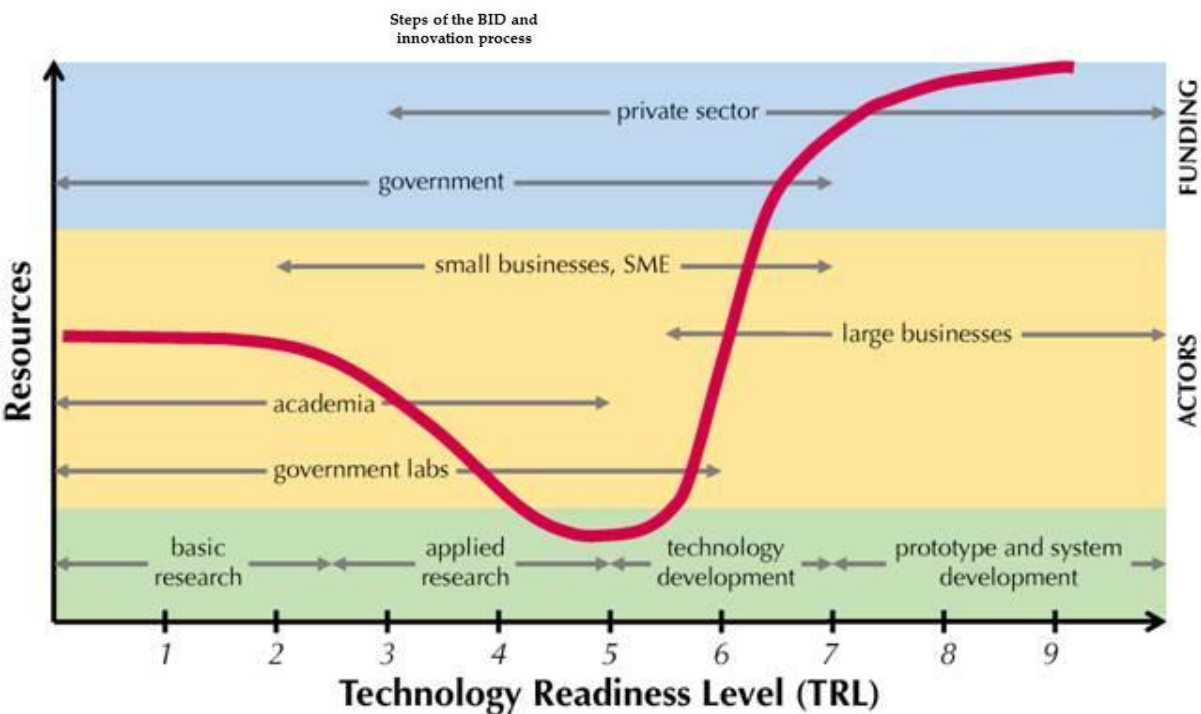
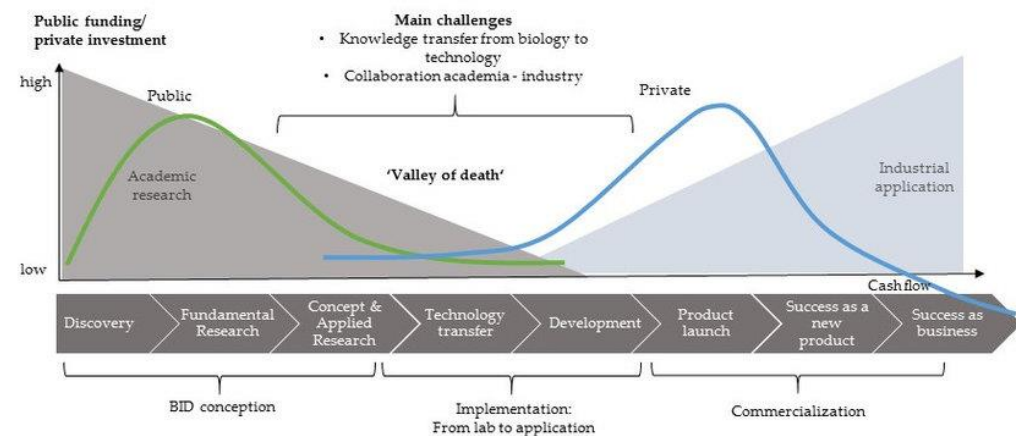
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Clean Hydrogen Partnership

European R&I Programme contributing to overcome the valley of death

6



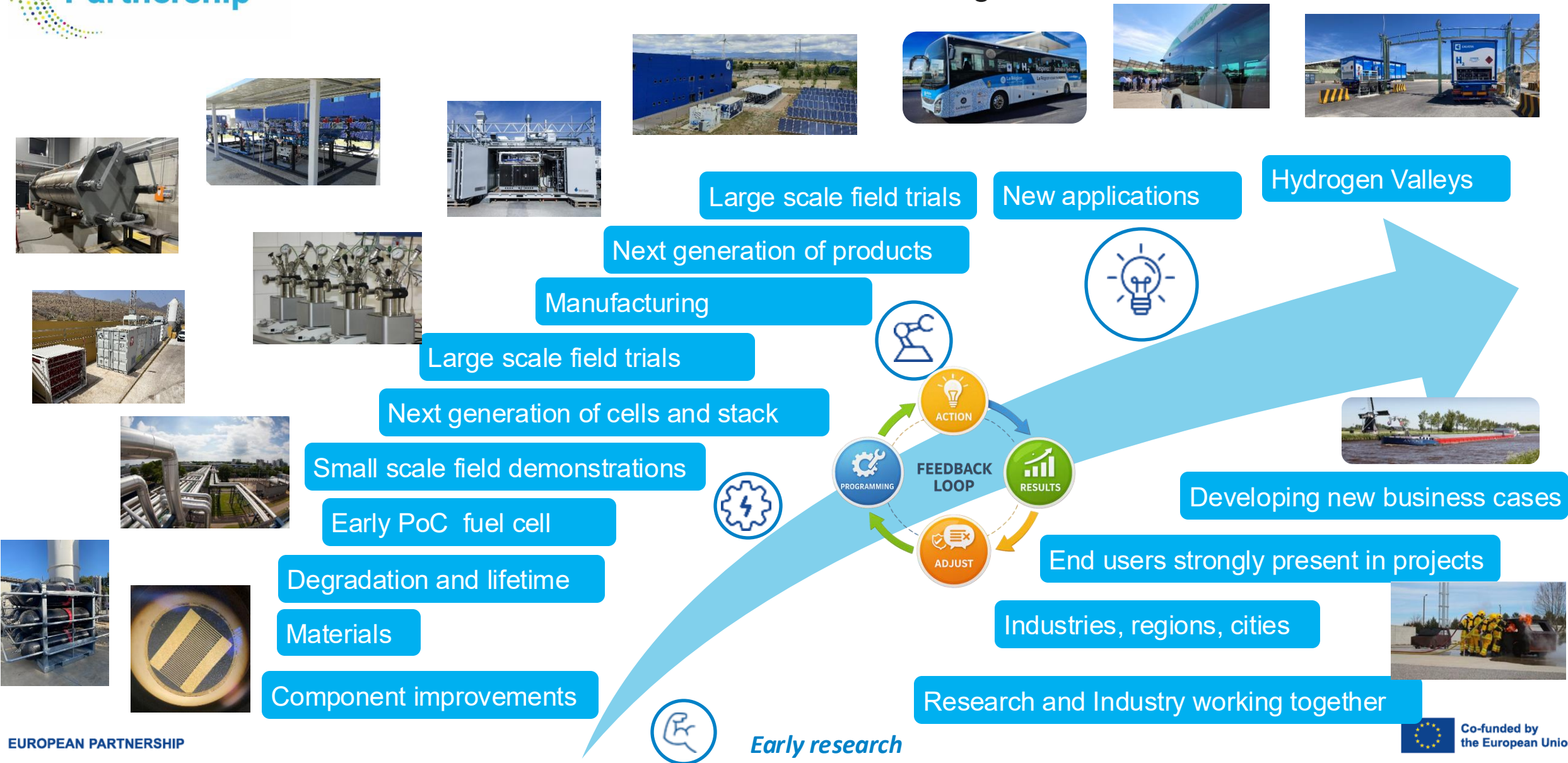
TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS - TRL

0	IDEA Unproven concept, no testing has been performed	IDEA
1	BASIC RESEARCH You can now describe the need(s) but have no evidence	
2	TECHNOLOGY FORMULATION Concept and application have been formulated	
3	NEEDS VALIDATION You have an initial 'offering, stakeholders like your slideware	PROTOTYPE
4	SMALL SCALE PROTOTYPE Built in a laboratory environment	
5	LARGE SCALE PROTOTYPE Tested in intended environment	
6	PROTOTYPE SYSTEM Tested in intended environment close to expected performance	VALIDATION
7	DEMONSTRATION SYSTEM Operating in operational environment at pre-commercial scale	
8	FIRST OF A KIND COMMERCIAL SYSTEM All technical processes and systems to support commercial activity are ready	PRODUCTION
9	FULL COMMERCIAL APPLICATION Technology on 'general availability' for all customers	

Almost two decades of the Joint Undertaking

From **research and innovation** to delivering solutions in the market

7



Clean Hydrogen JU Programme

2008-2026 Cumulative funding

8

27 Projects
€ 320 million

H₂ Valleys

17%

**H₂ End Use: Clean
Heat and Power**

93 Projects
€ 325 million

**H₂ End Use:
Transport**

86 Projects
€ 583 million

16%



**433
projects
supported
for
€ 2.00 bn**

29%



H₂ Production

19%

100 Projects
€ 383 million

**H₂ Storage &
Distribution**

45 Projects
€ 181 million

9%

Cross-cutting

61 Projects
€ 97 million

5%

Supply Chain

18 Projects
€ 58 million

3%

**Strategic Research
Challenge**

3 Projects
€ 29.6 million

1%

Other Activities

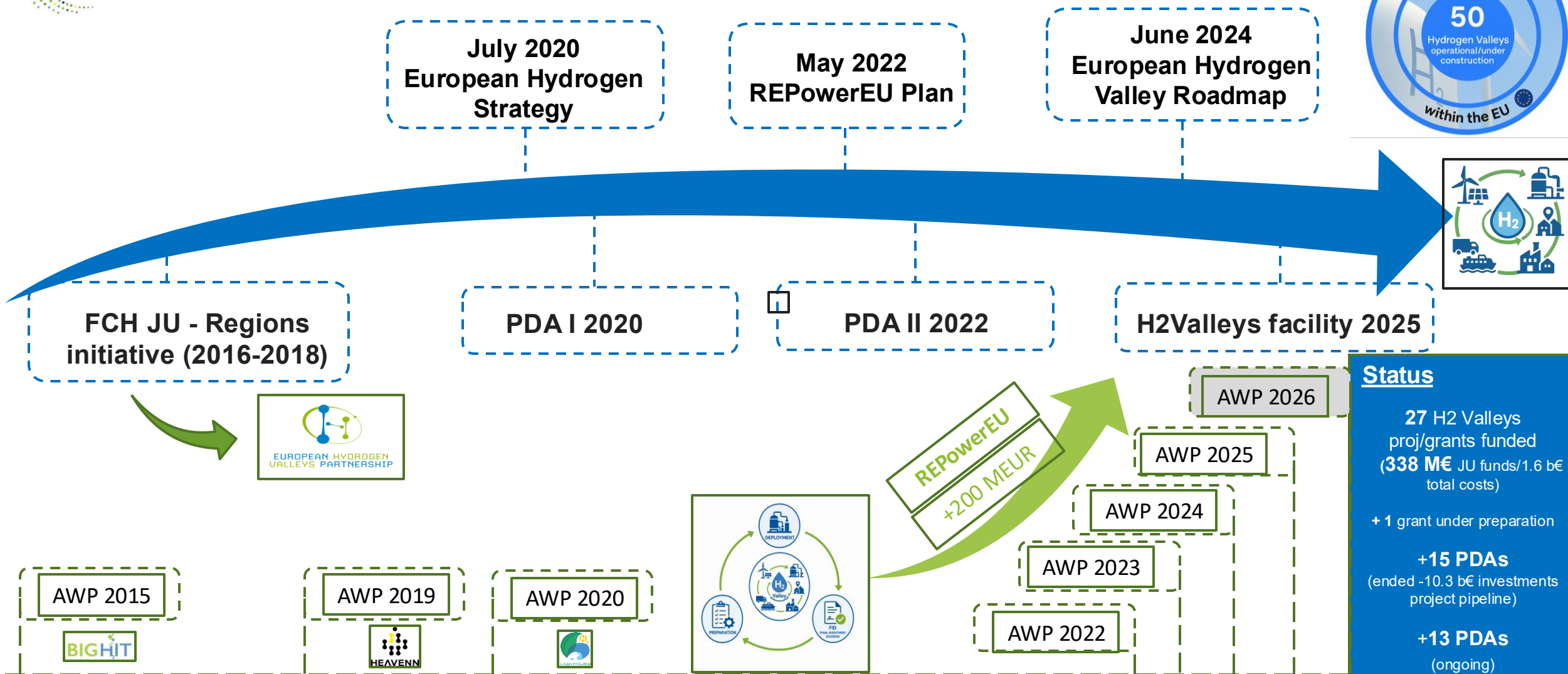
Additional **JU specific activities** are necessary to fulfil the objectives!!!



- Developing **synergies** with other partnerships and programmes at EU/MS/regions level
- Tenders/**studies for feedback-to-policy**
- Regulations, Codes and **Standards**
- European Hydrogen **Safety**
- European Hydrogen **Sustainability** and Circularity
- Knowledge Management incl **programme/projects monitoring**
- **Competitiveness, SMEs/start-ups**
- **International Cooperation**
- **Communication** activities

Working with Regions and Hydrogen Valleys - an evolving concept and priority

10



What next?

From **EU technology leadership** to **EU market leadership!!!**

Innovation is key to competitiveness and the JUs could play an important role

The future of European competitiveness

Part A | A competitiveness strategy for Europe

SEPTEMBER 2024

- **Fostering Innovation Leadership** – Enabling Europe to stay at the forefront of technological advancements.
- **Bridging Innovation Gaps** – Accelerating the journey from research to market deployment.
- **Scaling Up Industrial Capacity** – Facilitating large-scale deployment of critical technologies.
- **Boosting Strategic Autonomy** – Reducing dependency and enhancing EU industrial resilience.
- **Mobilizing Public-Private Synergies** – Leveraging investments to drive industrial transformation.

...and the continued role of R&I



Resilience by Design

(reduce CRM dependency, sustainability, circularity etc)



Better Tech, Lower Cost

(increased efficiency, lower LCOH, bankable projects etc)



People and Skills

(training materials, certifications, qualified jobs, public awareness etc)



From Lab to Fab

(manufacturing techniques, automation, pilot lines, patents etc)



What is at stake?



Strengths

- Leadership in electrolyzers and infrastructure tech
- Strong patent position
- Focus on quality, reliability, sustainability



Weaknesses

- Dependence on critical raw materials
- Higher production costs vs competitors
- Regulatory and permitting complexity



Opportunities

- Approx 1M jobs by 2030
- Potential global hub for renewable H₂
- Supportive EU policy framework



Threats

- Risk of losing leadership (PV, batteries precedent)
- Delays in industrial scale-up
- Lack of global champions

Europe is active across the value chain with strong technology and wide involvement in infrastructure development



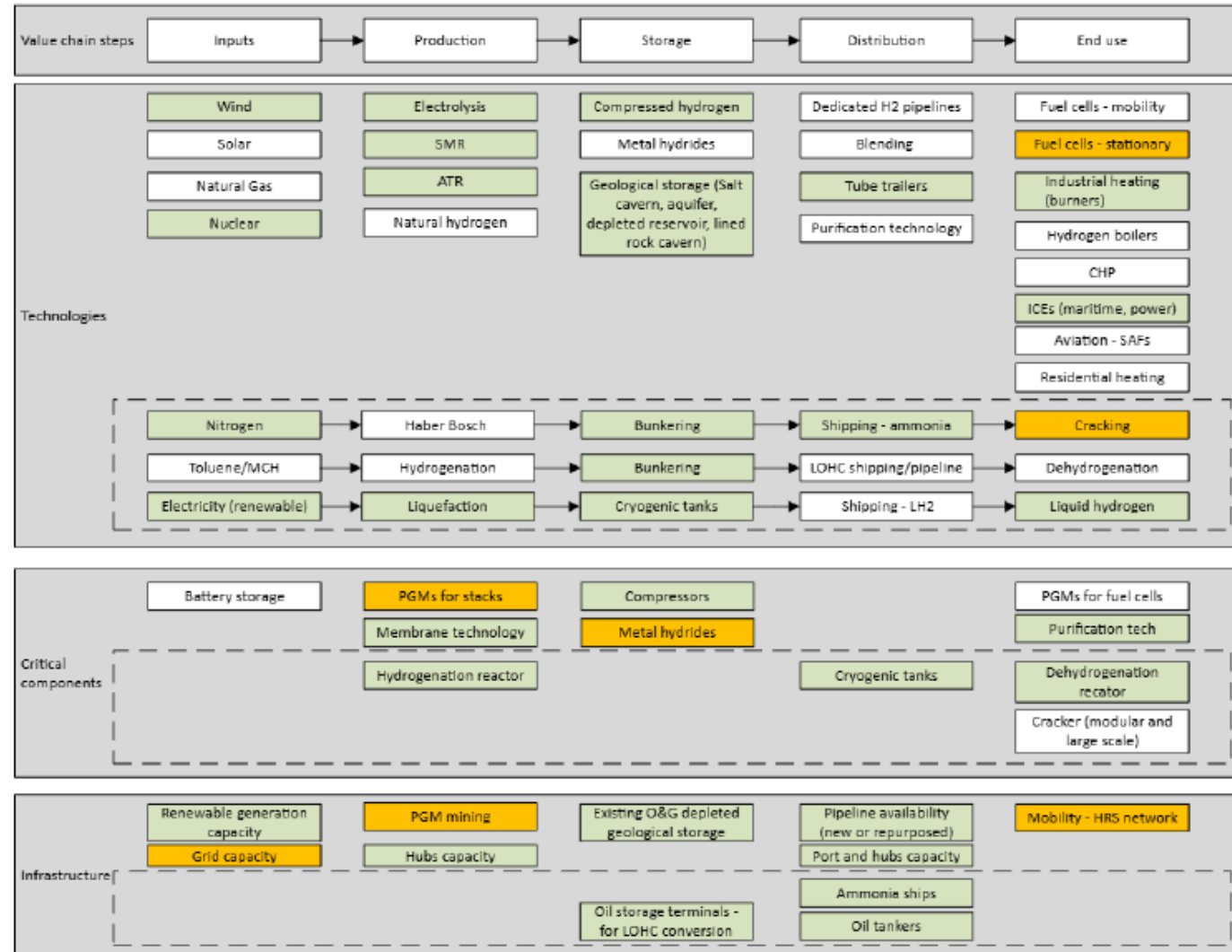
Key:

Actively competing/targeting as part of strategy

Active but with limited focus

Limited or no activity

Indicating value chain relationships



Seven (7) Priority areas for next JU with highest impact on competitiveness

**A competitive, resilient European H₂
industry & ecosystem**



**Manufacturing
at
scale**



**Electrolytic
H₂
production**



**Enabling H₂
carriers &
supply
chains**



**Supporting
H₂
Ecosystems**



**Demand &
market
uptake**



**Access to
competitive
energy**



**Other
enablers
e.g. skills,
support to
start-ups**

Manufacturing

**EU technologies &
value chains**

**Market creation and
scale-up**

**Framework
conditions**

WHAT remains to be done?

1

R&I REMAINS ESSENTIAL

Industrialisation cannot be done without innovation.

- Continue **early-TRL funding for strategic technologies** and preserve the pipeline of future solutions.
- Further **improve technology performance, efficiency, durability and cost.**
- **De-risk emerging technologies** before commercial deployment and maintain European technology leadership.
- Use R&I to **address new system-level challenges** as technologies move into real-world deployment.

R&I remains a necessary foundation for future competitiveness.



2

THE JU REMAINS ESSENTIAL

And its role needs to evolve with the maturity of the sector.

- Preserve the ability to **align public objectives with industry expertise**, investment and delivery.
- **Connect R&I and demonstration** more systematically **with scale-up and commercial deployment.**
- Strengthen **links with demand creation**, infrastructure, finance and industrial policy.
- Adapt **partnership models and instruments** as market maturity and **project risks** evolve.

The JU model should evolve around its proven R&I core — and complement it.

The challenge is to connect the main R&I role of JU more effectively with the conditions required for industrial scale-up and market deployment.

EU Competitiveness requires coordinated governance

HOW?

Barriers span technology development, infrastructure deployment, market creation and industrial scale-up — no single organisation or level of government can address them alone!



THE DELIVERY CAPACITY ALREADY EXISTS — THE PRIORITY IS **ALIGNMENT AND COMPLEMENTARITY**

Europe already has strong delivery mechanisms through innovation programmes incl H2Valleys and industrial projects.

EU INSTITUTIONS incl JU

Strategic objectives
Funding priorities
EU coord/synergies

MEMBER STATES

National strategies
Funding & incentives
Permitting /
infrastructure

REGIONS · VALLEYS · CLUSTERS

Regional priorities
Projects & ecosystems
Workforce / supply
chains

INDUSTRY

Market intelligence
Investment decisions
Projects &
manufacturing



A SPECIFIC ROLE FOR THE JU:

SET COMPETITIVENESS OBJECTIVES

Innovation priorities ·
industrial strategy
alignment · long-term
hydrogen vision

APPROVE / PROOF FUNDING PRIORITIES

Funding programmes ·
strategic priorities · cross-
border initiatives

COORDINATE EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

European programmes ·
strategic infrastructure
initiatives

MONITOR COMPETITIVENESS

Competitiveness outcomes
· return on public
investment · programme
performance

The JU does not need to deliver every lever itself — it can help to coordinate and make work the European system towards shared competitiveness objectives.

Clean Hydrogen Partnership is essential for Europe's hydrogen future

- The **JU (treaty-based partnership) model**: building a coordinated hydrogen ecosystem
- Strengthens **European industrial competitiveness and sustains technological leadership**
- Contributes to **EU market leadership by bringing technologies from research to the market**
- Accelerates research and innovation with both **public-private combined support**

➔ Supporting documents are on our [webpage](#).

Have your say **until 16 October 2026** 📅.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/16413-Horizon-Europe-European-Partnerships-to-be-implemented-as-joint-undertakings_en



Call for proposals 2026

Total budget: 105 M€

Publication date: 20 January 2026

Deadline: 15 April 2026





Overview

- Proposals submitted = 170
- Proposals admissible and eligible = 167
- Proposals above threshold = 126**

Budget

- Budget requested for above-threshold proposals = 537.5 MEUR
- Available budget = 105 MEUR**

Topics

- 20 (out of 21) topics covered** by successful proposals
- 20 proposals (main lists) invited to Grant Agreement Preparation, GAP**
- Additional proposals may be invited from reserve lists - TBC

CALL UPDATE: FLASH EVALUATION RESULTS

Call: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2026
Published: 20.01.2026
Deadline: 15.04.2026
Available budget: EUR 105,000,000.00

The results of the evaluation for each topic are as follows:

Topic id: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2026-...	01-01	01-02	01-03	01-04	01-05	01-06	02-01	02-02	02-03	02-04	03-01	03-02	03-03	03-04	04-01	04-02	04-03	05-01	05-02	06-01	06-02	All
Number of proposals submitted (including proposals transferred from or to other calls)	29	5	13	6	29	16	5	2	3	5	6	2	3	8	9	6	6	2	1	9	5	170
Number of inadmissible or withdrawn proposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Number of ineligible proposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Number of above-threshold proposals	24	2	7	5	21	14	-	2	2	5	6	2	2	7	9	5	5	2	1	4	1	126
Total budget requested for above-threshold proposals (MEUR)	71.9	5.0	21.0	7.5	63.3	42.1	-	7.0	8.0	30.0	24.1	16.0	10.0	56.0	27.0	39.9	25.1	4.9	3	67.7	8.0	537.5
Number of proposals retained for funding	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
Number of proposals in the reserve list	23	1	6	4	20	13	-	1	1	4	5	1	1	6	8	4	4	1	-	3	-	106
Funding threshold	14.25	15	14.5	13.75	15	15	-	11	12.25	12.5	14.5	14	12.5	13.25	14.5	14	14.5	14.25	12.5	14.25	10	N/A
Ranking distribution (in main and reserve lists)																						
Number of proposals with scores lower or equal to 15 and higher or equal to 14	3	1	1	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	23
Number of proposals with scores lower than 14 and higher or equal to 13	5	1	2	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	21
Number of proposals with scores lower than 13 and higher or equal to 10	16	-	4	4	13	7	-	2	2	5	4	1	2	3	7	4	3	-	1	3	1	82
Number of proposals awarded a STEP Seal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	5

And now...GAP?

What ?

- GAP = Grant Agreement Preparation
- Transform the proposal into a grant
- Principle of « **no negotiation** »

By when?

- Completed and signed by **15th December 2026**, firm deadline. Staged process

Where, how and who ?

- In a standard **IT environment** with secured access and defined roles

Details on next slides...

GAP: No negotiation



Your proposal is taken 'as is'

- Proposals were evaluated based on merit and not on their potential
- The Grant Agreement (GA) is prepared on the basis of the proposal selected for funding

BUT some changes may be necessary:

- Changes to meet legal and financial requirements
- Requirements resulting from ethics review or security scrutiny
- Due to removal of participant (if agreed by CleanH2 JU)
- Correction of clerical errors and obvious inconsistencies
- Correction of shortcomings identified by the experts in the ESR

No negotiation does not mean no control

- Eligibility and viability checks
- Anti-fraud measures and risk-based controls are carried out

Non-compliance, serious breach or negligence of the applicable rules evokes **the termination of grant preparation** and the rejection of the proposal

Planning of the GAP



Deadlines



01/10/2026

- Deadline for consortium to submit **first version** of documents (Annex 1: Part A and Part B)

01/11/2026

- Deadline for the consortium to submit **second/final** version of documents and to sign the **Declaration(s) of Honour**

15/12/2026

- **Signature of the GA by the JU**

The invitation letter specifies **deadlines** applicable for the GAP

- **Align** yourself with the applicable **deadlines** and make diligent efforts to comply with the dates set
- **Notify** the EU services if you encounter **delays**
- **The non-respect of the deadlines may lead to the termination of grant preparation** (rejection).

Manage my area



SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

PROJECTS & RESULTS

WORK AS AN EXPERT

SUPPORT

select
programme



1022

My Organisation(s)

GRANTS

My Proposal(s)

My Project(s)

My Formal Notification(s)



My Project(s)



Online manual
"Grant management"



IT HOW TO
"Grant management"

Project roles can be granted/revoked
in the "Manage Consortium" section

Project actions can be accessed
in the "Manage Project" section

ACRONYM	CALL	PROGRAM	PROJECT	PHASE	ACTIONS
H2ME 2	H2020-JTI-FCH-2015-1	H2020	700350	Active	1 Actions

Manage Consortium

Manage Project

View Proposal

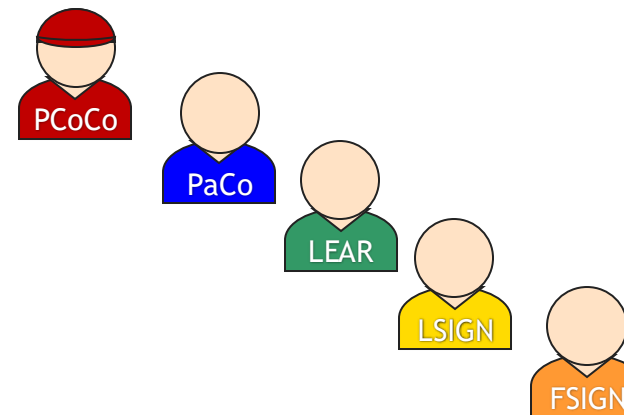
Takes you back to your sealed proposal

Identity and access management

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The **minimum configuration** of a consortium is:

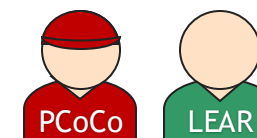
- 1 **Primary Coordinator Contact** per project
- 1 Participant Contact per organisation
- 1 **LEAR** per organisation
- 1 Legal Signatory per organisation
- 1 Financial Signatory per organisation



One person (= 1 EU Login account) **can have as many roles as necessary at the same time**
(e.g. the owner of a one-person SME can be PaCo, LEAR, PLSIGN and PFSIGN)

CleanH2 JU / REA services intervention **only** in defining the roles of:

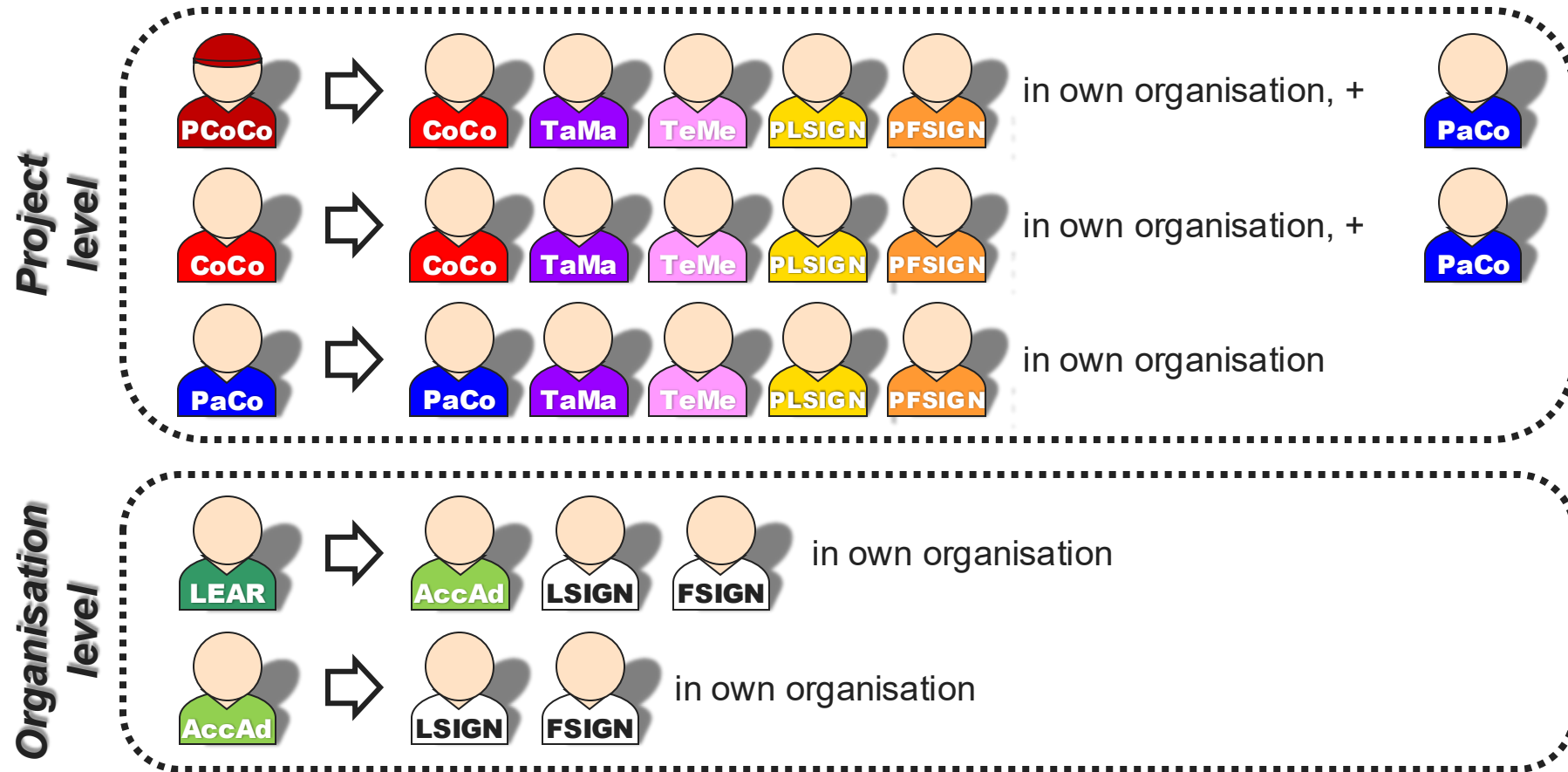
- **Primary Coordinator Contact**
- **LEAR – Legal Entity Appointed Representative**



How to on access rights

Nomination / revocation of roles

Who can appoint and revoke project roles?



Nomenclature

Organisation roles

 Legal Entity
Appointed
Representative

 Account
Administrator

 Legal
Signatory

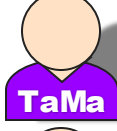
 Financial
Signatory

Project roles

 Primary
Coordinator Contact

 Coordinator Contact

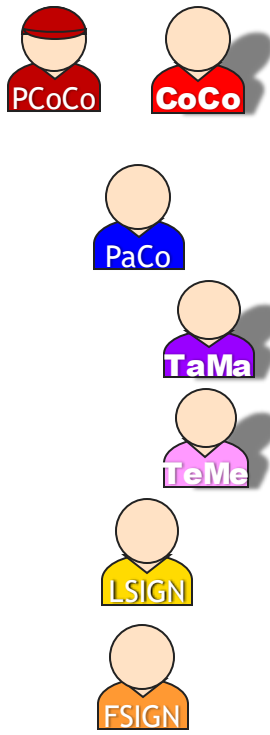
 Participant Contact

 Task Manager

 Team Member

 Legal Signatory
assigned to a project

 Financial Signatory
assigned to a project



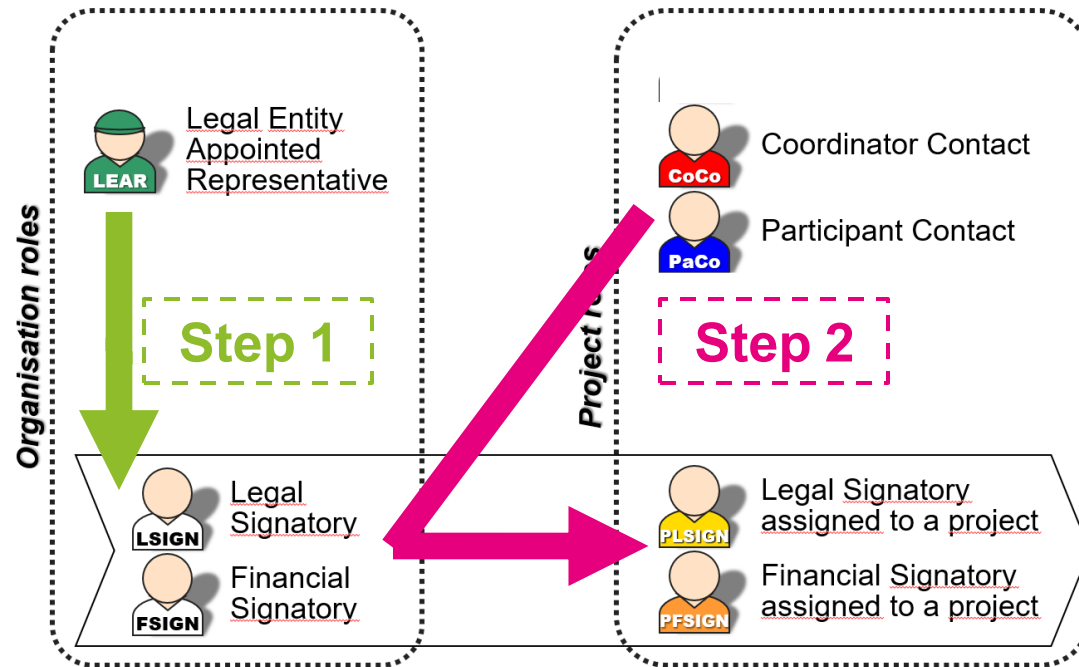
Role	Read	Write / Save	Submit to Coordinator	Submit to Clean H2	Sign GA	Sign Financial Statements	Assign / revoke access to project
PCoCo / CoCo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Paco	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
TaMa	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
TeMe	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
PLSIGN	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
PFSIGN	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗

How to appoint FSIGN and LSIGN?

LEAR is formally nominated by the legal representative of the organization

Step 1

LEAR appoints on the funding & tender opportunity portal a list of persons authorised to **sign legal documents (LSIGN)** and **financial statements (FSIGN)**



Step 2

Project contacts (**PaCos** and **CoCos**) must appoint LSIGN and FSIGN to a given project (becoming **PLSIGN** and **PFSIGN**)