

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Number of inadmissible or withdrawn proposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2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

Summary of observer report:

The evaluation process was highly efficiently organized and exemplary in terms of impartiality and transparency.

The project management acted with the utmost professionalism and organized the evaluation process efficiently, incorporating necessary buffers for unforeseen events such as excessively long consensus meetings. The project managers moderated the meetings very professionally and neutrally.

Changes to the process compared to the previous year, such as the option to award quarter points or to consolidate the cross-reading of ESRs by area, proved to be very efficient and accelerated both the overall process and the consensus-building within the consensus meetings, while preserving the quality of discussion and review.

The time for project applications, from submission date to completion of the evaluation, was exemplary at two months and two weeks and was efficiently organized. The selection of evaluators and rapporteurs guaranteed a high-quality evaluation of the projects, while the comprehensive quality assurance by the vice-chair and the final panel session ensured high-quality feedback for the applicants. The workload for the experts and vice-chairs was demanding but appropriate.

The briefing materials, SEP, the excellent support from the call management team, and the ongoing updates to the evaluators on the evaluation's progress ensured the highest level of transparency and credibility throughout the process. The setting of interim deadlines ensured continuous work by the evaluators and rapporteurs and allowed outstanding quality assurance by the project officer and vice-chairs.

The moderation of the consensus and complementarity meetings ensured neutral and effective discussions. All meetings reached a consensus regarding the assessment and feedback to the applicants. The daily internal briefing and the Q&A session with the evaluators in the morning of each day guaranteed a clear overview of the evaluation's status. All expert questions were thoroughly discussed and clarified during these sessions.

Overall, no significant deviations from the planned schedule or difficulties arose during the process. In conclusion, the evaluation was highly impartial, fair, transparent, and confidential – an internationally exemplary model that delivers reliable, high-quality results.

We recently informed the applicants about the evaluation results for their proposals.

For questions, please contact: PROJECTS@clean-hydrogen.europa.eu