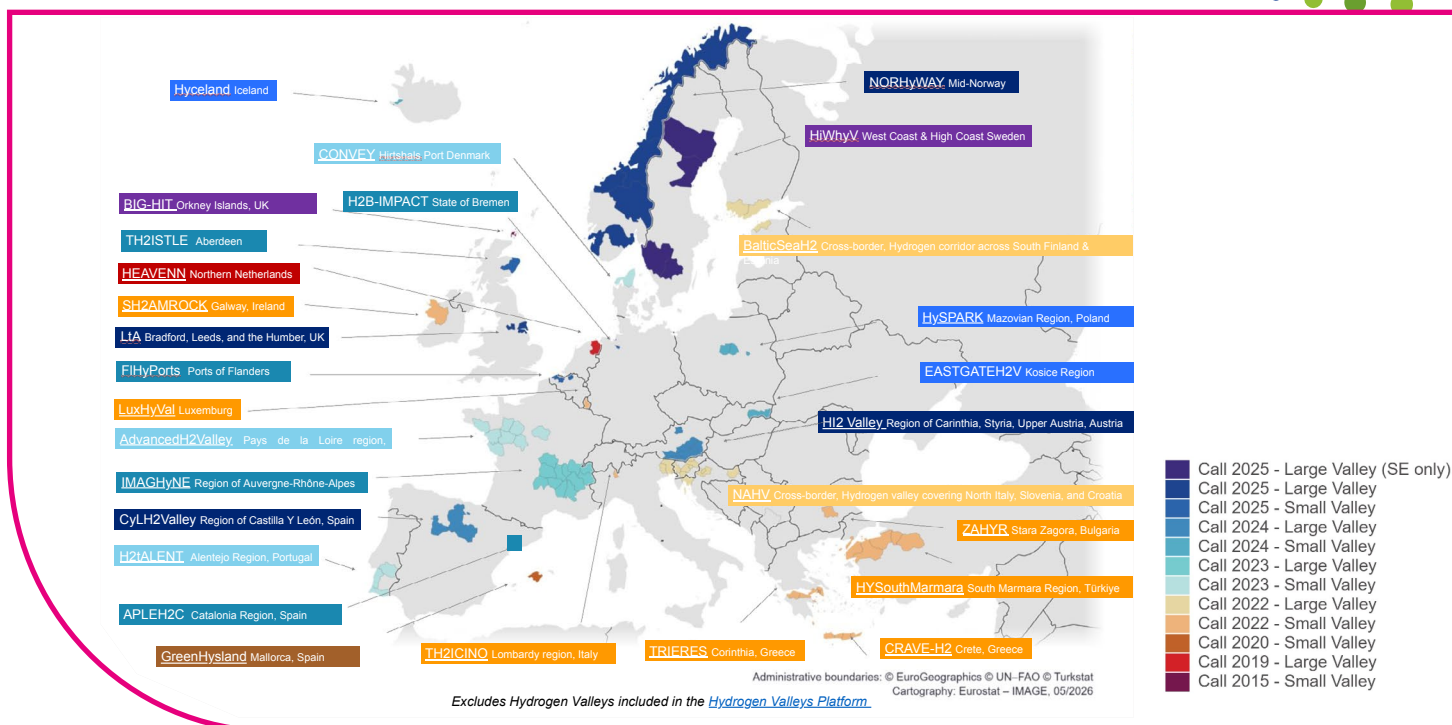


From regional vision to investment: Hydrogen Valleys build Europe's clean hydrogen economy



Hydrogen Valleys are turning Europe's hydrogen ambitions into regional projects that connect hydrogen production, storage and distribution with real-world demand. By supporting both deployment and investment readiness, the Clean Hydrogen Partnership is helping integrated hydrogen ecosystems move from research and innovation towards commercial operation.

Building complete regional hydrogen ecosystems

Hydrogen Valleys integrate the entire hydrogen value chain within a real-life regional ecosystem. They connect production with storage, distribution and applications in industry, transport and energy, allowing innovative technologies to be demonstrated under operational conditions. By developing local supply and demand together, they reduce investment risks and support viable business cases. They also bring technology developers, industrial users, energy providers, public authorities and investors into regional value chains that can attract private investment and create skilled jobs.

From pioneering project to European policy priority

The Clean Hydrogen Partnership helped pioneer the Hydrogen Valley concept through its work with regions and the BIG-HIT project, supported under its 2015 Call for Proposals. It has included Hydrogen Valleys in every Call for Proposals since 2019. Hydrogen Valleys were subsequently identified in the REPowerEU plan as essential to scaling up Europe's hydrogen economy. The European Commission aims to have at least 50 Hydrogen Valleys operational or under construction across the EU by 2030. Through REPowerEU, it allocated an additional EUR 200 million to the Clean Hydrogen Partnership specifically to support the expansion of Hydrogen Valleys in Europe.

Deploying projects across Europe

The Partnership provides grants for project development and capital expenditure. It has supported 28 Hydrogen Valley projects across 25 European countries, with 27 still ongoing. Together, they represent EUR 1.65 billion in project costs, EUR 347 million in Partnership funding and more than 600 unique partners.¹ The portfolio plans more than 600 MW of electrolyser capacity and annual production exceeding 60,000 tonnes of hydrogen, supported by around 100 km of pipelines, 50 refuelling stations and 50 tube trailers for transporting compressed hydrogen by road.

"Hydrogen Valleys are showing what is possible. It is time for all of us to build on that foundation."

Valérie Bouillon-Delporte, Executive Director, Clean Hydrogen Partnership

Moving projects towards investment

Alongside the grants, the partnership provides Project Development Assistance (PDA) to make promising projects investment ready. The PDA programme provides expert support tailored to advance project maturity. PDA light provides support for early-stage projects to develop to help early-stage promoters assess their ideas and develop robust pre-feasibility concepts. PDA plus offers customised assistance to more advanced projects, helping them reach the feasibility milestone and define a roadmap to Final Investment Decision (FID).

The first PDA call attracted 36 applications and selected 15 Valleys, which received support between November 2025 and February 2026. A second call selected 13 beneficiaries from 23 applications: eight for PDA light and five for PDA plus. They span 10 EU Member States and two countries associated with Horizon Europe, with services planned to begin in September 2026. To broaden geographical coverage, the second call included a dedicated track for the 13 countries that joined the EU from 2004 onwards.

By addressing development gaps and preparing credible pathways to FID, PDA creates a pool of mature projects able to pursue EU, national, regional and private finance.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

28 HYDROGEN VALLEY PROJECTS

Supported across 25 European countries, with 27 projects ongoing

EUR 1.65 BILLION PROJECT PORTFOLIO

EUR 347 million in Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking funding

INTEGRATED DEPLOYMENT AT SCALE

¹More than 600 MW of planned electrolyser capacity and over 60,000 tonnes of hydrogen production a year

INVESTMENT-READINESS SUPPORT

28 Valleys selected across the first two PDA calls

IMPACTS

REGIONAL VALUE CHAINS

Connecting production, infrastructure and demand within integrated local ecosystems

LOWER PROJECT RISK

Demonstration at scale and tailored assistance strengthen business cases and investor confidence

EUROPE-WIDE CAPACITY BUILDING

Knowledge sharing and dedicated support extend expertise across regions and maturity levels

PATHWAY TO COMMERCIAL DEPLOYMENT

A growing pool of mature projects able to pursue EU, national, regional and private finance

¹These do not include the six projects supported under the Call 2025.

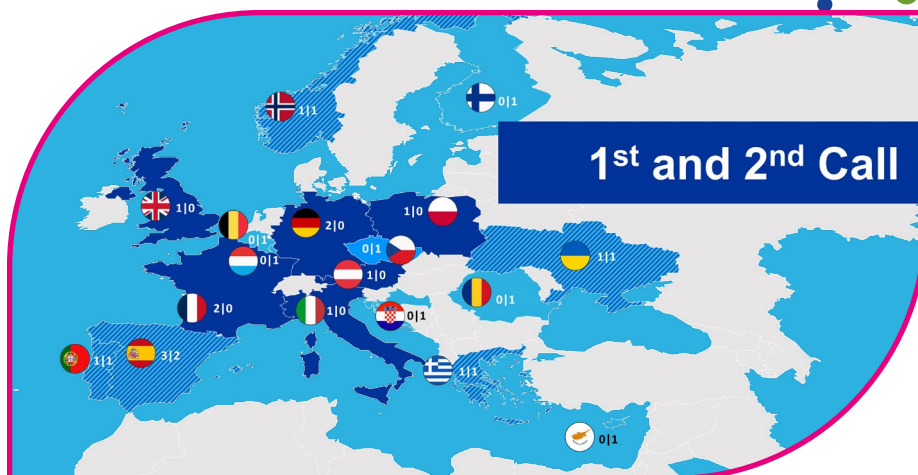
Supporting the next generation of Hydrogen Valleys

Funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, the Hydrogen Valleys Facility provides non-financial support from 2025 to 2030. Alongside PDA, its Knowledge Centre offers practical materials, workshops and best-practice exchange, while the Hydrogen Valleys Platform allows flagship projects across the globe to share their development experience. More than 100 Valleys worldwide are represented on the Platform, giving promoters visibility and insights into how other projects are developing.

Through grant funding, targeted development support and international knowledge sharing, the Partnership has created a pathway from innovation to regional deployment. Its portfolio demonstrates the scale of Europe's emerging Hydrogen Valley ecosystem, while the Facility helps new projects overcome barriers on the route to investment.

The goal? To accelerate the development of integrated, commercially viable Hydrogen Valleys that connect clean hydrogen production, infrastructure and end use, strengthen regional value chains and contribute to a competitive European hydrogen economy. In doing so, the Partnership supports the EU's aspirational target of having at least 50 Hydrogen Valleys operational or under construction by 2030.

Key results? The Partnership has supported 27 Hydrogen Valley projects across 23 European countries through direct grants, while 28 Valleys have been selected for tailored Project Development Assistance. The Hydrogen Valleys Facility adds capacity building, a Knowledge Centre and a global collaboration platform, helping projects progress towards Final Investment Decision and future investment.



1st and 2nd Call

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Hydrogen Valleys - Clean Hydrogen Partnership
Hydrogen Valleys Facility
Hydrogen Valley Platform
Hydrogen Valleys Knowledge Centre



Co-funded by
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