

Area	Subarea	Assessment	Recommendation of the IEG	Responsibility assigned by IEG	Comment	Action	Actors proposed by GB	Deadline
Relationship with Member State	States representative Group Role	The relationship with Member States has not delivered the expected results and needs to be revised: strategic exchanges and synergies need to be established, leading to an optimal use of the available funding	The IEG recommends member states should appoint to the SRG a representative who has a clear link to their National Programme operation and with the political decision-making mechanism.	GB	There is a broad dispersion across the MS in terms of their ambitions w.r.t. FCH technologies deployment, as well as in the profiles and responsibilities of the SRG delegates. At the same time, it should be noted that the mandate of the SRG is limited and therefore less interesting to the MS, that the appointment of SRG members is at the discretion of the MS, and that the SRG does not have the same mandate of the PC, so that it is not sufficient to propose that PC members participate in the SRG.	1. A survey will be initialised across SRG members to map the different situations and responsibilities 2. Assess the outcome of the survey + formulate possible corrective actions 3. SRG role to be kept in mind for definition of MS role in next FP.	PO EC	1: Q2 2018 2: Q4 2018 3: FP9
			The SRG should be part of a constructive dialogue to optimally leverage national and JU funding within an overall EU development activity. The national representative should be able to transmit FCH JU priorities to the national stakeholders and regularly inform the GB and PO about national and regional initiatives and funding mechanisms available relevant for FCH JU sector.	SRG	1. This issue is partly linked to the problem raised above, i.e. the fact that some SRG members have no mandate in this respect. 2. In addition, the SRG cannot be expected to act as a multiplier for Call information if it does not have permission to consult or share information on AWP's with other actors.	1: see above 2: Investigate improvements in SRG interaction with stakeholders and PO; remind SRG that the expected outcome is alignment with national programmes; allow consultation on AWP at level of Government and funding agencies	GB PO EC	1: see above 2: Q2 2018
			The SRG should collaborate with the PO to ensure a better alignment between research and innovation priorities and activities at national and EU level, identifying the critical gaps.		As indicated above, the interest from MS is rather limited in view of the limited mandate of the SRG. At the same time, an effort has been initiated to engage more with regions and cities.	Revised MAWP will be checked with SRG for analysis of activities at both levels and identify/address gaps; similarly, AWP's call topics are checked with SRG for annual exercise. An action to engage with Regions and Cities is ongoing.	PO SRG	Q1 2018 (MAWP) Ongoing (R&C)
FCH 2 JU Advisory Bodies role	Scientific Committee	The Scientific Committee's comprehensive knowledge and experience should be used in a more efficient way	Scientific committee should be revitalized and made more strategic.	GB	The GB acknowledges that the function of the SC has been suboptimal.	Renewal of mandates of 8 members (out of 9) has taken place in accordance with the strategic orientation agreed by the GB (see GB strategic paper 26 January 2017)- GB decision via written procedure closed on 15/11/2017. The new members have been selected based on the complementarity of their backgrounds.	GB PO	DONE (15/11/2017)
			IEG recommends including experts from outside EU (ensuring non-disclosure agreements), and remunerating if necessary.	SC	Non-EU experts already invited as evaluators and in different fora; full membership of SC not foreseen ; invitation to discuss specific topics of SC may be considered	1. Explore involvement of non EU experts in SC discussions as necessary; 2. Explore the possibility of remunerating SC members for the work performed in the context of FP9	PO EC	1: Q1 2018 2: FP9
			SC committee should be consulted yearly on the first outline of the AWP.		This comment is erroneous: SC members are already consulted yearly on first outline of AWP's and on the strategic orientation.	N/A	N/A	N/A
FCH 2 JU Advisory Bodies role	Stakeholders forum	Stakeholder Forum is the only fully open body of the FCH JU	The role and activity of this forum could be enhanced to improve the transparency of JU activity and decisions as well facilitating other relevant stakeholders (cities, NGOs, consumers ...) to participate in a more active way.	GB	Dedicated sessions with other relevant stakeholders were included in the SF2016, where they have presented their opinion/input, cities and regions were invited to sign a MOU with the FCH	PO to investigate how interaction with external stakeholders can be improved for future Stakeholder Forums	PO	Q3 2018
			The IEG recommends ensuring ways to gather more effectively the opinions of these actors		The opinion of different actors is taken into account in the preparation of the SF, as well as from the feedback after its completion.	Define a process to gather external stakeholder input in a pragmatic manner	PO	Q3 2018
Coherence	Coherence within EU policies	FCH 2 JU is well aligned with EU policies but EU policies in Transport and Energy are not sufficiently aligned between themselves	The output of the FCH JU should be more fully taken into account in the formulation of related EU policies (e.g. SET, STRIA...)	EC	Links of FCH JU with EU policies and initiatives on alternative fuels and respective deployment programmes to be strengthened; FCH outcomes to be more tailored to the concrete needs of policy makers; more focus of FCH work programmes on market failures (for transport in particular long-range and heavy goods vehicles and vessels) and on specific business cases for niche market/large scale/consumer solutions. For energy, the focus should be the integration of RES and large scale energy storage.	FCH to facilitate the provision of FCH related input towards relevant policy initiatives, e.g. as own initiative input papers. EC to involve FCH on case-by-case basis in relevant initiatives, through, for example, participation of the PO/HE/HER in workshops, working groups, fora, and consultations	HE/HER PO EC	Continuous activity
			It is recommended that consideration is given to FCH JU PO participating in these groups	PO	See above	See above	EC	Continuous activity
			The potential for sector coupling between Energy and Transport should be better considered when setting FCH 2 JU's research and innovation priorities	GB	There has been an initial discussion on this subject during the Strategic GB meeting of January 2017, to be revised annually. This will be refelcted in overarching projects.	This aspect will be included in the MAWP update process and subsequent AWP's, and will be an important element in the elaboration of FP9 initiatives and structure.	GB EC	Q1 2018 (MAWP) Q4 2018 (AWP 2019) & Q4 2019 (AWP 2020) FP9

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Areas where FCH 2 JU Implementation could still be improved	AWP coverage	FCH 2 JU has funded a limited number of Low TRL activities	As already highlighted in the second Interim Evaluation, basic research should not be neglected and is needed for further cost reduction and the development of new breakthrough technologies that could enhance the EU competitiveness in the global market.	GB	In general, basic research should be addressed by ERC; nevertheless, some strategic topics were included in AWP2017-18	Clarification on inclusion of low TRL activities in AWP took place during the GB Meeting of 06/02/2018, and will be taken into account in the MAWP revision. This point should also be kept in mind in the definition of FP9 structure and activities	GB EC	DONE (GB 06/02/2018) FP9
			Considering the significant level of support for low level TRL research at national level, the IEG recommends JU should communicate with SRG to identify any gaps in low level TRL that it might best address.	SRG	As indicated above, communication with SRG is less effective than expected	See actions on SRG above	PO SRG	Q2 2018
	Identification of Main relevant industrial areas for FCH	EU position should be strength in some technological fields	IEG recommends the JU identifies the main areas with highest added value for the EU (e.g. revise its strategy concerning fuel stack development)	GB	A study on EU supply chains (March 2017) has been launched by the JU, and is followed by a study on EU value chains.	Incorporate the conclusions of the studies on Supply and Value Chains into strategic direction of the JTI and reflect accordingly in future Annual Work Plans	GB PO	Q4 2018 (AWP 2019) Q4 2019 (AWP 2020)
	Openness	Some call topics could have restrictive conditions that can jeopardize openness	The IEG recommends JU should ensure when a call topic makes mention of previous project results or the possibility of using the results of previous projects, that this does not restrict participation.	GB	The JU already makes an effort to ensure that topic descriptions are not restrictive in terms of using results from previous projects; this is ensured also through legal scrutiny of the topic descriptions. Nevertheless, the amount of publicly available information from projects can be an issue in some cases.	The JU will continue to ensure proper and non-restrictive phrasing of topic descriptions; Reinforce implementation of the Dissemination & Exploitation strategy to ensure more available project results.	PO EC GB	Q4 2018
	Fostering more participation of regions	The role of the regions in the FCH implementation and demonstration is very important.	Given the approach to deployment, the JU should continue to promote the inclusion of municipalities and regions and the use of FCH technology to address local needs	GB	The JU launched a Regions initiative on 16 May 2017; 82 regions and cities involved by end of 2017	Continue to stimulate active participation of regions and cities in the programme, through, inter alia, implementation of Regions initiative	PO	Continuous activity
	Funding Concentration	Funding is concentrated in a small number of countries and participation of Higher Education Entities in projects is low	Low participation of some MS and institutes of Higher Education is most likely due to the industrial character of the JTI and the uneven development of FCH Industry within Europe . IEG recommends the JU ensures that the current unbalanced funding is not reinforced by any lack of information/openness/transparency to entities from countries where participation is low.	GB EC	GB acknowledges the issue and supports the interpretation that national strategies and industry characteristics play a role in this matter. Participation of higher education institutes is expected to increase through the inclusion of low-TRL topics.	1. Maintain high level of openness/transparency for operations towards underrepresented entities, in particular academia and research insititutes 2. Reinforce information campaigns for countries with low participation	GB PO	Continuous activity
	Assistance with the financial issues for commercial deployment	Given the current status of pre- commercial deployment, there is a need of a systematic strategy to support commercialization that would address the better exploitation of EU intellectual property and would recognize the inevitable international character of the supply and value chains that will emerge.	FCH JU should have a catalyser role so IEG endorses the financial officer appointment whose focus should be in finding the most suitable funding options (European, national, including private funding).	GB PO	FCH JU agrees	1: Review task definition of the Financial Engineering Officer,including synergies with existing EC instruments and initiatives 2: A dedicated page will be created on FCH website to facilitate navigation between various financing sources	PO	1: 31/03/2018 2: 30/06/2018
			European companies will form part of an international supply and value chain and the JU should reflect on what it can bring to optimise EU participation in this environment (see recommendation on main relevant industrial areas for FCH above)		FCH JU agrees	See point on strenghtening EU's global position	NA	NA
			The IEG recommends the FCH 2 JU PO should continue to procure studies to help identify, in a neutral manner, strategic priorities for R&I activities as well as promising business models that can support FCH implementation in the market.	PO GB	5 studies are included in AWP 2018; Potentially more studies could be included in AWP 2019 and 2020 to help steer FCH sector development.	Inclusion of relevant studies in future AWP	GB	Q4 2018 (AWP 2019) Q4 2019 (AWP 2020)
			The findings of these studies should be an input to AWP and MAWP.		This is the reason the JU launches studies, fully in agreement with recommendation.	1: Definition of AWP 2019 to include recommendations from Supply and Value Chain studies, and input from Regions & Cities Initiative 2: MAWP update to include recommendations of completed studies	GB PO	Q4 2018 (AWP 2019) Q4 2019 (AWP 2020)

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Communication	FCH 2 JU ensure the visibility of the EU	Neither FCH 2 JU nor beneficiaries seem to ensure in their communications a proper visibility of the EU as programme funder and promoter.	The IEG recommends that the PO should monitor and ensure compliance with the respective rules by FCH JU (Horizon 2020) and beneficiaries (Grant Agreement) to ensure EU funding is properly acknowledged.	PO	This is an on-going process, for which monitoring and compliance are included in the audit programme for H2020	Implement and monitor correct acknowledgement of EU/JU support	PO	Continuous activity	
	Improve public awareness of the technology	The understanding of FCH should be enhanced to improve awareness and credibility, so as to pave the way for commercialization at scale.	IEG recommends the PO to improve communication targeting the public awareness of FCH.	PO	Communication strategy and Communication plans 2016-2017 include targeting public awareness;	1: Communication activities to continue targeting public awareness 2: A dedicated public awareness action is foreseen in the Communications Plan 2018	PO	1: Continuous activity 2: Q1 2018	
			IEG recommends Hydrogen Europe should increase communication of FCH technologies, while taking care not to undermine the credibility of the sector through over-enthusiastic claims in advance of demonstrated capability.	Hydrogen Europe	Significant actions (see advocacy package, website..) were defined in 2016 and are currently being implemented; focus for the activities in 2018-2019	1: An updated website will be launched targeting the general public and providing educational material 2: Press and media coverage and presence wto be multiplied 3: A Communication Task Force will be created to coordinate members' communications.	HE/HER	1: Q1 2018 2: Continuous activity 3: Q1 2018	
	Communication with the political decisionmakers	The communication has been largely improved but there is still room for improvement,	More communication activities should be undertaken to ensure that policy makers at national and EU level are aware of the current status and future prospects of FCH technologies.	SRG GB	On-going activities by HE/HER as well as PO and national associations at different national levels, EP and EC services (see lunch debates in DG ENER and DG MOVE, meeting with MEPs, meetings with EU presidencies)	Enhance communication with political decision makers. Raising awareness of policy makers is a prerogative of private stakeholders and hence this activity shall be driven by HE/HER; the PO is only responsible for communication on results of the programme.	HE/HER PO	Continuous activity	
	Communication and coordination with EU regions	The MoU is a relevant step in this line.	Communication between FCH JU PO and the regions should be continued to attract more regions and more regional support to these activities.	PO	FCH JU agrees	Reinforce communication with Regions through implementation of Regions initiative	PO GB	31/12/2018	
			Find ways to ensure better synergies with National/Regional Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3 strategies).	EC (JRC)	Included in the Regions initiative contract signed with Roland Berger; a Maritime workshop took place in Valencia in may 2017 under Smart specialisation umbrella (with JRC support); similar workshop to be organised on energy topics	Organise Smart Specialisation Workshops with National/Regional entities on Energy topics	PO EC (JRC)	Q3 2018	
	Knowledge Management and Open Data	Open data access is implemented in 2017 call	Knowledge Management has been clearly improved, but some key information is still not supplied on the basis of confidentiality.	PO should enforce the compulsory requirement for the projects to deliver all information about their results necessary for technology and project assessment to the PO;	PO	A specific annual deliverable on data reporting is included under FCH2 grants; on-going analysis on measures to be taken for non-compliance of beneficiaries	Monitor compliance with data delivery obligation under existing GA's; develop corrective measures if required.	PO	To be followed up in Q3 of 2018, 2019, 2020... at reporting stage
			The opt-out possibility for access to open data should be allowed only in a limited number of cases and with justified rationale behind it. (IPR or clear exploitation reasons).	The process of how the opt-out is accepted or not should be clearly defined.		Call 2017 was the first to apply open access data;	PO to limit opt-out for access to open data through information and sensibilisation at future Call Info Day, and monitor implementation in-GA's to be signed	PO	DONE for Call 2017, to be followed up for future calls
			This is a common issue across H2020	PO to liaise with Common Support Centre to Clarify process; Information to be provided during Info Days and throughout Call communication		PO EC	DONE, implemented at Coordinators' Day 2017 and in 2017 GA's		