

Advancing Hydrogen Valleys



EUROPEAN HYDROGEN
VALLEYS PARTNERSHIP

Interreg Europe Webinar

6 May 2025

A large graphic of the chemical formula H₂ where the letters and numbers are constructed from dense green foliage. The 'H' is a tall, rectangular structure, and the '2' is a smaller, curved structure. They are set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. Below the sky is a thin, dark green horizontal line representing a horizon or a field of crops.

The European Hydrogen Valleys S3 Partnership:
facilitating the territorial deployment of a Hydrogen economy

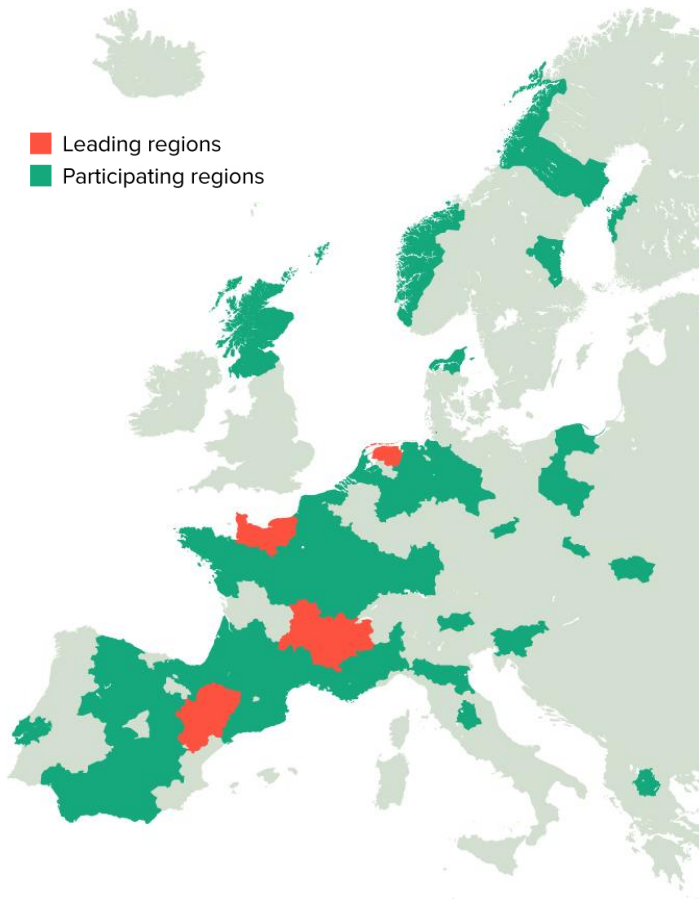
Repowering the EU with Hydrogen Valleys

*“Hydrogen Valleys are key for
the creation of a European
research and innovation area
for hydrogen.”*

Comm. Mariya Gabriel,
01/03/2023



67 member regions
in 13 countries



The European Hydrogen Valleys S3 Partnership

Launched in June 2019 with the support of the European Commission
Coordinated by 4 founding regions, pioneers in the field of H2:



The mission

of this partnership is to contribute to the ambitious objective set up by the EU of being the first climate neutral economy by 2050 by facilitating exchanges of knowledge and practices between regions, strengthening the development of hydrogen ecosystems including all elements of the European hydrogen economy and promoting the concept of hydrogen valleys, making sure that all the stakeholders of H2 ecosystems, specifically the role of local and regional authorities are taken into account and contribute to overall European competitiveness.

The vision

of the partnership is to capitalize on the results achieved at the regional and European levels coming from the experience and knowledge of hydrogen regions in order to lead the transformation towards a climate-neutral Europe by 2050, harnessing the potential of hydrogen technologies to decarbonize key sectors, foster industrial competitiveness through regional cooperation and investments, and build resilient, sustainable hydrogen ecosystems. The partnership will work on topics of common interest identified by its members, crossing priorities in the S3 strategies as a starting point to work together.

Collaboration among regions based on common:

Mission
& Vision

Objectives

- ✓ Increasing the visibility of regional/local authorities' support to the hydrogen sector
- ✓ Knowledge sharing, Networking, capacity-building and project setting
- ✓ Policy actions

Actions

Impact

Hy2Market

HEAVENN + NAHV + IMAGHyNE +
ZAHYR + AdvancedH2Valley +
H2tALENT

GreenSkills4Hydrogen

- **Visibility** at EU level (partnership's events or external events, e.g.: Clean Hydrogen JU)
- Possibility to **influence** EU initiatives (position papers, presentations)
- **«H2 One-stop-shop» for regional stakeholders** bringing forward the regional/ecosystem perspective: Clean Hydrogen JU; Clean Hydrogen Alliance; Hydrogen Europe; ERRIN; Vanguard H2 Pilot
- Facilitate **exchange of good practices and expertise**
- Facilitate **project set-up**, e.g.: I3 (Hy2Market); letters of support.



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H2 Valleys - Demonstration

objectives

actions

results

DEMONSTRATE

- Projects
- Mapping
- Connecting
- Sharing

- Network of demonstrators/facilities
- Matchmaking
- Conferences
- Exhibitions

Upcoming activities – 2025

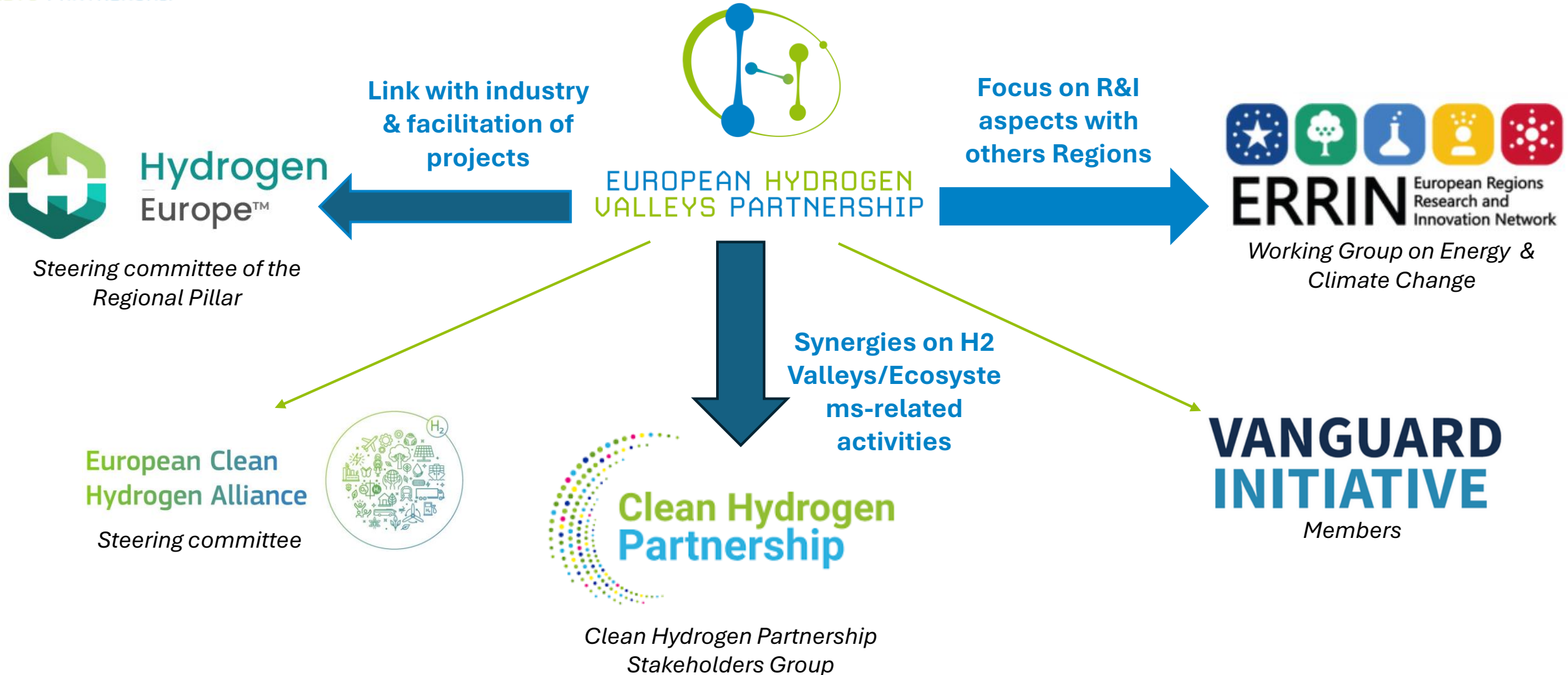
New thematic working groups

- Advocacy
- Investments
- Mobility
- Natural hydrogen

Next General Assembly on June 23

- Presentation of the partnership's new governance scheme
- Presentation of the annual work plan + updates from the newly launched working groups
- Presentation of Hydrogen valleys projects:
 - CyLH2Valley/Castilla y Leon - Ismael Lorenzo, coordinator
 - HySPARK (Poland)
 - EASTGATEH2V (Slovakia)
 - Hi2 Valley (Austria) (tbc)

Coordination with others networks





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Needs and challenges facing the Regions/National MA

for developing and adopting hydrogen
technologies in their territories

- Support and synergies across all TRL from basic R&I to deployment
- Financing (& investment)
- Technical & non-technical expertise and skills
- Policy and legal frameworks (national and cross-border)
- Infrastructure development
- Increase demand for hydrogen

What's next?

**Position paper to the European
Commission's REPowering the EU with
Hydrogen Valleys (roadmap)**

Why are Regions Relevant ?

Connecting the Hydrogen Valleys

How do we ensure connectivity of H2 Valleys?

Support to place-based R&I ecosystems post-2027

*Better connected regional
innovation ecosystems is essential
for enhancing the competitiveness
of Europe, its resilience and
strategic autonomy*

- Connect valleys at the relevant territorial scale
- Foster cooperation at the EU level among Hydrogen Valleys
- Dedicate specific funding to connect Hydrogen Valleys
- Exchange of knowledge and practices, networking
- Setting up interregional investment projects
- Reduction of the EU fragmentation in deploying H2 technologies.
- Scale-up decarbonation solutions for hard-to-abate sectors
- Increase territorial resilience
- Implementation of the Competitiveness Coordination tool through the specialisation of various regions
- Tailored support to engage moderate and emerging innovator regions, helping to close the innovation gap

"Although Europe is a world leader in clean tech innovation, it is squandering early-stage advantages owing to the weaknesses in its innovation ecosystem"

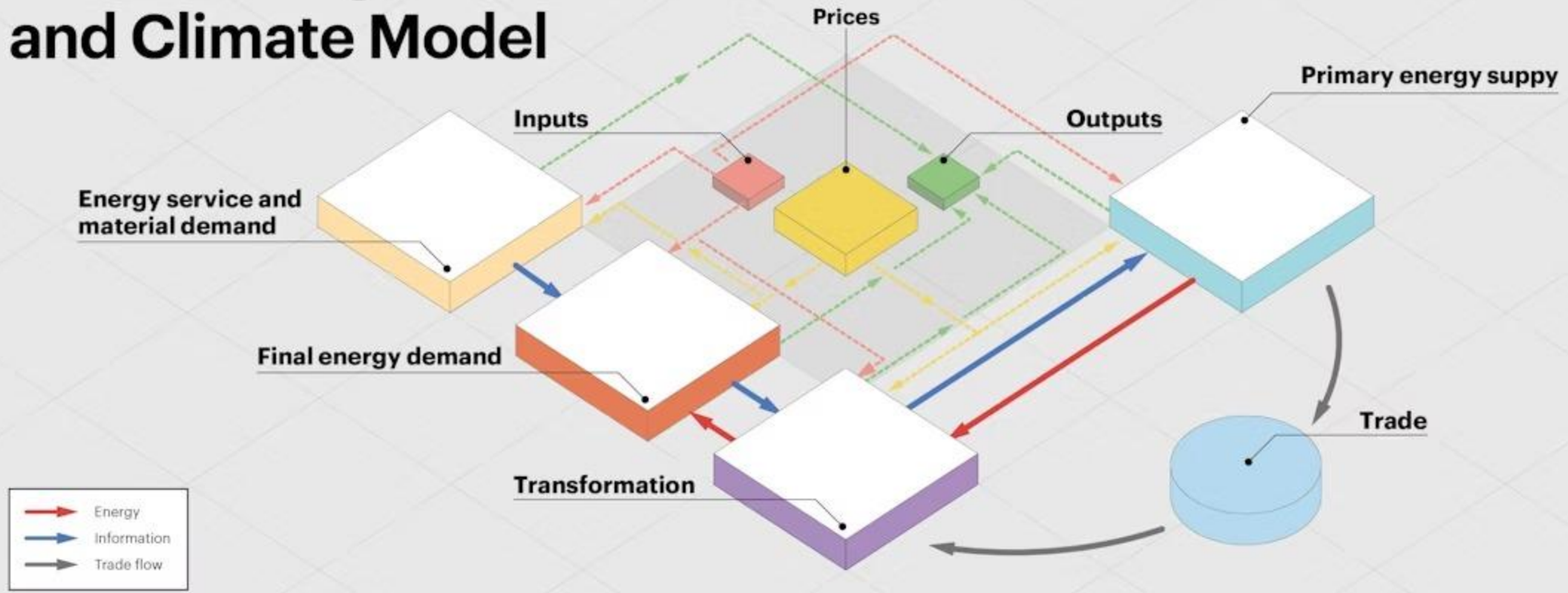
Draghi report



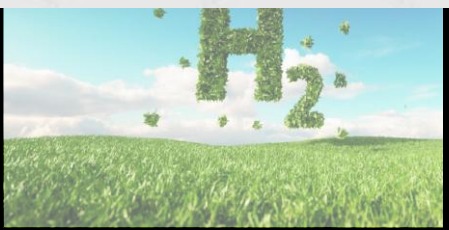


A new paradigm for the EU's policies: the Open Strategy Autonomy

Global Energy and Climate Model



and Hydrogen



- Weaponisation of everything
- Economic security

- Connected electrical grids
- Climate adaptation

- Dual use potential
- Technological sovereignty



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