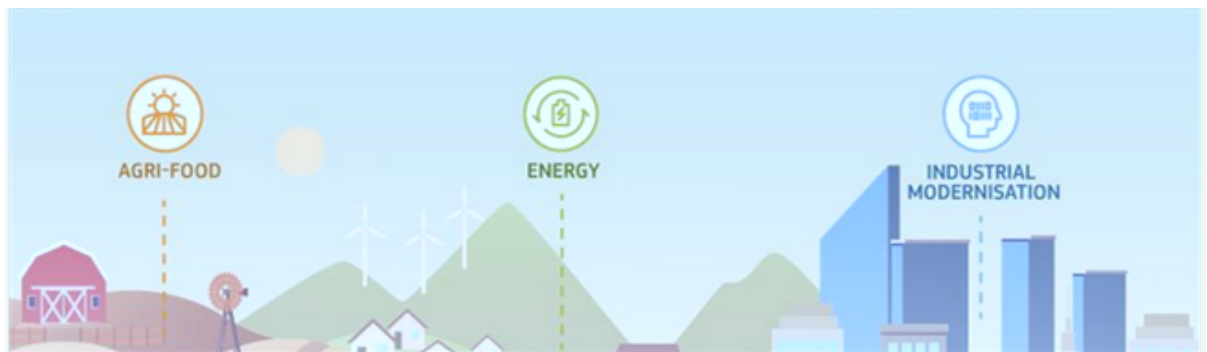


# Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms Monitoring Progress Report

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.



## Thematic Smart Specialisation Partnership Monitoring Progress Report

This report is presented to the relevant Working/Steering Committee.

The report is updated every six months.

### Confidentiality:

The management report (section I) and progress report (section II) will be made available to the public via your Partnership's web page.

The part on self-assessment is confidential.

Based on the monitoring results, the European Commission will decide on the following term's support.

### \* Reporting period

July - December 2019

### \* Please select the name of your partnership

Hydrogen valleys

## I. Management report

---

### Please provide the executive summary of the objectives of your partnership

The European Hydrogen Valleys Partnership, part of the S3 Industrial Modernisation platform, is a partnership led by four European regions, namely Aragon, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Normandy and the Northern Netherlands. The partnership aims to address global warming and to mitigate its effects on human societies and ecosystems by promoting the production of clean hydrogen via renewable energy sources and its use in several sectors such as energy, transport, and as industry feedstock. This partnership will therefore play an important role in reaching the EU's ambitious objective of becoming the first climate neutral economy by 2050. The partnership currently involves 40 European regions.

The European Hydrogen Valleys Partnership is enhancing the energy transition as it fosters the use of fuel cells and hydrogen technologies when producing green hydrogen with renewable energy sources. Hydrogen can, in conjunction with other technologies, address the imbalance between energy supply and demand, and therefore avoid energy waste and at the same time facilitate the integration of renewable energies within the energy grid.

The key objectives of the partnership are:

- Develop the technological readiness and the commercial availability of FCH applications;
- Overcome the lack of access to information and expertise between European regions;
- Strengthen the value chain for FCH technologies via interregional cooperation;
- Contribute to the decarbonisation of the EU's economy;
- Green the production of hydrogen;
- Be an active stakeholder on EU policy making and hydrogen.

### Please provide the list of leading regions

- Normandy
- Auvergne Rhône-Alpes
- Northern Netherlands
- Aragon

### Please provide the list of participating regions.

*If possible, please follow this format: "Name of the region in English (Country abbreviation), NUTS code".  
e.g.: Lapland (FI), FI1D7*

Schotland, UNited Kingdom  
 Emilia Romagna, Italy  
 Sandviken, Sweden  
 Gavleborg, Sweden  
 Arnhem-Nijmegen, The Nertherlands  
 Sogn og Fjordane County Municipality, Norway  
 Occitanie, France  
 Auvergne Rhône Alpes, France  
 Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France  
 Castilla la Mancha, Spain  
 Castilla and Leon, Spain  
 Bourgogne Franche-Comté, France  
 Provincie Drenthe, Netherlands  
 Pays de la loire, France  
 PACA, France  
 Bourgogne Franche-Comte, France  
 Saxony-Anhalt, Germany  
 Hauts de france, France  
 Piemonte, Italy  
 Heraklion city, Greece  
 Provincia di Modena, Italy  
 Bretagne, France  
 Aragon, Spain  
 Stara Zagora Bulgaria  
 Baden-Württemberg, Germany  
 Umbria, Italy  
 Torres Vedras, Portugal  
 Western Macedonia, Greece  
 MUNICIPALITY OF PHAISTOS, Greece  
 Bourgogne Franche-Comté, France  
 Mariagerfjord municipality (North Denmark Region)  
 North-Rhine Westphalia Germany  
 Agglo Chaumont, France  
 Groningen, Netherlands

**Please provide the list of interested regions or other entities** (other than national /regional authorities)

POM Oost-Vlaanderen  
 Waterstof-net  
 Hamburg

Please provide an overview of the **working areas** of your partnership

	Working area	Region in charge	Involved regions	Other actors
1	H2 Production, Transportation, Storage, Conversion	Aragon H2 Foundation + Castilla y Leon + Bologna University		
2	H2 valleys/islands	Perugia University + Sandviken (SE)		
3	Industrial use of H2	Groningen (NL)		
4	Safety	CARA Automotive cluster (Auvergne Rhône Alpes) + Greece National Research Council		
5	H2 Trucks + buses + refueling stations	Castilla la Mancha + Spanish National H2 Council		
6	Long-distance coaches	Sud/PACA Region (FR) + Medio Tejo (PT)		
7	Boats/ports	Brittany Region (FR)		
8	Trains	Piemonte Region (IT)		
9	Fuels cells	DAM Group (FR)		
10	Bikes	Medio Tejo (PT)		

Please provide information regarding past meetings, workshops and dissemination activities (six months prior to filling out the survey)

	Event	Date	Place	Any other information
1	2nd plenary meeting of the H2 Valleys partnership	15/10/2019	Brussels	
2	1st working group meetings of the H2 Valleys partnership	22/11/2019	Brussels	
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

## Please provide information regarding planned future meetings, workshops and dissemination activities

	Event	Date	Place	Any other information
1	3rd plenary meeting of H2 Valleys Partnership	4/02/2020	Paris	This meeting will take place during the Hyvolution 2020 Conference
2	4th plenary meeting	June/July 2020	Brussels	
3	Organisation of an Energy Day dedicated to the H2 Valleys partnership	June 2020	Brussels	Event to be organised in the Framework of the EUSEW 2020
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

## II. Progress report

---

### Innovative results

Please describe innovative results and achievements that could be attributed to the partnership (specific examples of results vs. objectives)

The partnership came together on 15 October 2019 in order to have its second plenary meeting. During this meeting working groups were created within 10 thematic areas. These groups have as aim to create cooperation projects for future interregional investments. These cooperation projects will be pitched in February during the 3rd plenary meeting of the partnership.

Prior to the second plenary meeting a survey was carried out amongst the partners and stakeholders in order to define the cooperation and co-investments project. The survey carried out a mapping of assets, competences and matching of business opportunities for the regions.

Moreover the partnership provided an input to the public consultation on the future "Clean Hydrogen" joint undertaking. The main message given during this consultation was that regional and local authorities should be fully associated to the definition of Clean Hydrogen's future activities as well as it identified the need to speed the demonstration and efficient deployment of FCH solutions across the EU. Furthermore a need was identified to foster the synergies between various funding streams.

Tangible short- and medium-term socio-economic impacts achieved or expected (specific examples)

The expected outcome of the activities of the partnership in this process is to foster interregional and industrial cooperation opportunities and design of concrete investment projects within ten different areas of hydrogen and to set up business plans for funding and mix to support investment protocols.

### Inter-regional and inter-partnership collaborative results

Additional results obtained from working with other partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms (specific examples)

Not applicable so far

Evaluation of the involvement of relevant business sector (clusters, SMEs, business associations, chambers of commerce, Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs), etcetera) in the Partnership activities (specific examples)

Clusters and companies are involved in the partnership. Examples of these clusters are: CARA, Tenerdis, Axelera from Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes.  
For companies there is ENA gas from Italy and CNR and VNF from France.  
From aragon there is the Aragon Foudation for Hydrogen.  
Those clusters and companies are involved in the working group activities.

Evaluation of whether the level of inter-regional cooperation is sufficient to potentially provide practical and relevant socio-economic impacts (specific examples)

Too soon to answer

## New activities

Involvement of regions from EU13 Member States in the Partnership, in particular with respect to scoping, mapping and/or matchmaking. In addition, justification should be provided if no EU13 regions are involved

We have a partner in Bulgaria; Stara Zagora

Involvement of regions/countries from outside of EU28 Countries. (Number of participants from non-EU countries (specify their contribution)

Sogn og Fjordane County Municipality, Norway (member of the partnership, assisting in the design of concrete investment projects)

Advancement and promotion of the Partnership through publications and other communication/outreach activities (number of outreach activities that resulted from the partnership)

- \* Flyer on the European Hydrogen Valleys Partnership designed and distributed
- \* LinkedIn account on the partnership with 88 members to disseminate the results and future activities
- \* Twitterpage with 47 followers in order to update members and disseminate information and knowledge

Activities and projects with partnerships working under other S3 Thematic Platforms (AgriFood, Energy and Industrial Modernisation)



--

## Your Partnership and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU has a strong position when it comes to sustainable development and is also fully committed to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda, together with its member countries and regions. Many interregional partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms contribute strongly to the attainment of these 17 goals.

**Please indicate to which Sustainable Development Goals and to what extent your thematic Partnership contributes?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition & promote sustainable agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives & promote well-being for all at all ages	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality & empower all women and girls	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment & decent work for all	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation & foster innovation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Goal 11. Make cities & human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption & production patterns	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas & marine resources for sustainable development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 16. Promote peaceful & inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

