European Commission - Press release





Nearly €1 billion awarded to boost development of renewable hydrogen

Brussels, 20 May 2025

Today, the Commission announced the selection of **15** renewable hydrogen production projects for public funding across the European Economic Area (EEA). The projects, located across five countries, are expected to produce nearly **2.2** million tonnes of renewable hydrogen over ten years, avoiding more than **15** million tonnes of CO₂ emissions. The hydrogen will be produced in sectors such as transportation, the chemical industry, or the production of methanol and ammonia. They will receive a total of €992 million in EU funding, from the Innovation Fund sourced from the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS).

The winning bidders, awarded after the second <u>European Hydrogen Bank (EHB)</u> auction, will produce the renewable hydrogen in Europe with a subsidy that will help to close the price difference between their production costs and the market price and accelerate the deployment of cleaner fuels.

The auctions of the European Hydrogen Bank contribute to scaling up renewable hydrogen, which in turn will help replace natural gas, coal and oil in hard-to-decarbonise industries and transport sectors. Producing more renewable hydrogen will decrease the use of fossil fuels on our continent and increase the EU's energy independence and positively impact security, jobs and the decarbonisation of European industry.

Of the selected projects, 12 are committed to producing renewable hydrogen with fixed premium support between 0.20 and 0.60 per kilogramme. For the first time, the auction provided a dedicated budget for hydrogen producers with off-takers in the maritime sector, which are entities using the hydrogen produced by the project for carrying out or making use of bunkering activities. This has resulted in the selection of three bids receiving 96.7 million in grants. These projects will require between 0.45 and 1.88 per kilogramme. Each subsidy for the 15 projects ranges from 8 million and 1.88 million over a period up to 10 years.

The selected projects are listed in the following table:

Project Name	Coordinator	Country	Bid Volume (hydrogen kilotonne over 10 years)	Bid Capacity (Megawatts electric)	Expected GHG avoidance** (kilotonnes of CO2 equivalent over 10 years)	Bid Price (EUR/kg)
General topic						
VILLAMARTIN H2	GALENA RENOVABLES 6, S.L.	Spain	126	252	859	0.2
PUERTO SERRANO H2	GALENA RENOVABLES 7, S.L.	Spain	49	98	337	0.25
Kristinestad PtX	Koppö Energia Oy	Finland	258	200	1,763	0.33
SolWinHy Cadiz	Viridi RE GmbH	Spain	63	80	431	0.4
H2LZ	IGNIS HIDROGENO ALFA	Spain	26	20	179	0.41
AGS	ARMONIA GREEN SEVILLA	Spain	238	198	1,631	0.41
AGG280	ARMONIA GREEN GALICIA, S.L.	Spain	238	198	1,629	0.42
H2CRI	GREEN DEVCO ENERGY 6, S.L.U.	Spain	30	30	204	0.44
KASKADE	Meridiam SAS	Germany	354	367.5	2,424	0.45
H2-Hub <u>Lubmin</u>	H2-Hub Lubmin GmbH	Germany	238	210	1,628	0.47
TORDESILLASH2	Elawan Energy	Spain	17	15	115	0.48
Zeevonk electrolyser	Zeevonk Electrolyser	Netherlands	411	560	2,812	0.6
Maritime topic						
RjukanH2	NORWEGIAN HYDROGEN AS	Norway	29	18.75	201	0.45
Gen2-LH2	Gen2 Energy AS	Norway	104	82.21	714	0.59
HammerfestH2	GREEN H AS	Norway	12	7.5	80	1.88

^{**} Calculated based on the <u>2021-2025 ETS benchmark</u> of 6.84 tons CO2e/tH2, not taking into account additional carbon abatement due to substitution effects in the H2 end use application

In parallel, Spain, Lithuania, and Austria are allocating up to €836 million in national funding for projects in their countries through the 'Auctions-as-a-Service' feature. This allows Member States to identify and fund eligible projects in their territories that meet the auction's qualification criteria but cannot be funded by the Innovation Fund due to budgetary limitations. 'Auctions-as-a-service' is open to all Member States, enabling them to benefit from the EU-level auction platform and award national

funding to additional projects with simplified procedure.

Next Steps

The selected projects will now be invited to prepare their grant agreement with the <u>European Climate</u>, <u>Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)</u>. **Agreements are expected to be signed by September/October 2025.**

Signed projects are required to reach financial close within a maximum of two and a half years after signature and to start producing renewable hydrogen within a period of 5 years. They will receive the fixed premium subsidy for a period of up to ten years for certified and verified renewable hydrogen production. As announced in the <u>Clean Industrial Deal</u>, a **third European Hydrogen Bank auction** is **planned for end 2025** with a budget of up to €1 billion.

The Commission will soon also launch the <u>Hydrogen Mechanism</u> under the European Hydrogen Bank. This online platform will bring together buyers and sellers and enable market participants to share information and find potential commercial partners.

Background

With an estimated total budget of €40 billion from the <u>EU Emissions Trading System</u> for the period from 2020 to 2030, the Innovation Fund creates financial incentives for companies and public authorities to invest in cutting-edge net-zero technologies and support Europe's transition to climate neutrality.

The European Hydrogen Bank facilitates the EU's domestic production and imports of renewable hydrogen that qualifies as Renewable Fuels of Non-Biological Origin (RFNBO), meaning it is generated using renewable electricity and meets the EU's sustainability criteria. It supports the EU target to produce 10 million tonnes of domestic renewable hydrogen by 2030, as set out in the REPowerEU plan. It aims to unlock private investment in the EU and in third countries by addressing investment challenges, closing the funding gap, and connecting future renewable hydrogen supply to consumers. In its first auction in 2023, the Innovation Fund awarded nearly €700 million in grants to support 6 projects.

For More Information

Innovation Fund competitive bidding

IF24 Auction web page

Press release: <u>Spain, Lithuania and Austria on the European Hydrogen Bank's 'Auctions-as-a-Service'</u> scheme

News: Over-subscribed European Hydrogen Bank auction receives 61 bids for Innovation Fund support, including 8 maritime projects

EU Funding & Tenders Portal

<u>European Hydrogen Bank</u> Innovation Fund dashboard

Innovation Fund projects

Innovation Fund

IP/25/1264

Quote(s):

"The second auction under the European Hydrogen Bank reaffirms our commitment to building a robust renewable hydrogen market in Europe — one that is key to achieving climate neutrality in a cost-effective and competitive way. We are increasing EUs energy independence with positive impacts in security and jobs. The strong response to the auction clearly reflects the vitality and growing confidence in Europe's emerging renewable hydrogen industry."

Teresa Ribera, Executive Vice-President for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition - 20/05/2025

"The results of the second EU-wide auction for renewable hydrogen underscore both the strong interest from industry and the increasing competitiveness of clean hydrogen in Europe. We are now able to support more projects, and at highly competitive prices. I also warmly welcome the joint efforts of Spain, Austria, and Lithuania, whose participation through the Auctions-as-a-Service scheme demonstrates a shared commitment to scaling up hydrogen production across the Union."

Wopke Hoekstra, Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth - 20/05/2025

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