

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest with a winding river or stream cutting through it. Mist or low clouds are visible in the lower-left portion of the image, partially obscuring the trees. The overall scene is vibrant and natural.

Hydrogen Valleys Facility

CleanHydrogen/OP/Contract 397

Deliverable D2 | First Intermediary Progress Report (2025/2026)

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Executive Summary

The Clean Hydrogen Partnership has set up a Hydrogen Valleys Facility (H2V Facility) in May 2025 with the aim to contribute to the aspirational target of the European Commission of having 50 valleys operational or under construction in the EU by 2030. The H2V Facility project has a duration of 60 months (until May 2030) and is delivered by Roland Berger as main contractor and Worley as technical subcontractor and Inycom as IT subcontractor.

As part of the H2V Facility project, several overarching progress reports are being developed for the public.

This First Intermediary Progress Report is the first report of this report series and provides a detailed status tracking for all tasks and activities related to the H2V Facility completed since its start in May 2025 until May 2026. It is structured along the following chapters:

- Introduction to the H2V Facility, including the scope, objectives, and project approach
- Progress update on Task 1: Project Development Assistance
- Progress update on Task 2: H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building
- Progress update on Task 3: H2V Platform
- Annexes

The H2V Facility aims to achieve four objectives, i.e., providing dedicated Project Development Assistance (PDA) to Hydrogen Valleys towards Final Investment Decision (FID), supporting a diversified set of Hydrogen Valleys at different maturity stages, utilizing lessons learned from the PDA and prior Hydrogen Valleys activities for the broader Hydrogen Valley community, and maintaining and expanding the Hydrogen Valleys Platform.

To achieve these objectives, the H2V Facility project is structured around the following three tasks with corresponding sub-tasks and activities:

- **Task 1 – Project Development Assistance:** Preparation and delivery of expert support services to Hydrogen Valleys in eligible countries through commercial, technical, regulatory, and valley governance expertise with c. 40 PDAs that are being delivered between 2025 and 2027 in two tracks: PDA light, a six-week programme supporting development from idea to concept stage, and PDA plus, a 12-week programme supporting development from concept to feasibility stage and ultimately to FID. Dedicated communication activities contribute to the information and knowledge dissemination of the PDA programme.
- **Task 2 – H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building:** Design and development of an H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building activities related to hydrogen project development with the aim to share and disseminate knowledge and provide capacity building for the broader hydrogen community to facilitate the build-up of crucial skills needed to advance hydrogen projects. Therefore, interactive formats, incl. exclusive collective action workshops with Hydrogen Valleys (with a focus on the Hydrogen Valleys already supported via the Clean Hydrogen Partnership's Calls for Proposals) and open expert webinars, as well as self-service knowledge material around commercial, technical, regulatory and governance aspects of Hydrogen Valley development is being delivered. Furthermore, events such as the Hydrogen Valley Days are organised.
- **Task 3 – Hydrogen Valleys Platform:** Development, maintenance, and enhancement of the H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu) to solidify its position as the primary global knowledge hub for hydrogen valleys projects. This includes onboarding and maintaining of contact to Hydrogen Valley projects across the globe, ensuring stable and secure technical operations, introducing new technical and content features across all platform sections, and the promotion of the results of the H2V Facility as well as the H2V Facility website to all relevant target groups.

Since the start of the H2V Facility project in May 2025 and until end of May 2026, the following key activities have been advanced:

Task	Date	Main activities completed between May 2025 and May 2026
Task 1 – Project Development Assistance	May to June 2025	Market consultation survey for the tailoring of the PDA offering to most pressing market developed and conducted
	May to October 2025	First Call for Applications prepared, launched, and evaluated between May and October 2025 (incl. Call for Applications specifications and documents, FAQs, Core Evaluation Report, Publications of PDA Beneficiaries, Extended Evaluation Report)
	May to July 2025	PDA promotion activities for the First Call for Applications based on comprehensive PDA promotion plan conducted, incl. Info Day on PDA (July 18 th 2025)
	October 2025 to February 2026	PDA support for 15 PDA Beneficiaries delivered (incl. 9 PDA light and 6 PDA plus Beneficiaries)
	April 2026	Second Call for Applications was prepared and launched (incl. revised application documents, FAQs)
	May to June 2026	PDA promotion activities for the Second Call of Applications published, incl. two Info Days held and are continuously ongoing
Task 2 – H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building	May to June 2025	Market consultation survey for the tailoring of the H2V Knowledge Centre offerings were developed and conducted
	April 2026	Collective action survey for the offering of interactive formats conducted
	June 2025	Preparation of content sessions and follow-ups of Hydrogen Valley Days 2025 conducted
	October 2025	H2V Knowledge Centre content created and website go-live completed, with regular publications of news articles and development of virtual expert webinars ongoing
	February 2026	Capacity building workshops and interactive formats executed
	May 2026	Preparation of content sessions and follow-ups for the Hydrogen Valley Days 2026 conducted
Task 3 – Hydrogen Valleys Platform	June/July 2025 and March/April 2026	Completion of two biannual data update cycles , subsequent onboarding of new Hydrogen Valleys, as well as removal of non-responsive Hydrogen Valleys through the application of defined formal exclusion criteria. Continuous relationship management and monitoring of public sources to identify new Hydrogen Valleys ongoing
	July 4 th 2025	H2V Platform handover to Inycom completed, incl. technical maintenance of Drupal 11 upgrade, continuous technical maintenance, SEO, infrastructure maintenance, and cybersecurity measures ongoing
	July 2025 to May 2026	h2v.eu website designed and implemented across the three H2V Facility pillars. Relaunch of the h2v.eu website in three phases
	June 2025	Communication and promotion activities , incl. overarching communication strategy, developed and executed via LinkedIn and email, as well as news articles on h2v.eu and Clean Hydrogen JU website. Continuous execution of communication activities and publication of content (incl. PDA mini case studies) ongoing
	May 2026	Preparation of the report “ State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector ‘26 ”

Table 1: Overview of completed activities between May 2025 and May 2026

The envisaged key milestones for the next 12 months (June 2026 to May 2027) are as follows:

Task	Date (indicative)	Envisaged key milestones from June 2026 to May 2027
Task 1 – Project Development Assistance	Q2 2026	Submission deadline for the Second Call for Applications for PDA support
	Q3 2026	Notification of award or rejection to all applicants of the Second Call for Applications
	Q3 2026	Official start of second PDA wave (PDA light first batch and PDA plus)
	Q4 2026	End of PDA light support (first batch)
	Q4 October 2026	Start of PDA light support (second batch)
	Q4 2026	End of second PDA wave (PDA plus and PDA light second batch)
	H1 2027	Publication of Second PDA Results Report (estimated date yet to be agreed with the contracting authority)
Task 2 – H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building	Q3 2026:	Go-live of restricted Collective Action Area within the H2V Knowledge Centre as per outcome of two Collective Action Workshops conducted in February 2026 (on H2 road mobility) and in May 2026 (on H2 market and offtake)
	Q4 2026	In-person workshop with Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership
Task 3 – Hydrogen Valleys Platform	Q3 2026	Publication of the State of the Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report 2026
	Q4 2026	Second biannual data update 2026 for all Hydrogen Valley projects on the H2V Platform
	Q1 2027	First biannual data update 2027 for all Hydrogen Valley projects on the H2V Platform
	Q2 2027	Publication of the State of the Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report 2027

Table 2: Envisaged key milestones between June 2026 and May 2027

1. The Hydrogen Valleys Facility

The Clean Hydrogen Partnership has set up a Hydrogen Valleys Facility (H2V Facility) in 2025 with the aim to contribute to the aspirational target of the European Commission of having 50 valleys operational or under construction in the EU by 2030.

As part of the H2V Facility project, several overarching progress reports are being developed for the public. This First Intermediary Progress Report is the first public report of this report series and provides a detailed status tracking for all tasks and activities related to the H2V Facility completed since its start in May 2025 until May 2026.

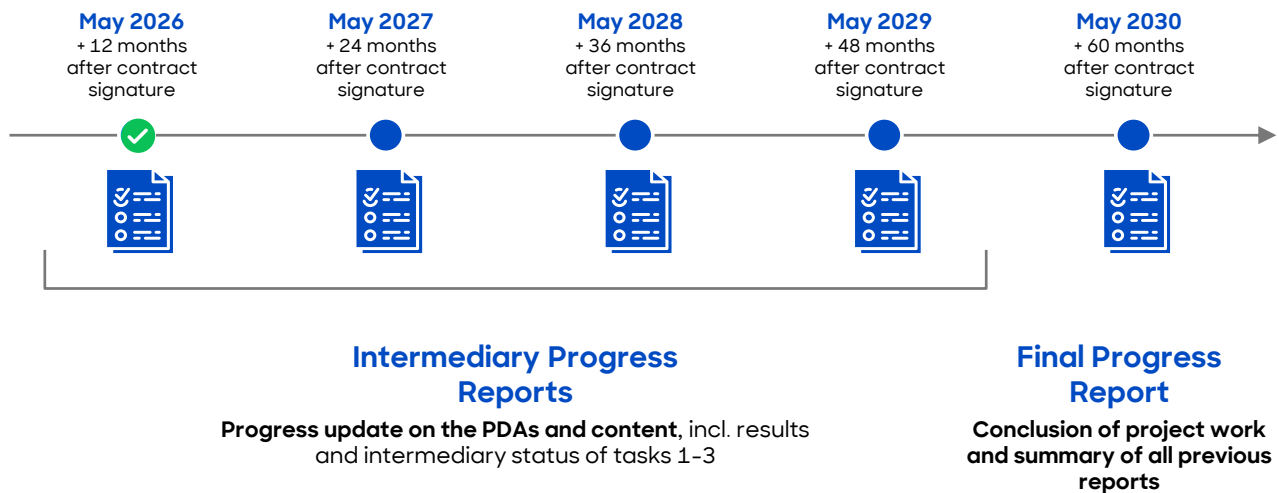


Figure 1: Timeline of progress reports for the H2V Facility project

Hydrogen Valleys and the Clean Hydrogen Partnership

Hydrogen Valleys have proven to be a key driver for the clean hydrogen sector and ultimately the transition towards decarbonised economies. By demonstrating hydrogen technologies in real-world conditions at meaningful scale, they systematically de-risk commercial, technological, and regulatory uncertainties, fostering a collaborative ecosystem of industry, government, and research institutions that accelerates innovation and reduces the overall cost of hydrogen deployment.

The Clean Hydrogen Partnership has played a foundational and continuously evolving role in establishing Hydrogen Valleys as a globally recognised concept and a cornerstone of Europe's clean energy strategy. As such, it has brought forward numerous activities to develop and support Hydrogen Valleys over the last years.

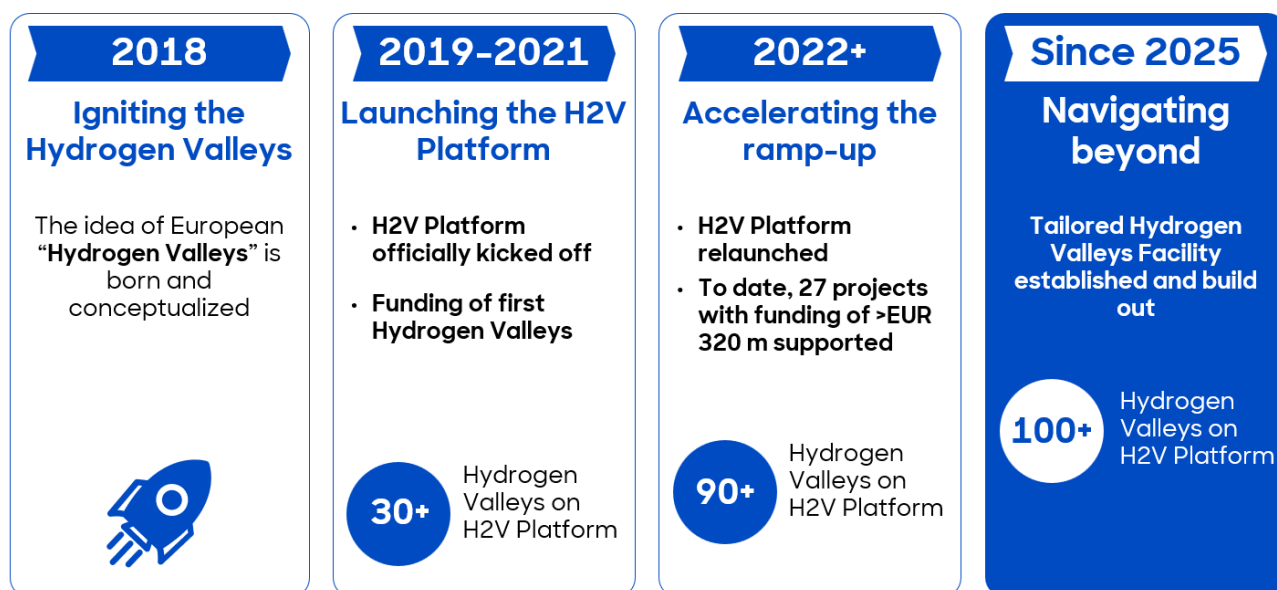


Figure 2: The Clean Hydrogen Partnership's success story of Hydrogen Valleys

The concept of Hydrogen Valleys was developed by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, through its predecessor the FCH 2 JU, laying the conceptual and community groundwork for what would become a globally adopted model. The scale and impact of this work was formally recognised through the European Commission's allocation of an additional EUR 200 m to the Clean Hydrogen Partnership via REPowerEU to double the number of Hydrogen Valleys by 2025, underpinning the broader ambition of at least 50 Hydrogen Valleys operational or under construction in Europe by 2030.

Subsequently, over EUR 320 m in cumulative funding were granted for over 27 Hydrogen Valley projects in 23 countries. Building on this foundation, the Clean Hydrogen Partnership developed the global H2V Platform (www.h2v.eu) – launched in 2021 and expanded into a comprehensive one-stop shop by 2023, now hosting more than 100 Hydrogen Valleys worldwide.

The H2V Facility

To systematically build out these efforts and to unlock transformative support for Hydrogen Valleys on their way to FID, the Clean Hydrogen Partnership has set up a Hydrogen Valleys Facility (H2V Facility) in 2025. The H2V Facility further aims to contribute to the aspirational target of the European Commission of having 50 valleys operational or under construction in the EU by 2030.

By focusing on high-impact activities, the H2V Facility aims to accelerate the clean hydrogen transition in Europe by advancing a diverse portfolio of Hydrogen Valleys to investment-readiness, transforming regional initiatives into continental success and driving innovation via dissemination of knowledge.

Roland Berger together with its subcontractors Worley and Inycom were mandated by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership for the set-up and implementation of the H2V Facility. The H2V Facility delivers dedicated non-financial support via three pillars:

- **The Project Development Assistance (PDA)** is directed to Hydrogen Valleys to advance them from idea to concept (PDA light programme track) and from concept to feasibility stage and ultimately to FID (PDA plus programme track).
- **The H2V Knowledge Centre & capacity building** is a self-service and interactive platform for the broader hydrogen community, thereby providing dedicated content, knowledge products and formats for exchange on best-practices for projects at different pre-FID maturity levels.. The H2V Knowledge Centre furthermore provides dedicated interactive formats for Hydrogen Valleys and other hydrogen practitioners.

- **The Hydrogen Valley Platform** features European and global hydrogen flagship projects in different maturity stages (pre-FID, under construction and in operations) and provides dedicated insights into hydrogen project development

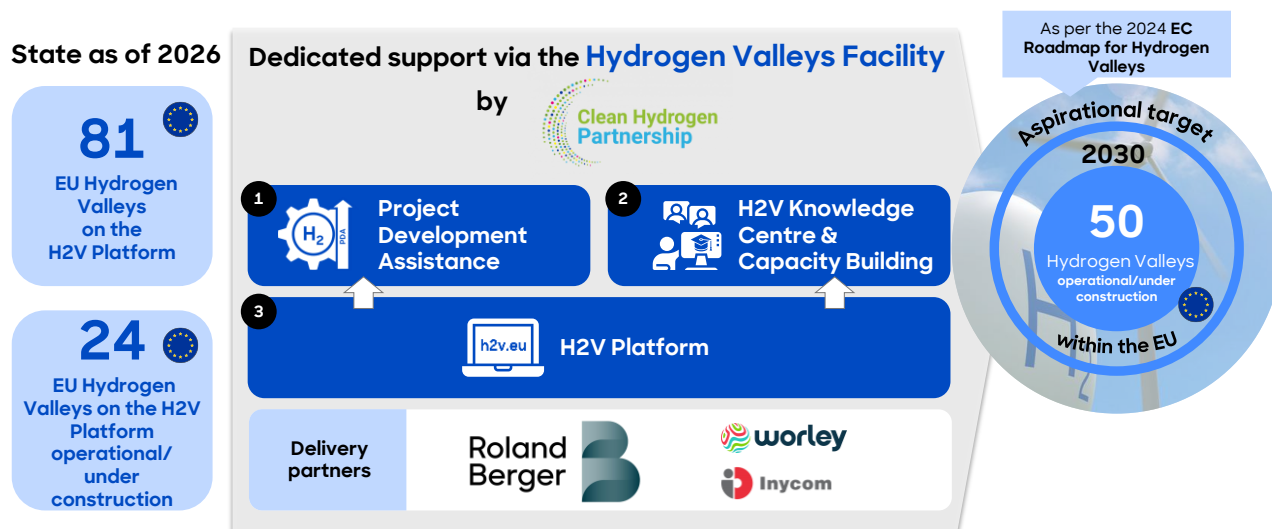


Figure 3: The Hydrogen Valleys Facility

1.1 Objectives and scope of the Hydrogen Valleys Facility

The “Hydrogen Valleys Facility” is aimed at achieving four main objectives

1. Provide dedicated Project Development Assistance (PDA) for Hydrogen Valley projects towards Final Investment Decision
2. Ensure support to a diversified set of Hydrogen Valleys at different maturity stages
3. Use the lessons learnt from the PDA support and prior Hydrogen Valley activities effectively for the broader Hydrogen Valley community
4. Maintain and extend the Hydrogen Valleys Platform to enhance its positioning as the global one-stop-shop for the Hydrogen Valley community

These overarching objectives are to be achieved by three main tasks:

- **Task 1:** Project Development Assistance (PDA)
 - Task 1.1: Preparation and implementation of the Calls for Applications for PDA support
 - Task 1.2: Provision of the Project Development Assistance services
 - Task 1.3: Promotion of the Project Development Assistance services
- **Task 2:** H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building¹
- **Task 3:** Hydrogen Valleys Platform²
 - Task 3.1 Hydrogen Valleys: Data update, quality enhancement and onboarding of additional projects

¹ As per the tender specifications “Extraction of lessons learnt, knowledge sharing, capacity building”

² As per the tender specifications “Support to the activities of Mission Innovation 2.0 – Clean Hydrogen Mission and Hydrogen Valleys Platform”

- Task 3.2 Technical maintenance of the H2V Platform
- Task 3.3: Development and implementation of new content and technical features
- Task 3.4: Communication strategy and execution for the promotion of the H2V Platform

Objectives

- 1 Provide **dedicated Project Development Assistance (PDA)** for Hydrogen Valleys projects towards Final Investment Decision
- 2 Ensure **support to a diversified set of Hydrogen Valleys** at different maturity stages
- 3 Use the **lessons learnt** from the PDA support and prior Hydrogen Valley activities effectively **for the broader Hydrogen Valley community**
- 4 **Maintain and extend the Hydrogen Valleys Platform** to enhance its positioning as the global one-stop-shop for the Hydrogen Valley community

H2V Facility

Task 1 Project Development Assistance

PDA light

PDA plus

Task 2 H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building

Task 3 Hydrogen Valleys Platform

Figure 4: Objectives and tasks of the H2V Facility

1.2 Overview of project approach and delivery

The overall project approach is structured around the three key tasks and is designed to carry out these tasks in an integrated and closely interlinked manner: Practical insights and learnings generated in the concrete PDA work with Hydrogen Valleys on the ground (Task 1) form the basis for aggregating, synthesising and disseminating know-how to a broader target audience (Task 2), both of which will rely on the enhanced H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu) as the digital backbone and exchange platform (Task 3).

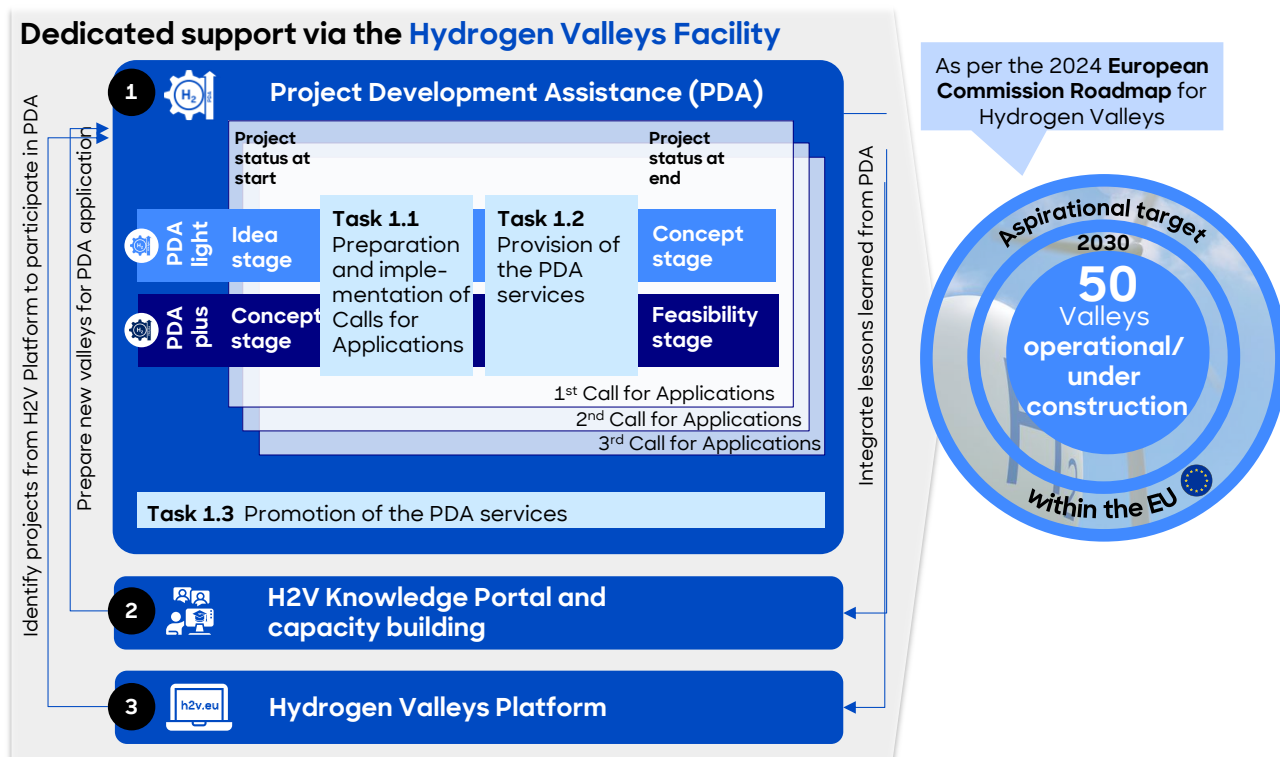


Figure 5: Integrated delivery approach for the H2V Facility

All project activities are intricately linked to ensure that each element supports and enhances the others, reflecting the core objective of supporting the Hydrogen Valleys in their way forward and maintaining a user-centric platform that seamlessly combines technical functionality and content enrichment.

The delivery partners are Roland Berger, as main contractor and single point of contact for the Clean Hydrogen JU throughout the entire duration of the engagement, Worley as technical subcontractor, and Inycom as IT subcontractor.

The roles and responsibilities of the partners are as follows:

- **Roland Berger** is the main contractor responsible for the steering of the subcontractors Worley and Inycom and serves as the single point of contact for the Clean Hydrogen JU. In its role, Roland Berger executes the overall programme management across the entire H2V Facility (Tasks 1 to 3) and is the key delivery partner for the PDA engagements on the ground in the commercial, regulatory/social and environmental as well as the valley governance dimension. Roland Berger is furthermore in charge of the knowledge dissemination, the platform and content development as well as the community engagement with the Hydrogen Valleys
- **Worley** is the expert technical subcontractor and, in this role, particularly focused on the technical dimension of the PDA delivery
- **Inycom** is the expert IT subcontractor and in this role responsible for all IT developments and their implementation across all Tasks 1 to 3

1.3 Project timeline of the Hydrogen Valleys Facility project

The H2V Facility project started in May 2025 and is envisaged to be completed in May 2030. This sub-chapter outlines the overall project timeline and provides an overview of the key activities and milestones achieved since its set-up in May 2025 until end of May 2026. It furthermore provides an outlook to the activities planned until May 2027.

1.3.1 Overall timeline

The H2V Facility project, including all results, is being delivered within a timeframe of 60 months, i.e., from May 2025 until May 2030.

The following figure provides an overview of the timeline of all three tasks including the key deliverables that have been advanced to date (in grey) and will be conducted (in blue).

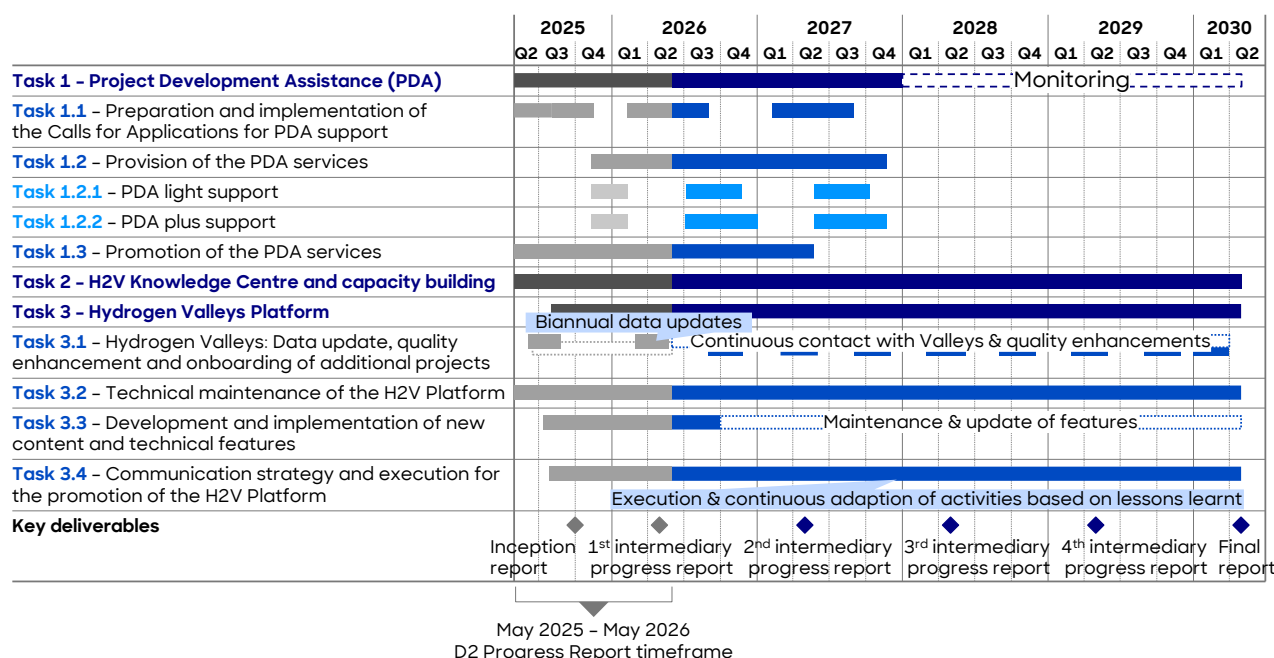


Figure 6: Overall timeline for the delivery of the H2V Facility (indicative)

1.3.2 Key milestones between May 2025 and May 2026

In the first year since its set-up, a variety of activities were advanced as part of the H2V Facility. The following tables provides an overview of the key milestones achieved between May 2025 and May 2026, as well as on the ongoing activities (as of May 2026).

In this table, activities & key milestones regarding **Task 1: Project Development Assistance (PDA)** are listed.

Task	Completed activities and milestones	Ongoing activities
Task 1.1: Preparation and implementation of the Calls for Applications for PDA support	- Market consultation survey (May to June 2025) - First Call for Applications prepared, launched, and evaluated (May to October 2025) - Second Call for Applications for PDA support launched (April 2026)	Management of Second Call for Applications, incl. ongoing response to questions, monitoring of application process (April to June 2026)
Task 1.2: Provision of the PDA services	PDA support for 15 PDA Beneficiaries, thereof 9 PDA light and 6 PDA plus Beneficiaries, of the first PDA wave delivered (October 2025 to February 2026)	n/a
Task 1.3: Promotion of the PDA services	- PDA promotion activities incl. 1 Info Day for First Call for Applications conducted (May 2025 to May 2026) - PDA promotion activities incl. 2 Info Days for Second Call for Applications (since April 2026)	Continuous promotion of Second Call for Applications (April to June 2026)

Table 3: Completed and ongoing activities related to Task 1

In this table, all activities and key milestones regarding **Task 2: H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building** are listed.

Task	Completed activities and milestones	Ongoing activities
Task 2	• Market consultation survey for the tailoring of the H2V Knowledge Centre offerings to stakeholder and market needs developed and conducted (May to June 2025) • Collective action survey for the offering of interactive formats with 40+ Hydrogen Valley practitioners conducted (April 2026) • Hydrogen Valley Days 2025 prepared, facilitated and follow-ups conducted • H2V Knowledge Centre content incl. 15 self-service knowledge products and website as part of www.h2v.eu developed with go-live mid-October 2025 • 2 capacity building workshops and interactive formats conducted • Virtual closed-door PDA Beneficiary workshop conducted (February 2026) • Virtual invitation-only collective action workshop (focus on heavy duty road mobility) for Hydrogen Valleys supported by the Clean Hydrogen JU and those supported under the 1st PDA wave conducted (February 2026) • Hydrogen Valley Week 2026 prepared, facilitated and follow-ups conducted.	• Regular publication of news articles related to the H2V Knowledge Centre Task • Development of a virtual expert webinar series for a broader hydrogen practitioner audience

Table 4: Completed and ongoing activities for Task 2

In this table, all activities and key milestones regarding **Task 3: H2V Platform** are listed.

Task	Completed activities and milestones	Ongoing activities
Task 3.1: Hydrogen Valleys – Data update, quality enhancement and onboarding of additional projects	• Two biannual data update cycles completed (June/July 2025 and March/April 2026), growing the H2V Platform from 98 to 106 registered Hydrogen Valleys • 25 new Hydrogen Valleys onboarded • Formal exclusion criteria and process defined and applied for the first time; 29 Hydrogen Valleys removed between May 2025 and April 2026	• Ongoing relationship management with Hydrogen Valleys • Continuous monitoring of public sources on Hydrogen Valleys • Continuous management of the H2V Platform mailbox
Task 3.2: Technical maintenance of the H2V Platform	• H2V Platform handover to Inycom completed (July 4th 2025) • Drupal 11 upgrade completed (December 2025)	• Continuous technical maintenance, security updates, SEO measures, and infrastructure monitoring ongoing throughout project duration
Task 3.3: Development and implementation of new content and technical features	• New tripartite h2v.eu website structure according to the H2V Facility pillars designed and implemented • h2v.eu website relaunched in three phases: • Go-live of PDA programme website (July 2025)	• Events and webinars section under development with go-live planned in June 2026 • Member's area for PDA Beneficiaries and Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership under

Task	Completed activities and milestones	Ongoing activities
	- Go-live of. landing page, H2V Knowledge Centre (October 2025) - Go-live of fully revamped H2V Platform (May 2026)	development with go-live planned by beginning of July 2026
Task 3.4: Communication strategy and execution for the promotion of the H2V Platform	Overarching communication strategy and plan developed (June 2025) Communication activities executed throughout the reporting period via LinkedIn, email newsletters, news articles, and direct outreach to Hydrogen Valleys - Preparation of the report “State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector 2026”	Continuous execution of communication activities Continuous publication of PDA mini case studies and H2V Knowledge Centre content nuggets (from June 2026 onwards)

Table 5: Completed and ongoing activities for Task 3

1.3.3 Outlook on key milestones for June 2026 until May 2027

The **envisaged key milestones** within the H2V Facility project for the **next 12 months** for Task 1 – Project Development Assistance are as follows:

Timeframe or date (indicative)	Task	Details
Q2 2026	Task 1	Submission deadline for the Second Call for Applications for PDA support
Q3 2026	Task 1	Notification of award or rejection to all applicants of the Second Call for Applications
Q3 2026	Task 1	Scoping of PDA support of all Hydrogen Valley projects of the second wave for PDA support
Q3 2026	Task 1	First biannual PDA project progress monitoring for PDA Beneficiaries from the first PDA wave
Q3 2026	Task 1	Official start of second PDA wave (PDA light first batch and PDA plus)
Q4 2026	Task 1	End of PDA light support (first batch)
Q4 2026	Task 1	Start of PDA light support (second batch)
Q4 2026	Task 1	End of second PDA wave (PDA plus and PDA light second batch)
H1 2027	Task 1	Publication of Second PDA Results Report

Table 6: Envisaged key milestones between June 2026 and May 2027 – Task 1

The **envisaged key milestones** within the H2V Facility project for the **next 12 months** for Task 2 – H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building are as follows:

Timeframe or date	Task	Details
Q3 2026	Task 2	Go-live of a restricted Collective Action Area within the H2V Knowledge Centre (interactive area for Hydrogen Valleys for networking and document exchange on collective action topics)
Q3 2026	Task 2	Start of expert webinar series "Advancing H2 projects to FID" with first webinar on "H2 market & offtake"
Q3 2026	Task 2	Second expert webinar on "Key steps in bringing H2 projects to FID" within webinar series "Advancing H2 projects to FID"
Q4 2026	Task 2	Third expert webinar on "Regulatory insights on RFNBO and LCH" within webinar series "Advancing H2 projects to FID"
Q4 2026	Task 2	In-person workshop with Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership
Q1 2027	Task 2	Further expert webinar within webinar series "Advancing H2 projects to FID"
Q1 2027	Task 2	Development and upload of additional "self-service" knowledge material

Table 7: Envisaged key milestones between June 2026 and May 2027 – Task 2

The **envisaged key milestones** within the H2V Facility project for the **next 12 months** for Task 3 – Hydrogen Valleys Platform are as follows:

Timeframe or date	Task	Details
Q3 2026	Task 3	Publication of the State of the Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report 2026
Q4 2026	Task 3	Second biannual data update 2026 for all Hydrogen Valley projects on the H2V Platform
Q4 2026	Task 3	Go-live of additional features on h2v.eu website (incl. further interactive statistics on Hydrogen Valleys)
Q1 2027	Task 3	First biannual data update 2027 for all Hydrogen Valley projects on the H2V Platform
Q2 2027	Task 3	Publication of the State of the Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report 2027

Table 8: Envisaged key milestones between June 2026 and May 2027 – Task 3

2. Progress update on Task 1: Project Development Assistance (PDA)

Activities conducted between May 2025 and May 2026

- **Market consultation survey** for the tailoring of the Project Development Assistance developed and conducted between May 28th and June 13th 2025
- **Collective action survey for the offering of interactive formats** with 40+ Hydrogen Valley practitioners conducted (April 2026)
- **First PDA wave conducted** (May 2025 to May 2026)
 - First Call for Applications prepared, launched and evaluated (May to October 2025)
 - Overall guardrails for the first Call for Applications defined and aligned with the Clean Hydrogen JU
 - Call for Applications documents incl. annexes developed, finalised and published on the PDA programme website
 - First Call for Applications accompanied until deadline, incl. applicants' questions answered
 - Evaluation of 36 received applications conducted with decision on PDA award taken in evaluation meeting with Clean Hydrogen JU
 - Core Evaluation Report prepared based on which Letters of Award and Letters of Rejection were sent to PDA applicants
 - Extended Evaluation Report prepared with detailed results & scoring matrix per applicant
 - PDA support for 15 PDA Beneficiaries delivered (October 2025 to February 2026)
 - PDA light support for 9 PDA Beneficiaries delivered, incl. scoping and baselining, PDA concept report and milestone planning with focus on concept/feasibility phase and ultimately to FID
 - PDA plus support for 6 PDA Beneficiaries delivered, incl. scoping and baselining, tailored PDA deliverables, and milestone planning to FID
 - PDA promotion activities conducted (May 2025 to May 2026)
 - Communication material prepared and published (regular LinkedIn posts, email newsletters, Clean Hydrogen JU website news articles, 1:1 phone communication)
 - Info Day on PDA offering and Call for Applications held on July 18th 2025
 - Applicant questions on the Call for Applications answered and published on the PDA website
 - Promotion of PDA results, incl. PDA Results Report
- **Second PDA wave started** (since April 2026)
 - First Call for Applications prepared and launched (since April 2026)
 - Assessment of feedback and lessons learned from PDA applicants from first cohort
 - Call for Application documents modified, finalised, and published on PDA programme website
 - PDA promotion activities conducted (since April 2026)
 - Communication material prepared and published (regular LinkedIn posts, email newsletters, Clean Hydrogen JU website news articles and news articles on h2v.eu)

- Two Info Days on PDA offering and Call for Applications held on May 12th 2026 and May 19th 2026
- Applicant questions on the Call for Applications answered and published on the PDA website

Annexes relevant for Task 1 (Project Development Assistance)

Annex I: PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave

Annex II: Call documents to the First Call for Applications

Annex III: Call documents to the Second Call for Applications

Annex IV: Recording and presentation to the Info Day of the Second Call for Applications

Overall objectives and overview of tasks

Task 1 provides Project Development Assistance (PDA) for up to 40 Hydrogen Valleys via two tailored support programmes – PDA light and PDA plus:

- **PDA light:** Aimed at supporting early-stage hydrogen projects in advancing towards a compelling pre-feasibility project concept through structured consulting, gap analysis and standardised support packages. The total programme duration is six weeks
- **PDA plus:** Aimed at supporting more advanced hydrogen projects that already have a concept study in place with modular, customised assistance to advance towards the feasibility milestone, and a detailed roadmap to FID. The total programme duration is 12 weeks

The Project Development Assistance is delivered in three PDA waves. PDA wave 1 was delivered between May 2025 and February 2026. PDA wave 2 has started in April 2026 and the last wave is planned for 2027.

The different sub-tasks and activities for the three waves are outlined in the figure below.

Sub-tasks	Activities	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Task 1.1 - Preparation and implementation of the Calls for Applications for PDA support The primary goal of Task 1.1 is to select 40 H2 projects for PDA light and PDA plus support . Therefore, a selection process and criteria are developed and an application phase is conducted to select H2 projects with highest potential to contribute to the green hydrogen economy ramp-up in Europe and beyond	Tailoring of the offerings of the PDA support	✓	✓	✓
	Design of Call for Application documents	✓	✓	⚪
	Implementation of the PDA application phases	✓	⚡	⚪
	Evaluation and award of PDA applications	✓	⚪	⚪
	Notification of applicants and Evaluation Report	✓	⚪	⚪
Task 1.2 - Provision of the PDA services The primary goal of Task 1.2 is to provide PDA services to the selected valleys to advance their project maturity. Therefore, six-week PDA support is provided for PDA light valleys and twelve-week PDA support is provided for PDA plus valleys	Preparation of support activities	✓	⚪	⚪
	Baselining and gap analysis	✓	⚪	⚪
	PDA light and PDA plus delivery	✓	⚪	⚪
	Continuous progress monitoring	⚡	⚪	⚪
Task 1.3 - Promotion of the PDA services The primary goal of Task 1.3 is to promote the PDA services , i.e., to ensure that the opportunity for PDA support is accessible to the widest possible number of potential applicants		✓	⚡	⚪

✓ Completed ⚡ Ongoing ⚪ Not yet started

Figure 7: Sub-tasks and activities of Task 1 (Project Development Assistance)

The first sub-task, Task 1.1, involves the end-to-end execution of the three Calls for Application, from the design and preparation of the call documents over the implementation of the application phase to the evaluation of applications and notification of applicants. The activities within this sub-task include the specification of the offering of the PDA services, the design of the Call for Application documents, including all relevant annexes, the implementation of the application phase with the publication of the Call documents on the PDA programme website and the set-up of a dedicated PDA application portal and the continuous response to applicant's questions as well as the evaluation and award of PDA applications followed by the notification of applicants about their evaluation result.

Task 1.2 is dedicated to the provision of PDA services and is divided into two parts: Task 1.2.1, which provides PDA light support, and Task 1.2.2, which offers PDA plus support. The provision of PDA services is structured into three cohorts. Wave 1 was executed between November 2025 and February 2026. Wave 2 is planned to be delivered between September and December 2026, with wave 3 to be scheduled in 2027.

Task 1.3 is aimed at promoting the Call for Applications and to ensure that the opportunity for PDA support is accessible to the widest possible number of applicants. Throughout the PDA application phase and after the three waves of PDA support, the promotion activities to the PDA are executed.

Overall timeline for task 1

The timeline for Task 1 is as follows:

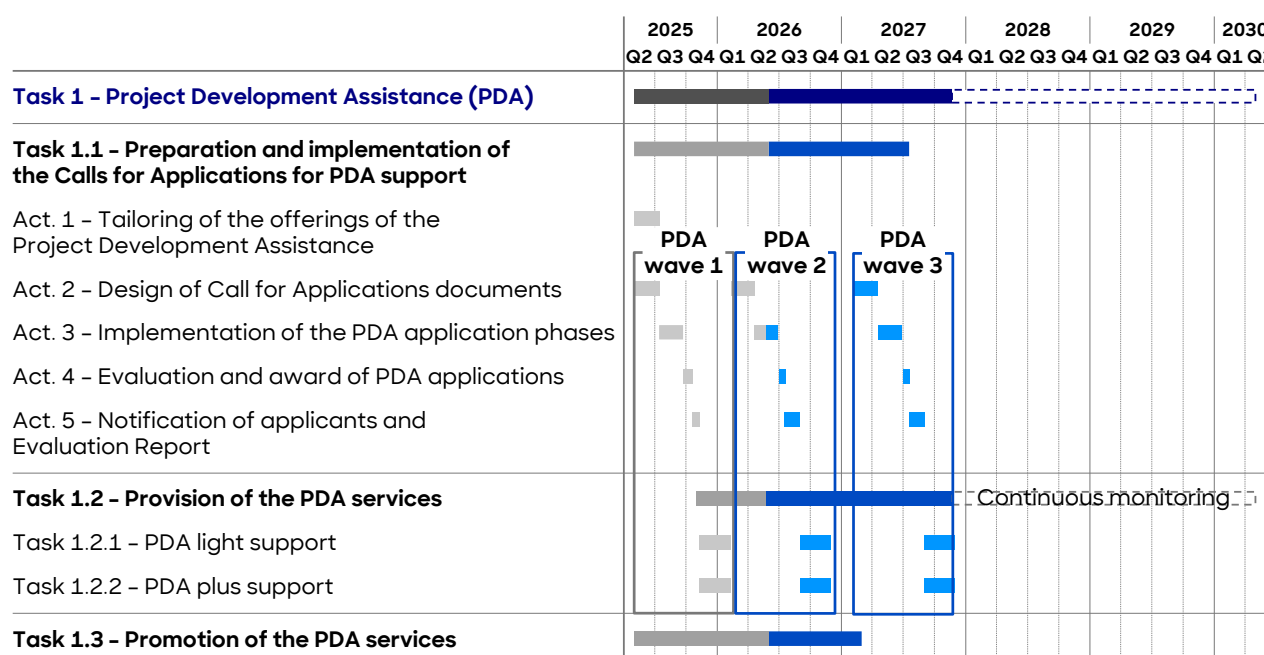


Figure 8: Timeline for Task 1 (Project Development Assistance) – Wave 3 timeline is indicative

Task 1.1: Preparation and implementation of the Calls for Applications for PDA support

Objectives

The overarching objective of Task 1.1 is to select up to 40 Hydrogen Valley projects for the PDA offering in an equitable and transparent manner, while ensuring the selection of Hydrogen Valley projects with the highest chances of progressing in a timely manner to contribute the ramp-up of the green H2 economy in Europe and beyond. The specific objectives of Task 1.1 include:

- Definition of a selection process for PDA applicants
- Stable, transparent, objective, and well documented process
- Fair selection of projects with sufficient maturity within their respective PDA programme tracks to ensure public money is utilised in the most economical and effective way
- Provision of valuable feedback to unsuccessful applicants, increasing their chances of receiving PDA support in future rounds and advancing the Hydrogen Valleys in general

Overview of activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 1.1 is structured into the following five activities:

- **Activity 1:** Tailoring of the offerings of the Project Development Assistance
- **Activity 2:** Design of Call for Applications documents
- **Activity 3:** Implementation of the PDA application phases
- **Activity 4:** Evaluation and award of PDA applications
- **Activity 5:** Notification of applicants and Evaluation Report

Activity 1: Tailoring of the offerings of the Project Development Assistance

To ensure that the Project Development Assistance (PDA) offering of the H2V Facility is tailored to the actual needs, including the current perception towards the hydrogen market and key challenges, of hydrogen project developers, a dedicated market consultation survey was conducted between May 28th and June 13th 2025 (details on survey organisation, methodology, and outreach approach see Task 2).

The survey with a participation of c. 50 hydrogen practitioners confirmed strong interest in the PDA support, in particular regarding commercial and regulatory support. Among specific support needs, the highest demand was identified for commercial aspects, in particular, offtake strategy as well as market and demand assessment. Regulatory topics also ranked highly, especially permitting and licensing support, policy advocacy, and guidance on regulatory compliance. On the technical side, CAPEX and OPEX analysis emerged as the top priority. Within the dimension of valley governance, partnership assessment was the most frequently mentioned need.

These findings were used prior to the PDA delivery period (see Task 1.2) to fine-tune and prioritise the PDA offerings and, together with the respective PDA application documents of the PDA applicants, as a basis for the definition of support areas in the PDA kick-off meetings. Furthermore, these findings were integrated into the PDA communication strategy with a view to better inform potential applicants about the PDA support and to actively encourage their application.

Activity 2: Design of Call for Applications documents

Activity 2 consists of the design of the Call for Applications documents, incl. the underlying guardrails for the delivery of the PDAs and the specification of the application as well as the evaluation and award process.

Call for Application documents of the First Call for Applications

The Call for Application documents of the First Call for Applications were created between end of May and beginning of July 2025. The Call documents consist of the Call Specifications as the main document and four Annexes (see Annex II: Call documents to the First Call for Applications).

Call Specifications

Call Specifications

Specification of details of Call for Applications, incl. context and background, scope, application procedure, evaluation and award



Annexes to Call Specifications

Annex I Model Declaration for Collaboration

Clarification of the **roles and responsibilities of the beneficiary in case of PDA award**, to be signed by the beneficiary upon award



Annex II Application Form

Application form on **contribution of H₂ project to EU objectives** (REPowerEU & Clean Industrial Deal) and **rationale for PDA support**



Annex III Declaration of Honour

Declaration to demonstrate compliance of lead developer with rules and regulations, part of the eligibility criteria



Annex IV Letter of Commitment

Declaration to be handed in optionally to **demonstrate support and commitment by other project partners**

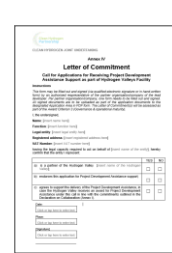


Figure 9: Call for Application documents to the First Call for Applications

Call for Application documents of the Second Call for Applications

The Call for Application documents of the Second Call for Applications were – based on the feedback and lessons learned to the first PDA wave (see Task 1.2) – updated and modified in April 2026 (see Annex III: Call documents to the Second Call for Applications). The call documents consist of the Call Specifications and five Annexes.

Call Specifications

Annexes to Call Specifications

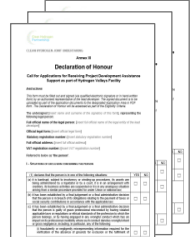
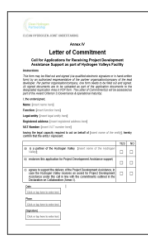
Call Specifications	Annex I Declaration for Collaboration	Annex II Application Form	Annex III Declaration of Honour	Annex IV Letter of Support	Annex V Letter of Commitment
Specification of details of Call for Applications , incl. Content and scope of the PDA support, application and evaluation process	Obligations of the PDA Beneficiary before, during and after the PDA support	Elaboration of rationale for PDA support and relevance regarding EU objectives (Clean Industrial Deal/ RePowerEU)	Declaration to demonstrate compliance of lead developer with rules and regulations	Confirmation by local or regional authorities that they are aware of the Hydrogen Valley and that they endorse the PDA application	Confirmation by other project partners that they endorse the PDA application
					

Figure 10: Call for Application documents to the Second Call for Applications

Activity 3: Implementation of the PDA application phases

The application phase for the three PDA cohorts consists in communication and awareness activities (see Task 1.3: Promotion of PDA services) and the delivery and accompaniment of the application process itself.

The application runs via a dedicated application platform (<https://pda.h2v.eu/en>), where applicants can register, enter their project information, and upload application documents.

From the start of each application phase until one week prior to the submission deadline, answers to any questions submitted via the "contact email address" button were answered publicly on the PDA programme website (without disclosing the submitting applicant's name) as part of the FAQ section.

Application phase for the First Call for Applications

Applications for the First Call for Applications run from July 11th to the submission deadline on September 19th. Within this time, Hydrogen Valley applicants could download the Call documents on the PDA programme website, register in the PDA application portal, enter their project information and submit their application within this portal.

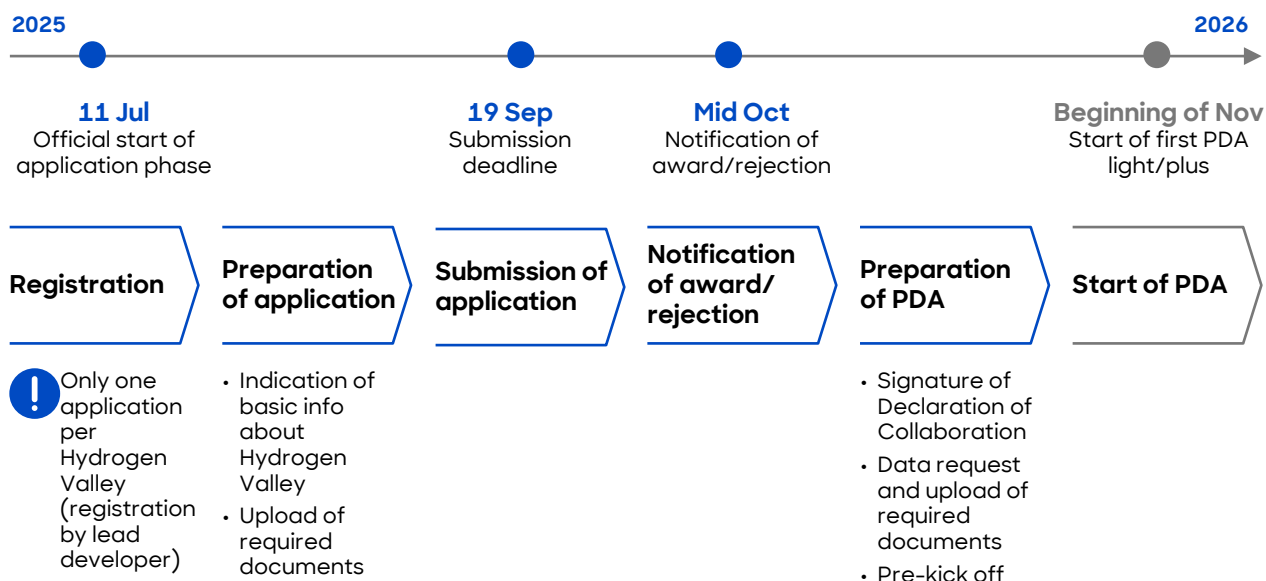


Figure 11: Timeline of the First Call for Applications

Two dedicated information formats were provided for interested applicants:

- **FAQ section:** A comprehensive FAQ sections with questions and answers regarding the Hydrogen Valley Facility and the PDA programme, eligibility for PDA, application for PDA and evaluation and award of PDA was published together with the launch of the Call for Application documents. Throughout the entire application phase, this FAQ section was continuously updated with answers to the questions received via h2v@clean-hydrogen.europa.eu from interested PDA applicants
- **Info Day on July 17th 2025, incl. recording and presentation document:** A virtual Info Day (via MS Teams) for interested stakeholders, incl. project coordinators, developers, technology providers, integrated energy players, and local, regional, and national authorities was held to present the PDA programme and the application process. Key topics covered the PDA tracks (PDA light and PDA plus), the application process and Call for Application documents, the eligibility and award criteria, and next steps. The Info Day concluded with a Q&A session, allowing participants to address specific questions to the Clean Hydrogen JU and the PDA Service Consultants. In total, c. 150 persons attended the Info Day. The presentation and a recording of the main session were made available to the public on the dedicated PDA programme website.

Application phase for the Second Call for Applications

Applications for the Second Call for Applications opened on April 20th and will be open until the submission deadline on June 26th. Within this time, Hydrogen Valley applicants could download the Call documents on the PDA programme website, register in the PDA application portal, enter their project information and submit their application within this portal.

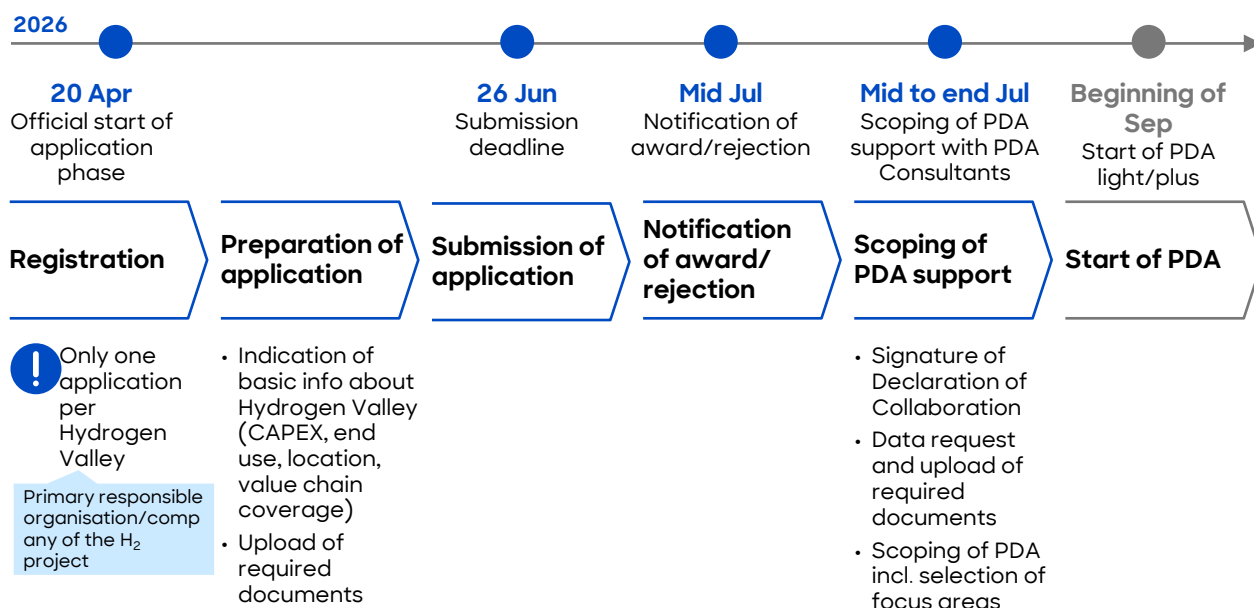


Figure 12: Timeline of the Second Call for Applications

Two dedicated information formats were provided for interested applicants:

- **FAQ section** (analogously to the FAQ section for the First Call for Applications)
- **Info Days on May 12th and May 19th 2026, incl. recording and presentation document** (analogously to the Info Day for the First Call for Applications). In total, c. 100 persons attended both Info Days. The presentation and a recording of the first Info Day session were made available to the public on the dedicated PDA programme website.

Activity 4: Evaluation and award of PDA applications

In the two to three weeks after each submission deadline, the evaluation of all submitted PDA applications takes place in a two-stage approach: All applicants are first screened to determine whether they fulfil the eligibility criteria – a binary pass/fail check. Applicants that successfully pass this stage are assessed regarding the four award criteria. Applicants that are not excluded due to eligibility and have scored a minimum of 5 out of 10 points per award criterion (minimum award threshold) are being ranked within their respective PDA track.

Evaluation and award of PDA applications for the First Call for Applications

The evaluation of PDA applications was conducted by specialised evaluation teams from the mandated PDA Consultants Roland Berger and Worley between September 22nd and October 10th 2025. The final evaluation decision on PDA award was taken by the Clean Hydrogen JU on October 10th 2025, based on previous operational alignments with representatives from Roland Berger and Worley.

In total, 15 PDA applicants were awarded with PDA support. The Hydrogen Valleys of these Beneficiaries are located in 11 countries, thereof 8 EU Member States and 3 countries associated to Horizon Europe countries (see Annex I: PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave).

Out of 17 PDA light applicants, 8 applicants were not awarded with PDA support due to the following three reasons:

- Non-eligibility (1 applicant)
- Minimum award threshold of 5 out of 10 points in one or more award categories not met (4 applicants)

- Lower scoring than PDA light Beneficiaries (3 applicants)

Out of 19 PDA plus applicants, 13 applicants were not awarded with PDA support due to the following three reasons:

- Non-eligibility (2 applicants)
- Minimum award threshold of 5 out of 10 points in one or more award categories not met (5 applicants)
- Lower scoring than PDA plus Beneficiaries (6 applicants)

Evaluation and award of PDA applications for the Second Call for Applications

The evaluation and award of PDA applications for the Second Call for Applications is planned for end of June to mid-July 2026 and will take place according to the evaluation and award process described in the Call Specifications to the Second Call for Applications.

Activity 5: Notification of applicants and Evaluation Report

The notification of PDA applicants takes place with individual Letters of Award or Letters of Rejection on the basis of an Evaluation Report that outlines the details of the evaluation decision taken by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership.

Evaluation Reports to the First Call for Applications

The information of PDA applicants about their evaluation result takes place on the basis of a Core Evaluation Report that was submitted to the Clean Hydrogen Partnership on October 14th 2025. The Core Evaluation Report presented the evaluation process and the aggregated and detailed evaluation results including the final scores and ranking of all PDA applicants.

Notification of applicants of the First Call for Applications

All 36 PDA applicants of the First Call for Applications were informed on Wednesday, October 15th 2025 on the outcome of the evaluation decision based on a personalised evaluation letter (Letter of Award or Letter of Rejection, depending on the evaluation outcome) including an annex on the scoring within each award criterion and evaluation comments.

The evaluation letter could be downloaded within the PDA application portal. All PDA applicants were informed via email about the possibility for download of their evaluation letters.

The Letter of Award entailed the information of award for PDA support as well as the next steps in preparing the PDA support. The Letter of Rejection entailed information including the reasoning behind the non-selection of the respective Hydrogen Valley project for PDA support, the invitation to reapply for PDA support as part of the next Call, and the information on additional offerings of the H2V Facility.

Together with the evaluation letters, a feedback survey on the motivation for PDA application, the promotion and communication activities and the Call for Application documents and process was sent to all PDA applicants. The aggregated results of the feedback survey were together with additional lessons learned incorporated into the Extended Evaluation Report.

Letter of Award

Brussels, October 15th 2025

Name: [Name of lead developer company]

Hydrogen Valley: [Name of Hydrogen Valley]

Subject: Evaluation Results Letter to the Call for Applications for Project Development Assistance

Via Project Development Assistance application portal

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing you in connection with your application for the above-mentioned call for applications.

We are pleased to inform you that your application for Project Development Assistance (PDA) light support has successfully passed the evaluation for the above Call.

The details providing the grounds for our decision can be found annexed to this letter.

The PDA light support officially starts on Monday, November 10th 2025 and has a total duration of 6 weeks until December 15th 2025.

For an efficient exchange between your project team and the PDA Consulting Team, a dedicated PDA Beneficiary Area (<https://pda-h2.eu/en>) was set up that serves as a central data, document and information exchange room to be used before, during and after the PDA support. You can log into this PDA Beneficiary area by using the same login credentials as for the PDA Application area.

Your next steps in preparing the PDA support of your Hydrogen Valley project are as follows:

- Until Friday, October 24th 2025:** Sign and upload the Declaration of Collaboration attached to this Evaluation Results Letter in the PDA Beneficiary area as a prerequisite to participate in the PDA support.
- In week of November 3rd 2025:** Join pre-kick-off call with your dedicated PDA Consulting Team from Wouter and Roland Berger who will reach out to you in the next days to schedule a pre-kick-off meeting to discuss the data request and key administrative topics, including the data and details of the formal PDA support kick-off meeting, the operational working mode and details on data and document exchange.
- Until November 7th 2025:** Request additional access for additional project team members and upload the data as aligned with your PDA Consulting Team in the pre-kick-off meeting.
- Until November 10th 2025:** Preparation of a short presentation of the status quo of the Hydrogen Valley and key expectations from the PDA support (to be presented as part of the formal kick-off meeting).

Besides the PDA support, the **Hydrogen Valleys Facility** (www.h2v.eu) also provides the following two offerings free of charge that might be of interest to your Hydrogen Valley project:

- H2V Knowledge Centre:** As a new offering, we have launched the H2V Knowledge Centre dedicated to Hydrogen Valley development. Within this portal, you will find a broad range of self-service materials across commercial, technical, regulatory and Valley governance dimensions that enable you to develop your hydrogen project. Furthermore, a series of webinars with hydrogen experts, Hydrogen Valley developers and other hydrogen practitioners will start soon in which you can participate.
- Hydrogen Valley Platform:** We would like to invite you to become part of the Hydrogen Valley Platform, a global collaboration platform on hydrogen flagship projects. In the next days, you will receive a dedicated email with the invite details to the platform.

We would like to kindly ask you to join the Survey by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership for PDA support. The PDA Beneficiary Area is also the central point for the PDA evaluation process. Please let us know if you have any questions or need further information.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]

[Institution]

Letter of Rejection

Brussels, October 15th 2025

Name: [Name of lead developer company]

Hydrogen Valley: [Name of Hydrogen Valley]

Subject: Evaluation Results Letter to the Call for Applications for Project Development Assistance

Via Project Development Assistance application portal

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing you in connection with your application for the above-mentioned call.

We would like to inform you that your Hydrogen Valley project was not selected for PDA support.

Having completed the evaluation, we regret to inform you that your application cannot be considered as:

- your Hydrogen Valley project does not meet one or more of the eligibility criteria
- your Hydrogen Valley project was awarded in one or more of the award criteria below the award threshold of 5 out of 10 points
- your Hydrogen Valley project met all eligibility criteria and award thresholds but was ranked below the awarded projects within your selected PDA track and is therefore placed on the reserve list for this Call for Applications. You might be invited to the PDA services if higher ranked applications drop out or do not fulfil their obligations for the PDA services. In this case, we would contact you and invite you to the PDA services.

The details providing the grounds for our decision can be found annexed to this letter.

We thank you for your interest in the Project Development Assistance support and would like to encourage you, also based on the annexed feedback, to apply for the next Call for Applications that is planned for 2026.

More information on the start of the next PDA calls for applications will be published on the PDA website soon. Your participation in this call does not disqualify you from participating in any of these upcoming Calls.

Besides the PDA support, we would like to inform you that the **Hydrogen Valleys Facility** (www.h2v.eu) also provides the following two offerings that might be of interest for your Hydrogen Valley project, that we encourage you to make use of, regardless of your participation in this call:

- H2V Knowledge Centre:** As a new offering, we have launched the H2V Knowledge Centre dedicated to Hydrogen Valley development. Within this portal, you will find a broad range of self-service materials across commercial, technical, regulatory and Valley governance dimensions that enable you to develop your hydrogen project even without PDA support. Furthermore, a series of webinars with hydrogen experts, Hydrogen Valley developers and other hydrogen practitioners will start soon in which you can participate.
- Hydrogen Valley Platform:** We would like to invite you to become part of the Hydrogen Valley Platform, a global collaboration platform on hydrogen flagship projects. In the next days, you will receive a dedicated email with the invite details to the platform.

We would like to kindly ask you to join the Survey by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership for PDA support. The PDA Beneficiary Area is also the central point for the PDA evaluation process. Please let us know if you have any questions or need further information.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]

[Institution]

Figure 13: Template Letter of Award and Letter of Rejection to the evaluation of the First Call for Applications

Evaluation Reports to the Second Call for Applications and notification of PDA applicants

The notification of PDA applications for the Second Call for Applications is planned for mid-July 2026 and will take place based on a Core Evaluation Report analogously to the procedure of the First Call for Applications.

Task 1.2: Provision of the Project Development Assistance services

Objectives

The overarching objective of Task 1.2 is to provide PDA services to the selected Hydrogen Valleys to enable the valley developers to bring their hydrogen projects closer to the next level, specifically towards detailed project concept and feasibility study stage (PDA light) as well as Final Investment Decision (PDA plus). The specific objectives of Task 1.2 include:

- Provision of a tangible and feasible roadmap towards feasibility and Final Investment Decision for early-stage project developers (PDA light) and of tailored support for more advanced projects to a level where they can successfully apply for (European) funding and get a Final Investment Decision (FID) (PDA plus)
- Extraction of actionable and practical lessons learnt and best practices from the PDA processes to disseminate with other hydrogen projects/valleys not participating directly in PDA
- Institutionalisation of a systematic feedback loop to make sure that learnings from the first cohort/first call are systematically incorporated into the process and support offering for the following calls.

Overview of approach and methodology

Given the different nature and maturity levels of hydrogen projects as well as planned support activities within the two categories PDA light and PDA plus, Task 1.2 is structured in two sub-tasks:

- Sub-task 1:** PDA light support
- Sub-task 2:** PDA plus support

The following figure illustrates the main characteristics of the PDA light and PDA plus programme.

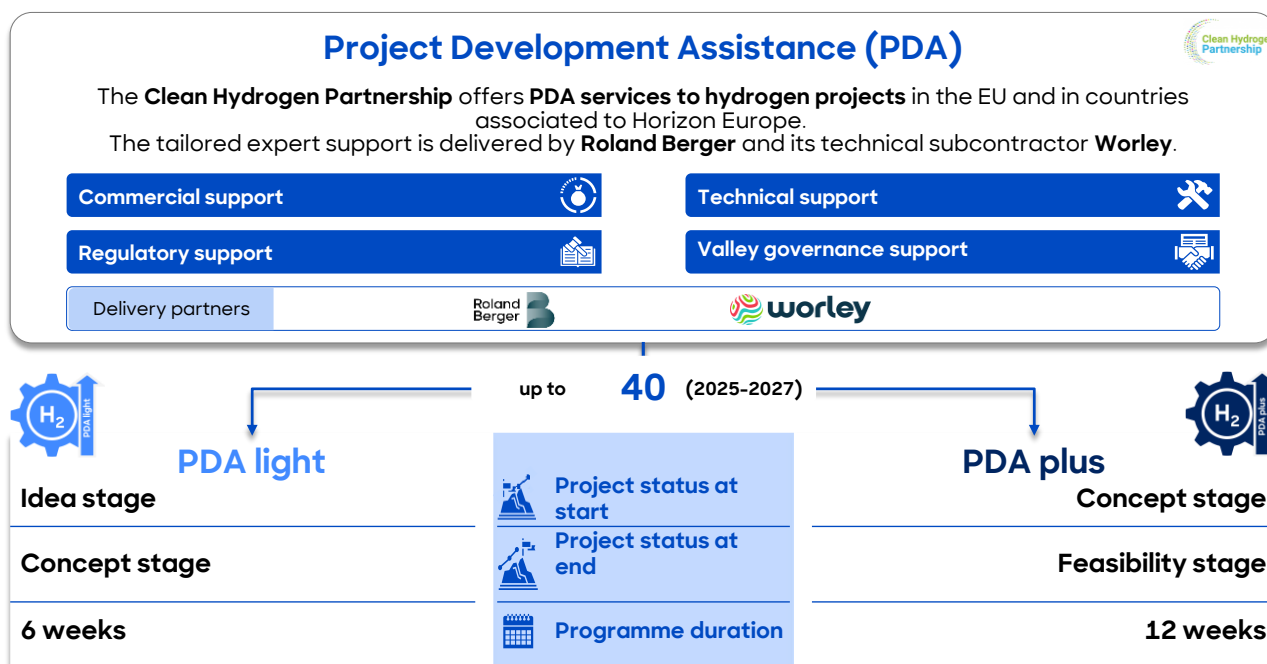


Figure 14: Key characteristics of the PDA light and PDA plus programme

The following sub-chapters focus on the delivery of the first PDA wave with 15 PDA Beneficiaries that was executed between mid-October 2025 to end of February 2026. More information on the PDA delivery as well as key results and outcomes can be found in the PDA Results Report that was published on May 6th 2026 (see Annex I: PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave).

The PDAs for the 15 PDA Beneficiaries were delivered by specialised teams from the PDA Service Consultants Roland Berger and Worley that were mandated by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership under the H2V Facility for the provision of the PDA support.

Each PDA Beneficiary team had one dedicated PDA Service Consultant team composed of experts from Roland Berger and, if the PDA also entailed a technical focus, experts from Worley. The Roland Berger and Worley expert teams were steered by long-standing, experienced Partners with in-depth knowledge and expertise in clean technologies and hydrogen.

The PDA support for both PDA programme tracks of the first PDA wave spanned across four key dimensions relevant to mature the Hydrogen Valley projects to FID, i.e., commercial, technical, regulatory and Valley governance.

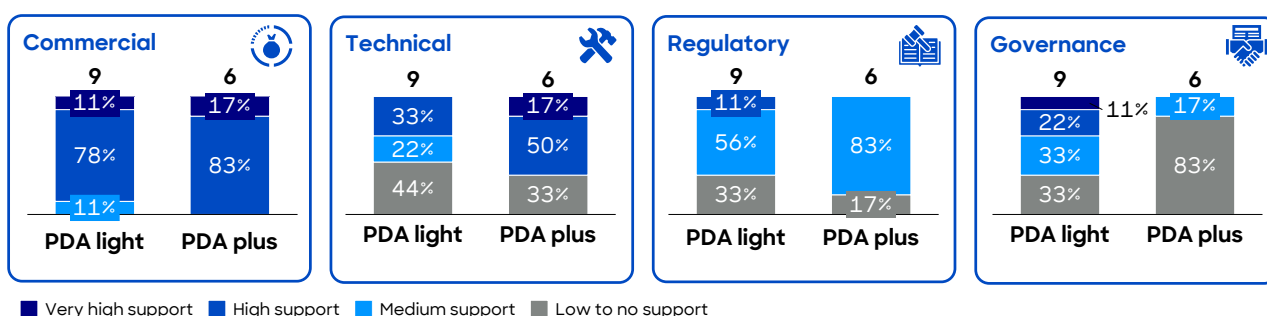


Figure 15: Distribution of PDA support areas [% of PDAs]

Across the first PDA cohort, the **commercial dimension** emerged as the overwhelmingly dominant focus of tailored support, with almost all Hydrogen Valleys receiving a high to very high intensity of commercial assistance relative to the other three dimensions.

The intensity and nature of **technical support** varied considerably between the two tracks. Within the PDA plus cohort, four out of six PDA plus Beneficiaries received high to very high technical assistance, building on pre-existing concept studies to refine, validate and optimise specific technical dimensions of their project designs. For PDA light Beneficiaries, technical support was of comparatively lower intensity, reflecting both the earlier stage of technical concept development typical of these projects and the deliberate sequencing logic of the programme, which recognises that deep technical detailing is more appropriately pursued at later phases of the development pathway.

Regulatory aspects, in particular the implications of RFNBO-H2 and low-carbon hydrogen EU legislation emerged as critical cross-cutting topic for virtually all Hydrogen Valleys, and most acutely for PDA plus Beneficiaries. Given its influence across both the technical dimension through product qualification requirements and energy sourcing constraints, and the commercial dimension, through its implications for hydrogen demand dynamics and offtaker willingness-to-pay, regulatory support was in most cases systematically integrated into the broader advisory work rather than treated as a standalone module.

The **governance dimension** was particularly relevant for PDA light Beneficiaries, however at varying intensity in terms of the requested support. In large-scale, multi-stakeholder Hydrogen Valleys – particularly those led by coordinating authorities rather than single project developers – governance assistance was highly significant, covering stakeholder management, project scoping and structuring, and the further development of consortium arrangements. PDA plus Beneficiaries, by contrast, had in most cases already progressed well beyond this stage: their project organisations were considerably more advanced, with clearly defined stakeholder roles and established consortium structures, and two of the individual project developers had already incorporated Special Purpose Vehicles.

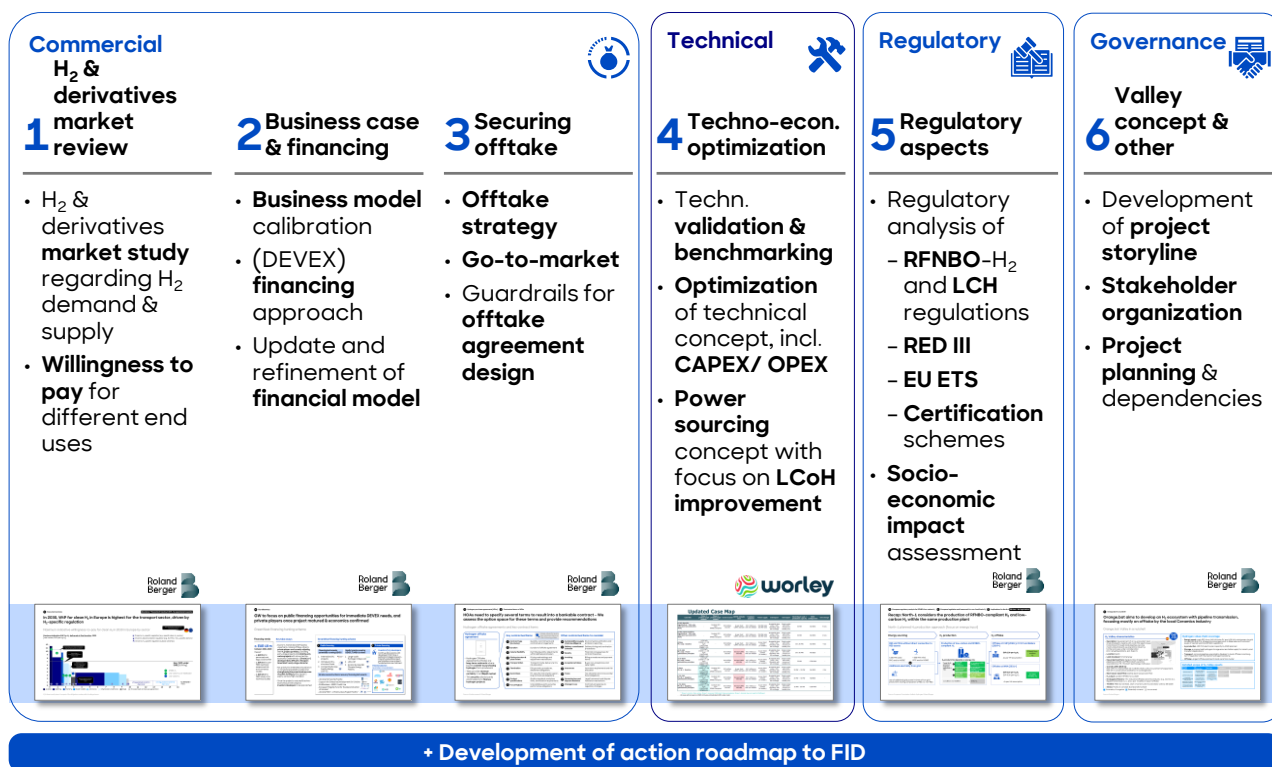


Figure 16: Selected PDA support areas (first PDA wave)

Task 1.2.1: PDA light support

Objectives

The objective of the PDA light support is to support relatively early-stage Hydrogen Valleys with a defined high-level project idea in place within a six-week support period towards the concept stage.

Timeline of the PDA light delivery

The PDA light support for the **first PDA wave** was delivered from mid-October 2025 with the preparation of the PDA services until end of February 2026. The 9 PDA light Beneficiaries were split into two batches with the first four PDA lights starting by November 2025 until December 2025 and the remaining 5 PDA lights were supported between January and end of February 2026.

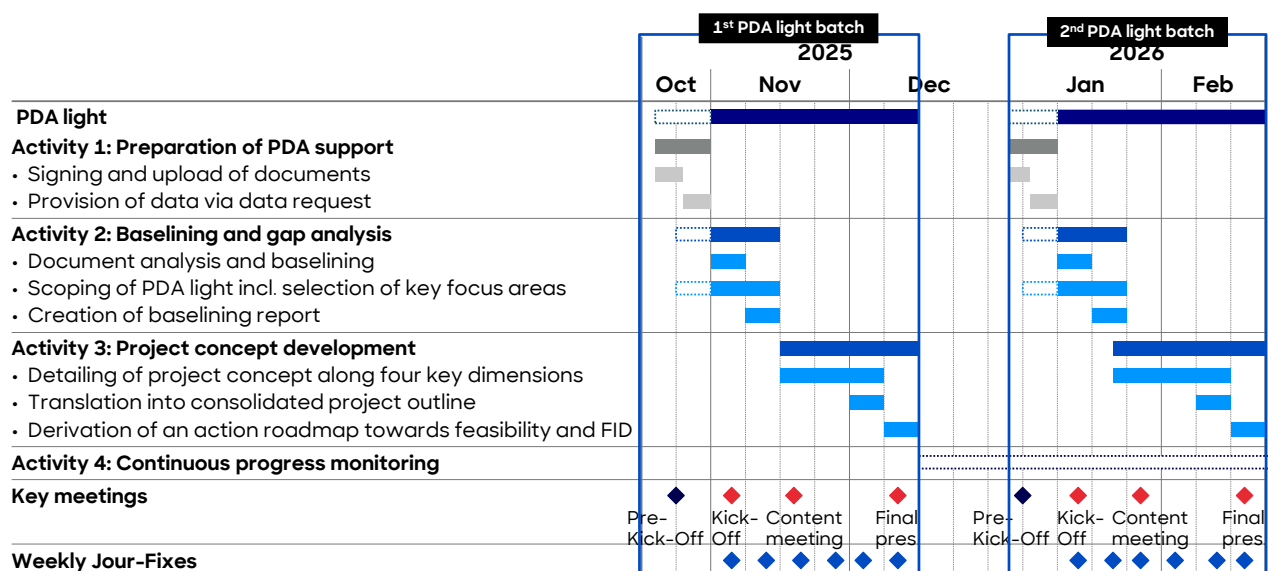


Figure 17: Timeline of the PDA light delivery (first PDA wave)

The PDA light support of the **second PDA wave** is planned to be delivered from September to December 2026 with a preceding two- to three-week scoping phase from mid-July to beginning of August 2026.

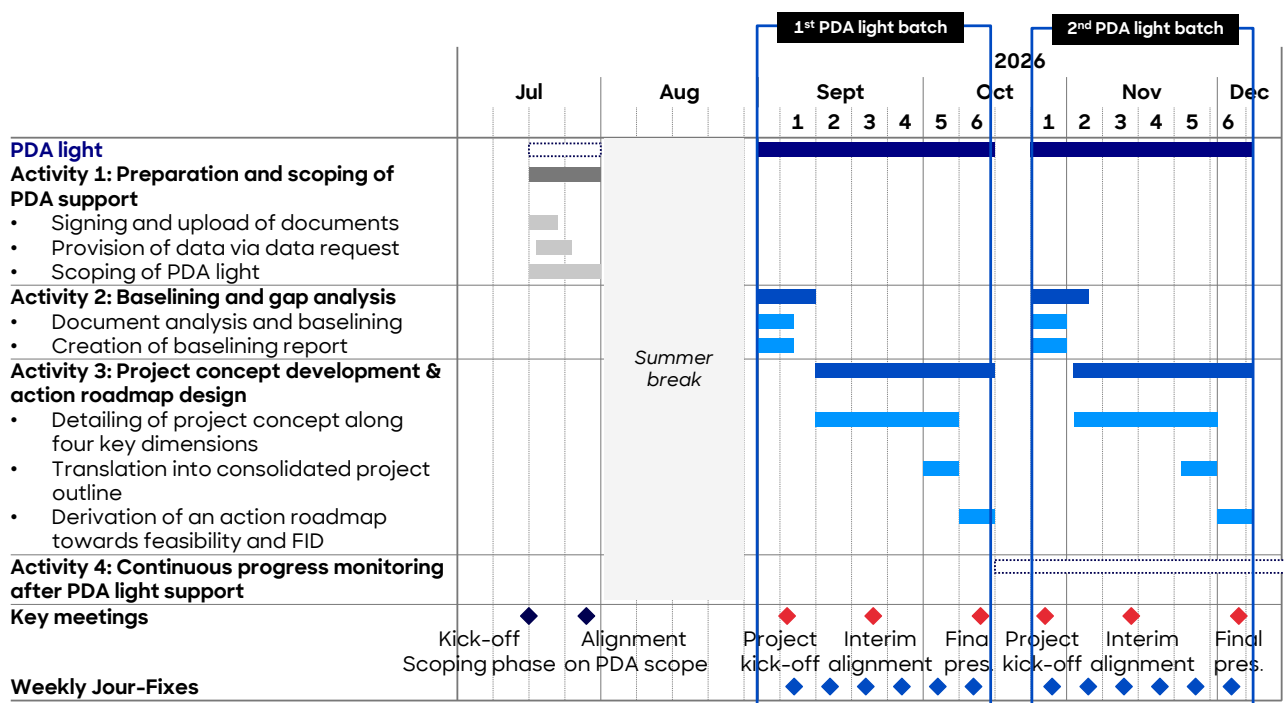


Figure 18: Planned timeline of the PDA light delivery (second PDA wave)

Overview of activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 1.2.1 is structured into the following four activities:

- **Activity 1:** Preparation of support activities
- **Activity 2:** Baselining and gap analysis
- **Activity 3:** Project concept development and action roadmap design
- **Activity 4:** Continuous monitoring of progress after PDA light support

Activity 1: Preparation of support activities

Between mid-October and beginning of November 2025, all PDA Beneficiaries signed and uploaded the Declaration of Collaboration as a prerequisite to participate in the PDA support.

Thereafter, the PDA Service Consultants reached out to the PDA Beneficiaries with a tailored data request and started in initial alignment and kick-off discussions the scope of the PDA light support.

Activity 2: Baselining and gap analysis

In the first one to two weeks of the PDA light support of the first PDA wave, a baselining and status assessment took place with the aim to determine the Hydrogen Valley status in the four dimensions commercial, technical, regulatory and governance and to define the focus areas for the PDA light support.

Activity 3: Project concept development and action roadmap design

In the core delivery period thereafter, a Concept Report of the Hydrogen Valley along all four PDA dimensions as well as an in-depth assessment for the defined focus topics was produced. The last week of the PDA support was concluded with the development of an action roadmap towards FID with a detailed milestone planning.

On a weekly basis, Jour-Fixes took place to align on the progress report and any clarification needs. In the fourth week of the PDA support, a dedicated content meeting to discuss the interim results of the PDA support took place.

At the end of the PDA light support and as part of the final presentation, all deliverables were handed over to and discussed with the PDA Beneficiary team.

The key PDA light deliverables per PDA light Beneficiary included:

- A c. 20-page Baselining Report
- A c. 40-50-page Concept Report incl. Hydrogen Valley-specific content deep-dives
- A c. 3-4-page action roadmap to FID

Activity 4: Continuous monitoring of progress after PDA light support

Based on the action roadmap to FID, a biannual status tracking of each Hydrogen Valley project of the PDA light Beneficiaries takes place. The first progress monitoring for the PDA light Beneficiaries of the first PDA wave is scheduled for August 2026.

The progress monitoring will take place based on the developed action roadmap transferred into an online form and which is integrated into the PDA Beneficiary area of the H2V Platform. The key contact person of the Hydrogen Valley will be required to populate the project progress within the online form every six months. The online form is only accessible for the PDA beneficiary, the PDA Service Consultants, and the Clean Hydrogen JU, and the information submitted will be treated confidentially and not communicated publicly.

Task 1.2.2: PDA plus support

Objectives

The objective of the PDA plus support is to support and enable hydrogen projects that have reached the feasibility stage to reach Final Investment Decision in a timely manner. Contrary to the PDA light, the PDA plus programme is targeted at Hydrogen Valleys at a later project stage, specifically the ones that have already developed a more detailed project concept.

Timeline of the PDA plus delivery

The PDA plus support for the **first PDA wave** was delivered from mid-October 2025 with the preparation of the PDA services until end of February 2026. The 6 PDA plus Beneficiaries received a 12-week tailored support that was scoped during a c. two-week baselining and gap analysis phase.

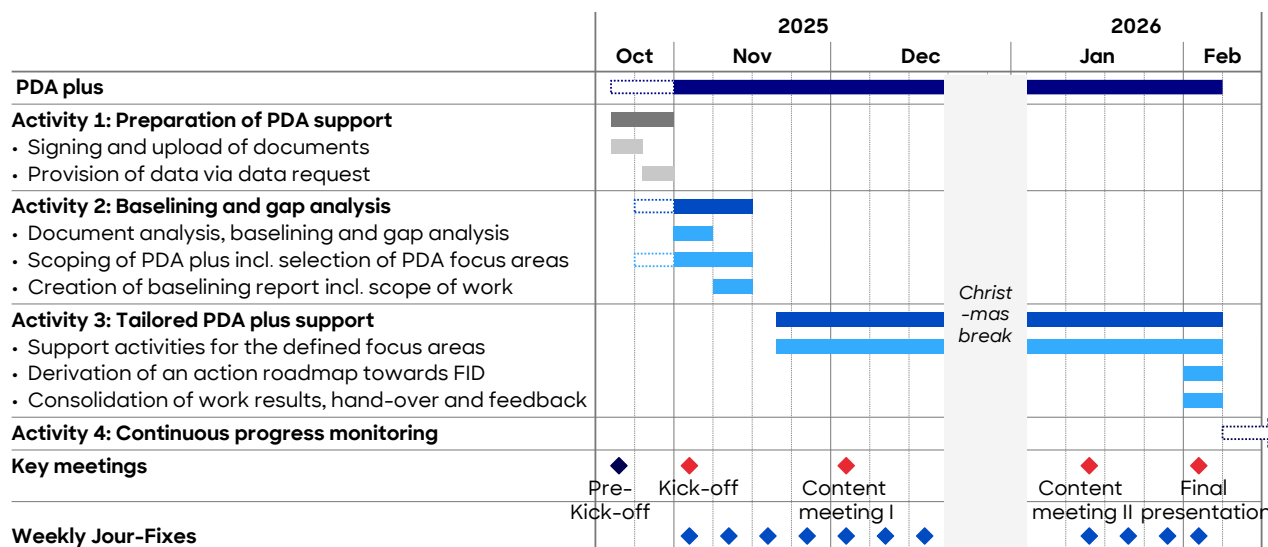


Figure 19: Timeline of the PDA plus delivery (first PDA wave)

The PDA plus support of the **second PDA wave** is planned to be delivered from September to December 2026 with a preceding two- to three-week scoping phase from mid-July to beginning of August 2026.

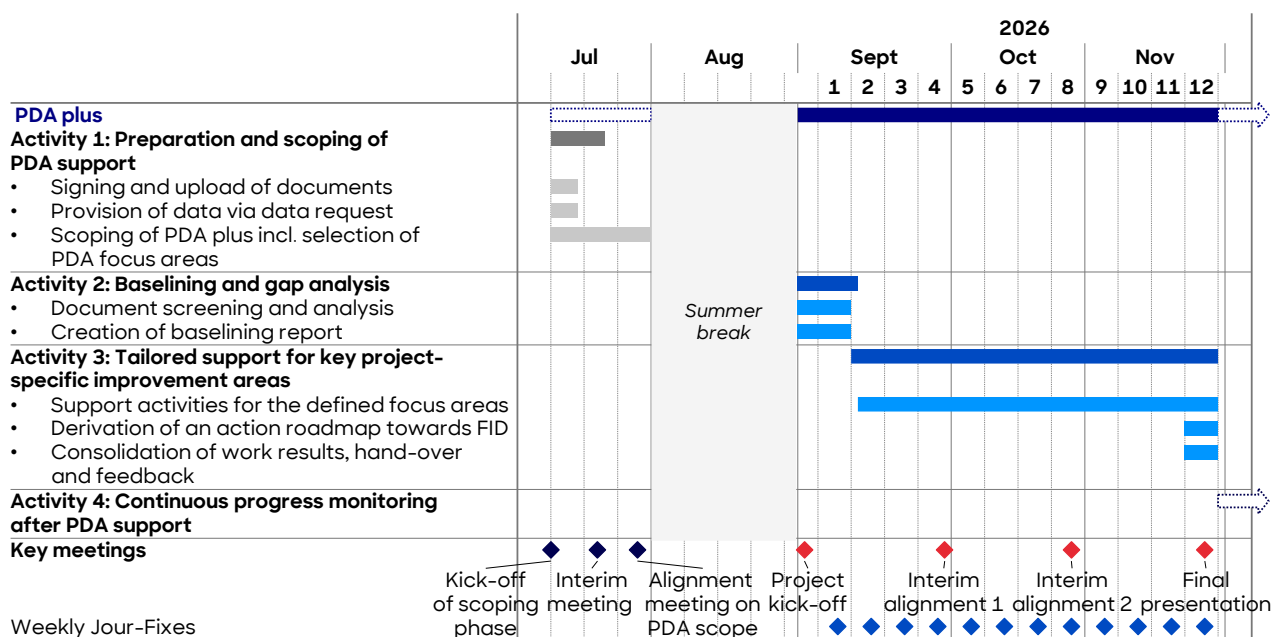


Figure 20: Planned timeline for the PDA plus delivery (second PDA wave)

Overview of activities

In line with the above-stated objectives and timeline, Task 1.2.2 is structured into the following four activities:

- **Activity 1:** Preparation of support activities
- **Activity 2:** Baselining, gap analysis, and scoping
- **Activity 3:** Provision of tailored support for key project-specific improvement areas
- **Activity 4:** Continuous monitoring of progress after PDA plus support

Activity 1: Preparation of support activities

Between mid-October and beginning of November 2025, all PDA Beneficiaries from the first PDA wave signed and uploaded the Declaration of Collaboration as a prerequisite to participate in the PDA support.

Thereafter, the PDA Service Consultants reached out to the PDA Beneficiaries with a tailored data request and started in initial alignment and kick-off discussions the scope and focus support areas of the PDA plus support.

Activity 2: Baselining, gap analysis and scoping

In the first two weeks of the PDA plus support, a baselining and status assessment took place with the aim to determine the Hydrogen Valley status in the four dimensions commercial, technical, regulatory and governance and to define tailored support areas for the PDA plus support.

Activity 3: Provision of tailored support for key project-specific improvement areas

In the 10-week delivery period thereafter, these PDA plus modules were worked out as per aligned scope of work. At the end of each PDA plus module, a content meeting together with the PDA plus Beneficiary took place to present the results and to align on the findings and conclusions. The last week of the PDA support was concluded with the development of an action roadmap towards FID with a detailed milestone planning.

On a weekly basis, Jour-Fixes took place to align on the progress report and any clarification needs.

At the end of the PDA plus support and as part of the final presentation, all deliverables were handed over to and discussed with the PDA Beneficiary team.

The key PDA plus deliverables per PDA plus Beneficiary included:

- A c. 20-page Baseline Report
- Four to five c. 25-80-page deliverables depending on the specific scope of work
- A c. 3-4-page action roadmap to FID

Activity 4: Continuous monitoring of progress after PDA plus support

Based on the action roadmap to FID, a biannual status tracking of each Hydrogen Valley project of the PDA plus Beneficiaries takes place. The first progress monitoring for the PDA plus Beneficiaries of the first PDA wave is scheduled for August 2026.

The progress monitoring will take place based on the developed action roadmap transferred into an online form and which is integrated into the PDA Beneficiary area of the H2V Platform. The key contact person of the Hydrogen Valley will be required to populate the project progress within the online form every six months. The online form is only accessible for the PDA beneficiary, the PDA Service Consultants, and the Clean Hydrogen JU, and the information submitted will be treated confidentially and not communicated publicly.

Task 1.3: Promotion of the Project Development Assistance services

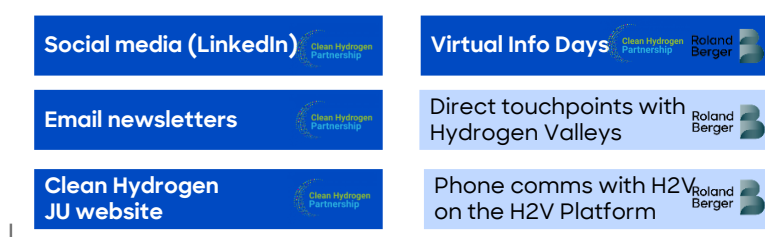
Objectives

The overarching objective of Task 1.3 is to ensure that the opportunity for PDA support reaches the widest possible number of potential applicants and to thereby offer the benefits of the PDA programme to all eligible hydrogen project developers. This includes the development and execution of an effective communication strategy and of corrective actions.

Promotion activities during the PDA application phase

The key communication channels used for the promotion of the Call for Applications consist in regular emails (newsletter emails), news articles on the Clean Hydrogen JU website and LinkedIn posts. Furthermore, tailored communication formats, incl. the Info Day, direct written touchpoints with Hydrogen Valleys and direct phone communication with Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform are being used throughout the promotion phases of each Call for Applications.

Communication channels and formats



All communication prominently refers target groups to the PDA landing page and PDA applicant's area



Figure 21: Communication channels and formats for the promotion of the Calls for Applications for PDA support

Throughout the application phase of the Calls for Applications for PDA support, regular communication activities took (First Call) and currently take place (Second Call). This includes regular LinkedIn posts with invitations to the Info Days, reminders to the approaching call deadline and information on the Call, and the PDA support in general. The recording of the Info Day and the corresponding presentation were published on the PDA programme website (see Annex IV: Recording and presentation to the Info Day of the Second Call for Applications).

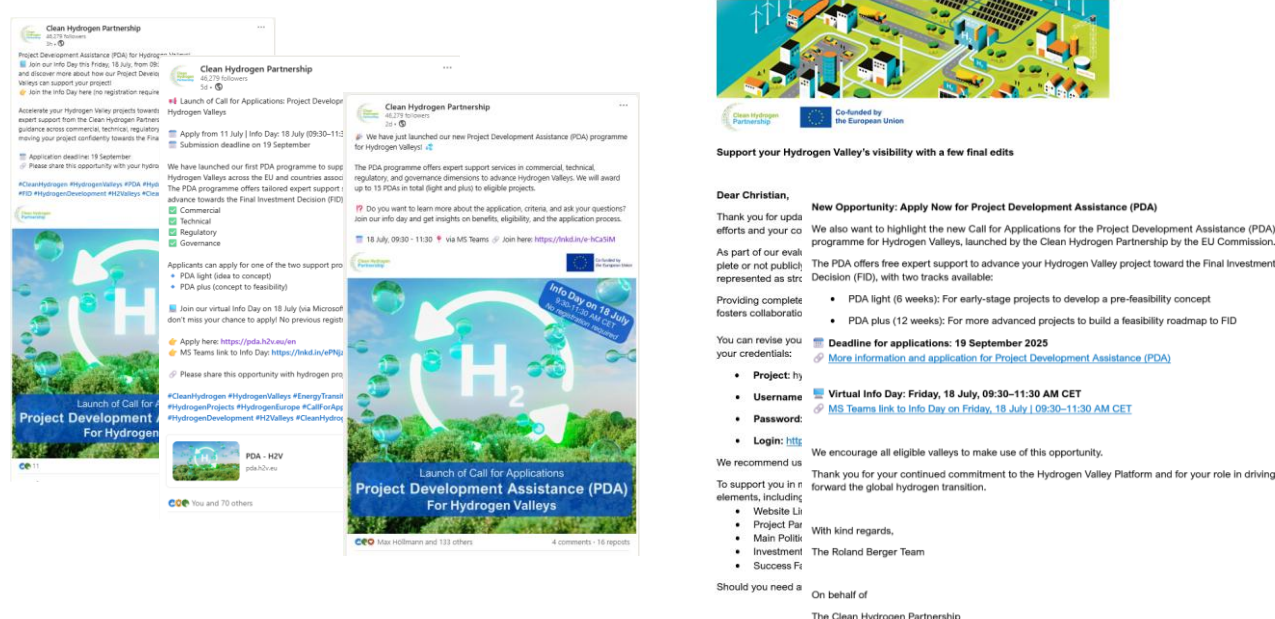


Figure 22: Selected communication material to the promotion of the Calls for Application

Promotion activities regarding the results of the PDA support

To make the key results of the PDA delivery available to the public, after each PDA wave, a PDA Results Report is being published (see Annex I: PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave).

The PDA Results Report gives an overview of the PDA programme, the application and evaluation process for each cohort, summarises the key insights into the provision of the PDA support and the outcomes and impact, as well as the findings and lessons learned from each PDA wave. The annexes to the PDA Results

Report consist of the Hydrogen Valley profiles of the PDA Beneficiaries and the Call for Application documents.

The PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave was published as part of the Hydrogen Valleys Week 2026 on May 6th in Antwerp and is available on the PDA programme website (https://pda.h2v.eu/en#pda_results_report).

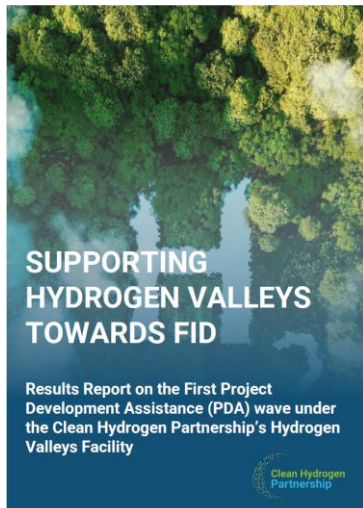


Figure 23: PDA Results Report to the first wave of PDA support

3. Progress update on Task 2: H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building

Activities conducted between May 2025 and May 2026

- **Market consultation survey for the tailoring of the H2V Knowledge Centre offerings** to stakeholder and market needs developed and conducted (May to June 2025)
- **Hydrogen Valley Days 2025** prepared, facilitated, and follow-ups conducted, incl.
 - Detailed speakers' briefings for each speaker/panellist prepared
 - Results of the market consultation survey as part of an internal workshop with Hydrogen Valleys presented
 - H2V Facility for the session "Launch of the H2V Facility" as part of the Hydrogen Valley Days 2025 presented
 - Official meeting minutes prepared and published
- **H2V Knowledge Centre content and website** as part of www.h2v.eu developed with go-live mid-October 2025
 - **15+ H2V Knowledge Centre self-service materials** developed (August to October 2025) and published as part of go-live mid-October 2025
 - News articles related to the H2V Knowledge Centre on www.h2v.eu published
- **Capacity building workshops and interactive formats conducted**
 - Virtual closed-door PDA Beneficiary workshop conducted (February 2026)
 - Virtual invitation-only collective action workshop on H2 Mobility for Hydrogen Valleys conducted; targeting projects supported by the Clean Hydrogen JU and those supported under the PDA 1st wave (February 2026)
- **Hydrogen Valley Week 2026** prepared, facilitated, and follow-ups conducted, incl.
 - One-day in-person closed-door workshop with Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen JU (May 4th 2026) prepared and facilitated
 - Detailed speakers' briefings for each speaker/panellist prepared
 - Key results of the PDA programme and participation in a PDA panel presented
 - H2V Platform and the State of the Hydrogen Sector presented
 - Official meeting minutes to the Hydrogen Valley Days 2026 prepared
- **Regular publication of news articles** related to the H2V Knowledge Centre Task (ongoing)
- **Development of a virtual expert webinar series** for a broader hydrogen practitioner audience (started in May 2026)

Annexes relevant for Task 2 (H2V Knowledge Centre & Capacity Building)

Annex V: H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material

Overall objectives and overview of Activities

The overarching objective of Task 2 is to share and disseminate knowledge and provide capacity building for the broader hydrogen community to facilitate the build-up of crucial skills needed to advance

hydrogen projects and, by doing so, to create a lasting impact benefitting the clean hydrogen sector in a sustainable manner and beyond the duration of the H2V Facility project.

The specific objectives of Task 2 include:

- Capacity building by addressing key commercial, technical, regulatory, and governance challenges faced by hydrogen project developers
- Sharing of knowledge and insights gained from ongoing and completed hydrogen projects and from the PDA programme thereby broadening its impact
- Increase of communication and collaboration within the broader hydrogen community

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 2 is split into the following five activities:

- **Activity 1:** Tailoring of the offerings of the H2V Knowledge Centre
- **Activity 2:** Organisation of the Hydrogen Valley Days and other hydrogen-related events
- **Activity 3:** Set-up of the H2V Knowledge Centre
- **Activity 4:** Development and delivery of the H2V Knowledge Centre self-service content and interactive formats

Overall timeline of Task 2

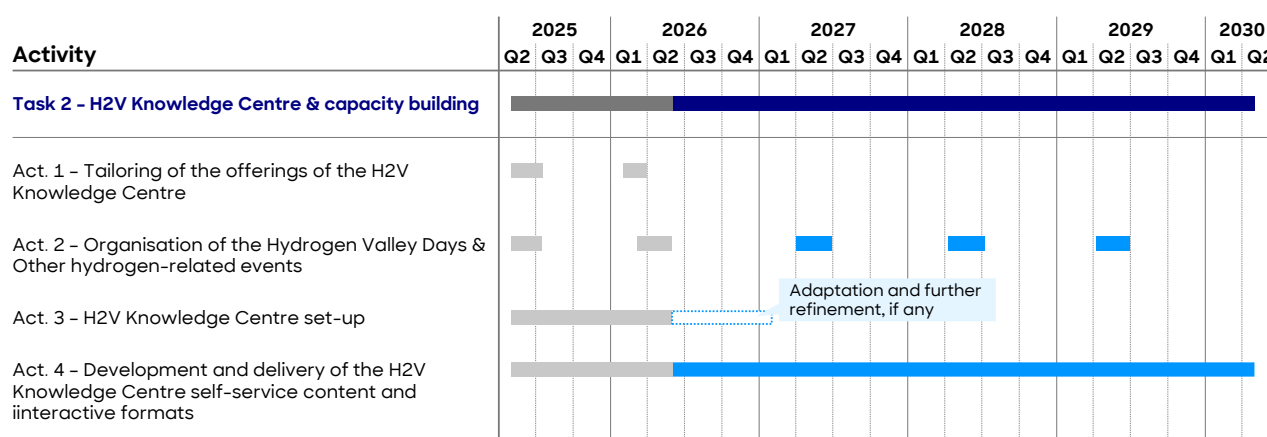


Figure 24: Timeline for the delivery of Task 2 (H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building)

Target audience for Task 2

The target audience for Task 2 encompasses, besides the Hydrogen Valleys that are the target audience for Task 1, a broader hydrogen community.



Figure 25: Target audience for the H2V Knowledge Centre and capacity building

This includes hydrogen project developers such as integrated energy players, O&G majors, infrastructure providers, renewable energy developers and main technology providers, as well as national, regional and local authorities with a focus on energy, economic and industrial development, and decarbonisation, as well as investors and financiers (including private sector capital providers and public promotional banks).

Activity 1: Tailoring of the offerings of the H2V Knowledge Centre

To tailor the offerings of the H2V Knowledge Centre to the primary target group of Hydrogen Valleys as well as the other target groups, two dedicated survey were conducted: 1) Market consultation survey (between May and June 2025) and 2) Collective action survey (in April 2026).

Market consultation survey

In order to effectively tailor the activities and offerings as part of the H2V Knowledge Centre to actual market needs, a market consultation survey was conducted between May 28th and June 13th 2025.

The purpose of this market consultation survey is twofold and contributes to both Tasks 1 and 2:

- **Task 1:** Derivation of crucial insights on the current hydrogen market environment, challenges and needs of hydrogen project developers and tailoring of the PDA light and plus programmes
- **Task 2:** Tailoring of the future support offerings of the H2V Knowledge Portal regarding material, resources and interaction formats

The key features and survey organisation is described in the figure below.



Figure 26: Key features and organisation of the market consultation survey

The contacted survey target group that was invited for the participation in the market consultation survey consisted of representatives from both European Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform and additionally identified European H2 projects not on the H2V Platform.

In total, 120 representatives from European H2 project developers were contacted, thereof c. 70 from European Hydrogen Valleys already on the H2V Platform and c. 50 additionally identified European hydrogen projects. Out of this outreach, c. 50 players responded to the market consultation survey (participation rate of c. 40%).

The market consultation survey consisted of three key sections:

- General information on the hydrogen project (incl. role of survey respondent, H2 project characteristics, location)
- Hydrogen market, challenges and needs (incl. assessment of market demand, relevance of different factors to bringing H2 projects to FID, current project planning and influencing factors)
- Support by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership for hydrogen project development (relevance of commercial, technical, regulatory and governance support, formats and features as well as resources and materials beneficial for H2 project development)

The survey results confirm both the diversity and maturity of the hydrogen projects represented, and a strong perceived relevance of the Clean Hydrogen Partnership's support offerings. Respondents provided clear input on the challenges faced in project development, priorities for support formats and content, and the broader policy and market environment.

Overall, the four dimensions the H2V Facility addresses, i.e., commercial, technical, regulatory and valley governance, have a very high relevance across all stakeholders that participated in the market consultation survey. This result demonstrates that the offerings of the H2V Facility can directly address the most important challenges hydrogen project developers face to advance their projects to FID and hence have crucial relevance across both early-stage and more mature projects. By fostering capacity building in making knowledge available (via the H2V Knowledge Centre) and by directly supporting

Hydrogen Valleys (via the PDA support), the H2V Facility is already offering a highly relevant and needed contribution towards a green hydrogen ecosystem in the EU.

The results of the market consultation survey were used to further refine the offering of the H2V Facility in terms of the different dimensions of the PDA support and regarding the concrete knowledge formats and interactive sessions of the future H2V Knowledge Centre (see Activities 3 and 4 of this chapter).

Collective action survey

To further refine the interactive formats of the H2V Knowledge Centre (see Activities 3 and 4 of this Task), in particular the collective action workshops with Hydrogen Valleys that receive funding by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, a collective action survey was conducted.

The key features and survey organisation is described in the figure below.



Figure 27: Key features and organisation of the market consultation survey

In total, c. 40 representatives from the 25 Hydrogen Valley projects that are being funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership were contacted. Out of this outreach, c. 30 representatives responded to the collective action survey (participation rate of c. 75%).

The collective action survey consisted of four key sections:

- General information on the hydrogen project (incl. role of survey respondent, H2 project characteristics, location)
- Hydrogen market, challenges and needs (incl. assessment of market demand, relevance of different factors to bringing H2 projects to FID, current project planning and influencing factors)
- Topics of interest for collective action within the commercial, technical, regulatory and Valley governance dimension
- Preferred ways and frequency of collaboration and areas of expertise for contribution

The results of the collective action survey indicated a high interest of Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership in contributing to and engaging in collective action. Topics of high relevance for collective action between Hydrogen Valley projects as per survey results are offtake approaches, market demand and trends, technical design standards and regulatory aspects, incl. standards regarding low-carbon vs. RFNBO-H2, permitting and the sharing of lessons learned regarding regulatory hurdles.

In terms of preferred ways of collaboration, most survey respondents have a preference for small regular task forces, knowledge and information sessions and sharing of best practices via document exchanges.

The results of the collective survey were already used for the design of a first collective action workshop that took place on May 4th 2026 in Antwerp (see Activity 2) and for the set-up of a Collective Action Area within the H2V Knowledge Portal (see Task 3.3) and will serve as a basis for the planning of further interactive formats (see Activity 4).

Activity 2: Organisation of the Hydrogen Valley Days and other hydrogen-related events

This activity aims to support the Clean Hydrogen Partnership in the preparation and facilitation of hydrogen-related events, in particular the annual Hydrogen Valley Days.

Preparation and facilitation of the Hydrogen Valley Days 2025

The second edition of the Hydrogen Valley Days took place on June 24th and 25th 2025 in Brussels, under the title “Hydrogen Valleys: Driving Europe’s Competitiveness”. Participants engaged with industry leaders, explored pioneering hydrogen projects, and discovered opportunities for growth, innovation, and collaboration.

The two-day programme included keynote speeches, dedicated sessions on the success stories and lessons learned from advanced Hydrogen Valley projects, and insights into key challenges such as permitting, licensing, and skills development. The event also presented significant initiatives such as the Hydrogen Valleys Facility and the European Commission’s Hydrogen & Derivatives Mechanism. Discussions also focused on lead markets in mobility and industry, and addressed the crucial topic of financing hydrogen projects, concluding with networking opportunities to facilitate collaboration and innovation.

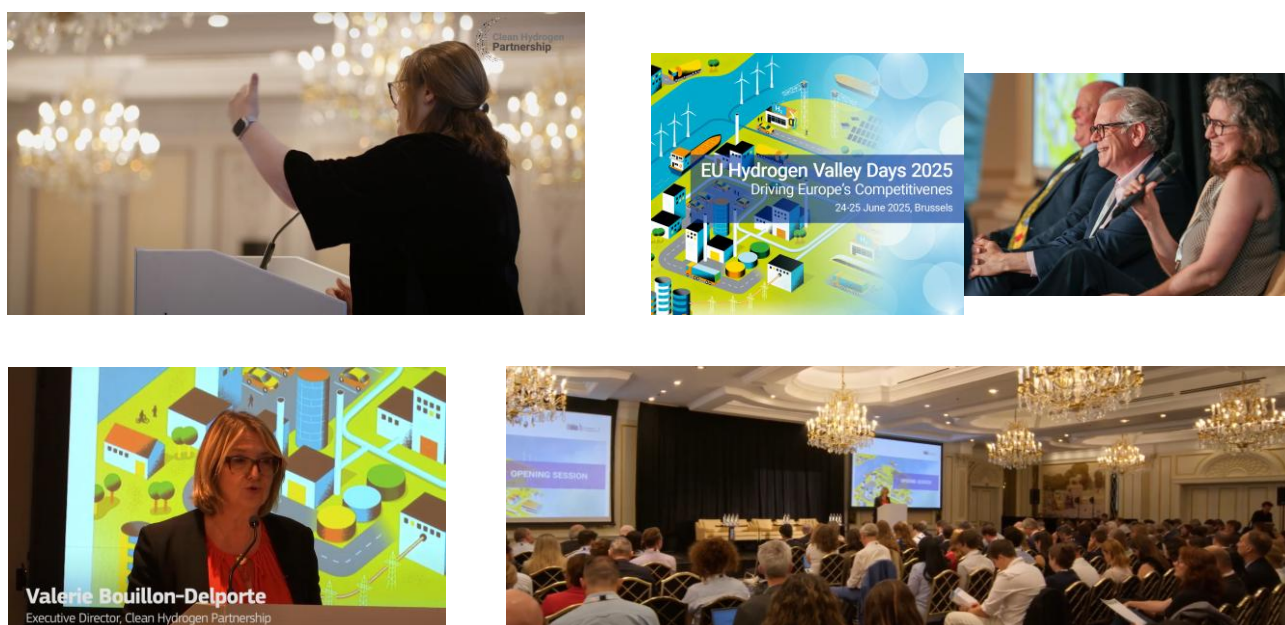


Figure 28: Impressions of the Hydrogen Valley Day 2025 in Brussels

The event was jointly organised by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership (with support by Roland Berger) and the European Commission.

Key activities within the preparation and facilitation of the Hydrogen Valley Days 2025 included:

- Suggestion of a list of panel speakers for all content sessions and selective establishment of contact to panellists and speakers
- Preparation of detailed speakers’ briefings with information on the objectives of the respective session, background information of each speaker/panellist including their role, perspective and value add to the discussion, as well as dedicated questions to each speaker/panellist
- Preparation of dedicated presentations for the following sessions
 - Presentation with results of the market consultation survey for the internal session on June 24th at 10:00-12:45 with European Hydrogen Valleys that are or were beneficiaries of the Clean Hydrogen Partnership

- Presentation on the H2V Facility for the session Launch of the H2V Facility in front of a broader target audience on June 24th at 16:30-17:45
- Preparation of official meeting minutes for external use that were published on the official Clean Hydrogen JU website



Figure 29: Impressions from the launch event of the H2V Facility during the Hydrogen Valley Days 2025

Preparation and facilitation of the Hydrogen Valley Week 2026

The 2026 conference on Hydrogen Valleys took place within a dedicated Hydrogen Valley Week between May 4th and May 8th in Antwerp. The week-long series of events brought together European and international stakeholders to showcase how Hydrogen Valleys turn innovation into deployment, connecting supply and demand across the value chain, accelerating investment-ready projects, and strengthening Europe's clean hydrogen ecosystem and its competitiveness.

The week was opened on May 4th with a closed-door workshop bringing together representatives from 24 Hydrogen Valleys supported by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership to share knowledge and exchange experiences on recent hydrogen market dynamics and to initiate collective action on offtake for their Hydrogen Valleys.

The official programme opened on Tuesday, May 5th, with the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance Forum organised by the European Commission (DG GROW).

The public, high-level policy event on Wednesday, May 6th jointly organised by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and the European Commission, focused on the role of EU Hydrogen Valleys as an engine for competitiveness in Europe's regions and brought together over 180 participants at the Port House in Antwerp, with 6 sessions and over 30 experts on stage engaging in discussions on Hydrogen Valleys from multiple angles. Speakers and practitioners from across Europe convened to exchange lessons learned from Hydrogen Valley development, discuss first-hand experiences on the path to FID through the Project Development Assistance programme, and explore the strategic role of infrastructure and storage in connecting Hydrogen Valleys.

On Thursday, May 7th an invitation-only workshop on Hydrogen Mobility took place, jointly organised with Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO). Throughout the event, participants also benefited from the presence of the Energy Observer vessel in the Port of Antwerp-Bruges.

The event was jointly organised by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and the European Commission. Roland Berger supported the preparation and facilitation of the events on May 4th and May 6th.

Key activities within the preparation and facilitation of closed-door workshop on May 4th included:

- Structuring of one-day workshop agenda based on collective action survey results (see Activity 1)
- Preparation and presentation of content of workshop on H2 market and offtake
- Preparation and facilitation of two interactive break-out sessions
- Follow-up activities on workshop results (see also Activity 4)

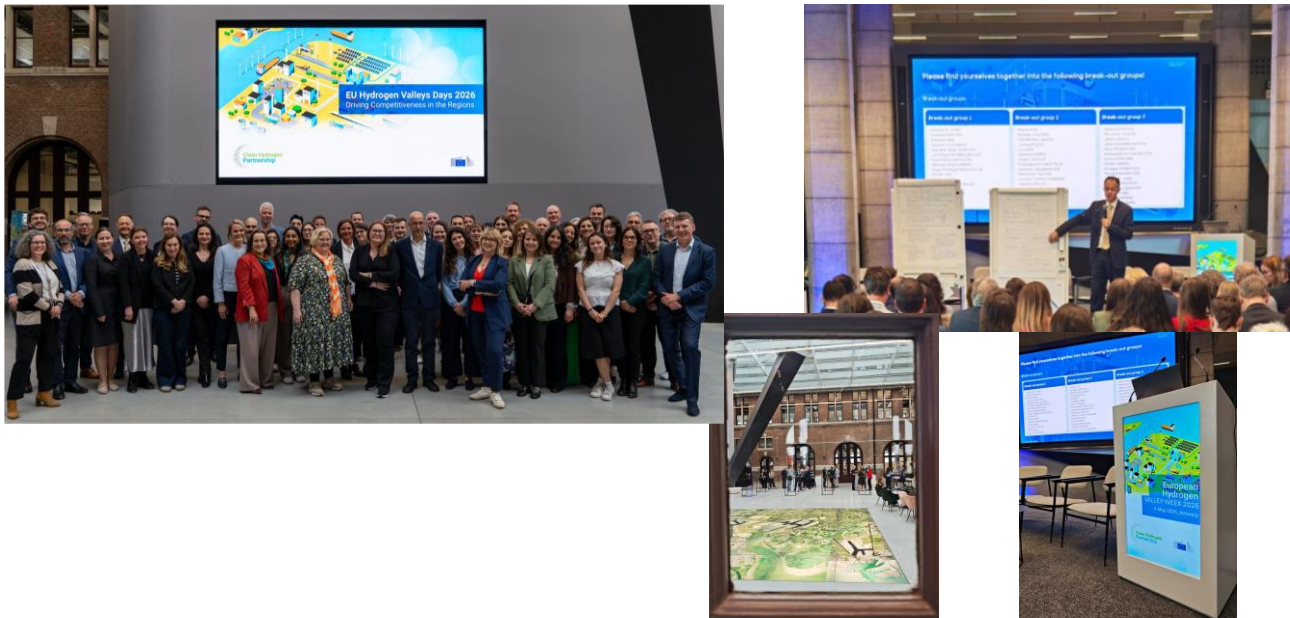


Figure 30: Impressions from the closed-door workshop with representatives from Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership during the Hydrogen Valley Week 2026

Key activities within the preparation and facilitation of the Hydrogen Valley Day on May 6th included:

- Structuring of agenda and suggestion of a list of panel speakers for all content sessions
- Preparation of detailed speakers' briefings with information on the objectives of the respective session, background information of each speaker/panellist including their role, perspective and value add to the discussion, as well as dedicated questions to each speaker/panellist
- Preparation of dedicated presentations for the following sessions
 - Presentation on the H2V Facility and key results of the H2V Platform update
 - Presentation of the key results of the first PDA wave and speaker participation in the PDA Beneficiary panel
- Preparation of official meeting minutes for external use



Figure 31: Impressions from the Hydrogen Valley Day 2026 in Antwerp

Preparation of the 2025 Hydrogen Valley award as part of the European Hydrogen Week

In the context of the hydrogen community networking, a Yearly Award Ceremony as part of the European Hydrogen Week is organised. The primary objective of this event is to highlight advancements and contributions of various Hydrogen Valleys to the sector, to share success stories and to encourage healthy competition and innovation within the hydrogen community.

The Yearly Award Ceremony 2025 took place as part of the European Hydrogen Week from September 29th to October 3rd 2025.

As part of the H2V Facility activities, the "Valley Award" ceremony was prepared. The "Valley Award" recognises outstanding achievements in the hydrogen sector based on the following award criteria:

- Extending Value Chain Coverage: How well the project integrates various stages of the hydrogen value chain
- Hydrogen Production Volume: Scale of hydrogen production achieved by the project
- Hydrogen End-Use Variety: Diversity of applications for the produced hydrogen
- Project Finalisation: Completed projects that have successfully transitioned to implementation
- Stakeholder Landscape: Engagement and collaboration among various stakeholders in the project
- Project Innovativeness: Unique and creative approaches that advance the hydrogen sector

BalticSeaH2 was named Hydrogen Valley of the Year 2025 for building the first interregional, large-scale hydrogen ecosystem across nine Baltic Sea countries, backed by a coalition of 40 industry and maritime partners. Its selection was further driven by remarkable recent progress, including the successful start-up of Finland's first commercial 20 MW green hydrogen production facility at Harjavalta in February 2025 and strong cross-border cooperation across the value chain

Activity 3: Set-up of the H2V Knowledge Centre structure

As part of Activity 3, a dedicated H2V Knowledge Centre was set up and integrated into the existing www.h2v.eu website between August and October 2025. The H2V Knowledge Centre went live by mid-October 2025 (see Annex V: H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material).

This H2V Knowledge Centre is aimed at being the overarching knowledge offering and serves as a go-to place for Hydrogen Valley development. The material, content and formats that are being developed and

delivered as part of the H2V Knowledge Centre, are directly linked to the main challenges that Hydrogen Valleys experience on their way to FID along commercial, technical, regulatory, and Valley governance dimensions.

The H2V Knowledge Centre consists of two main elements:

- A **self-service portal with written materials** around commercial, technical, regulatory, and Valley governance Hydrogen Valley development
 - **Newly developed material as part of the H2V Facility project** that provides users of the H2V Knowledge Centre practical, hands-on process instructions, methodologies or templates that reflect latest industry standards and best practices (“how to”) on Hydrogen Valley development. This material also leverages the outcomes of the PDA support and is structured along the four content dimensions commercial, technical, regulatory, and Valley governance
 - **Links and information to other third-party resources** that provide users insights on specific topics, latest research results and/or other comprehensive background information
- **Interactive formats:** The interactive formats leverage the experience and/or subject matter expertise of experts and/or hydrogen project developers and practitioners to convey insights from successful approaches, best practices and/or lessons learned to be replicated. Further aims are community building and exchange between hydrogen practitioners
 - **Open formats:** Expert webinars on "Advancing H2 projects to FID"
 - **Exclusive formats:** Closed-door exchanges between Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and/or PDA Beneficiaries on a specific topic of common interest with interactive discussions (break-out/plenary) and best-practice and knowledge sharing

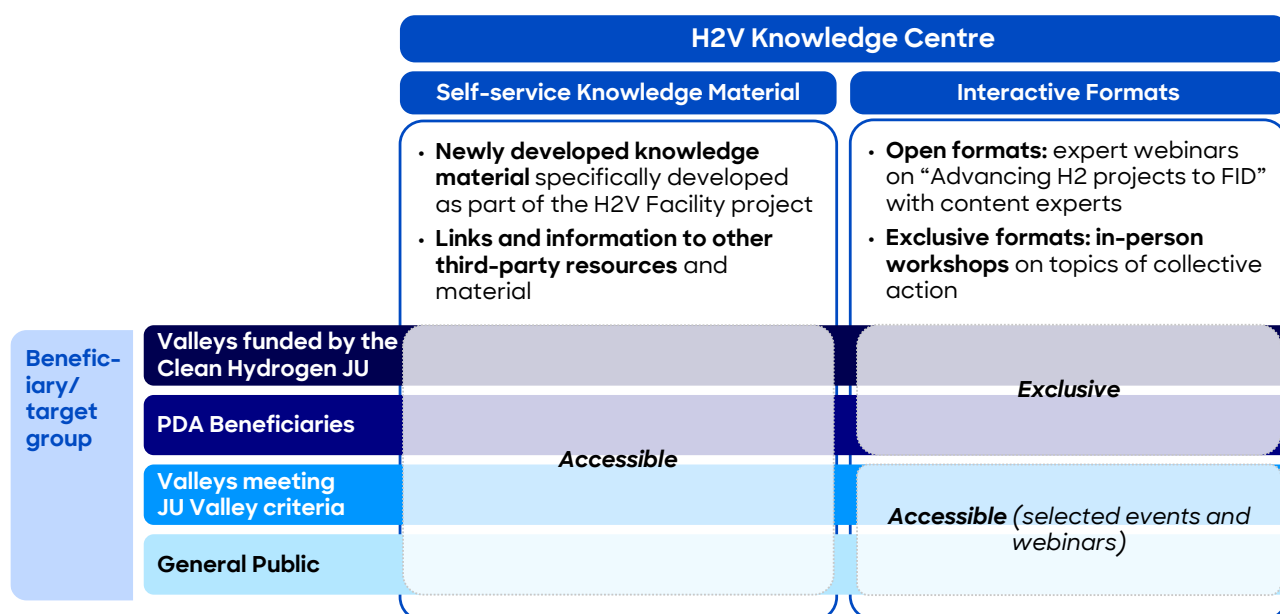


Figure 32: Schematic set-up of the H2V Knowledge Centre

Furthermore, since March 2026, the H2V Knowledge Centre hosts a dedicated news section with news articles related to the H2V Facility.

To foster networking and collaboration among Hydrogen Valley representatives, a restricted Collective Action Area with the possibility of document exchanges and a contact function on specific topics is currently being set up with a planned go-live by mid-June 2026.

The H2V Knowledge Centre has a **clear priority on preserving European competitiveness and its leading position in the clean hydrogen economy**. All content and products that were and are being developed and

delivered as part of this H2V Knowledge Centre focus on specific characteristics of European Hydrogen Valleys, e.g., regarding market fundamentals, regulation and other.

Activity 4: Development and delivery of the H2V Knowledge Centre self-service content and interactive formats

Activity 4 is aimed at developing the content and formats of the H2V Knowledge Centre and delivering them to a broad target audience of hydrogen practitioners.

Development and delivery of the self-service material

Since October 2025, the H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material is live on as part of the H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu) (see Annex V: H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material).

H2V Knowledge Centre contains in five different sections, i.e., overarching, commercial, technical, regulatory and Valley governance, with a total 43 self-service knowledge products, thereof 13 knowledge products specifically developed as part of the H2V Facility.

The self-service knowledge material links to third-party pages or is available for download in PDF, Excel and Word.

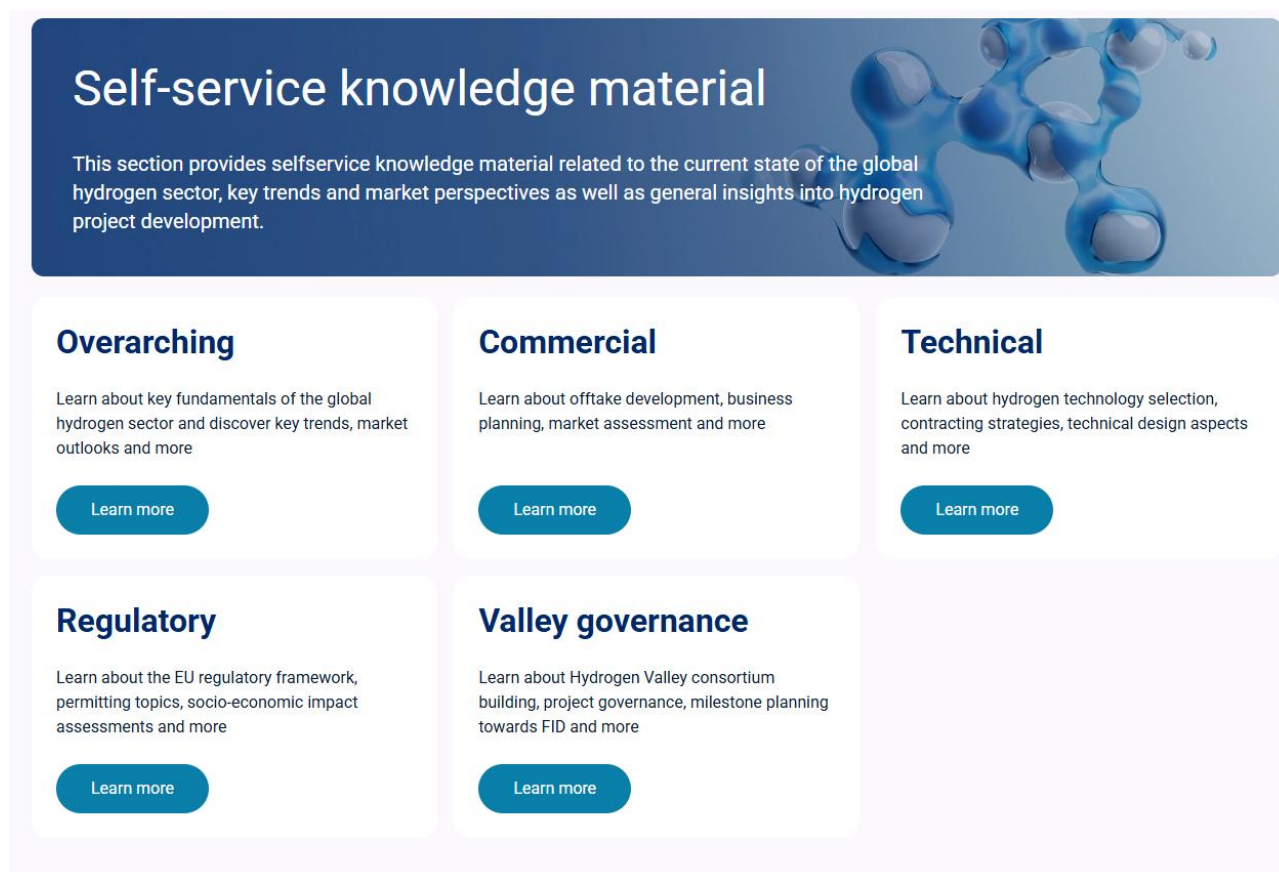


Figure 33: Self-service knowledge material landing page within the H2V Knowledge Centre (<https://h2v.eu/h2v-knowledge-centre/self-service-knowledge-material>)

The H2V Knowledge Centre is continuously being updated with new material being added.

The knowledge material stems from the following sources:

- **Material from existing initiatives:** Public knowledge on hydrogen, including data, tools, reference studies, and other information material from the following sources:

- **Clean Hydrogen JU** funding and financing navigation tools, technology introductions, and preliminary business cases' dossiers and tools
- **International Energy Agency** with a hydrogen projects database covering commissioned hydrogen projects worldwide since 2000
- **European Hydrogen Observatory** with up-to-date information about the entire hydrogen sector, focused on technology, market statistics, socio-economic indicators, policy, regulation, and financial support
- **Hydrogen Council** with information on cost competitiveness, financing barriers, and investment opportunities
- **Hydrogen Territories Platform** with information and methodologies for the implementation and deployment of FCH technologies in isolated or island territories
- **Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association**, in particular the Hydrogen and fuel cell safety report and information on developing hydrogen and fuel cell codes and standards
- **Other material** identified as relevant
- **Material generated as part of the H2V Facility project**
 - **Roland Berger and Worley expert knowledge**
 - **Knowledge generated as part of the PDA light and plus support**

In the future, it is also foreseen to incorporate knowledge material developed by Hydrogen Valleys funded under the Clean Hydrogen JU's Valley calls. The so far 25 funded Hydrogen Valleys by the Clean Hydrogen JU have developed as part of their grant agreement knowledge, incl. best practices and know-how related to the development and scaling of their respective Hydrogen Valleys. This know-how and existing written knowledge will be consolidated and prepared to fit into the four content dimensions and be made available in the form of written knowledge products.

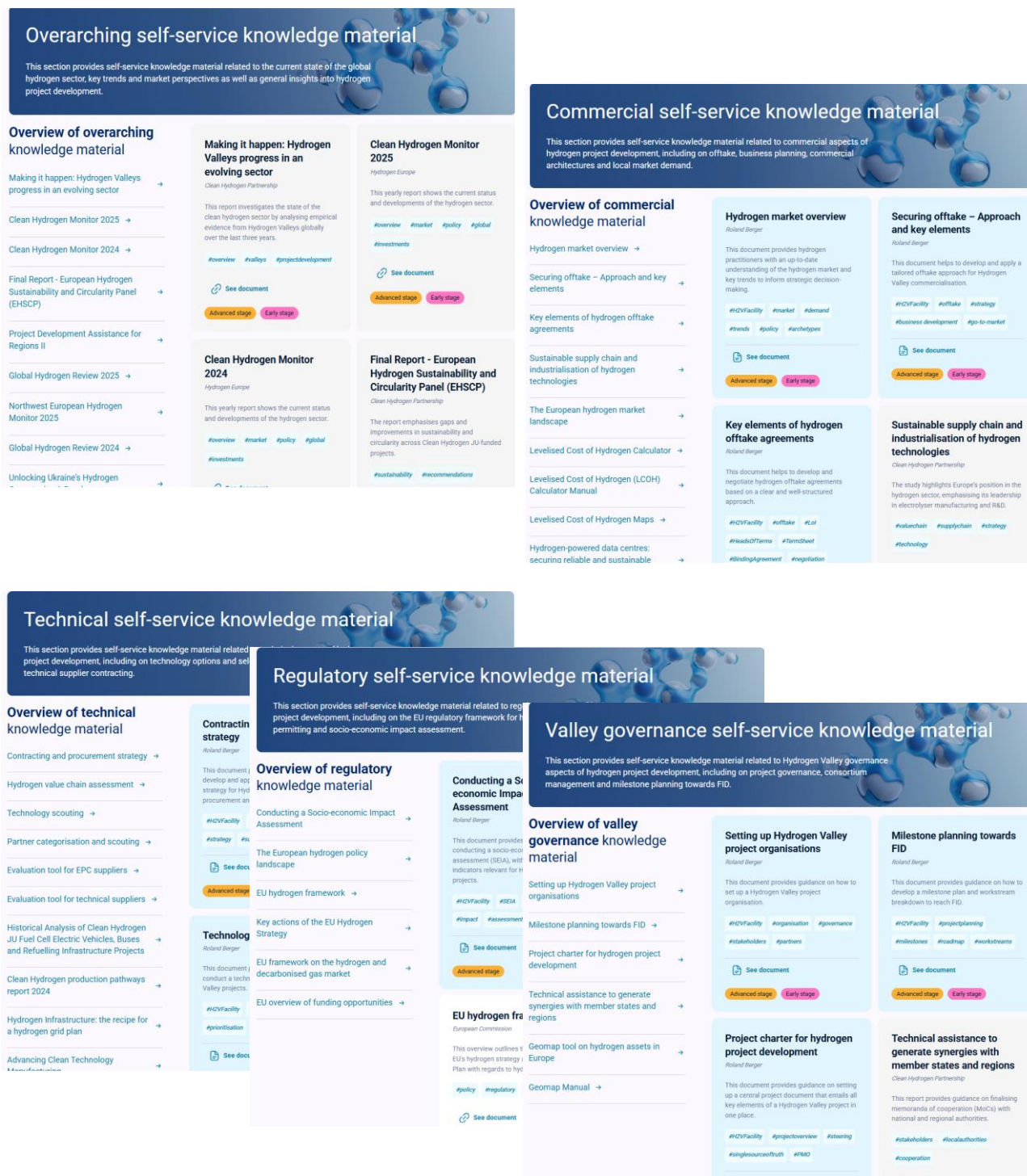


Figure 34: Self-service knowledge material pages within the H2V Knowledge Centre (<https://h2v.eu/h2v-knowledge-centre/self-service-knowledge-material>)

The following table gives an overview of the **documents from the newly developed material that were be uploaded in mid-October 2025 to the H2V Knowledge Centre.**

Dimension	Title	Key content
Commercial	Securing offtake in Hydrogen Valleys – Approach and key elements	• Offtake planning and key pillars of offtake strategy: Description of offtake activities along project maturation process and key elements of an offtake strategy • “What to play” – Hydrogen market fundamentals: Analysis of demand and willingness to pay, and market developments • “Where to play” – Offtake pool and selection strategy: Development of an offtake hunting scheme and a shortlist • “How to play” – Key principles of offtake agreements: Overview of key commercial principles and bankability requirements • “How to win” – Operational strategy and execution plan: Elaboration of offtake approaches and activities and team development
	Key elements of offtake agreements	• Overview of offtake agreements: Description of (pre-)agreements until the binding Hydrogen Offtake Agreement incl. best practices • Typical structure and main elements of offtake agreements: Definition of all key offtake agreements and their main elements
	Hydrogen market overview	• Net zero scenario and market outlook • Political momentum regarding hydrogen • Green hydrogen project announcements • Key hydrogen project archetypes • Development of the green hydrogen market
Technical	Contracting and procurement strategy	• Procurement and contracting strategy: Guidelines on the development of a procurement and contracting strategy • EPC and MC contracting strategies: Comparison of EPC and MC contracting across project phases until COD, incl. evaluation of key trade-offs in risk, cost, schedule, and flexibility • EPC vs. MC contract assessment framework: Analysis of EPC vs. MC contracting model along 7 dimensions to select suitable contracting strategy
	Technical supplier evaluation tool	Excel tool for the evaluation of technical suppliers based on pre-defined assessment criteria
	EPC supplier evaluation tool	Excel tool for the evaluation of EPC suppliers based on pre-defined assessment criteria
	How to identify and evaluate technical and EPC suppliers	• Approach for the identification of suitable technical and EPC suppliers • Approach for the evaluation of technical and EPC suppliers
	Hydrogen value chain assessment	• Identification and assessment of relevant hydrogen technologies and applications along the hydrogen value chain • Indicative high-level innovation potential assessment based on the technology readiness level, the cost reduction potential and the operational and efficiency improvement potential
	Technology scouting	• Prioritization of key technologies per selected focus areas based on concrete innovation potential per key component and strategic fit • Identification key enablers per key cost/efficiency lever
	Partner categorization and scouting	• Identification of relevant partner types for Hydrogen Valley's innovation strategy and assign innovation types • Matching of focus technologies with identified innovation partner types based on assigned innovation type
Regulatory	How to conduct a socio-economic impact assessment	• Objectives of a socio-economic impact assessment (SEIA): Explanation of common objectives, steps in conducting a SEIA and key indicators to be assessed • Structure of a SEIA report: Overview of typical contents in the report

Green H2 will have to meet most of decarbonized hydrogen demand, in order to get to "net zero" - More than 1 TW of electrolyzer capacity is required

Hydrogen's role in the IEA's updated Net Zero Emission Scenario (as per Q4 2023)

Global hydrogen demand in a "net-zero world" (in tons)

Year	Industry	Power	Energy	Total
2022	15	200	15	220
2030	150	75	15	240
2038	250	150	20	420
2050	438	40	10	488

Global hydrogen supply in a "net-zero" world

Year	Fossil	Power	Electrolysis	Total
2022	15	200	15	220
2030	150	75	15	240
2038	250	150	20	420
2050	438	40	10	488

Governmental strategies for hydrogen

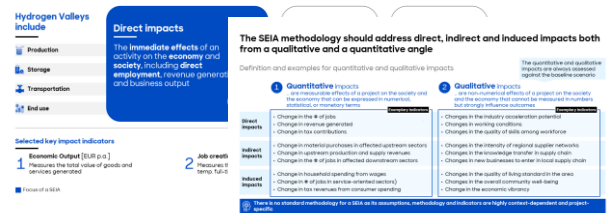
Governments are pushing hydrogen with national strategies - Big targets for consumption, production, investment and value creation

National hydrogen strategies (as per Q4 2023)

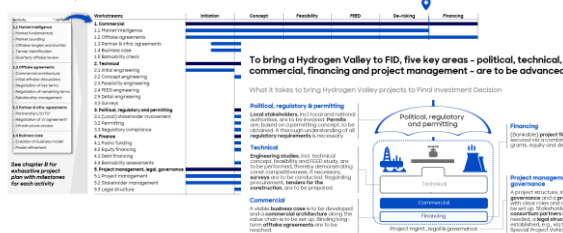
Key observations

- Hydrogen activities are overall spread around the globe - 100+ countries have published hydrogen strategies, including 100+ countries in the Americas.
- Most countries have published hydrogen strategies, along with the EU, China, and the US.
- Most countries have published hydrogen strategies, along with the EU, China, and the US.

Scope and key impact indicators of a socio-economic impact assessment



Holistic roadmap towards FID

High-level assessment of technology relevance along the H₂ value chain

Development and delivery of interactive formats

The following figure outlines the structure and approach of the interactive formats.

Interactive Formats		
Exclusive formats		Open formats
1 Closed-door workshops with JU-funded Valleys & PDA Beneficiaries		2 Expert webinars
Format	Closed-door exchange on a specific topic of common interest with interactive discussions (break-out groups/plenary) and best-practice and knowledge exchange	“Lecture” on a specific topic related to H ₂ project development and advancing H ₂ projects to FID
Target group	• JU-funded Hydrogen Valleys • PDA Beneficiaries from previous and current PDA waves Local authorities, financing institutions, policymakers and other stakeholders to be involved as guest speakers/discussion partners (depending on topic)	• JU-funded Hydrogen Valleys • PDA Beneficiaries • Wider H₂ community
Key outcome	Knowledge sharing/collective development of actionable next steps on a specific topic of common interest and best practices on Hydrogen Valley development	Information & knowledge building of a wider audience on a specific H ₂ -related topic
Frequency	2x per year • May: connected to Hydrogen Valley Days • Nov/Dec: connected to Research & Innovation Days	Every ca. 3 months starting from July 2026
Location	Onsite	Virtual

Figure 36: Approach for the interactive formats as part of the H2V Knowledge Centre

A schedule for the **open expert webinar sessions** for 2026 is currently under preparation and is planned to be published by mid-June 2026. They are delivered per default virtually (via MS Teams meetings) but Recordings from all virtual expert webinars will be made available to enable more stakeholders to access the sessions.

The **exclusive formats for Hydrogen Valleys** take place as default option onsite (see Activity 2 for onsite closed-door workshop with JU funded Hydrogen Valleys on May 4th 2026 in Antwerp).

Furthermore, **two virtual workshops** took place in February 2026.

- Invitation-only workshop on collective action regarding the procurement of H2 trucks (February 13th 2026)
- Closed-door workshop for PDA Beneficiaries from the first PDA wave (February 25th 2026)

The **collective action workshop on the procurement of H2 trucks** took place on February 13th 2026 with c. 60 participants from Hydrogen Valleys funded by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and from the first PDA wave that have a dedicated mobility focus. The aim of this workshop was to connect Hydrogen Valleys that deploy H2 applications in road mobility, share best practices in procuring such applications and discuss next steps for collective action in this area. Prior to the workshop, a survey was sent to the workshop participants with the aim to identify common challenges in the procurement of H2 trucks and to elaborate potential collective action levers. The workshop was prepared in collaboration with selected Hydrogen Valley representatives that also contributed their expertise in the structuring of the workshop. The 90-minute workshop started with an introduction of all participants and an impulse presentation on the H2 mobility and trucking market. Thereafter, a Hydrogen Valley representative shared best practices and learnings from deploying road mobility applications. In the subsequent break-out discussions, major challenges in the development of an H2 mobility ecosystem and a potential collaboration were discussed. As a follow-up of the workshop, a task force group with Hydrogen Valley representatives interested in further driving the procurement of road mobility applications was created and aims, scope, and the collective action approach was discussed jointly with the Clean Hydrogen Partnership. The task force entered in May 2026 the phase of self-organisation. Once the Collective Action Area is set up, a dedicated document exchange folder will be created for the task force and its members.

The **PDA Beneficiary workshop** took place on February 25th 2026 with c. 30 participants. Key aim of the workshop was the presentation of the aggregate results of the first PDA wave, to connect the PDA Beneficiaries with each other and to present each Hydrogen Valley project. The core of the workshop was a presentation by each PDA Beneficiary on the characteristics of the Hydrogen Valley, the key areas of PDA support and the key lessons learned from the PDA support and the key next steps of the Hydrogen Valley. Thereafter, a short discussion in break-out groups took place to reflect on unexpected learnings from the PDA support, the further way forward for each Hydrogen Valley and on how the PDA programme could further be optimized for the next PDA waves. The workshop concluded with an outlook on the key activities of the H2V Facility in 2026.

4. Progress update on Task 3: Hydrogen Valleys Platform

Activities conducted between May 2025 until end of May 2026

- **Two biannual data update cycles completed** (June/July 2025 and March/April 2026), growing the H2V Platform from 98 to 106 registered Hydrogen Valleys
 - Newly identified European Hydrogen Valleys contacted and invited to join the platform
 - Data quality review conducted for all submitted questionnaires; follow-up with Hydrogen Valley representatives where needed
 - Results of both cycles presented to and decided upon by the Clean Hydrogen JU
 - 25 new Hydrogen Valleys onboarded and published across both cycles and the November 2025 PDA applicant onboarding exercise
 - Formal exclusion criteria and process defined and applied for the first time; 29 Hydrogen Valleys removed between May 2025 and April 2026
- **H2V Platform handover** from RealDolmen to Inycom completed (July 4, 2025)
- **Continuous technical maintenance** carried out throughout the reporting period, incl. Drupal 11 upgrade (December 2025), monthly security updates, SEO measures, and infrastructure monitoring
- **New tripartite h2v.eu website structure** (Hydrogen Valleys, PDA Programme, H2V Knowledge Centre) designed and implemented; website relaunched in three phases:
 - July 2025: PDA programme website with dedicated landing page, FAQ section, and PDA Applicant's Area launched
 - October 2025: New overall platform structure incl. redesigned landing page, H2V Knowledge Centre (with first batch of self-service knowledge materials across all four content dimensions) and PDA Beneficiary Area launched
 - May 2026: Fully revamped Hydrogen Valleys section launched, incl. redesigned Valley profiles with multi-location mapping and project timeline, interactive statistics toolbox, entirely redesigned data questionnaire, and dedicated news sections across all three platform pillars
- **Overarching communication strategy** and plan developed (June 2025); communication activities on all aspects related to the H2V Facility executed throughout the reporting period via LinkedIn, email newsletters, news articles on h2v.eu and the Clean Hydrogen JU website, and direct outreach to Hydrogen Valleys and other target groups

Annexes relevant for Task 3 (H2V Platform)

Annex VI: Hydrogen Valley Platform

Annex VII: List of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform

Annex VIII: Interactive statistics section

Overall objectives and overview of tasks

Task 3 focuses on the further development, maintenance, and enhancement of the Hydrogen Facility website to solidify its position as the primary global knowledge hub for hydrogen flagship projects. The Task is structured into four key areas: new onboarding of and maintaining of contact to Hydrogen Valley projects (Task 3.1), ensuring stable and secure technical operation (Task 3.2), introducing new features and enriched content across all platform sections (Task 3.3), and promoting visibility and stakeholder engagement through targeted outreach (Task 3.4).

This Task is split into various sub-Tasks as outlined below:

Sub-tasks	Activities
Task 3.1 – Hydrogen Valleys: Data update, quality enhancement and onboarding of additional projects The primary goal of Task 3.1 is to increase the data quality and quantity of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform. Furthermore, the number of EU Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform should be increased and the network within Hydrogen Valleys as well as between them and the Clean Hydrogen JU should be maintained and expanded .	Outreach to new and existing Hydrogen Valleys, data update and data quality review Implementation of the First Data Update Phase in June 2025 Implementation of the Second Data Update Phase in April 2026 Implementation of exclusion criteria and process
Task 3.2 – Technical maintenance of the H2V Platform The primary goal of Task 3.2 is to ensure the technical functioning of the H2V Platform , incl. up-to-date IT, cybersecurity and infrastructure environment.	H2V Platform handover Continuous technical maintenance H2V Platform hand back after end of contract
Task 3.3 – Development and implementation of new content and technical features The primary goal of Task 3.3 is to enhance the H2V Platform with improved analytics and visualisations, better features and new content, thereby maximising user interaction and user-friendliness.	Design and implementation of a new H2V Facility website structure Development and implementation of new overarching website features Development and implementation of new features related to the Hydrogen Valleys section Development and implementation of new features related to the PDA programme section Development and implementation of new features related to the H2V Knowledge Centre section
Task 3.4 – Communication strategy and execution for the promotion of the H2V Platform The primary goal of Task 3.4 is to develop and execute a detailed communication strategy to raise awareness, share developments, and disseminate results related to the H2V Facility. By doing so, the H2V Platform should be established as the go-to platform for the hydrogen sector.	Development of communication and promotion activities for the H2V Platform Execution of communication and promotion activities

Completed activities
 Ongoing activities

Figure 37: Overview of sub-tasks and activities of Task 3

Task 3.1 focuses on the Hydrogen Valleys, thereby aimed to both increasing the number of (EU) Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform and maintaining and expanding the relationship to Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform.

Task 3.2 is dedicated to the technical maintenance of the H2V Platform, thereby ensuring secure, stable, and user-friendly operations throughout the duration of the H2V Facility project.

Task 3.3 enhances the H2V Facility website in both technical and content terms, thereby, based on a restructured tripartite logic (Hydrogen Valleys, PDA programme and H2V Knowledge Centre), developing and implementing new features and up-to-date content.

Task 3.4 is dedicated to promoting the H2V Facility website and the activities and results of the H2V Facility project to a broad target audience via tailored communication activities.

Overall timeline for Task 3

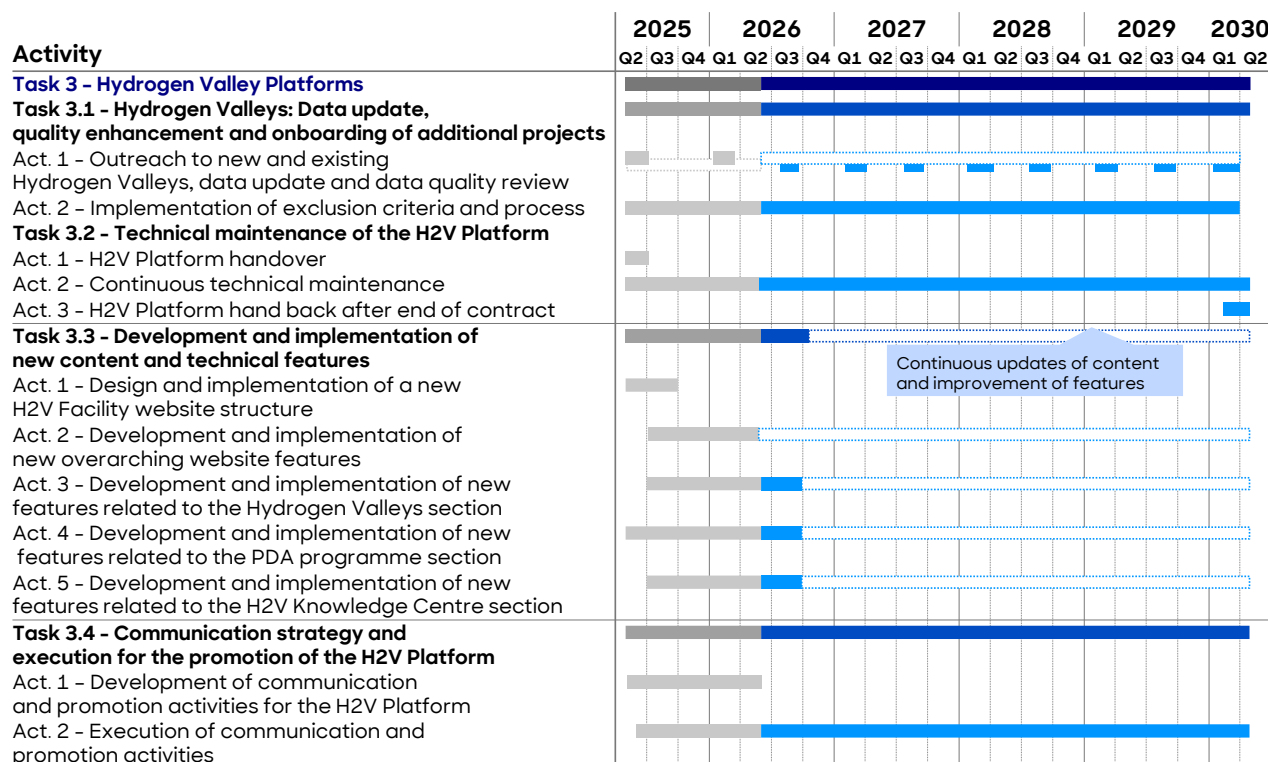


Figure 38: Timeline for the delivery of Task 3 (H2V Facility website)

Task 3.1: Hydrogen Valleys: Data update, quality enhancement and onboarding of additional projects

Objectives

The overarching objective of Task 3.1 is to further develop the H2V Facility website into a reliable, comprehensive, and up-to-date reference website for flagship hydrogen projects in particular in the European Union and, pending the final alignment with the Clean Hydrogen JU, globally.

This is achieved by expanding Hydrogen Valley project coverage, improving data quality, and onboarding new Hydrogen Valleys with a particular focus on the EU. The specific objectives of Task 3.1 include:

- Continuous identification and onboarding of eligible new Hydrogen Valleys
- Regular re-engagement with existing Hydrogen Valleys for data validation and update on recent project progress and ongoing developments
- Enhancement of data completeness and quality via a structured data quality review, also based on the direct engagement with Hydrogen Valley coordinators, and the implementation of a six-month update cycle
- Monitoring of project progress with a particular focus on the EU and implementation of exclusion criteria to ensure that the website reflects only active and relevant Hydrogen Valleys

Overview of Activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 3.1 is structured into the following two activities:

- **Activity 1:** Outreach to new and existing Hydrogen Valleys, data update and data quality review
- **Activity 2:** Implementation of exclusion criteria and process

Activity 1: Outreach to new and existing Hydrogen Valleys, data update and data quality review

This activity is centred around the continuous outreach to and interaction with new and existing Hydrogen Valleys with a focus on the EU, as well as its follow-up activities regarding the data provided by the Hydrogen Valleys. On a biannual basis, two data update cycles are conducted throughout the entire duration of the H2V Facility project. The data update cycles follow a consistent methodology comprising targeted outreach to existing and newly identified Hydrogen Valleys, a structured data quality review and a formal decision process on inclusions and exclusions in close alignment with the Clean Hydrogen JU.

In the reporting period of this First Intermediary Progress Report, two data update cycles were completed (in June/July 2025 and in March/April 2026). Furthermore, a set of continuous engagement and onboarding activities was carried out. As a combined result of both cycles, the Hydrogen Valley section grew from 98 registered Hydrogen Valleys at the start of the project to 106 Hydrogen Valleys by end of April 2026 – the first time in the website's history that the number of registered projects exceeded 100 was after the Data Update in June 2025 with 101 Hydrogen Valleys on h2v.eu.

1. Implementation of the First Data Update Phase

The first biannual data update cycle was initiated in June 2025 and concluded in August 2025. This section describes the outreach approach and target groups contacted, the data quality review process applied to submitted questionnaires, the formal decision taken jointly with the Clean Hydrogen JU on the inclusion and exclusion of Hydrogen Valleys, and the subsequent publication of updated and newly onboarded Valley profiles on the H2V Platform.

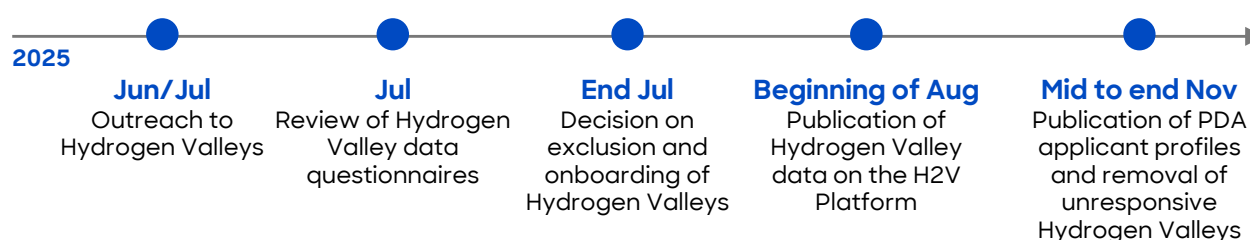


Figure 39: Timeline of the first data update phase (2025)

Outreach to Hydrogen Valleys (June/July 2025)

The first biannual data update of the H2V Facility project was initiated in June 2025. The outreach was broad and holistic in scope, addressing two distinct target groups simultaneously: all existing Hydrogen Valleys already registered on the H2V Platform, contacted with a request to validate and update their project data, and a substantial number of newly identified European hydrogen projects not yet featured on the platform, contacted with an invitation to join.

The newly identified projects were sourced from multiple complementary channels: Clean Hydrogen JU-funded projects not yet featured on the platform, projects that had proactively reached out via the dedicated mailbox since the last update cycle in mid-2024, and projects newly identified through internal screening using Roland Berger's proprietary Global Hydrogen Project Database and additional desk research.

Each newly identified project was screened against the platform's definition and eligibility criteria prior to outreach. As agreed with the Clean Hydrogen JU, the outreach to new projects was limited to European Hydrogen Valleys; no new international projects were actively targeted in this cycle.

Personalised e-mail communication to existing and new Hydrogen Valleys

Long-list of new and existing valleys incl. information on contact details



Be recognised as a global hydrogen pioneer

Dear Hydrogen Valley,

We are pleased to have nominated the <https://www.hydrogenvalleys.eu/> platform as the central communication, management and information resource for all registered Hydrogen Valleys. By joining the Hydrogen Valley network, you can gain access to a global network of leading hydrogen valleys, and to a constantly growing list of strategic partners. To be successful in the global hydrogen market, you need to be visible and active in the network.

If you are not the contact person in this matter, please forward the email to a corresponding representative of your organisation.

Why join the platform?

- **Global visibility:** Be visible to all leading hydrogen valleys, public and private, across the entire hydrogen value chain, and gain visibility, resources and partnerships in your sector.
- **Network and learn:** Exchange ideas and experiences with other valleys, learn from their successes and share your own.
- **Connect and collaborate:** Create new partnerships and explore international business opportunities through our members only tools and workshops.
- **Highlight your profile:** Highlight your profile and the success stories of your valley.
- **Benefit from the platform:** Benefit from the platform and the success stories of your valley.

About the Hydrogen Valley Platform

The Hydrogen Valley Platform was established in 2021 by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, a European Union public-private partnership, and is supported by Roland Berger, Wiering and Neugebauer. It is part of the Mission for a Climate Neutral Europe, which aims to accelerate the development of clean hydrogen technologies and create a sustainable hydrogen economy.

The platform's objective is to provide hydrogen "valleys" (hydrogen valleys) and other stakeholders with a centralised platform for exchanging information, sharing best practices, and collaborating on projects.

How to join the platform

To join the platform, you need to complete an online questionnaire and your profile and activities, and submit them to the platform. The platform will then review your profile and activities, and if they meet the criteria, you will be added to the platform.

Access and personal link to the questionnaire

- **Access:** <https://www.hydrogenvalleys.eu/>
- **Personal link:** <https://www.hydrogenvalleys.eu/valley/your-valley>

Feedback and support

If you have any questions or need support, please contact us at info@hydrogenvalleys.eu.

What's a profile?

A profile is a short description of your valley and its activities, which you can update at any time.



Figure 40: Personalised e-mail communication and long-list of new and existing valleys (tracking excel)

All target groups were contacted via targeted, personalised email communication, designed to reflect the unique context and previous engagement history of each project. The initial outreach deadline was set to June 20, 2025, followed by two deadline extensions – to July 7 and July 18 – communicated to all contact persons who remained unresponsive by the respective deadlines. Throughout the month of July, additional follow-up communication was conducted via phone and tailored emails to additional contact persons where available. The formal exclusion criteria were prominently communicated as part of all follow-up messaging to incentivise responses.

Responses and data submissions were closely monitored and managed through a dedicated tracking Excel file, which served as the single source of truth for monitoring feedback status, submission progress, and profile readiness across the full portfolio of contacted Hydrogen Valleys.

Review of Hydrogen Valley data questionnaires (July 2025)

Following the outreach phase, the data questionnaires submitted by Hydrogen Valleys – both by existing valleys updating their profiles and by newly onboarded projects – were subjected to a structured data quality review. This review was conducted for each submission to validate completeness, consistency and plausibility of the provided information.

Where irregularities, incomplete entries, or potential errors were identified, the respective Hydrogen Valley representatives were contacted directly for clarification. All findings from the review process were systematically documented in a data quality tracking Excel file, which recorded for each data field whether the information had been provided (Yes/No) and its classification as confidential or publicly visible (Yes-Yes / Yes-No).

The data quality review was designed to ensure that only accurate, complete and up-to-date information was published on the website, thereby maintaining the website's credibility as the primary global reference for Hydrogen Valley data.

Decision on exclusion and onboarding of Hydrogen Valleys (July 2025)

The results of the first data update cycle were presented to the Clean Hydrogen JU in the operational Jour-Fixe on July 22, 2025, at which all formal decisions on inclusions and exclusions were taken. Starting from 98 registered Hydrogen Valleys, a net total of 12 new Hydrogen Valleys were added to the platform, while 12 existing Hydrogen Valleys were removed on the basis of the formal exclusion criteria and process described in Activity 2. As a result of this first cycle, the H2V Platform reached 100 registered Hydrogen Valleys – the first time in the platform's history that this milestone was achieved, as illustrated in the figure below.

Publication of Hydrogen Valley data on h2v.eu (August 2025)

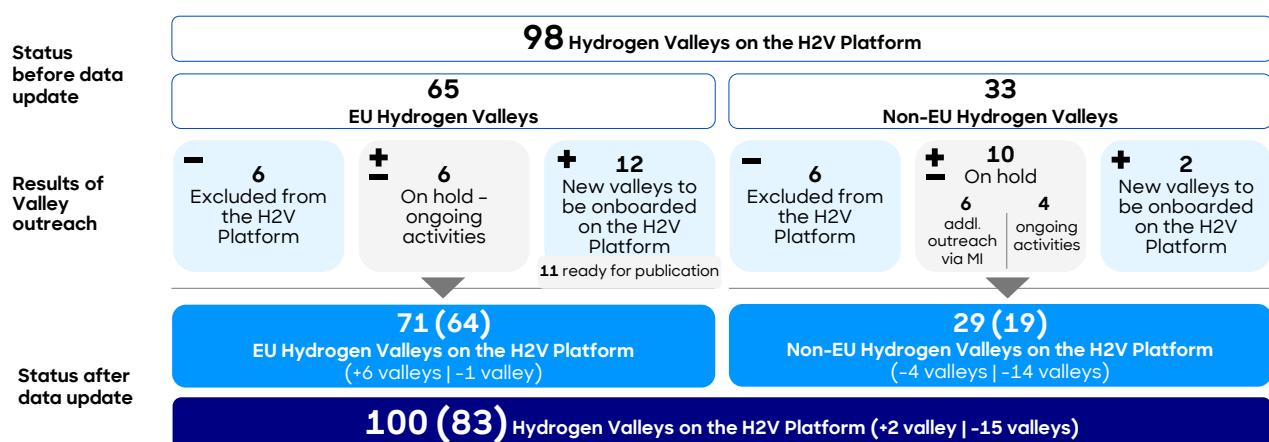


Figure 41: Results of first data update of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Facility website

Following the Clean Hydrogen JU's decision on July 22, 2025, the publication of the updated and newly onboarded Hydrogen Valley profiles on the H2V Facility website was initiated. By early August 2025, the Hydrogen Valleys to be excluded were removed from the website, and the 13 newly onboarded Hydrogen Valleys were published. The official communication announcing the new EU Hydrogen Valleys followed by mid-September 2025.

In parallel, follow-up communication activities were conducted:

- Hydrogen Valleys that had submitted updated profiles received a thank-you email that also promoted the newly launched PDA programme and included a link to the PDA landing page
- Newly published Hydrogen Valleys received an onboarding email informing them of their publication, outlining next steps, and introducing the PDA programme
- Suitable PDA candidates among the newly onboarded valleys were targeted via direct phone outreach to encourage applications

Publication of PDA applicant profiles and removal of unresponsive Hydrogen Valleys (November 2025)

Following the first data update cycle concluded in June 2025 and in connection with the launch of the first PDA cohort in autumn 2025, a further publication and removal exercise was conducted on the H2V Facility website in November 2025.

As part of the First Call for Applications for PDA support (launched July 11, 2025, with submission deadline September 19, 2025), a total of 36 Hydrogen Valley projects had applied for PDA support. Among these applicants, 12 Hydrogen Valley projects had not yet been featured on the H2V Facility website. In order to ensure that all PDA beneficiaries and applicants were appropriately visible on the website, Roland Berger conducted a targeted onboarding process for these projects in parallel with the evaluation phase of the first Call for Applications. In addition, BotH2nia - a Hydrogen Valley that had been in the onboarding process since the July 2025 data update cycle but had not yet completed its questionnaire at the time of the August 2025 publication - successfully finalised its submission and was onboarded to the platform in this cycle.

The following 12 new Hydrogen Valleys (PDA applicants) together with BotH2nia were published on the H2V Platform in November 2025:

Valley Name	Country	Lead Developer
Hydrogen Valley Anklam	Germany	ENERTRAG SE
H2SUD Vallée	France	Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

HydrogER	Italy	Hera Spa
H2 Nexus Nodes	Ireland	Lagan Energy Engineering
COMPOSTILLA GREEN	Spain	PERSUS POWER, S.L.
Transylvania Hydrogen Valley	Romania	Municipality of Cluj-Napoca
TAJUÑA H2	Spain	DEMETER SUN, S.L.
HyNA Hydrogen Valley	France	Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine
Coast 2 Coast	UK	East Midlands Pipeline Ltd
H2V Rasina Hydrogen Valley	Serbia	H2V Rasina
H2Milk Wales	UK	Green Gauntlet Ltd
GreenWest PtX	Ukraine	LLC "UDPR Hydrogen
BotH2nia	Finland/Sweden	Merinova

Table 10: New Hydrogen Valleys onboarded in November 2025

At the same time, the 10 non-EU Hydrogen Valleys that had been placed on hold following the June 2025 outreach - due to continued unresponsiveness despite multiple follow-up attempts, including outreach via Mission Innovation - were formally removed from the H2V Platform in accordance with the exclusion criteria and process described in Activity 2. These projects had remained uncontactable through all available channels over a period of multiple months, triggering the formal exclusion process.

Following these changes, the H2V Platform comprised a total of 101 Hydrogen Valleys as announced during the EU Hydrogen Research & Innovation Days held on 24–25 November 2025.

2. Implementation of the Second Data Update Phase

The second biannual data update cycle was initiated in March 2026 and concluded with the publication of updated profiles in May 2026, coinciding with the relaunch of the revamped H2V Platform. This section follows the same structure as the first cycle, describing the outreach approach, the data quality review, the formal inclusion and exclusion decisions taken with the Clean Hydrogen JU, and the publication of results – with particular reference to the first-time use of the fully redesigned Hydrogen Valley data questionnaire, described in detail under Task 3.3.

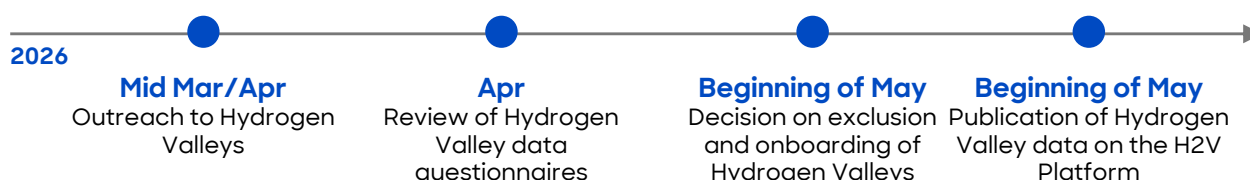


Figure 42: Timeline of the second data update phase (2026)

Outreach to Hydrogen Valleys (March and April 2026)

The second biannual data update cycle was initiated in March 2026, with the formal outreach communication sent to all Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform on March 16, 2026. This cycle was of particular significance as it marked the first use of the fully redesigned Hydrogen Valley data questionnaire, which is described in detail under Task 3.3. In contrast to previous update cycles, all registered Hydrogen Valleys were required to complete both the newly structured fixed characteristics questionnaire and the biannual status update and market sentiment questionnaire.

The communication approach was specifically tailored to explain the rationale for the new questionnaire structure and to highlight the practical benefits for participating Hydrogen Valleys, including improved profile visibility on the revamped H2V Platform and inclusion in upcoming Hydrogen Valleys flagship reports. The outreach communication was sent via the functional Roland Berger email address (hydrogenvalleys@rolandberger.com).

The outreach was addressed to two distinct target groups: all 101 existing Hydrogen Valleys registered on the H2V Platform, invited to update their profiles using the new questionnaire, and a substantial number of newly identified European Hydrogen Valley projects invited to join the platform.

For non-responding contacts, weekly follow-up emails were sent throughout March and April 2026, supplemented by direct phone outreach to Hydrogen Valley representatives in April. For valleys that did not submit their questionnaire within the extended deadline, Roland Berger conducted a manual data transfer based on previously available information and publicly accessible sources.

Review of Hydrogen Valley data questionnaires (April 2026)

Following submission, all completed questionnaires were subjected to a structured data quality review. Given the introduction of the redesigned questionnaire with entirely new data fields and question categories, this review required particular attention to ensure that responses were complete, plausible and consistent with the revised data model.

Where entries were missing, implausible, or inconsistent with previously submitted information, the respective Hydrogen Valley contacts were proactively approached for clarification. The review was documented in a dedicated tracking tool, serving as the single source of truth for monitoring submission progress and data quality across the full portfolio. A rolling review process was applied, meaning quality checks were conducted immediately after each individual submission rather than in batch.

The large majority of existing Hydrogen Valleys submitted their updated questionnaire directly; for the small number of non-responsive valleys, Roland Berger conducted a manual data transfer based on previously available information.

Decision on exclusion and onboarding of Hydrogen Valleys (May 2026)

The consolidated results of the second data update cycle were presented to the Clean Hydrogen JU for formal alignment. As in the first cycle, all decisions on the inclusion of new Hydrogen Valleys and the removal of existing projects were taken jointly with the Clean Hydrogen JU, following the formal exclusion criteria and process described in Activity 2.

The following 12 new Hydrogen Valleys were published on the H2V Platform in May 2026:

Valley Name	Country	Lead Developer
HYCELAND	Iceland	Olis
NorthSea Hydrogen Valley Ports	Netherlands	New Energy Coalition
HiWhyV	Sweden	RISE Research Institutes
LtA / Lighter than Aire	UK	HydraB
H2B-IMPACT	Germany	Ministry of Economic Affairs
Moravian-Silesian H2 Cluster	Poland	MS Hydrogene cluster
H2EART	Germany	Foundation demo
Catalina	Spain	CI ETF I RENATO PTX HOLDCO
HOST PtX Esbjerg	Denmark	CIP
Th2ECO	Germany	Ferngas Netzgesellschaft
Arctio Hydrogen Ecosystem	Finland	Business Tornio Oy
Luco Eco Fuels	Portugal	Prointop

Table 11: New Hydrogen Valleys onboarded in May 2026

In this cycle, 7 Hydrogen Valleys were removed from the H2V Platform.

The 12 new Hydrogen Valleys approved for onboarding covered a geographically diverse set of projects from across Europe and beyond, including projects from Iceland, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Denmark, Finland and Portugal.

Publication of data on the H2V Platform (May 2026)

The updated and newly onboarded Hydrogen Valley profiles were published on the H2V Platform in conjunction with the launch of the revamped H2V Platform on May 6, 2026 – timed to coincide with the Hydrogen Valley Days 2026 in Antwerp, providing a high-visibility moment for announcing the platform's milestone of reaching 106 registered Hydrogen Valleys globally.

The updated platform statistics – including the interactive statistics toolbox based on the new questionnaire data – were simultaneously made publicly accessible as part of the platform relaunch.

Activity 2: Implementation of exclusion criteria and process

As part of the H2V Facility project, a formal exclusion criteria framework and corresponding exclusion process were defined and implemented for the first time at the outset of the project in May 2025. Prior to the H2V Facility project, no standardised mechanism existed for removing inactive, cancelled, or non-compliant Hydrogen Valleys from the H2V Platform. The introduction of this process was a deliberate step to ensure that the H2V Platform reflects only active, relevant, and ongoing Hydrogen Valley initiatives – thereby maintaining its credibility and usefulness as a global reference platform.

Definition of exclusion criteria

Four formal exclusion criteria were defined, each of which independently triggers the exclusion process upon fulfilment:

1. **Unresponsiveness** – The Hydrogen Valley contact persons have been unresponsive for 12 months (i.e., across 2 consecutive data update cycles) to requests to update their data or confirm the continued validity of existing profile information.
2. **Unavailable contact person** – The Hydrogen Valley contact person can no longer be identified through research, or through the Clean Hydrogen Partnership or Mission Innovation networks.
3. **Cancellation or indefinite pausing of the project** – The Hydrogen Valley project has been cancelled or indefinitely paused, as confirmed by the contact person or evidenced through publicly available information.
4. **Scope change** – The Hydrogen Valley project has undergone a significant change in scope such that it no longer fulfils the Hydrogen Valley criteria applied by the H2V Platform.

Definition of an exclusion process

Upon fulfilment of one or more exclusion criteria, the following sequential process is applied:

1. **Clarification of project status** – Additional desk research is conducted, supplemented by personalised email and phone outreach to all identified contact persons, with explicit reference to the applicable exclusion criteria and a defined response deadline.
2. **Additional outreach via Mission Innovation** – In cases where the first step did not yield a response or a conclusive status update, the Clean Hydrogen JU's Mission Innovation contacts are formally engaged with a request to conduct outreach to the respective Hydrogen Valley on the platform's behalf within an agreed deadline.
3. **Removal from the H2V Platform** – If the outreach and clarification activities confirm that an exclusion criterion is met – or if no response is received within the process timeline – the Hydrogen Valley is removed from the H2V Platform and its data is archived. Where a contact person has been identified, an email notification is sent confirming the removal. If publicly available information already confirms a project cancellation, removal proceeds immediately without completing steps 1 and 2.

In all cases, the exclusion criteria and process are communicated transparently to Hydrogen Valleys as part of the biannual data update outreach, and the criteria are published on the H2V Platform itself.

Implementation of the exclusion process since May 2025

Since the start of the H2V Facility project in May 2025, the exclusion criteria and process have been applied systematically across both structured data update cycles and on a rolling basis throughout the year. In total, 29 Hydrogen Valleys have been removed from the H2V Platform on the basis of this process:

- 12 Hydrogen Valleys removed following the first data update cycle (August 2025), comprising 6 EU and 6 non-EU projects whose cancellation, opt-out, or non-compliance with Valley criteria was confirmed during the June/July 2025 outreach
- 10 non-EU Hydrogen Valleys removed in November 2025, following continued unresponsiveness across all outreach channels including via Mission Innovation, triggering the formal exclusion after two consecutive failed outreach attempts
- 7 Hydrogen Valleys removed following the second data update cycle (April/May 2026), including projects that had been voluntarily withdrawn, placed indefinitely on hold, or were found to no longer meet the Hydrogen Valley criteria

Continued application of the exclusion process

The exclusion criteria and process established under this activity will continue to be applied on a rolling basis throughout the remaining duration of the H2V Facility project. Every biannual data update cycle will include a formal review of non-responding and at-risk Hydrogen Valleys against the four exclusion criteria, with decisions on removals taken jointly with the Clean Hydrogen JU following the defined process. This ensures that the H2V Platform remains an accurate and up-to-date reflection of the active global Hydrogen Valley landscape at all times.

Task 3.2: Technical maintenance of the H2V Platform

Objectives

Task 3.2, the technical maintenance of the H2V Platform throughout the entire duration of the H2V Facility project, aims to ensure the secure, stable, and user-friendly operation of the H2V Platform.

Specific objectives include:

- Maintenance of the H2V Platform functionality and security, including regular Drupal updates and bug fixes
- Management of a seamless hand back of the H2V Platform, with full documentation, training, and transfer of responsibilities to ensure continuity post-contract

Overview of activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 3.2 is structured into the following three activities:

- **Activity 1:** H2V Platform handover
- **Activity 2:** Continuous technical maintenance
- **Activity 3:** H2V Platform hand back after end of contract

Activity 1: H2V Platform handover

In the first month of the H2V Facility project start, the H2V Platform handover process was initiated to enable the development of new content and technical features of the H2V Platform (see Task 3.3) and the start of the first data update (see Task 3.1).

The H2V Platform handover has been fully completed as of July 4th 2025, with all access rights, technical assets, and operational responsibilities successfully transferred to Inycom. This activity is hereby considered complete.

Activity 2: Continuous technical maintenance

This activity entails the continuous technical maintenance of the H2V Platform throughout the entire duration of the H2V Facility project. In addition to major upgrades and new functionalities (e.g. Drupal upgrade), daily operations and maintenance of the IT platform and infrastructure are handled.

Activity 3: H2V Platform hand back after end of contract

Shortly before the end of the H2V Facility project (at the beginning of 2030), a hand back plan of the H2V Platform will be drafted. No activities have been initiated under this activity during the reporting period, as the platform hand back is only relevant at the end of the project in 2030.

This plan's main objective is to ensure a complete and seamless transfer of knowledge, IT assets and services to the Clean Hydrogen JU representatives or a new contractor to guarantee that the service continues working.

There will be an explicit procedure regarding the hand-back of the platform after the end of the contract that will be conducted by Inycom. This includes a manual for the operation of the platform as well as a training for key Clean Hydrogen JU personnel to allow business continuity of the platform.

The hand back plan includes the following aspects:

- Estimation of needed resources and schedule of activities and notification of the teams involved in the process
- Transfer of the Knowledge Management System, incl. documents and proceedings
- Training of the Clean Hydrogen JU representatives and the receiving team
- Management of the transfer of responsibility
- Security provisions such as granting access to new contractor team and removing/revoking access to previous staff

The exact duration and start dates are to be defined in relation to the requirements and scope agreed with the Clean Hydrogen JU.

Task 3.3: Development and implementation of new content and technical features

Objectives

Task 3.3 aims to further develop and enhance the Hydrogen Valleys Platform by implementing new technical features, redesigning the platform structure, and enriching content across all key sections – Hydrogen Valleys, the PDA programme, and the H2V Knowledge Centre.

The main objectives are:

- Redesign and restructure the platform into a clear, tripartite navigation architecture covering the Hydrogen Valleys, PDA programme, and H2V Knowledge Centre sections, while enhancing overall usability through an improved visual design, mobile compatibility, and the integration of new news and events sections
- Expand and enrich the Hydrogen Valleys section with detailed, user-friendly profile features including multi-location mapping, project lifecycle timelines, and value chain data, complemented by the full development of the PDA programme section with dedicated applicant and beneficiary areas
- Establish the H2V Knowledge Centre as a comprehensive digital learning hub with personalised knowledge journeys, interactive tools, and a growing repository of self-service materials and reports, positioning the H2V Platform as the go-to knowledge and data hub for the global hydrogen community

All features are co-developed through iterative mock-up design (Roland Berger) and technical implementation (Inycom), ensuring alignment with JU requirements and user needs.

Overview of Activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 3.3 is structured into the following six activities:

- **Activity 1:** Design and implementation of a new H2V Facility website structure
- **Activity 2:** Development and implementation of new overarching website features
- **Activity 3:** Development and implementation of new features related to the Hydrogen Valleys section
- **Activity 4:** Development and implementation of new features related to the PDA programme section
- **Activity 5:** Development and implementation of new features related to the H2V Knowledge Centre section

Activity 1: Design and implementation of a new H2V Facility website structure

Prior to the start of the H2V Facility project, the H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu) served primarily as a showcase and information hub for Hydrogen Valley projects worldwide. With the launch of the H2V Facility in May 2025, the website's scope expanded significantly: in addition to the established Hydrogen Valleys section, two entirely new pillars were to be integrated – a dedicated PDA programme section and a H2V Knowledge Centre section. This required a fundamental redesign of the website's information architecture, navigation logic, and visual structure.

Development of the new website structure (July/August 2025)

The design of the new structure of the www.h2v.eu website was developed in July and August 2025, in close collaboration between Roland Berger and Inycom. During this phase, Roland Berger developed detailed mock-ups with content descriptions and navigation logic, which Inycom subsequently implemented in a sandbox environment. The new structure was iteratively reviewed and refined through joint working sessions between Roland Berger, Inycom, and the Clean Hydrogen JU, ensuring alignment with JU requirements and user needs at every stage.

The redesigned www.h2v.eu website is built around three core sections, reflecting the three pillars of the H2V Facility:

1. **H2V Platform:** A dedicated section featuring Hydrogen Valley profiles, statistics, and aggregated data, with a differentiated presentation of EU and non-EU Valleys. This section builds on and replaces the former standalone website structure (described in more detail in Activity 3).
2. **PDA Programme:** A newly created section housing all content related to the Project Development Assistance programme, including the Call for Applications pages, the applicant's area and – following award decisions – the PDA Beneficiary Area. This section went live on July 11, 2025, in conjunction with the official launch of the First Call for Applications (described in more detail under Activity 4).
3. **H2V Knowledge Centre:** A newly created section serving as the central self-service knowledge and capacity building hub for the broader hydrogen community, hosting written knowledge products and interactive formats structured along the four content dimensions: commercial, technical, regulatory, and valley governance (described in more detail under Activity 5).

A fourth section – encompassing overarching and informative content about the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, the H2V Facility, and miscellaneous content – was also restructured, with less prominent positioning of the former Mission Innovation branding and an updated navigation architecture reflecting the new website logic.

The following table provides an overview of the new website structure and its mapping to the former website sections:

Section	Content	Former sections
Hydrogen Valleys	Valley profiles, maps, statistics, segmented by EU & non-EU	Hydrogen Valleys; Join; parts of Analysis (Statistics, Value Chain)
PDA Programme	Call for Applications, applicant area, beneficiary area, document exchange	n/a (new section)
H2V Knowledge Centre	Self-service toolkit, interactive formats, H2V Level-Up tool	Parts of Analysis (Barriers, Best Practices, Reports); Toolbox; Matchmaking
About	About the H2V Facility; Who the H2V Facility is designed for; Short introduction on the H2V Facility partners	About us

Table 12: Overview of new h2v.eu structure

The go-live of the restructured H2V Facility website represented a significant milestone in the H2V Facility project, transforming the H2V Platform from a single-purpose Hydrogen Valley showcase into a comprehensive, multi-pillar digital hub for the global Hydrogen Valley community.

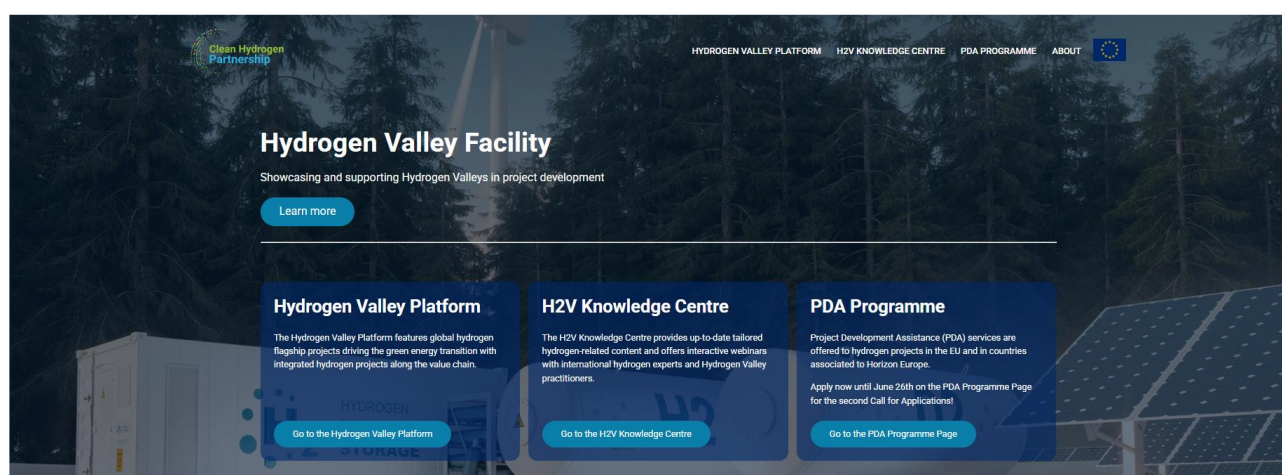


Figure 43: Redesigned landing page on h2v.eu

Activity 2: Development and implementation of new overarching website features

Building on the new tripartite website structure established under Activity 1, Activity 2 encompasses the comprehensive redesign and enhancement of the H2V Facility website overarching features – spanning the landing page, the visual design and user experience, cross-section navigation, and the introduction of dedicated news and events functionalities. These overarching features apply across all three website sections and are intended to improve discoverability, usability, and engagement for the full spectrum of H2V Facility website users.

Dedicated news sections across all three website areas

In addition to the overarching news feed on the landing page, dedicated news and update sections were integrated within each of the three core website sections, enabling targeted communication to the respective user groups:

- **Hydrogen Valleys news section:** Features updates related to specific Hydrogen Valley projects, announcements of newly onboarded Valleys, data update cycles, and relevant developments from the Clean Hydrogen Partnership's Hydrogen Valley funding activities
- **PDA Programme news section:** Provides applicants and beneficiaries with up-to-date information on Call for Applications timelines, evaluation results, PDA cohort updates, and links to newly published PDA mini case studies and the PDA Results Report

- **H2V Knowledge Centre news section:** Highlights newly published self-service knowledge materials, announcements of upcoming webinars and interactive formats, and links to recently published content nuggets and capacity building resources.

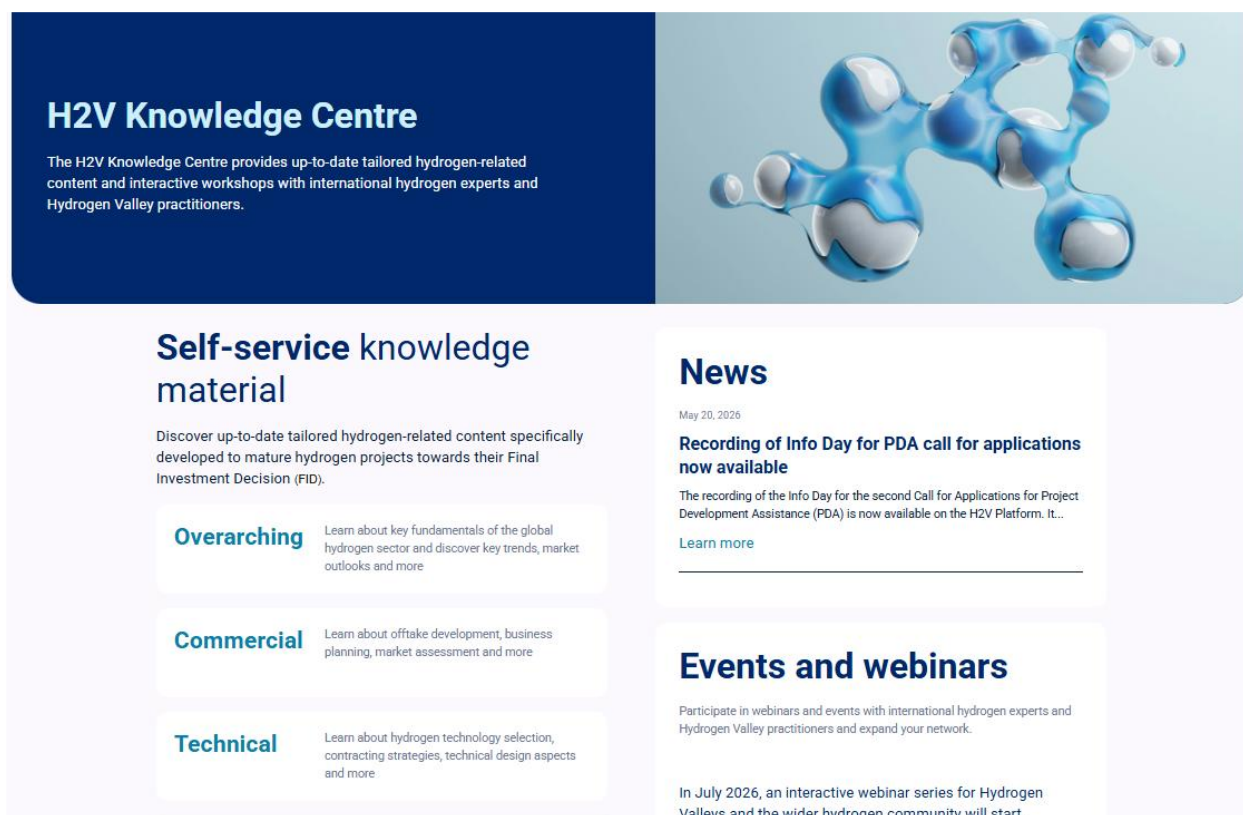


Figure 44: Dedicated news section (here shown for the H2V Knowledge Centre on the h2v.eu landing page)

New design and improvement of look & feel

The visual design of the H2V Facility website was comprehensively refreshed to deliver a modern, professional, and user-friendly experience consistent with the expanded scope and ambition of the H2V Facility. Key design improvements include:

Unified modern design language applied consistently across all sections of the website, replacing the previously fragmented visual appearance with a coherent look and feel that reinforces the H2V Facility brand identity

Tile-based and card-based layout elements in the H2V Knowledge Centre and on the H2V Facility landing page, replacing text-heavy page structures with visually clear components that allow users to quickly identify relevant content and navigate intuitively. Improved typography and colour coding to highlight key information.

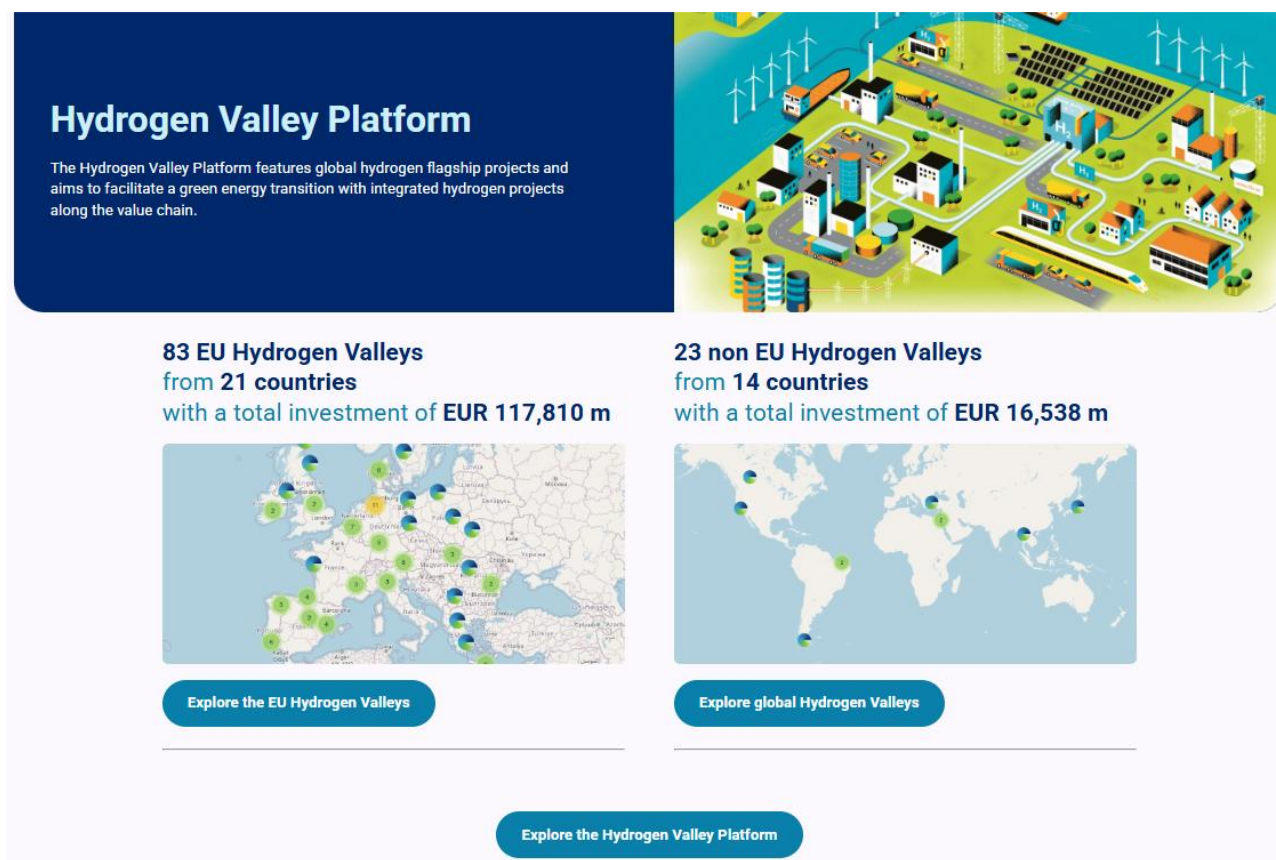


Figure 45: New tile based look & feel on overall website

Enhanced smartphone and tablet compatibility, with a fully responsive design ensuring optimal functionality across all devices; particular attention was paid to mobile navigation, touch-friendly interface elements and efficient load times for users accessing the website on mobile networks.

Review and update of the Progressive Web App (PWA) module, maintaining features such as offline capabilities, push notifications, and fast load times for returning users.

The design improvements were implemented iteratively through a collaborative process between Roland Berger and Inycom, with feedback cycles involving the Clean Hydrogen JU to ensure alignment with institutional communication standards. Matomo analytics were used throughout to identify underperforming or rarely visited sections of the website, enabling targeted design improvements where user engagement was found to be low.

Activity 3: Development and implementation of new features related to the Hydrogen Valleys section

The Hydrogen Valleys section of the H2V Platform underwent a comprehensive redesign and enhancement throughout the reporting period, delivered in two phases – an initial relaunch in October 2025 and a full revamp in May 2026. This section describes the implementation of the new Hydrogen Valleys landing page, the development and deployment of the fully redesigned data questionnaire, and the major revamp of the Hydrogen Valleys section itself, covering the redesigned Valley profiles, the new Valley list and overview, and the interactive statistics toolbox.

1. Implementation and go-live of the new Hydrogen Valley Platform landing page

As part of the broader website relaunch, the Hydrogen Valleys section of the H2V Facility website received a fully redesigned, dedicated landing page. The H2V Platform section was relaunched in two phases: a

first relaunch in October 2025 introducing the new tripartite website structure and Hydrogen Valleys section, and a comprehensive second relaunch in May 2026 during the Hydrogen Valleys Days incorporating the fully revamped Valley profiles, interactive statistics toolbox and data from the redesigned questionnaire (see Annex VI: Hydrogen Valley Platform).

The new section entry page provides users with a structured and visually intuitive overview of all Hydrogen Valley content available on the website, organised across five clearly signposted content tiles:

- **Hydrogen Valleys at a glance** – Directs users to the full portfolio of registered Hydrogen Valley projects, including an interactive map showing all Valley locations globally and key project characteristics
- **Interactive statistics** – Links to the H2V Platform's interactive statistics toolbox, enabling users to explore and customize data views across the full Valley database by combining different data fields, visualizations, and filter options
- **Reports** – Provides access to flagship reports published by the Hydrogen Valley Platform, offering users an in-depth overview of activities, results, and key insights into hydrogen valley development across the website's featured projects
- **Join us** – Provides information and guidance for Hydrogen Valley projects wishing to apply for inclusion on the website
- **Matchmaking** – Enables registered Hydrogen Valleys and other stakeholders to get in touch and connect with one another through the website's matchmaking functionality

A prominent Sign In button is positioned in the left-hand navigation panel, ensuring easy and immediate access for registered Hydrogen Valley representatives to their project profiles and the data submission area.

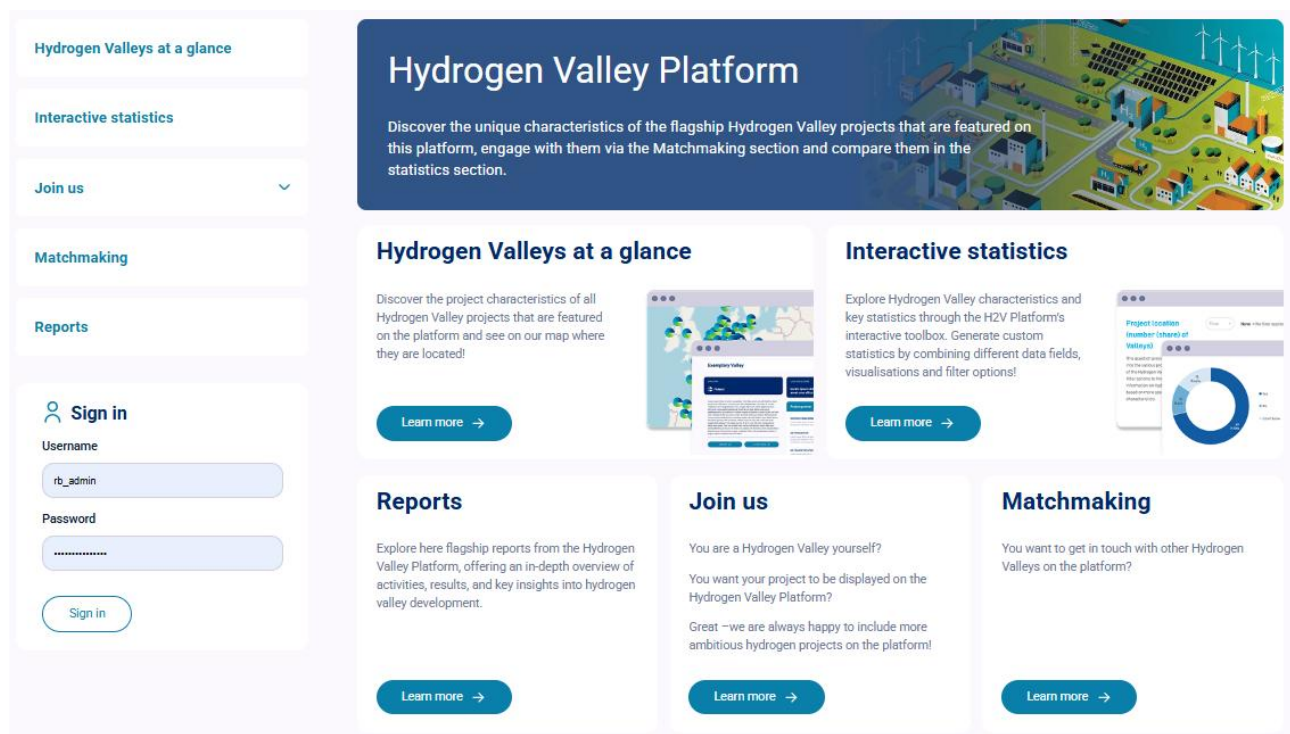


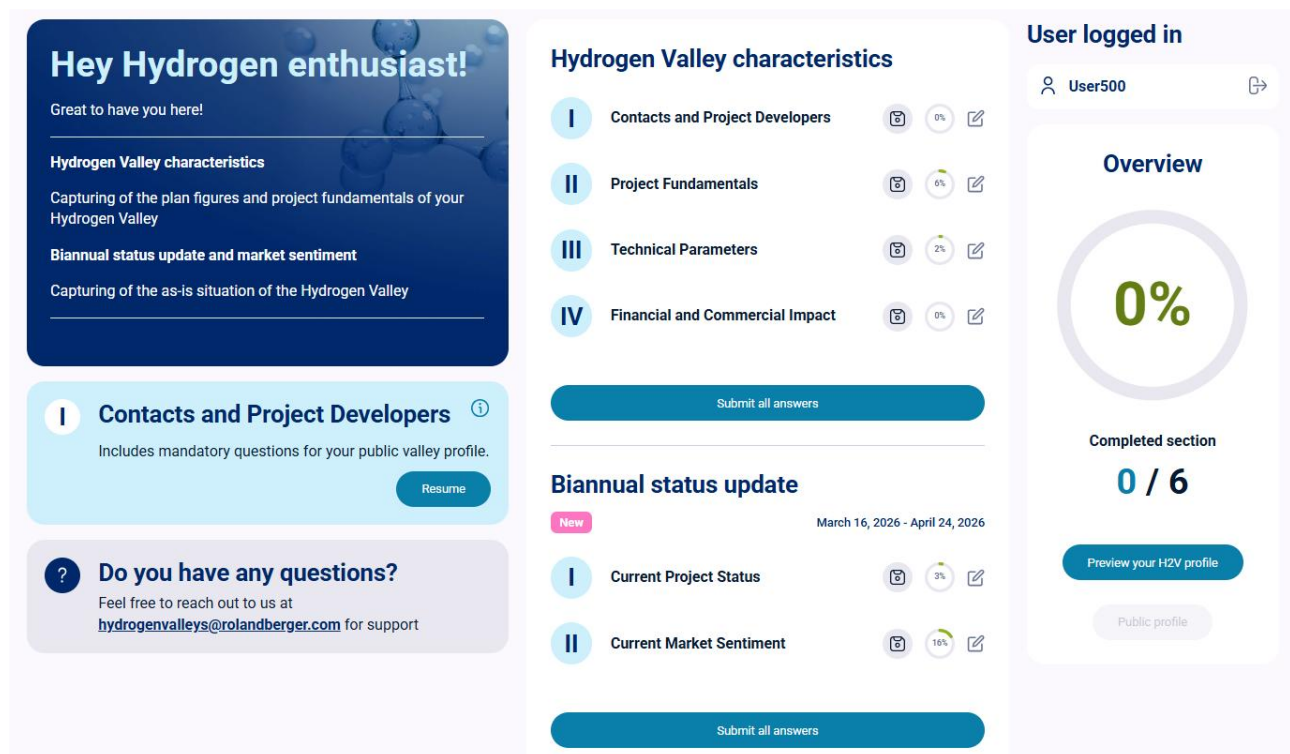
Figure 46: New Hydrogen Valley Platform landing page

2. Implementation of the new data questionnaire

A central component of the enhancement of the Hydrogen Valleys section was the complete redesign of the underlying Hydrogen Valley data questionnaire – the structured survey through which registered

Hydrogen Valleys provide and update their project data. The previous questionnaire had grown over several years into a lengthy and partially inconsistent data collection instrument that did not adequately capture the full range of project parameters relevant to the H2V Facility's analytical and reporting needs.

The redesign process commenced in August 2025, with the new questionnaire concept aligned with the Clean Hydrogen JU at the beginning of September 2025. The technical implementation by Inycom, based on detailed mock-ups and content specifications developed by Roland Berger, took place between October 2025 and March 2026. Testing and refinement were conducted in a sandbox environment before the questionnaire was deployed for the second data update cycle in March 2026.



The dashboard is divided into three main sections. On the left, a dark blue header says 'Hey Hydrogen enthusiast!' with a greeting. Below it, two sections are listed: 'Hydrogen Valley characteristics' (Capturing of the plan figures and project fundamentals of your Hydrogen Valley) and 'Biannual status update and market sentiment' (Capturing of the as-is situation of the Hydrogen Valley). The middle section, 'Hydrogen Valley characteristics', shows four sections: I. Contacts and Project Developers (0%), II. Project Fundamentals (6%), III. Technical Parameters (2%), and IV. Financial and Commercial Impact (0%). A 'Submit all answers' button is at the bottom. The right section, 'Biannual status update', shows a 'New' status and a date range of March 16, 2026 - April 24, 2026. It lists two sections: I. Current Project Status (3%) and II. Current Market Sentiment (18%). A 'Submit all answers' button is at the bottom. On the far right, a 'User logged in' section shows 'User500' and an 'Overview' section with a large '0%' progress indicator, 'Completed section 0 / 6', and buttons for 'Preview your H2V profile' and 'Public profile'.

Figure 47: Dashboard of new questionnaire

The redesigned questionnaire introduces a fundamental structural distinction between two complementary data collection instruments:

- **Fixed Hydrogen Valley Characteristics Questionnaire:** Captures the static plan figures and project fundamentals of a Hydrogen Valley. This questionnaire is to be completed once at onboarding and subsequently only updated if fundamental project parameters change. It is structured across four sections:
 - Section I – Contacts and Project Developers: Contact details of primary and back-up contacts, lead developer organisation details and project partner information
 - Section II – Project Fundamentals: Valley name and website, short project description, project locations (with support for multiple pins on the map), planned hydrogen production per build-out stage, planned milestones and main offtakers per end-use segment
 - Section III – Technical Parameters: Hydrogen colour, primary energy sourcing and renewable generation technologies, electrolyser technology and capacity per build-out stage, produced end products, planned hydrogen storage technology, planned hydrogen transport modalities, and planned end-use applications across mobility, energy and industry
 - Section IV – Financial, Commercial and Impact Parameters: Total planned CAPEX investment (with option to display as exact figure or selected range), main planned funding sources,

estimated CO₂ reduction at full build-out, and estimated number of permanent jobs in the operations phase

- **Biannual Status Update and Market Sentiment Questionnaire:** Captures the current as-is situation of the Hydrogen Valley on a biannual basis. This questionnaire is opened within a fixed time window during each data update cycle and captures dynamic indicators including the current project status and main activities, reasons for delays, CAPEX spent to date, anticipated hydrogen production cost and sales price, share of production volume with binding offtake secured, and a set of anonymised market sentiment questions on regional demand, overall project development perception, influencing factors and key success factors for reaching FID.

Hydrogen Valley characteristics

- I. Contacts and Project Developers
- II. Project Fundamentals
- III. Technical Parameters
- IV. Financial and Commercial Impact

I

Contacts and Project Developers

* This information will be displayed on your public profile to help showcase your project

I.2 Contact details of back-up project contact

This is the contact we will reach out to as a backup in case the primary contact is unavailable.

First name

Last name

Email address

Professional phone number (incl. country code)

United States (+1)

Phone number

2 / 4

Previous

Save and resume later

Next

Back to dashboard

Figure 48: New questionnaire developed - Example I (Contacts and project developers)

Biannual Update

- I. Current Project Status
- II. Current Market Sentiment

II

Current Market Sentiment

* This information will be displayed on your public profile to help showcase your project

II.3 What is your current level of confidence in the viability of H2 projects as a long-term energy solution?

Please select on the scale from 1 (very unconfident) to 5 (very confident)

1

2

3

4

5

(very unconfident)

(very confident)

Please note that your answer to this question will not appear on your individual Hydrogen Valley profile. It will only be used for the statistics section of the Hydrogen Valley Platform on an aggregated level and will not include the name of your Valley.

3 / 6

Previous

Save and resume later

Next

Back to dashboard

Figure 49: New questionnaire developed - Example II (Current market sentiment)

From a user experience perspective, the redesigned questionnaire introduces a range of improvements:

- A centralised dashboard overview enabling Hydrogen Valleys to track their completion progress across all sections at a glance
- Save and resume functionality, allowing users to save intermediate progress and return to complete their submission at a later point
- Dropdown menus and activation buttons replacing free-text fields wherever possible, reducing input effort and improving data consistency
- A profile preview feature enabling Hydrogen Valleys to review how their data will appear on the public website before submitting
- Prominent confidentiality indicators distinguishing between publicly visible and internally held data fields
- A pop-up notification alerting users to any missing fields that will appear on their public profile, with a prompt to complete or enter "N/A"
- A new export feature (currently under development, to be launched in summer 2026) allowing Hydrogen Valleys to download their complete set of submitted answers for their own documentation purposes

Answers marked with an asterisk (*) in the questionnaire appear on the public Valley profile; all other data fields are held internally and only accessible to the Clean Hydrogen JU, Roland Berger and Inycom.

To ensure coherency across data sources, a dedicated exchange took place between the H2V Platform team and the Clean Hydrogen JU prior to the launch of the redesigned questionnaire. The objective of this exchange was to align the data points collected through the H2V Platform with those gathered by the JU directly from the Hydrogen Valleys it supports – avoiding duplication, resolving definitional inconsistencies and ensuring that data collected through both instruments is mutually compatible.

The new questionnaire was used for the first time during the second data update cycle in March/April 2026, as described under Task 3.1, Activity 1. The data collected through this redesigned instrument forms the basis for all updated Hydrogen Valley profiles and the new statistics features described in the following sections.

3. Implementation of the relaunched H2V Platform website

In parallel with and building upon the new data questionnaire, the Hydrogen Valleys section of the H2V Facility website underwent a comprehensive technical and visual revamp. This revamp was developed between late 2025 and April 2026, with a phased go-live starting in October 2025 for structural elements and completing with the full relaunch of the revamped Hydrogen Valleys section on May 6, 2026, timed to coincide with the Hydrogen Valley Days 2026.

Hydrogen Valley Profiles

The individual Hydrogen Valley profile pages were comprehensively redesigned to present richer, more structured, and more visually compelling project information. Key enhancements include:

- **Multiple project locations:** Hydrogen Valleys operating across multiple sites or cross-border geographies can now display all project locations as individual pins on an embedded map, with each pin labelled by city and country. This addresses a significant limitation of the previous profile design, which only supported a single primary location
- **Redesigned project fundamentals section:** Clearly structured display of key project parameters including hydrogen colour, total planned electrolyser capacity, planned hydrogen production volume, total planned investment volume and planned end products – presented in a visually accessible card format
- **Hydrogen Value Chain section:** A structured visualisation of the Valley's coverage across the full value chain, from primary energy sourcing through hydrogen production, storage and transport, to end-

use applications. Detailed information is displayed for each value chain step, including technology types, installed or planned capacities and volumes

- **Project Timeline and Lifecycle section:** An interactive project lifecycle display presenting the Hydrogen Valley's planned milestone timeline – from project initiation through concept study, feasibility study, FEED, FID, construction start, and commercial operations date – with completed milestones marked accordingly. Current main activities from the most recent biannual status update are displayed alongside the planned timeline
- **Valley logo display:** Hydrogen Valleys can upload their project logo for display on their profile, increasing the visual identity and recognisability of individual projects
- **Links to latest press releases:** Profile pages include a dedicated section for recently published press releases or news articles related to the respective Hydrogen Valley, populated from the optional press link field in the biannual status update questionnaire

BalticSeaH2



COUNTRY

 Finland

LEAD DEVELOPER

CLIC Innovation Oy, Gasgrid Vetyverkot Oy

Project partner

Overarching / General

European Commission and local and national authorities

H2 production

P2X Solutions Oy, Helen Oy, Green North Energy Oy

H2 transportation, storage & distribution

Gasgrid Vetyverkot Oy, Helen Oy, P2X Solutions Oy, ABB Oy

H2 end use

Helen Oy, Green North Energy, P2X Solutions Oy, Rigas Brivostas Parvalde, PowerUP Fuel Cells Oy, Borealis Polymers Oy, Neste Oy

BalticSeaH2 is Europe's largest cross-border Hydrogen Valley, building an integrated hydrogen economy around the Baltic Sea. With a main valley linking southern Finland and Estonia and replication sites across the region, 40 partners from 9 countries develop the full hydrogen value chain – from production and storage to distribution and end use in industry, energy and transport – across over 20 investment cases.

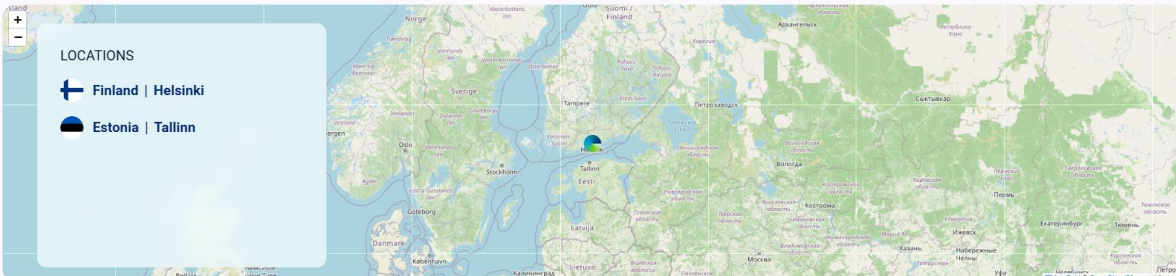
Website

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CLEANH2/OP/Contract 397 - Hydrogen Valleys Facility
First Intermediary Progress Report (Deliverable 2)

Roland Berger | 71

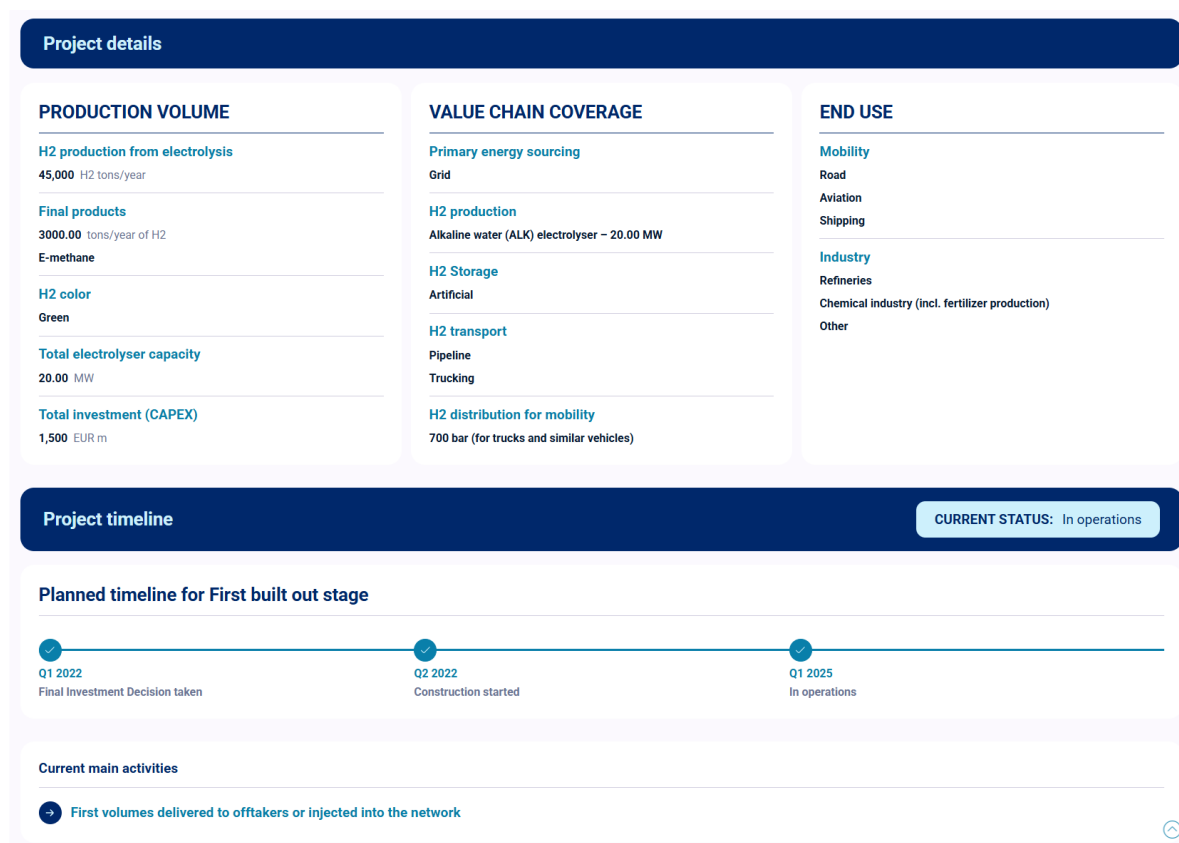


Figure 50: New design of Hydrogen Valley profiles

Hydrogen Valley list and overview

The Hydrogen Valley overview page – providing users with a browsable portfolio of all registered Hydrogen Valleys on the website – was significantly enhanced in terms of both content depth and filtering capability. Central to the redesigned overview is the interactive map, which now occupies a substantially larger and more prominent position on the page compared to the previous website version. By allocating significantly more screen space to the map element, users can immediately gain a geographic overview of the full Hydrogen Valley landscape at a glance, with individual Valley locations displayed as clickable pins. This repositioning of the map as the primary navigational and discovery element reflects the website's role as the leading global reference for integrated hydrogen project geographies (see Annex VII: List of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform).

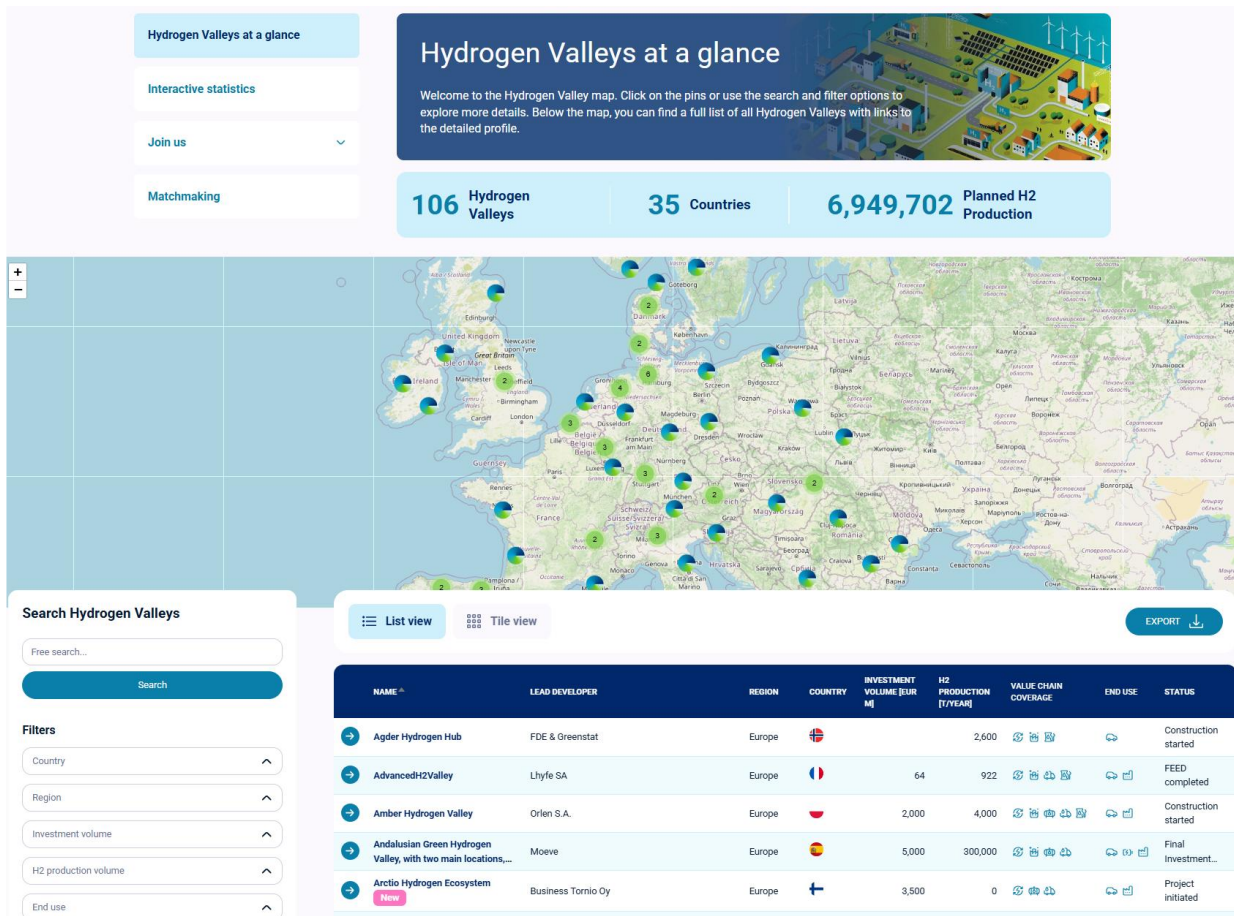


Figure 51: New design of Hydrogen Valley list and (map) overview

Additional enhancements to the overview page include:

- Multiple view modes: Users can switch between a map view, a list view, and a new tile view, each offering a different level of detail and browsing experience suited to different user needs
- Enhanced filtering and search: Advanced filter options allow users to narrow the Valley portfolio by country, EU/non-EU status, value chain coverage, investment volume range, project status and end-use sectors - enabling highly targeted exploration of the website database
- Richer information display per Valley: Each Valley entry in the list and tile views now displays a broader set of key parameters at a glance, including lead developer, region, country, investment volume, h2 production, value chain coverage, end use and status - reducing the need to navigate to individual profile pages for a high level assessment
- Enhanced visibility for newly onboarded Valleys: A dedicated new joiner indicator flag ("New") recently added Hydrogen Valleys in the overview in red, increasing their visibility and drawing attention from website visitors

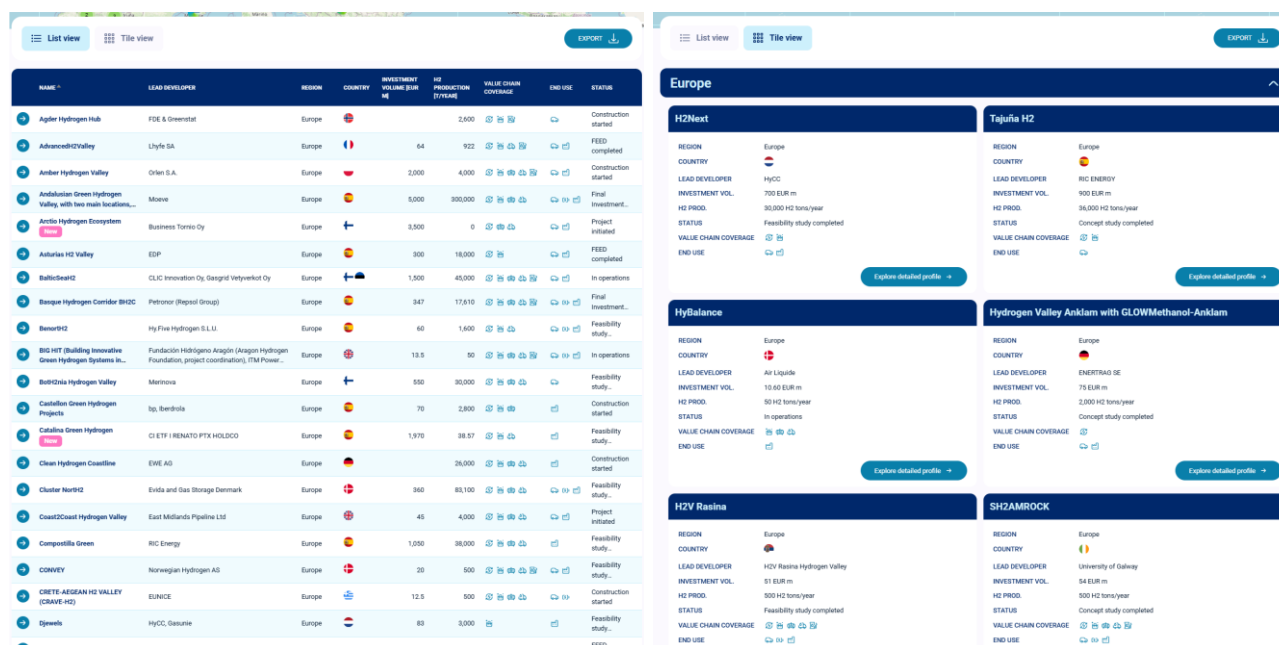


Figure 52: New design of Hydrogen Valley list and new tile view

Statistics section

The statistics section of the Hydrogen Valleys section was fundamentally redesigned, evolving from a set of static, pre-defined charts into a fully interactive, user-driven statistics toolbox. This represents the most substantial functional enhancement of the Hydrogen Valleys section revamp – and is only made possible by the introduction of the redesigned data questionnaire (described under section 2 above), which for the first time captures a comprehensive, consistently structured and machine-readable dataset across all registered Hydrogen Valleys. Without the standardised and enriched data collected through the new questionnaire, the dynamic combination and visualisation of Valley parameters at this level of granularity would not have been feasible (see Annex VIII: Interactive statistics section).

Key features of the interactive statistics toolbox include:

- User-defined data field combination: On the left-hand side of the interface, users can select up to two data fields to combine and analyze simultaneously – drawing from the full range of parameters captured in the new questionnaire, including development status, investment volumes, electrolyser capacities, hydrogen colours, end-use distribution, renewable energy sourcing technologies, and transport modalities
- Four visualisation methods: At the bottom of the interface, users can choose between four distinct chart and visualization formats – enabling them to switch between different representations of the same underlying data depending on their analytical purpose and communication needs
- EU/non-EU segmentation: All statistical views can be filtered and segmented by EU versus non-EU Hydrogen Valleys, reflecting the H2V Facility's particular focus on European project development
- Time-series capability: Building on the biannual status update questionnaire, the statistics toolbox is designed to display the evolution of key indicators over time as successive data update cycles are completed, enabling trend analysis across the growing H2V Facility website community
- Guided demo for new users: To lower the barrier to entry for first-time users, a guided demonstration was implemented directly within the statistics interface, walking new visitors through the core functionalities – including how to select data fields, switch between visualisation types, and apply filters – ensuring that the toolbox is accessible and immediately usable without prior training

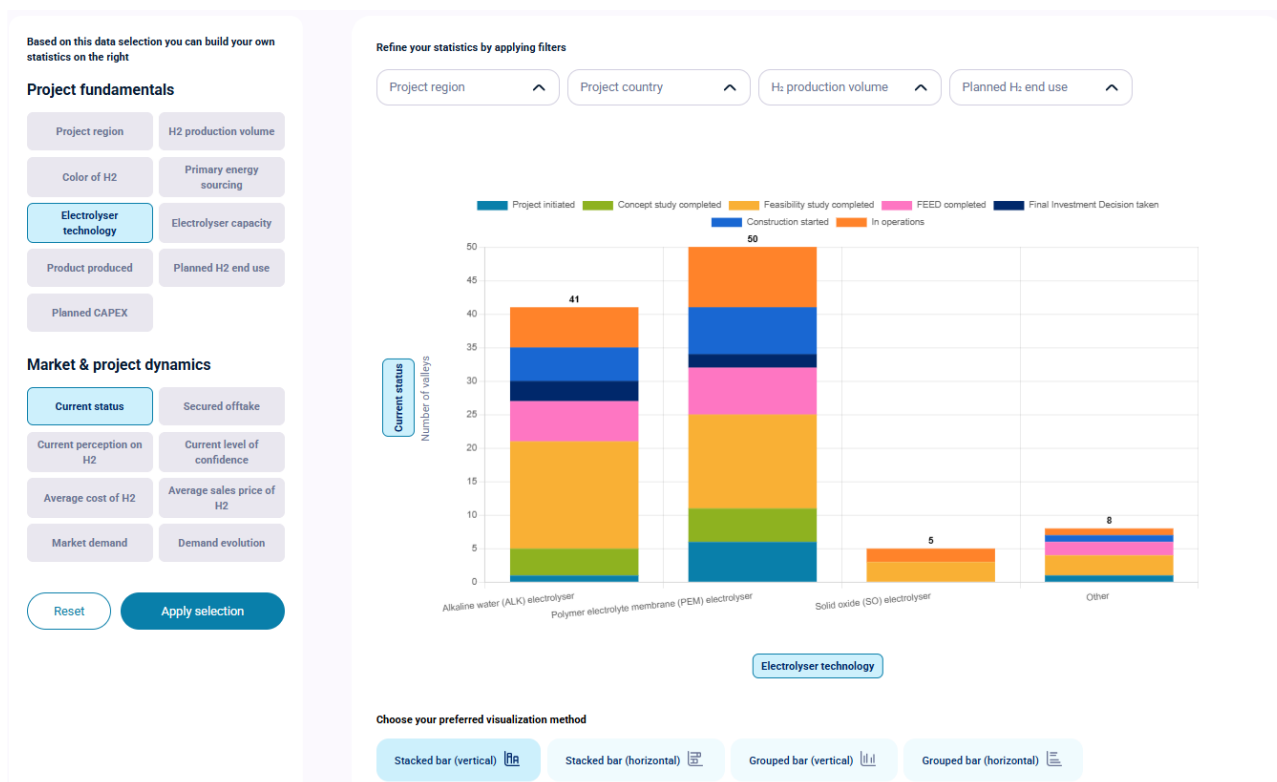


Figure 53: New self-service statistics tool

AI-powered features

In parallel with the main revamp, Inycom initiated the development and sandbox testing of AI-powered query features for the H2V Facility website's Hydrogen Valleys section. Two use cases were developed and are being tested:

- Text-based prompting: An AI agent capable of generating natural language responses to user queries based on the publicly available Hydrogen Valley database – for example, providing a summary of all Hydrogen Valleys in a specific country or with a particular end-use focus
- Analytics and visualisation prompting: An AI agent capable of generating data visualisations in response to user prompts, by dynamically combining data points from the Valley database based on the query

These features were under active testing in a sandbox environment at the time of the revamped website go-live in May 2026. A decision on full deployment and integration into the live website will be taken jointly with the Clean Hydrogen JU following the outcome of the testing phase and an alignment on the required server infrastructure and data governance requirements.

Activity 4: Development and implementation of new features related to the PDA programme section

The PDA programme section is an entirely new addition to the H2V Facility website with no predecessor in the previous website version. It was developed from the ground up to serve as the dedicated digital infrastructure for the full lifecycle of the Project Development Assistance programme - from the promotion and application phase through to the delivery and monitoring of PDA support. The section was developed iteratively between June 2025 and early 2026, with successive components going live in line with the operational milestones of the PDA programme.

Implementation of the PDA landing page

The PDA landing page was developed and went live on July 11, 2025, simultaneously with the official launch of the first Call for Applications for PDA support. It was accessible under the dedicated domain pda.h2v.eu and served as the primary public-facing entry point for all information related to the PDA programme.

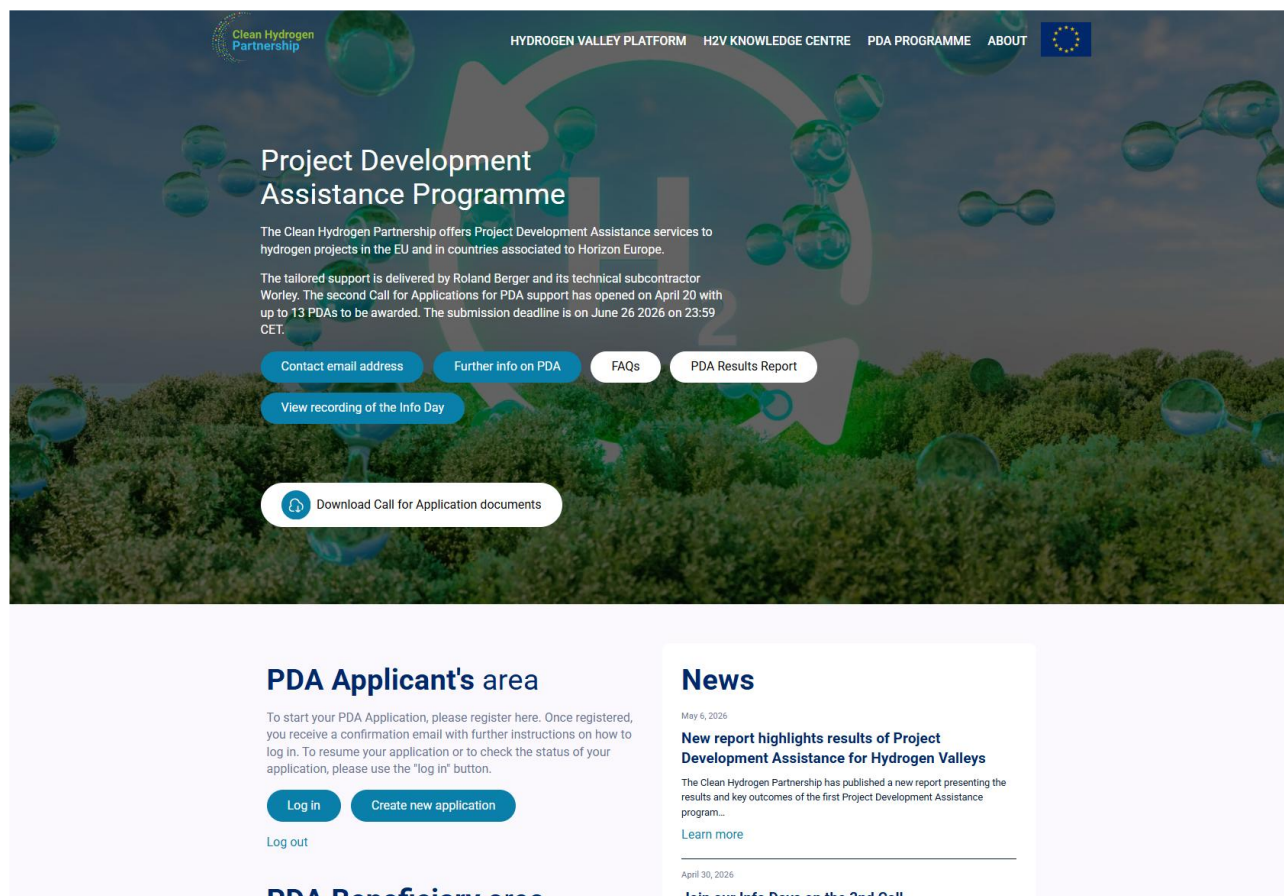


Figure 54: PDA landing page

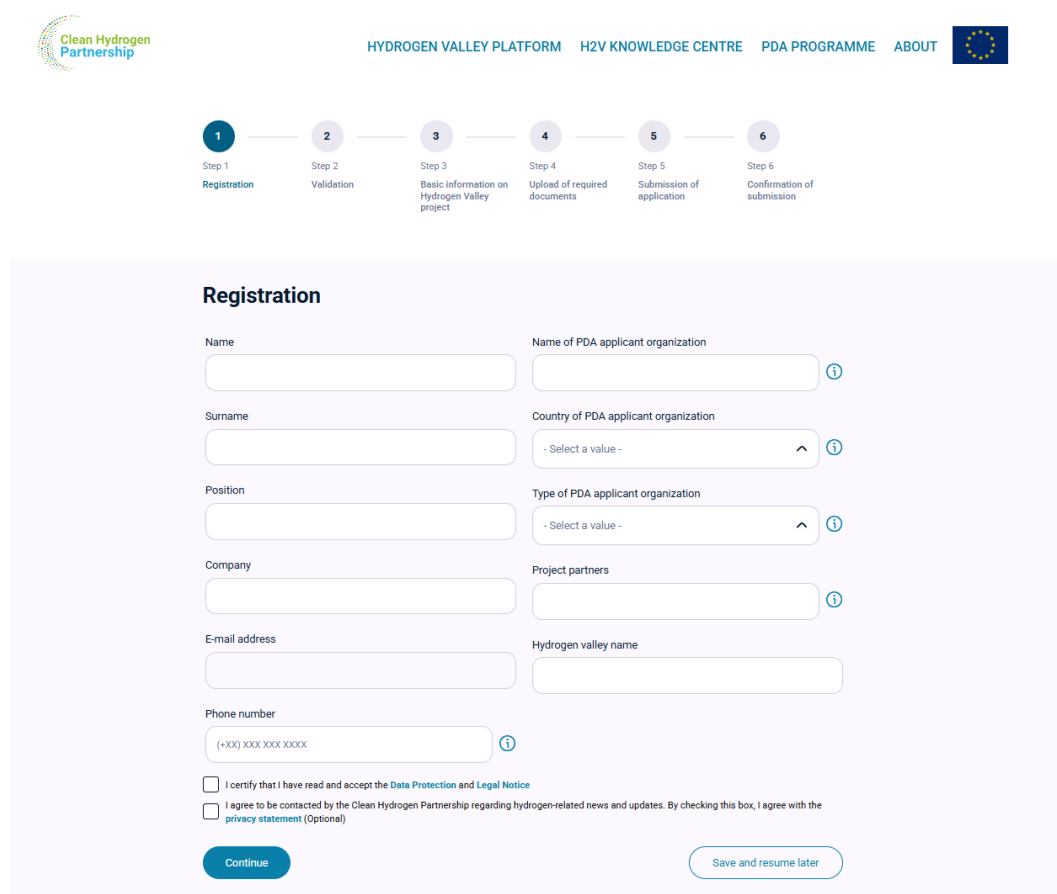
The PDA landing page was structured around the following key components:

- **Programme description:** A clear and accessible overview of the two PDA programme tracks – PDA light (six-week support) and PDA plus (twelve-week support) – including the target project maturity levels, the four PDA support dimensions (commercial, technical, regulatory, and valley governance), and the expected key deliverables for each track
- **PDA Applicant's Area:** A dedicated, password-protected application portal integrated directly within the PDA landing page, through which prospective applicants can register, enter their project information, upload required application documents, and submit their application. The PDA Applicant's Area is described in detail in the section below.
- **PDA Beneficiary Area:** A secure, restricted-access section of the PDA programme platform, accessible to Hydrogen Valleys awarded PDA support, serving as the central collaboration and document exchange environment between PDA Beneficiaries, the PDA Service Consultants, and the Clean Hydrogen JU throughout the duration of the PDA engagement. The PDA Beneficiary Area is described in detail below.
- **Call for Applications documents:** A prominent download button providing direct access to the full set of Call for Applications documents, including the Call Specifications and all four Annexes (Model Declaration for Collaboration, Application Form, Declaration of Honour, and Letter of Commitment)

- **Upcoming events and deadlines:** A dynamically updated section displaying key upcoming dates – including the submission deadline, the notification date for evaluation results, and the planned start of PDA services – ensuring applicants had immediate visibility of the programme timeline
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):** A continuously updated FAQ section consolidating all questions submitted by prospective applicants via the website's contact form, published with anonymised responses to ensure equal access to clarifications for all applicants throughout the application phase. The FAQ section was regularly expanded up until the submission deadline of September 19, 2025
- **Info Day recording and presentation:** Following each Info Day conducted in the context of the respective Call for Applications, the presentation slides and recording of the main session are made publicly available on the PDA landing page, providing an accessible reference for prospective applicants who had not attended.
- **Contact email address button:** A direct contact button enabling applicants to submit questions regarding the Call for Applications, routed to the designated contact address

Implementation of the PDA Applicant's Area

Integrated within the PDA landing page, the PDA Applicant's Area provided the dedicated online portal through which all applications for PDA support were to be submitted. The Applicant's Area was developed and implemented by Inycom based on detailed mock-ups and functional specifications provided by Roland Berger, going live on July 11, 2025.



The screenshot shows the 'Registration' form within the PDA Applicant's Area. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Clean Hydrogen Partnership logo, links for 'HYDROGEN VALLEY PLATFORM', 'H2V KNOWLEDGE CENTRE', 'PDA PROGRAMME', 'ABOUT', and the European Union flag. Below the navigation bar is a progress indicator showing six steps: 1. Registration (active), 2. Validation, 3. Basic information on Hydrogen Valley project, 4. Upload of required documents, 5. Submission of application, and 6. Confirmation of submission.

The registration form itself is titled 'Registration' and contains the following fields:

- Name (text input)
- Name of PDA applicant organization (text input with an information icon)
- Surname (text input)
- Country of PDA applicant organization (dropdown menu with an information icon)
- Position (text input)
- Type of PDA applicant organization (dropdown menu with an information icon)
- Company (text input)
- Project partners (text input with an information icon)
- E-mail address (text input)
- Hydrogen valley name (text input)
- Phone number (text input with a placeholder '(+00) XXX XXX XXXX' and an information icon)

At the bottom of the form, there are two checkboxes:

- ☐ I certify that I have read and accept the [Data Protection and Legal Notice](#)
- ☐ I agree to be contacted by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership regarding hydrogen-related news and updates. By checking this box, I agree with the [privacy statement](#) (Optional)

Below the checkboxes are two buttons: 'Continue' (in a blue rounded rectangle) and 'Save and resume later' (in a white rounded rectangle with a blue border).

Figure 55: PDA Applicant's Area

The Applicant's Area was structured as a step-by-step digital application portal comprising the following elements:

- **Registration page:** Prospective applicants registered with their contact details to create an account and gain access to the application portal. Following registration, users received an automated email confirmation and were directed to set up a password
- **Basic information on Hydrogen Valley project:** A structured form capturing key eligibility-relevant information about the Hydrogen Valley, including the country of the lead developer, the project's geographic location, and confirmation of fulfilment of the Hydrogen Valley criteria and eligibility conditions – used as a first-stage filter prior to full application submission
- **Document upload page:** A dedicated upload interface for all required application documents, including the Business Plan, Basic Technical Outline (for PDA light applicants) or Concept Study (for PDA plus applicants), Governance and Implementation Plan, signed Application Form (Annex II), signed Declaration of Honour (Annex III), and optional Letter(s) of Commitment (Annex V). All documents were required in PDF format
- **Submission page:** A final review and submission step, including a confirmation prompt reminding applicants that submitted applications could not be modified after submission, followed by an automated confirmation email upon successful submission

Following the close of the application deadline on September 19, 2025, the Applicant's Area was extended in October 2025 to include a notification section, through which applicants received their Letter of Award or Letter of Rejection following the completion of the evaluation process.

Implementation of the PDA Beneficiary Area

For Hydrogen Valleys awarded PDA support, a dedicated PDA Beneficiary Area was developed and implemented as a secure, restricted-access section of the PDA programme website. The Beneficiary Area was designed to serve as the central collaboration and document exchange environment between PDA Beneficiaries, the PDA Service Consultants (Roland Berger and Worley) and the Clean Hydrogen JU throughout the duration of the PDA engagement.

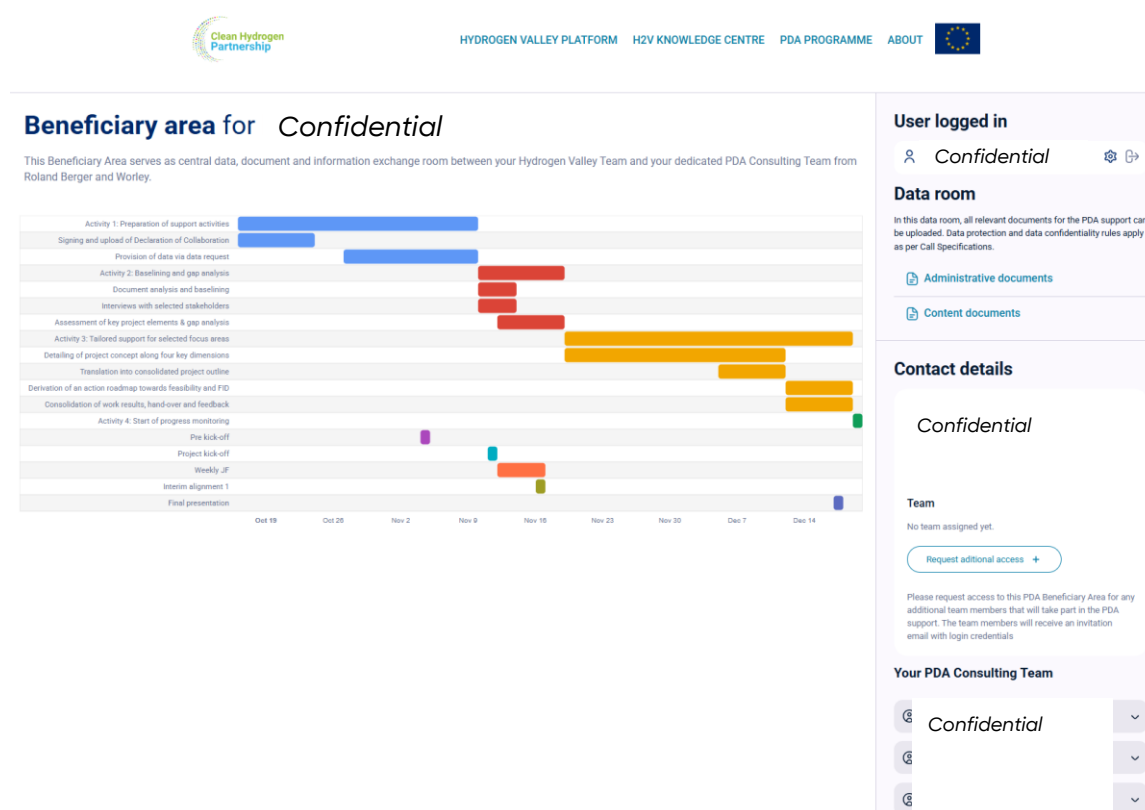


Figure 56: PDA Beneficiary Area

The PDA Beneficiary Area was structured around the following key functionalities:

- **Document signing and upload:** Successful applicants were directed to sign and upload the Declaration of Collaboration (Annex I of the Call Specifications) and any additional required legal documents within one week prior to the official start of their PDA programme
- **Data room:** A secure shared data room (compliant with relevant EU data protection and security regulation) facilitating the exchange of documents, data sets, and deliverables between the PDA Beneficiary and the PDA Service Consultants throughout the six- or twelve-week PDA engagement. Access to the data room was also granted to designated members of the Clean Hydrogen JU
- **Milestone monitoring cockpit:** A structured online monitoring form into which the key activities and milestones from the PDA-specific action roadmap - developed during the PDA engagement - were transferred. PDA Beneficiaries are required to populate this monitoring tool every six months following the end of their PDA support, reporting progress against planned milestones with status indicators ("not started", "on track", "delayed", "achieved") and brief qualitative rationale. Automated reminder emails are sent to beneficiaries two weeks before each six-month reporting deadline

The Beneficiary Area thereby ensures continuity of engagement between PDA Beneficiaries and the H2V Facility beyond the active PDA support period, enabling structured progress tracking and follow-up throughout the remaining duration of the project until May 2030.

Activity 5: Development and implementation of new features related to the H2V Knowledge Centre section

The H2V Knowledge Centre section is an entirely new addition to the H2V Facility website introduced under the H2V Facility to serve as the central self-service and interactive learning hub for the broader hydrogen community. It is structured around the four core content dimensions of the H2V Facility - commercial, technical, regulatory, and valley governance - and is designed to serve Hydrogen Valley practitioners at different project maturity levels. The section was developed iteratively between October 2025 and spring 2026, with the landing page and self-service knowledge material going live in October 2025 as part of the first website relaunch.

Implementation of the H2V Knowledge Centre landing page

The H2V Knowledge Centre landing page was developed based on detailed mock-ups provided by Roland Berger and implemented by Inycom, going live in October 2025. The landing page serves as the structured entry point to all knowledge products and interactive formats offered under the H2V Knowledge Centre, providing users with an immediate and intuitive overview of the available content and tools.

The H2V Knowledge Centre landing page is organised around the following key elements:

- **Five content dimension tiles:** The landing page is structured around the four core content dimensions - commercial, technical, regulatory, and valley governance - each represented by a dedicated tile with a brief description and a "Learn more" button linking to the respective content section. This structure mirrors the four dimensions of the PDA programme, ensuring consistency across the H2V Facility's knowledge and support offering. Additionally there is an overarching dimension about key fundamentals of the global hydrogen sector.
- **Events and upcoming interactive formats:** A prominently displayed events calendar listing all upcoming webinars, collective action workshops, and PDA experience sessions, with direct registration links where applicable
- **News section:** A dynamically updated news feed featuring the latest knowledge content uploads, newly published self-service materials, and announcements related to the H2V Knowledge Centre's interactive formats

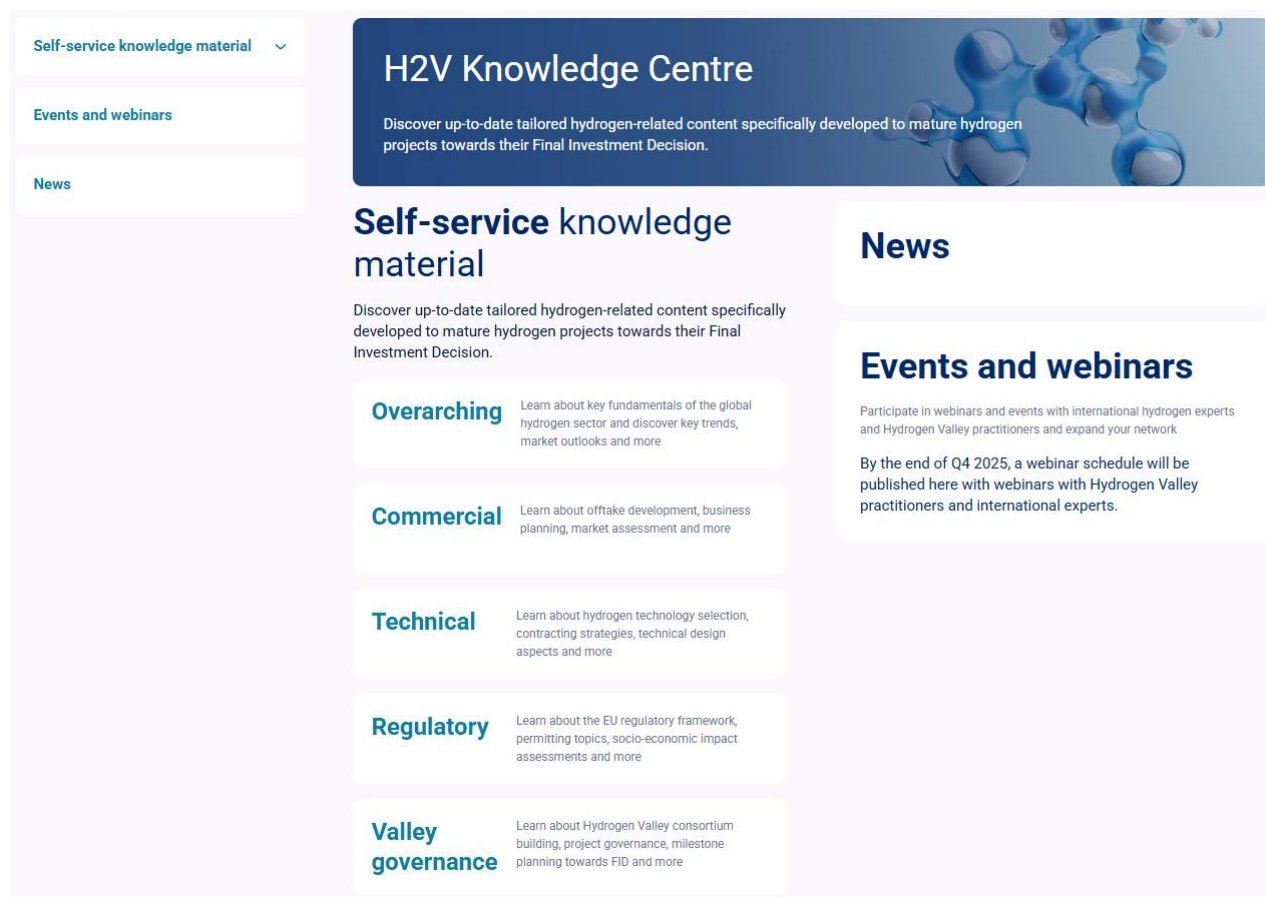


Figure 57: H2V Knowledge Centre

Implementation of the self-service knowledge material section

The self-service knowledge material section constitutes the written, document-based pillar of the H2V Knowledge Centre. It provides Hydrogen Valley practitioners and the broader hydrogen community with practical, hands-on guidance documents, templates, tools and curated third-party materials – all structured according to the four content dimensions and tagged by target maturity level (early-stage / advanced) (see Annex V: H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material).

The section went live in October 2025 with the publication of the first batch of newly developed knowledge materials, covering all four content dimensions:

- **Commercial:** Materials on offtake strategy, hydrogen market fundamentals and demand assessment, local market study methodology, and key elements of offtake agreements
- **Technical:** Materials on contracting and procurement strategy, technical and EPC supplier evaluation tools, hydrogen value chain assessment, and technology scouting
- **Regulatory:** Materials on socio-economic impact assessment methodology, EU policy enablers for hydrogen ecosystem development, and an overview of EU funding opportunities for hydrogen projects
- **Valley governance:** Materials on milestone planning towards FID, setting up a pre-FID hydrogen project organization, and a project charter template for hydrogen project development

Each knowledge product is clearly labelled with its content dimension, target maturity level, and document format (PDF, Excel, or PowerPoint). Users can download materials directly from the website. Third-party materials from established sources – including the IEA, the European Hydrogen Observatory,

the Hydrogen Council, and the Clean Hydrogen Partnership's own tools – are curated and embedded as links within the respective content dimension pages.

A continuous upload process is in place throughout the duration of the H2V Facility project, with new materials added on a rolling basis as further content is developed – in particular building on insights and sanitized outputs from the PDA light and PDA plus support engagements.

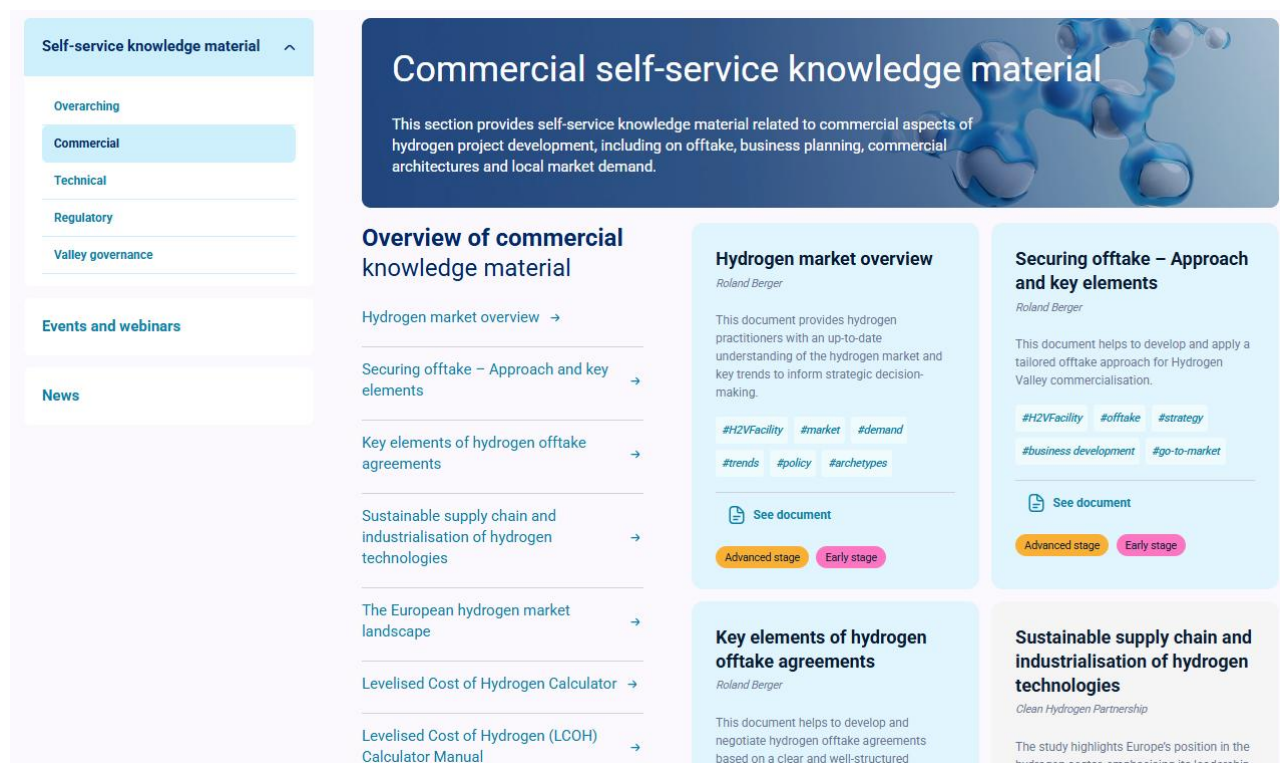


Figure 58: Commercial self-service knowledge material in H2V Knowledge Centre

Implementation of events and webinars section

A dedicated events and webinars section was developed as part of the H2V Knowledge Centre to serve as the website infrastructure for the interactive knowledge formats offered under the H2V Facility – including expert webinars, PDA experience sessions, and collective action workshops.

This section was developed and technically implemented in the reporting period; however, the full live deployment of the events section with a publicly accessible webinar schedule and registration functionality was not yet completed, as the broader interactive format programme was still being finalised in alignment with the Clean Hydrogen JU. The section is planned to go live by mid-June 2026.

- **Events calendar:** A structured, filterable overview of all upcoming and past interactive formats, with event descriptions, target audiences, registration links, and – for past events – links to recordings and presentation materials
- **Webinar series listing:** A dedicated listing of the planned expert webinar series under the title "Advancing H2 Projects to FID", covering topics across all four content dimensions and featuring speakers from Roland Berger, Worley, industry experts, and policymakers
- **PDA experience sessions:** A dedicated sub-section listing the planned PDA experience sessions in which PDA Beneficiaries share lessons learned and project development experiences with the broader hydrogen community
- **Collective action workshops:** A dedicated sub-section for collective action session formats, including post-session documentation and outputs accessible to registered Hydrogen Valleys

The go-live of the fully operational events and webinars section, including the publication of the confirmed 2026 interactive format schedule, is planned in conjunction with the start of the expert webinar series in the second half of 2026.

Implementation of a dedicated news section

Integrated into the H2V Knowledge Centre, a dedicated news section provides users with timely, relevant announcements and updates directly upon entering the section. The news feed serves as the primary communication channel for informing the hydrogen community about key milestones and upcoming opportunities related to the H2V Facility. Typical announcements published via the news section include:

- Launch of a new Call for Applications for PDA support, including a direct link to the PDA landing page and the application portal
- Publication of key reports, such as the PDA Results Report or the State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report, with a brief description and download link
- Dates and registration links for upcoming Info Days, expert webinars, collective action workshops, and PDA experience sessions

The news section is updated on a rolling basis by Roland Berger in coordination with the Clean Hydrogen JU communications team, ensuring that all announcements are aligned with the broader H2V Facility communication plan and published consistently across channels.

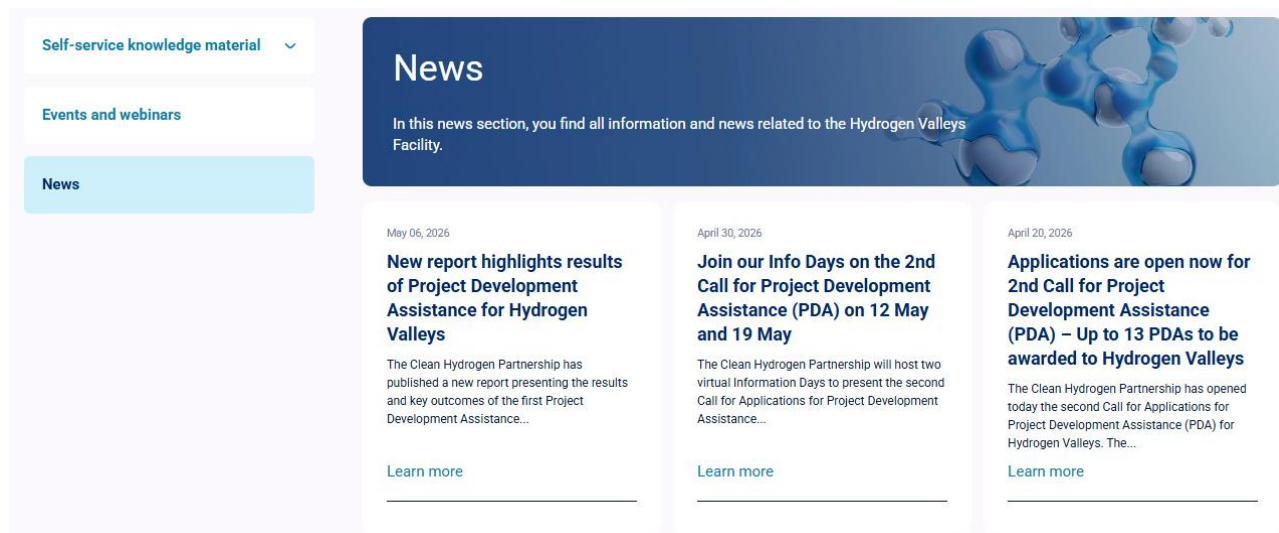


Figure 59: News section

Task 3.4: Communication strategy and execution for the promotion of the H2V Platform

Objectives

Task 3.4 aims to raise awareness, promote engagement, and ensure wide visibility of the H2V Platform including its key elements (Hydrogen Valleys, H2V Knowledge Centre & capacity building, and the PDA programme) among key stakeholders through tailored communication activities..

The specific objectives are:

- Development of a communication plan and material tailored to different target groups, including existing and potential Hydrogen Valleys, policy makers, investors, and hydrogen associations
- Promotion of the H2V Facility, its activities, events, and content, both via digital and event-based outreach

Overview of Activities

In line with the above-stated objectives, Task 3.4 is structured into the following two activities:

- **Activity 1:** Development of communication and promotion activities for the H2V Facility
- **Activity 2:** Execution of communication and promotion activities

Activity 1: Development of communication and promotion activities for the H2V Facility

Just after the set-up of the H2V Facility in May 2026, an overarching communication and promotion plan of the H2V Facility was developed. The communication and promotion activities have three key objectives:

- Sharing and promoting the benefits of the H2V Facility and its three key pillars (PDA programme, H2V Knowledge Centre & capacity building, H2V Platform)
- Education and regular updates on the H2V Facility formats and (planned) content
- Invitation to contribute to the H2V Facility, e.g., as expert speaker, networking, and to engage with its content

Communication channels and formats

The communication regarding the offerings and latest developments of the H2V Platform takes place via six dedicated communication channels.

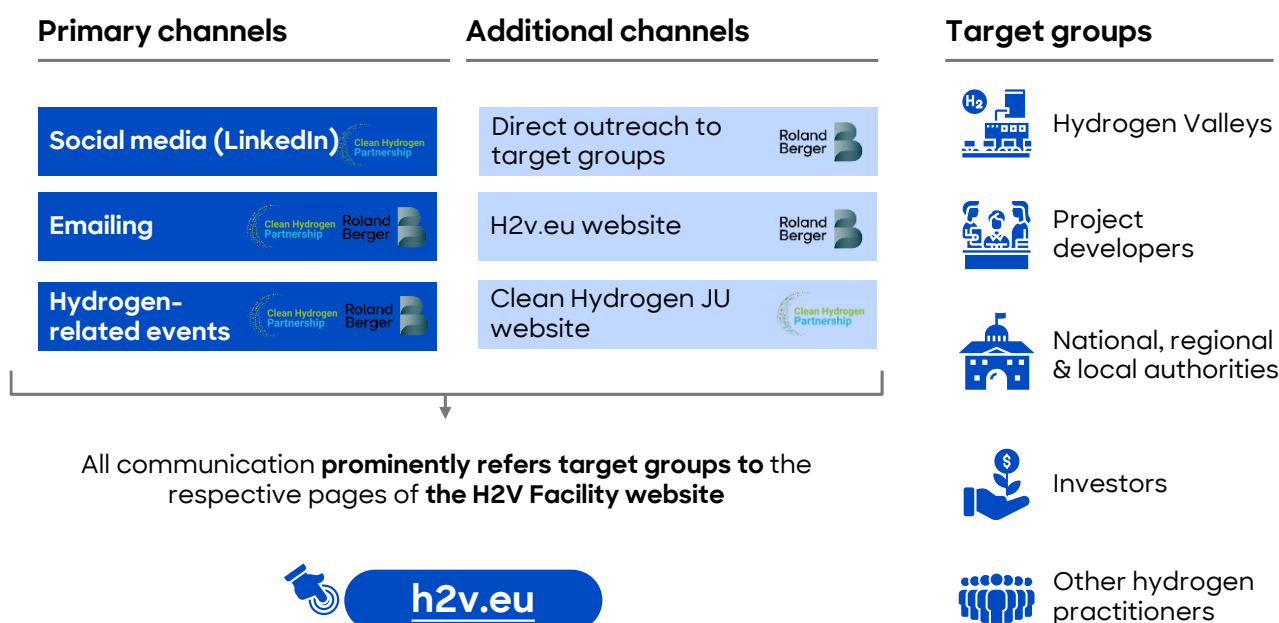


Figure 60: Communication channels and target groups for the communication related to the H2V Facility

The main communication channels are LinkedIn via postings from the official profile of the Clean Hydrogen Partnership as well as from Hydrogen Europe and other large LinkedIn accounts from the European Commission, emailing to both the Clean Hydrogen Partnership newsletter subscriber list and to the Hydrogen Valleys via the Roland Berger functional email address (hydrogenvalleys@rolandberger.com), as well as presentations and verbal communication during hydrogen-related events.

Additional communication channels consist of direct outreach to target groups, e.g. as part of the continuous interaction by Roland Berger with the Hydrogen Valleys, as well as additional news articles on the Clean Hydrogen JU website and on the H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu).

The communication material consists of three types of information:

- **News articles** with information and updates on recent developments related to the H2V Facility
- **Flagship reports** on key aspects of the H2V Facility, incl. the PDA Results Report and the annual State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report
- **"Content nuggets" (continuous content communication formats)** to promote different content aspects of the H2V Facility, incl. PDA outcomes and the H2V Knowledge Centre products

The content of all communication material is being tailored depending on the specific target group to be reached with the communication objectives as stated above and on the communication channels.

Relevant target groups and communication objectives

The communication and promotion activities are addressed to the broad target group of hydrogen practitioners. The following sub-groups are since the set-up of the H2V Facility in May 2025 being addressed:

Relevant target group	Communication objectives
Hydrogen Valley developers with a focus on EU project developers	• Sharing and "selling" of the benefits of the Hydrogen Valleys section • Invitation to • participate in regular data updates of their Hydrogen Valley profiles/to join the H2V Platform • engage with the content and participate in the Interactive Formats of the H2V Knowledge Centre, in particular the information related to Hydrogen Valley development and the networking • actively contribute to the H2V Knowledge Centre, incl. via best practices and insights from Hydrogen Valley development and as speaker • Education about the specific offerings of the H2V Facility, in particular the PDA programme and the H2V Knowledge Centre as well as most recent PDA outcomes
Other EU project developers , including integrated energy players, oil and gas majors, renewable energy developers and main technology providers	• Education about the specific offerings of the H2V Facility, in particular the H2V Knowledge Centre as well as PDA outcomes • Invitation to • engage with the content and participate in the Interactive Formats of the H2V Knowledge Centre • contribute to the H2V Knowledge Centre as expert speaker
National, regional and local authorities with a focus on energy (incl. public utilities, regional ministries), on environmental protection and decarbonisation (incl. larger local municipalities, regional ministries, permitting authorities) and on industrial policy (incl. regional business development agencies, national ministries of economy)	• Education about the specific offerings of the H2V Facility, in particular the H2V Knowledge Centre • Invitation to • engage with the content and participate in the Interactive Formats of the H2V Knowledge Centre • contribute to the H2V Knowledge Centre as expert speaker and with information on regulatory topics, incl. permitting, local hydrogen deployment, specific jurisdictions
Public and private hydrogen and hydrogen derivative investors such as infrastructure funds and public institutional investors	• Education about the status of Hydrogen Valley projects and PDA outcomes • Invitation to • connect with Hydrogen Valley developers, also via educating investors on the project status with the Hydrogen Valley profiles • contribute to the H2V Knowledge Centre as expert speaker and with information on public and private financing and funding
Research institutions and academia	• Education about the specific offerings of the H2V Facility, in particular the H2V Knowledge Centre • Invitation to contribute to the H2V Knowledge Centre with recent research and publications on hydrogen-related topics and as expert speaker

Table 13: Relevant target groups for the communication activities and corresponding communication objectives

Activity 2: Execution of communication and promotion activities

Within Activity 2, the H2V Platform communication and promotion activities are executed via the predefined communication channels.

Continuous communication activities

Since February 2026, a biweekly Jour-Fixe with the Clean Hydrogen JU communications department is being conducted to align on the monthly planning and details of all communication activities related to the H2V Facility.

Furthermore, a continuous written and oral exchange with Hydrogen Valleys takes place with the purpose of informing Hydrogen Valleys on the latest progress, enable network exchanges and maintain a close relationship.

Major communication activities between May 2025 and May 2026

The following communication activities were executed between May 2025 and May 2026:

Task	Communication activities
Task 1	Announcement of the First and Second Call for Applications for PDA support and the corresponding Info Day, as well as post-Info-Day and follow-up communication
	Regular follow-up communication regarding the First and Second Call for Applications via emailing, direct outreach, and LinkedIn until the submission deadline
	Announcement of PDA Beneficiaries of the first PDA wave
	Results communication about the first PDA wave, incl. publication of PDA Results Report
Task 2	Pre- and post-Valley Days communication via LinkedIn, the email newsletter, and the Clean Hydrogen JU website
	Pre- and post-event communication regarding the European Hydrogen Valleys Investment Forum and the European Hydrogen Week (in particular regarding the Valley Award)
	Announcement and follow-up communication regarding the launch of the H2V Knowledge Centre
Task 3	Continuous email and phone outreach to new and existing Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform regarding data updates and the invitation to join the H2V Platform
	Launch communication to the go-live of the revamped H2V Platform
	Regular announcements of new Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform

Table 14: Major communication activities between May 2025 and May 2026

Major communication activities between June 2026 and May 2027

The following figure outlines the planned communication activities related to the H2V Facility for the period of the next progress report.

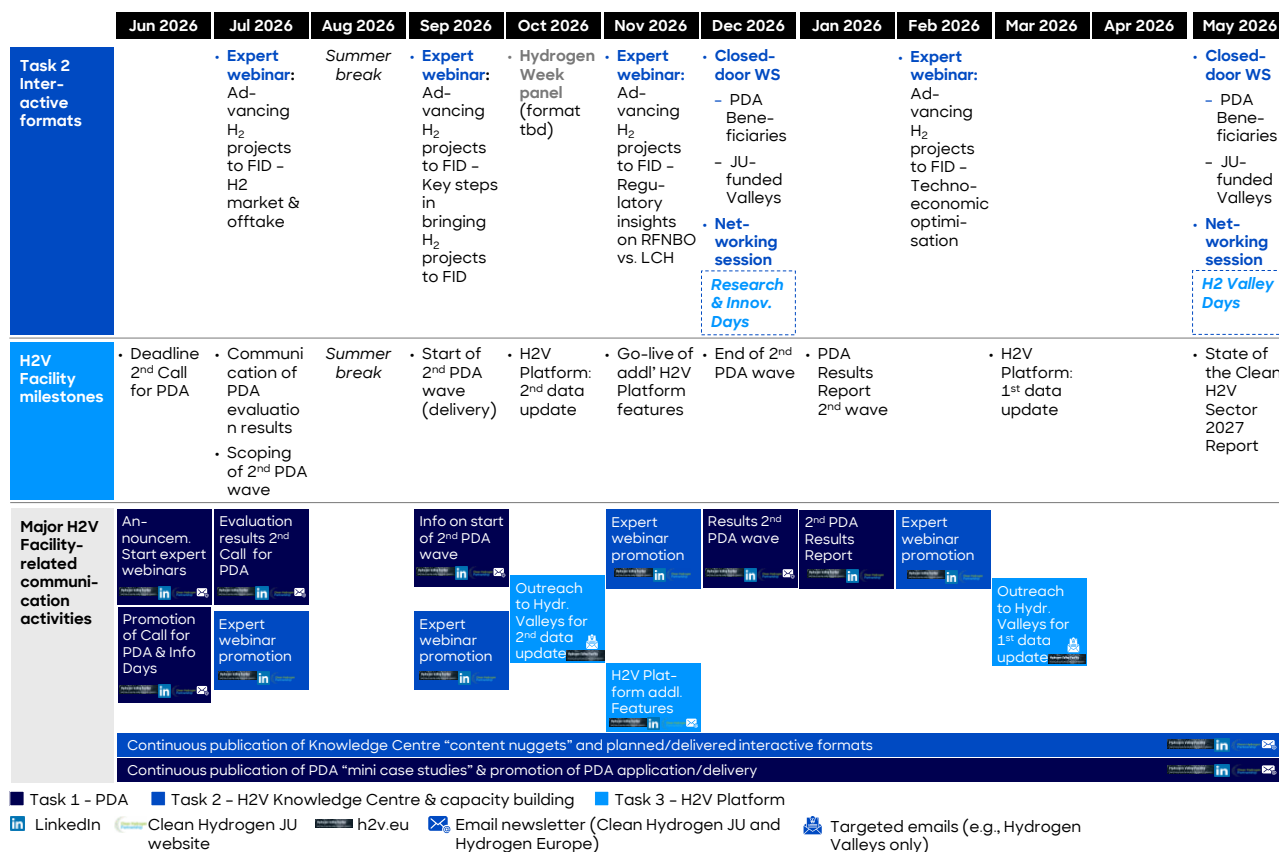


Figure 61: Communication plan for June 2026 to May 2027

State of the Hydrogen Valleys Report 2026

Each Q2 throughout the duration of the H2V Facility project, a "State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report" is published.

The 2026 report "State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report 2026 – Developing Hydrogen Valleys in a Challenging Market Environment" will be published in July 2026 and be made available on the H2V Facility website (www.h2v.eu).

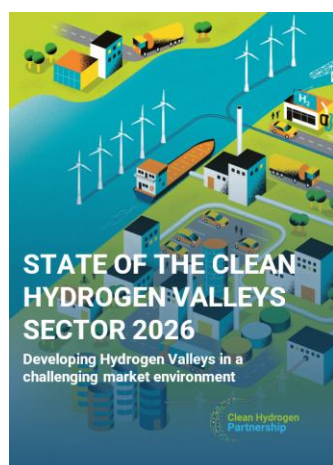


Figure 62: State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector 2026 Report

The State of the Clean Hydrogen Valleys Sector Report presents the Hydrogen Valleys Platform and gives key insights on characteristics, statistics, and fundamentals about Hydrogen Valleys featured on the H2V Platform. Furthermore, the report presents a the key results of a market sentiment survey with Hydrogen Valleys. and presents (policy) recommendations for policymakers, investors and Hydrogen Valley developers to successfully mature Hydrogen Valleys towards the Final Investment Decision.

Annexes

Annex I: PDA Results Report to the first PDA wave

The PDA Results Report is available for download here: https://pda.h2v.eu/en#pda_results_report

Annex II: Call documents to the First Call for Applications

The Call documents to the First Call for Applications for PDA support are annexed to the PDA Results Report which is available for download here: https://pda.h2v.eu/en#pda_results_report

Annex III: Call documents to the Second Call for Applications

The call documents to the Second Call for Applications for PDA support are available for download here: <https://pda.h2v.eu/en>

Annex IV: Recording and presentation to the Info Day of the Second Call for Applications

The recording and presentation to the Info Day of the Second Call for Applications are available for download here: <https://pda.h2v.eu/en/info-day-call-applications>

Annex V: H2V Knowledge Centre self-service knowledge material

The self-service knowledge material within the H2V Knowledge Centre is available for download here: <https://h2v.eu/h2v-knowledge-centre/self-service-knowledge-material>

Annex VI: Hydrogen Valley Platform

The Hydrogen Valley Platform (H2V Platform) can be accessed here: <https://h2v.eu/hydrogen-valley-platform>

Annex VII: List of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform

The list of Hydrogen Valleys on the H2V Platform can be accessed here: <https://h2v.eu/hydrogen-valley-platform/hydrogen-valleys-glance>

Annex VIII: Interactive statistics section

The interactive statistics section of the H2V Platform can be accessed here: <https://h2v.eu/hydrogen-valley-platform/interactive-statistics>

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First edition

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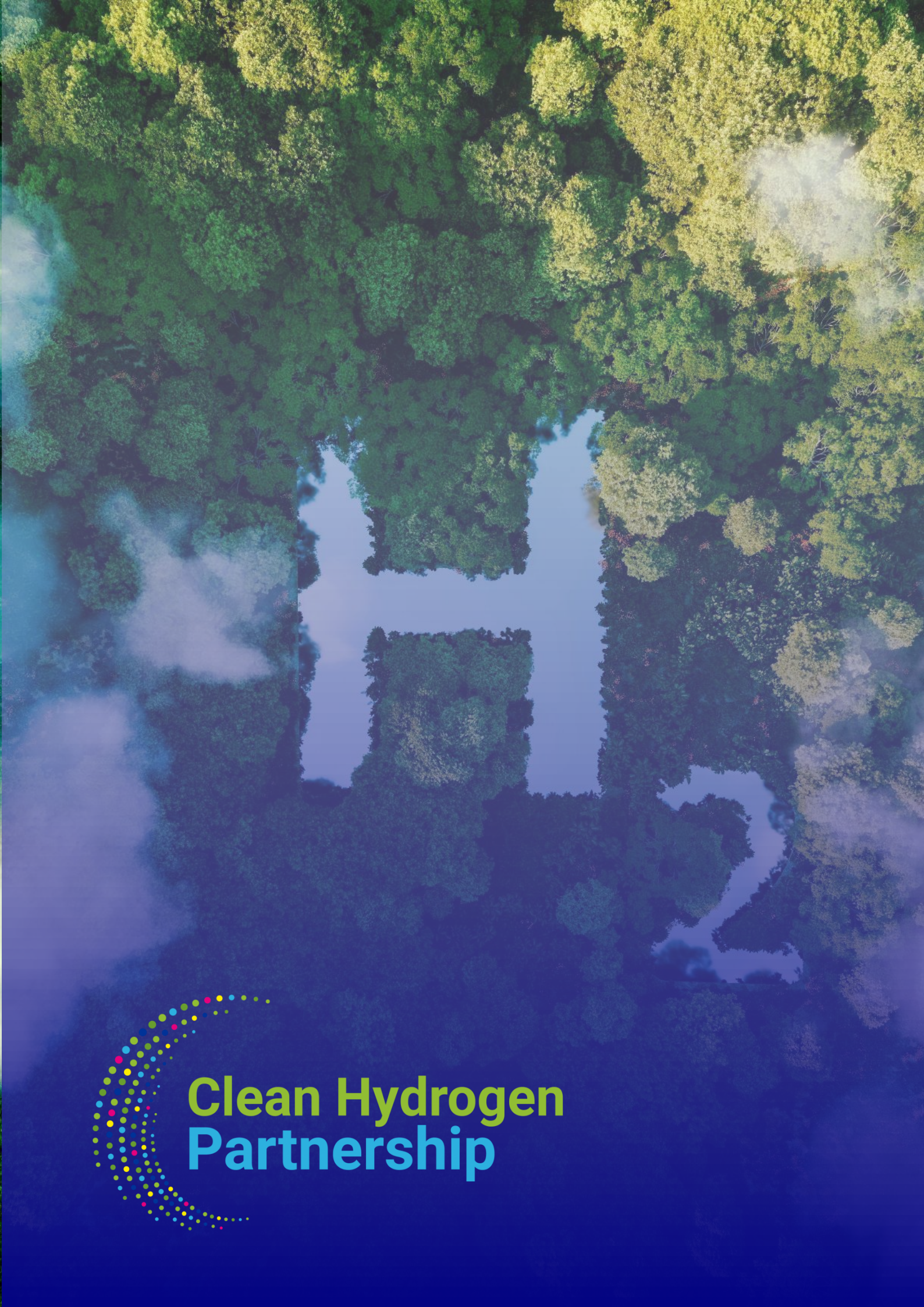
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