

THE GREEN HYDROGEN MANIFESTO

PAVING THE WAY FOR HYDROGEN
ENABLING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY &
DECARBONISATION



INITIATORS



This manifesto was jointly launched at the Green Hydrogen Forum & Expo in the frame of Europe's largest energy industry platform, The smarter E Europe in Munich, Germany, on October 6, 2021
→ www.thesmartere.de/green-hydrogen-manifesto

THIS MANIFESTO STATES 12 DEMANDS FOR THE EU, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL POLICY MAKERS AND GOVERNMENTS WITH ACTIONS REQUIRED TO FOSTER HYDROGEN'S ROLE AS ENABLER OF A CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND A FULL DECARBONISATION.

1

SETTING THE DIRECTION

The CO₂ content of energy carriers and vectors is to serve as the “new currency” of the energy system.

1. Science-based definitions for the hydrogen production methods are required. The methodology should include all life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions of renewable and low carbon hydrogen.
2. Transparent and robust **sustainability criteria**, in line with the principles of the circular economy, need to be adopted for any relevant EU policy and funding program.
3. A **credible certification** is needed for hydrogen as a **global commodity** and this certification should be: traceable, trackable, tradable, transparent and trustworthy.
4. A **carbon border adjustment mechanism** needs to create a level playing field to prevent carbon leakage and protect the EU industry's competitiveness in all sectors.

2

GUIDING THE JOURNEY

To implement the hydrogen economy requires, for a limited period of time:

5. **Exceptions from EU rules**, e.g. a relaxation or reform of EU state aid rules.
6. **Economic incentives** aiming to compensate the higher cost of renewable hydrogen production, end-users' higher costs due to the change to renewable hydrogen, and for transforming industrial processes to hydrogen.
7. The appointment of a dedicated “**EU Hydrogen Special Envoy**” in charge of driving forward the **EU Hydrogen Strategy** and **partnerships** with third countries.

3

STIMULATING RAMP-UP AND COST REDUCTION

To ramp-up production volumes and reduce cost, it is necessary to stimulate demand and hydrogen production until a mature market has developed. This requires:

8. The setting of **market prices** for different production methods of hydrogen up to a certain market share and **auctions**.
9. Conversion of large parts of Europe's natural **gas infrastructure** to hydrogen infrastructure. A distinct **legal framework** at EU level for the regulation of hydrogen networks will allow a clean hydrogen market to emerge and prevent monopolistic behaviour.
10. The development of **hydrogen valleys** with regional and local hydrogen production, storage and consumption by regulatory stimulation of renewable hydrogen demand including quotas and greenhouse gas reduction obligations.
11. **Hydrogen backbones**: The connection of areas of low-cost clean hydrogen production with large-scale storage and demand centres is to be **launched immediately** so that a pan-European hydrogen backbone system is **ready by 2035**.
12. Deployment of an **alternative fuels infrastructure** for the use of renewable hydrogen in land transport, maritime and aviation to maximise the decarbonisation potential of hydrogen across all sectors.



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