

CLEAN HYDROGEN PARTNERSHIP



Purpose

The Clean Hydrogen Partnership, as per its legal name, Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (CHJU), is a public-private partnership that aims to strengthen and integrate EU scientific capacity, to accelerate the development and improvement of advanced clean hydrogen applications. CHJU provides financial support mainly in the form of grants following open and competitive Calls for Proposals. The end goal is to contribute to:

- Establishing a sustainable, decarbonised and fully integrated EU energy system,
- Playing a vital role in the EU's hydrogen strategy and in the implementation of its roadmap towards climate neutrality.

Possible Application Areas

- Renewable hydrogen production: electrolysis and other routes of renewable hydrogen production
- Hydrogen storage and distribution: hydrogen storage, liquid hydrogen carriers, compression purification & metering solutions, and hydrogen refuelling stations
- Hydrogen end uses - transport applications: building blocks, heavy-duty vehicles, water-borne, rail, and aeronautic applications
- Hydrogen end uses - clean heat & power: stationary fuel cells, and turbines boilers & burners
- Hydrogen Valleys
- Strategic Research Challenge
- Cross-cutting issues: regulations, codes, standards, training, safety, social acceptance

Project Types and Funding

CHJU is based on the Horizon Europe framework programme, hosting three types of actions (projects) within its main pillars, depending on the call and the topic. The funding rate and expected Technology Readiness Level (TRL) vary



with the type of action (project):

- Research Innovation Actions (RIA): TRL from 3 to 6 with a funding rate of 100% of the project costs (including 25% overhead). The maximum funding often ranges from 3 to 5 M€.
- Innovation Actions (IA): TRL from 5 to 7 (8 for Hydrogen Valleys), with 70% of the project costs (except for non-profit legal entities, with 100%), plus 25% overhead. The maximum funding often ranges from 5 to 10 M€ (10 M€ and 20 M€ for small and large Hydrogen Valleys, respectively).
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSA): no association with TRL, with a funding rate of 100% of the project costs (including 25% overhead) and maximum funding of approx. 1 M€.

Who Can Apply

The application must involve a consortium including at least 3 legal entities, with at least 1 established in a Member State, and at least two other independent legal entities, each established in different Member States or Associated countries.

Any type of organisation or legal entity (e.g., universities, research institutes, industry, SMEs,

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NGOs) established in the Member States of the European Union and associated countries to Horizon Europe; international research organisations are allowed if specified for the call.

For some topics, an additional eligibility criterion has been introduced to ensure that one partner in the consortium is a member of either Hydrogen Europe or Hydrogen Europe Research.

Expected Deadline

The calls of the Clean Hydrogen JU program typically open in January, with the application deadline falling in April-May.

Clean Hydrogen Partnership - Application

Required documentation:

- Part A: participant information data
- Part B: written application specific for RIA and IA (50 and 70 pages respectively) or CSA (33 pages)
- Annexes: depending on the specific topic, there might be mandatory annexes, e.g.: for Hydrogen Valleys, the annexe evidence of commitment must be uploaded as a separate document in the submission system.

Application forms will have to cover the following sections:

Excellence

Objectives and ambition: precise and measurable goals tied to the work programme topic.

Methodology: a high-level strategy to meet objectives, showcasing feasibility and interdisciplinarity.

Impact

Pathways: the credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the work programme.

Dissemination, Exploitation, and Communication: a roadmap for engaging stakeholders, spreading results, and ensuring adoption post-project to maximise impact.

Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation

Work Plan and Resources: a high-level outline of activities, tasks, key milestones, and deliverables.

Capacity of participants and consortium overview: evidence on why the partners form the best team for the project including their expertise, roles, and synergies.



Clean Hydrogen Partnership Process

Nordic Innovators takes the lead in the preparation and submission of a high-quality online application, including the preparation of the technical and financial project documentation for Parts A and B. Our collaborative approach ensures the timely delivery of a strong Clean Hydrogen Partnership application.

In addition, we also provide hourly-based services to support you on specific tasks e.g. market research, drafting of whole documents, or review and quality control.

