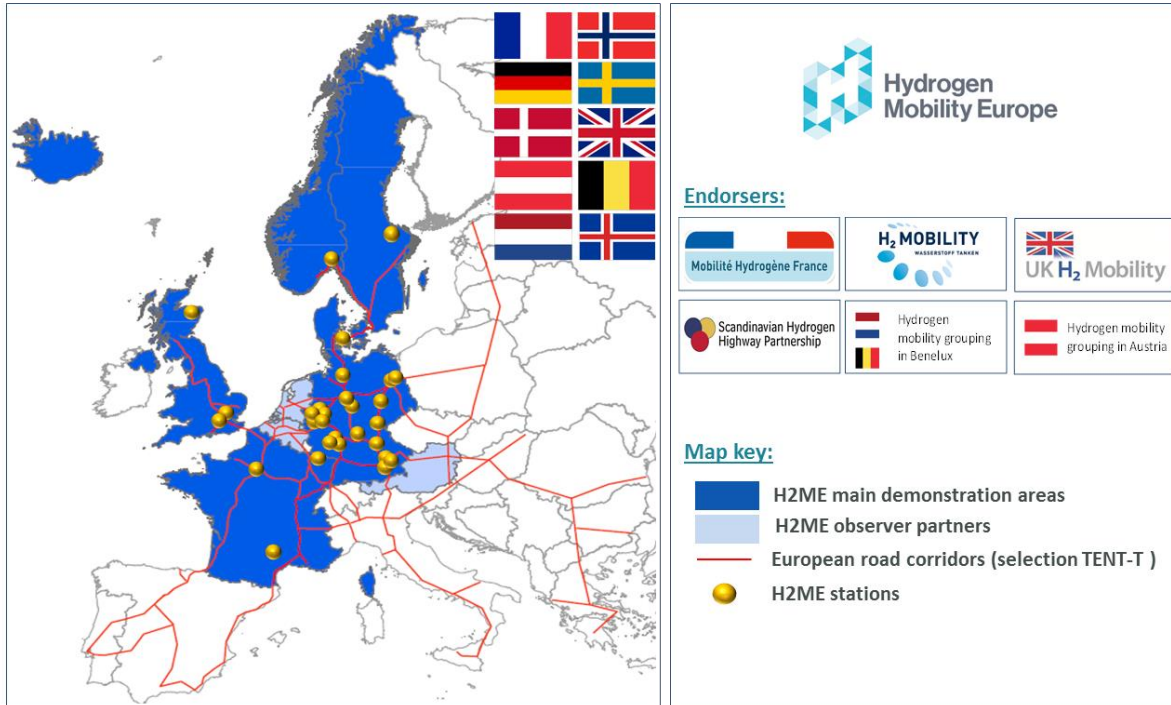


The most ambitious hydrogen mobility initiatives in Europe have joined forces to support the introduction of hydrogen-fuelled transport



A large coalition of European partners has launched the Hydrogen Mobility Europe project (H2ME). H2ME is co-funded with €32 million from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU). The project will support the deployment of Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles (FCEVs) and Hydrogen Refuelling Stations (HRS) across Europe.

H2ME is the largest European project of this nature and is based around an alliance of the four most ambitious hydrogen mobility initiatives in Europe: H₂ MOBILITY Deutschland, Mobilité Hydrogène France, Scandinavian Hydrogen Highway Partnership and UK H₂ Mobility. These initiatives originally brought together the key stakeholders in the hydrogen sector (vehicle manufacturers, hydrogen refuelling station providers and Government representatives), to study and develop strategies to make hydrogen-fuelled transport a reality in the respective regions.

These initiatives will now be working together to make hydrogen-fuelled transport a reality in Europe. Under H2ME they will deploy 200 FCEVs, 125 fuel cell range-extended electric (FC RE-EVs) commercial vans and 29 new HRSs in 10 countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the UK) by 2019. This plan ties in with existing national level initiatives for the roll-out of a large scale hydrogen refuelling infrastructure, aimed at enabling Europe wide emission-free driving.

The consortium, led by Element Energy, includes global leaders in the hydrogen and fuel cell sector, from fuel cells and car manufacturers (Daimler, SymbioFCell, Hyundai, Honda, Intelligent Energy, Nissan) and infrastructure providers (Air Liquide, BOC, H2Logic, ITM

Power, Linde, McPhy Energy, OMV, AREVA H2 Gen, EIFER, H₂ MOBILITY Deutschland, HYOP, Icelandic New Energy, Communauté d'Agglomération Sarreguemines Confluences) to data monitoring and dissemination organisations (Cenex, WaterstofNet).

The original agreements for the project were signed in July this year and the project has already delivered the first vehicles to customers in France and Germany (Daimler, SymbioFCell).

Bert De Colvenaer, Executive Director of the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking stated: "to bring Fuel Cell and Hydrogen technology to the point of market readiness does require Europe wide coordination and financial support for the first movers. The Joint Undertaking is therefore keen and happy to support the implementation of this important project as part of the early Europe wide deployment of Fuel Cell Hydrogen vehicles, thereby showcasing the full potential of this European Public Private Partnership."

Ben Madden, Director at Element Energy and Overall Coordinator said: "We are very pleased to be leading this project which will lead to a significant change in the rate and scale of hydrogen vehicle and refuelling station deployment in Europe. A huge international effort over the past two decades has developed hydrogen vehicle technology to the point where it is technically ready for market introduction. H2ME will allow a widespread demonstration of the readiness of the technology, as well as developing valuable insights about the early customer experience and practical challenges of a widespread roll-out of the technology".

Frank Sreball, Managing Director of the Joint Venture H₂ MOBILITY Deutschland and coordinator for the German activities under H2ME said: "The start of this project is a decisive step towards the construction of a dense network of hydrogen stations in Germany. A reliable hydrogen infrastructure is a fundamental requirement for the roll-out of fuel cell electrical vehicles from series production in the next years. With our partners we want to prove that hydrogen energy is an innovative solution for the challenges of sustainable mobility. The large number of hydrogen stations and cars in the project will allow a meaningful analysis and evaluation of operational data. We expect that the findings of this project will help us to overcome the remaining obstacles on the way to market introduction".

Fabio Ferrari, CEO, Symbio FCell and coordinator for the French activities under H2ME commented: "Mobilité Hydrogène France has developed a roll-out strategy with a first phase based on the deployment of fleets of vehicles sharing public and semi-public hydrogen refuelling stations. This simultaneous deployment of fuel cell vehicles and infrastructure will create the basis for a nationwide infrastructure, ready for passenger cars. This strategy is gathering real interest from many customers in a number of French cities, and the first deployments of vehicles and fuelling stations have already begun. In order to scale up and make fuel cell vehicles attractive to all consumers and to passenger car manufacturers, it is essential to invest in refuelling infrastructure coverage across France and across Europe. This is why we believe that a pan-European coordinated plan is absolutely key to the long term success of this promising technology for clean mobility".

Jon Bjorn Skulason, General Manager, Icelandic New Energy Ltd and coordinator for the Scandinavian activities under H2ME said: "Today fuel cell electric vehicles and hydrogen fueling stations are in daily use across the Scandinavian countries. The H2ME project will help to continue the Scandinavian efforts on market introduction – specifically contributing to securing a continuous growth in vehicles and stations."

Dr Rachel Smith, Executive Director, ITM Power plc and coordinator for the UK activities under H2ME commented: "The H2ME project is a fantastic opportunity to develop the refuelling infrastructure in the UK. The project is perfectly timed to coincide with the introduction of fuel cell cars in Europe, enabling evaluation of end-user experiences of hydrogen stations and FCEVs. The UK Consortia, led by ITM Power is delighted to participate in this project and to demystify the role of hydrogen, show the readiness of the stations and vehicles, and to enable the widespread and rapid adoption of clean emission transport."

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For further information, visit www.h2me.eu or contact lisa.ruf@element-energy.co.uk

About H2ME

This €68 million demonstration project is co-funded with €32 million from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU), a public private partnership supporting fuel cell and hydrogen energy technologies in Europe.

About the FCH JU

The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) is a unique public private partnership supporting research, technological development and demonstration activities in fuel cell and hydrogen energy technologies in Europe. Its aim is to accelerate the market introduction of these technologies, realising their potential as an instrument in achieving a carbon-lean energy system.

The three members of the FCH JU are the European Commission, fuel cell and hydrogen industries represented by the NEW Industry Grouping and the research community represented by Research Grouping N.ERGHY.

About the Hydrogen Mobility Initiatives

H₂ MOBILITY Deutschland: www.h2-mobility.de

Mobilité hydrogène en France:

http://www.afhypac.org/images/documents/h2_mobilit_france_fr_final.pdf

Scandinavian Hydrogen Highway Partnership (SHHP):

www.scandinavianhydrogen.org

UK H2 Mobility: www.ukh2mobility.co.uk

The H2ME partners

Coordinator: Element Energy.

Fuel cell and Car manufacturers: Daimler, SymbioFCCell, Hyundai, Honda, Intelligent Energy, Nissan.

Infrastructure providers: Air Liquide, BOC, H2Logic, ITM Power, Linde, McPhy Energy, OMV, AREVA H2 Gen, EIFER, Falkenberg Energi, H₂ MOBILITY Deutschland, HYOP, Icelandic New Energy, Communauté d'Agglomération Sarreguemines Confluences.

Data monitoring and dissemination: Cenex, WaterstofNet.

About Fuel Cells and Hydrogen technologies

Fuel cells, as an efficient conversion technology, and hydrogen, as a clean energy carrier, have a great potential to help fight carbon dioxide emissions, to reduce dependence on hydrocarbons and to contribute to economic growth.

About Element Energy

Element Energy is a leading low carbon energy consultancy working in a range of sectors including low carbon transport, low carbon buildings, renewable power generation, carbon capture and storage, energy networks, and energy storage. Element Energy works with a broad range of private and public sector clients to address challenges across the low carbon energy sector and has been involved in establishing and delivering many of the FCH JU projects in the hydrogen transport sector.