Project Development Assistance for Regions II - Cohesion Countries, Outermost regions and Islands (PDA II)
Application guidance document for regions

Stage 1 application form

The table below shows the questions, expected answer character count and guidance on answers that will form the basis of Stage 1 of the application process for PDA support. All fields are mandatory unless otherwise stated and need to be filled, selected, or ticked. The responses will be used to rule out any ineligible regions and shortlist up to 30 regions to be invited to Stage 2 of the EOI call process.

Basic information on the applicant Questions in this section will not be scored	
Name of the city or region(s) applying for PDA	
Region code in Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS)/Local Administrative Units (LAU).	
This should include the NUTS 3 and LAU code(s) for the region(s) where the project would be implemented. Applicants can check the codes for their region using the following steps: 1. *Go to https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/local-administrative-units* 2. *Download and open the Excel file "Correspondence table LAU – NUTS 2021, EU-27 and EFTA / available Candidate Countries".* 3. *Navigate to the tab for your country (highlighted in blue).* 4. *Navigate to the row(s) containing your region(s) via the LAU NAME NATIONAL column.* 5. *Copy the NUTS 3 CODE(s) and LAU CODE(s) here.* *These units are standardised across Europe and enable the project team to define the region in which the project will be implemented.* *Note that region codes are specified for EU member states and some associated countries. If no NUTS 3 or LAU code can be found for one or multiple of the applicant regions using the process defined above, please repeat from step 2 onwards, but instead using the Excel file named "Correspondence table LAU – NUTS 2016/2021, EU-27, UK and EFTA / available Candidate Countries". If again no NUTS 3 or LAU code can be found, this question may be left blank or incomplete.* *If a single application is being submitted to include multiple regions, please include region codes for all regions included in the application, if possible.* *If applicants are unable to find the appropriate code for their region(s), this question can be left blank. Applications will not be negatively impacted if no response is given.*	
Name(s) of the local authority/authorities sponsoring the application	
Is this application being completed by a representative of a public authority, or by a separate organisation, that has been authorised by a public authority to apply on their behalf?	Please tick one of the following: ✓ Public authority ✓ Authorized by public authority

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If authorized by a public authority to apply on their behalf, please upload a mandate letter to confirm this authorization. If authorised by a cluster of regions to submit a joint application, only one mandate letter is required, but all participating regions must be named. **Upload:** Mandate letter from public authority (max. one file - accepted file formats are *.pdf, *.jpg, *.jpeg, *.png, *.gif)	

Country or island in which the city or region resides	
Questions in this section will not be scored	
Cohesion countries	*Please select a country from the list if applicable, otherwise leave it as is.*
Outermost regions	*Please select a country from the list if applicable, otherwise leave it as is.*
Island within EU member state	*Please tick if applicable and name the island and the corresponding EU member state, otherwise leave it as is.*
Island within associated country	*Please tick if applicable and name the island and the corresponding associated country, otherwise leave it as is.* *The list of the Associated Countries of Horizon Europe can be found here: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/updates-association-third-countries-horizon-europe-2021-12-21_en*

Name, email address and phone number of the primary contact point for the project	
A named primary contact is required for applicants to be considered for project development assistance. Questions in this section will not be scored	
First name	
Please insert the first name of the primary contact in latin letters.	
Last name	
Please insert the last name of the primary contact in latin letters.	
Email address	
Please insert the email address of the primary contact and double-check the correct spelling. The confirmation email and information on outcome of the evaluation process will be sent to this email only.	
Phone number	
Please insert the phone number of the primary contact including the international country code (e.g., +48 for Poland etc.)	

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Eligibility criteria	
These criteria must be met for an application to be considered.	
The local authority already has a concept for a hydrogen technology project OR this application for PDA services is based on a pre-existing hydrogen project activity.	✓ Tick
The local authority is willing and able to co-finance a hydrogen technology project.	✓ Tick
At least 50% of hydrogen planned to be used as part of the project will be either from electrolysis using renewable electricity or produced using bio-feedstocks.	✓ Tick
We agree to share lessons learnt in the project with observer regions.	✓ Tick
We will provide feedback to the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking on PDA service quality.	✓ Tick
Please give details of any key local stakeholders	
Questions in this section will be scored.	
Name of person or organisation, Email address and phone number (up to 5 persons may be added)	
Relation to the project	Please select the envisaged role in the project from the list: project manager, technology supplier, infrastructure owner or operator, fleet owner or operator, energy agency, financing organization, expert (engineering and design), expert (planning), expert (public research), other (please specify)

Prior local stakeholder involvement indicates that the project is at a more mature stage. Answer will be scored as follows:

Complete information (organisation, name, email address, phone number and relation to the project) for more than one local stakeholder aside the applying organisation: 2

Complete information (organisation, name, email address, phone number and relation to the project) for one stakeholder detailed aside the applying organisation: 1

No stakeholders detailed aside the applying organisation: 0

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Please give more details of your hydrogen activities Questions in this section will be scored.	
Has hydrogen technology previously been implemented in your region?	Please choose one of the following options: ✓ yes ✓ no
Previous hydrogen project implementation is not a requirement for applicants, however previous implementation indicates that hydrogen projects are deliverable in the region. This includes any technology where hydrogen has been used as a method of storing energy, such as in hydrogen vehicles or refuelling infrastructure, use of hydrogen in the gas grid or as a grid balancing mechanism. Please do not include the use of hydrogen as an industrial precursor. This question will be scored as follows: *Yes: 1* *No: 0*	
Has the local authority previously implemented hydrogen technology in the region?	Please choose one of the following options: ✓ yes ✓ no
Please choose 'Yes' if the local authority has previously helped facilitate the roll out of hydrogen technology. This includes any project where the local authority has deployed, funded or coordinated the deployment of a technology using hydrogen as a method of storing energy. This is not a requirement for applicants, however experience facilitating the roll out of hydrogen technology indicates a level of commitment to hydrogen and project maturity. This question will be scored as follows: *Yes: 1* *No: 0*	
What is the expected project budget in million €?	Please choose the estimated value of the total project budget from the list 10 mn €, 10-20 mn €, 20-50 mn €, > 50 mn € (please specify)
This refers to an estimate of the cost of project deployment, not the amount available from the local authority for local hydrogen projects or this project in particular. Applicants that have not yet defined their budget can use the "CAPEX guidance" document for approximate cost estimates of individual components and estimate overall project cost. This question will be scored as follows:	
Please provide a brief description of the hydrogen project(s) for which you would like to apply for development assistance. *(max. 1,000 characters)*	
Please include: *- The type of hydrogen technologies to be deployed* *- The method of hydrogen production to be used*	

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- *Any quantitative values indicating the size/scale of the planned deployment*	
This question will be scored against the "Commitment" and "Deliverability and local impact" selection criteria from the 'Selection Criteria' table. The maximum mark available for this question is 5.	
Please provide a brief description of why the region has potential to deliver clean hydrogen projects. *(max. 1,000 characters)*	
Responses may include: - *Existing or planned local renewable energy deployments for green hydrogen production* - *Project support from any key industry stakeholders, public organisations, local or national government etc.* - *Any ongoing local projects or activity that may complement further hydrogen projects* *This question will be scored against the "Commitment" and "Deliverability and local impact" selection criteria from the 'Selection Criteria' table. The maximum mark available for this question is 5.*	
Please provide a predicted timeline for project development and implementation. *(max. 1,000 characters)*	
Responses are expected to include activity time frames and/or targeted dates for key milestones. *This question will be scored against the "Commitment" and "Deliverability and local impact" selection criteria from the 'Selection Criteria' table. The maximum mark available for this question is 5.*	

Terms and conditions
Questions in this section will not be scored

I accept the terms and conditions and agree to share my data under Privacy Policy (GDPR)	✓ Yes
Would you like to participate in the observer network?	✓ Tick for yes, leave unticked for no *If unsuccessful, regions will be invited to follow the study as part of an observer network. The response to this question will not affect the outcome of your application and is not a requirement.*

You will receive an automated confirmation email. Please contact us via application [at] h2regions.eu in case you do not receive this email within one working day.

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Selection Criteria

Table 1 below gives the Selection Criteria which applications to the Expression of Interest (EOI) call for PDA II will be scored against.

Criterion	Key points to be considered
Need for assistance	Is the project a first of a kind development, either in terms of the location of the region or the planned technology deployment? Does the region lack skills and knowledge necessary to develop a hydrogen project without external assistance? Is the need for PDA clearly articulated and consistent with the type of support on offer?
Ambition and scale	To what extent is the proposed project ambitious? There is a need to support projects with a scale and technology ambition which genuinely enhances the sector rather than repeating deployments which have happened elsewhere. What is the scale of the project? E.g., overall level of investment (ideally exceeding €5 mn in the first phase), numbers of vehicles / fuelling stations, scale of energy demand to be met by Hydrogen technologies. To what extent are the plans scalable – i.e., how readily could the project be expanded?
Strategic drivers	What are the primary local drivers for wanting to pursue a Hydrogen deployment project and to what extent do these require the region to act on hydrogen? How urgent is the need to act and what would be the implications of failing to deliver the plans?
Maturity	Is the project concept sufficiently mature to be taken forward to the detailed implementation planning phase? E.g., is a realistic budget and/or funding / financing plan in place, has a governance structure been outlined, etc.? Has a timeline been developed for the project? Have all relevant stakeholders needed to deliver the project been informed / consulted / engaged? If not, is there a plan for such engagement? To what extent are the organisations needed to deliver the project committed? Have any studies been undertaken to inform the details of the project?
Deliverability and local impact	Are the plans outlined credible and is there a plausible route to delivering the project? Is there evidence of local expertise in changing systems or implementing innovative projects? Does the project fit with available technology and wider industry market development plans?

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	Have risks to implementation been assessed and are mitigation plans in place?
	Are the timelines realistic?
	Is there an understanding of the policy required to make the project viable?
	What are the prospects of the required policy being put in place?
	Is the project likely to have a positive impact on national policy development in favour of hydrogen?
Commitment	Is there evidence that green hydrogen is expected to play a central, long-term role in the sustainability plans of the city / region?
	Is there strong local / regional commitment to the project at a political level?
	Is this support deep-routed (i.e., embedded in the plans of the city / region rather than a pet project of a handful of senior politicians)?
	Is the city / region willing to commit its own resources to developing and delivering the project?
	Is a budget in place to cover (some of) the costs of implementing the project?
Replicability and wider impact	Is the region / project typical of others across Europe and could similar concepts be envisaged elsewhere?
	Are the local proponents willing to share knowledge and lessons learnt with other follower cities / regions?
	What is the likely scale of the impact that the project could have on the wider Hydrogen sector (e.g. by establishing scalable, low cost, renewable hydrogen supplies to serve a wide range of markets)?