



International Partnership  
for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells  
in the Economy

## *Austria* Update

42<sup>nd</sup> IPHE Steering Committee Meeting  
20 – 21 November 2024  
Brussels, European Commission

**ÖNIP:** In accordance with the Austrian Renewable Energy Expansion Act (EAG), the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) presented an updated version of the integrated Austrian grid infrastructure plan (ÖNIP). The ÖNIP is an overarching strategic planning instrument for the rapid expansion and conversion of the energy infrastructure.

**EAG** investment subsidy regulation under review: On 25 June 2024, the draft of the EAG investment subsidy ordinance for hydrogen was submitted for review. The draft determines that installers of electrolysers can receive an investment grant of up to 906 € per kW of installed capacity, but a maximum of 45% to 65% of the eligible costs, depending on the size of the company.

# Investments/Funding/Policies/Initiatives: *Austria*



The Hydrogen Promotion Act (de: **WFöG**) has passed the plenary session of the National Council. Federal funds totalling up to €820m will be available for hydrogen production projects to promote the production of renewable hydrogen.

Second renewable **hydrogen auction** (European Commission): Austria plans to participate in this auction with a national budget as part of the ‘auction-as-a-service’ program. Auction-as-a-service enables Member States to provide their own funding for the allocation of subsidies for national hydrogen production projects while making use of the EU auctions.

On 19 September 2024 the European Commission approved the new funding guidelines for the ‘**Transformation of Industry**’ program of the BMK. The program has a total of around €3bn available up to 2030 for transformative projects that contribute to the decarbonisation of Austrian industry.



## R&D, Demonstration and/or Deployment Activities: *Austria*

Hydrogen research is in first place for Austrian **energy research expenditure**: As a member of the International Energy Agency (IEA), Austria is obliged to keep an annual record of all research, development and demonstration projects in the energy sector carried out in Austria that were subsidised or financed with public funds. Hydrogen research was in 1<sup>st</sup> place ahead of energy efficiency.

A **new electrolyser** was put into operation in Vienna-Simmering on the Wiener Netze campus in April 2024. The PEM electrolyser with an electrolysis capacity of 3 MWel was built by Wien Energie and Wiener Netze.

**Installed electrolyser power** in Austria: 18.2 MW, under construction/advanced planning: 142 MW

# Key Collaborations

## Austria



Austria joined the **International Hydrogen Trade Forum**: Austria joined the international hydrogen alliance ‘International Hydrogen Trade Forum’ (IHTF) on 13 May 2024. Climate Protection Minister Leonore Gewessler took part in the IHTF ministerial meeting in Rotterdam.

**AT-DE-IT roundtable** on hydrogen infrastructure and the development of a southern import corridor:

The last south corridor meeting of the trilateral working group AT, DE, IT took place in Vienna on 6 March 2024. The memorandum of understanding drawn up jointly after this meeting was signed by the three countries on 30 May 2024 at the Council of Ministers in Brussels. The cooperation with North African partner countries will be strengthened.



# Thank you



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