

A strategy for strengthening governance structures for Hydrogen development

Our INTERREG project aims to enhance network structures for the governance of hydrogen developments. These network-based governance structures are particularly important in the emerging hydrogen sector. The strategy focuses on enabling regional authorities to take a stronger orchestration role in hydrogen development through stakeholder engagement and institutional capacity-building.

To achieve this, we accelerate three pilot initiatives under the EHRIN framework—regional development conferences that serve as experimental platforms for collaborative governance. These pilots convene diverse regional stakeholders, fostering dialogue, shared learning and joint action. By capturing and synthesizing the practices, tools, and insights from these pilots, in a Take-off guide, we aim to develop transferable practises that regional authorities can adopt to coordinate complex hydrogen initiatives more effectively.

The agenda of the regional development conference is designed as a structured intervention to operationalize the project's strategic goals. Each agenda element—stakeholder dialogues, thematic working sessions, and capacity-building workshops—corresponds to a core pillar of the strategy: fostering structured learning, enabling multi-actor engagement, and strengthening institutional capacity. By aligning conference activities with these strategic enablers, the agenda ensures that each event contributes to building the durable, trust-based network structures required for effective hydrogen governance.

As part of the strategy, the regional development conferences are evaluated by means of a Post Implementation Review. The goal of the post-implementation review is to evaluate the effectiveness, outcomes, and strategic alignment of the development conference. It serves to assess whether the conference successfully contributed to the overarching objectives of the EHRIN project—particularly in enhancing stakeholder collaboration, advancing regional hydrogen governance structures, and building institutional capacity. The review aims to extract actionable insights, identify best practices and lessons learned, and ensure that these are fed back into the project to inform future activities and strengthen pilot outcomes.

The agenda is for the Development Conference in Hannover 28-29 February 2024 is as follows:

EHRIN Meeting Hannover

"Hydrogen Stakeholder Networks in Germany – We are stronger together"

Date: Wednesday, 28.02.2024 – Thursday, 29.02.2024

Venue Address:

Medical Park Hannover

Feodor-Lynen-Str. 27

30625 Hannover

Germany

28th February 2024

- 09:00 | Welcome – State Representative Frauke Patzke
- 09:15 | Poetry-Presentation “Working together in Europe” – Tobias Kunze
- 09:30 | Presentation Agenda – ArL (Sarah-Ann Tönsmeier)
- 09:45 | About EHRIN – Province Drenthe (Marika Hoekstra)
- 10:10 | Input 1 – Federal structure of Germany and partner countries (Sarah-Ann Tönsmeier)
- 10:30 | Input 2 – Chamber of Industry and Commerce (Alexander Krause), Hydrogen Network Lower Saxony (Dr. Alexander Bedrunka)
- 11:15 | Coffee Break
- 11:45 | Input 3 – Regional Hydrogen Network (Dr. Peter Oswald), Local Hydrogen Network (Martin Wilkening)
- 12:30 | Lunchbreak
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- 13:30 | Workshop – Stakeholder Discussions in 2 Groups
- 14:30 | Social Part – Bussanova (Guided Bus Tour through Hannover), Meeting Point: Medical Park
- 17:00 | End of Meeting Day

- 18:40 | Bus Transfer – Meeting Point: Medical Park
- 19:00 | Project Dinner – Restaurant Der Gartensaal, Neues Rathaus Hannover
- 22:00 | Bus Transfer – Return to Medical Park

29th February 2024

- 09:00 | Meeting & Welcome – By Host ArL (Sarah-Ann Tönsmeier)
- 09:15 | How can stakeholder networks support hydrogen projects – ArL (Arne Gisewski)
- 09:40 | Video Input/ Coffee Break – All Attendees
- 10:00 | Project Input 1 (in 2 rooms):
 - | (1) How to start with Hydrogen – Ulf Lemke, Ingenion GmbH
 - | (2) Sewage Disposal Hannover – Aspens GmbH
 - | (3) Combined Heat and Power plant Neustadt – Manfred Becke
 - | (4) Nemobil Paderborn – Markus Zwick
 - | (5) Special-Purpose vehicles for municipalities – Paul Bruns, FAUN Group
- 11:30 | Video Input 2/ Coffee Break – All Attendees
- 12:00 | Offered Lunch
- 13:00 | Project Input 2 (in 2 rooms) – Repeat of morning sessions
- 14:30 – 14:45 | End of Meeting – State Representative Frauke Patzke

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