



# Regions’ view on the regional role in JTI and Hydrogen Economy implementation **SPANISH REGIONS**

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## Regions role in Hydrogen Strategy

1. **Regions are --and will continue to be, the major playground of Demonstration and Deployment plans**
2. **Regions will become major funders of Demo and Deployment projects**
3. **Most meaningful PPPs are being developed by Regions and Municipalities**
4. **Regions are acting as boosters of Member States’ support to JTI and Hydrogen European Plans –but they can also cool down.**
5. **The Parliament (as stated by Mr Busquin) has recognised the need of Regional networking on Hydrogen through ERANet.**



## Current status of Region’s role in Hydrogen Strategy

1. **Regional dimension, although universally recognised and praised, has no specific reflection in the governance structures foreseen for JTI or ad-hoc committee to follow the JTI’s activities.**
2. **Regional interests cut across MS’s representation.**
  - **Trans-border regional cooperation**
  - **Specific funding and/or organisational needs**
  - **More flexibility to move faster**
3. **EC clearly represents the MS in the JTI, but it institutionally reports to MS, not to Regions**
4. **Research interests are represented as grouping in the current proposal for the JTI**
5. **Yet, Regions need to channel their views and inputs in the Governing structures of the JTI**



## Proposals on governance and on assuring Regions' input

- 1. Regions that are committed to Hydrogen and FC and can act as pushers for the promotion and development of policies in support of H2 and FC activities clearly see the need to network.**
- 2. A number of these regions are ready to establish immediately a forum to better define and communicate their views**
- 3. Regions in this context are understood as governments or mandated bodies with political and budgetary competences at a level different from MS, be smaller or larger**
- 4. As such networked grouping, Regions are legitimate to be represented in the JTI as crucial contributors to the JTI activities**
- 5. The EC has an opportunity to underline the Regional role in the implementation and deployment of the Hydrogen Economy by, for example, providing visible support to the network of Committed Regions to Hydrogen**



## Specific proposals -1

### Involvement in projects

- **Beyond being mere ‘containers of demos’, Regions may play a major role in industry diversification and enterprise creation to develop the production and exploitation capacity of the European territories**  
**These activities should be eligible for support from EU**
- **There may be projects of interest for regions falling outside the scope of JTI’s priorities , yet be consistent with general FP7 goals. Make sure this does not prevent trans-border regional initiatives to be eligible for funding outside the JTI**  
**Hyways and Roads2Hycom could help in early identification of these initiative**
- **Make sure that FP7’s workplan for Transport and Energy must contemplate actions proposed by the Implementation Plan, regardless the JTI, as there is a risk that if JTI is not created or is undefended, FP7 can take over the entirety of the IP programme.**



## Specific proposals -2

### Regional Alignment

- **Ready and willing to align with EU priorities. Need to know ASAP about these priorities and ways of implementation**

### Funding and finance

- **EIB instruments, in particular in support of SMEs, should be made more accessible to very small companies in all regions of Europe. Possibly, pilot experiences in Germany may not be very illustrative of the reality in other territories in Europe.**

### Public awareness and communication

- **Eurobarometer recognises that people trust more Non-governmental organisations than governments. Social stakeholders need to be better involved in communication and dissemination**
- **The ‘Contribution to European Goals’ used as a criterion to prioritise actions in the Implementation Plan is not clear and, in some cases, it is difficult to justify how priorities have been set on the basis of this concept**



# Supporting the Regions to integrate Hydrogen **SPANISH REGIONS**

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