



IPHE Country Update Nov 2023 – Feb 2024: Costa Rica

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Covered Period	November 2023 - March 2024

1. New Initiatives, Programs, and Policies on Hydrogen and Fuel Cells

- New electricity rate created for green hydrogen projects sourcing energy from the country's mostly-renewable grid (approximately 6 ¢/kWh).
- Decree 44318 issued by the Ministry for Energy and Environment, declaring investments in green hydrogen projects and renewable energy projects destined for green hydrogen production as "endeavours in the public interest".

2. Hydrogen and Fuel Cell R&D Update

N/A

3. Demonstration, Deployments, and Workforce Developments Update

- 9 (out of 13) fuel-cell electric buses have arrived in Costa Rica. The fleet was donated by AC Transit of Oakland, CA (USA) to the Strategy for the XXI Century Association, an NGO promoting Costa Rica's green hydrogen transformation and skills training for the green hydrogen economy. These buses will be integrated into the Green Hydrogen Transportation Ecosystem expansion being developed by Ad Astra Rocket Company and its partners, and also serve as training platforms for the Costa Rica Hydrogen School.
- The first group of Hydrogen School interns completed its training in December 2023, and a second has started its activities. The Hydrogen School is a program managed by the Strategy for the XXI Century Association in collaboration with Ad Astra Rocket Company, and it received its seed funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

4. Events and Solicitations

N/A

5. Investments: Government and Collaborative Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Funding

- Privately-funded 1-MW green hydrogen production facility with an associated HRS and a combined fleet of fuel-cell trucks and buses, led by ProNova Energy, approaching final stages of private financing. This project aims to expand the capabilities of the existing pilot plant, the Costa Rica Hydrogen



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Transportation Ecosystem, into a commercial venture which will become Latin America's first project of its kind.

- Funding proposal to the Mitigation Action Facility (MAF, formerly the NAMA Facility) still undergoing final negotiations. This process is led by the German Cooperation Agency GIZ on behalf of the Ministry for Environment and Energy, with the collaboration of several public- and private-sector entities. Project aims to create a financial mechanism offering attractive interest rates and terms specifically for green hydrogen projects in Costa Rica.

6. Regulations, Codes & Standards, and Safety Update

- National Technical Committee for the adoption of hydrogen-related technical standards has continued the publication of local codes and standards. A total of seven ISO standards have been officially adopted, with more soon to be published.