



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELLS IN THE ECONOMY

IPHE Country Update Nov 2024 – Apr 2025: Australia

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Covered Period	Nov 2024 – Apr 2025

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

On 13 September 2024, the Australian Government released the 2024 National Hydrogen Strategy. Under the 2024 National Hydrogen Strategy, and as a central part of Future Made in Australia Plan, the Government has announced a range of measures to accelerate the hydrogen industry's development. These include:

- A legislated Hydrogen Production Tax Incentive, a time-limited and demand-driven program providing a refundable tax offset of AU\$2 for each kilogram of eligible renewable hydrogen produced, and available from 2027-28 for a maximum of 10 years for projects.
- The flagship Hydrogen Headstart program to support innovative, large-scale renewable hydrogen projects to lead industry development.
- Investing around \$500 million through the Regional Hydrogen Hubs Program to support accelerating clean hydrogen industry growth and industry development at scale.
- Legislating the Guarantee of Origin scheme through the Future Made in Australia (GO) Act 2024.
 - The GO scheme is a voluntary emissions accounting and verification framework.
 - Product Guarantee of Origin certificates will first be issued for hydrogen production from electrolysis and then include other commodities.
 - The GO scheme will underpin eligibility for the Hydrogen Production Tax Incentive
- Supporting the establishment of a National Hydrogen Technology Skills Training Centre in partnership with the Victorian State Government to promote hydrogen workforce development.

2. Hydrogen and Fuel Cell R&D Update

Future Made in Australia Innovation Fund

The Fund administered by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) will provide up to \$1.5 billion in grant funding to support pre-commercial innovation, demonstration and deployment of renewable energy and low emission technologies, to support Australia's transition to a net zero economy. The FMA Innovation fund will split grant funding across three priority areas (the Priority Areas):

- \$750 million to Green Metals including iron, steel, alumina and aluminium including supporting uptake and use of green hydrogen technologies.



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELLS IN THE ECONOMY

- \$500 million to Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing to enable development of technologies, including hydrogen technologies, seeking to alleviate critical supply chain challenges facing the clean energy transition.
- \$250 million to Low Carbon Liquid Fuels (LCLF) including sustainable aviation fuels and renewable diesel. Innovative projects using clean hydrogen based synthetic fuel pathways are eligible to compete for this.

Australia also continues to invest in our important international partnerships to support bilateral cooperation on hydrogen, funding to support research, development and demonstration activities and early-stage projects through ARENA and other funding initiatives.

3. Demonstration, Deployments, and Workforce Developments Update

On 20 March 2025, the Minister for Climate Change and Energy announced the Government will provide up to \$814 million through the Hydrogen Headstart program to support the Murchison Green Hydrogen (MGH) Project. The MGH project is a 1,500 MW renewable ammonia development in the mid-west of Western Australia. When operational, phase 1 of the MGH project will deliver ~900,000 tonnes of renewable ammonia, equivalent to almost half of Australia's current ammonia production from fossil fuels.

Other significant investments and dedicated institutions established to support the skilled workforce needed to deliver Australia's hydrogen ambitions include:

- Establishing a national network of 10 Jobs and Skills Councils (JSCs) to provide industry with a stronger, more strategic voice in ensuring the vocational training sector delivers better outcomes for learners and employers.
- The Net Zero Economy Authority, which will support workers to access new employment, or to acquire skills to improve their employment prospects.
- Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA), which provides independent advice and information on current, emerging and future skills needs across the economy. JSCs work with JSA to identify, forecast and respond to skills needs and workforce challenges.
- Establishment of the Building Women's Careers program to advance structural and cultural change to improve women's access to flexible and inclusive vocational education and training opportunities.
- The Australian Government's New Energy Apprenticeship Program, which supports the clean energy workforce in the hydrogen and renewable manufacturing sectors.

4. Events and Solicitations

Date/end date	Location	Event title	Organiser
18 Jul 2025	Melbourne	Connecting Hydrogen APAC 2025 Conference & Exhibition	Leader Associates



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELLS IN THE ECONOMY

21 Nov 2025	Sydney	Asia Pacific Hydrogen 2025 Summit & Exhibition	Sustainable Energy Council/Australian Hydrogen Council
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5. Investments: Government and Collaborative Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Funding

In September 2024, Australia and Germany signed a historic deal to deepen cooperation on a new green hydrogen supply chains through a ~AUD\$660 million (€400 million) **H2Global** funding window. H2Global is a competitive, market-based mechanism that provides offtake certainty to supply side investors, underpinned by government funding contributions.

In 2023, under the **Australia-UK Renewable Hydrogen Innovation Partnership Program**, the Australian Government announced up to \$10 million over 3 years for hydrogen research, development and demonstration projects in partnership with UK companies.

The India-Australia Green Hydrogen Taskforce (IAGHT) is one of three pillars of the **India-Australia Renewable Energy Partnership**, alongside work on solar and critical minerals. The taskforce met throughout 2023 and 2024 and agreed on priority opportunities for collaboration to report to Governments on.

6. Regulations, Codes & Standards, and Safety Update

Australian governments are developing National Hydrogen Regulatory Guidebooks, with an initial focus on hydrogen production and refuelling. Developed in consultation with industry, governments and regulators, these will provide a detailed overview of Australia's regulatory regimes as they relate to hydrogen in these sectors. They will enable greater regulatory transparency, support greater safety outcomes, national consistency, and efficient regulatory approvals.