



International Partnership  
for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells  
in the Economy

# Costa Rica Update

41<sup>st</sup> IPHE Steering Committee Meeting

19 - 20 March 2024

New Delhi, India

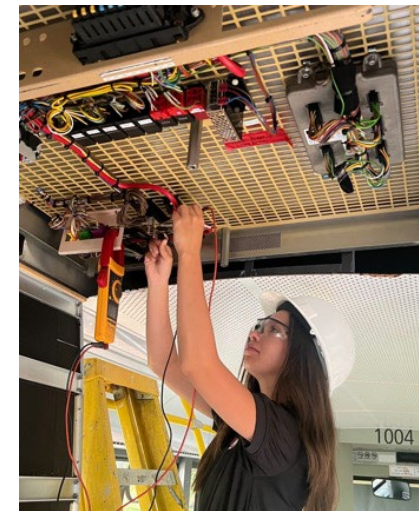
# Announcements / New Initiatives *Costa Rica*

## Investments/Funding/Policies/Initiatives

- New electricity rate created for green hydrogen (renewable hydrogen) projects: approx. 6 ¢/kWh for grid-supplied green electricity (October 2023).
- Decree Ministry for Energy and Environment declared investments in green hydrogen projects and related renewable energy projects as "endeavors in the public interest" (December, 2023).

## New Research & Development, Demonstration and/or Deployment Activities

- 9 (out of 13) fuel-cell electric buses have arrived in Costa Rica, donated by AC Transit of Oakland, CA (USA) to the Strategy for the XXI Century Association, an NGO promoting Costa Rica's green hydrogen and skills training for the green hydrogen economy. They will be integrated into the **Green Hydrogen Transportation Ecosystem expansion** being developed by Ad Astra Rocket Company and its partners. Additionally, the fleet will serve as training platforms for the **Costa Rica Hydrogen School**.
- The CR Hydrogen School began operations on September 4, 2023. The first group of interns completed their training in December 2023, and a second training cycle started on February 4, 2024. The Hydrogen School is managed by Strategy for the XXI Century in collaboration with Ad Astra Rocket Company, with seed funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.



# Examples of Lessons Learned and Impact *Costa Rica*

Program initiative, policy, regulation or mandate	Lessons Learned/Outcomes
Costa Rica Hydrogen School	Increases the H2-trained workforce availability and speeds up the implementation of new projects
New electric rate established October 2023, for green hydrogen production	Enhances the competitiveness of green hydrogen vs fossil fuel and promotes the decarbonization of the economy
Ministerial decree (Dec. 2023) establishing green hydrogen as an “Endeavor of Public Interest”	Facilitates the permitting and reduces bureaucracy in the implementation of green hydrogen projects



# Costa Rica – Profile March 2024

## Status of Deployments

- **FCEVs:** 4
- **FCEBs:** 10 (4 additional buses coming in April 2024).
- **HRSs:** 1

## Leading Government Initiatives

- Costa Rica National Green Hydrogen Strategy
  - *Consulting group sponsored by IDB currently working on feasibility study for a nation-wide Green H2 Innovation Hub.*
- Specific rate for grid-tied renewable electricity (6 ¢/kWh) for green H2 production projects

## Goals or Focus Areas

- **Training:** The Costa Rica Hydrogen School enters its second year of operation.
- **Substitution of local fossil-fuel demand**
- **Innovation hub:** creation of commercial pilot projects, testing of technologies

## Deployment Goals

- 6 operational FCEBs and 4 heavy-duty trucks will enter commercial operation in late 2025 as part of ProNova Energy’s commercial project.

## Funding

- Privately-funded projects backed by investors and donors.
- Country negotiating financing facility with MAF.



# Thank you



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