ready4H_2

Hydrogen flows where networks lead

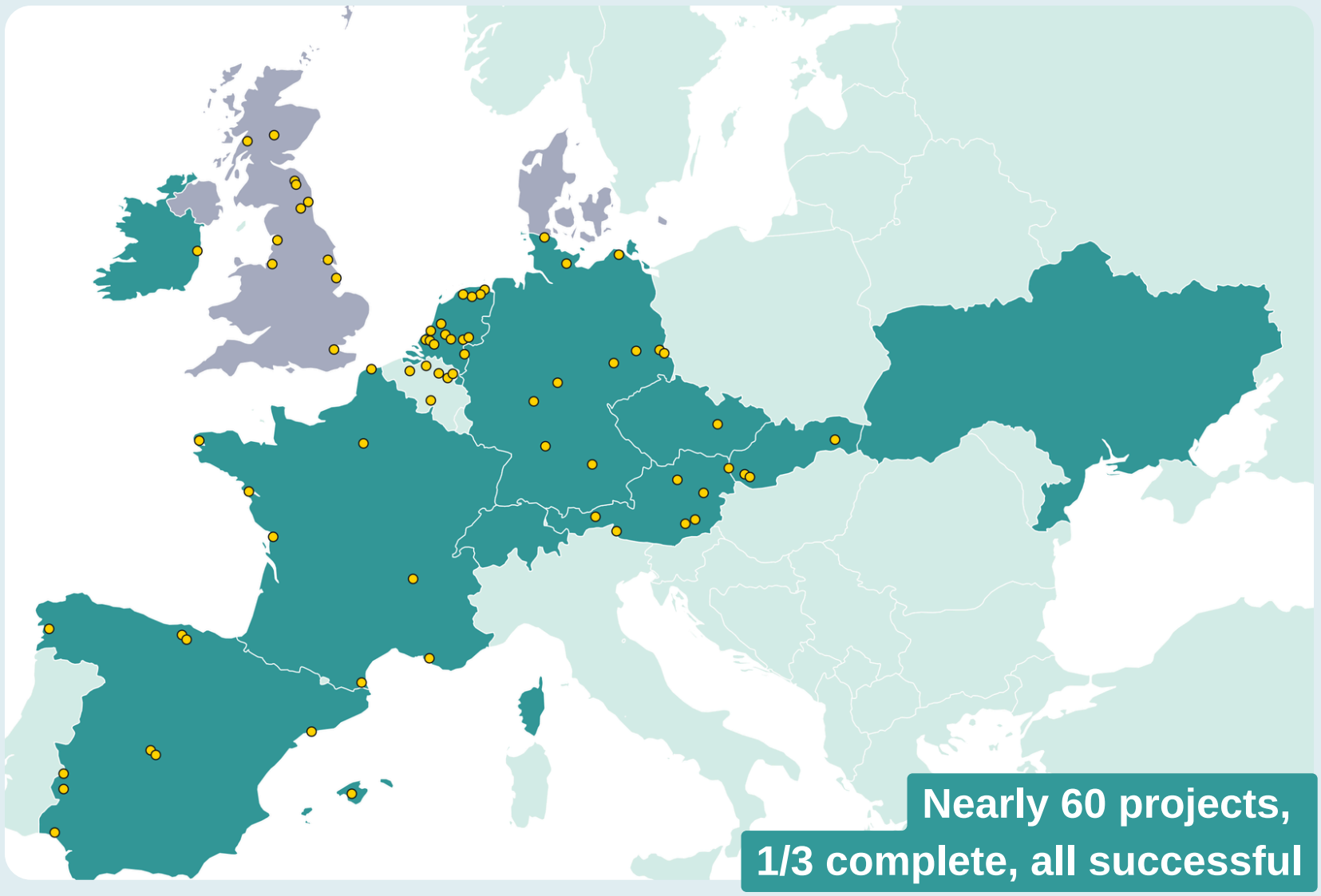
Gas distribution is Ready4H2

Launch of the Ready4H2 *Guide to Planning the Distribution Grids for Hydrogen* at Hydrogen Week, 2026

Who we are

Ready4H2 coordinates the hydrogen expertise in nearly **70 gas distribution grid operators and associations across 10 European countries**.

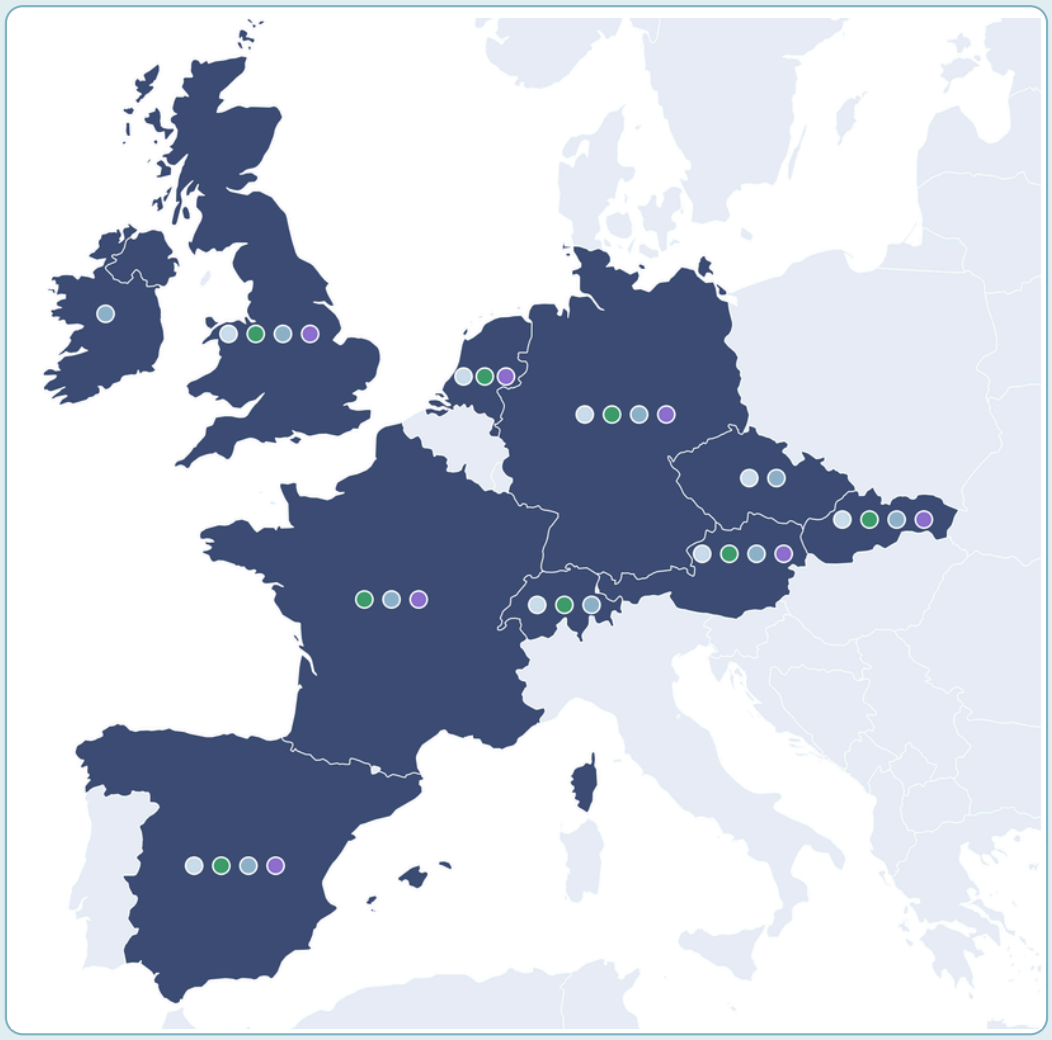
We raise the common understanding of the role of hydrogen distribution in the energy transition, the **increased resilience** these grids bring to Europe's energy system, and the importance of hydrogen distribution grids for **successful development of regions and remote communities**.



Member projects testing the feasibility of hydrogen distribution

Distribution is ready to start

Gas distribution grids are moving away from their traditional role of supplying natural gas to the customer, and instead are adapting by necessity to the energy transition and Europe's needs by becoming the **entry point for renewable gases and linking cross-border and cross-sector energy delivery**.



Ready4H2 member countries and preferred hydrogen ramp-up pathways

The transition will be won or lost over the last mile;
distribution grids are needed to deliver over half the hydrogen demand from all sectors to the consumer point, without them the targets for decarbonisation cannot be reached.

Flexible pathways

The flexibility that distribution networks bring enables a phased and cost-effective hydrogen rollout.

Grid expansion

CONVERSION

Repurposing of existing gas pipelines and facilities to transport methane and hydrogen (costs 7% compared to new-build and major gas reduction/metering station 52%).

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Installation of hydrogen-ready networks, especially applicable to new or remote customers and industrial clusters/valleys.

Hydrogen ramp-up

BLENDING

Hydrogen mixed with methane either as a transitional or long-term solution to reduce emissions significantly.

100% HYDROGEN

Pure hydrogen delivered to all end users on a dedicated network.

Multi-fuel boilers offer local authorities and customers the choice to utilise the best solution for their needs with a hybrid electric heat pump-gas boiler system that can run on **renewable electricity, biomethane or hydrogen, or any mix**.



3-step process

Our *Guide to Planning the Distribution Grids for Hydrogen* shows how to prepare and implement the changes needed to become hydrogen-ready.

Concept and Comms

1. Stakeholder comms*
2. Preliminary analyses

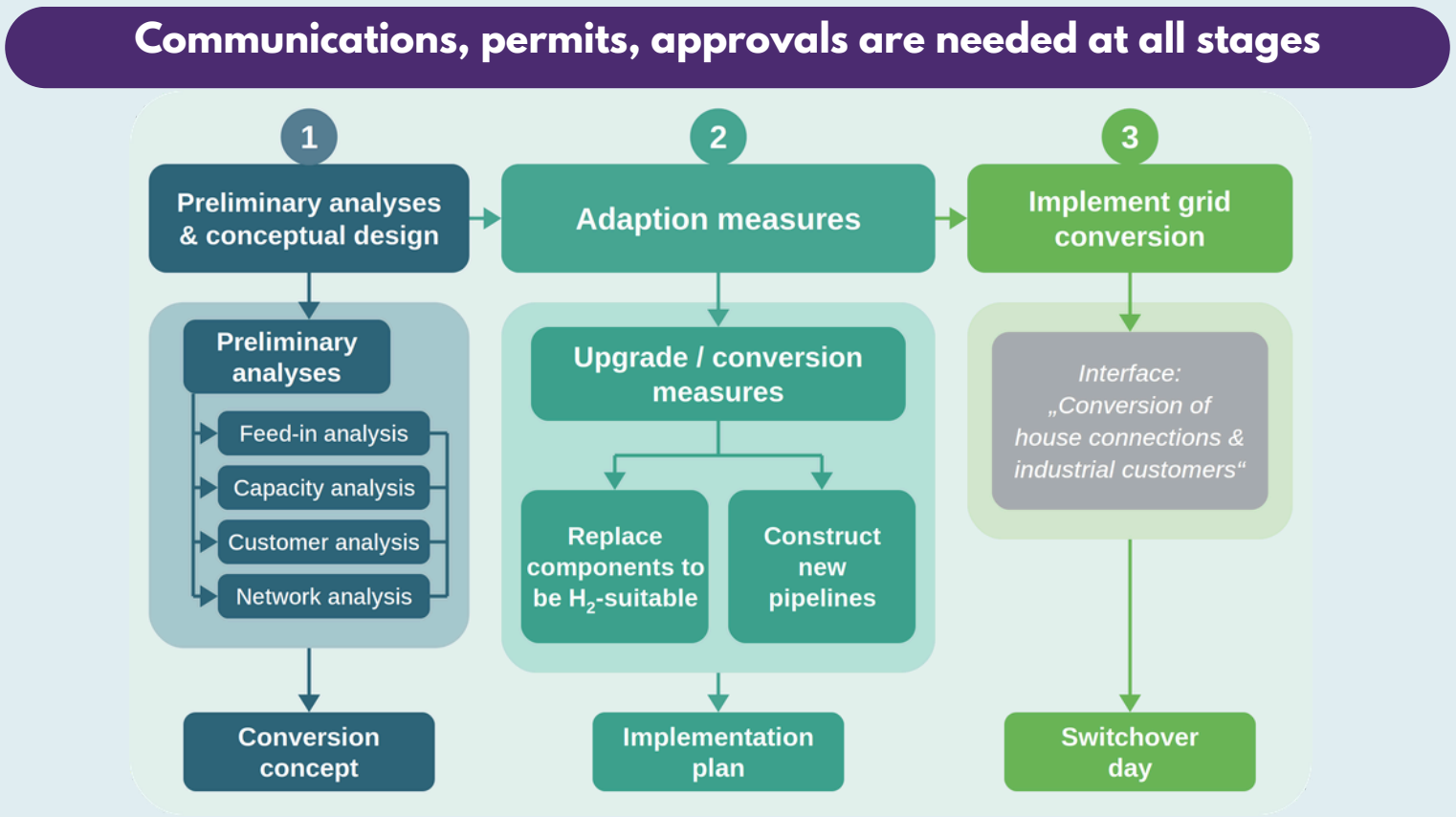
Design and adaptation

3. Conceptual design
4. Permits and approvals*
5. Adaptation of existing systems

Installation and Commissioning

6. Implementation
7. Switchover day

***Technical issues are well understood; the highest risk of delay is from permits and stakeholder acceptance.**



Policy support is essential to the success of hydrogen delivery

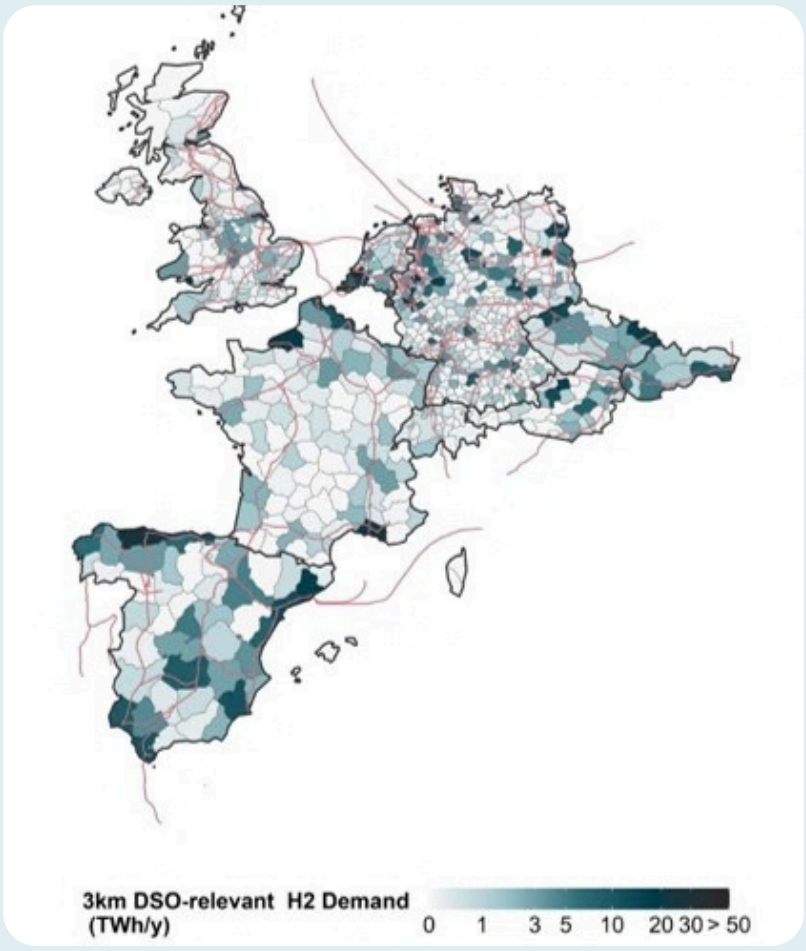
Coordinated planning with equal importance given to all parts of the supply chain infrastructure from production/import to end-delivery to the customer.

Implementation of the Gas Package Directive across all Member States to avoid fragmentation and provide consistent signals for investment and development.

Broader understanding and acceptance of the role of hydrogen and the technology available to produce, store and deliver it, to support a common vision and targets.

Adjustment of rules for early hydrogen-adoption to facilitate as early as possible ramp-up, such as additionality, blending limits and capacity allocation.

Efficient permitting that fits the urgency of hydrogen uptake in the hard-to-decarbonise sectors.



Hydrogen demand by 2050 in Ready4H2 countries

Read the Planning Guide

SCAN HERE

or visit www.ready4h2.com

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