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## Results of the Call for Interest -H2med promoters share insights and outline future steps of the project

10 February 2025

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, the H2med promoters launched a Call for Interest (CFI) for a transnational initiative to interconnect the hydrogen networks from the Iberian Peninsula to North-Western Europe involving Portugal, Spain, France and Germany.

The Call for Interest aimed to identify the needs of all the regions along the H2med Corridor, particularly the national hydrogen backbones developed by the 5 project promoters by the early 2030s. It also aims to assess the needs of future infrastructure users across the entire hydrogen value chain. The results will help optimise infrastructure design and establish operational specifications.

Today, the H2med promoters hosted an online webinar to present the results of this H2med Call for Interest and shared their analysis of the main trends and figures. This presentation follows the announcement of the CEF results, which were announced in the last week of January. The promoters of the projects are invited to sign a grant agreement with CINEA for both H2med projects: CelZa and BarMar.

## Strong outcomes from the Call for Interest

- Nearly 170 companies responded with over 500 reported projects, demonstrating a strong interest in the proposed infrastructure and confirming H2med's role in achieving the decarbonisation and reindustrialisation objectives of European stakeholders. These results show the importance of the H2med project in line with the REPowerEU framework which aims for 10 Mt of domestically produced renewable and fossil-free hydrogen and 10 Mt from imports and the recent Net Zero Industry Act, both underscoring hydrogen's crucial role in the EU's decarbonisation and reindustrialisation efforts.
- The Iberian Peninsula demonstrates a strong export potential as of 2030 (0.4 Mt/year for Portugal and 1.22 Mt/year for Spain), reaching full BarMar capacity as of 2032. In Spain, these results also confirm the potential revealed in Enagás' 2023 market test. According to the results, volume expected in Spain in 2035 is 4.6 Mt total production and 2.6 Mt production for Spanish consumption. This call to the market also reveals an interest of the Northern African countries to transit their hydrogen production into Europe from 2040 especially.
- In France, the CFI shows significant volumes with both strong market consumption and production trends. Consumption could reach nearly 0.9 Mt/year by 2050, driven primarily by the chemical industry and e-fuels production for the mobility sector. This shows the key role of hydrogen in the industry transition and competitiveness enhancement. The figures on consumption and production reflect the data collected along the H2med corridor, suggesting that the full potential of production and consumption in France might be higher. Part of French national production is expected to be exported through HY-FEN towards Germany.



West German consumption projects focussing on supply from H2med will take up half of H2med's capacity by 2035. The H2med corridor is making a significant contribution to meet this demand, expected to reach 17 to 21 Mt/year by 2040 according to the German Ministry of Economics and Climate affairs. The figures collected by OGE reflect only part of the global German consumption, as primarily OGE's potential hydrogen customer base has participated in the CFI. According to the German-wide survey performed in 2024 ("WEB"), about a third of the total German offtake can be allocated to OGE's potential hydrogen customer base. Thus, the feedback from this part of the German market is encouraging regarding the role of hydrogen in the future decarbonised economy.

## Next steps and challenges

- Extend the **H2med Alliance** created last December in Madrid by the H2med promoters (REN, Enagás, Teréga, NaTran, OGE), German and Spanish government representatives, and private companies along the whole value chain supporting the initiative. This alliance will play a crucial commercial and advocacy role, ensuring continued support for the corridor through regular meetings.
- Address challenges linked to the necessity of aligning the timeline of the Hydrogen & Decarbonised Gas Market Package transposition across the involved member states. This process will help de-risking infrastructure projects and facilitate industrial commitments.
- **Develop and animate the match-making platform** to allow registration of new projects, to foster market developments and help build commercial relationships for future collaborations.

All information relating to the webinar, the presentation of the results and the call for interest are available on the <u>H2med website</u>.

About	the	companies	involved:

**Enagás** is a Transmission System Operator (TSO) with 50 years' experience in the development, operation and maintenance of energy infrastructure. It has more than 12,000 kilometres of gas pipelines, three underground storage facilities and eight regasification plants. The company operates in seven countries. In Spain it is the Technical Manager of the Gas System and, according to the Royal Decree-Law 8/2023, Enagás may operate as provisional Hydrogen Transmission Network Operator (HTNO) and develop H2med, the Spanish hydrogen network and associated storage facilities. In line with its commitment to energy transition, Enagás has announced its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2040, with a firm commitment to decarbonisation and the promotion of renewable gases, especially hydrogen.

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**NaTran** is the new name of GRTgaz, a leader in gas transmission in Europe. In 2025, NaTran rebranded itself and launched a new corporate project focused on energy transition and carbon neutrality. To achieve its strategic goals, the company is adapting its networks and practices to tackle ecological, economic, and digital challenges. NaTran is developing infrastructure for renewable and low-carbon gases, including biomethane, hydrogen and CO2. The Group has two subsidiaries: Elengy, the leading LNG terminal operator in Europe and NaTran Deutschland which operates the MEGAL network. NaTran is committed to public service missions to ensure safe transport of gas for its customers. The NaTran R&I research center, formerly known as RICE, is an international benchmark in research and innovation for the energy transition.



NaTran Group key figures: 33,800 km of pipelines, 680 TWh of gas transported, nearly 3,800 employees, €2.6 billion in revenue in 2023.

To find out more about NaTran and its initiatives, visit <u>NaTrangroupe.com</u>, X, LinkedIn, or Instagram. Press contact: Chafia BACI T +33 (0)6 40 48 54 40 <u>chafia.baci@grtgaz.com</u>

**OGE** is one of Europe's leading transmission system operators. With our approximately 12,000 kilometres of pipeline network, we transport gas throughout Germany and, due to our geographical location, we are the link for gas flows in the European single market. Our approximately 2,000 employees of the OGE group stand for security of supply. We make our network available to all market participants on a non-discriminatory, market-oriented and transparent basis. We make energy flow. For more information about the company, please visit www.oge.net. Press contact: Kristian Peters-Lach - kristian.peters-lach@oge.net - (+49) 201 3642–12622

**REN** – Gasodutos, S.A. is the Portuguese gas TSO and part of REN – Redes Energéticas Nacionais, SGPS, S.A., a group of companies that integrates the Portuguese electricity TSO, as well as other gas activities concessions in Portugal such as, the Sines LNG Terminal, the underground storage and one gas distribution company. Besides its operation in Portugal, REN also has gas and electric grid assets in Chile and a share in the Cahora Bassa power plant in Mozambigue. REN - Gasodutos, S.A. is responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of more than 1,300 km of high-pressure pipelines in Portugal and for the national gas system technical management. Find at https://www.ren.pt/ us (+351) Press contact: Paulo Camacho paulo.camacho@ren.pt -929 029 187

Teréga - Located in the Greater South-West, a crossroads of major European gas flows, Teréga has been deploying exceptional know-how in the development of gas transport and storage infrastructures for more than 80 years and is now designing innovative solutions to meet the major energy challenges in France and Europe. A true accelerator of the energy transition, Teréga has more than 5000 km of pipelines and two underground storage facilities representing respectively 15.6% of the French gas transmission network and 26.9% of the national storage capacity. In 2023, the company achieved a turnover of €494 million (excluding congestion balancing) and has 646 employees. Social responsibility is at the heart of Teréga's strategy, which is committed to the energy transition towards carbon neutrality. Teréga deploys programmes in all ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) areas: the safety of its employees and the safety of its infrastructure via the PARI 2035 programme, the sustainable development of territories and social responsibility via the ENERGIZ MOUV programme, the support of philanthropic projects through the Teréga Energies Accelerator endowment fund, and the reduction of environmental impacts through the BE POSITIF programme with a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by -34% by 2030 compared to 2021 across scopes 1, 2 and 3, which would make it possible achieve -54% scopes and 2 compared to on 1 to 2017. Find us at https://www.terega.fr/ Céline DALLEST - celine.dallest@terega.fr - (+33) 6 38 89 11 07