

Green Hydrogen Standard Committee

Draft Terms of Reference - 14 October 2022

1. Summary

In October 2022 the Green Hydrogen Organisation (GH2) invited stakeholders to join the Green Hydrogen Standard Committee. The Committee will advise the GH2 Board on the implementation and elaboration of the Green Hydrogen Standard. It is anticipated that the Committee will meet virtually on a quarterly basis, and at least once in person, likely in association with the 2nd Green Hydrogen Global Assembly planned for Q2 2023. The Committee will also establish working groups to work on specific technical topics as the need arises.

2. Background

GH2 [launched](#) the Green Hydrogen Standard in May 2022. The Standard provides certainty and transparency to investors, consumers, host communities and other stakeholders that green hydrogen is exactly that: hydrogen made with renewable electricity which conforms to the highest standards on emissions, ESG and the sustainable development goals.

The Standard was developed in late 2021 and early 2022 drawing on the expertise of a multi-stakeholder Technical Committee (see [here](#) and [here](#)). A proposal endorsed by the TC was subsequently submitted to the GH2 Board in March 2022. When adopting the Standard, the Board agreed to “establish a multi-stakeholder advisory group to further support and advise the GH2 Board on the further development of the Green Hydrogen Standard”. The Standard itself emphasizes the importance of consultation and learning from best practice:

The Standard seeks to balance predictability and flexibility in a new and rapidly growing industry. Project proponents have emphasized the need for clear and stable standards to inform long term planning. Stakeholders are also in agreement that GH2 should take into account emerging best practices, particularly as projects are scaled up from pilots to large scale operation. GH2 will review the lessons learned from the accreditation and certification process in consultation with all stakeholders.

The GH2 Board has also noted that: “The GH2 Board will review the performance of GH2 accredited projects on an annual basis, with the expectation that the boundaries of the emissions assessment framework can be widened, and that the emissions threshold will be lowered in accordance with emerging best practice” (page 18).

Since the launch, GH2 has worked closely with green hydrogen producers, government agencies, development finance institutions, and civil society organisations to ensure that the Standard addresses the most significant issues associated with green hydrogen production.

The Standard is being piloted in a wide range of projects, together with leading green hydrogen producers.

3. Committee Responsibilities

The Green Hydrogen Standard Committee will advise the GH2 Board on the implementation and elaboration of the Green Hydrogen Standard. GH2 have identified a number of issues where further detail and clarification is needed, including:

- The detailed protocols for verifying greenhouse gas emissions of <1kg CO₂ / kg H₂ in accordance with the agreed system boundaries, including emission factors for electricity utilisation.
- Developing an agreed procedure for quantifying the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the storage, conversion and delivery of H₂ and its derivatives, particularly green ammonia;
- Reviewing and applying emerging best practice relating to embodied emissions;
- Elaborating the procedures for verifying that project developers have considered "technically feasible and cost-effective measures to support the deployment of additional renewable energy capacity" in accordance with requirement 5a.
- Evaluating the provisions related to the utilisation of water (including desalination) and wastewater treatment;
- Elaborating the "exceptional circumstances", in accordance with §1.1, whereby GH2 may consider projects involving other renewable non-fossil sources, where these projects meet the same emissions and sustainability standards.
- Addressing fugitive hydrogen emissions.
- Any additional issues as agreed as requested by the GH2 Board and emerging from the Committee's deliberations.

4. Committee Composition

Interested stakeholders from government, industry, academia, development and civil society organizations are invited to send nominations by Friday 11 November 2022. GH2 will review the nominations and appoint a Committee for a two-year period, ensuring that there is diverse representation from GH2 supporters, partner organisations and stakeholders. GH2 will preference representatives with proven expertise in the renewable electricity and green hydrogen sector and those with wider networks that can be leveraged to advance the development of the Standard.

The members are:

- TBC

5. Anti-trust considerations

GH2 seeks to fully comply with all applicable laws, including antitrust and competition laws and regulations.

The Committee shall not discuss or share confidential proprietary or otherwise commercially sensitive information including pricing, terms and conditions of sale, production or sales levels, business relations, or other matters on which participants compete.

Discussing or sharing this information can have serious consequences for GH2 and participants including fines and reputational damage.

The Committee are thus asked to have due regard for antitrust and competition laws and to voice any concerns related these issues promptly.

6. GH2 Contact

GH2 contact point for this work is

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