

EN
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Answer given by Ms Simson
on behalf of the European Commission
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The REPowerEU plan¹ set an aspirational target of 10 million tonnes of domestic renewable hydrogen production and 10 million tonnes of renewable hydrogen imports by 2030 to lower the imports of Russian fossil fuels, proposing to increase the mandatory targets for renewable hydrogen consumption in industry and the transport sector. Whilst the co-legislators in the Renewable Energy Directive² decided to reduce both binding targets, and as a result, renewable hydrogen demand is expected to be lower than the aspirational targets in the REPowerEU plan for 2030, the mandatory targets will still spur future demand for renewable hydrogen, allowing the hydrogen industry to kickstart supply chains. Furthermore, the co-legislators also agreed on additional mandatory targets for renewable hydrogen consumption in industry in 2035 and laid out pathways in the aviation³ and maritime⁴ sector to promote the uptake of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen up to 2050.

EU financing for renewable and low-carbon hydrogen projects will go through the same due diligence process as any other EU financing, including robust financial oversight mechanisms, risk assessment procedures and milestones for the delivery of expected returns.

Through the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) Innovation Fund, the Commission has developed guidelines on how to calculate and compare the avoided greenhouse gas emissions for its supported projects, including for renewable and low-carbon hydrogen projects⁵. The European Investment Bank uses a transparent methodology to calculate and report on the impacts of their investments on climate mitigation⁶. A carbon footprint of products methodology, as developed under the Battery regulation⁷, will also be able to compare the climate benefits of products.

¹ SWD(2022) 230 final.

² Directive (EU) 2023/2413.

³ Regulation (EU) 2023/2405.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2023/1805.

⁵ [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/innovfund/guidance/ghg-emission-avoidance-methodology_innovfund_en.pdf#:~:text=The%20Innovation%20Fund%20\(InnovFund\)](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/innovfund/guidance/ghg-emission-avoidance-methodology_innovfund_en.pdf#:~:text=The%20Innovation%20Fund%20(InnovFund))

⁶ <https://www.eib.org/en/publications/20220215-eib-project-carbon-footprint-methodologies>

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13877-Batteries-for-electric-vehicles-carbon-footprint-methodology_en