

**NA  
HV**

**North  
Adriatic  
Hydrogen  
Valley**

# REGULATORY SANDBOX H<sub>2</sub>

## National Round Tables

Trieste, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Zagreb, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Slovenia, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

Rome, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026



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# NORTH ADRIATIC HYDROGEN VALLEY: OVERVIEW



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The project is supported by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and its members.



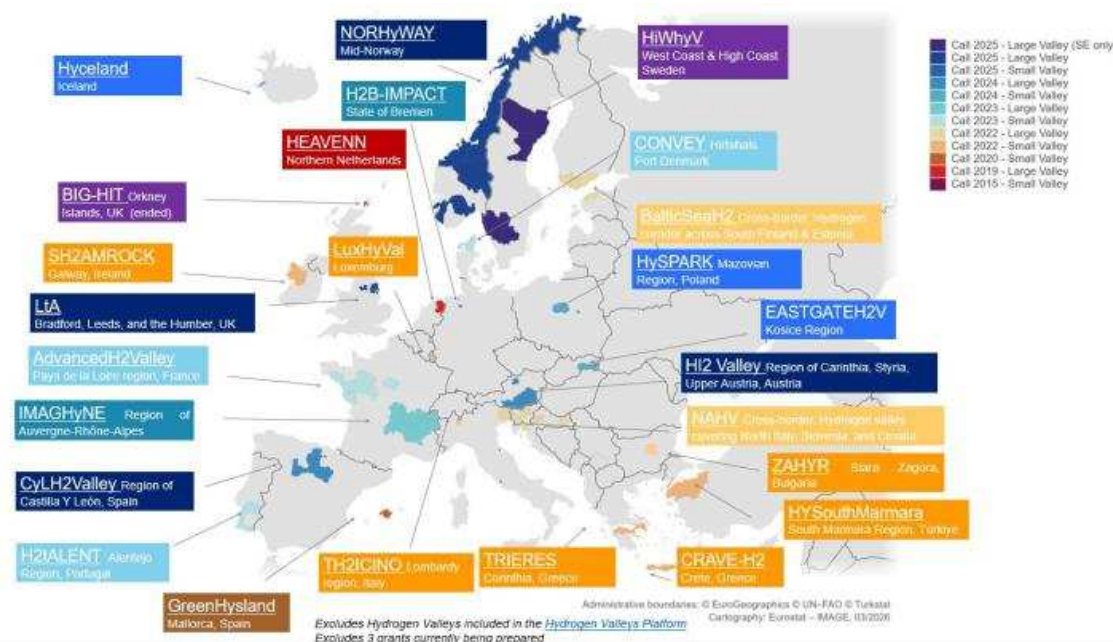
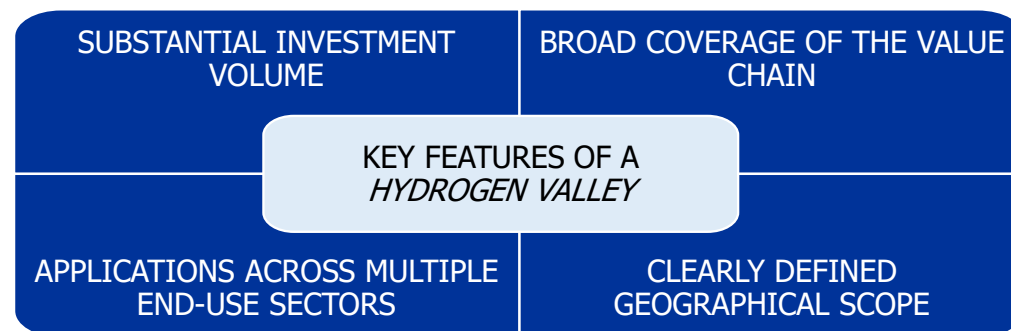
# The European context

To date, a total of 25 Hydrogen Valley projects have received support across 22 European countries, of which 24 remain active.

- 9 large-scale projects (>4,000 tonnes/year of hydrogen produced and consumed)
- 16 small-scale projects (>500 tonnes/year of hydrogen produced and consumed)

Collectively, these initiatives represent overall project expenditures of EUR 1.6 billion, with total financial contributions from the EU contribution of EUR 320 million.

Source: [https://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu/get-involved/hydrogen-valleys\\_en](https://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu/get-involved/hydrogen-valleys_en)



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# The genesis of the NAAHV project

- Approved under the 2022 EU **Horizon Europe** call – “Hydrogen Valley – large scale”
- Identified as a **flagship** initiative, representing the first transnational Hydrogen Valley at European level
- Established on the basis of the **Joint Letter of Intent** signed on 14 March 2022 by the State Secretaries of the the Republic of Slovenia, Republic of Croatia and the President of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia.



# Project characteristics

## Consortium

- Consortium coordination: HSE (Slovenia)
- 37 entities representing public institutions, industry, research & innovation across the three territories (SLO, HR, FVG-IT)

## EU FUNDING

- € 25 millions

## DURATION

- 72 months (September 2023 - August 2029)

## WORKING PACKAGES (WP)

- 11

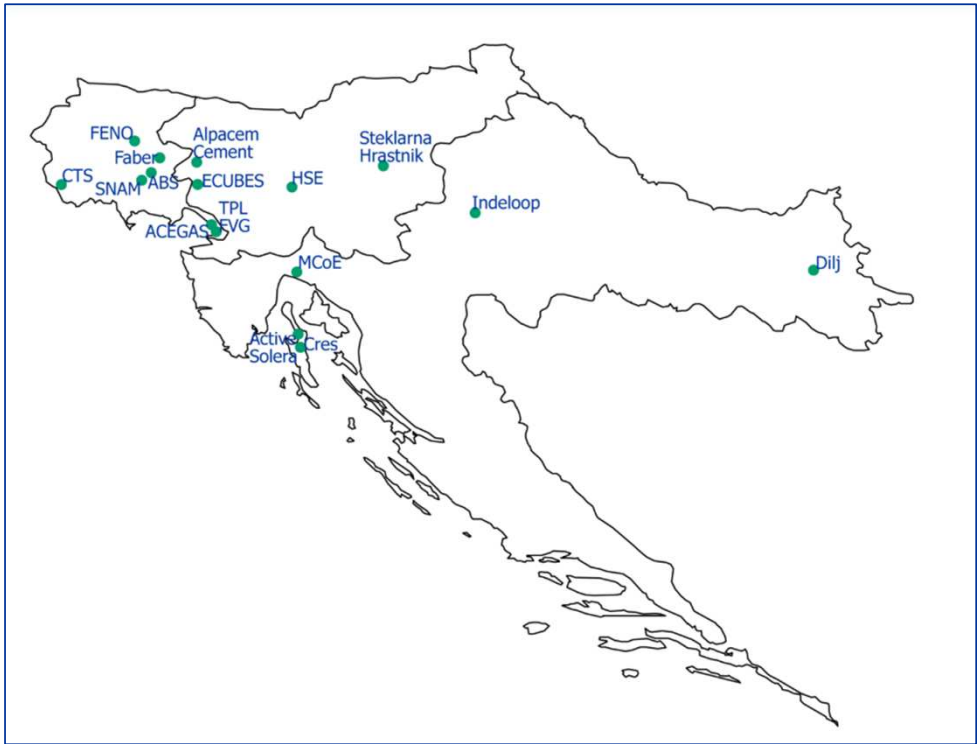
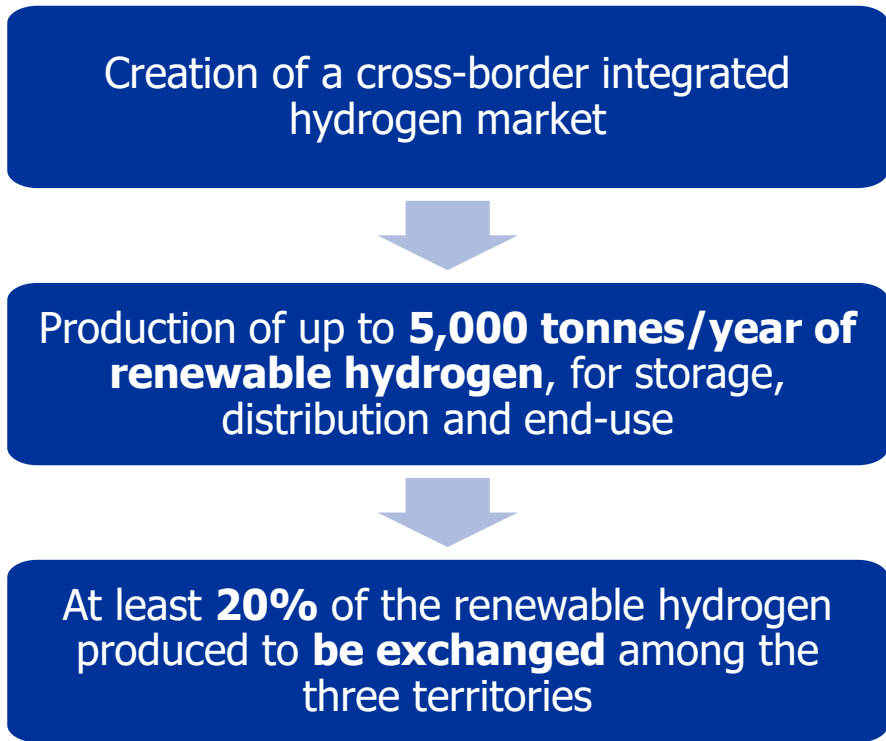


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# Objectives

**17 pilot projects:** test beds in the hard-to-abate, energy and transport sectors; starting **TRL 6** with a target of **TRL 8**



# TASK 8.2

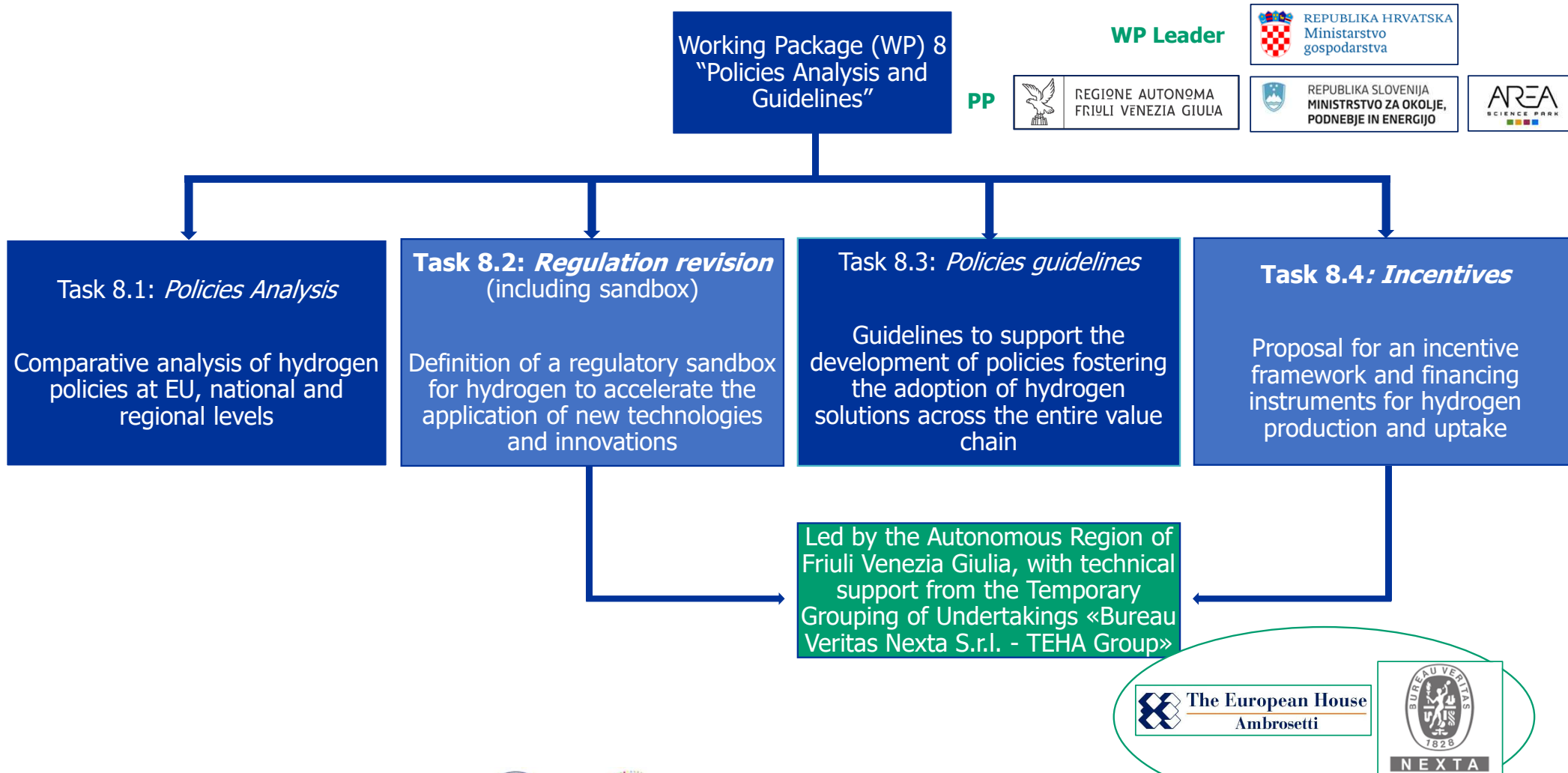
## REGULATORY SANDBOX: METHODOLOGY & PRELIMINARY SELECTION OF MACRO-AREAS OF INTEREST



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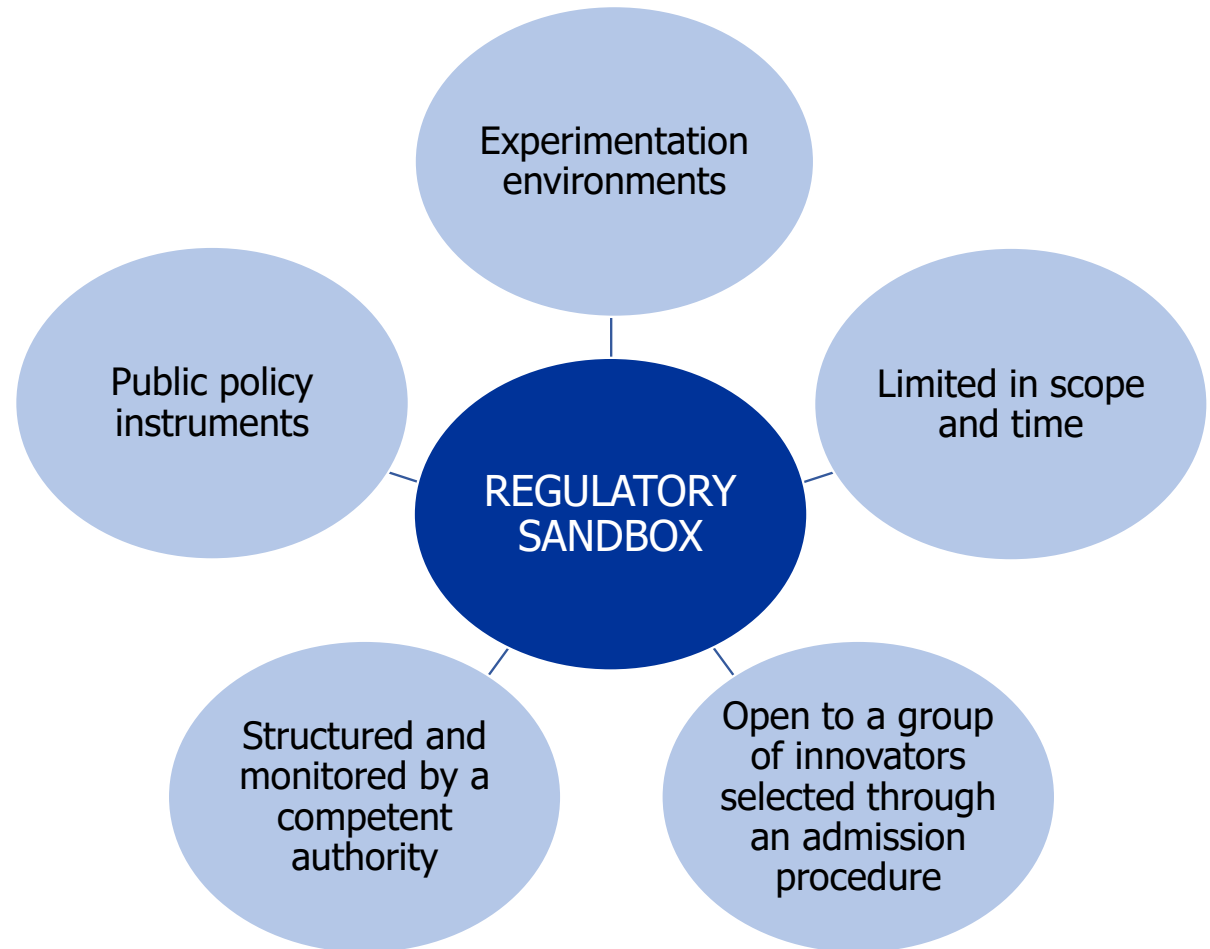
# Focus WP8: Policy Analysis and Guidelines



# Regulatory Sandbox: definition

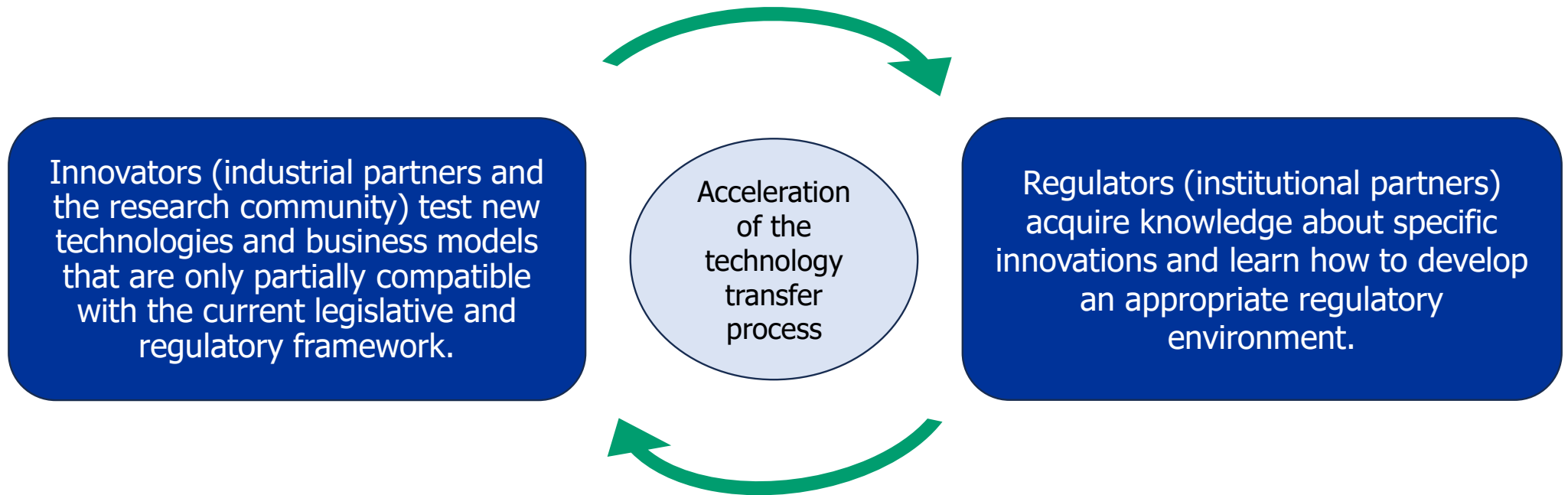
«Schemes that allow innovations to be tested in a real but controlled environment, according to a specific plan developed and monitored by a competent authority.»

Existing regulation and/or its application may be relaxed or suspended during experimentation, based on predetermined conditions.

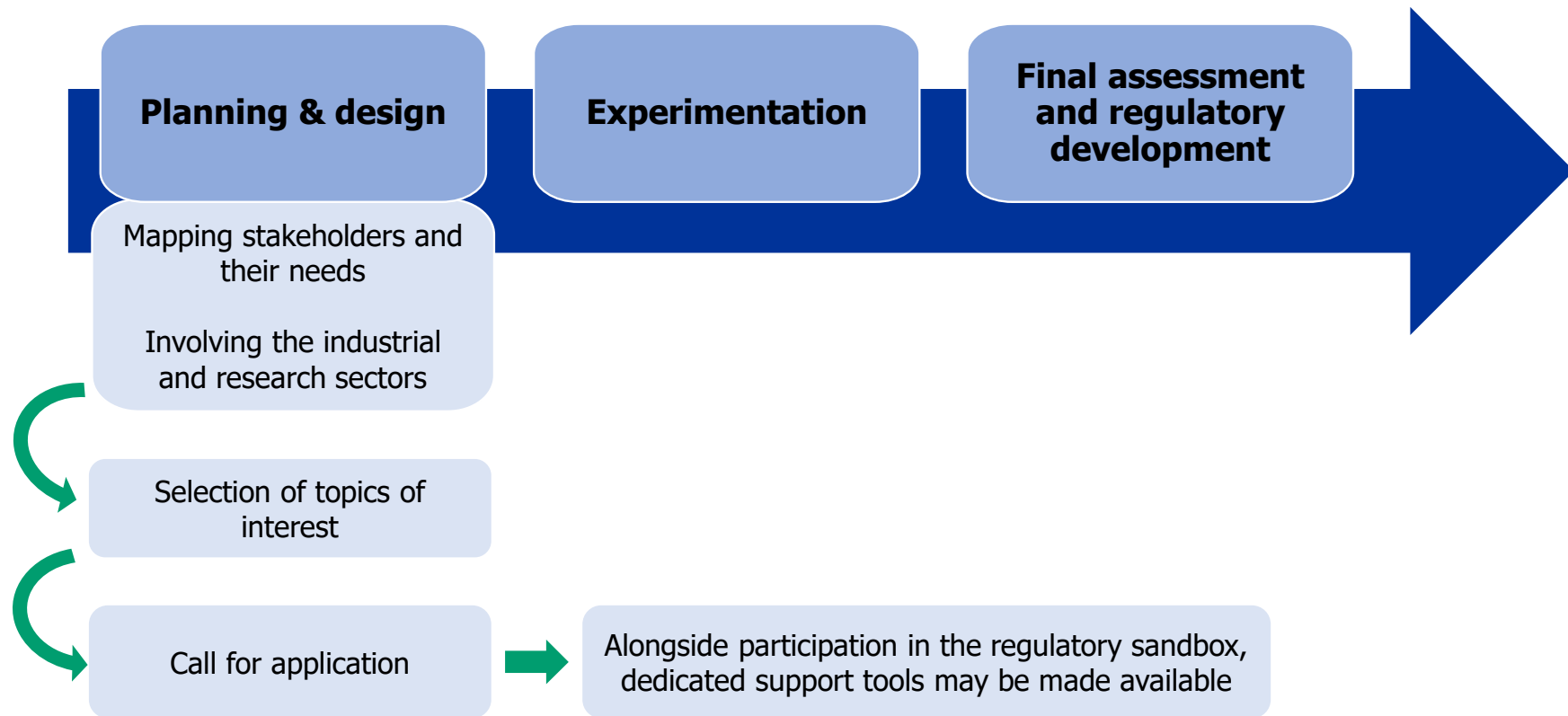


Source: EUROPEAN COMMISSION (2025). Better Regulation Toolbox 2025

# Regulatory Sandbox: objectives and spill-over effects



# Regulatory sandbox: implementation phases



# Planning & design: work plan

## STEP 1: SELECTING PILOT PROJECTS' MACRO-AREAS FOR REGULATORY SANDBOX DEVELOPMENT

- Proposal of a portfolio of macro-areas of interest and related thematic priorities for the development of the Regulatory Sandbox(es).

COMPLETED

## STEP 2: NATIONAL ROUND TABLES

- Organisation of national working groups to assess stakeholders' interest in the proposed macro-areas and in the thematic priorities identified in the previous step; collection of further feedback and proposals.

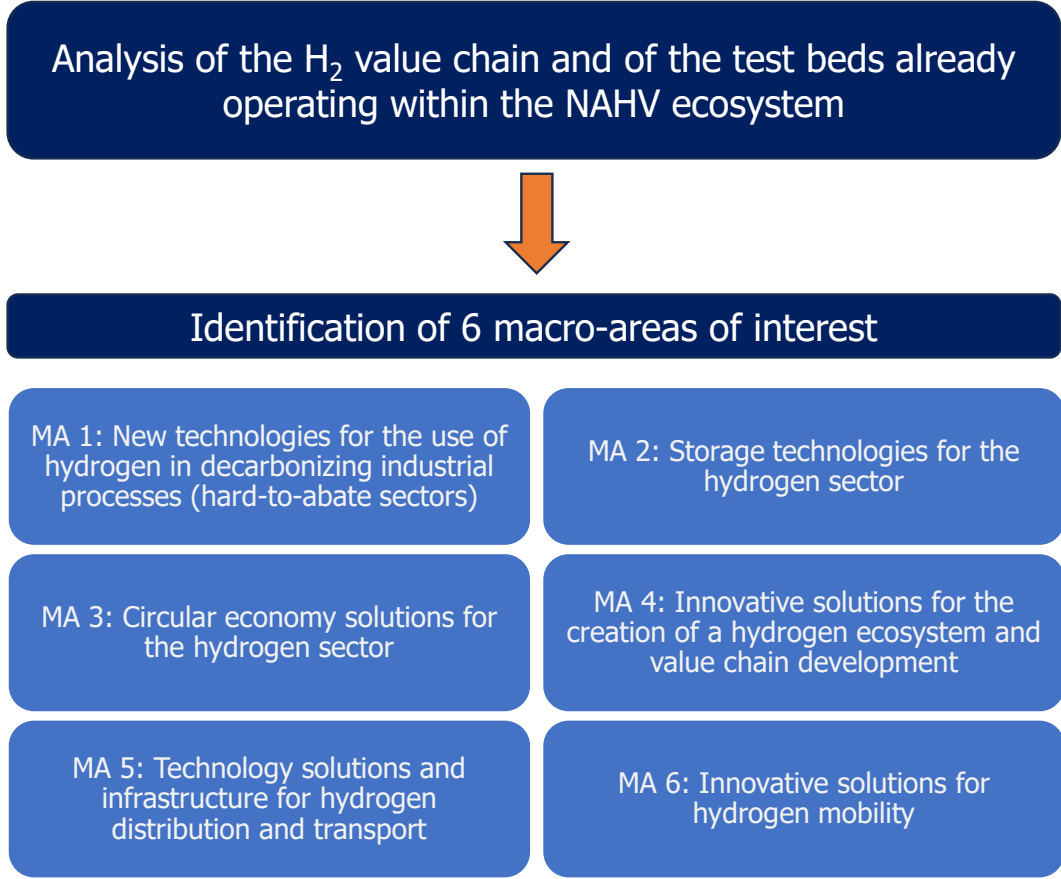
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## STEP 3: INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

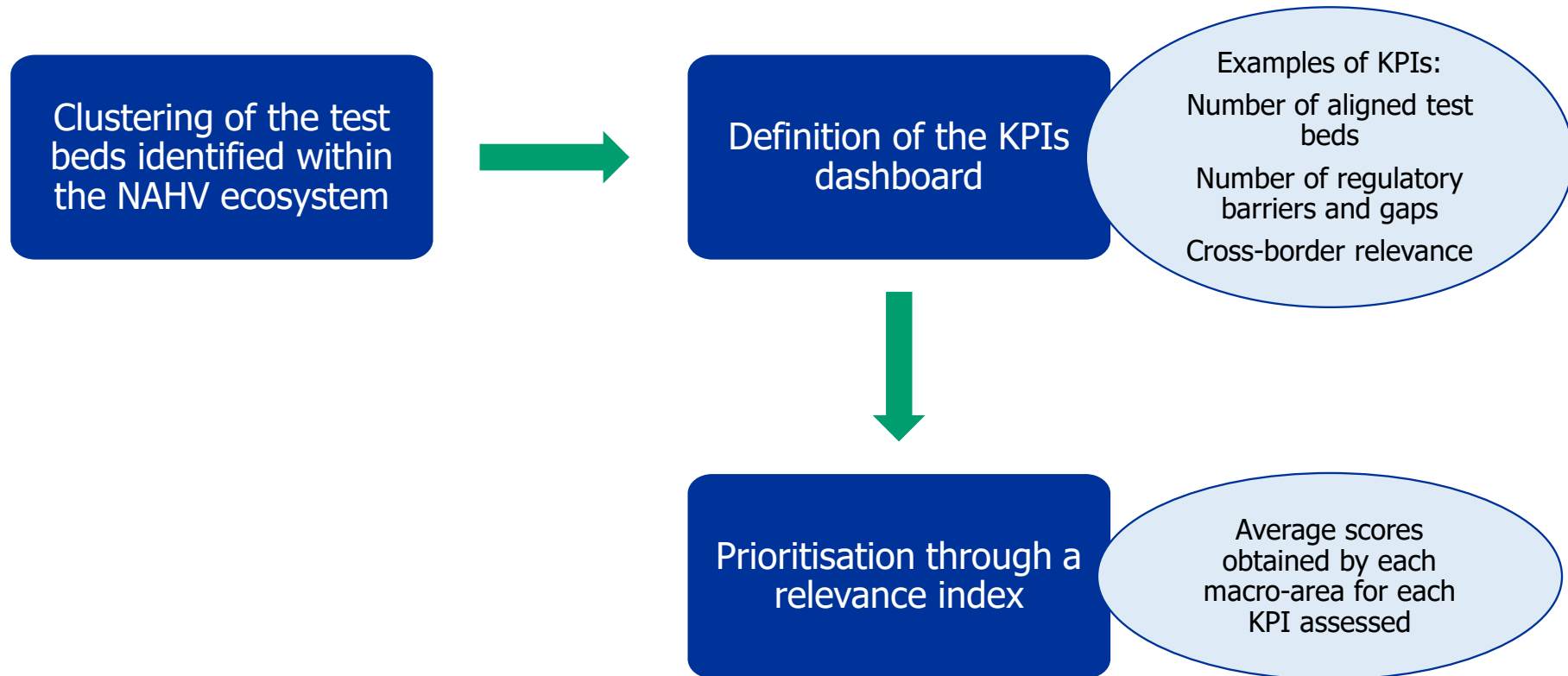
- Coordination with institutions and regulatory authorities on the outcomes of the roundtables, initially at national level and subsequently at transnational level with partner countries (Slovenia, Croatia, Italy).

ON-GOING

# Step 1: Selecting macro-areas of interest for regulatory sandbox development

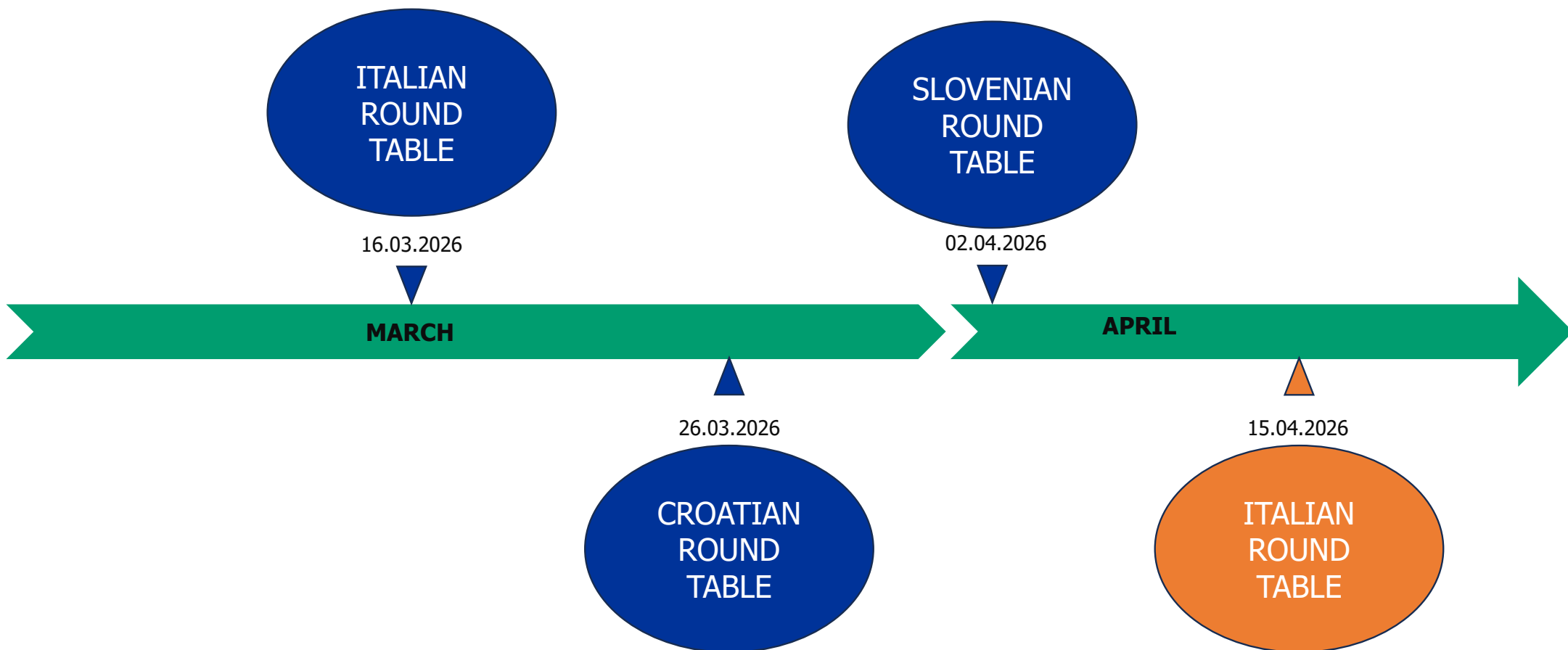


# Step 1: Methodology for the Prioritisation of Macro-Areas



# Step 2: National Round Tables timeline

Private Round Tables	<span style="color: blue;">■</span>
Public Round Tables	<span style="color: orange;">■</span>



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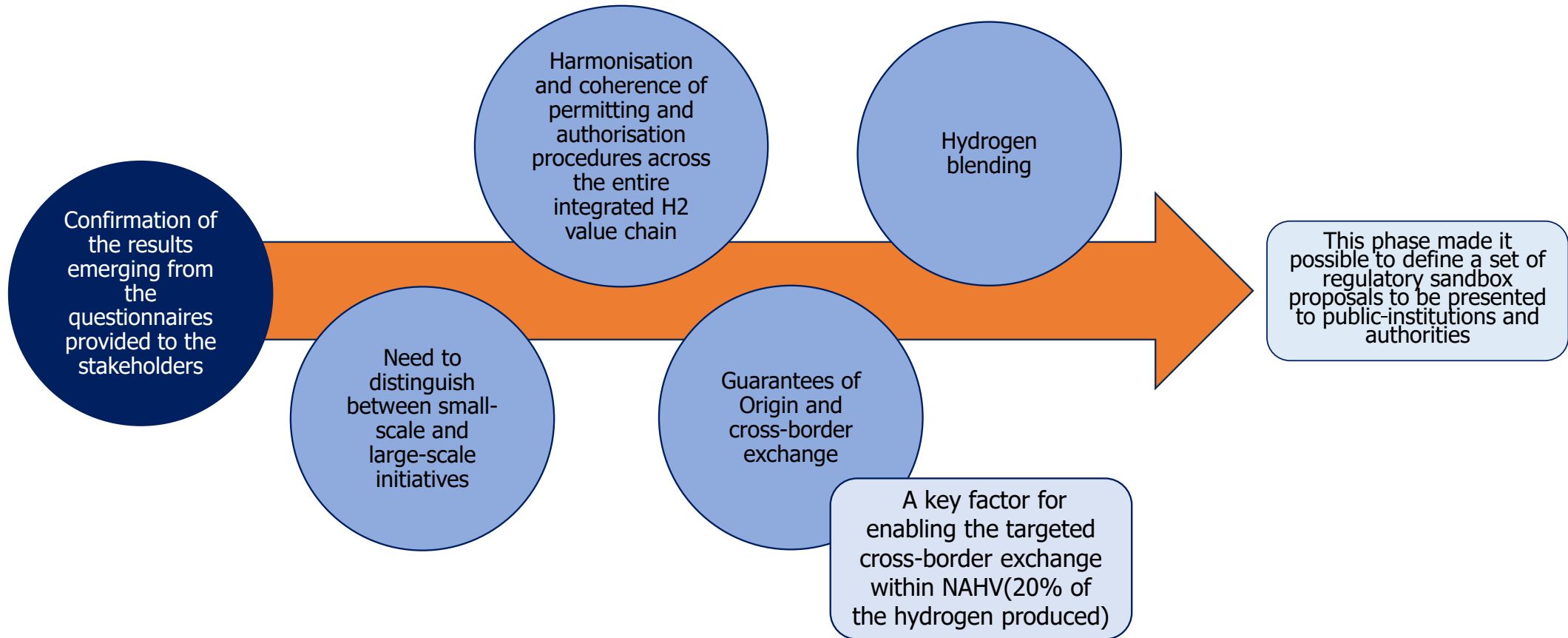
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## Step 2: National Round Tables participation

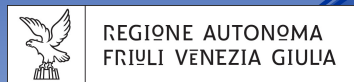
	Participants on site	Participants online	TOTAL
<b>FVG Region</b>	39	22	61
<b>FVG Region</b>	21	14	35
<b>Croatia</b>	35	15	50
<b>Slovenia</b>	N.A.	46	46
	74	83	192

Private Round Tables	
Public Round Tables	

# Step 2: Outcomes of the National Round Tables



# Thank you



REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA  
Ministarstvo  
gospodarstva



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA OKOLJE,  
PODNEBJE IN ENERGIJO



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