Potential for Cross-Border Cooperation between the Northeast of the Netherlands and the Northwest of Germany in the field of Hydrogen

Results of the H2LinkRegions

2 LINK REGIONS

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18 March 2021

H2LinkRegions

- INTTEREG A network project 2020-2021
- Development of cooperation potential for projects in the hydrogen economy (energy storage, mobility, ports, logistics; use of excess electricity from renewable energies)
- Cross-border study on the potentials and barriers to cooperation
- Recommendations for further actions

2 LINK REGIONS

OLEC
Energie bewegt den Nordwesten

New Energy Coalition

INTERREG Deutschland Nederland

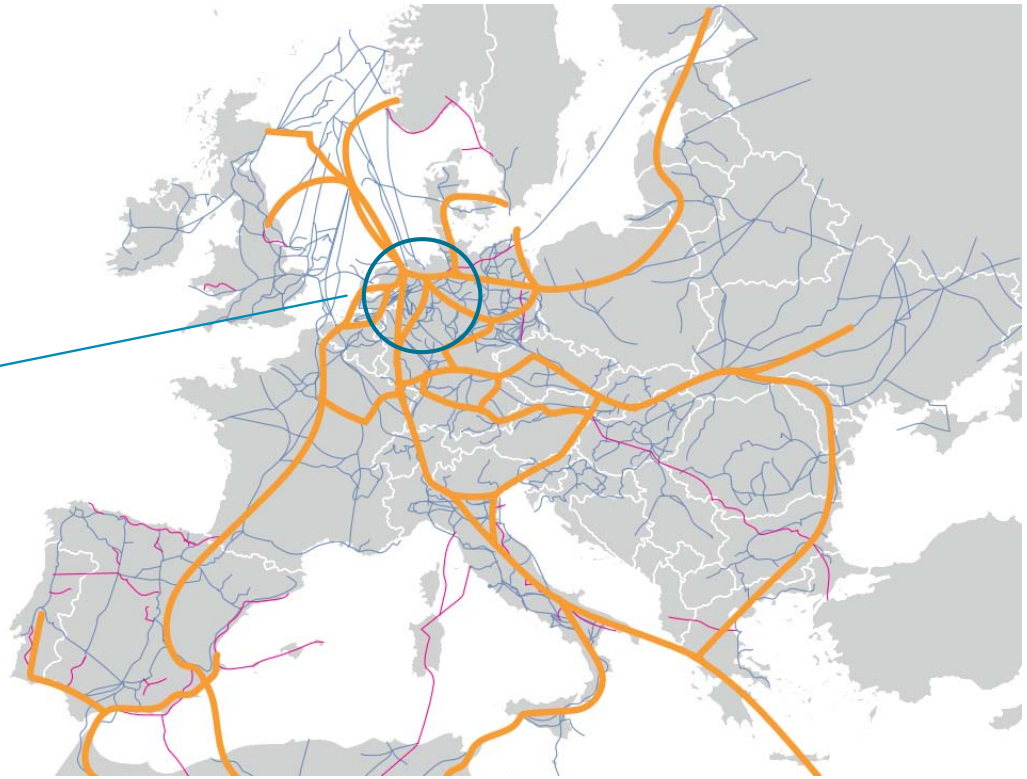
Europäische Union
Europese Unie

Background

- Both regions are rather structurally weak peripheral areas
- These coastal regions also include ecologically sensitive areas with a high protection status
- This provides opportunities but also risks for development
- Particular potential is seen in the energy sector
- Renewable energies, but also fossil fuels and the corresponding infrastructure, play a central role
- Important impulses for the development towards climate neutrality are expected from the two regions
- Many years of cooperation experience (also via Waddensea Forum and Interreg)
- Numerous political declarations, but putting them into practice is tedious
- In the project focus on SMEs as important carriers of regional development
- Take hydrogen as an example, as there is still great potential for development here

European Hydrogen Backbone

Study region



Source: Hydrogen Energy; The blue and purple lines show the natural gas infrastructure in Europe

Work program

Central features of the border region

Leading energy region	High storage capacities	Connection to offshore wind energy
Distinctive entrepreneur landscape	High proportion of SMEs with strong innovative strength	Strong hydrogen activities on both sides of the border - so far few cross-border projects
High potential for research cooperation	Potential for a real laboratory "system integration"	High application potential in the mobility sector

Obstacles, barriers & how-to

Regulatory framework

- Overview of the legal framework
- Standardization of the European legal framework
- Pending implementation of existing EU directives
- Alignment of the energy industry framework on both sides

Coordination of strategic processes

- Synchronization of generation, storage and consumption
- Building a European green hydrogen region
- Expansion of cross-border funding instruments
- Joint formulation of actions and measures

Funding regime

- Simplification of grant applications
- Alignment of funding structures
- Clear thematic funding program
- Investment grants for pilot and demonstration projects

Recommendations and first steps

Coastal Deal
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Information processing

Cross-border
Roundtable

Communication

Project-workshops

Website

Online-Meetings

Bilateral exchange





Ideas for implementation and project approaches to build a common European hydrogen region

- Cross-border network projects as well as pilot and demonstration projects to strengthen knowledge and technology transfer
- Joint marketing activities as a green hydrogen region
- Real laboratory development of a common hydrogen infrastructure and for cross-border marketing
- Cross-border mobility applications
- LOHC storage projects
- Maritime applications
- Hydrogen in agrotechnology

Work in progress

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A Rocky Road

Obstacles to green innovation in the European Union – a qualtitative approach

Bachelorthesis by Lennart Nahrgang

May 2021

Supervisor: Ulli Scheele

Coastal Deal
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Stop talking, start doing!

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