- Industry leaders from France and Ireland agreed that hydrogen has moved beyond theoretical promise. Pilot projects, gigafactories, and refuelling infrastructure are already underway, especially in France, which aims to deploy 6.5 GW of electrolyser capacity by 2030

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FRANCO-IRISH COLLABORATION IS GAINING MOMENTUM

- Both countries see mutual benefit in joint ventures—France brings industrial scale and R&D depth, while Ireland offers abundant renewable energy potential, especially offshore wind. Hydrogen mobility and maritime applications were highlighted as areas ripe for cooperation

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Commercial Viability Hinges on Cost and Scale

- Participants acknowledged that hydrogen is still expensive, but costs are expected to fall with economies of scale and innovation. France's investment in gigafactories and Ireland's push for energy parks (like Galway and Cork clusters) are steps toward commercial competitiveness

CURTAILMENT-TO-HYDROGEN IS A STRATEGIC SOLUTION

- Ireland's curtailed renewable energy could be redirected into hydrogen production, turning waste into value. This aligns with Ireland's Climate Action Plan and France's strategy to decarbonize industry and transport

Metric	Value
Electricity curtailed	1 TWh
Market value lost	€50–€100 million
Hydrogen yield	~21,000 tonnes
Hydrogen value	€80–€150 million

If Ireland could redirect curtailed energy into hydrogen production, it wouldn't just recover lost value, it could unlock new energy storage, decarbonisation pathways and create headroom in the saturated grid

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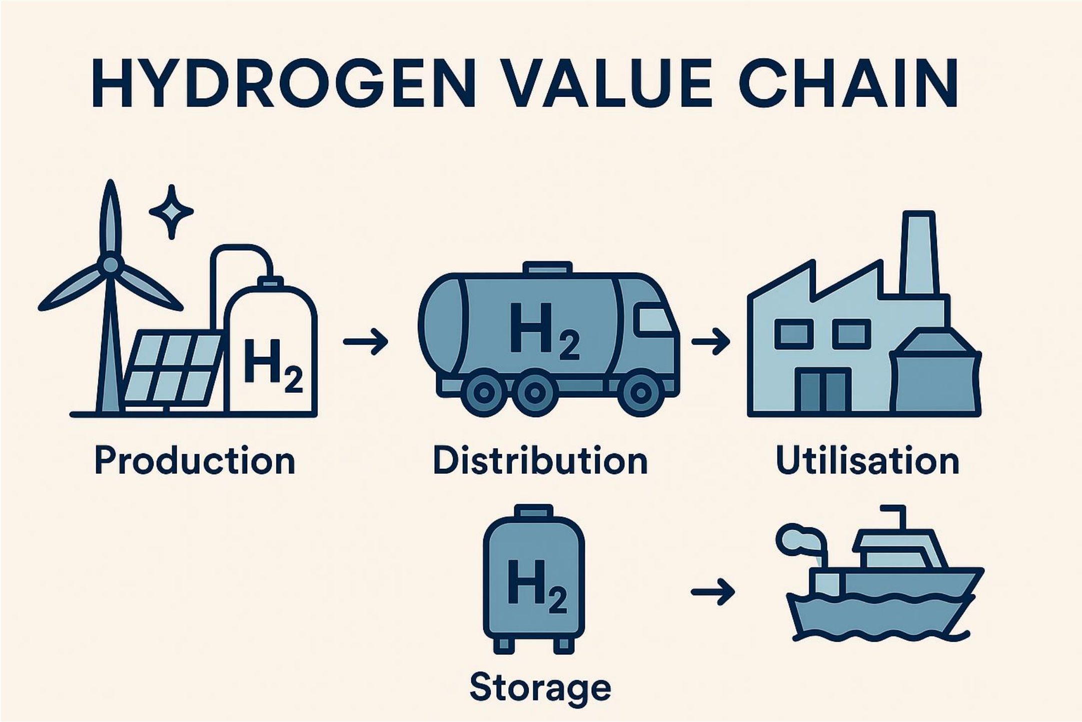
INNOVATION AND RESEARCH ARE CENTRAL

- France's PEPR Hydrogen Program and Ireland's IERC initiatives are driving breakthroughs in electrolysis, storage, and fuel cell technologies. Academic exchanges and joint R&D were encouraged to accelerate progress

POLICY AND REGULATION NEED TO CATCH UP



- Industry players stressed the need for clearer regulatory frameworks, especially around hydrogen's legal status, safety standards, and funding mechanisms. EU-level support like the Hydrogen Mechanism and IPCEI funding were seen as critical enablers

Q&A

- Where does ambition meet reality in hydrogen deployment?
- What gaps exist between policy targets and industrial uptake?
- How are communities perceiving hydrogen—and why does that matter for deployment?
- How can France and Ireland complement one another in shaping a broader EU hydrogen ecosystem?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