



NOW GMBH

National Organisation Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology
 Nationale Organisation Wasserstoff- und Brennstoffzellentechnologie

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

NOW (National Organisation Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology) is a governmental organization responsible for the coordination and management of the National Innovation Program Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology (NIP) and the Electromobility Model Regions Program of the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI).

NOW was founded in 2008. The German Federal Ministries for Transport, Economy, Environment and Education/Research are united in NOW's steering committees and pool their resources in the National Innovation Program Hydrogen and Fuel Technology (NIP).

In the context of the German "Energiewende," NOW's main task is to facilitate the integration of renewable energies in all energy sectors by promoting hydrogen and fuel cell technology. These technologies offer high efficiency, low emission potential and are promising building blocks of an integrated energy system.

NOW aims at establishing hydrogen and fuel cell technology in the sectors of mobility, stationary energy supply and special markets. Exemplar applications in these sectors include fuel cell vehicles and buses, stationery power and heat supply, and auxiliary power units as well as uninterrupted power supply systems.

Tomorrow's mobility and energy supply must be efficient and only produce low emissions. Therefore hydrogen, fuel cells and batteries offer a great potential for clean mobility. Industry, science and government have recognized this and have been working on the market preparation of these technologies through strategic alliances.

**General Overview:
 What has been achieved? How are the courses set?**



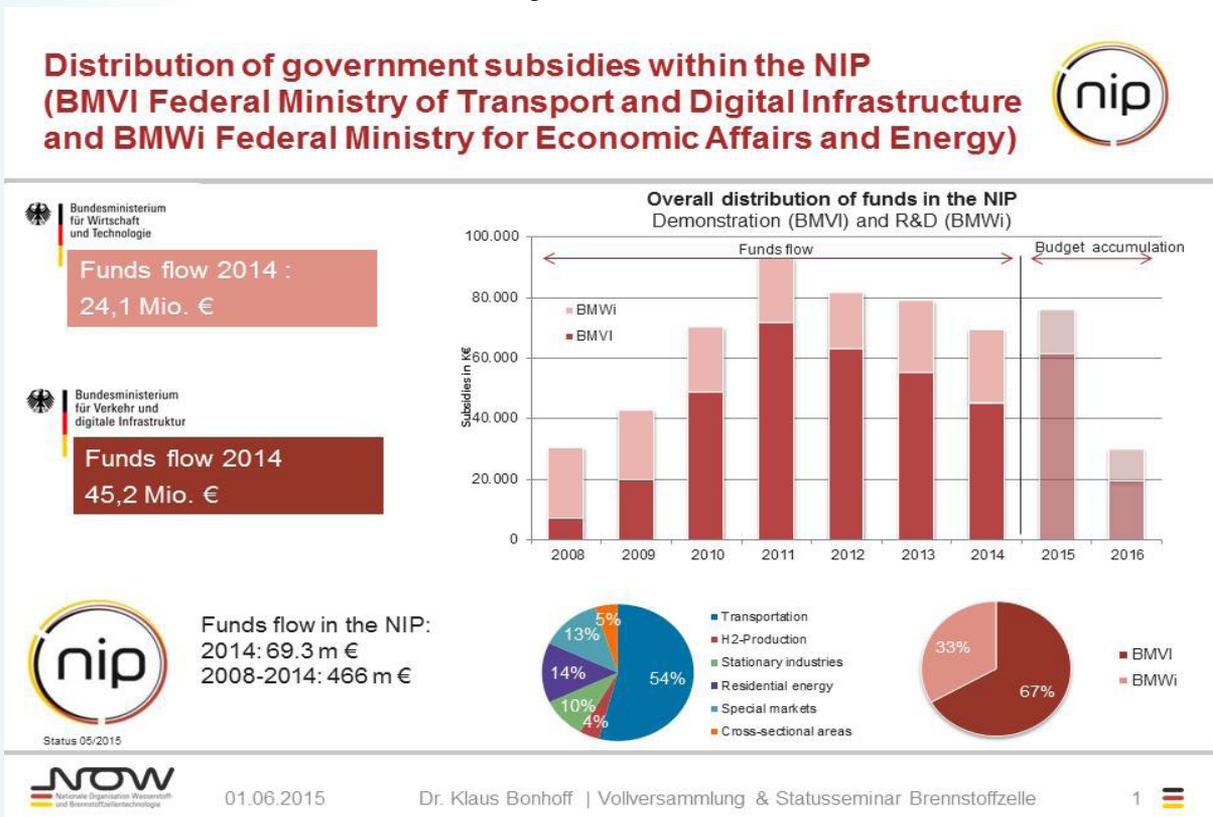
Dr. Klaus Bonhoff | Managing Director (Chair)





THE NIP AND THE ELECTROMOBILITY MODEL REGIONS PROGRAM

1. NOW coordinates and manages the NIP and the Electromobility Model Regions Program. Due to the importance of hydrogen and fuel cell technology, the government, industry and science established a strategic alliance called the NIP in 2006. NIP is intended to speed up the process of market preparation of products based on this future-oriented technology. NIP was set up as a 10-year funding program with a total budget of 1.4 billion Euro from government and industry. It runs until the end of 2016. NIP is divided into four program areas: “Transport and Hydrogen Infrastructure,” “Hydrogen Provision,” “Stationary Energy Supply,” and “Special Markets.” Complementing the NIP, the Electromobility Model Regions supports the development and market introduction of electric vehicles. The Model Regions Program runs until the end of 2016.
2. The goals/accomplishments of the NIP are:
 - To accelerate market development through targeted support and promotion of hydrogen and fuel cell technology for mobile, stationary and portable applications. To strengthen value chains and added value in Germany.
 - To secure technological leadership and implementations of the technology in Germany.
 - To bundle and coordinate interests of government, industries and academia.
3. The goals/accomplishments of the Electromobility Model Regions Program are:
 - To significantly increase the number of battery electric vehicles on the road.
 - To strengthen the international competitiveness of the German industry in the field of electric mobility. The NIP is characterized by a close collaboration of actors from government, academia and industry. The advisory council, staffed by stakeholders from all three sectors, sets the strategic agenda for the technologies to be supported by NIP. This ensures that a broad range of stakeholders is actively involved and that technology and market activation is designed in a holistic manner.





3. Project costs are typically shared on a roughly equal footing between the industries involved and public funding leveraged through NIP. Academia and basic research may be funded 100% through NIP.

REFERENCES

<http://www.now-gmbh.de/en.html>

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