



Global Institute for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells (GIHF) Launches on World Hydrogen Day

October 8, 2026

In conjunction with World Hydrogen Day, celebrated in recognition of hydrogen's atomic weight (1.008), a new science-driven nonprofit is being launched to strengthen the global hydrogen ecosystem: the **Global Institute for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells (GIHF)**.

GIHF (*pronounced "jiff"*) is an independent, science-driven institute to foster global collaboration and transparent knowledge exchange that underpin hydrogen and fuel cell research, enable viable innovations, engage with communities, and advance education for the workforce and leaders of the future.

Founder and President of GIHF, **Dr. Sunita Satyapal**, offered a preview at the Hydrogen Americas Summit on October 7 in Houston, reflecting on her experience as former Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office, scientist, hydrogen industry manager, and longtime international collaborator.

The institute will increase visibility into global research capabilities and innovation across academic and scientific institutions and complement industry- and government-led initiatives.

Former Congressman Bob Walker, former Chair of the U.S. House Science Committee and sponsor of early hydrogen legislation in the United States remarked: "Thirty years after the Hydrogen Future Act of 1996, it is encouraging to see continued progress. The launch of the Global Institute for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells will help strengthen global collaboration and advance scientific innovation in this important field."

GIHF launches with a global network of collaborators and advisors spanning countries including Japan, Germany, Canada, South Korea, India, Australia, the United States, and more. This global participation underscores the institute's commitment to strengthening collaboration and the scientific backbone of hydrogen research.

Takeshi Uchiyamada, Co-founder of the Hydrogen Council, a CEO-led partnership across the global hydrogen industry, and Former Chairman of Toyota Motor Corporation, shared his support: "I am deeply impressed by the mission of GIHF and its vision of strengthening global academic collaboration in hydrogen and fuel cell research. As someone who has walked this path, I am encouraged to see new researchers emerge and contribute to global innovation. Please accept my warmest wishes for the institute's strong progress and future success."



Long-time hydrogen champion **Former Senator Byron Dorgan**, former Chair of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, emphasized the importance of GIHF's collaborative mission: "Global cooperation in hydrogen and fuel cell research is essential to accelerate progress. GIHF provides an important platform for connecting scientific expertise and leadership across borders."

"As I thought deeply about my next chapter, I listened to stakeholders across dozens of countries," reflected **Dr. Satyapal**. "The message was clear: We've made progress but as in any scientific field, there are still challenges. GIHF, an independent and science-anchored institute, is dedicated to strengthening scientific rigor, collaboration, and education, building an ecosystem for greater knowledge exchange and transparency."

Bhupinder S. Bhalla, Former Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, and Chair of GH2 India's Governance Board, said: "GIHF fills a genuine gap in the global hydrogen landscape by bringing scientific rigour and international cooperation to a sector that needs both. As a policymaker, I have seen first-hand the disconnects that can exist among industry, governments and other stakeholders as the hydrogen ecosystem evolves across borders. Hydrogen's ambitions will require catalytic institutions that can bring stakeholders together, strengthen knowledge and help translate ambition into action. GH2 India congratulates GIHF and looks forward to collaborating."

Luigi Crema, President of Hydrogen Europe Research, emphasized the importance of global scientific collaboration: "Hydrogen innovation cannot advance in isolation. Europe has built a world-class research ecosystem, but the next generation of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies will increasingly depend on our ability to connect scientific excellence globally. GIHF can become an important bridge between leading research communities, helping transform knowledge into competitive technologies and solutions with global impact."

GIHF will convene researchers and stakeholders to address collaborative scientific priorities and joint initiatives. GIHF will also use stakeholder input to help identify gaps and priorities, including opportunities to strengthen community engagement and transparency. Its website, www.gihf.net, launches today with the H2U-Network, resources, and a snapshot of future plans.

About GIHF

The Global Institute for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells (GIHF) is an independent, science-driven nonprofit strengthening global collaboration and scientific exchange in hydrogen and fuel cells. GIHF advances transparent information, innovation, education, and public understanding. Learn more at www.gihf.net.