

BLACK TO GREY TO GREEN

The continuous transformation of Duisburg

ABOUT DUISBURG

CITY OF DUISBURG

- Located in the Rhine-Ruhr area
- Most densely populated area in Germany (14 million)
- Close to the Netherlands, Belgium and various sea ports



BLACK

Industrialization of Duisburg

DRIVERS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

- Plenty of coal, steel, and coking coal in the connected Ruhr area
- Duisburg as hub of trimodal transportation: railways, water, highways
- Duisburg became “heart of steel” of the region



THE PEAK OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

- Industry partially in World War II destroyed, destroyed parts got rebuilt: Advantage
- Korean War 1950s as a driver for the steel industry
- Immigration of workers to meet increasing demand
- Duisburg becomes Germany's richest city

70,000

Steel workers in the 1970s

ca. 604,000


Population peak around 1975

GREY

The steel crisis and new challenges

STEEL CRISIS

Mid-1970s worldwide steel crisis and overcapacity in the European steel market



Drastic production decline by 1977



Major closings and labor protests in the 1980s



Mass unemployment since the 1980s

CHALLENGES

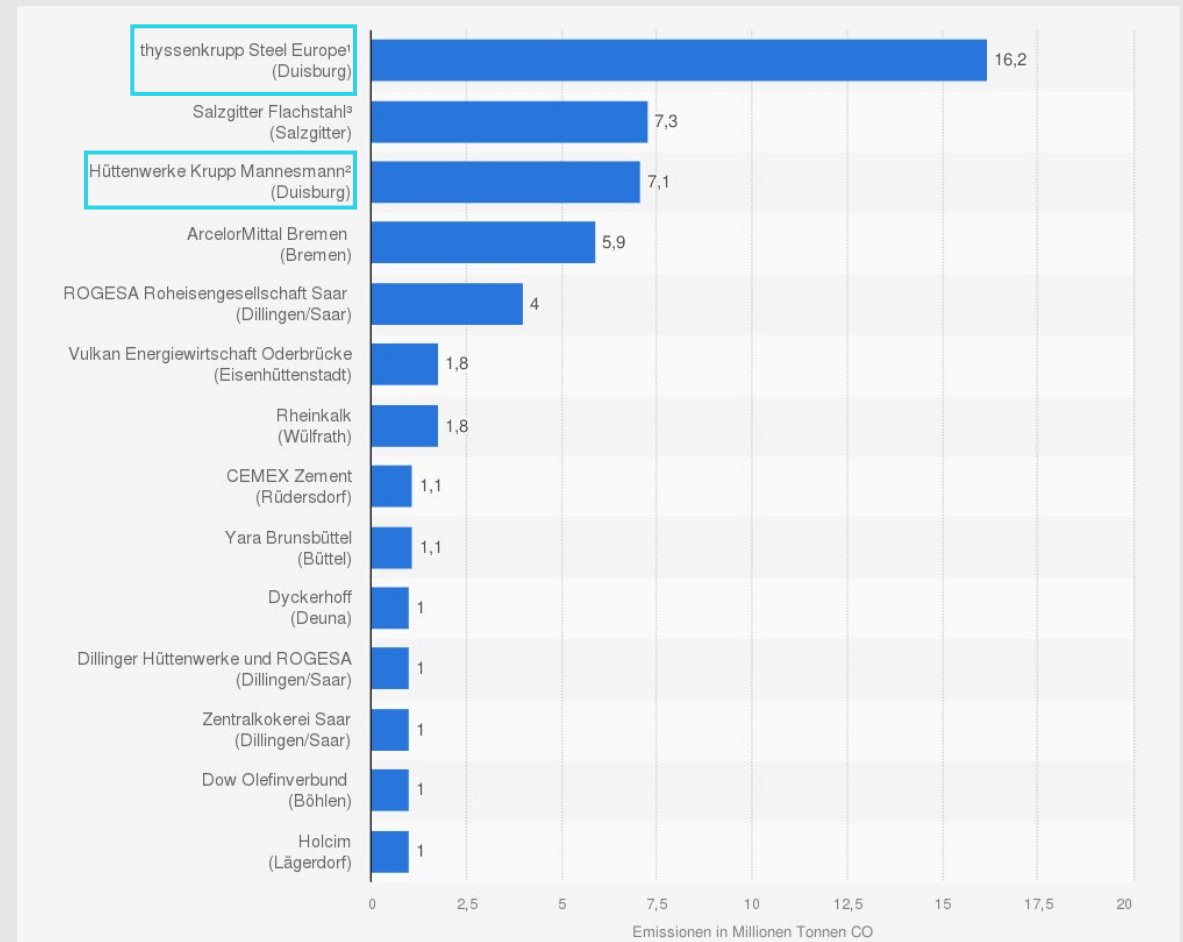
- **Resulting in various challenges:**

- Challenges for the economy
- Challenges for the climate
- Decarbonization of the remaining steel industry necessary
- **BUT** Municipality struggles financially, public sector is unable to invest due to austerity

The steel industry was one of the most important economic sectors in the Ruhr region.

A green transition is necessary to meet local, national, and European climate targets.

Yearly emissions of the biggest emitters in the German industry in 2022
(Mio. tons CO)



GREEN

Green and digital Transformation

POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT TODAY

Population:

508.652

Employees with social security contributions:

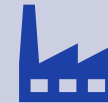
177.277

an increase of approx. 10,000 in the last 5 years



51.580

Port & Logistics



33.552

Manufacturing
industry



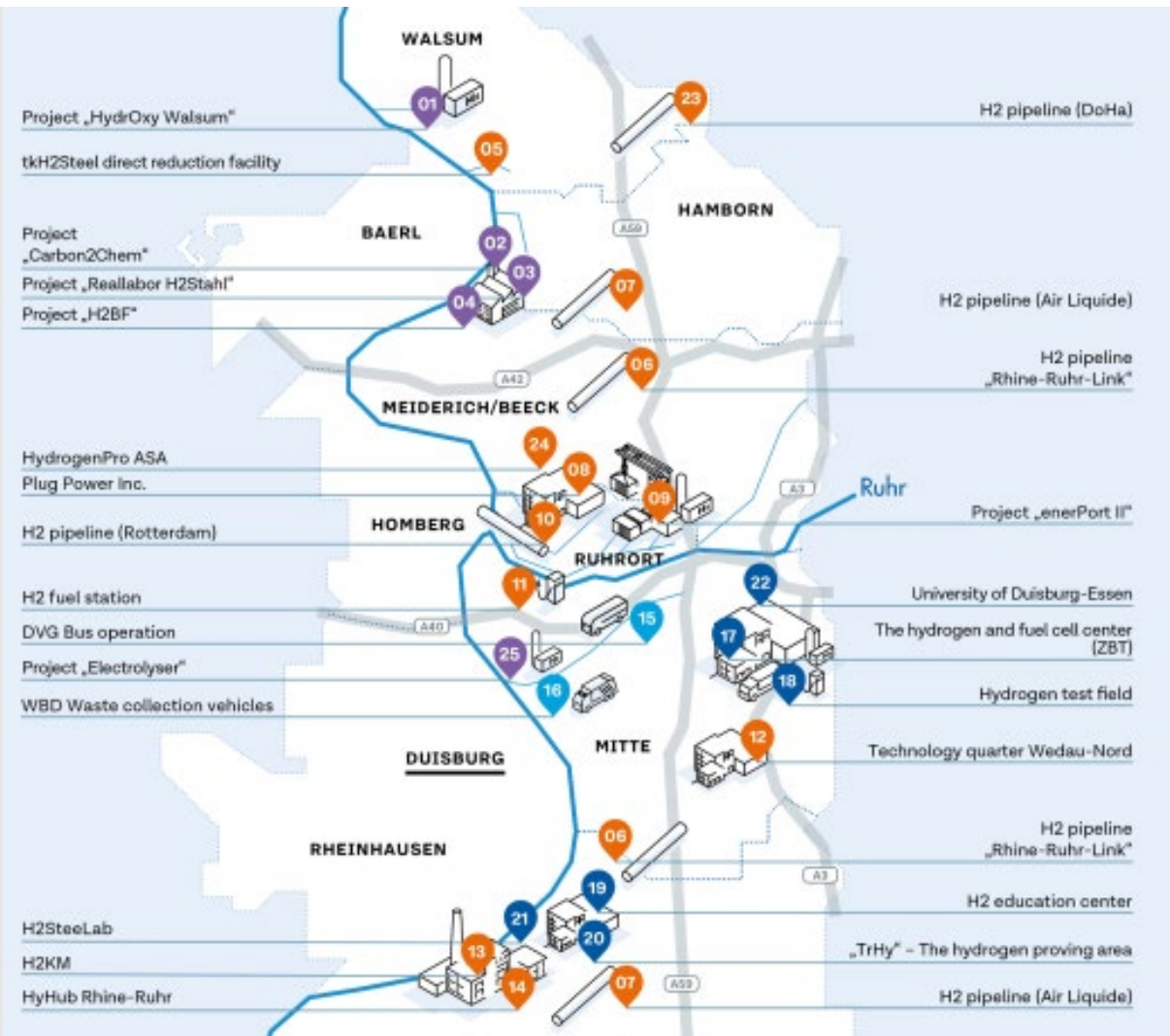
26.143,
11.000 in steel

Metal, steel, and
electrical industry

GREEN TRANSITION

Duisburg...

- creates a hydrogen (technology) cluster with companies and research institutes for the green transition in the Ruhr region
- has what it takes to become Europe's center of the hydrogen industry
- becomes a laboratory for the research and application of hydrogen in industry and mobility



AGILE PROJECT DEVELOPER



Focus on proactive economic development through complex project work instead of reactive



Develop projects in close cooperation with the administration, associations, and companies



Accelerate place branding and improve Duisburg's Image



Attract high-quality and innovative settlements to Duisburg that drive green transition

HYDROGEN & SUSTAINABILITY



**CIRCULAR
RHEIN.RUHR**



Das Netzwerk für zirkuläre Wirtschaft

Hy.Region.Rhein.Ruhr e.V. was founded from companies, research institutions and the city administration in 2021

More than **50 members**

In September 2023, DBI has initialised **Circular Rhein.Ruhr** and will start **fully-funded DU.circular** project in 2025.

Focus sectors: metals, logistics, and construction

INNOVATION & START-UPS



garage DU connects innovative Start- and Scale-ups with Duisburger companies through challenges and networking events.

HUB Innovation & Start-Ups supports entrepreneurs in accessing funding for their innovative idea or start-ups.

INTERNATIONAL APPROACH

Internationalization strategy

- Focuses on core topics and skills
- Relevant to Duisburg e.g. H₂, logistics, or start-ups
- To connect and enhance our City
- To draw in innovation

Current European projects:

- Interreg Project Accelerate GDT
- Interreg Project ASSET

TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT WEDAU

- Former rail workshop and freight yard
- New campus of the University Duisburg-Essen engineering sciences
- Further investments to revitalize the area planned

300,000 m²

gross floor area (GFA) for technology and science

Ca. 18 Million Euro

state and federal funding approved for a KI education and research center

21,1 Million

state funding approved for D3AM Field Lab for 3-D printing

THANK YOU!

Questions?

Anna Steinmeier

Projektmanagerin Internationales

steinmeier@duisburg.business

+49 203 3639 346

