

CBE JU 2026 call: From Strategic Priorities to Industries Challenges

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**Circular
Bio-based
Europe**
Joint Undertaking

CBE JU call 2026: National Info Day

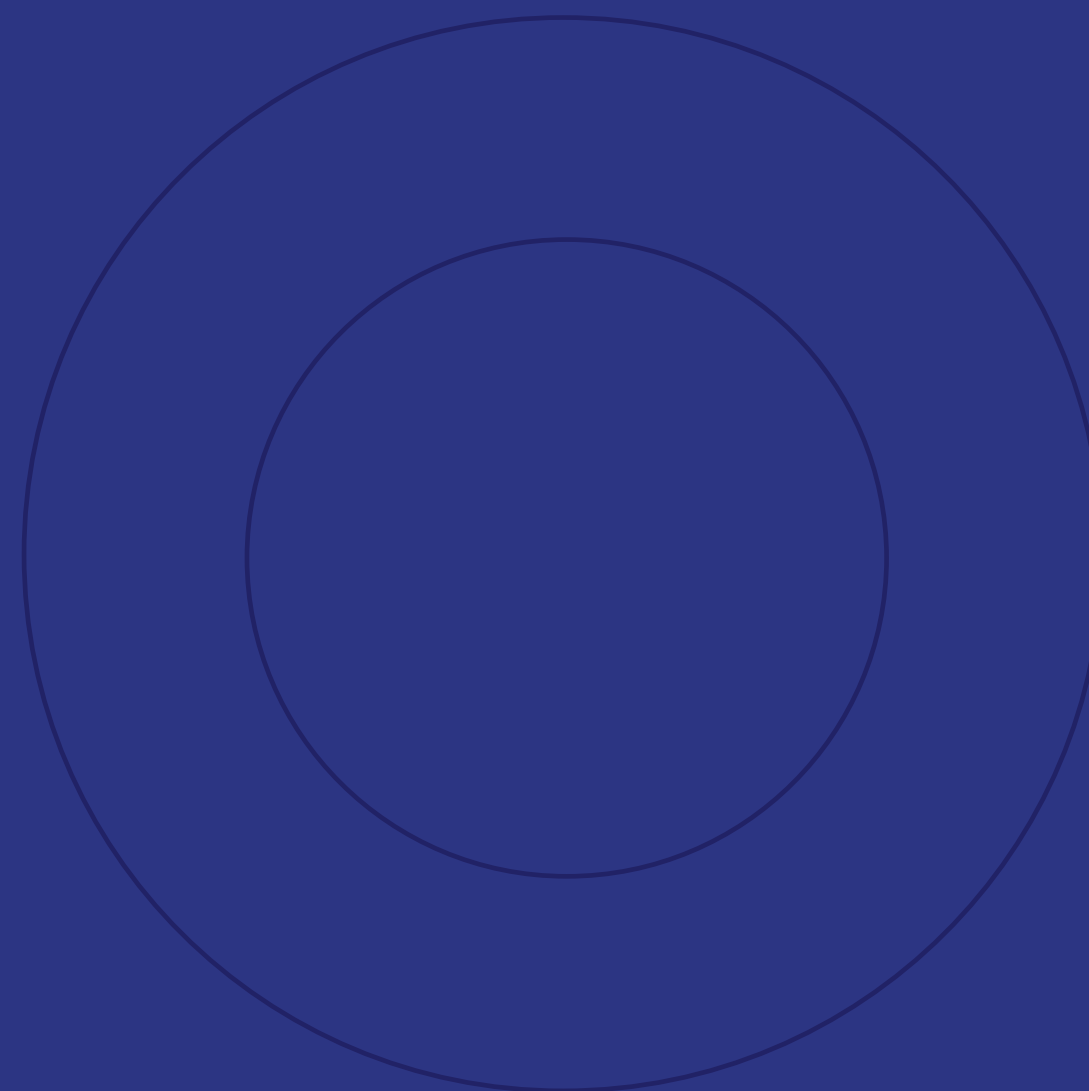
Simone MACCAFERRI
Project Officer / Co-Call Coordinator
20/05/2026

 **Bio-based Industries
Consortium**



Co-funded by
the European Union





CBE JU intro

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

€2 billion

public-private initiative
advancing a competitive
bioeconomy for a
sustainable future

Launched in
2021,
operates until
2031

Part of Horizon
Europe
programme

Supporting
European
bioeconomy

Building on
the success of
its predecessor
BBI JU



European Union
Represented by the
European Commission



Bio-based Industries
Consortium

CBE JU general objectives



Accelerate the innovation process and development of bio-based **innovative** solutions

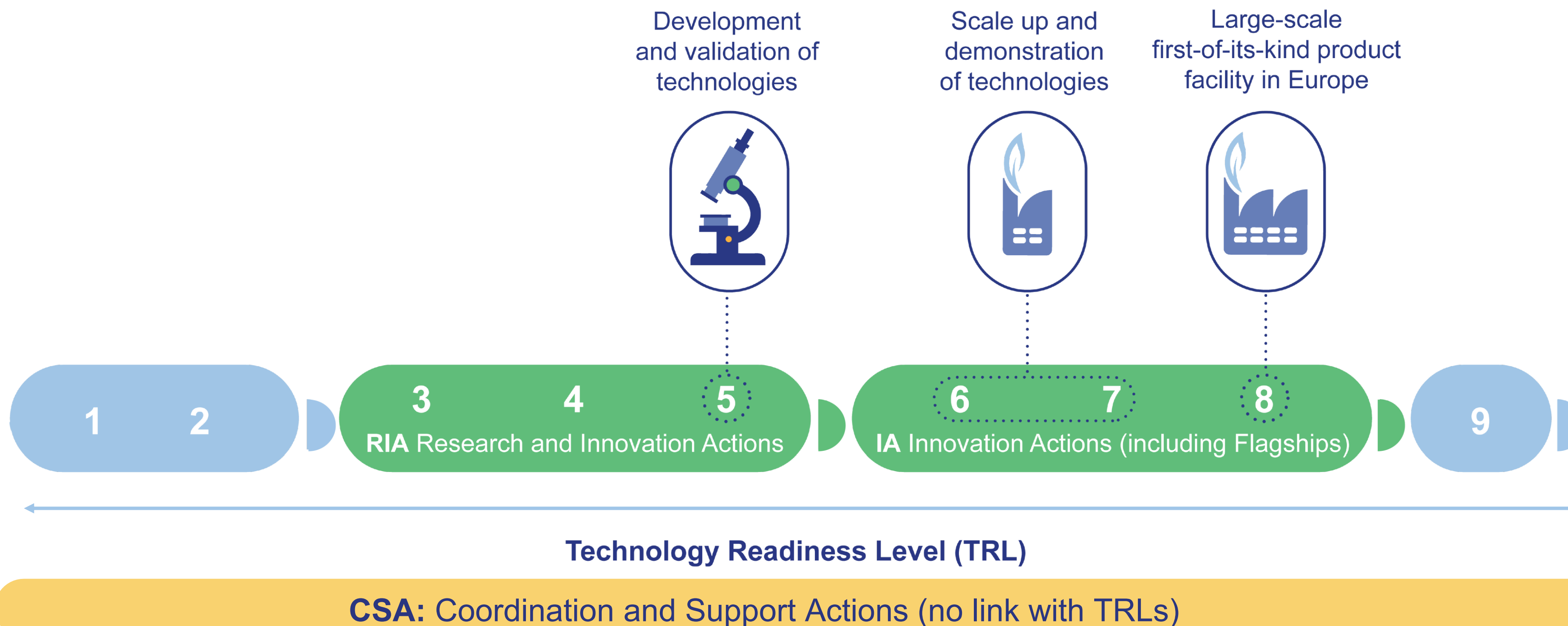


Accelerate **market deployment** of the existing mature and innovative biobased solutions



Ensure a high level of **environmental performance** of bio-based industrial systems

Types of supported actions



CBE JU-funded projects in numbers

2014-2025



220
projects



1,700
participants

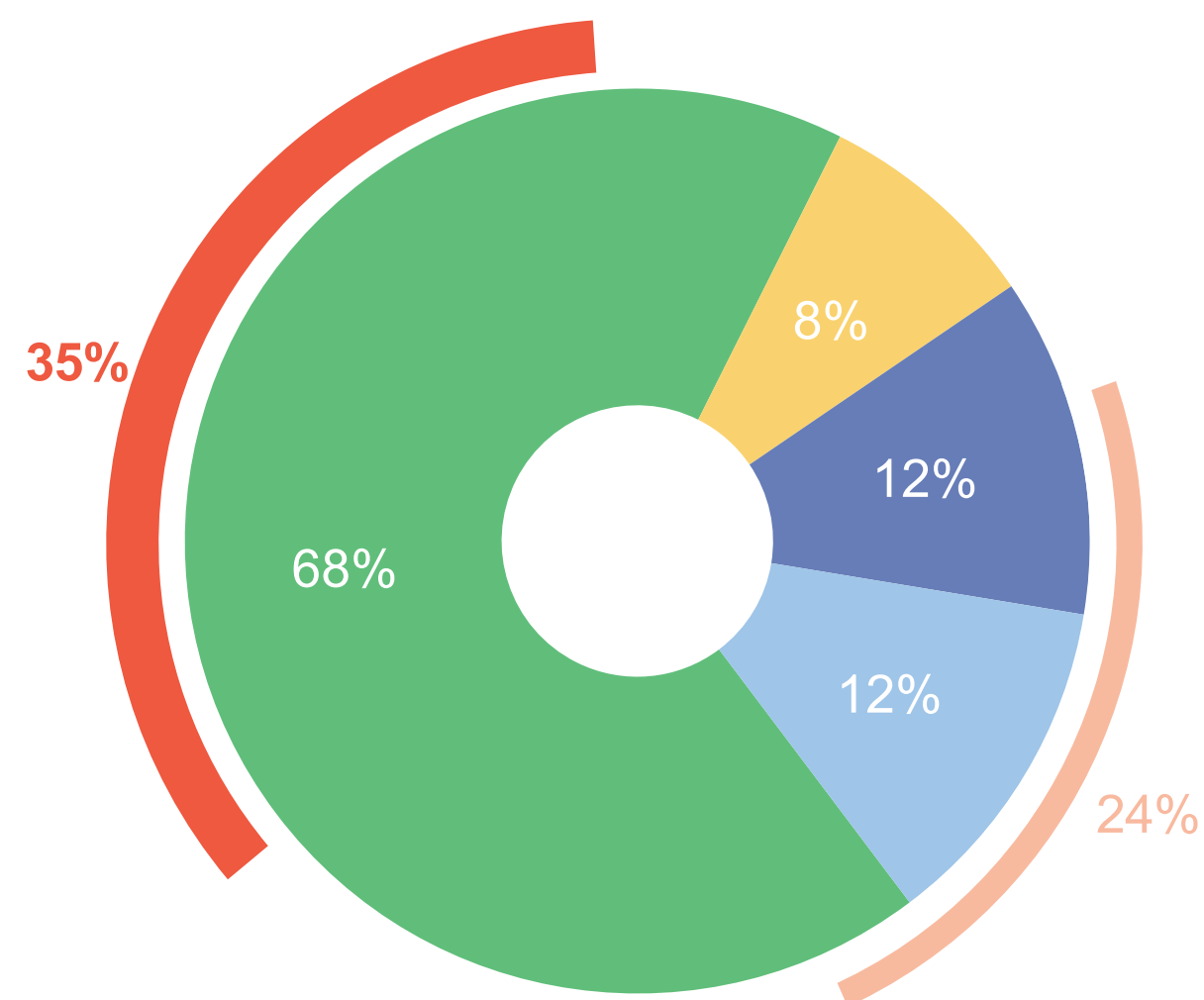


1.3 billion
invested in projects

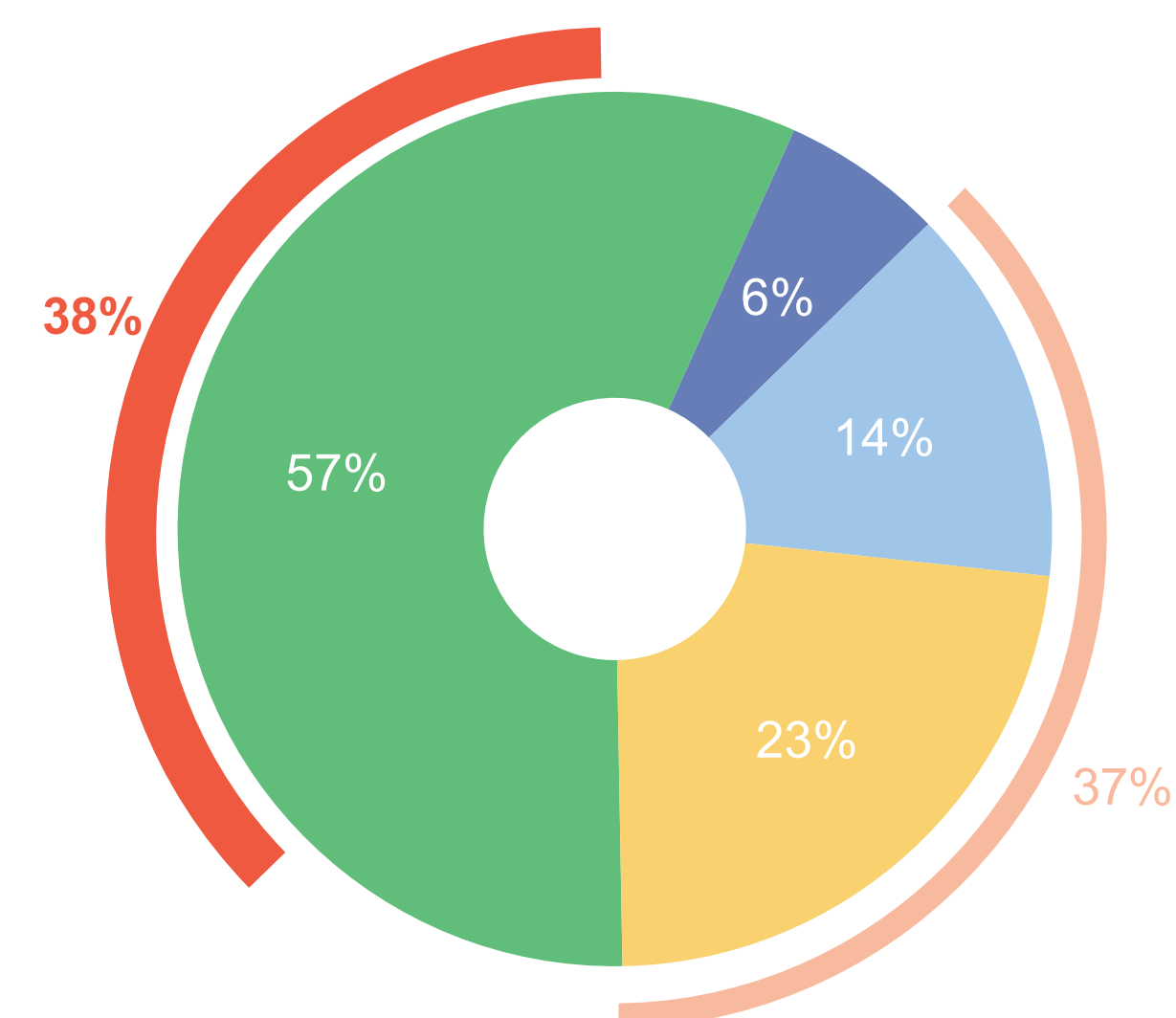


45
countries

Participants



Funding



Higher education establishments

Research centres

Private companies

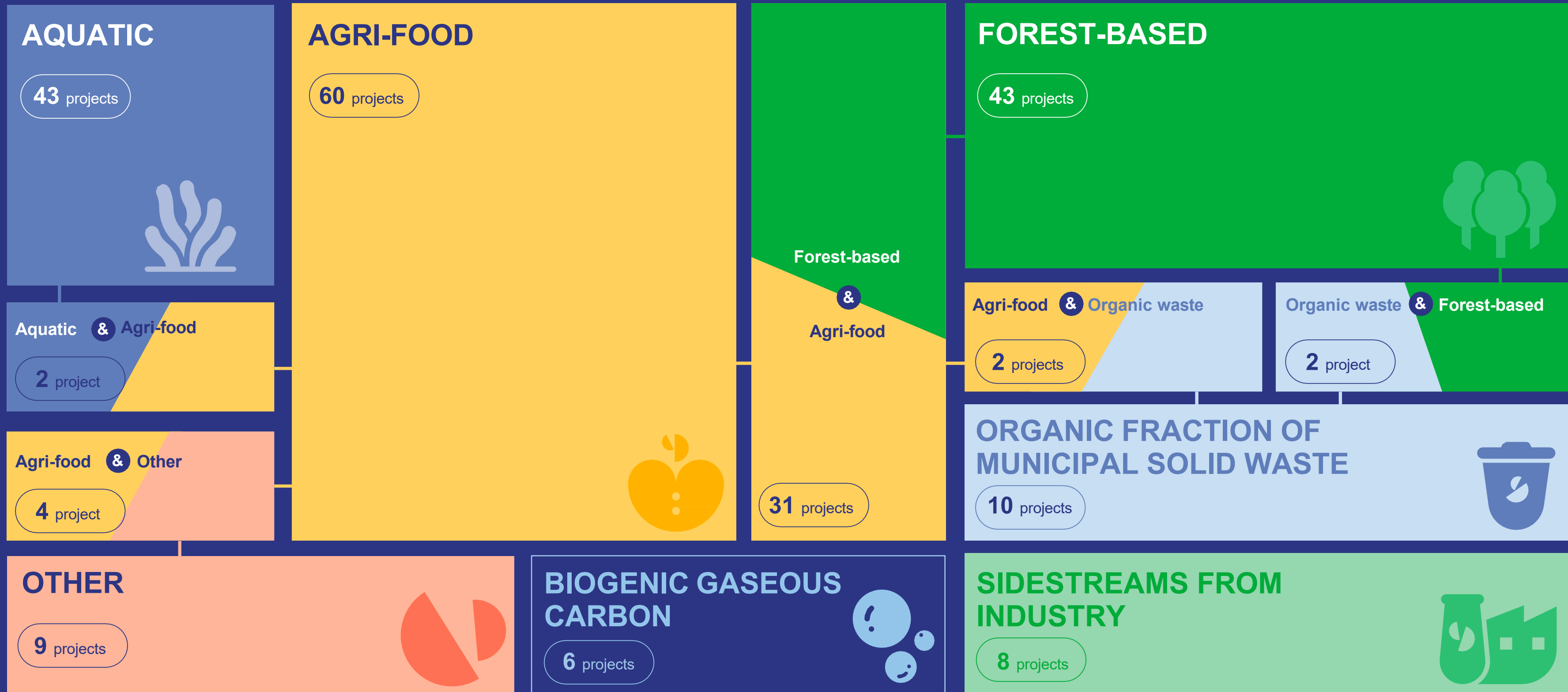
Other

Small and medium-sized enterprises

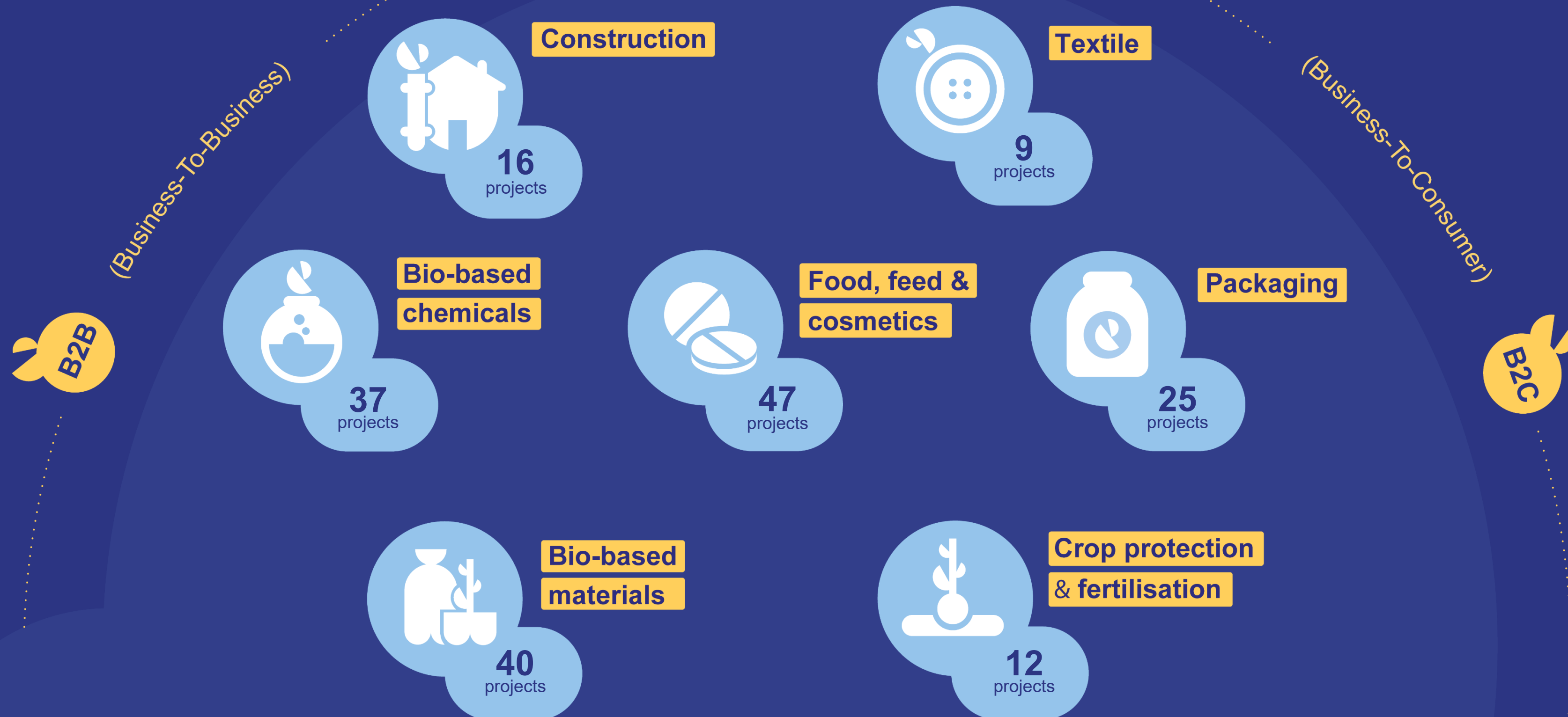
Universities & research centres

Data: CORDA, June 2025

Main feedstock types



Areas of application

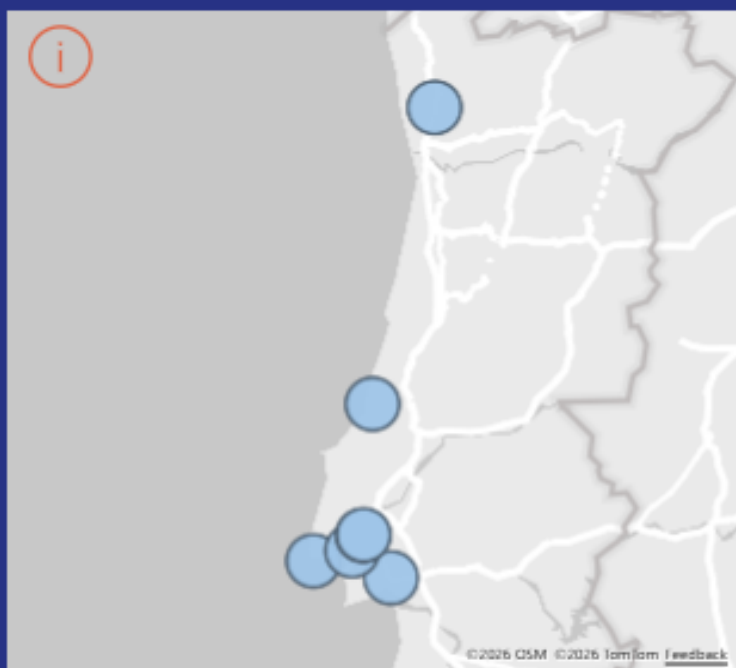


Choose a country

Portugal

0 First-of-their-kind industrial biorefineries

7 Demonstration plants



#	Locality	Type
1	Cascais	Demonstration plant
1	Lisbon	Demonstration plant
1	Palmela	Demonstration plant
1	Pataias	Demonstration plant
2	Póvoa de Santa Iria	Demonstration plant
1	Vila Nova de Famalicão	Demonstration plant

Type of action:

- Innovation action - Flagship
- Innovation action
- Research & Innovation action
- Coordination & Support action



Feedstock used:

* by selected biorefineries

Agri-food	3
Aquatic	3
Forest-based	1
Organic waste	1

Project applications:

* of selected biorefineries

Automotive	13
Construction	13
Agri/ Food/Feed	8
Packaging	6
Chemicals/ Cosmetics	4

Number of projects

49

6

coordinated projects

Ongoing Completed



Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

Only private companies

CBE JU funding to SMEs

11.29M€

Number of SMEs

19

Members of the Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)

4

Participating projects

Participating projects	link
ABACUS	
AFTERLIFE	
ALLIANCE	
BBTWINS	
BeonNAT	
BIO4COAT	
BIOBRIDGES	

CBE JU funding



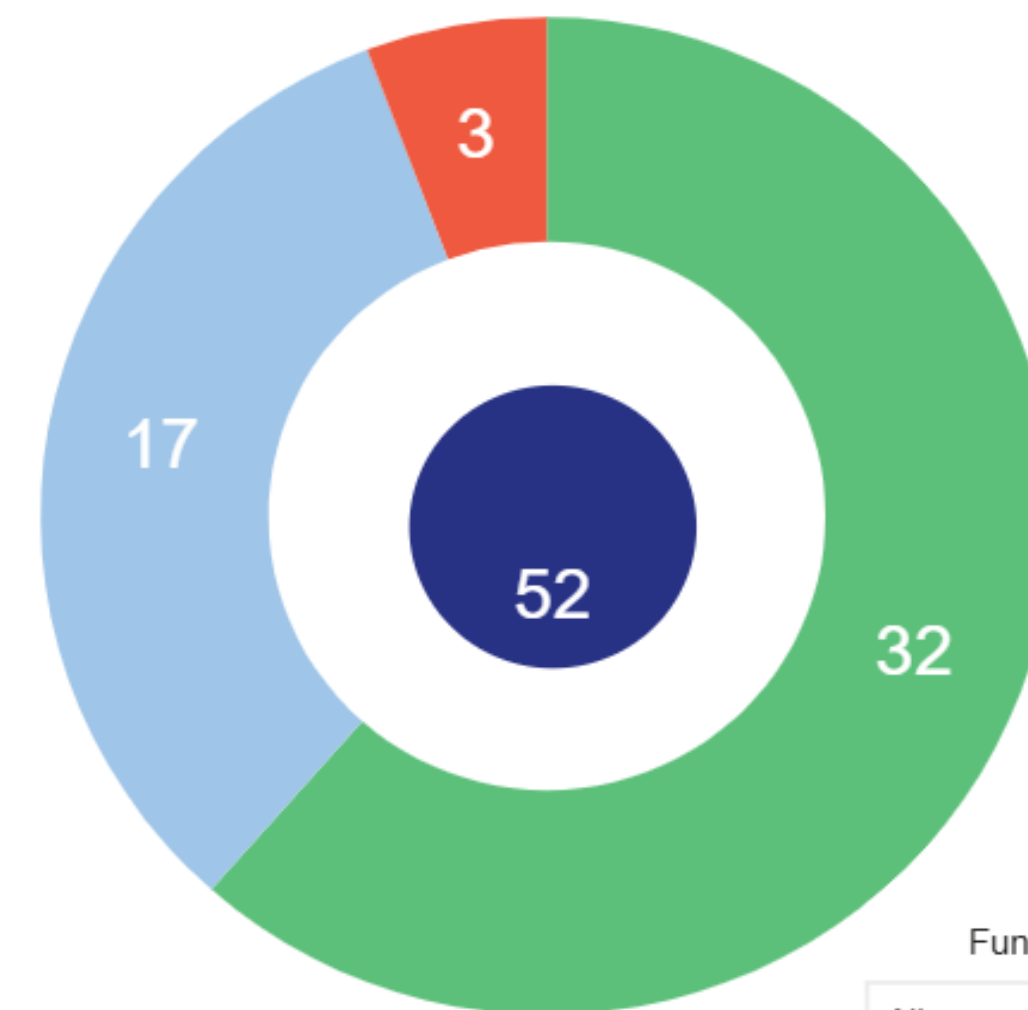
Click on a graph to filter the displayed information. Double-click on the same graph to reset the view.

26.96M€

Private companies Universities & research centres other



Beneficiaries



Funding year:

All

Funding programme:

All

Only beneficiaries from the selected country are displayed.

Participants	Role	City
A4F ALGA FUEL SA	coordinator	Lisboa
A4F ALGA FUEL SA	partner	Lisboa
A4F ALGAFUEL SA	partner	Lisboa
ALLMICROALGAE NATURAL PRODUCTS SA	partner	Pataias
AMORIM CORK SOLUTIONS, S.A	partner	Mozelos
APBIO ASSOCIACAO PORTUGUESA DE BIOINDUSTRIA	partner	Cantanhede
ASSOCIACAO OCEANO VERDE LABORATORIO COLABORATIVO PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO DE TECNOLOGIAS E PRODUTOS VERDES DO OCEANO	partner	Faro



CBE JU 2026 call: timeline & topics

Proposal preparation



Call for proposals



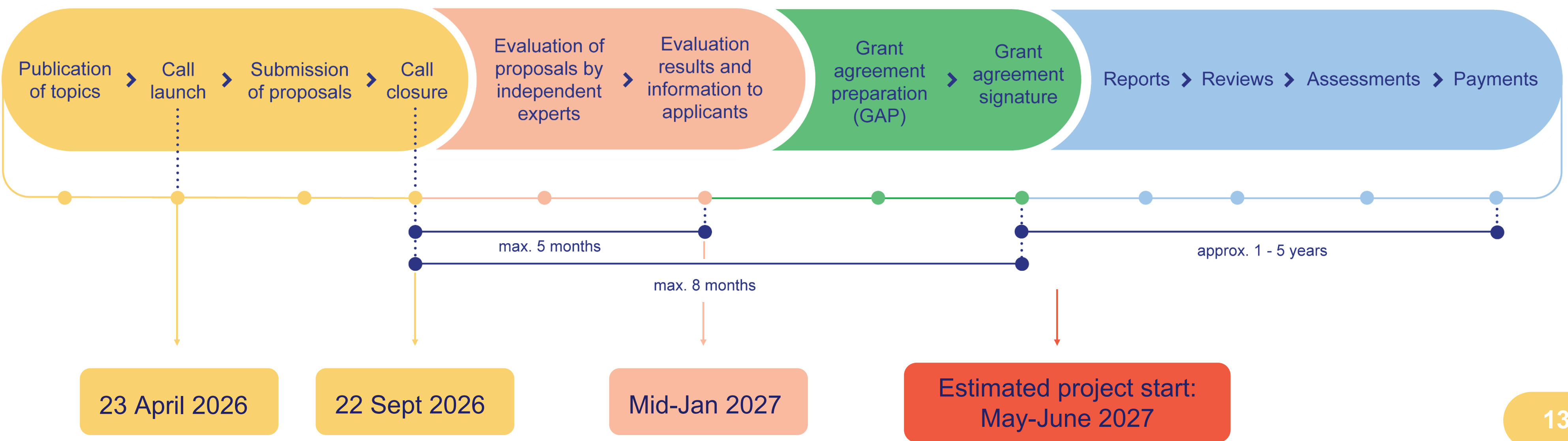
Evaluation



Grant agreement



Project management



CBE JU call 2026: 13 topics & their budget

Type of action	Topics HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026		Million EUR
IA- Flagship	IAFlag-01	Boosting biorefinery competitiveness through biotech	20
	IAFlag-02	SSbD bio-based alternatives for fertilising and/or crop protection products	20
	IAFlag-03	SSbD bio-based solutions for home and/or personal care	20
	IAFlag-04	Diversification of nutritional food ingredient sources for increased EU resilience and strategic autonomy	20
IA	IA-01	Biotech routes for valorisation of residual biomass	14
	IA-02	Bio-based additives as alternatives to unlock and increase recyclability and/or biodegradability	14
	IA-03	Bio-based chemicals and/or materials from woody residues	14
	IA-04	High-performance, circular-by-design, bio-based thermosets	14
	IA-05	Films and coatings for circular packaging	14
RIA	R-01	Addressing separation and purification challenges in biorefineries	6.5
	R-02	SSbD bio-based polymers from alternative sources	6.5
	R-03	Develop breakthrough and sustainable bio-based (man-made and/or modified natural) textile fibres	6.5
CSA	S-01	Supporting industry in the switch to sustainable and circular bio-based products and processes	1.2
Total			170.7



The Bio-based Industries Consortium and the CBE JU call for proposal 2026

Samuele Ambrosetti

Programme and Innovation Manager
Bio-based Industries Consortium

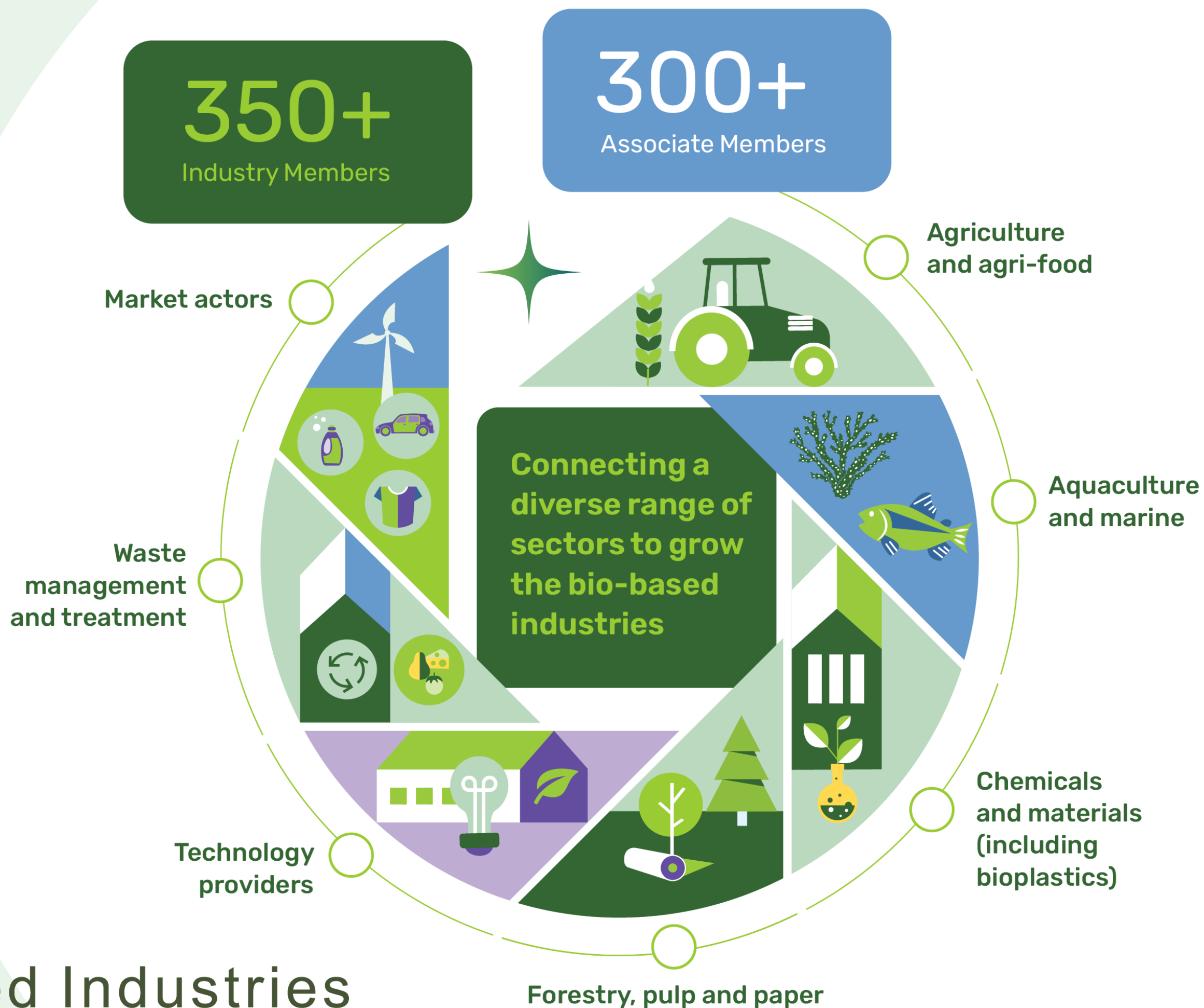
Who we are

Leading Europe's sustainable, circular, bio-based transition

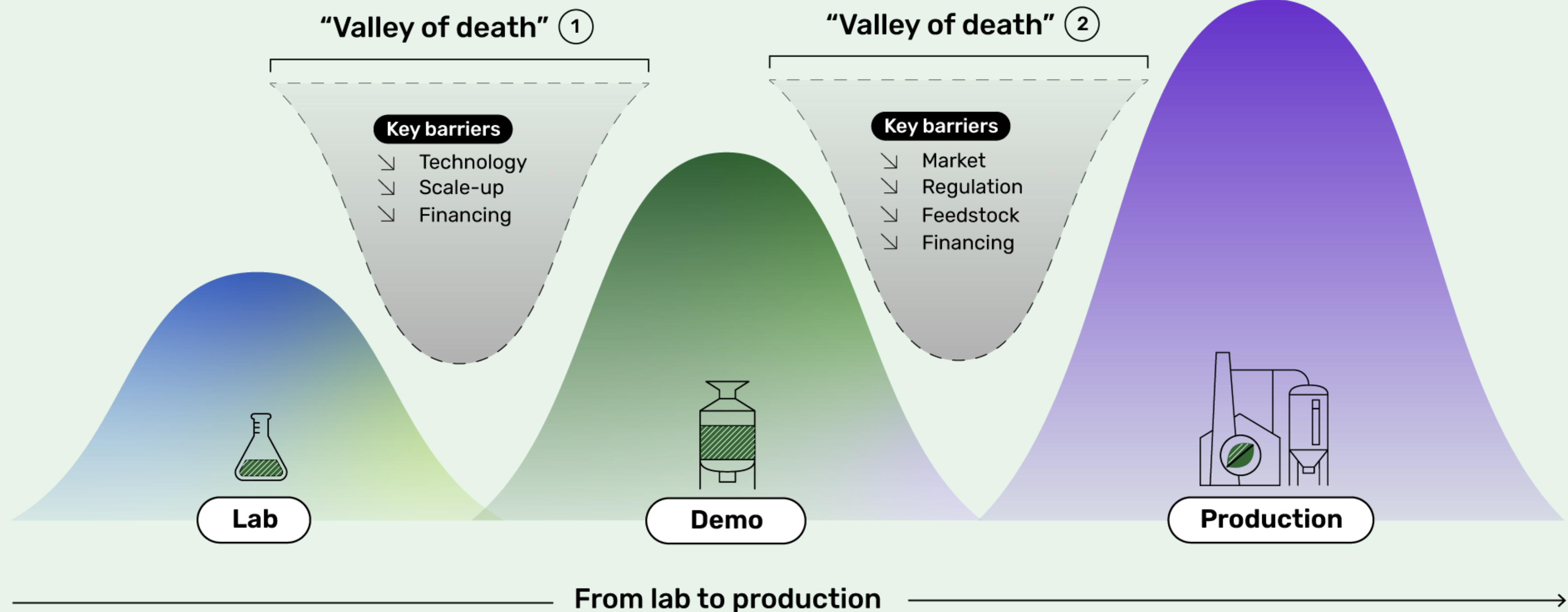
The Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC) is a non-profit organisation connecting industry, academia, regions and citizens to transform bio-based feedstocks into novel sustainable products and applications, and create circular bioeconomy ecosystems through investments, innovation and know-how.

biconsortium.eu

 **Bio-based Industries Consortium**

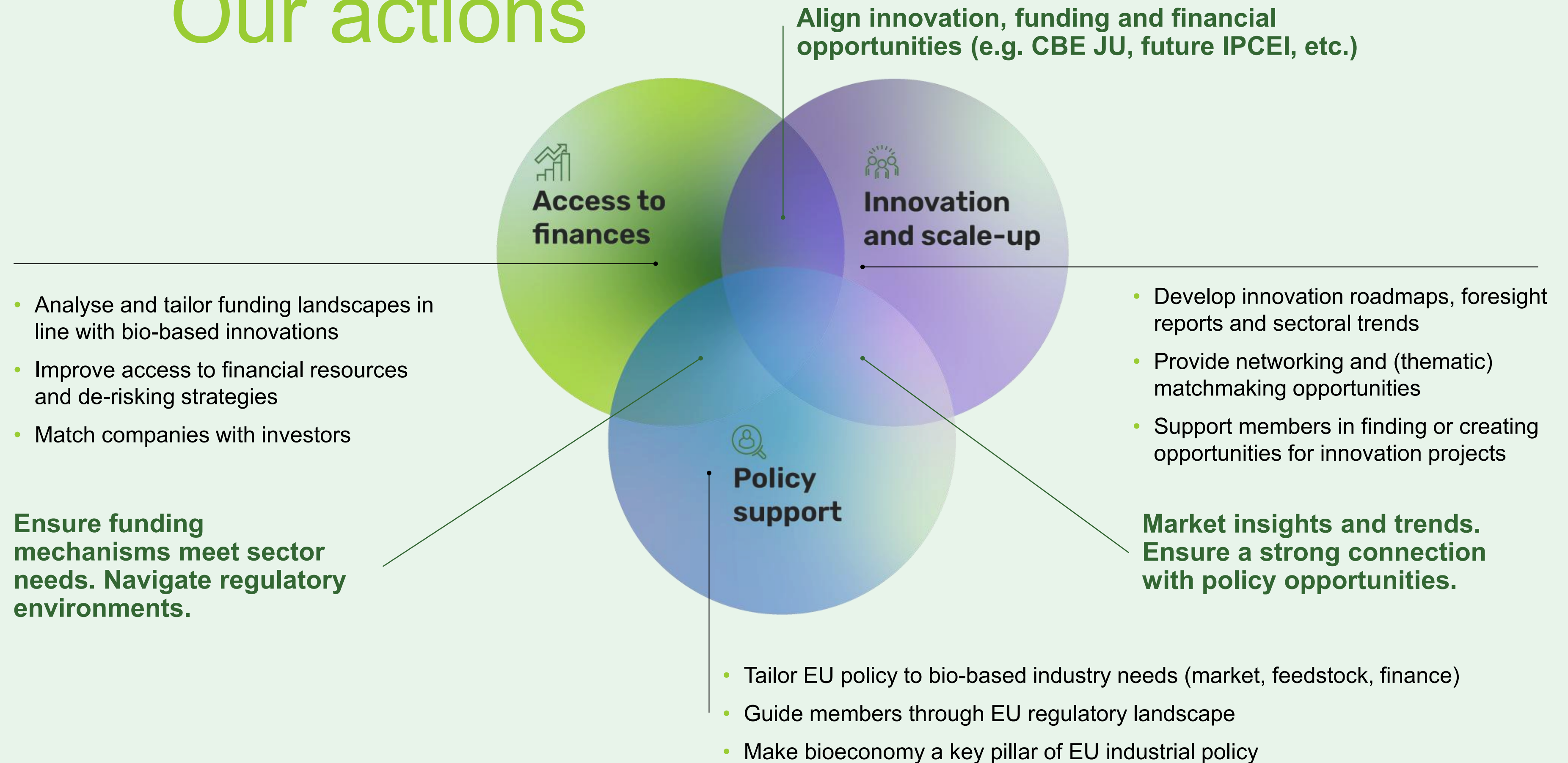


Our mission

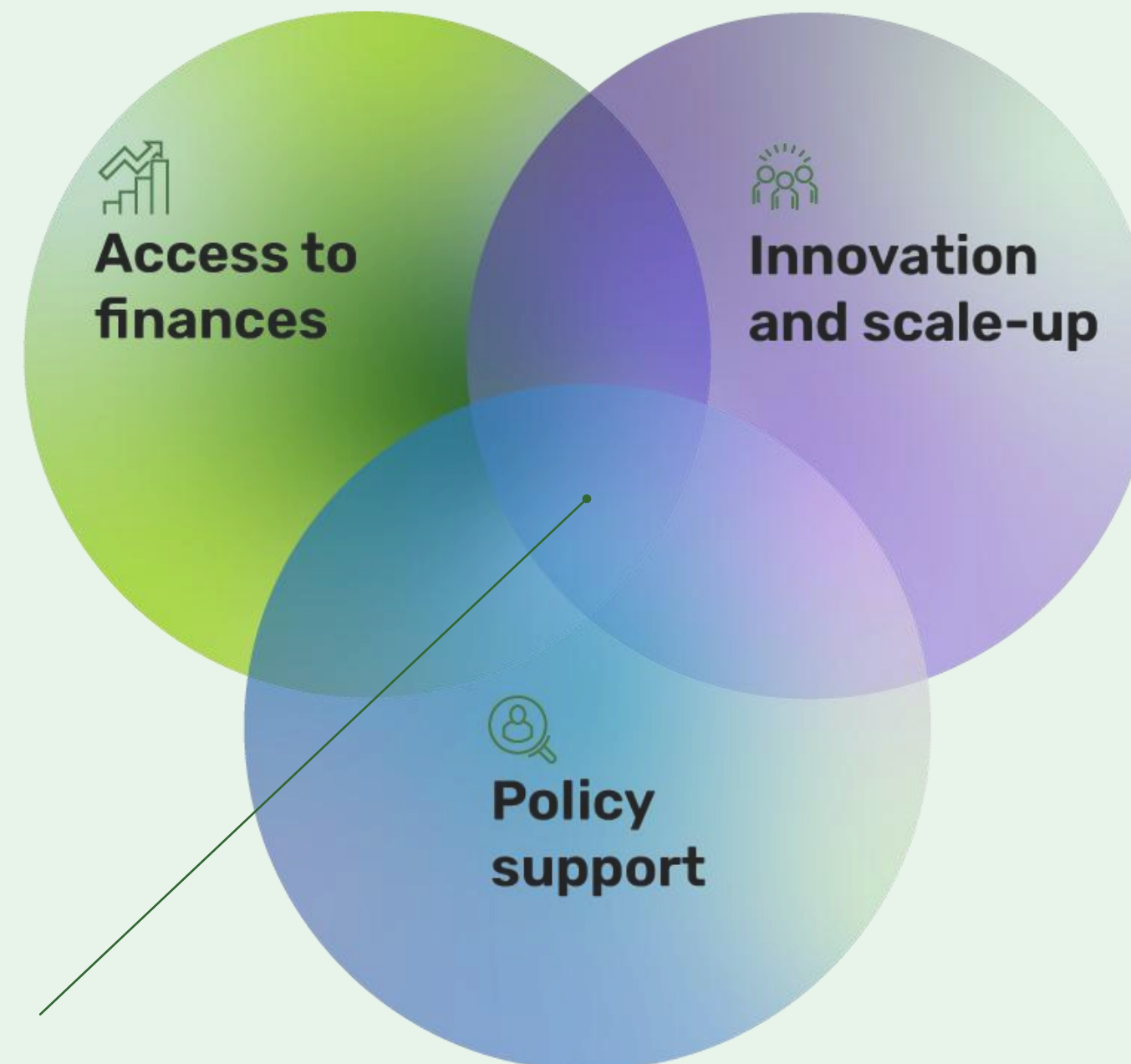


Supporting bio-based industries going from “lab” to “fab”

Our actions



The “sweet spot”



At the intersection between access to finance, innovation and scale-up and policy support...



**Circular
Bio-based
Europe**

Joint Undertaking

is where **EU policy** provides **financial support** for **innovation and scale-up** in bio-based industries

biconsortium.eu

CBE JU 2026 call topics

Topic	N	Total M€
IAFlag-01: Boosting biorefinery competitiveness through biotech	1	20
IAFlag-02: SSbD bio-based alternatives for fertilising and/or crop protection products	1	20
IAFlag-03: SSbD bio-based solutions for home and/or personal care	1	20
IAFlag-04: Diversification of nutritional food ingredient sources for increased EU resilience and strategic autonomy	1	20
IA-01: Biotech routes for valorisation of residual biomass	2	14
IA-02: Bio-based additives as alternatives to unlock and increase recyclability	2	14
IA-03: Bio-based chemicals and/or materials from woody residues	2	14
IA-04 High-performance, circular-by-design, bio-based thermosets	2	14
IA-05: Films and coatings for circular packaging	2	14
RIA-01: Addressing separation and purification challenges in biorefineries	2	6.5
RIA-02- SSbD bio-based polymers from alternative sources	2	6.5
RIA-03-Develop breakthrough and sustainable bio-based textile fibres	2	6.5
CSA-01: Supporting industry in the switch to sustainable and circular bio-based products and processes	1	1.2

CBE JU 2026 call topics: Flagships

Topic	N	Total M€
IAFlag-01: Boosting biorefinery competitiveness through biotech	1	20
IAFlag-02: SSbD bio-based alternatives for fertilising and/or crop protection products	1	20
IAFlag-03: SSbD bio-based solutions for home and/or personal care	1	20
IAFlag-04: Diversification of nutritional food ingredient sources for increased EU resilience and strategic autonomy	1	20

- Funding: **20 M€ for 1 project**. Funding rate: **60%** for companies, **100%** for non-profit entities
- **IKOP threshold: at least 20%** of eligible costs of the project as a whole
 - With a funding rate of 60%, this means that at least 50% of the eligible costs must be allocated to companies that are (or become via “project membership”) BIC members
- End **TRL 8** for the main activities. Activities at lower TRL are allowed to e.g. pave the way to next gen
- **Quantified business case and business plan** including replication potential (Annex)
- **Multi-actor approach**: see topic for specific actors to be involved
- **Links and complementarities** to previous / ongoing projects: see topic for specific projects
- **Contribution to CBE specific requirements**: see topic for specific details
- **Environmental impact and SSbD assessment**

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IAFlag-01: Boosting biorefinery competitiveness through biotech

<i>Funding</i>	20 M€ for 1 project selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	8
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Full industrial scale biorefinery and related value chain(s) for the sustainable production ... using biotech as a key enabling technology . • Availability of bio-based products meeting market and technical performance requirements.... • Improvement of sustainability, circularity and resource efficiency ... • Contribution to increasing the EU's strategic autonomy, resilience and competitiveness .
<i>Scope (overview)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at TRL 8) a sustainable and robust biomanufacturing route to obtain biobased product(s). Focus on processes in which biotechnology is the key enabling technology; the integration of (upstream and/or downstream) supporting unit operations based on technologies other than biotechnology. Products in scope include chemicals, intermediates, polymers, ingredients and enzymes. Food and feed ingredients as main application are out of scope. ... • Demonstrate (at TRL 8) the further conversion or use of the obtained biorefinery product(s) into at least one end-product driving the business case; ...

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IAFlag-02: SSbD bio-based alternatives for fertilising and/or crop protection products

<i>Funding</i>	20 M€ for 1 project selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	8
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Full industrial scale biorefinery and related value chain(s) for the sustainable production of bio-based fertilisers and/or crop protection solutions . • Increased availability of cost-competitive and SSbD bio-based alternatives for fertilising and/or crop protection products with suitable agronomic efficacy. • Reduced reliance on synthetic/mineral agricultural chemical products . • Increased EU strategic autonomy, resilience and competitiveness
<i>Scope (overview)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at TRL 8) the efficient industrial production of SSbD bio-based solutions as alternatives to current fertilising and/or crop protection products. <u>Bioactive molecules and/or biotechnology solutions for bio-fertilisers, bio-stimulants and/or pest/disease control (e.g., bioherbicides, biopesticides, bioinsecticides), or a combination thereof, are in scope</u>. Products in scope can be applicable at any crop(s) cycle stage. • Validate (at TRL 6 and above) ... into the <u>formulation of end-product(s) and test their agronomic efficiency, safety and sustainability</u> to prove the achievement of similar or improved properties compared to defined benchmarks available • <u>Test the developed product(s) with primary producers on the field (demo farms)</u> for selected crops and monitor their effects on soil health and quality, as well as on water.

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IAFlag-03: SSbD bio-based solutions for home and/or personal care

<i>Funding</i>	20 M€ for 1 project selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	8
<i>Expected outcomes</i> SSbD bio-based solutions for home and/or personal care sector with significantly improved sustainability. • Wider availability of bio-based products in home and/or personal care sector meeting both regulatory standards and technical performance requirements. • Increased consumer/end user acceptance of bio-based solutions, • Contribution to the EU strategic autonomy, resilience and competitiveness ,..
<i>Scope (overview)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at TRL 8) the production of SSbD bio-based solution(s) as an alternative to conventional chemicals, ingredients and combinations thereof, that are currently used in the formulation of home and/or personal care products (including cosmetics). <u>SSbd biobased chemicals/ingredients and biotechnology solutions are both in scope</u>. Materials entering the end product formulation (e.g., granulates, powders, microbeads, micro/nano cellulose) are also in scope, while other materials related to home and personal care applications (e.g., nonwovens, other wipes, packaging) are out of scope. • Demonstrate (at TRL 7 and above) the application of the bio-based solution(s) into the <u>formulation of market relevant end-product(s)</u>. Assess <u>technical performances of endproduct(s)</u>, ensuring that their final properties meet market application requirements. • <u>Test that the release and accumulation of pollutants and harmful substances in the water is being avoided, including microplastics</u>. When biodegradable solutions are targeted, validate biodegradability

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IAFlag-04: Diversification of nutritional food ingredient sources for increased EU resilience and strategic autonomy

<i>Funding</i>	20 M€ for 1 project selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	8
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full industrial scale biorefinery and related value chain(s) for the production of nutritional food ingredients. • Resilience and strategic autonomy of EU food• Increased environmental sustainability of food sectors• Improved consumers awareness and acceptance of nutritional food ingredients from alternative sources, contributing to sustainable healthy diets
<i>Scope (overview)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at TRL 8) the efficient production of nutritional ingredients for food applications. Proteins, lipids, specialty carbohydrates, and fibres are in scope. Target at least one of these as the main product driving the business case. <u>All sources of bio-based feedstock are in scope</u>. Direct production of food from food crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture is not in scope. The use of industrial grade feedstock from agricultural crops is in scope for conversion into food grade ingredients. • Validate (at TRL 6 and above) the use of the obtained nutritional food ingredient(s) into the <u>formulation of at least 1 food product</u> proving quality, stability, nutritional and sensorial properties. • Address resource efficiency and circularity aspects to increase economic and socioenvironmental added value. When pursuing circular models, ensure that neither pathogens nor contaminants are injected back in the loop, to avoid negative toxicological effects.

CBE JU 2026 call topics – Innovation Actions

Topic	N	Total M€
IA-01: Biotech routes for valorisation of residual biomass	2	14
IA-02: Bio-based additives as alternatives to unlock and increase recyclability	2	14
IA-03: Bio-based chemicals and/or materials from woody residues	2	14
IA-04 High-performance, circular-by-design, bio-based thermosets	2	14
IA-05: Films and coatings for circular packaging	2	14

- Funding: **14 M€ for 2 projects**. Funding rate: **60%** for companies, **100%** for non-profit entities
- **IKOP threshold: at least 15%** of eligible costs of the project as a whole
 - With a funding rate of 60%, this means that at least 37,5% of the eligible costs must be allocated to companies that are (or become via “project membership”) BIC members
- End **TRL 6-7** for the main activities. Activities at lower TRL are allowed to e.g. pave the way to next gen
- **Multi-actor approach**: see topic for specific actors to be involves
- **Links and complementarities** to previous / ongoing projects: see topic for specific projects
- **Contribution to CBE specific requirements**: see topic for specific details
- **Quantified business model and business case**, including potential for upscaling
- **Environmental impact and SSbD assessment**

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IA-01: Biotech routes for valorisation of residual biomass

<i>Funding</i>	14 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	6-7
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Increased added value of residual biomass for biorefinery applications. • Availability of a wider portfolio of sustainable bio-based products via industrial biotech. • Robust, scalable and efficient biotech process(es) applicable to residual biomass
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at least TRL 6) efficient biotechnology-based processes to convert residual biomass streams into bio-based chemicals, intermediates, polymers, materials, ingredients and/or enzymes.The feedstock in scope includes: Forestry and agricultural residues and/or side streams from the processing of forestry and agricultural biomass ...residues from aquatic biomass, ... urban and/or industrial bio-based waste and side-streams, mixed streams Integrate optimised biomass pretreatment/fractionation processes ... The valorisation of by-products and side streams across the value chain via the cascading approach is in scope. • <u>Validate (at TRL 5 and above) conversion (or use) of biorefinery product(s) into endproducts</u> proving to fulfil market requirements for selected applications sectors. • Address resource efficiency and circularity. ...

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IA-02: Bio-based additives as alternatives to unlock and increase recyclability and/or biodegradability



<i>Funding</i>	14 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. Rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	6-7
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Wider availability of bio-based additives targeting high functional properties , stability and compatibility with polymers/matrices. • Contribution to improved circularity of end products in relevant market sectors. • Potential replicability into other industrial sectors... • Reduction or avoidance of environmental impacts related to life cycle of additives....
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at least at TRL 6) innovative processes for the synthesis of bio-based SSbD additives that: Enable a circular EoL for materials and/or products that are currently not recyclable and/or not biodegradable, <u>or Improve circularity</u> of materials and/or product... (<u>recycling and/or biodegradation</u>). ...addressing existing bottlenecks in the circular EoL • Provide alternative solutions that prevent the release of harmful chemicals during the product life cycle... • Demonstrate (at least at TRL 6) the <u>compatibility and processability</u> of SSbD bio-based additives within the formulation/manufacturing of materials and/or products. ...Target at least two distinct market sectors in cooperation with end-users. • <u>For biodegradability</u> ensure safety in different environments (soil and water) ... • <u>For recyclability</u> any recycling route is in scope

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IA-03: Bio-based chemicals and/or materials from woody residues

<i>Funding</i>	14 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	6-7
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Increased availability of bio-based chemicals and/or bio-based materials from woody residues. • Increased sustainability of forest-based value chains in cooperation with local forestry owners/cooperatives. • Improved end-of-life (EoL) of bio-based products from woody residues
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate (TRL 6 and above) innovative technologies to obtain bio-based chemicals and/or materials from woody residues. Feedstock in scope includes <u>woody residues generated at forestry and/or at industrial processing sites</u>,• Validate (TRL 5 and above) the <u>obtained chemicals/materials into end products</u>. Assess the products' performance and ensure that they fulfil technical performance requirements according to the end market application(s).• Apply the eco-design principles, in line with the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, to the end-product(s) for <u>sustainable EoL and test it at TRL5 and above</u>. Incineration is not in scope.

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IA-04 High-performance, circular-by-design, biobased thermosets

<i>Funding</i>	14 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	6-7
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Wider availability of bio-based thermoset materials meeting high technical performance requirements. • Improved circularity of thermosets and downstream application(s) against specified market benchmarks taking into account production, use and EoL.
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate (at least at TRL 6) the resource-efficient production of innovative bio-based thermosets, targeting both high performances and circularity. Functionalisation by introducing bio- or non-bio-based additives is also in scope.• Demonstrate (at least at TRL 6) the developed bio-based thermosets <u>conversion into circular end-products, ...</u>• Apply eco-design principles, in line with the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, to enable <u>circularity of the thermoset materials,...</u>• <u>Test the selected EoL alternatives (at TRL 5 and above)</u>. Landfilling or incineration are out of scope.

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-IA-05: Films and coatings for circular packaging

<i>Funding</i>	14 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	60% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	6-7
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Wider availability of bio-based films and coatings for packaging products. • Improved technical performances of packaging products compared to fossil based and/or bio-based benchmarks. • Improved circularity of packaging products against specified market benchmarks...
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate (at least TRL 6) innovative technologies for obtaining bio-based films and/or coatings suitable for improving performance of packaging products. <u>Both food and nonfood packaging are in scope</u>. At least <u>one non-food packaging application</u> to be addressed..... • Demonstrate (at least TRL 6) the applicability of the developed solution(s) in the <u>manufacturing of packaging product prototypes</u>, ensuring compatibility with industrial packaging ... • <u>Assess targeted products properties</u> according to the intended application(s) under conditions occurring during the use phases, including transport and storage. ... • Apply the eco-design principles, / Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, ... • <u>Test the selected EoL alternatives</u> (at TRL 5 and above). Reuse and remanufacturing are also <u>in scope</u> Landfilling or incineration are <u>out of scope</u>.

CBE JU 2026 call topics - RIA

Topic	N	Total M€
RIA-01: Addressing separation and purification challenges in biorefineries	2	6.5
RIA-02- SSbD bio-based polymers from alternative sources	2	6.5
RIA-03-Develop breakthrough and sustainable bio-based textile fibres	2	6.5

- Funding: **6.5 M€ for 2 projects**. Funding rate: **100%** for companies, **100%** for non-profit entities
- **IKOP threshold: at least 5%** of eligible costs of the project as a whole
 - Since the maximum funding rate is 100% for all entities, IKOP is obtained by voluntary reduction of the funding rate of (a subset of) BIC members in the proposal.
- End **TRL 4-5**
- **Multi-actor approach**: not mandatory unless specified in the topic
- **Links and complementarities** to previous / ongoing projects: see topic for specific projects
- **Contribution to CBE specific requirements**: see topic for specific details
- **Qualitative business case** showing promise when upscaled
- **Environmental impact assessment** (based on preliminary data)
- **SSbD assessment** only when specified

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-RIA-01: Addressing separation and purification challenges in biorefineries



<i>Funding</i>	6.5 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	100% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	5
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	<p>...competitiveness, efficiency, sustainability, circularity and safety of industrial biorefineries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient, selective and scalable separation and purification technology platform(s)to be integrated within existing and/or new biorefineries. • Purity and stability of targeted intermediates/product(s) compatible with further conversion requirements
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop scalable separation and purification technologies and test the developed innovative solutions on at least 3 use cases from biorefinery processes at industrial or demo scale. <u>Address at least two</u>: (1) increase efficiency when using available green solvents (including water), or develop novel ones and in both cases minimise the use of harsh solvents; (2) applying process intensification ... through reduction of process steps; (3) reducing thermal and/or electric energy and water consumption. • Address compatibility of the innovative separation and purification solutions with existing upstream technologies <u>or</u> develop solutions (upstream and downstream challenges). • <u>Test and validate</u> the performance of targeted technologies and their effect on selected bio-based product(s). Both novel (not yet available on the market) and well-established bio-based products are in scope.

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-RIA-02- SSbD bio-based polymers from alternative sources

<i>Funding</i>	6.5 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. Rate</i>	100% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	5
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Sustainable feedstock diversification for the production of bio-based polymers. • Scalable process(es) for obtaining SSbD bio-based polymers from bio-based feedstock alternative to primary biomass . • Enlarge the portfolio of performant bio-based polymers ...
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop (at TRL 5) efficient processes for synthesis and/or extraction of bio-based polymer(s) from the alternative sources in scope, targeting high yield and selectivity. <u>Primary biomass from agriculture and forestry is out of scope</u>; ... Both new bio-based polymers and already established ones are in scope. • Integrate further <u>isolation and purification (when relevant)</u> of obtained bio-based polymer(s) according to specific application requirements. Functionalisation of purified bio-based polymers to achieve targeted properties is also in scope. • <u>Test (at least at TRL 4) the suitability of obtained bio-based polymers in circular-by-design final applications targeting at least two market sectors</u>. ... • <u>Test (at least at TRL 4) for suitable, safe and sustainable EoL options</u> Biodegradability...

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-RIA-03-Develop breakthrough and sustainable bio-based textile fibres



<i>Funding</i>	6.5 M€ for 2 projects selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	100% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	5
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Wider availability of natural and/or man-made bio-based fibres meeting market requirements. • Scalable production processes for novel man-made and/or modified natural fibres. • Enhanced circularity and prevent microplastics release compared to benchmarks
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop breakthrough processes to yield bio-based textile fibres from sustainably sourced biomass feedstock. Bio-based textile waste is eligible as feedstock. <u>Bio-based man-made (synthetic and semi-synthetic) fibres and/or the extraction, refinement and functionalisation of natural fibres are in scope</u>.• Ensure <u>compatibility</u> with existing textile manufacturing processes and equipment to facilitate market penetration.• Design the bio-based fibre(s) to improve specific technical requirements against state-of-the-art benchmarks,• Design the bio-based textile fibres for sustainable end of life. Assess the actual feasibility of the targeted end of life option(s) . Prevent release of microplastics and other harmful substances along the whole product life cycle.

CBE JU 2026 call topics - CSA

Topic	N	Total M€
CSA-01: Supporting industry in the switch to sustainable and circular bio-based products and processes	1	1.2

- Funding: **1.2 M€ for 1 project**. Funding rate: **100%** for all participants
- Not related to TRL
- **Multi-actor approach**: not mandatory unless specified in the topic
- **Links and complementarities** to previous / ongoing projects: see topic for specific projects
- **Contribution to CBE specific requirements**: see topic for specific details

HORIZON-JU-CDE-2020-CSA-01. Supporting industry in the switch to sustainable and circular bio-based products and processes

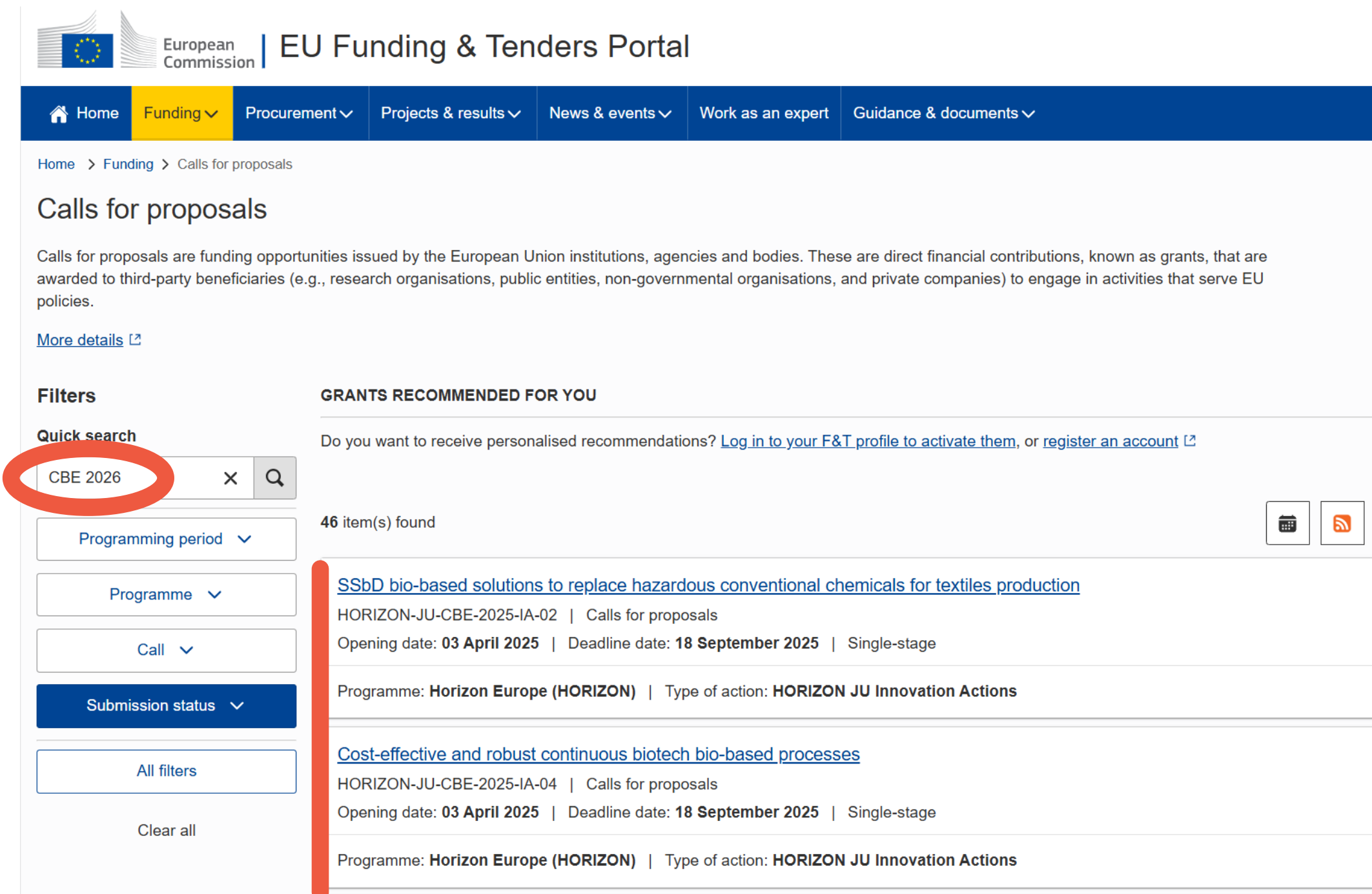
<i>Funding</i>	1.2 M€ for 1 project selected
<i>Fund. rate</i>	100% for companies, 100% for not-for-profit entities
<i>End TRL</i>	N/A
<i>Expected outcomes</i>	Identification of technical, market and regulatory barriers and possible solutions for industry to 'switch to bio-based'. • Contribution to filling the gap between bio-based sectors and the broader industrial landscape
<i>Scope overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform a consultation among non-bio-based and partially bio-based industries to identify barriers preventing them to adopt/diversify bio-based feedstock and processes in their operations. <u>Include at least 3 industrial sectors</u> that are critical for the green transition. • Analyse the outcomes from the consultation <u>to identify barriers to bio-based transition and propose possible solutions</u>. Validate the results with end users/consumers.... • Identify <u>case studies and success stories</u> showcasing best practice... • <u>Create a forum</u> bringing together bio-based industries, feedstock providers, non-bio-based and partially bio-based industries, investors, policymakers, demand-side actors ...to facilitate the dialogue among the stakeholders ... • Develop and publish <u>sectoral and cross-sectoral roadmaps</u>

Submission: EU Funding & Tenders Portal



Call HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026

👉 single stage call



The screenshot shows the 'EU Funding & Tenders Portal' interface. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Funding', 'Procurement', 'Projects & results', 'News & events', 'Work as an expert', and 'Guidance & documents'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Funding > Calls for proposals'. The main heading is 'Calls for proposals', followed by a description of funding opportunities. A 'Filters' sidebar on the left includes a 'Quick search' box with 'CBE 2026' entered and highlighted by a red circle. Other filters include 'Programming period', 'Programme', 'Call', 'Submission status', 'All filters', and 'Clear all'. The main content area shows 'GRANTS RECOMMENDED FOR YOU' with a search prompt and a list of 46 items. Two items are visible: 'SSbD bio-based solutions to replace hazardous conventional chemicals for textiles production' (HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-02) and 'Cost-effective and robust continuous biotech bio-based processes' (HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-IA-04). Both items have an opening date of 03 April 2025 and a deadline date of 18 September 2025.

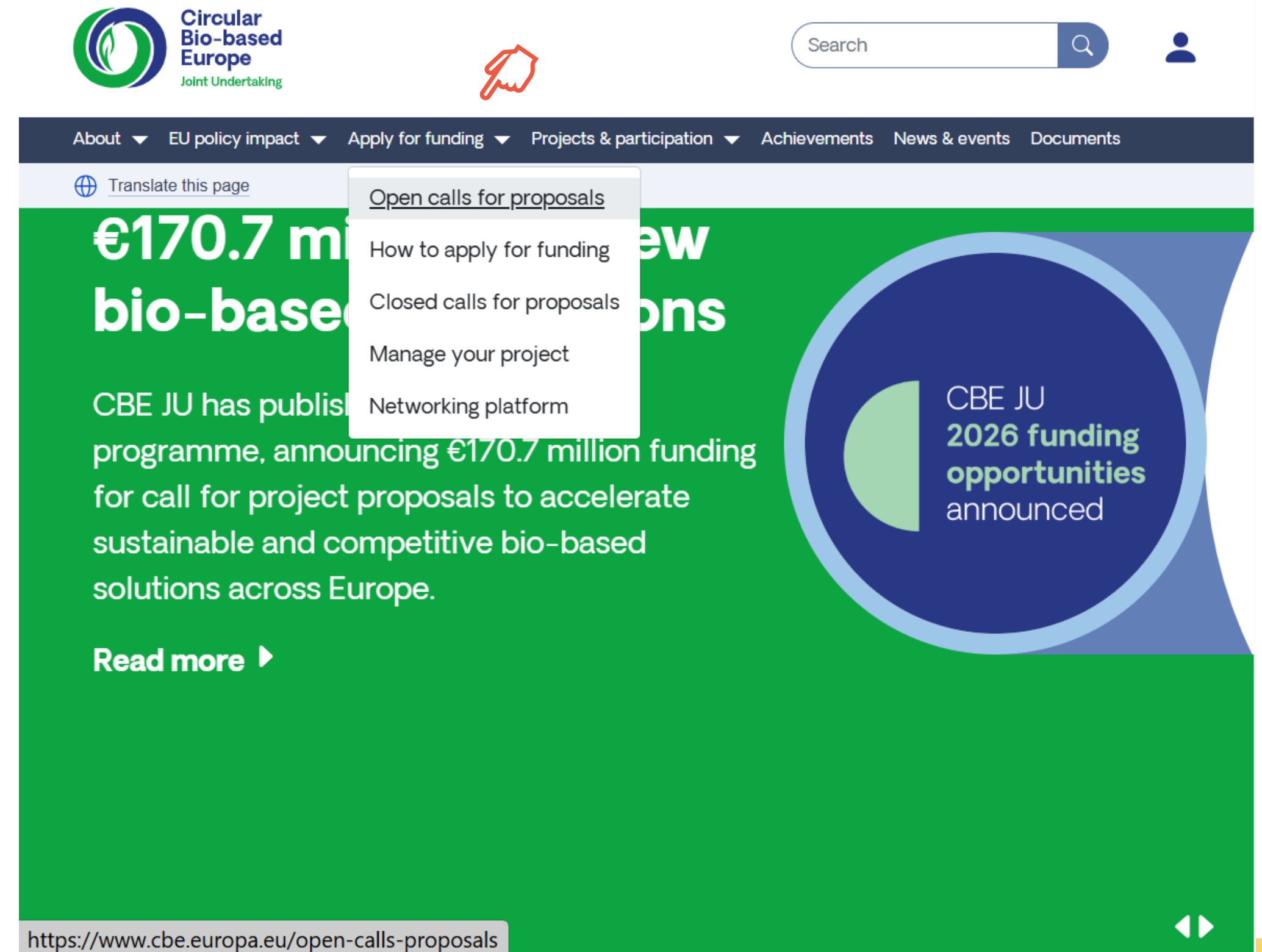
F&TP: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

Preparation: CBE JU website

Open call for proposals 2026

- Overview of call & topics
- Link to [Annual Work Programme 2026](#):
 - complete topic texts
 - call conditions & requirements
- FAQ for applicants
- Links to CBE JU's [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda \(SRIA\)](#), the [Horizon Online Manual](#), and more...

<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/>



The screenshot shows the CBE JU website interface. At the top left is the logo for Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking. To the right is a search bar and a user profile icon. Below the logo is a navigation menu with items: About, EU policy impact, Apply for funding, Projects & participation, Achievements, News & events, and Documents. A 'Translate this page' link is also visible. A dropdown menu is open under 'Apply for funding', listing: Open calls for proposals, How to apply for funding, Closed calls for proposals, Manage your project, and Networking platform. The main content area features a green banner with the text: '€170.7 million bio-based solutions'. Below this, it states: 'CBE JU has published a new programme, announcing €170.7 million funding for call for project proposals to accelerate sustainable and competitive bio-based solutions across Europe.' A 'Read more' link with a right-pointing arrow is present. On the right side of the banner, there is a circular graphic with the text: 'CBE JU 2026 funding opportunities announced'. At the bottom left of the screenshot, the URL 'https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals' is visible. At the bottom right, there are navigation arrows.



CBE JU vs Horizon Europe

similarities & differences

Horizon Europe + CBE JU requirements

Horizon Europe (HE) rules:

- Eligibility
- Admissibility
- General annexes



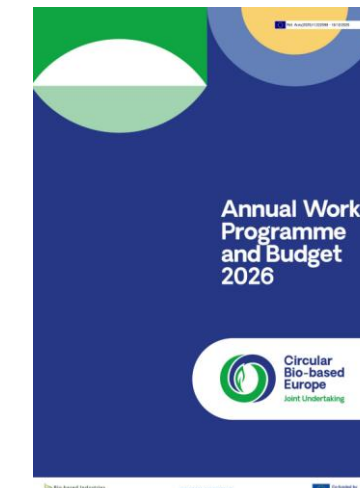
HE evaluation criteria:

- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation



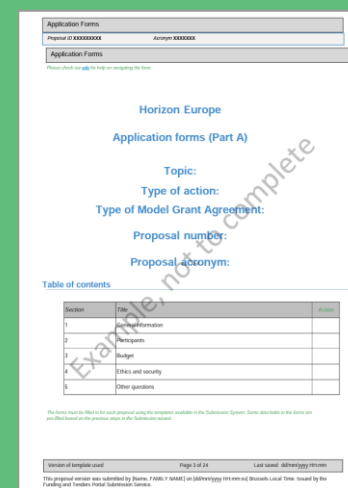
CBE JU AWP 2026

- Topics
- **Specific requirements**
- Budget

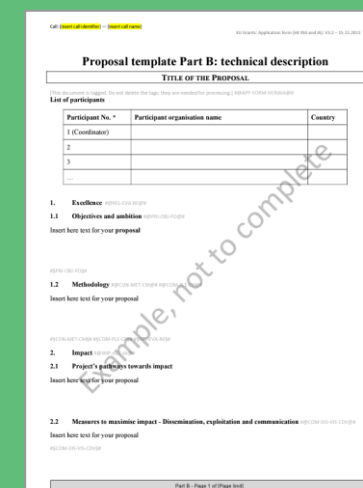


Proposal structure

Part A



Part B



Similarities and differences with HE

Funding rate

- RIA: 100%
- IA: 60% (100% non-profit)
- CSA: 100%

Page limit

- RIA: 50 pages
- IA: 70 pages
- CSA: 30 pages

Scoring thresholds

- Excellence: 3/5
- Impact: 4/5
- Implementation: 3/5
- Total: 11/15

Award criteria

- RIA, IA, CSA: Excellence, impact, implementation
- + Impact:
Ability to ensure 5% (RIA), 15% (IA) or 20% (IAFlag) of in-kind contribution to operational activities (IKOP) = minimum IKOP percentage

CBE JU vs HE 'general annexes'

- **Eligibility & admissibility criteria**

- Same as Horizon Europe - General Annexes WP 2026-2027 (no derogation)
- Most common issue in previous calls (although still rare overall): consortium composition
 - » for RIAs and IAs incl. flagships: min. 3 independent legal entities, with at least 1 from a Member State (MS), and 2 others from different MS and/or Associated Countries)

- **Priority order in case of equal scores? Same rules as mentioned in the Horizon Europe General Annexes**
(no derogation)

- 1) Proposals that address aspects of the call that have not otherwise been covered by more highly ranked proposals will be considered to have the highest priority.
- 2) The proposals identified under 1), if any, will themselves be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for 'Excellence'. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for 'Impact'. In the case of 'Innovation actions', priority will be given to the score for 'Impact', followed by that for 'Excellence'.
- 3) If necessary, the gender balance among the researchers with a leading role named in the researchers table in the proposal, will be used as a factor for prioritisation.
- 4) If necessary, any further prioritisation will be based on geographical diversity, defined as the number of Member States or Associated Countries represented in the proposal, not otherwise receiving funds from projects higher up the ranking list (and if equal in number, then by budget).

IKOP vs BIC membership

- **IKOP?**

- all types of actions except CSA
- evaluation: \geq threshold RIA 5% - IA 15% - IA-Flagship 20%
- = Total eligible costs - total requested funding, of BIC members

- **BIC membership**

- Membership certificate to be requested with BIC before call deadline
- Certificates annexed to proposal (single pdf of all 'membership certificates' of the consortium)
- 'Project membership': temporary membership option, (only) relevant for CBE JU Calls: the entity commits to become a BIC member if their proposal is successful

In-kind contribution to operational activities (IKOP) (1/3)

Flagships

IKOP = Total eligible costs – Requested EU contribution (of private members)

In CBE JU, the only private member is the **Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)**.

→ **Minimum percentage of IKOP** must be reflected in the budget of partners that are BIC members.

Example 1: IA Flagship Criterion: $\geq 20\%$ IKOP	BIC member	Industry / Academia	Total eligible costs	Funding rate	Requested EU contribution	IKOP
Beneficiary 1 - Coordinator (BIC member)	Y	industry	€ 7,000,000	60%	€ 4,200,000	€ 2,800,000
Beneficiary 2	N	academia	€ 590,000	100%	€ 590,000	
Beneficiary 3 (BIC member)	Y	industry	€ 5,000,000	60%	€ 3,000,000	€ 2,000,000
Beneficiary 4	N	industry	€ 3,000,000	60%	€ 1,800,000	
Beneficiary 5	N	academia	€ 800,000	100%	€ 800,000	
TOTAL			€ 16,390,000		€ 10,390,000	€ 4,800,000

$$\text{Percentage IKOP} = \frac{\text{€ 4,800,000}}{\text{€ 16,390,000}} = 29,3\% > 20\% \quad \text{👍}$$

In-kind contribution to operational activities (IKOP) (2/3)

Innovation Actions

IKOP = Total eligible costs – Requested EU contribution (of private members)

In CBE JU, the only private member is the **Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)**.

→ **Minimum percentage of IKOP** must be reflected in the budget of partners that are BIC members.

Example 2: IA Criterion: $\geq 15\%$ IKOP	BIC member	Industry / Academia	Total eligible costs	Funding rate	Requested EU contribution	IKOP
Beneficiary 1 - Coordinator (BIC member)	Y	industry	€ 3,200,000	60%	€ 1,920,000	€ 1,280,000
Beneficiary 2	N	academia	€ 590,000	100%	€ 590,000	
Beneficiary 3	N	industry	€ 1,500,000	60%	€ 900,000	
Beneficiary 4	N	industry	€ 3,000,000	60%	€ 1,800,000	
Beneficiary 5	N	academia	€ 800,000	100%	€ 800,000	
TOTAL			€ 9,090,000		€ 6,010,000	€ 1,280,000

$$\text{Percentage IKOP} = \frac{\text{€1,280,000}}{\text{€ 9,090,000}} = 14,1\% < 15\% \quad \text{👎}$$

In-kind contribution to operational activities (IKOP) (3/3)

Research and Innovation Actions

IKOP = Total eligible costs – Requested EU contribution (of private members)

In CBE JU, the only private member is the **Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)**.

→ **Minimum percentage of IKOP** must be reflected in the budget of partners that are BIC members.

Example 3: RIAs Criterion: <u>≥ 5% IKOP</u>	BIC member	Industry / Academia	Total eligible costs	Funding rate	Requested EU contribution	IKOP (only for BIC members)
Beneficiary 1 - Coordinator	Y	industry	€ 2,000,000	100%	€ 2,000,000	
Beneficiary 2	N	academia	€ 590,000	100%	€ 590,000	
Beneficiary 3 (BIC member)	Y	industry	€ 700,000	100%	€ 500,000	€ 200,000
Beneficiary 4	N	industry	€ 300,000	100%	€ 300,000	
Beneficiary 5	N	academia	€ 800,000	100%	€ 600,000	
TOTAL			€ 4,390,000		€ 3,990,000	€ 200,000

$$\text{Percentage IKOP} = \frac{\text{€ 200,000}}{\text{€ 4,390,000}} = 4,5\% < 5\% \quad \text{👎}$$

Horizon Europe + CBE JU requirements

Horizon Europe (HE) rules:

- Eligibility
- Admissibility
- General annexes



HE evaluation criteria:

- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation



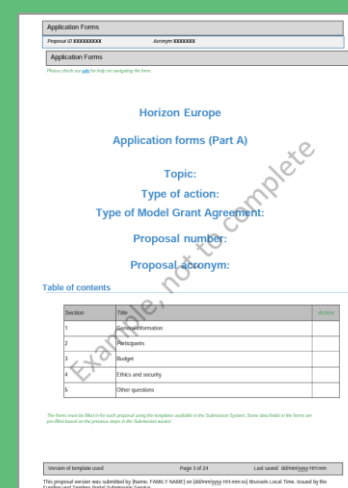
CBE JU AWP 2026

- **Topics**
- **Specific requirements**
- Budget



Proposal structure

Part A



Part B



Call topic structure

Topic

AWP 2026

Topic

Topic

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2026-XX-NN	Topic title
Type of action	Innovation Action
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 14 million
Expected EU contribution per project	It is estimated that a contribution of EUR 7 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts
TRL	TRL 7 at the end of the project
Link to CBE JU Specific Objectives	1.1: Increase the intensity of cross-disciplinary research and innovation activities
Link to CBE JU SRIA Strategic Priorities	1.1.2: Develop innovative production systems in the bio-based industry 1.1.3: Develop innovative bio-based products
CBE JU KPIs	4.5 Number of products with improved life cycle environmental performance 5.1 Number of innovative products that are biodegradable, compostable, recyclable, reused or upcycled (circular-by-design) 5.2 Number of projects developing circular production practices (incl. industrial & industrial urban symbiosis) 6 Increase innovative bio-based outputs and products

Call topic structure

AWP 2026

Topic

Expected
outcomes

Topic

Scope

Topic

The 'change' to be achieved

- Provides a broad description of what is the **impact** to be achieved by the project
- The **dissemination and exploitation** of future research results are vital for the impact

The 'problem'

- Identifies the aspects of the **challenge** that needs to be tackled
- Specifies a **perimeter** to the problem described
- Does not specify the expected solutions to the problem, nor the approach to be taken

Horizon Europe + CBE JU requirements

Horizon Europe (HE) rules:

- Eligibility
- Admissibility
- General annexes



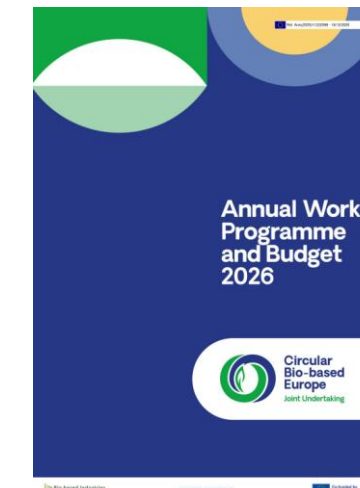
HE evaluation criteria:

- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation



CBE JU AWP 2026

- Topics
- **Specific requirements**
- Budget



Proposal structure

Part A

Part B

CBE JU Call 2026 specific requirements (1/4)

Part B – Methodology

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Section in Part B
Bio-based feedstock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the feedstock, incl. geographical origin and how it is produced or generated, respecting ecological limits • If agricultural biomass is used, clarify the amounts needed and assess any potential interference with food supply chain 	RIA & IA, incl. FLAG IA, incl. FLAG	1.2 Methodology

The description of the feedstock includes now the description of the geographical origin (former eligibility criterion) and the sustainability aspects (previously included as Y/N question).

CBE JU Call 2026 specific requirements (2/4)

Part B – Methodology

Specific CBE JU requirement

Type of action

Section in Part B

Environmental performance

a) Ex-ante assessment

- Identification of environmental issues
- Estimation of environmental sustainability performance
- preliminary assessment of the carbon capture, use and/or storage potential

RIA and IA, incl.
FLAG

1.2 Methodology

b) Ex-post assessment

- Dedicated task for RIA
- Dedicated task or WP (LCSA)

RIA

IA, incl. FLAG

**3.1 Workplan and
resources**

CBE JU Call 2026 specific requirements (3/4)

Part B – Methodology

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Section in Part B
Multi-actor approach (MAA)	All types of actions	1.2 Methodology
Digital technologies	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	1.2 Methodology
Cross-disciplinary aspects and Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)	All types of actions	1.2 Methodology

CBE JU Call 2026 specific requirements (4/4)

Part B – Impact

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Section in Part B
<p>New! Socio-economic impacts, regarding the creation and/or distribution of socio-economic value along the whole value chain</p>	All IAs, incl., FLAG	2.1 Project's pathways towards impact
<p>Business aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative business case Quantified business case and business model Executive summary of the business plan, including the underlying business case and business model Business plan 	<p>RIA</p> <p>IA non-FLAG</p> <p>FLAG</p> <p>FLAG</p>	<p>2.2 Measures to maximise impact – D&E&C</p> <p>FLAG: Annex</p>

CBE JU 2026 call:

lessons learnt and tips & tricks to
prepare a good proposal

Tips for a successful proposal

1. Excellence

1. Objectives & ambition
2. Methodology

2. Impact

3. Pathways to impact
4. Measures to maximise impact

3. Implementation

5. Workplan & resources
6. Consortium capacity

1. Refer **explicitly** to topic's Scope
bullet points

1. Stand out with **clarity**, e.g. on TRL

2. Present as a **narrative**:

*Based on the following concepts,
we plan to use methods A,
to go via B, to C.*

*We see challenges X,
but plan to overcome them by Y.*

2. **Quantify** your targets

Tips for a successful proposal

1. Excellence

1. Objectives & ambition
2. Methodology

2. Impact

3. Pathways to impact
4. Measures to maximise impact

3. Implementation

5. Workplan & resources
6. Consortium capacity

3. Describe **pathways** to impact

3. Refer **explicitly** to topic Expected outcome bullet points

3. Support your claims by **numbers**

4. Dedicate special time & attention to the **business** part & check the definitions in the [AWP2026](#)

Tips for a successful proposal

1. Excellence

1. Objectives & ambition
2. Methodology

2. Impact

3. Pathways to impact
4. Measures to maximise impact

3. Implementation

5. Workplan & resources
6. Consortium capacity

5. Ensure 100% **consistency** of work descriptions in all parts of the proposal
5. Be **open** and complete about risks & pair with specific mitigation measures
6. Build a strong **consortium**

Final tips



Start early!

There is a correlation between earlier proposal creation date (in the Funding & Tenders Portal) and higher evaluation result



Don't lose "easy" points

- Don't forget an explicit topic requirement, for example to include in the workplan a dedicated task for SSbD
- Double check IKOP calculation in the proposal budget table and ensure consistency with the annexed BIC annexes
 - IKOP counted only for demonstrated BIC members !
 - Participant's identifier code must be identical in proposal and BIC certificate !



Every single **word** in **topic text** counts ! Every single **requirement** counts !

Build a strong consortium

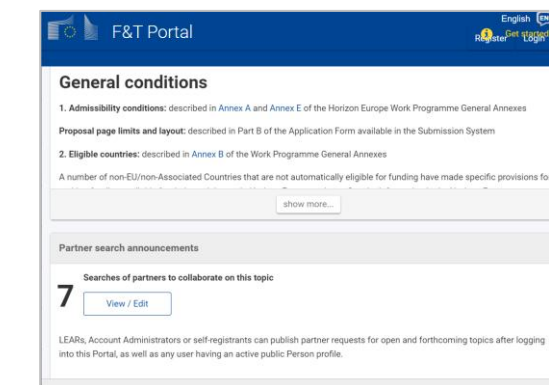
Are there any competence gaps in the consortium?

- Match elements of Topic (and Proposal) to individual partners in the consortium.
- Use the networking opportunities offered by i) **the Funding & Tenders Portal**, ii) **CBE networking platform** and iii) **BIC member networking events**

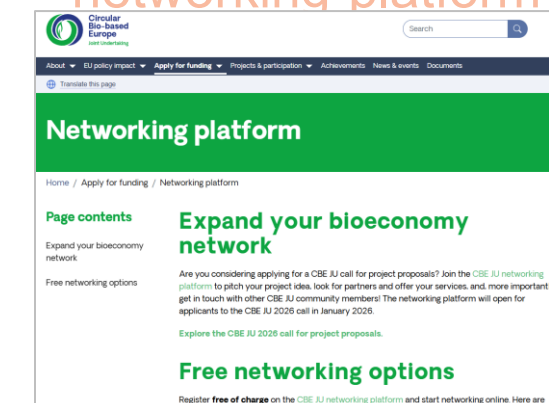
During proposal writing:

- Significant level of upfront **commitment** from all partners is crucial, as costs are not eligible before project start.
- High level of **confidence** between partners is key.
- Talk early about handling of **IPR** – these will need to be confirmed formally in the Consortium Agreement before signature of the Grant Agreement.

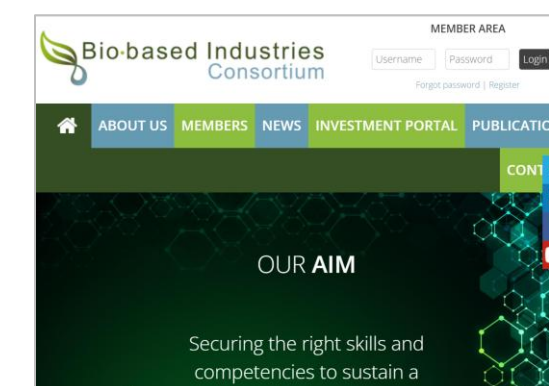
ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal



cbe.europa.eu/networking-platform



biconsortium.eu



Networking opportunities

- **Funding & tender Opportunities Portal** (partner search announcement; <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal>)
- **BIC networking** (<https://biconsortium.eu/membership>)
- **CBE JU networking platform** (<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/networking-platform>)
 - Open, and will remain open until (at least) call closure on 22 Sep 2026
 - **‘Find & be found’**
 - Partner search & expressing interest in on or more topics;
 - Presentation of project ideas
 - Showcasing / offering your expertise
 - Direct messaging & scheduling B2B meetings
 - Registration for the CBE JU info days



CBE JU
Networking platform 2026
Where future project partners come together
[Connect. Collaborate.](#)





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