

A close-up photograph of several hands, belonging to people wearing red and blue plaid shirts, clasped together in a supportive grip. The background is a soft-focus green field.

# EU CAP Network brokerage event 'Partnering for innovation with impact in agriculture and rural areas'

Prague, Czech Republic  
29-30 April 2025



# CBE JU & opportunities for the primary sector

Ana Ruiz Sierra  
Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking



# CBE JU & funding opportunities for primary sector

**Ana RUIZ SIERRA**

Programme Officer

30/04/2025 – CAP Network





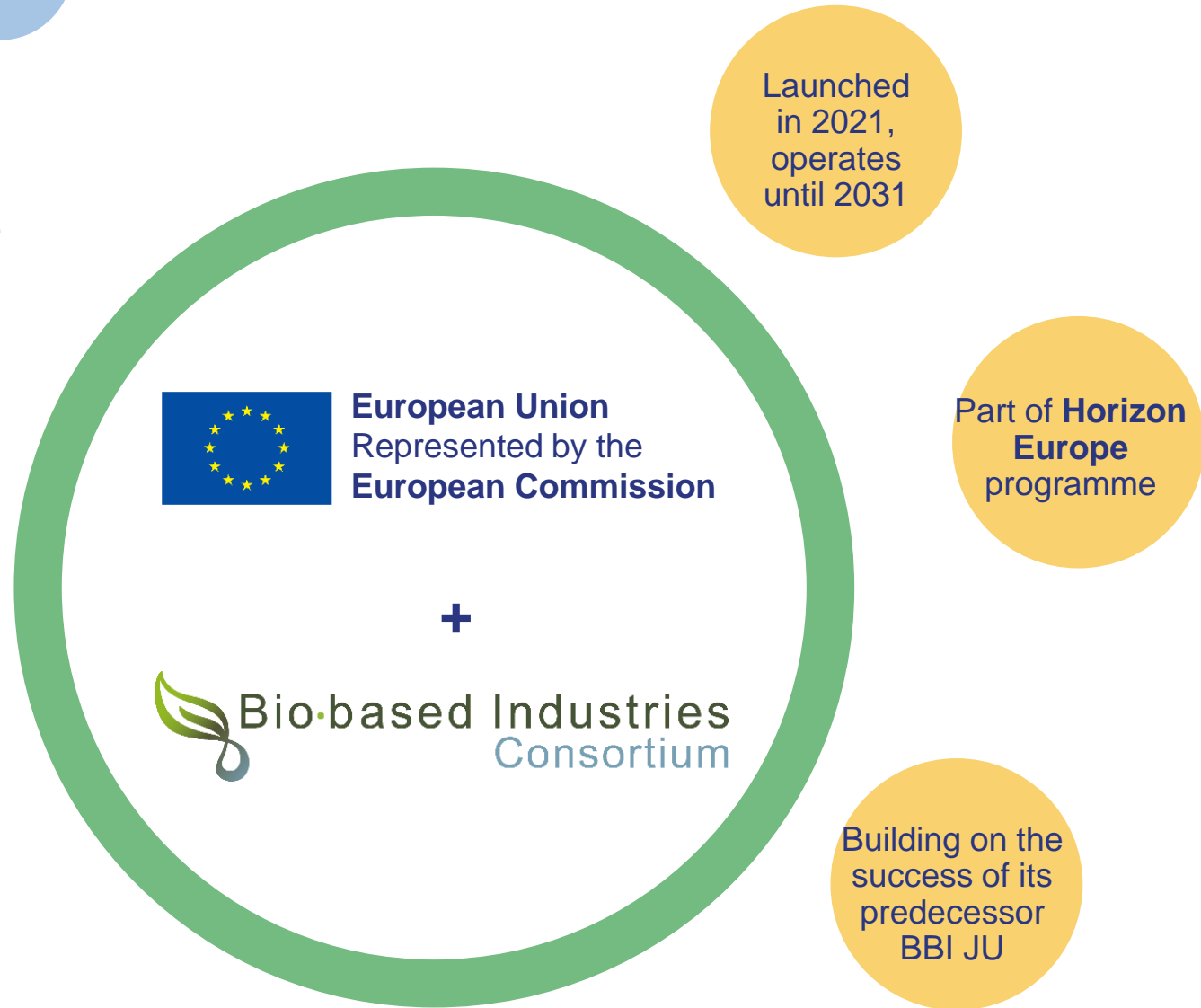
# What is CBE JU?

## Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

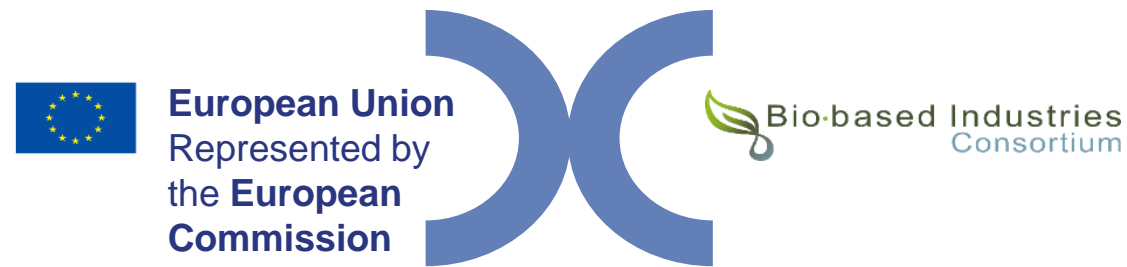
€2 billion  
public-private initiative

Research &  
innovation

Advancing a  
competitive  
bioeconomy for  
a sustainable  
future



CBE JU is funding R &I projects that deliver bio-based solutions – materials and products (bio-based plastics, chemicals, fertilisers, textiles, etc.) made from waste and biomass (non-food) – in an innovative, sustainable and circular way



**Joining forces**  
to de-risk  
investments/  
support a  
growing sector

**Impact-driven**  
(solutions, products  
innovations, etc.  
with market  
potential)

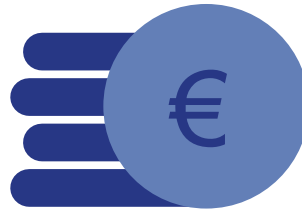
**Public + Private  
contributions**  
(in the projects-  
**IKOP**- and  
additional  
activities)

**Green deal**  
Competitiveness  
& climate change  
& Environment  
protection

# CBE JU three key objectives



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

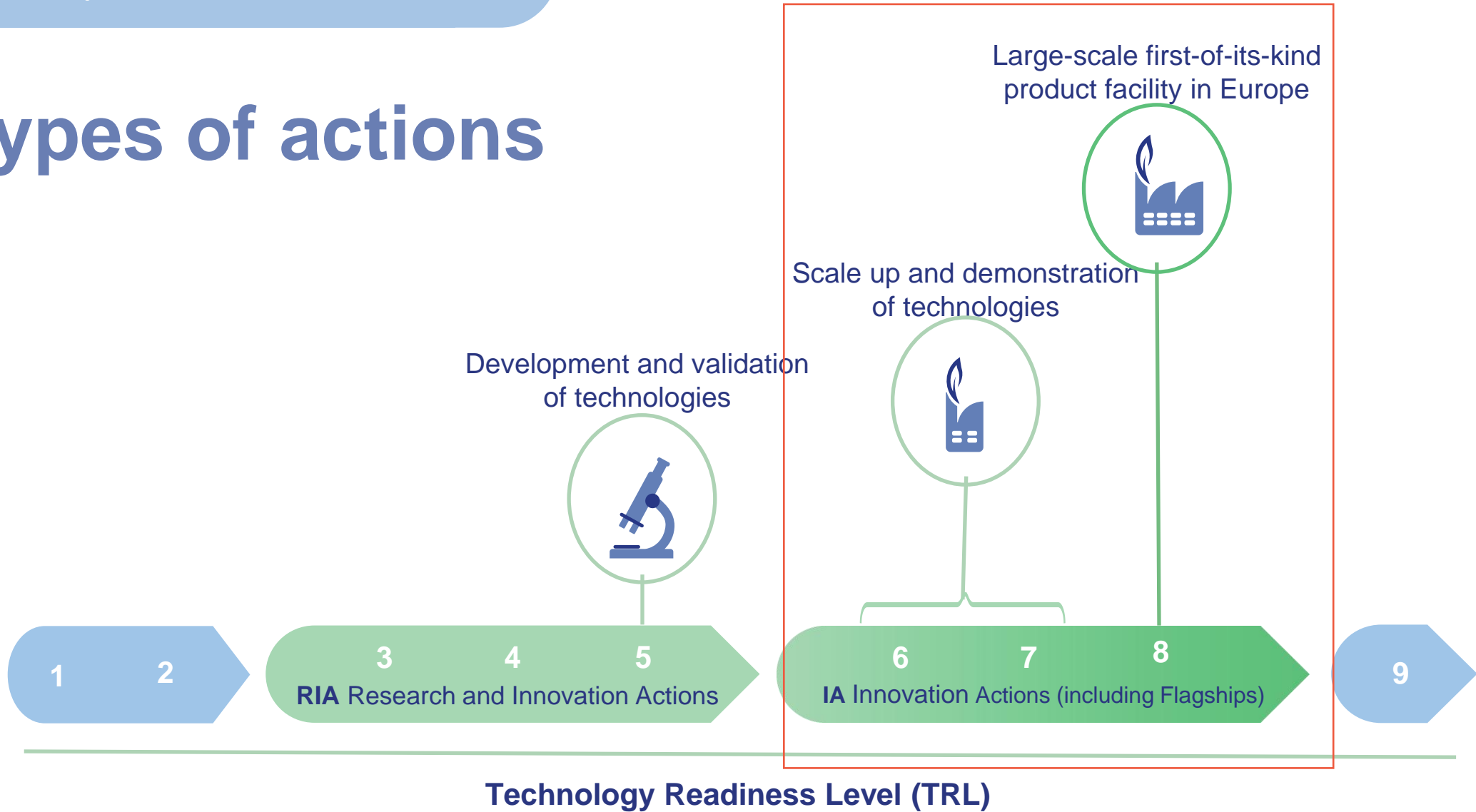


Accelerate  
**market  
deployment** of  
the existing  
mature bio-  
based  
innovative  
solutions



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

# Types of actions



**CSA:** Coordination and Support Actions (no link with TRLs)



# Similarities and **differences** with Horizon Europe



## Funding rate

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



## Award criteria

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



## Page limit

- RIA: **50 p.**
- IA: **70 p.**
- CSA: 30 p.



## Scoring thresholds

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

# CBE JU opportunities for farmers



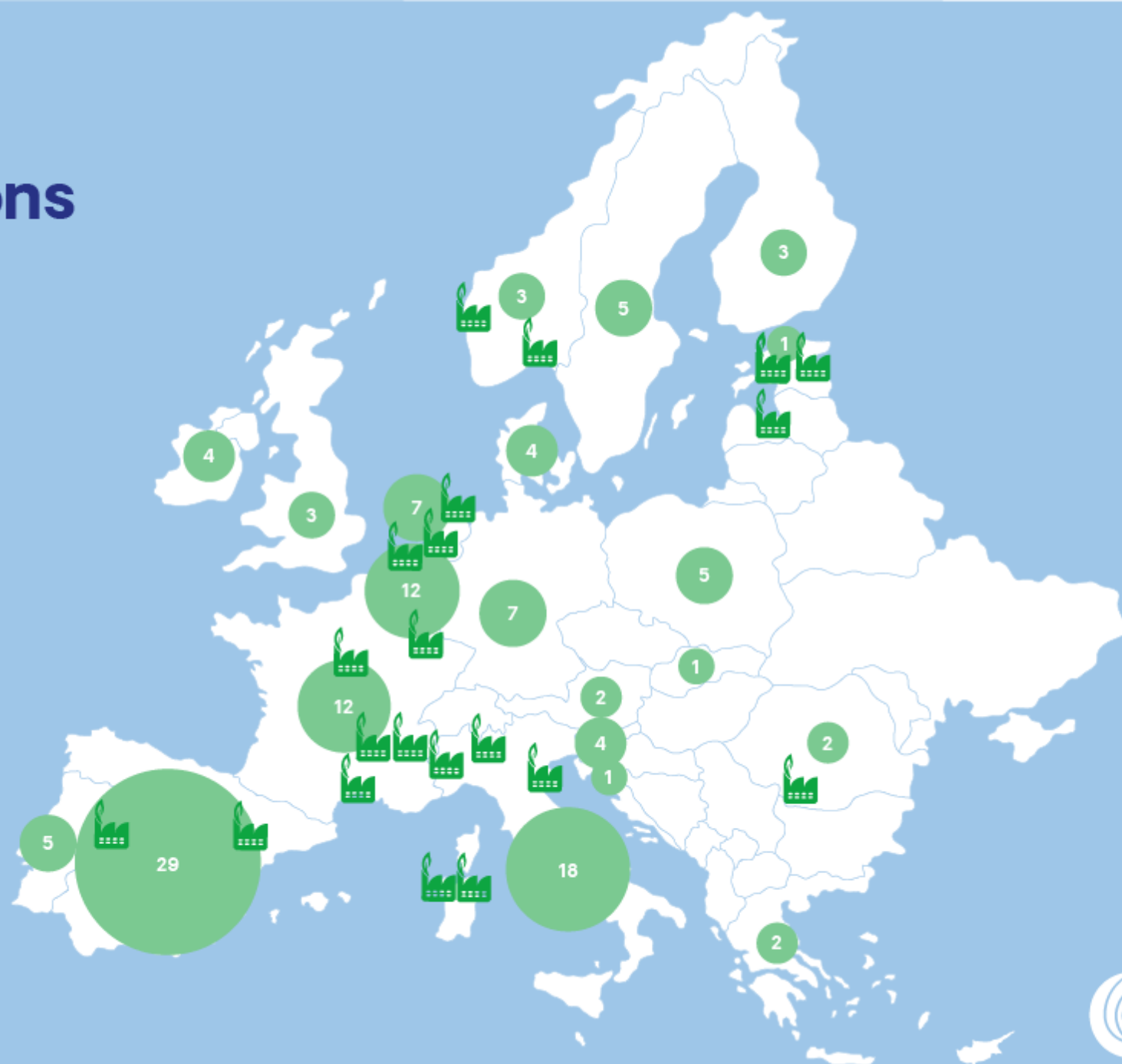
# CBE JU-funded Innovation Actions



Flagship biorefinery



Demonstration plants



Number of plants per country



Circular  
Bio-based  
Europe  
Joint Undertaking



Primary producers are key actors in circular bio-based value chains: **They are biomass suppliers, but also rural entrepreneurs and managers of the landscape as well as end-users of bio-based innovations.**

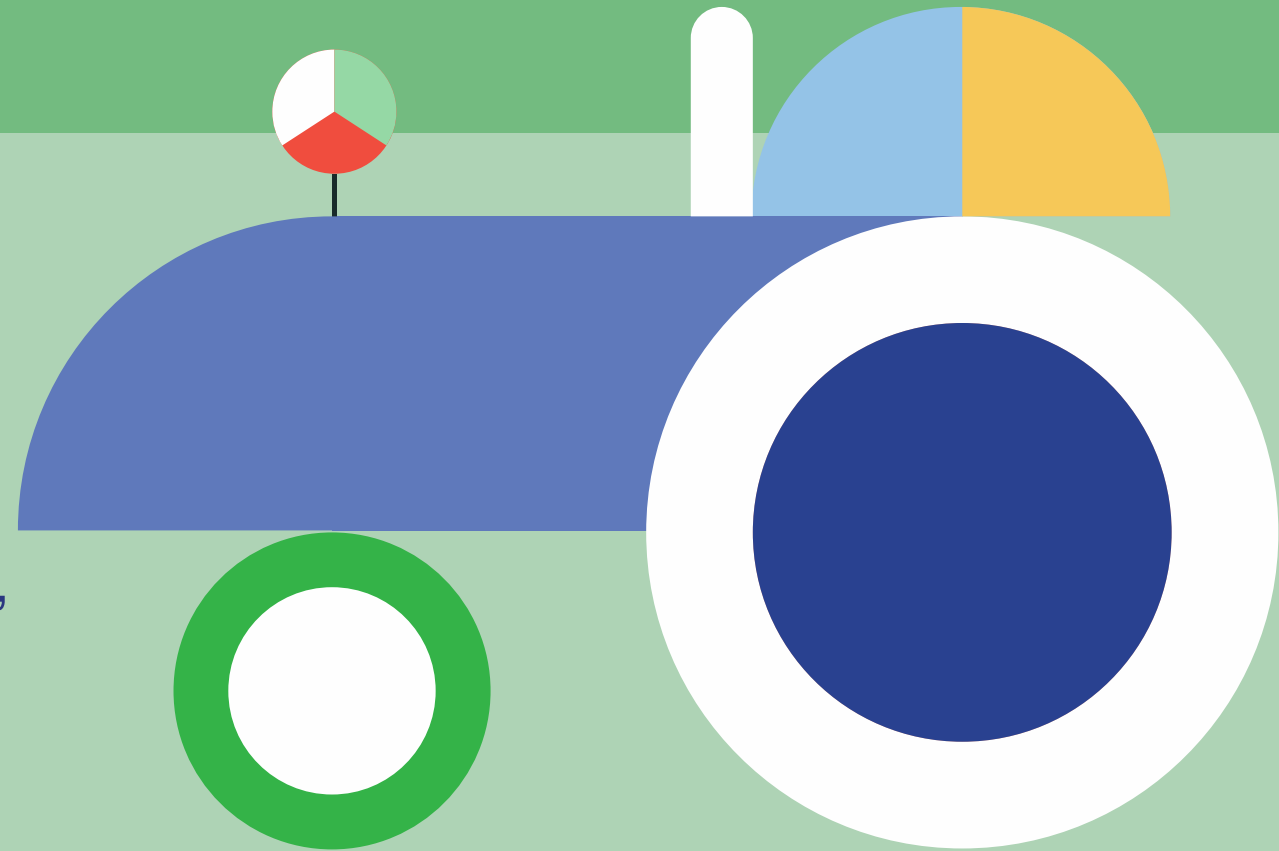


# CBE JU & primary sector: our goals

CBE JU aims at strengthening and empowering the primary sector in the circular bio-based systems and value chains

Primary producers are well represented in the **consortium of the projects**

But, beyond that, secure a sustainable supply of biomass while at the same time creates **value in rural areas** delivering jobs, economic growth and development (new business models)



# What CBE JU is doing ?

- BBI JU- Study in 2019 – analysis of **participation of farmers in BBI projects and recommendations** to improve the participation in R&I projects and more general in the value chains → **Action Plan**
- **Annual Work Programme (topics and requirements)**: Topic-driven projects (e.g., business models cooperatives of farmers), **Multi Actor Approach**, and the direct reference/request to involve **primary producers** in the consortium (direct or indirect).
- **Monitor** the involvement of PP using a specific KPI
- **Communication** campaigns for primary producers



# CBE JU Working Group on Primary Producers

## Stakeholder group foreseen in the Council Regulation

### Objectives of the WG on primary producers:

1. **Enhancing the role** and supporting an **effective and rewarding engagement** of **primary producers** along the circular bio-based systems and value chains;
2. **Ensuring that primary sectors benefit from the economic, social and environmental opportunities** offered by their involvement in new and innovative circular and bio-based value chains (supported by long-term sustainable and feasible business models).



## **Implement ACTIONS to address the challenges and use opportunities faced by the primary sector:**

- agricultural
- forestry and aquaculture
- fisheries primary producers

## Call for stakeholders to join the working group on primary producers

CBE JU invites stakeholders to apply to a new initiative focused on addressing challenges faced by primary producers in implementing circular bio-based solutions.

[Read more ▶](#)



- Eligibility check & 1<sup>st</sup> cut-off: 28.02. 2025 – but the call remains open
- WG will kick off its activities in June 2025
- Coordination of Support Action – 3 mill EUR will provide support to this ACTION GROUP



# Type of activities/tasks (an action plan will define the concrete actions)



## 1. Awareness & better understanding

Targeted communication of opportunities & benefits offered by circular bio-based innovations



## 2. Cooperation with other actors

Action to improve including primary producers, industry, regional stakeholders, advisors, and endusers



## 3. Business models

Giving benefits to primary producers and Profit is equally/fairly shared among all the actors in the value chain



## 4. Synergies & knowledge transfer

Capitalise on existing initiatives & networks and facilitate knowledge transfer



## 5. Advisory services

Filling gaps in the offered services and ensuring wider use of available knowledge



## 6. Widening actions

Mobilise primary producers from regions with unexploited potential and engage with them in value chains

Call 2025

## €172 million call for project proposals launched

The CBE JU 2025 call for project proposals is now open for submission. A total of €172 million will be dedicated to advancing competitive circular bio-based industries in Europe across 13 topics. All stakeholders of the circular bio-based sector can apply before the deadline of 18 September 2025, 17:00 Brussels time.

[Read more ▶](#)



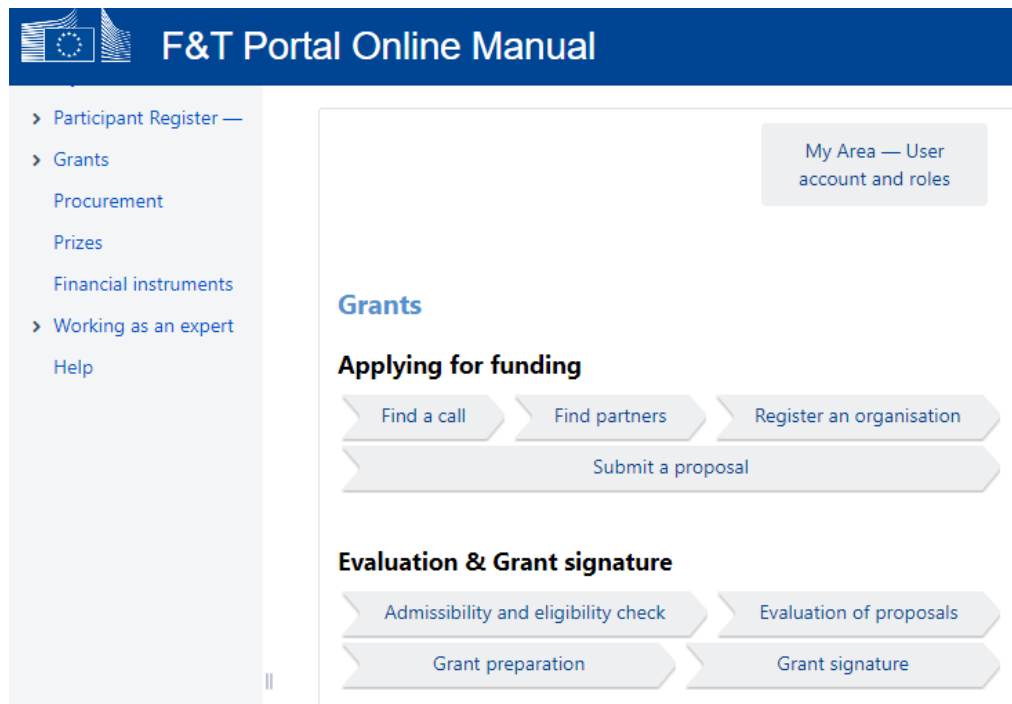
**CBE JU 2025 call  
for proposals  
is open**



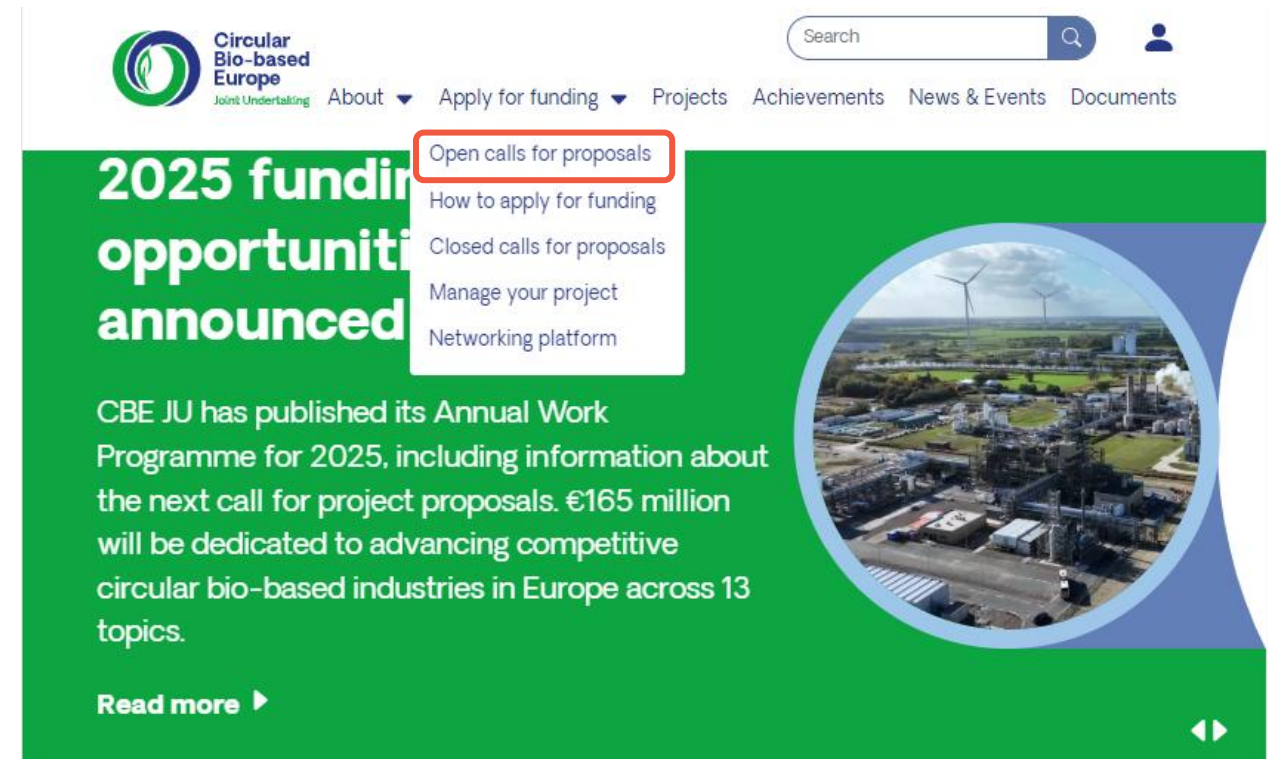


Topic	N	M€
IAFlag-01 Urban-industrial symbiosis for <b>biowaste</b> valorisation	1	20
IAFlag-02 Bio-based <b>drop-ins/smart drop-in platform chemicals</b> , via cost-effective, sustainable and resource-efficient conversion of biomass	1	20
IAFlag-03 Circular-by-design <b>fibre-based packaging</b> with improved properties	1	20
IAFlag-04 <b>Retrofitting of industrial plants</b> towards higher-value bio-based products	1	20
IA-01 Sustainable <b>macroalgae</b> systems for innovative, added-value applications: cultivation and optimised production systems	2	14
IA-02 SSbD bio-based solutions to replace hazardous conventional chemicals for <b>textiles production</b>	2	14
IA-03 Scaling-up nutritional <b>proteins</b> from alternative sources	2	14
IA-04 Cost-effective and robust <b>continuous biotech</b> bio-based processes	2	14
IA-05 SSbD bio-based <b>polymers/copolymers</b> unlocking new market applications	2	14
RIA-01 <b>Valorisation of untapped forest biomass</b>	2	7
RIA-02 Bio-based and biodegradable <b>delivery systems</b> for fertilising products to reduce microplastics pollution & promote soil health	2	7
RIA-03 Alternative biomanufacturing routes for <b>natural and synthetic rubber</b>	2	7
CSA-01 <b>Develop and deploy new curricula</b> and knowledge exchange practices relevant to bio-based systems	1	1

# Two main sources of information



<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/funding-tenders-opportunities/display/OM/Online+Manual>



<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals>  
(Incl. FAQ for applicants, link to networking platform,...)

# CBE JU networking platform 2025



## Join the platform

### **Register now!**

Engage with other European bio-based economy actors  
Find the right partners for your proposal

Thank you very much  
for your attention







**Circular  
Bio-based  
Europe**  
Joint Undertaking

Contact us

[info@cbe.europa.eu](mailto:info@cbe.europa.eu)  
[www.cbe.europa.eu](http://www.cbe.europa.eu)

Follow us



Subscribe



Bio-based Industries  
Consortium



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# **EU CAP Network brokerage event ‘Partnering for innovation with impact in agriculture and rural areas’**

**29-30 April 2025  
Prague, Czech Republic**

All information on the brokerage event is available on the event webpage:

<https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-brokerage-event-partnering-innovation-impact-agriculture-and-rural-areas>

