



Subgroup on Innovation & Knowledge Exchange (SolKE) 9th meeting

5 June 2025



Funded by
the European Union



Circular Bio-Based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU)

Ana Ruiz Sierra, Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

Subgroup on Innovation and Knowledge Exchange (SolKE) | 9th meeting | 5 June 2025



Funded by
the European Union

CBE JU supporting innovation for the primary sector

Ana RUIZ SIERRA

Programme Officer

05/06/2025 – CAP Network - Subgroup on Innovation and Knowledge Exchange



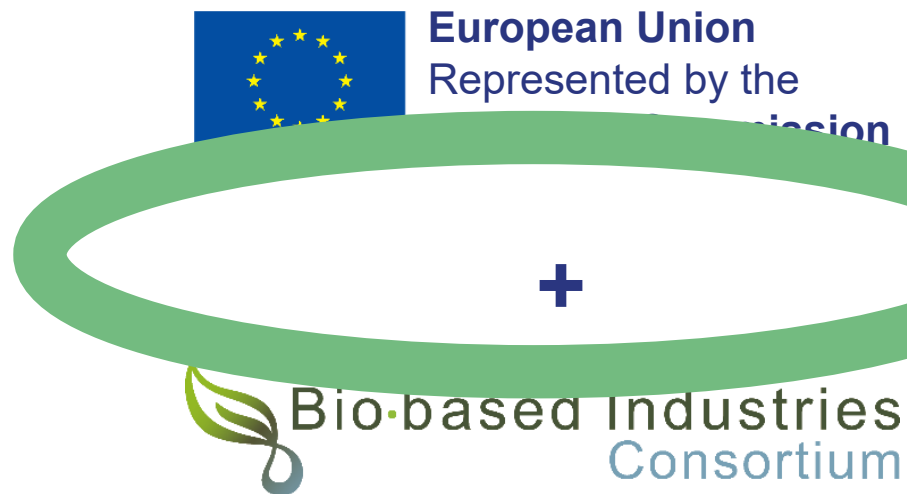
What is CBE JU?

Circular Bio-based
Europe Joint Undertaking



€2 billion
public-private initiative

Advancing a
competitive
bioeconomy for
a sustainable
future



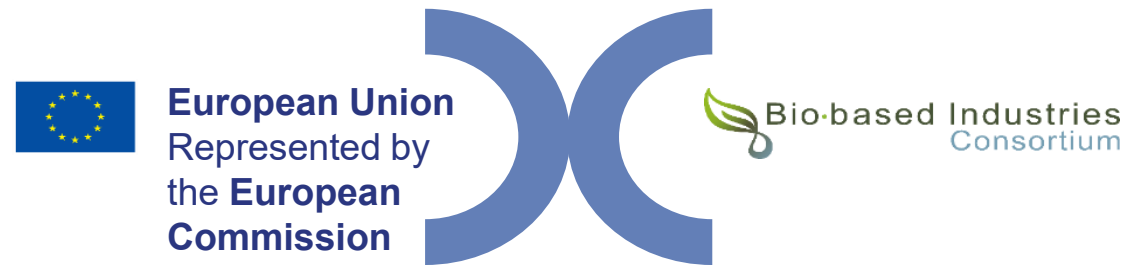
Launched
in 2021,
operates
until 2031

Part of **Horizon
Europe**
programme

Contributing to
the European
Green Deal

Building on the
success of its
predecessor
BBI JU

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

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

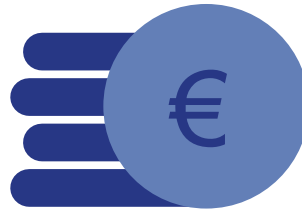
**Public + Private
financial
contributions**
(in the projects
and beyond
additional
activities)

Green deal
Competitiveness
& climate change
& Environment
protection

CBE JU three key objectives



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

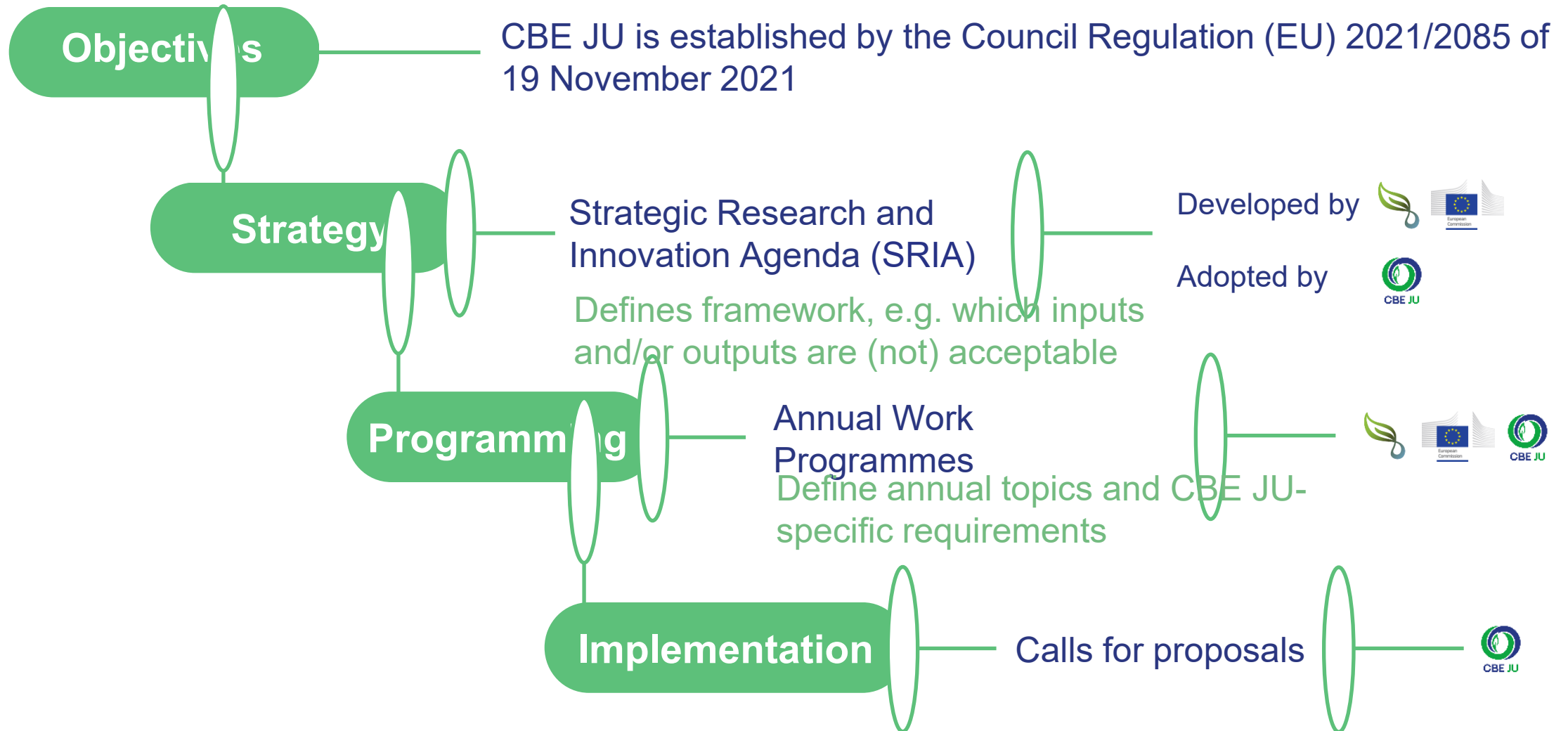


Accelerate
market
deployment of
the existing
mature bio-
based
innovative
solutions

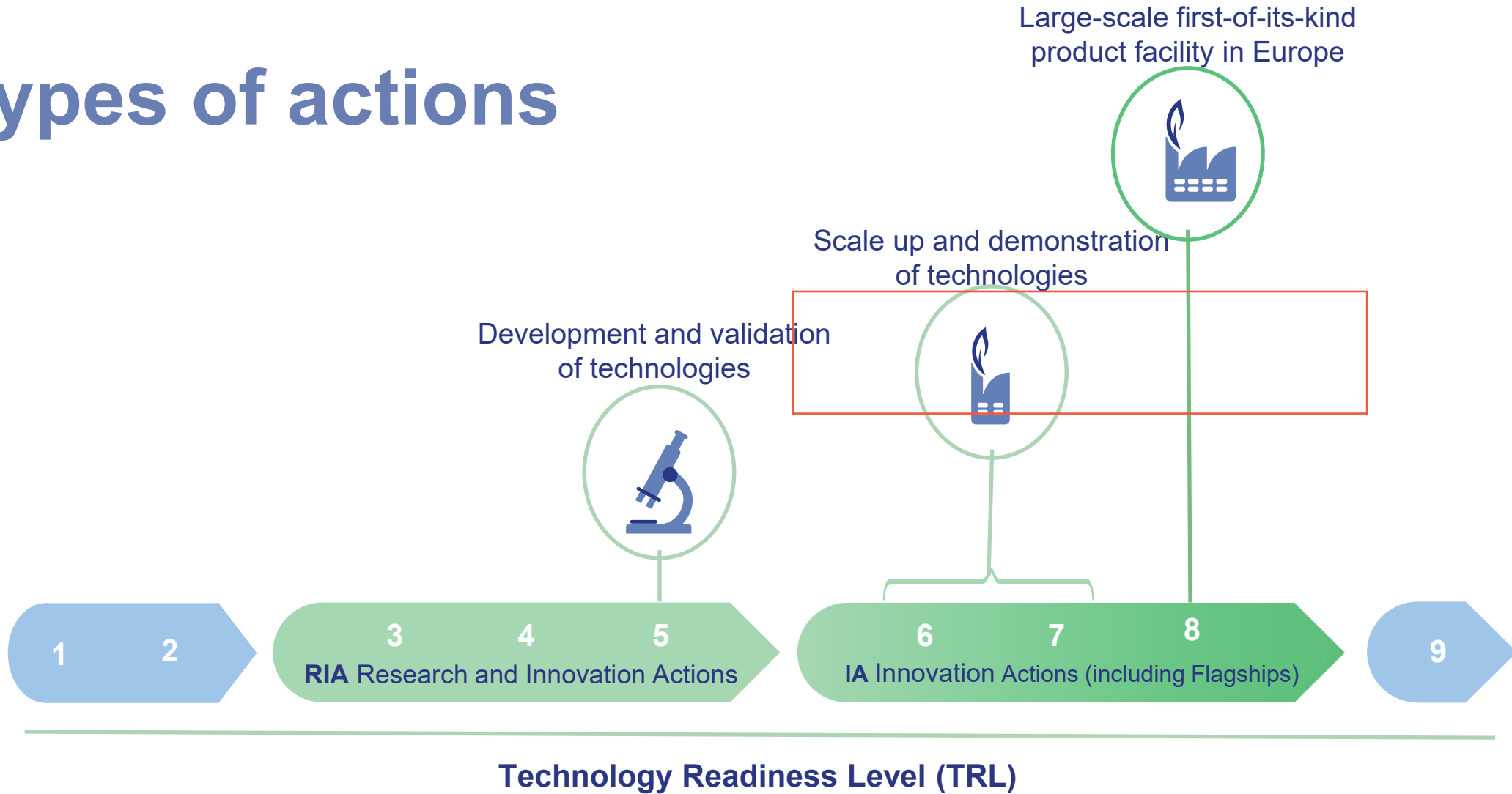


Ensure a high
level
of
environmental
performance of
bio-based
industrial
systems

From strategy to implementation



Types of actions



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

CBE JU & primary
sector



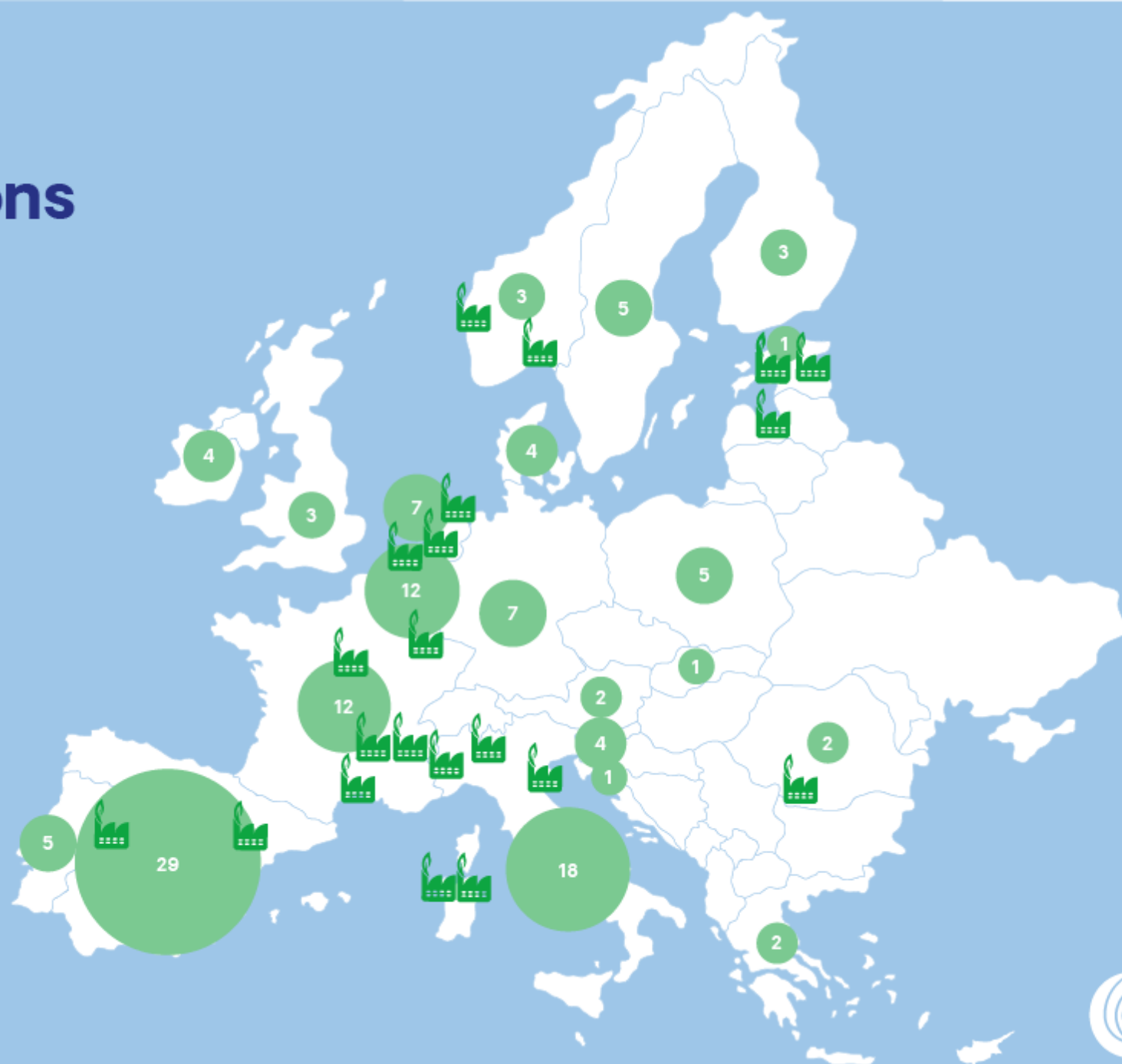
CBE JU-funded Innovation Actions



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.

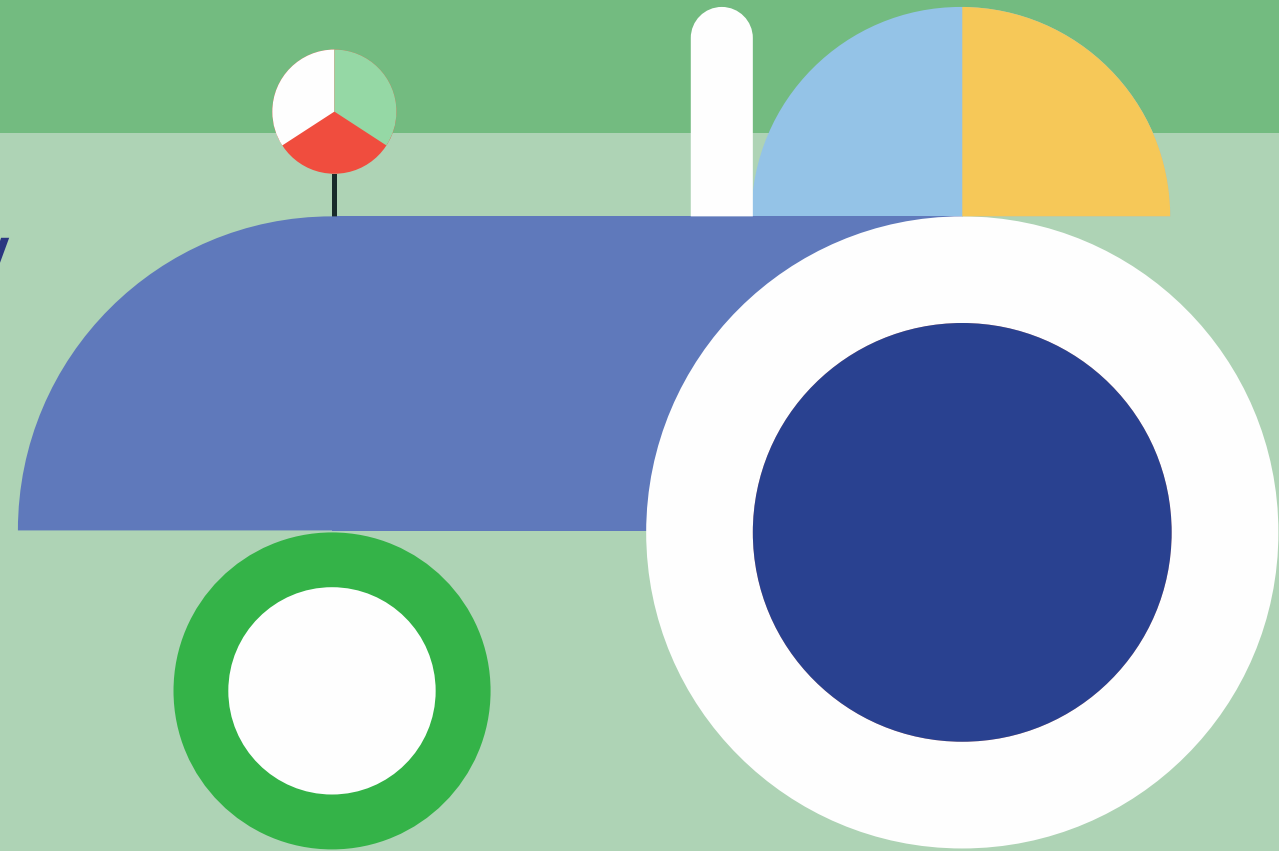


CBE JU & primary sector

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

The goal is to **secure a sustainable supply of biomass** while at the same time **creates value in rural areas** delivering jobs, economic growth and development.

The Council Regulation calls for the **mobilisation and integration of feedstock providers to cooperate in projects**



What CBE JU done/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 generally in the value chains → **Action Plan**
- **Annual Work Programmes (topics and requirements promoting innovations for primary sector)**: driven by topics (e.g., business models focused on cooperatives of farmers), **Multi Actor Approach**, references/requests to involve **primary producers** (direct or indirect) depending on the topics.
- **Monitor** the involvement of primary producers using a specific KPI
- **Communication** campaigns for primary producers & raising awareness opportunities
- **Set out an ad-hoc WG on primary producers (preparations started in 2024)**

Beyond the participation in the funded projects .. The circular bioeconomy offers primary producers the opportunity to diversify their businesses, add value, and create additional revenue streams



OBJECTIVES of the WG:

- **Empower primary producers** to play an active and rewarding role in circular bio-based value chains
- **Ensure they benefit** from the economic, social, and environmental opportunities these systems offer (supported by long-term, sustainable, and feasible business models).

The Working Group scope



- Implement **ACTIONS** to address the **challenges** faced by the primary sector and to harness opportunities offered by **circular bio-based innovations**. Sectors covered:
 - 🌾 Agricultural sector
 - 🌲 Forestry and aquaculture
 - 🐟 Blue primary sectors (aquaculture & fisheries)
- **Action Plan:** sector & cross-sector
- **Cooperation** industry & primary sector and with other actors: policy-makers, regional authorities, etc.
- Build on existing work done by other initiatives/ projects (widening actions, projects funded to support business models, etc.)
- Use existing networks and initiatives

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 & 1st 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

Opportunities for innovation & Call 2025



Are you ready to unlock new business opportunities?

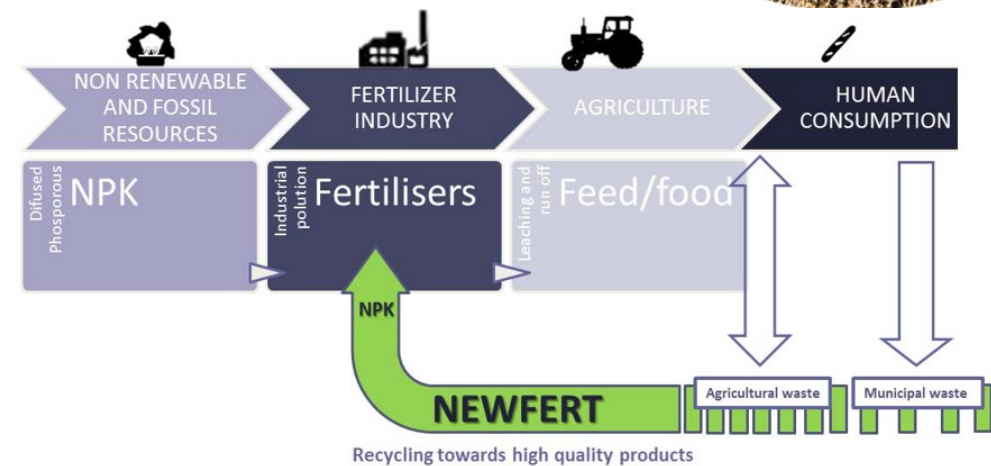
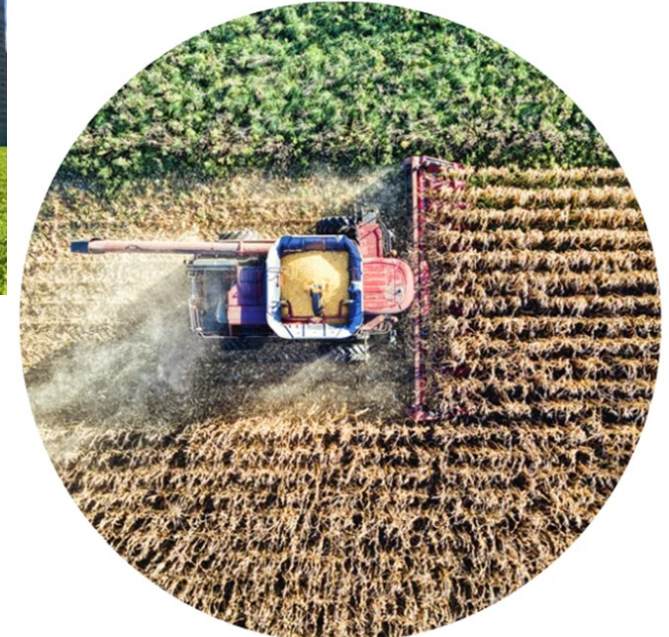
You can achieve this by transforming residues into sustainable bio-based products that effectively replace non-renewable materials

What if you could turn unused or underutilised resources into new income sources?

This can be accomplished by converting leftovers and using marginal land to create new revenue streams that diversify operations and strengthen rural economies

How can bio-based solutions make agriculture more sustainable?

By providing soil enhancers, fertilisers and pesticides with a significantly lower environmental impact



€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 ▶

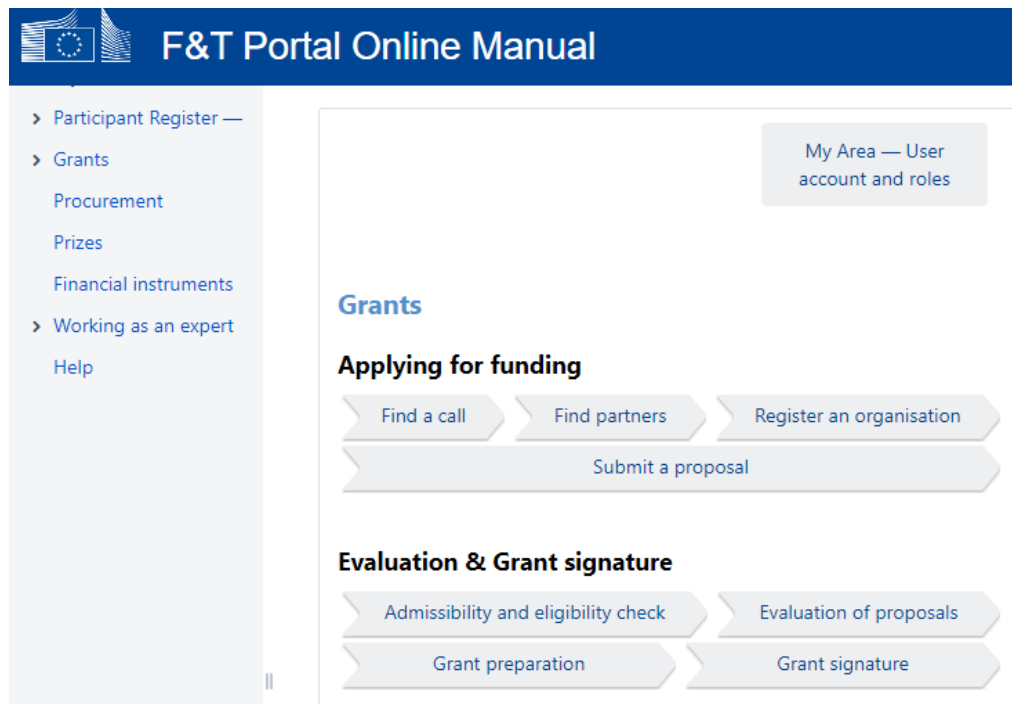


**CBE JU 2025 call
for proposals
is open**

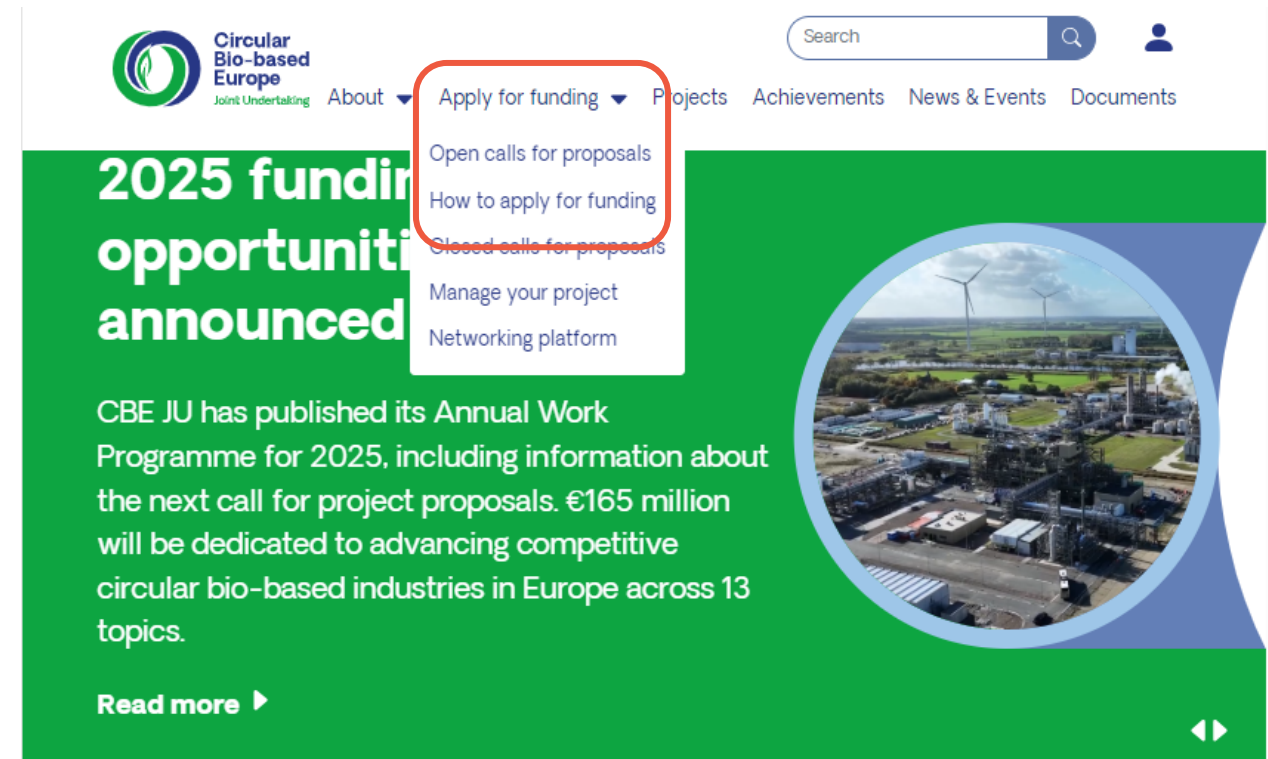


Topic	N	M€
IAFlag-01 Urban-industrial symbiosis for biowaste valorisation	1	20
IAFlag-02 Bio-based drop-ins/smart drop-in platform chemicals , via cost-effective, sustainable and resource-efficient conversion of biomass	1	20
IAFlag-03 Circular-by-design fibre-based packaging with improved properties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

Follow us



Subscribe



Bio-based Industries
Consortium



Co-funded by
the European Union



Funded by
the European Union