CBE JU Call 2024

Hungary Info Day

Pilar Llorente Ruiz de Azua

Programme Officer

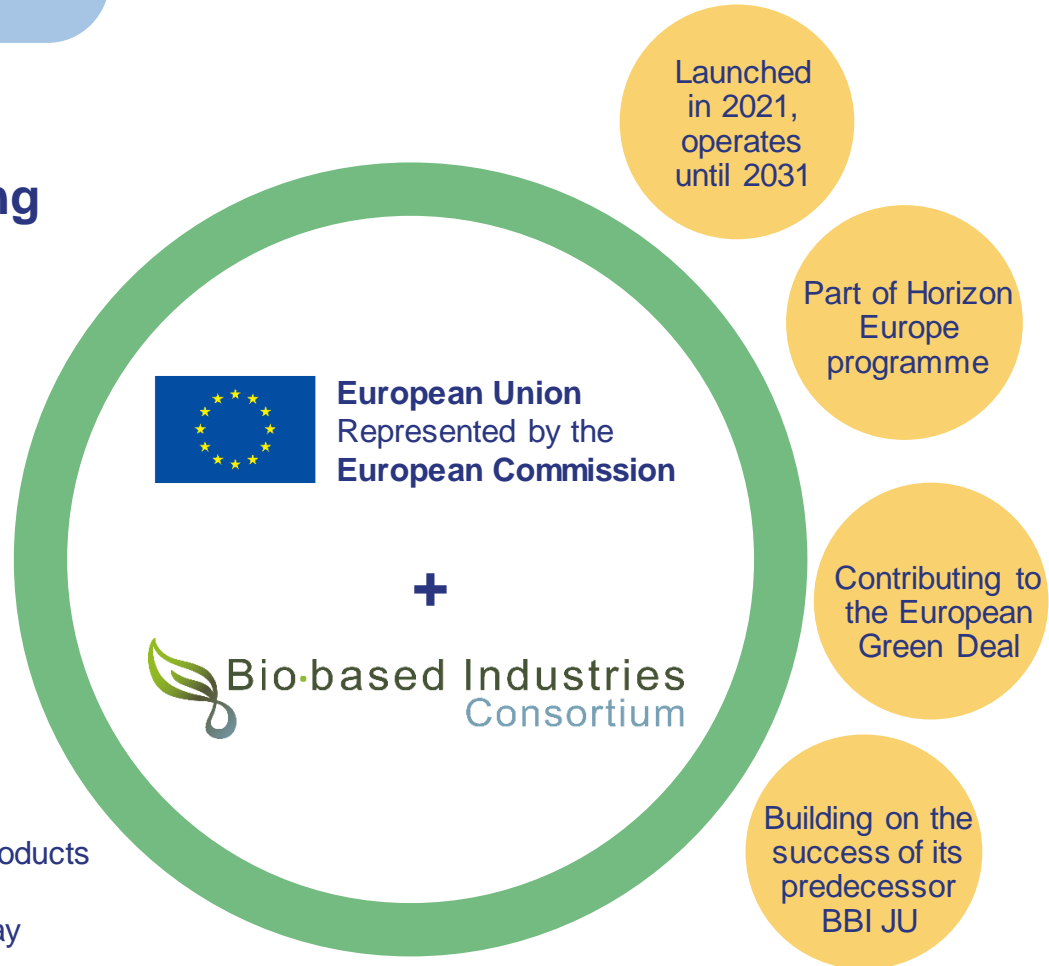10 May 2024

The Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

1

Circular
Bio-based
Europe
Joint Undertaking

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

€2 billion public-private initiative

European Union
Represented by the
European Commission

+

Bio·based Industries
Consortium

CBE JU is funding projects that deliver bio-based solutions – materials and products made from waste and biomass – in an innovative, sustainable and circular way

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

Circular Bio-based Europe
Joint Undertaking

Supporting the European Green Deal

Contributing significantly to the **2030 climate targets,** paving the way for climate neutrality by 2050

Increasing the **sustainability and circularity** of production and consumption systems

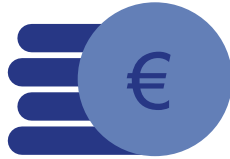Developing and expanding the **sustainable sourcing** and **conversion of biomass** into bio-based products

…Supporting the **deployment** of bio-based innovation **regional level,** with a view to reviving rural and coastal regions

CBE JU general objectives

Accelerate the **innovation** process and development of bio-based innovative solutions
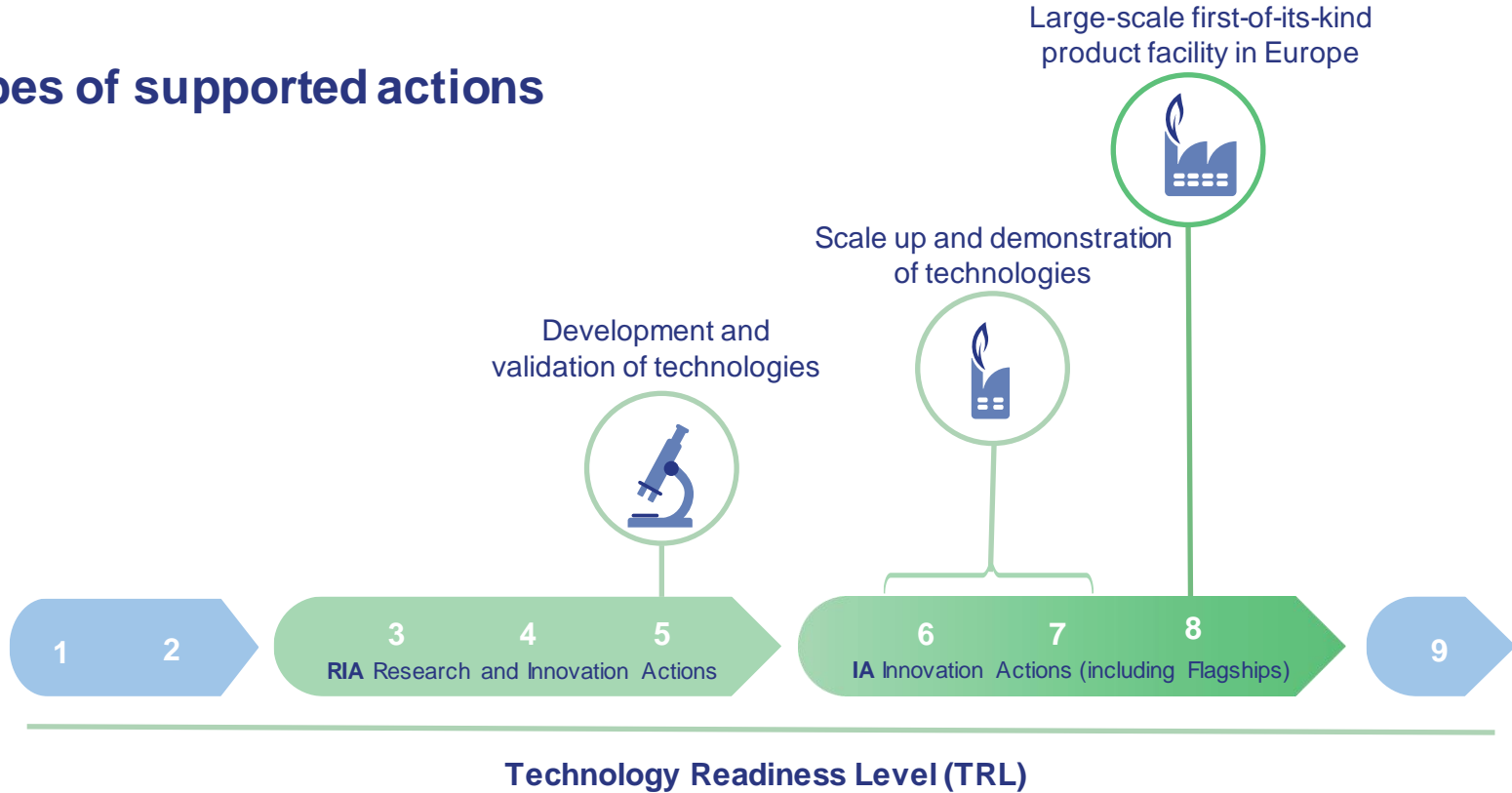
Accelerate **market deployment** of the existing mature bio-based innovative solutions

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

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Types of supported actions

Large-scale first-of-its-kind
product facility in Europe

Scale up and demonstration
of technologies

Development and
validation of technologies

1	2

3	4	5
RIA Research and Innovation Actions		

6	7	8
IA Innovation Actions (including Flagships)		

9

Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

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

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A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

CBE JU portfolio

CBE JU portfolio – building on BBI JU:

2014-2022

163
projects

1,198
beneficiaries

€937 million
CBE JU
funding

39
countries

39% small and medium-sized enterprises

32% universities & research centres

5.8%

62.5%

11.8%

19.9%
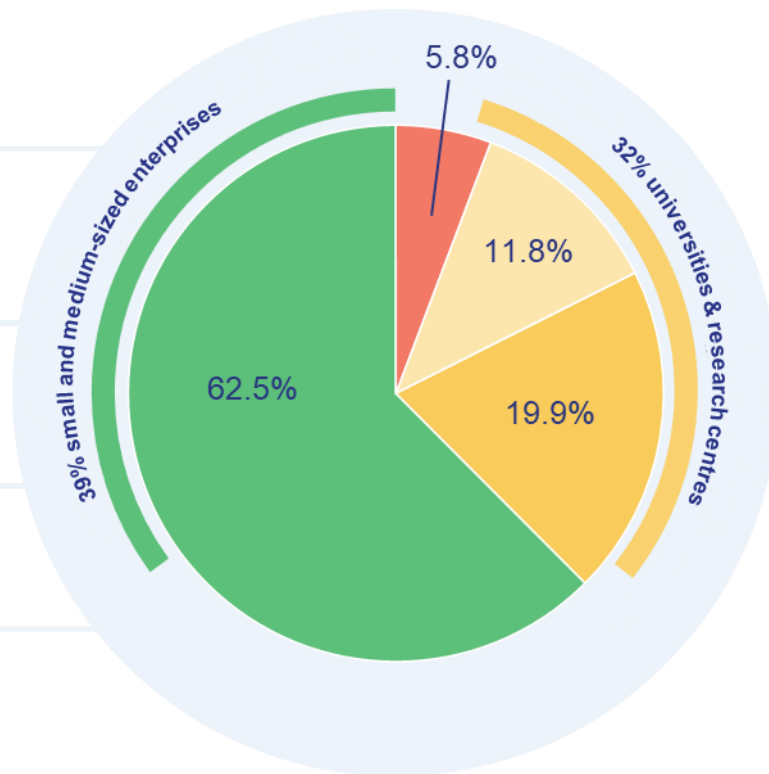
CBE JU funding per type of beneficiary (unique)

- Private companies
- Research organizations
- Higher education establishments
- Other

Data: CORDA, May 2023

CBE JU-funded:

Demonstration plant

Flagship biorefinery

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Hungary

Opportunities for the bioeconomy

Socio-economic benefits
- RURAL DEVELOPMENT
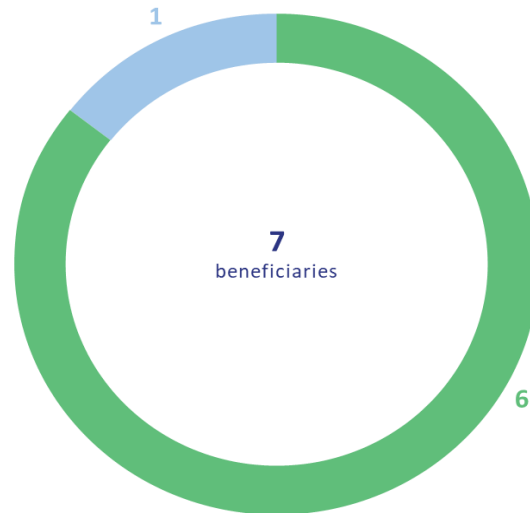- JOB CREATION

Main resources in CBE JU projects
- FORESTRY RESIDUES
- AGRO RESIDUES

€788 thousand
CBE JU funding in Hungary

Circular Bio-based Europe
Joint Undertaking

€786K   €2K

5
SME participants

€786K
SME funding

1

7
beneficiaries

6

Check all the projects in the country

- Private companies
- Universities & research centres

CBE JU Annual Work Programme: Topics and Specific Requirements

2

Call 2024: 18 topics & budget

Type of action		Topics HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024	Million EUR
IA– Flagship	IAFlag-01	Bio-based value chains for **valorisation of sustainable oil crops**	20
	IAFlag-02	Bio-based dedicated **platform chemicals** via cost-effective, sustainable and resource-efficient conversion of biomass	20
	IAFlag-03	Bio-based value chains for **valorisation of sustainable natural fibre feedstock**	20
IA	IA-01	Bio-based materials and products for **biodegradable in soil applications**	15
	IA-02	**Sustainable microalgae** as feedstock for innovative, added-value applications	15
	IA-03	Enlarging the portfolio of commercially produced "Safe and Sustainable by design" (SSbD) **solvents**	15
	IA-04	Circular and SSbD bio-based **construction & building materials** with functional properties	15
	IA-05	Selective and sustainable (**co**)-production of lignin-derived aromatics	15
	IA-06	Innovative bio-based **adhesives and binders for circular products** meeting market requirements	15
	IA-07	Innovative **conversion of biogenic gaseous carbon** into bio-based chemicals, ingredients, materials	15
RIA	R-01	**Valorisation of polluted/contaminated wood** from industrial and post-consumer waste streams	7
	R-02	**Biotech routes** to obtain bio-based chemicals/materials replacing animal-derived ones	7
	R-03	Sustainable, bio-based alternatives for **crop protection**	10
	R-04	SSbD bio-based **coating materials** for applications under demanding and/or extreme conditions	7
	R-05	Innovative bio-based **food/feed ingredients**	7
CSA	S-01	New forms of **cooperation in agriculture and the forest-based sector**	4
	S-02	Mobilise inclusive participation in bio-based systems and supporting the **CBE JU widening strategy** and its action plan	3
	S-03	Supporting the CBE JU **Deployment Group on Primary Producers**	3

Total   213

Call topic structure

Topic

AWP 2024

Topic

Topic

HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-XX-NN   Topic title

|	
Type of action	Research and Innovation Action
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR **10** million
Expected EU contribution per project	It is estimated that a contribution of EUR **5** 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 **4-5** 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
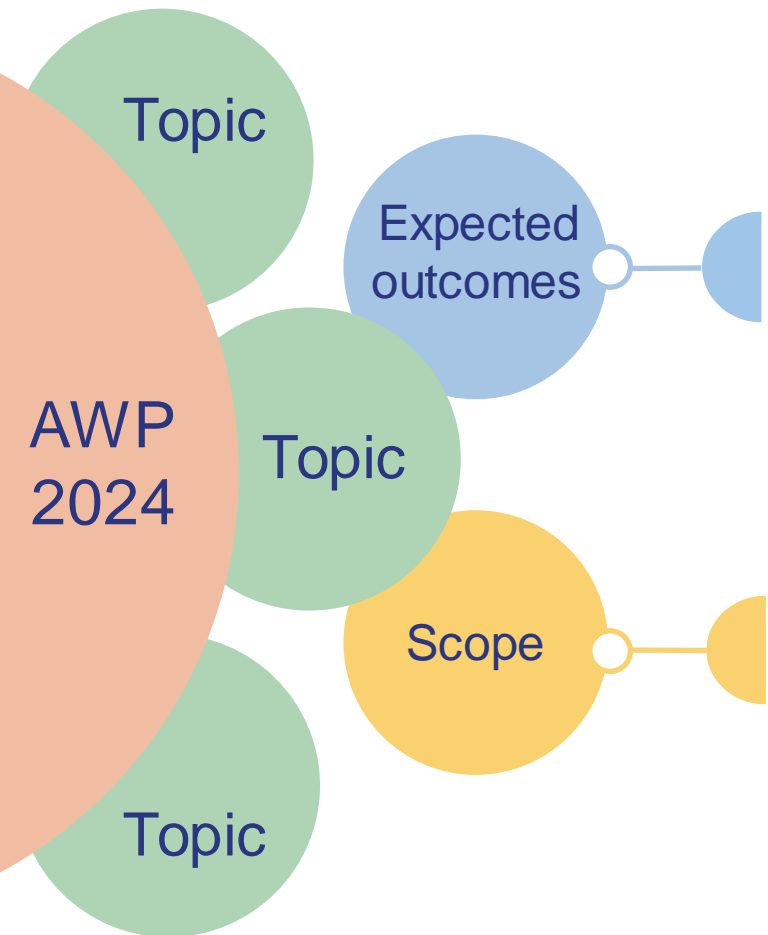
The 'change' to be achieved

- 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 requirements

Horizon Europe (HE) rules
- Eligibility
- Admissibility
- General annexes

HE Programme Guide

HE Online Manual

HE General Annexes

HE Annotated Model Grant Agreement

HE evaluation criteria
- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation

Horizon Europe
Evaluation Form (HE RIA and IA)

CBE Annual Work Programme 2024
- Topics
- Specific requirements
- Budget

Part A

Part B

Proposal structure

Annual Work Programme and Budget 2024

Circular Bio-based Europe
Joint Undertaking

CBE JU Call 2024 specific requirements (1/2)
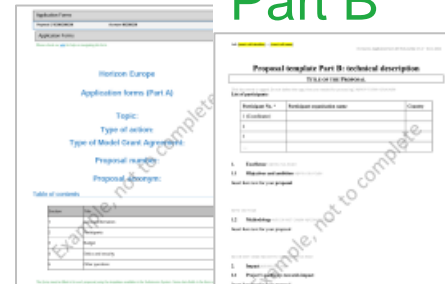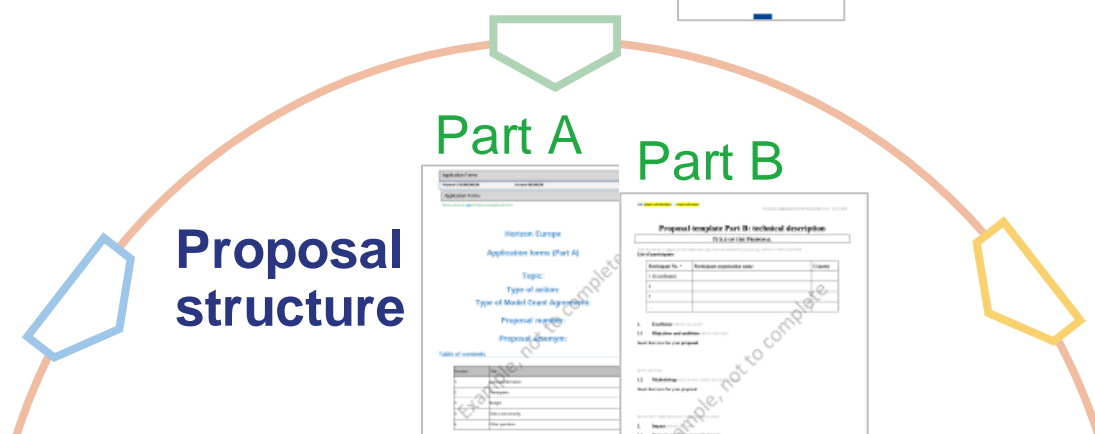
Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Where to include it in Part B
Feedstock sourcing (eligibility condition)	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – (Y/N) question
Feedstock sustainability requirements	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – (Y/N) question
Description of feedstock	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
Environmental performance - Ex-ante assessment • Identification of environmental issues • Estimation of environmental sustainability performance, • Estimation of carbon removal potential	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
Environmental sustainability and circularity - Ex-post assessment • Dedicated task for RIA • Dedicated task or WP (LCA) for IA non-FLAG • Dedicated task or WP (LCSA) for FLAG	RIA IA- non FLAG FLAG	Part B – 3.1 Workplan and resources

CBE JU Call 2024 specific requirements (2/2)

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Where to include it in Part B
Multi-actor approach (MAA)	IA, incl. FLAG RIA and CSA, when specified	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
Economic aspects: • Economic viability • Business case and business model • Business plan	 RIA IA, incl. FLAG FLAG	 Part B – 2.2 Measures to maximise impact – D& E&C FLAG: Annex (Business plan)
Digital technologies	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
Cross-disciplinary aspects and Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)	All types of actions	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
Recommendations to stakeholders	IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 3.1 Workplan and resources

Recommendations for your proposal

- **Follow the proposal template** to make sure all specific requirements are well included.

- **Read carefully the evaluation criteria and subcriteria** and make sure that expert evaluators will find all the information required to assess them.

- Choose **appropriate benchmarks** and show how for the products/processes you're developing improve the current environmental performance against the existing alternatives.

- **Provide evidence, references and/or calculations** to support your claims.

- **Quantify** your objectives, performance improvement and expected outcomes.

- **Address all the elements** included in the definition of business case, business model, business plan and economic viability check.

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A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

CBE JU Call 2024: Requirements

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
- IA: + Impact Ability to ensure 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

Score weighting factor
- IA: Impact x 1,5

In-kind contribution to operational activities (IKOP)

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

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

BIC has set up an open and fast procedure to become a BIC member: https://biconsortium.eu/membership
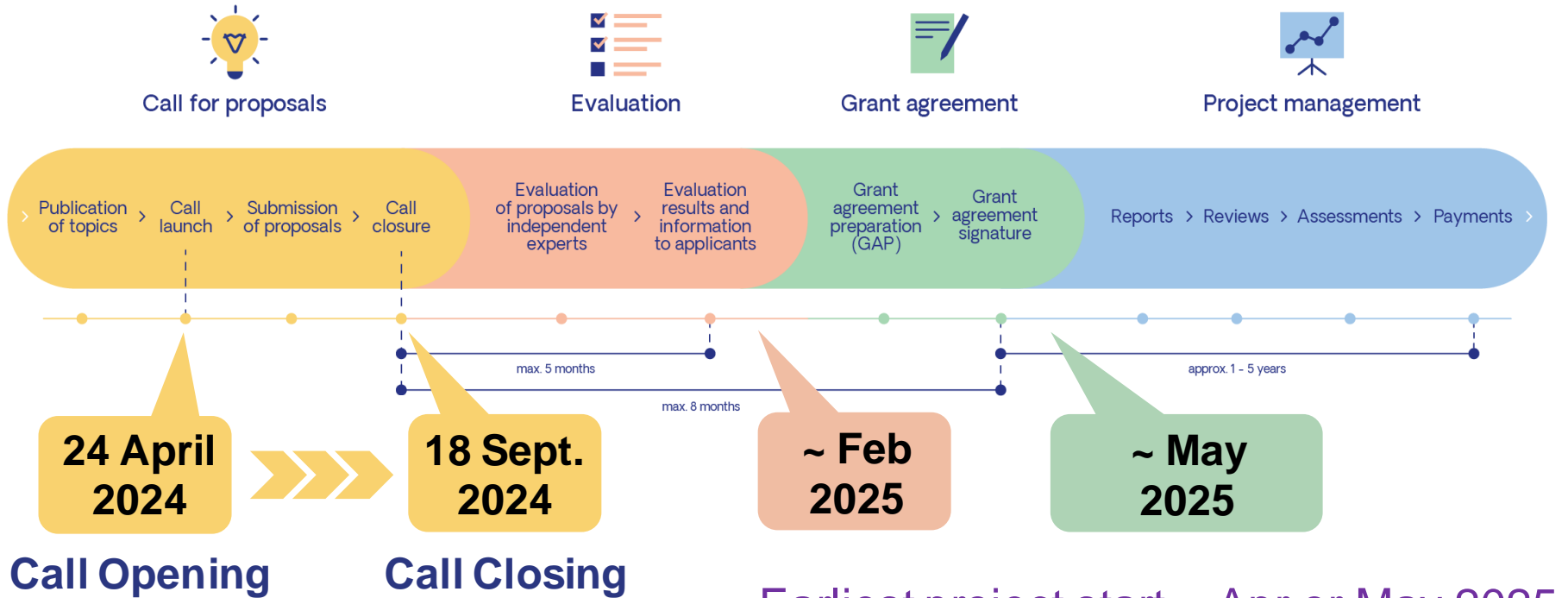
Two main sources of information

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

- Annually updated & free partner search facility offered by CBE JU, more tailored to CBE needs than the Portal's partner search facility

- Open since mid-February 2024, will remain open until (at least) call closure on 18 Sept 2024

- Different services: '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

- Accessible via https://www.cbe.europa.eu/networking-platform

Q&As

2

CBE JU Call 2024:

How to write a good proposal

3

Get prepared to submit a proposal…

Study the **call documentation**

Select your **partners**

Plan your project and prepare the **Technical Description** (Template Part B)

Circular Bio-based Europe — Joint Undertaking

A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

How to write a good proposal

Horizon Europe + CBE requirements

Horizon Europe (HE) conditions

- HE Programme Guide
- HE Online Manual
- HE General Annexes
- HE Annotated Model Grant Agreement

Evaluation criteria

Horizon Europe — Evaluation Form (HE RIA and IA)

Annual Work Programme 2024

- Topics
- Specific requirements
- Budget

Annual Work Programme and Budget 2024 — Circular Bio-based Europe

Proposal structure

Part A

Part B

European Commission | EU Funding & Tenders Portal
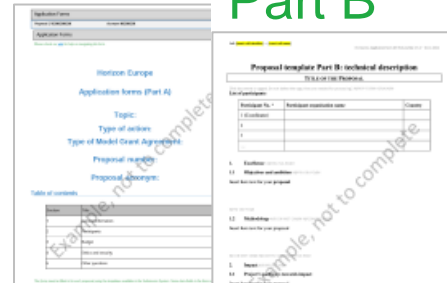
Proposal – Part B

1. Excellence
1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

2. Impact
2.1 Project's pathways towards impact
2.2 Measures to maximise impact

3. Implementation
3.1 Work plan and resources
3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

1. **Excellence** #@REL-EVA-RE@#

Excellence – aspects to be taken into account.

– Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art.
– Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

⚠ *The following aspects will be taken into account only to the extent that the proposed work is within the scope of the work programme topic.*

1.1 Objectives and ambition #@PRJ-OBJ-PO@# [*e.g.* 6 pages]

• Briefly describe the objectives of your proposed work. Why are they pertinent to the work programme topic? Are they measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?

• Describe how your project goes beyond the state-of-the-art, and the extent the proposed work is ambitious. Indicate any exceptional ground-breaking R&I, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models. Where relevant, illustrate the advance by referring to products and services already available on the market. Refer to any patent or publication search carried out.

• Describe where the proposed work is positioned in terms of R&I maturity (*i.e.* where it is situated in the spectrum from 'idea to application', or from 'lab to market'). Where applicable, provide an indication of the Technology Readiness Level, if possible distinguishing the start and by the end of the project.

⚠ *Please bear in mind that advances beyond the state of the art must be interpreted in the light of the positioning of the project. Expectations will not be the same for RIAs at lower TRL, compared with Innovation Actions at high TRLs.*

#§PRJ-OBJ-PO§#

1.2 Methodology #@CON-MET-CM@# #@COM-PLE-CP@# [*e.g.* 22 pages]

• Describe and explain the overall methodology, including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work. Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project's objectives. Refer to any important challenges you may have identified in the chosen methodology and how you intend to

Topic

Proposal – Part B

Evaluation

Scope

Expected outcomes

1. Excellence
1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

2. Impact
2.1 Project's pathways towards impact
2.2 Measures to maximise impact

3. Implementation
3.1 Work plan and resources
3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

Horizon Europe

Evaluation Form (HE RIA and IA)

Version 2.2
28 April 2022

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

1. Excellence

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

Impact

2.1 Project's pathways towards impact
2.2 Measures to maximise impact

Implementation

3.1 Work plan and resources
3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

Are the **objectives**
- *clear?*
- *pertinent to the topic?*
- *measurable and verifiable?*

Tip! Provide quantified targets whenever possible and meaningful.

Is the **state-of-the-art** well presented? Is it clear to what extent the proposal goes **beyond** the state-of-the-art?

Is the proposed work **ambitious** enough to be innovative, but not so ambitious that it is unrealistic?

Is the initial and targeted Technology Readiness Level (**TRL**) properly described and realistically achievable within the proposed project?

⚠ The targeted TRL of a topic is required for at least the **core** technology, process or product developed.

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1. Excellence

narrative!

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

1.1 Objectives and ambition
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Does the proposal show that the proposed **methodology** is appropriate and effective for achieving the objectives (incl. overcoming challenges)?

If **AI**-based systems/techniques are used, is their **robustness** demonstrated?

Part B

CBE specific requirements

- Feedstock

- Ex-ante environmental performance assessment

1. Excellence

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

Impact

2.1 Project's pathways towards impact
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Implementation

3.1 Work plan and resources
3.2 Capacity of participants and consortium as a whole

Are **relevant initiatives** identified (incl. BBI/CBE projects) and, when meaningful, appropriate interactions considered?

In case of R&I activities with a relevant **gender dimension**: Has it been considered in the proposal?

CBE specific requirements

- Digital technologies

- Cross-disciplinary aspects and Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)

- Multi-actor approach
  (IA incl. Flag, selected RIA and CSA)

1. Excellence

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

1.1 Objectives and ambition
1.2 Methodology

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Does the proposal demonstrate **open science** practices?

⚠ In HE, 'open science' is more than 'open access': It is an approach to science based on open, cooperative work and sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible.

CBE specific requirement

include publication of LC(S)A output *(IA incl. IA-Flagship topics)*

Does the proposal provide details on **data management** in line with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)?

⚠ In the grant, there will be mandatory deliverables "Data Management Plan".

HE Progr. Guide

2. Impact

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

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narrative!

Is it clear which **unique contributions** would be made to:
- the **outcomes** specified in the topic text? (medium term)
- the wider **impacts** beyond the immediate scope and duration of the project? (longer term)

✓ scientific
✓ economic / technological
✓ societal

Is it clear which **target groups** will benefit?

Have the **scale** and **significance** of the contribution been indicated?

Tip! Provide quantified estimates whenever possible and meaningful.

Have relevant **requirements** and potential **barriers** to outcome and impact been determined?
Have appropriate **mitigating measures**, within or beyond the project, been described?
⚠️ *≠ management risks (3.1 Work plan and resources)*

2. Impact

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

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⚠ First sketch of the Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication plan = **admissibility criterion** (In the grant, there will be mandatory D&E&C deliverables.)

Is the plan to **disseminate** results to candidate user audiences appropriate?

Tip! Provide quantified targets.

Are actions included to **communicate** project activities and results to multiple audiences (beyond project's community)?

Is the strategy to **exploit** the project's results appropriate? (incl. management of IPR)

⚠ Include a preliminary overview of relevant IPR, both within and outside the consortium.

CBE specific requirements

- Economic viability check *(RIA)*
- Business Case + Model *(IA incl. IA-Flag)*
- Business Plan *(separate Annex; IA-Flag)*

3. Implementation

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

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Does the **work plan** have a good and clear structure?

Have the different **work packages** (WP) been scheduled and linked appropriately?
Are their inter-dependencies clear?

Are **milestones** and **deliverables** well defined and appropriately timed?

Are the WPs and associated tasks **sufficiently described** to provide a good understanding of the work involved and justify the proposed resources to be allocated?

- Table 3.1a List of work packages
- Table 3.1b Work package descriptions
- Table 3.1c List of deliverables
- Table 3.1d List of milestones
- Table 3.1e Critical risks for implementation
- Table 3.1f-j Staff effort, Different costs, Contributions

3. Implementation

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

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Are the described organisational **structure** and decision-making **mechanisms** appropriate to the scale and complexity of the project?

Are the **management procedures**, including quality management and conflict resolution, appropriate to the scale and complexity of the project?

Are critical **internal and external risks** related to project implementation described with appropriate mitigation measures and severity/probability estimates?

- Table 3.1a List of work packages
- Table 3.1b Work package descriptions
- Table 3.1c List of deliverables
- Table 3.1d List of milestones
- Table 3.1e Critical risks for implementation
- Table 3.1f-j Staff effort, Different costs, Contributions

3. Implementation

Proposal – Part B

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CBE specific requirements

- Ex-post environmental performance assessment
  (RIA; IA: LCA; IA-Flag: LCSA)

- Recommendations to stakeholders
  (IA incl. IA-Flag)

3. Implementation

Proposal – Part B

Excellence

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Does the consortium bring together the necessary **expertise** for the project?

Has the **complementarity** of the participants been convincingly described?

Does **each partner** have a valid role and adequate resources (both effort and budget) to fulfil that role?

⚠️ If a participant requesting funding is based in a **third country** not eligible for funding: Is clearly explained why participation by this entity is essential to carry out the project?

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

Build a strong consortium

Match elements of Topic (Scope) and Part B (Excellence) to individual partners in the consortium.

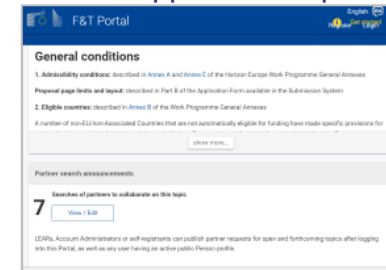➢ Are there any **competence** gaps in the consortium?

Use the **networking opportunities** offered by the Funding & Tenders Portal, CBE and BIC

cbe.europa.eu/networking-platform

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.

biconsortium.eu

Circular
Bio-based
Europe
Joint Undertaking

A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

How to write a good proposal

Aim for total "Topic eclipse"

Topic**+** Proposal   To Proposal   Proposal

Topic**+** = Topic text **+ HE requirements + CBE specific requirements**

! *every* single word in topic text counts

! *every* single requirement counts

Lessons learnt from Calls 2022 & 2023

- Green = 30 'main list' proposals
- Red = submitted but unsuccessful

Top 5+1 most common <u>shortcomings</u> ordered by frequency

1. Impact – expected outcomes (= bullet points in topic text)
2. Implementation – work plan (incl. Tasks, deliverables,...)
3. Excellence – ambition level, (going beyond) SOTA, TRLs
4. Implementation – risk & mitigation measures
5. Excellence – scope (bullet points in topic text)
6. *(For RIAs: Impact – economic viability check)*

The 3 'biggest' evaluation elements

Top 5 most common <u>weaknesses</u> ordered by frequency

1. Excellence – methodology
2. Excellence – ambition level, (going beyond) SOTA, TRLs
3. Excellence – scope (bullet points in topic text)
4. Impact – expected outcomes (= bullet points in topic text)
5. Implementation – work plan

You can't hide a bad idea…

A good and convincing CBE JU proposal

Ensure that the proposed work is within the **scope of the topic**

Demonstrate that the idea is **ambitious** and goes beyond the **state of the art**

Your **methodology** must take into account open science practices and interdisciplinarity (+ gender dimension, if applicable)

Show clearly how the proposed work could contribute to the **outcomes and impacts** described in the work programme (the pathway to impact)

Describe the planned measures to **maximise the impact** of the project ('plan for dissemination & exploitation including communication activities')

Demonstrate the quality of the **implementation**, including work plan, resources and participants

Read carefully the **AWP2024** and the **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)**, for a good understanding of the context and long-term objectives of CBE JU !!!

Thank you for your attention!

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