

# **CBE JU Call 2025 (incl. CBE specifics)**

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05/02/2025



# Table of contents

- **The Circular Biobased Europe Joint Undertaking**
- **CBE JU vs. Horizon Europe: similarities & differences**
  - Call 2025 topic overview & structure
  - CBE specific requirements (incl. IKOP)
- **Where to find more info**

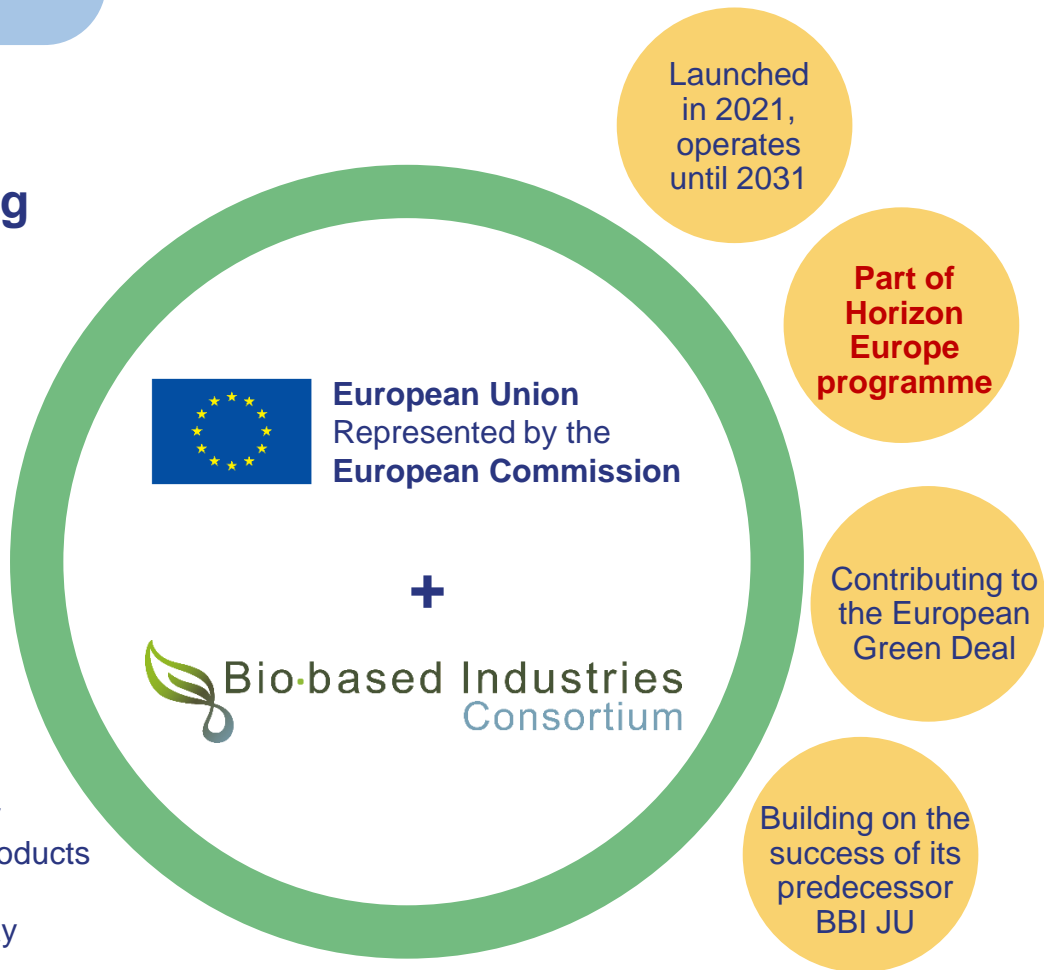
# Table of contents

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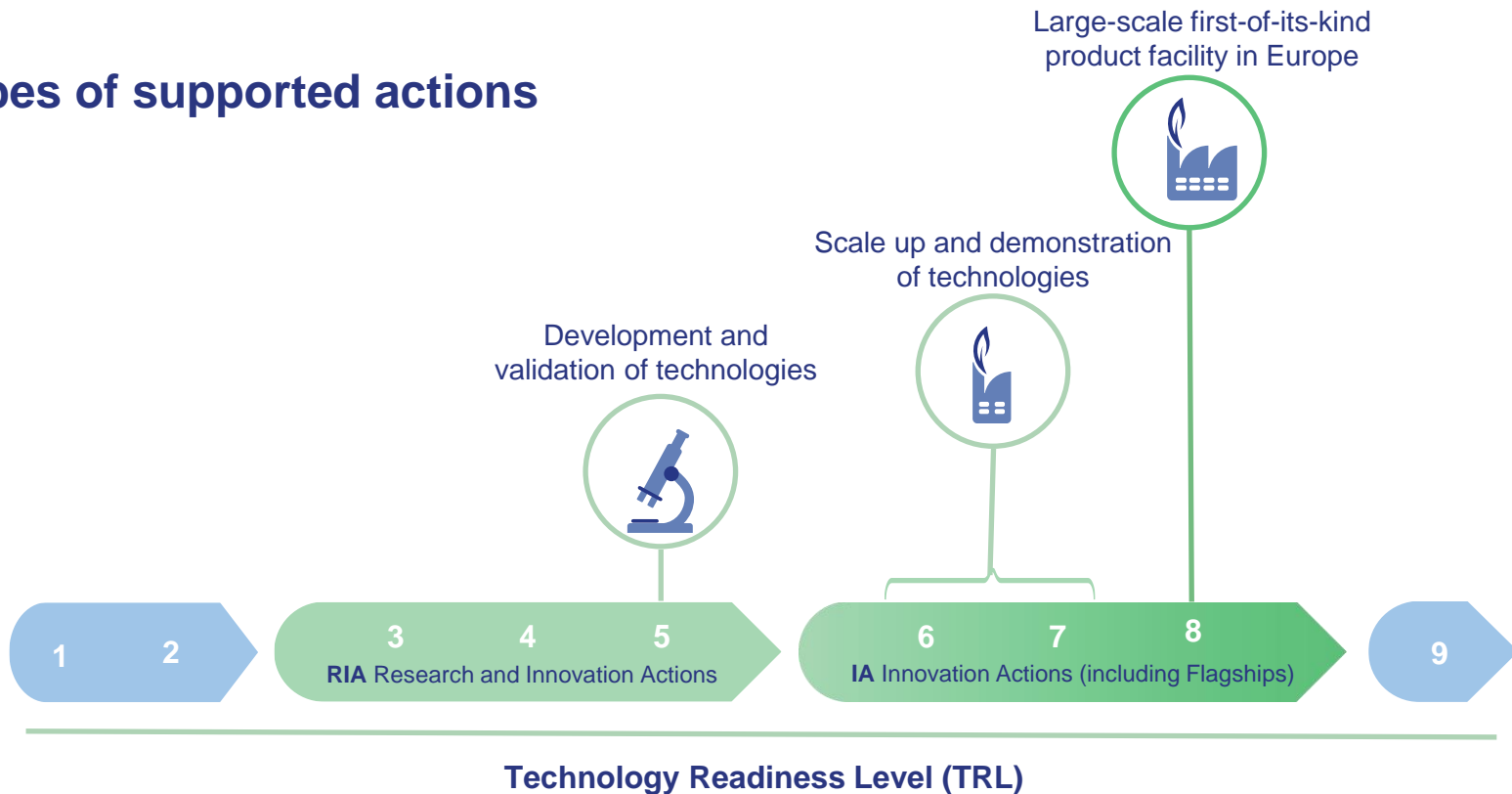
# Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

€2 billion public-private initiative

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



## Types of supported actions



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

## CBE JU portfolio:

2014-2023



**192**  
projects



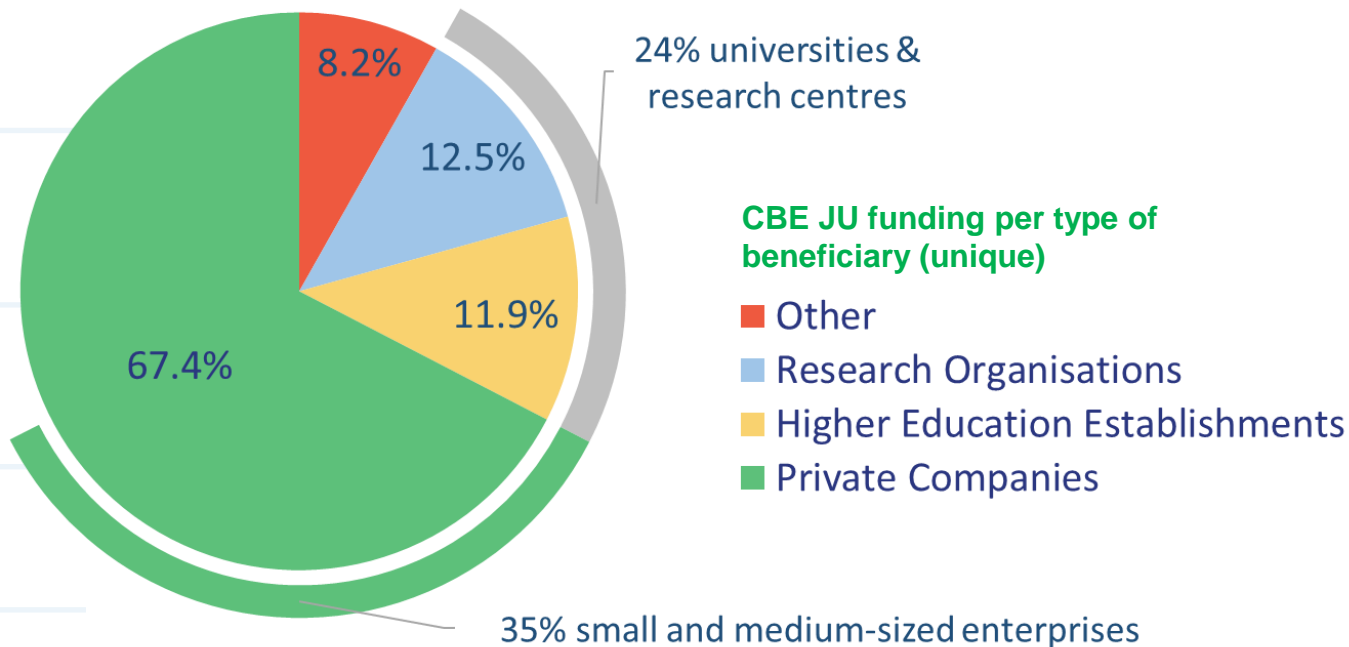
**1,552**  
beneficiaries



**€1,117** million  
CBE JU  
funding



**43**  
countries



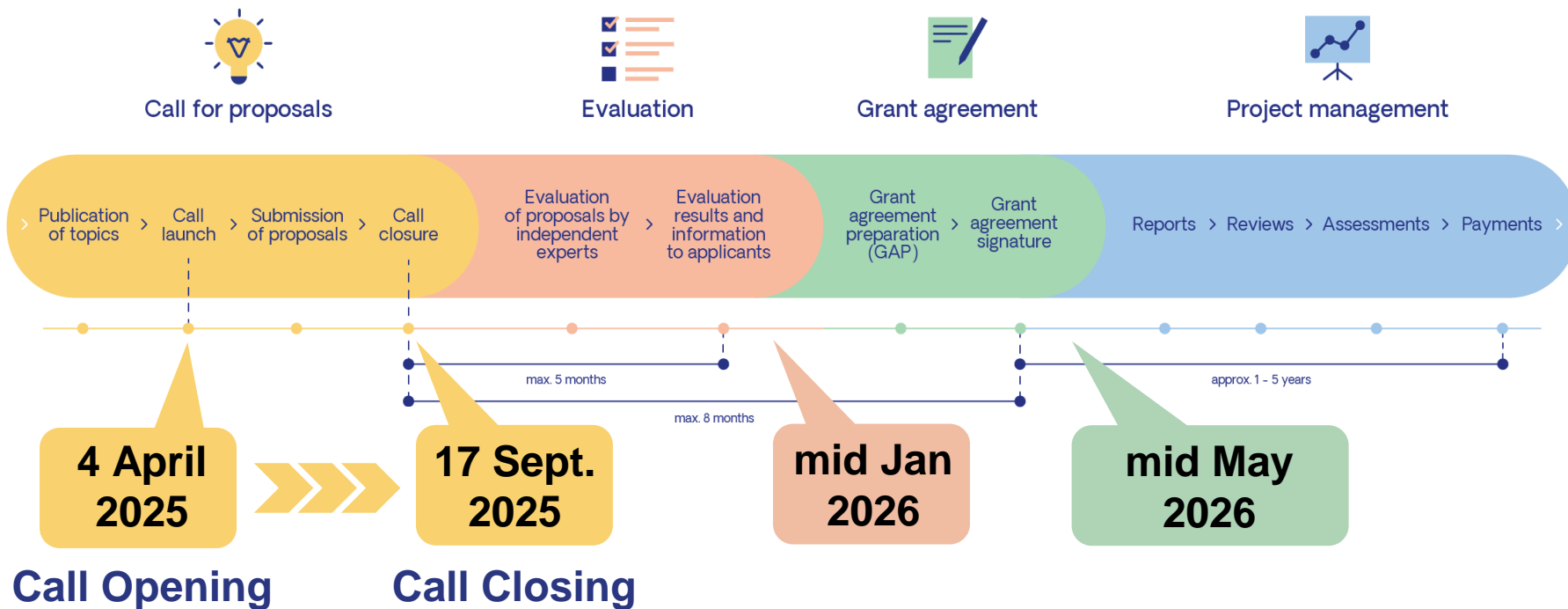
*Data: CORDA, May 2024*

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Estimated project start = May-June 2026

# Proposal preparation





# 13 topics and their budget

Type of action	Topics HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025		Million EUR
<b>IA– Flagship</b>	IAFlag-01	Urban-industrial symbiosis for bio-waste valorisation	18
	IAFlag-02	Bio-based drop-ins/smart drop-in platform chemicals, via cost-effective, sustainable and resource-efficient conversion of biomass	20
	IAFlag-03	Circular-by-design fibre-based packaging with improved properties	18
	IAFlag-04	Retrofitting of (bio)refineries industrial plants towards higher-value bio-based products	20
<b>IA</b>	IA-01	Sustainable macroalgae systems for innovative, added-value applications: cultivation and optimised production systems	14
	IA-02	Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) bio-based solutions to replace hazardous conventional chemicals for textiles production	13.5
	IA-03	Scaling-up nutritional proteins from alternative sources	14
	IA-04	Cost-effective and robust continuous biotech bio-based processes	14
	IA-05	SSbD bio-based polymers/copolymers unlocking new market applications	13.5
<b>RIA</b>	R-01	Valorisation of untapped forest biomass	7
	R-02	Bio-based and biodegradable delivery systems for fertilising products to reduce microplastics pollution & promote soil health	6
	R-03	Alternative biomanufacturing routes for natural and synthetic rubber	6
<b>CSA</b>	S-01	Develop and deploy new curricula and knowledge exchange practices relevant to bio-based systems	1

Total 165

Disclaimer: topic updates (incl. budget) are still possible before Call publication in the F&T Portal (tentative: 4 Apr 2025)

# Call topic structure

## HORIZON-JU-CBE-2025-XX-NN Topic title

<b>Type of action</b>	Research and Innovation Action
<b>Indicative budget</b>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR <b>14</b> million
<b>Expected EU contribution per project</b>	It is estimated that a contribution of EUR <b>7</b> million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts
<b>TRL</b>	TRL <b>6-7</b> at the end of the project
<b>Link to CBE JU Specific Objectives</b>	1.1: Increase the intensity of cross-disciplinary research and innovation activities
<b>Link to CBE JU SRIA Strategic Priorities</b>	1.1.2: Develop innovative production systems in the bio-based industry 1.1.3: Develop innovative bio-based products
<b>CBE JU KPIs</b>	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

Topic

Topic

Topic

AWP  
2025

# Horizon Europe + CBE requirements

## Horizon Europe (HE) rules

- Eligibility
- Admissibility
- General annexes

## HE evaluation criteria

- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation

## CBE Annual Work Programme 2025

- Topics
- **Specific requirements**
- Budget

HE Programme Guide

HE Online Manual

HE General Annexes

HE Annotated Model Grant Agreement



EU Grants  
AGA – Annotated Model Grant Agreement  
2017 Funding Programme 2021-2027



Part A

Part B

## Proposal structure

Example not to complete

Application Form

Horizon Europe  
Application forms (Part A)

Topic:  
Type of action:  
Type of Model Grant Agreement:  
Proposal number:  
Proposal acronym:

Table of contents

Part B: technical description  
Title or title Permit:

Use of participants

Participant No. *	Participant registration name	Country
1 (Coordinator)		
2		
3		

5. Excellence (20%)

5.1. Objectives and scientific excellence  
Insert text box for your proposal

5.2. Methodology  
Insert text box for your proposal

5.3. Impact  
Insert text box for your proposal


5.4. Project management (10%)



# CBE JU Call 2025 specific requirements (1/2)

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Where to include it in Part B
<b>Feedstock sourcing (eligibility condition)</b>	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – (Y/N) question
<b>Feedstock sustainability requirements</b>	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – (Y/N) question
<b>Description of feedstock</b>	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
<b>Environmental performance</b>		
<b>a) Ex-ante assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of environmental issues</li> <li>• Estimation of environmental sustainability performance</li> <li>• Estimation of carbon removal potential</li> </ul>	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
<b>b) Ex-post assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated task for RIA</li> <li>• Dedicated task or WP (LCA) for IA non-FLAG</li> <li>• Dedicated task or WP (LCSA) for FLAG</li> </ul>	RIA  IA- non FLAG  FLAG	Part B – 3.1 Workplan and resources

# CBE JU Call 2025 specific requirements (2/2)

Specific CBE JU requirement	Type of action	Where to include it in Part B
<b>Multi-actor approach (MAA)</b>	IA, incl. FLAG RIA and CSA, when specified	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
<b>Economic aspects:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Qualitative</i> business case</li> <li><i>Quantified</i> business case and business model</li> <li>Summary of business case and business model</li> <li>Business plan</li> </ul>	RIA IA non-FLAG FLAG	Part B – 2.2 Measures to maximise impact – D&E&C  FLAG: Annex (Business plan)
<b>Digital technologies</b>	RIA and IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
<b>Cross-disciplinary aspects and Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)</b>	All types of actions	Part B – 1.2 Methodology
<b>Recommendations to stakeholders</b>	IA, incl. FLAG	Part B – 3.1 Workplan and resources

# 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:

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**

# 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** (5% for RIAs, 15% for IAs, 20% for Flagships) must be reflected in the budget of partners that are BIC members.

Example: 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 ( <b>BIC member</b> )	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	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>€ 4,390,000</b>		€ 3,990,000	<b>€ 200,000</b>

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

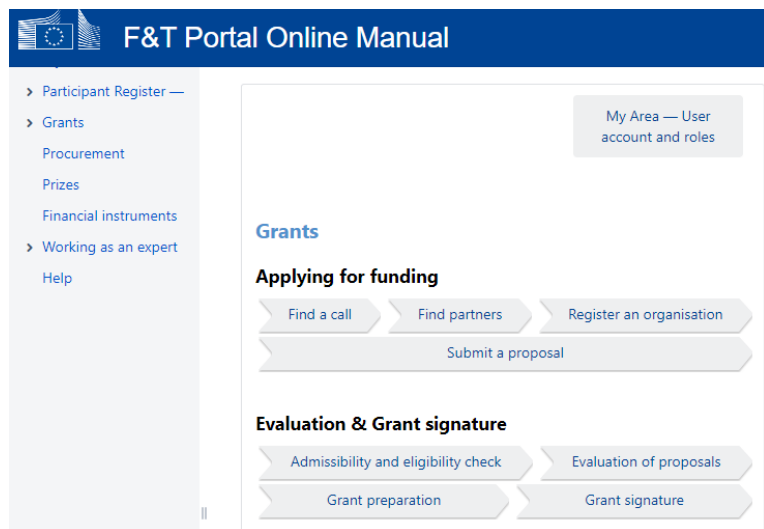
*(Examples of IA and Flagship budget tables will be included in the FAQ for applicants)*

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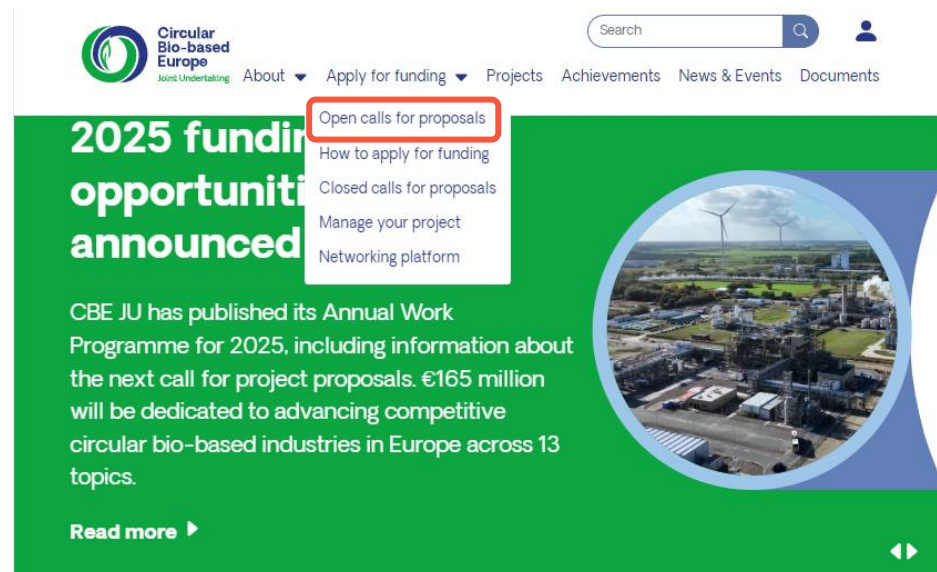


# Two main sources of information



The screenshot shows the 'F&T Portal Online Manual' interface. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Participant Register, Grants, Procurement, Prizes, Financial instruments, Working as an expert, and Help. The main content area is titled 'Grants' and includes a 'My Area — User account and roles' button. Below this, there are two main sections: 'Applying for funding' and 'Evaluation & Grant signature'. The 'Applying for funding' section contains a flowchart with steps: Find a call, Find partners, Register an organisation, and Submit a proposal. The 'Evaluation & Grant signature' section contains a flowchart with steps: Admissibility and eligibility check, Evaluation of proposals, Grant preparation, and Grant signature.

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



The screenshot shows the Circular Bio-based Europe website. The header includes the logo, navigation links (About, Apply for funding, Projects, Achievements, News & Events, Documents), a search bar, and a user icon. A dropdown menu is open under 'Apply for funding', showing options: Open calls for proposals (highlighted with a red box), How to apply for funding, Closed calls for proposals, Manage your project, and Networking platform. The main content area features a large green banner with the text '2025 funding opportunities announced'. Below this, it states: 'CBE JU has published its Annual Work Programme for 2025, including information about the next call for project proposals. €165 million will be dedicated to advancing competitive circular bio-based industries in Europe across 13 topics.' A 'Read more' link with a right arrow is at the bottom left of the banner. On the right side of the banner is a circular image showing a landscape with wind turbines and industrial buildings.

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

## Networking opportunities

- Funding & tender Opportunities Portal (partner search announcements)
- BIC networking (<https://biconsortium.eu/membership> )
- CBE JU networking platform (<https://www.cbe.europa.eu/networking-platform> )
  - Opening expected in February 2025, will remain open until (at least) call closure on 17 Sept 2025
  - 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

# CBE JU Info Day 2025



**3 April, Brussels**

**Registration opens in February**

**#CBEInfoDay**



**Circular  
Bio-based  
Europe**  
Joint Undertaking

Contact us

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