## Bio-Based Industries (BBI)

### Legal Framework


Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) are implemented through dedicated legal entities - Joint Undertakings (JU) - established under what was then the equivalent of the current article 187 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (**TFEU**). The Bio-based Industries (**BBI**) JU is established by **Council Regulation**. It has its own legal entity.

### Structure

PPPs are one of the key actions of **Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies**, which is a specific objective of Priority II “Industrial Leadership” of Horizon 2020. PPPs are vehicles to implement technological roadmaps in particular areas and aim at leveraging private investment in Research and Innovation (R&I). They are implemented either through JTIs or through dedicated calls for proposals and topics (contractual PPPs). JTIs are implemented by the European Commission (EC) where the scope of the objectives pursued and the scale of the resources required justify it taking full account of the relevant impact assessments, and where other forms of partnerships would not fulfil the objectives or would not generate the necessary leverage. They are run as Joint Undertakings that organise their own Research and Innovation (R&I) agenda and award funding for projects on the basis of open calls.

### Policy Context

Bio-based industries and their value chains are facing complex and substantial technology and innovation challenges. As a nascent sector, bio-based industries have to overcome the dispersion of technical competences and the limited publicly accessible data on real resource availability in order to build sustainable and competitive value chains.

A strong European bio-based industrial sector will significantly reduce Europe’s dependency on fossil resources, help the EU meet climate change targets, and lead to greener and more environmentally friendly growth. The key is to develop new bio refining technologies to sustainably transform renewable natural resources into bio-based products and biofuels. In order to tackle these challenges, critical mass has to be achieved in a focused and coherent way at European level in terms of scale of activity, excellence, and potential for innovation.

Together with the Bio-based Industries Consortium (**BIC**), the EC is, therefore, pooling its public and private resources and expertise in the BBI JTI to exploit its potential for R&I.

### Objective

- Building new value chains based on the development of sustainable biomass collection and supply systems with increased productivity and improved utilisation of biomass feedstock (including co-and by-products);
- unlocking the utilisation and valorisation of waste and lignocellulosic biomass;
- bringing existing value chains to new levels, through optimised use of feedstock and industrial side-streams while offering innovative added value products to the market, thus creating a market pull and reinforcing the competitiveness of EU agriculture and forest based industries;
- bringing technology to maturity through research and innovation, by upgrading and building demonstration and flagship bio refineries that will process biomass into a range of innovative products;
- creating new jobs, especially in rural regions.

### Management

Managed by a dedicated JU. The JU establishes own strategic innovation and research agenda (**SIRA**). The JU’s governance comprises two executive and three advisory bodies. They are:

- the Governing Board (GB) comprising an equal number of representatives from the EC and the BIC is the main decision-making body of the JTI. It
takes strategic and funding decisions and supervises the implementation of its activities;

- the Executive Director (ED) assisted by the Programme Office. The ED is the legal representative of the JU. He is appointed by the GB, from a list of candidates proposed by the EC, following an open and transparent selection procedure. Under the responsibility of the ED the Programme Office is responsible for the day-to-day management of BBI (e.g. organising calls for proposals, managing R&D agenda of JU) and the preparation of the (Multi-)Annual Work-Programme;

- the Scientific Committee is an independent advisory body to the GB. Its priorities are to advise on the R&D agenda and to evaluate the scientific achievements;

- the States Representatives Group (SRG) consists of one representative of each Member State (MS) and of each country associated to Horizon 2020. The SRG reviews information and provides opinions on programme progress in the BBI, compliance and respect of targets, coordination with national programmes and more.

### Size of overall budget

A total of €3.7 billion will be invested in bio-based innovations. The EU contribution (Horizon 2020) will be €975 million, while the BIC will contribute €2.7 billion (of which €1.8 billion will be dedicated to additional activities such as flagship projects).

### Funding

As an emerging industry, it will be important to use this PPP to leverage capital markets and additional private and public funds (e.g. synergies with EU Structural Funds) to top up existing commitments.

The Rules for Participation and Dissemination (RfP) of Horizon 2020 will apply. The reimbursement/funding rates differ with regard to the various types of activities (derogation from normal Horizon 2020 RfP):

- R&I Actions: funding rate 100%
- Innovation Actions (IA): funding rate 70% (except for non-profit legal entities, where a rate of 100% applies)
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSA): funding rate 100%

The calls for proposals are open and selective.

### Eligible Countries/participants

Any legal entity based in an EU MS or Associated Country (AC) and other non-industrialised third countries (see Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015 or the Annual Work Plan 2014 of BBI, Annex for the specific countries) can participate and will be funded in BBI. Legal entities established in countries not listed in the Annex of the Work Plan will be eligible for funding when such funding is explicitly foreseen in the relevant call text. In addition, legal entities established in countries not listed above and international organisations will be eligible for funding:

- when funding for such participants is provided for under a bilateral scientific and technological agreement or any other arrangement between the EU and an international organisation or a third country;
- when the EC deems participation of the entity essential for carrying out the action funded through Horizon 2020.

### Beneficiaries

large industries, SMEs, technology providers, academia, and other research and technology organisations

### Expected results

- Develop the potential of waste as well as agriculture and forestry residues;
- diversify and grow farmers’ incomes: up to 40% additional margins with existing residues;
- replace at least 30% of oil-based chemicals and materials with bio-based and biodegradable ones by 2030;
- create a competitive bio-based infrastructure in Europe, boosting job creation, 80% of which will be in rural and underdeveloped areas;
- deliver bio-based products that are comparable and/or superior to fossil-based products in terms of price, performance, availability and environmental benefits;
- the new bio-based products resulting from the BBI will on average reduce CO2 emissions by at least 50% compared to their fossil alternatives.

### Timeframe/Duration

2014-2020

### Application procedure

Proposals must be handed in by at least three legal entities in RIA and IA. Each of the three shall be established in a different MS or AC. All three legal entities shall be independent of each other. For CSA one legal entity in a MS or AC suffices. Calls will be published on the Participant Portal.
### Selection procedure

The best proposals will be selected based on independent peer review and concluded by formal funding agreements. Criteria are:

- **financial capacity**: in line with the Financial Regulation ([FR](#)) and the Horizon 2020 RfP;
- **operational capacity**: as a distinct operation, carried out during the evaluation of the award criterion ‘quality and efficiency of the implementation’, experts will indicate whether the participants meet the selection criterion related to operational capacity to carry out the proposed work based on the competence.

### Offer/Activities supported

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