Call for project proposals 2023: specific requirements and call conditions

Simone Maccaferri
Project Officer
EUCBE, 05/06/2023
CBE JU Call 2023: Specific requirements and call conditions
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example 1: IA Flagship Criterion: ≥ 20% IKOP</th>
<th>BIC member</th>
<th>Industry / Academia</th>
<th>Total eligible costs</th>
<th>Funding rate</th>
<th>Requested EU contribution</th>
<th>IKOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator (BIC member)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>industry</td>
<td>€ 7,000,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 4,200,000</td>
<td>€ 2,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 1</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>academia</td>
<td>€ 590,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>€ 590,000</td>
<td>€ 590,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 2 (BIC member)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>industry</td>
<td>€ 5,000,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 3,000,000</td>
<td>€ 2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>industry</td>
<td>€ 3,000,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 1,800,000</td>
<td>€ 1,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 4</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>academia</td>
<td>€ 800,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>€ 800,000</td>
<td>€ 800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 16,390,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 10,390,000</td>
<td>€ 4,800,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage IKOP = $\frac{€ 4,800,000}{€ 16,390,000} = 29.3\% > 20\%$  

BIC has set up an open and fast procedure to become a BIC member: [https://biconsortium.eu/membership](https://biconsortium.eu/membership)
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example 2: IA Criterion: ≥ 15% IKOP</th>
<th>BIC member</th>
<th>Industry / Academia</th>
<th>Total eligible costs</th>
<th>Funding rate</th>
<th>Requested EU contribution</th>
<th>IKOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator (BIC member)</td>
<td>Y industry</td>
<td>€ 3,200,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 1,920,000</td>
<td>€ 1,280,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 1</td>
<td>N academia</td>
<td>€ 590,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>€ 590,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 2</td>
<td>N industry</td>
<td>€ 1,500,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 900,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 3</td>
<td>N industry</td>
<td>€ 3,000,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>€ 1,800,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiary 4</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>€ 9,090,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>€ 6,010,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>€ 1,280,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Percentage IKOP = $\frac{€1,280,000}{€ 9,090,000} = 14,1\% < 15\%$

BIC has set up an open and fast procedure to become a BIC member: [https://biconsortium.eu/membership](https://biconsortium.eu/membership)
A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future

CBE JU Call 2023: Requirements

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

HE evaluation criteria
- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation

Horizon Europe + CBE requirements

CBE Annual Work Programme 2023
- Topics
  - Specific requirements
- Cross-cutting elements
- Budget

Proposal structure

Part A

Part B
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific requirement of the CBE JU Call 2023</th>
<th>Type of action</th>
<th>Where to include it in Part B</th>
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<td>RIA and IA, incl. FLAG</td>
<td>Part B – Structured question (Y/N) in the introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feedstock sustainability requirements (a,b,c,d)</td>
<td>RIA and IA, incl. FLAG</td>
<td>Part B – Structured question (Y/N) in the introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description of feedstock</td>
<td>RIA and IA, incl. FLAG</td>
<td>Part B – 1.2 Methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental performance - Ex-ante assessment</td>
<td>RIA and IA, incl. FLAG</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identification of environmental issues</td>
<td>RIA and IA, incl. FLAG</td>
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<td>Ex-post assessment of environmental sustainability and circularity</td>
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<td>• Dedicated task or WP (LCA)</td>
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<td>IA, incl. FLAG</td>
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Economic viability
Business Case/Model/Plan

IA – Flagship

RIAA

Economic viability Check
A check of the economic viability of the products and processes to be developed (including an analysis of the value chain and potential market for the envisaged products)

Business case
a sound business case; business case together with...

Business model
...the specifications of an inclusive business model, covering all actors of the value chain (from feedstock providers through to the final sellers)

Business Plan
in addition, a detailed preliminary business plan in a separate Annex
RIA: Economic viability check

- Dedicated section on ‘economic viability’
- Focus on the potential market of the products and/or processes to be developed including some quantitative information for example on the market size and trends
- Analysis of the value chain
- If possible, include project projections estimates of costs of production/revenues of products or technologies
IA: Business case / model / plan

**Business Case**
- A justification for investing in a project to generate a profitable business. It is typically related to pursuing an opportunity or solving a problem.
- It may include technical, economic, market, social, environmental and regulatory aspects, even if only at a qualitative level.
- A business case includes an evaluation of risks, costs and benefits of the proposed project versus alternatives.
- It may involve a relatively high level of uncertainty.

**Business Model**
- A description of the way in which a commercial activity for conducting a business, generates revenues and value for its customers/involved stakeholders.
- It describes the costs and revenues, the actors involved and the relationships among them.
- It includes a quantification of the cost and revenue streams but no time dimensions or specific actions.

**Business Plan (only IA-Flag)**
- A detailed description of how the business will be developed.
- It includes a quantification of the cost structure, financing thereof, and foreseen revenues, a description of the actions to be performed, their timing and the actors involved.
- It includes technical, economic, market, social, environmental and regulatory aspects and is based on data, as much as possible, and/or assumptions (to cover areas where data are not available).
- The level of uncertainty is lower than in the Business case. Risks are described and contingencies are foreseen.
## CBE JU specific requirements

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Ensures adequate involvement of all key actors in the value chains relevant for the topic and the objective of the proposed project.

Involvement along the whole project’s course: from project idea, planning to implementation, communication and dissemination of results and to demonstration.

‘Co-creation’ process: the practical and local knowledge of key actors are used to develop solutions and create ‘co-ownership’ of results.

It results in speeding up the acceptability and uptake of new products, approaches and solutions developed by project.
Multi-actor approach

- **Relevant actors** are clearly identified (e.g. depending on the topic, primary producers, processing industry, end-users, brand owners, etc.).

- **Sufficient representation of relevant actors** consortium or/and with other forms of engagement.

- **Needs/problems/challenges/opportunities** of key actors (from biomass supply to end-users) are considered from concept idea to implementation.

- **High-quality knowledge exchange activities, tools or/and mechanisms** enable co-creation and co-ownership of results (e.g. participative workshops, advisory bodies, platforms, etc.) are planned.

- **Dissemination and exploitation channels/actions** addressing to the targeted actors are used.
Multi-actor approach in practice

“Project XXX will develop an **Advisory Board of Farmers** including regional authorities, food manufacturers, farmers, biorefinery owners, investors etc.”

“In order to ensure a good engagement of the key stakeholders, **project partners cover the whole value chain from the field to the table** (farmers, technology providers, manufacturers, environmental assessment experts, end users).”

“**6 interregional workshops** will be held during the project to connect with actors from other regions not directly involved in the project.”

“Project XXX consortium will integrate both primary producers and owners / providers of side streams **directly and through biomass suppliers in contact with project partners.**”
A competitive bioeconomy for a sustainable future
CBE JU Call 2023: Requirements

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

HE evaluation criteria
- Excellence
- Impact
- Implementation

CBE Annual Work Programme 2023
- Topics
- Specific requirements
- Cross-cutting elements
- Budget

Proposal structure

Part A
- Horizon Europe
- Evaluation criteria
- Proposal template

Part B
- Model Grant Agreement
- Annexes
- Model Agreement

HE Programme Guide
HE Online Manual
HE Annotated Annexes
HE General Annexes
HE Annotated Model Grant Agreement
Annual Work Programme and Budget 2023
Cross-cutting elements (AWP, 2.2.3.2)

- Apply and/or adapt existing/mature or novel digital technologies provided that they are instrumental to achieving the project’s outcomes and scope.
  - RIA and IA, incl. Flagships: chemicals, materials, catalysts and process design & modelling (including bioinformatics); process monitoring and optimization; tracking and tracing; data analytics and data management
  - IA, incl. Flagships: (real-time) process monitoring and optimisation (incl. environmental performance); predictive maintenance and plant engineering.

- Foster cross-disciplinarity and consider the social, economic, behavioural, institutional, historical and/or cultural dimensions, as appropriate, of the proposed circular bio-based innovations.

- Ensure that contributions from the SSH are integrated at various stages of their proposed project, and the actions required, participants and disciplines involved.

- Consider public awareness raising, social engagement and social impact aspects with respect to circular bio-based solutions.

- Disseminate the outputs and learning outcomes from the project.

- Incorporate publications on data, methodologies, including LCA assessment-related data to peer-reviewed scientific journals and conferences.

- Contribute data and results to the European Commission’s Knowledge Centre for Bioeconomy.

- Add links with any trusted repositories for data, results and methodologies.
CBE JU Call 2023: Proposal preparation
Proposal preparation

Call for proposals
- Publication of topics
- Call launch
- Submission of proposals
- Call closure
- Evaluation of proposals by independent experts
- Evaluation results and information to applicants
- Grant agreement preparation (GAP)
- Grant agreement signature
- Reports
- Reviews
- Assessments
- Payments

26 April 2023
Call Opening

20 Sept. 2023
Call Closing

~ Feb 2024

~ May/June 2024
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 **AWP2023** and the **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)**, for a good understanding of the context and long-term objectives of CBE JU !!!
In addition to having an **excellent idea** for a CBE JU project, you’ll need to...

- Address ALL # topic requirements
- # CBE JU specific requirements
- Understand the evaluation criteria (including novelties of Horizon Europe)
- Be **clear and convincing**!
In other words,

an excellent idea is the basis of a good proposal but is not sufficient….

The expected impacts and implementation aspects are as important!

The proposal should excel in each single criterion!

Be specific in your objectives and expected impacts and clearly demonstrate how you aim to implement and sustain them.
Aim for total “Topic eclipse”

Topic+ = Topic text + HE requirements + CBE specific requirements + CBE cross-cutting elements

every single word in topic text counts!

every requirement & cross-cutting element counts!
Two main sources of information


https://www.cbe.europa.eu/open-calls-proposals
More information

Subscribe to CBE JU newsletter

cbe.europa.eu

Become a BIC Member

biconsortium.eu

Horizon Europe Funding and Tender portal

europa.eu/ljH76RF
Do you want to be an expert evaluator?

CBE JU (and the whole EU research family) are always looking for new, competent experts in diverse fields

To be considered for the Call 2023 evaluations, please:

• Create or update your expert profile via https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert
• E-mail experts@cbe.europa.eu ideally by 8 May 2023, mentioning your expert profile number (format EX20XX1234567)