



**Circular
Bio-based
Europe**
Joint Undertaking



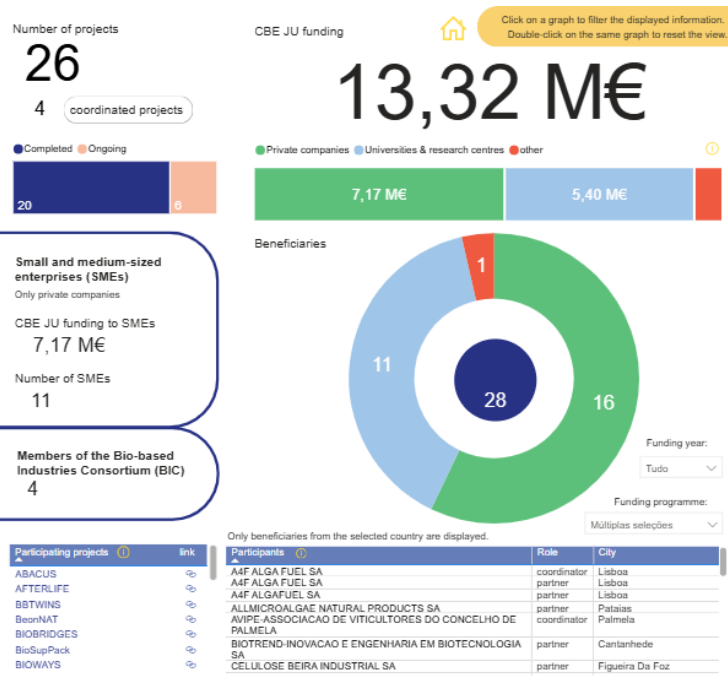
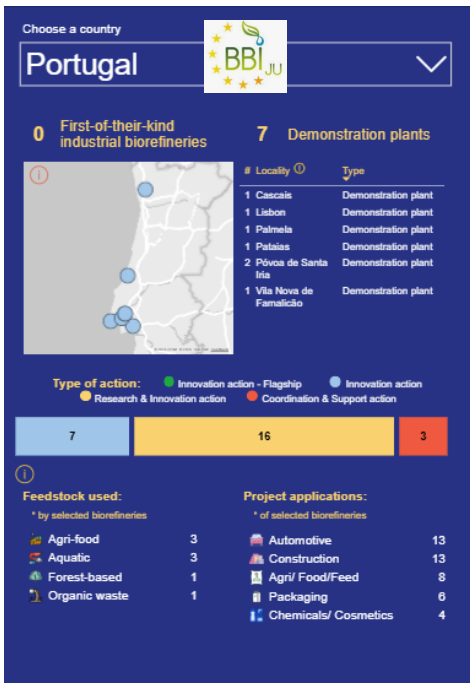
Portugal's experience in CBE JU calls

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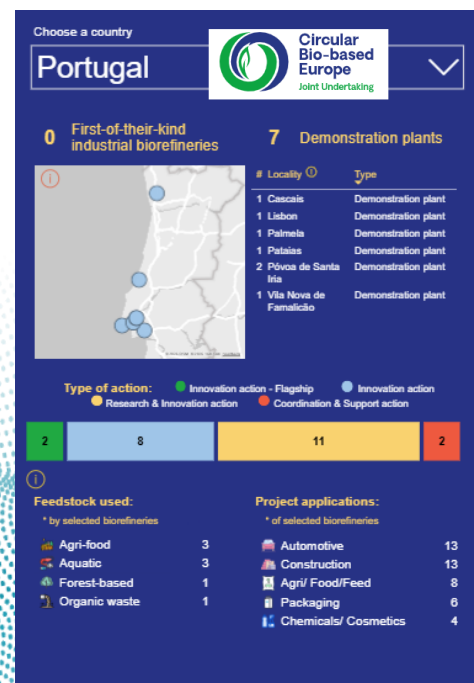
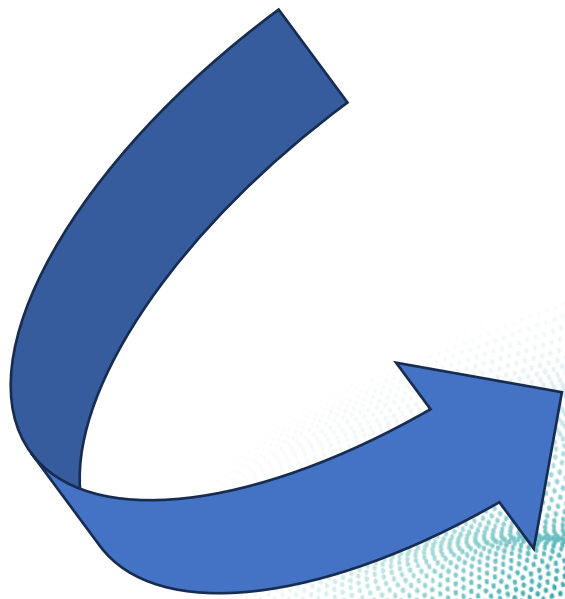
Maria João Fernandes
21 April 2026





Our journey... from BBI JU to CBE JU

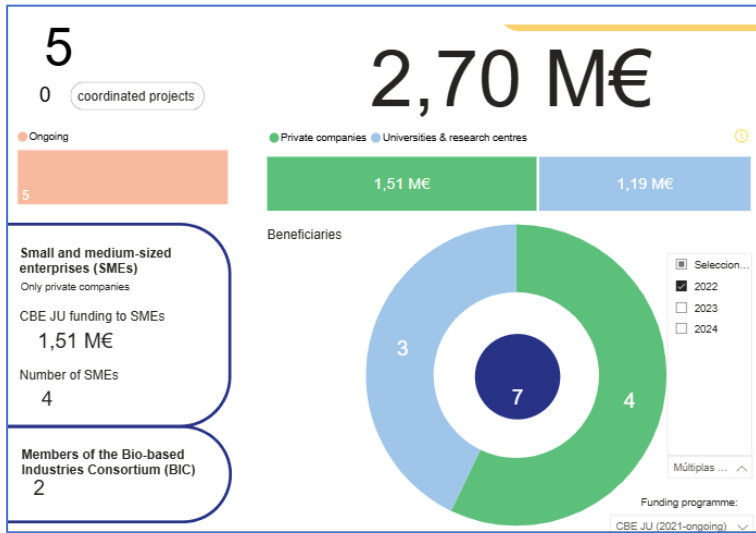
2014-2020



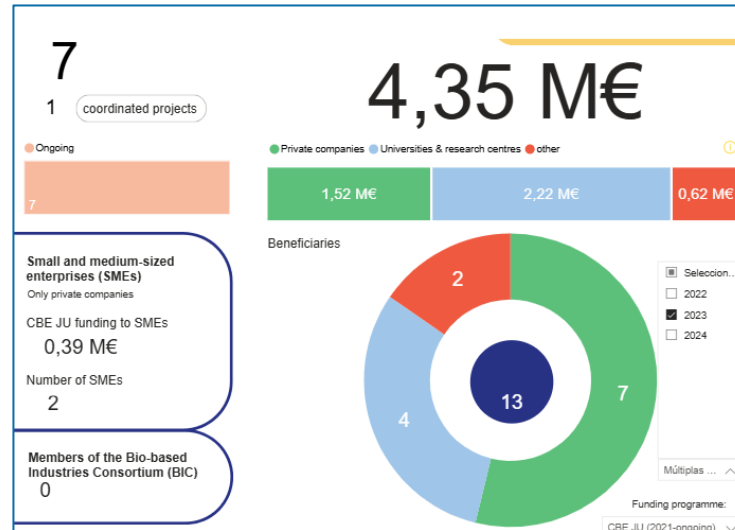
2022-2024



CBE-JU 2022-2025

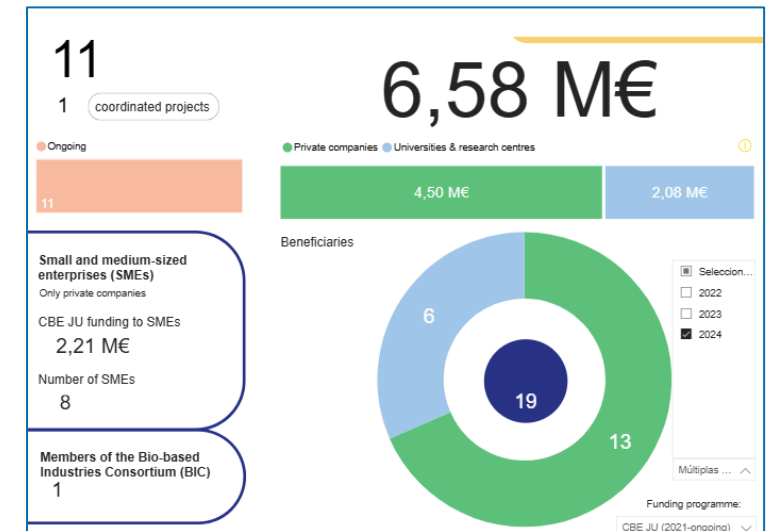


2022



2023

PT Success rate (2022-2025): 13%
(EU average: 12,7%)



2024

13 projects

1 PT coordination

26 PT entities

10,52 M€

PT Success Rate: 16,7%
(EU success rate ~10%)

2025

Portugal has shown **steady and growing participation** in CBE JU across the CBE JU calls, with 23 projects and around €13.5 million secured in 2022–2024.

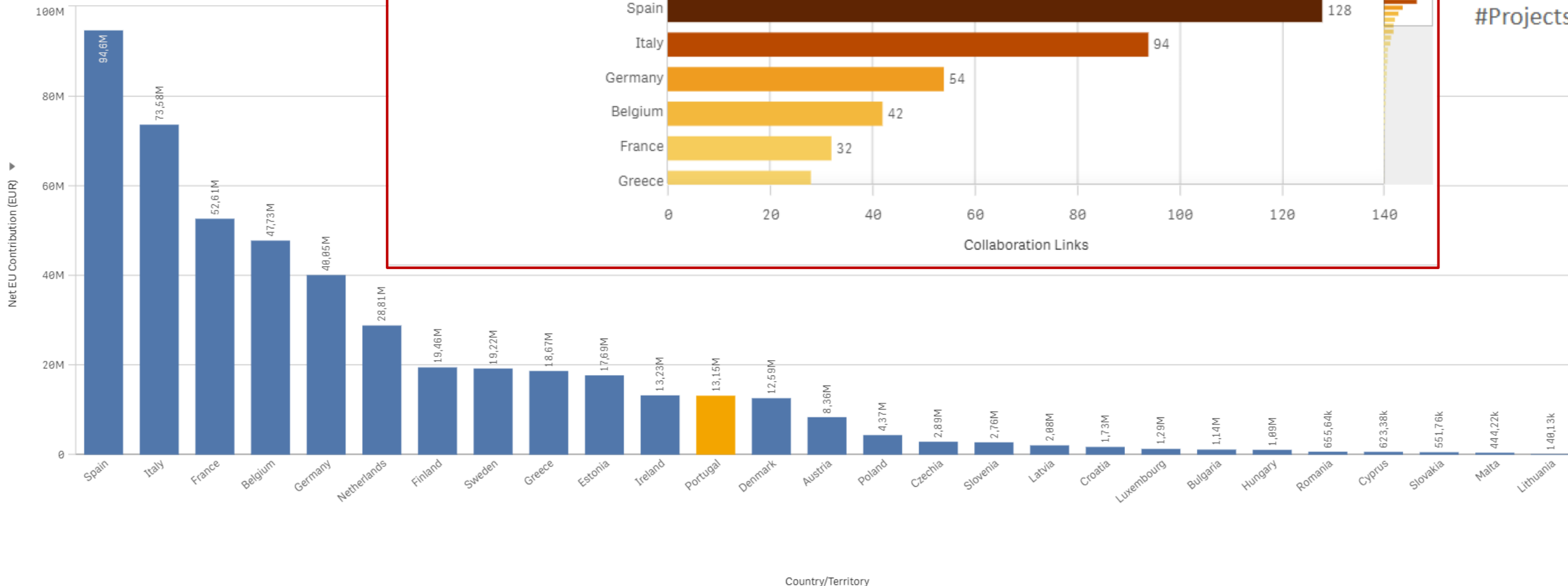
PARTICIPATION IN CBE-JU 2022-2024 CALLS



23
#Projects

Participation in Programmes -

HORIZON EUROPE Contribution (EUR) to Member States



Budget share rank [↗](#)
12 out of 27^{EU}

Participation rank [↗](#)
9 out of 27^{EU}

Source: Horizon Dashboard

PT representatives in the Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)

Currently 9 full BIC members!



Majority from the Aquaculture & Marine sectors

Source: BIC website

Industry Members



Among the 10 most active Portuguese institutions in submitting proposals to the CBE JU programme, 11 are currently BIC members (full/associate).



PT representatives in the Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC)

Currently 14 associate BIC members!

RTOs, Universities, Tecnological Centres, Colaborative Laboratories



Source: BIC website

Associate Members



ONE NATIONAL SUCCESS STORY



2022

InnoProtein

Against the background of a rising global population and the pressure protein production places on natural resources, sustainable production of...

Project focus: Food, feed & cosmetics

In progress



MULTIPLY

2024

★ MULTIPLY

The global algae market represents a promising opportunity to replace less sustainable biomass in existing bio-based value chains, combining high...

Project focus: Food, feed & cosmetics

In progress



★ MULTI-STR3AM

With an increasing population and a consequent growing demand for land for food, new sources of food, feed and industrial raw materials are urgently...

Project focus: Food, feed & cosmetics

Completed



REDWine

Global warming caused by greenhouse gases (GHGs) is one of the greatest challenges and concerns for humanity. Atmospheric concentrations of CO2 are...

Project focus: Food, feed & cosmetics

Completed



ABACUS

Algae production is currently limited to a few small industries, mainly for the feed, nutrition and cosmetic sectors. This is ripe for expansion...

Project focus: Food, feed & cosmetics

Completed

★ BIG-ALGAE - Bringing Innovation and Growth to macroALGAE production systems (under GA preparation)

2025

ALGANOVA - Advanced aLGAe biorefiNery for circular prOtein and food ingredient production through CO2 and food by-products Valorisation (under GA preparation)



- **Provide tailored guidance** on CBE-JU topics, rules and evaluation criteria, including one-to-one support and pre-screening of proposals
- **Facilitate networking and consortium building** by connecting applicants with relevant partners, clusters and BIC networks
- **Support the preparation of high-quality proposals** by improving clarity, impact, implementation and avoiding common mistakes



Annotated templates – 2026 update



CBE JU CALLS

How to Succeed & What to Avoid

Key Recommendations for a Competitive Proposal



RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN CBE JU CALLS

- 1 Fully respect the topic scope**
 Ensure every proposed objective and activity is clearly aligned with the topic text and all CBE-JU specific requirements (e.g. multi-actor approach, IKOP, own contribution, etc.).
- 2 Build a strong, complementary consortium**
 Include partners with proven expertise in technology, industry, markets, and policy; clarify roles, risks, and IPR early to boost evaluator confidence.
- 3 Focus on excellence, impact, and viability**
 Present a clear, ambitious, and sound methodology; quantify performance improvements and show a convincing business case and exploitation plan.
- 4 Link your project to its context**
 Explicitly reference relevant EU, national, and regional projects, and demonstrate how you build on existing knowledge, infrastructures, and IP.
- 5 Prepare, network, and communicate clearly**
 Use Info Days, working groups, and networking platforms; draft a well-structured, concise proposal that makes it easy for evaluators to identify where each requirement is addressed.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID IN CBE JU PROPOSALS

- 1 Ignoring CBE-JU-specific requirements**
 Forgetting the multi-actor approach, consortium own contribution, IKOP, or feedstock/environmental-performance sections, even when the Horizon Europe template seems "complete enough".
- 2 Going outside or only partially inside the topic scope**
 Not respecting every sentence of the topic text (objectives, KPIs, TRLs, feedstocks) or trying to "stretch" the scope to fit an existing idea instead of adapting the work plan to the topic.
- 3 Weak or unrealistic business and impact section**
 Missing a clear business case, unconvincing exploitation plan, or no link between expected outcomes and real-world markets, especially for Innovation Actions and Flagships.
- 4 Poor risk and work-plan design**
 Presenting a vague work plan, mismatched resources, or superficial risk analysis without concrete mitigation measures, which hurts the "solid implementation" score.
- 5 Overloading or under-structuring the proposal**
 Either "over-writing" with too much text and repetition, or not structuring the proposal so that evaluators can quickly find each requirement (topic, MA-approach, IKOP, feedstock, etc.).

KEY MESSAGE

Align with the topic. Build the right team. Prove the impact. Plan realistically. Write clearly. That's what makes a winning CBE JU proposal!



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THANK YOU!

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