

**Circular
Cities & Regions
Initiative**

CCRI – the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative and the role of R&I in the Circular and Bioeconomy transition

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EU Circular Economy Policy Framework



European Green Deal (Dec 2019)

Is a set of policy initiatives with the overarching aim of making the European Union climate neutral by 2050

→ 1 block of the Deal is about boosting the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy



Circular Economy Action Plan (March 2020)

Includes 35 (legislative & non-legislative) actions to transition from a linear to a circular economy

→ 1 chapter ('Making circularity work for people, regions and cities') on the territorial circular economy and on the specific EU initiatives to support it (e.g. CCRI)



EU Bioeconomy Strategy (updated in 2018)

Aims to accelerate the deployment of a sustainable European bioeconomy

→ Recognises cities as 'major circular bioeconomy hubs'

About the role of EU cities and regions in the circular transition



Cities, regions and other territorial clusters are...

- the closest governance level to Europe's citizens.
- laboratories for territorial innovation & socio-economic transformation.
- ecosystems gathering various CE stakeholders (industry representatives, research and technology organisations and civil society).

... therefore, **key to the transition** towards a sustainable, regenerative and inclusive circular economy.

They have the ambition to go further, but usually lack competences and resources, and therefore need help to address the barriers they face.

About the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative

About the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative

- **A 1st-of-its-kind collaboration and support scheme of the European Commission, launched by DG Research & Innovation**
- **Part of the EU Circular Economy Action Plan 2020, and contributing to the policy objectives of the EU Green Deal as well as the EU Bioeconomy Strategy**
- **Supported by the EU's R&I funding programme (Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe): more than €250 million in 2020-2024**
- **Aims to support the implementation of circular systemic solutions in EU cities and regions, as well as the development of new circular business and governance models.**



3 pillars

1 CCRI supports the implementation of locally-tailored circular systemic solutions in pilot cities.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

2 CCRI supports the demonstration of circular systemic solutions, and the development of new circular business & governance models.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

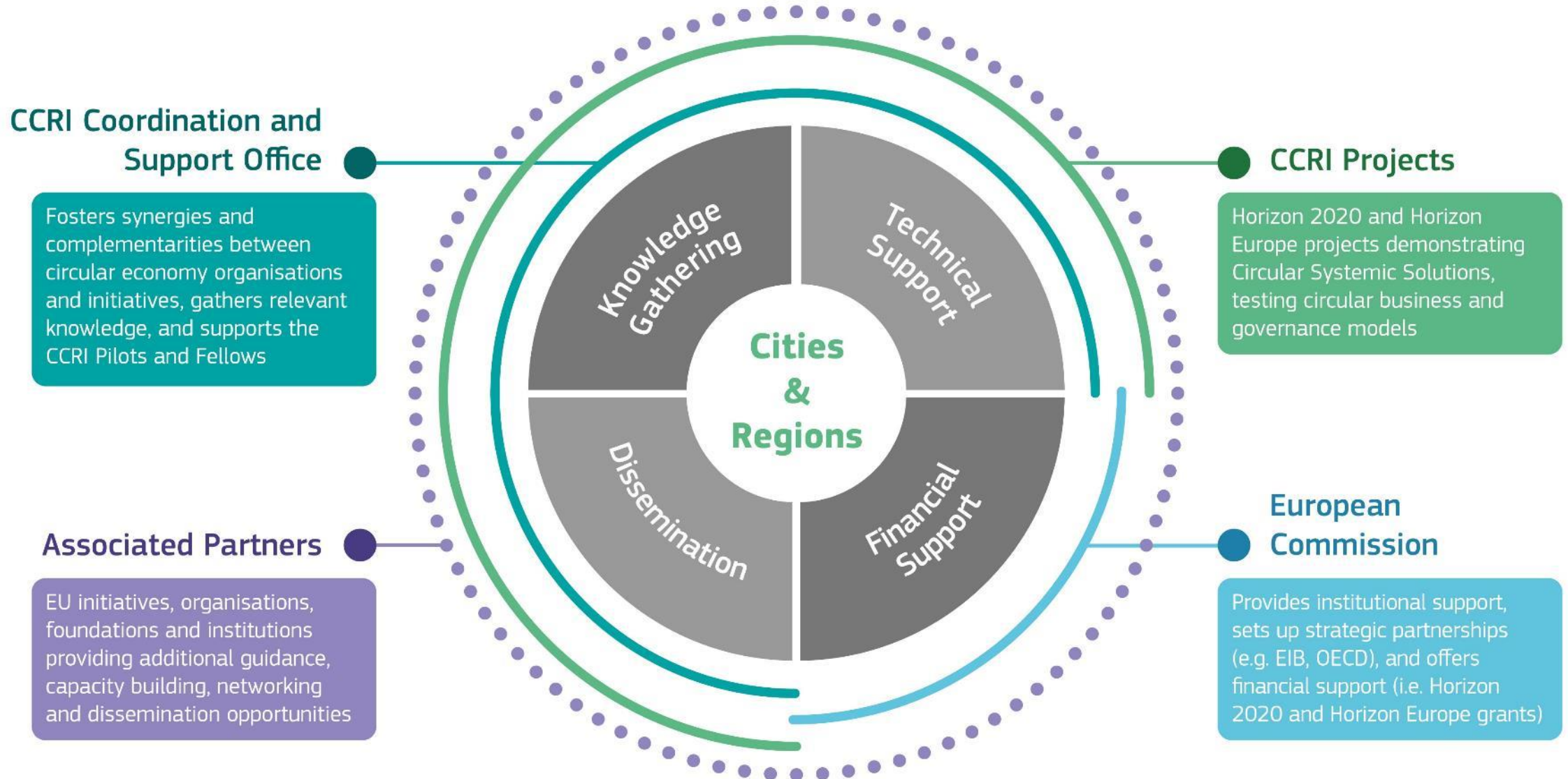
3 CCRI facilitates cooperation, synergies and complementarities with relevant partners, initiatives and projects.

COLLABORATION



Objective: Develop local competences and capacities, so that cities and regions can actually **translate their ambition into true actions towards a circular economy transition.**

A multi-stakeholder collaboration & support scheme



About the CCRI stakeholders

Overview of the CCRI Pilots and Fellows



Key

- City
- Region
- ▲ Territorial Cluster

Pilots

Asker	●	NO
Capannori	●	IT
Castilla y Leon	■	ES
Flanders	■	BE
Gothenburg	●	SE
Guimaraes	●	PT
Helsinki-Uusimaa	■	FI
Munich	●	DE
Podravje-Maribor	■	SL
Roubaix	●	FR
Tampere Region	■	FI
Uppsala	●	SE

Fellows

Bergen	○	NO
Berlin	○	DE
Central Denmark	□	DK
Central Macedonia	□	EL
Comunitat Valenciana	□	ES
Comunidade Intermunicipal Viseu Dão Lafões	□	PT
Ea éco-entreprises	▲	FR
Eurométropole de Strasbourg	○	FR
Grosuplje	○	SL
Ireland-West	□	IE
Jyväskylä	○	FI
Lääne-Harju	□	EE
Leuven	○	BE
Lucca	○	IT
Matosinhos	○	PT
Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam	▲	NL
Møre and Romsdal	□	NO
Päijät-Häme	□	FI
Regrada Trinec	▲	CZ
Sofia	○	BG
Southeast Lower Saxony	▲	DE
Southern Region Waste Planning Authority	□	IE
Technological corporation of Andalusia	▲	ES
Zero Waste Scotland	▲	UK
Zuid Holland	□	NL



Circular
Cities & Regions
Initiative

The CCRI Coordination and Support Office

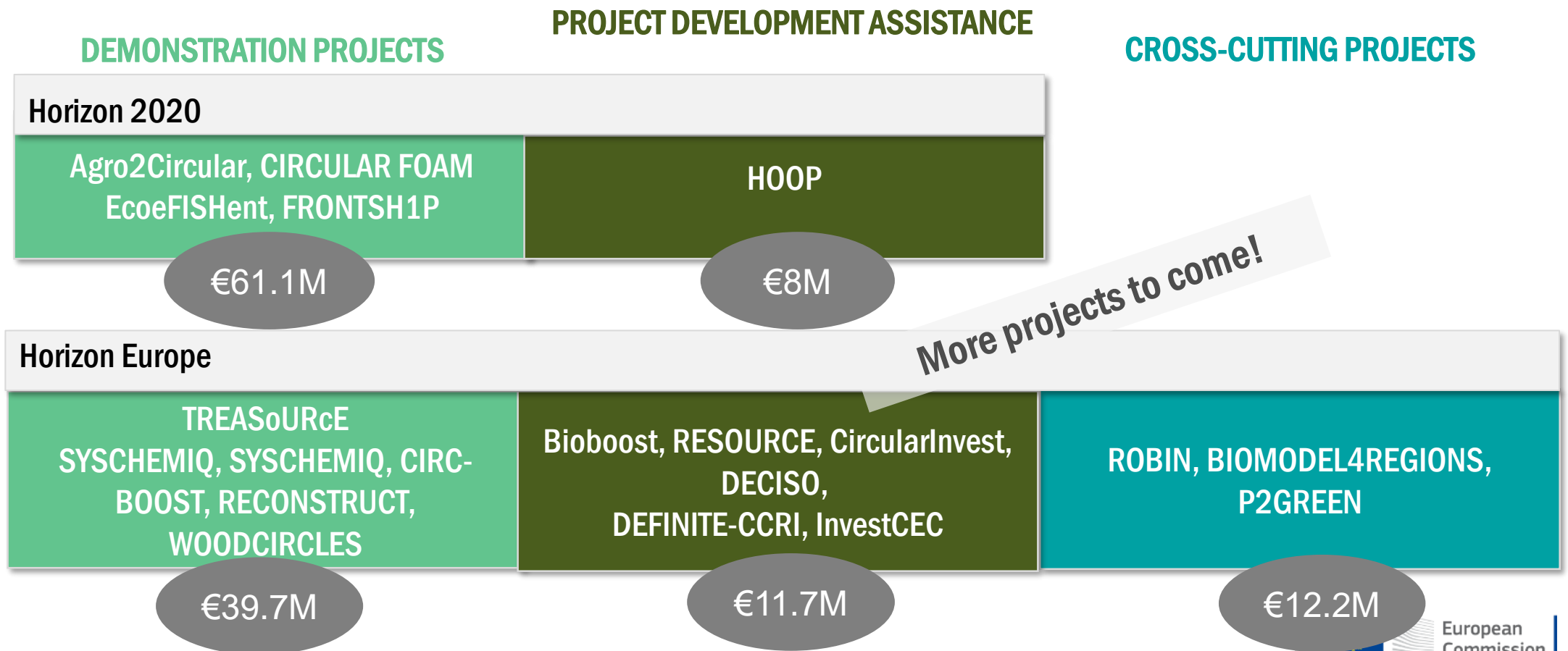
Managed by a team composed of circular economy experts, experienced in supporting cities and regions.

Main activities

- Facilitates **cooperation, synergies and complementarities** between the Pilots, Fellows, CCRI Projects, Associated Partners and other relevant stakeholders.
- Provides **support** for the implementation of Pilots' Circular Systemic Solutions.
- Collects **relevant knowledge** on financial, regulatory, social and environmental aspects of CE solutions.
- Presents **lessons learned** from CCRI activities for further dissemination, communication and awareness raising activities.
- Builds a **dialogue with wider stakeholders** on the transition towards the circular economy.

CCRI Projects

Support the implementation of the CCRI through the demonstration of circular systemic solutions and business models that can be scaled up and replicated.



Associated Partners & Initiatives

Provide additional, complementary support for the implementation of CE solutions in cities and regions.

EU institutions and initiatives

European Commission

Hubs4Circularity, Covenant of Mayors, Green City Accord, 100 Intelligent Cities Challenge, European Urban Initiative

European Economic & Social Committee,
Committee of the Regions
European Circular Economy
Stakeholder Platform

Strategic Partners

European Investment Bank
Circular City Centre (C3)

Organisation for Economic Co-
operation and Development (OECD)

Other partners & organisations

Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Circle Economy

EIT Circular Economy Community

European Circular Cities Declaration

Flemish Institute for Technological
Research (VITO)

About the CCRI support services

Thematic Focuses

- **4 Thematic Working Groups** set up, based on a needs assessment
- **Other cross-cutting issues addressed:** Governance & stakeholder engagement, Finance, Data Monitoring & Indicators



Circular
Construction
and Buildings

A circular inset image showing two construction workers on a building site at sunset, with rebar visible against a cloudy sky.



Circular
Resource
Management

A circular inset image of a man in a white hard hat, safety glasses, and a high-visibility vest standing in an industrial facility.



Circular
Bioeconomy

A circular inset image showing a person's hands holding a green vegetable peeling over a green recycling bin, with various fruits like watermelon and apples nearby.



Industrial
Symbiosis and
Circular Economy
in Industries

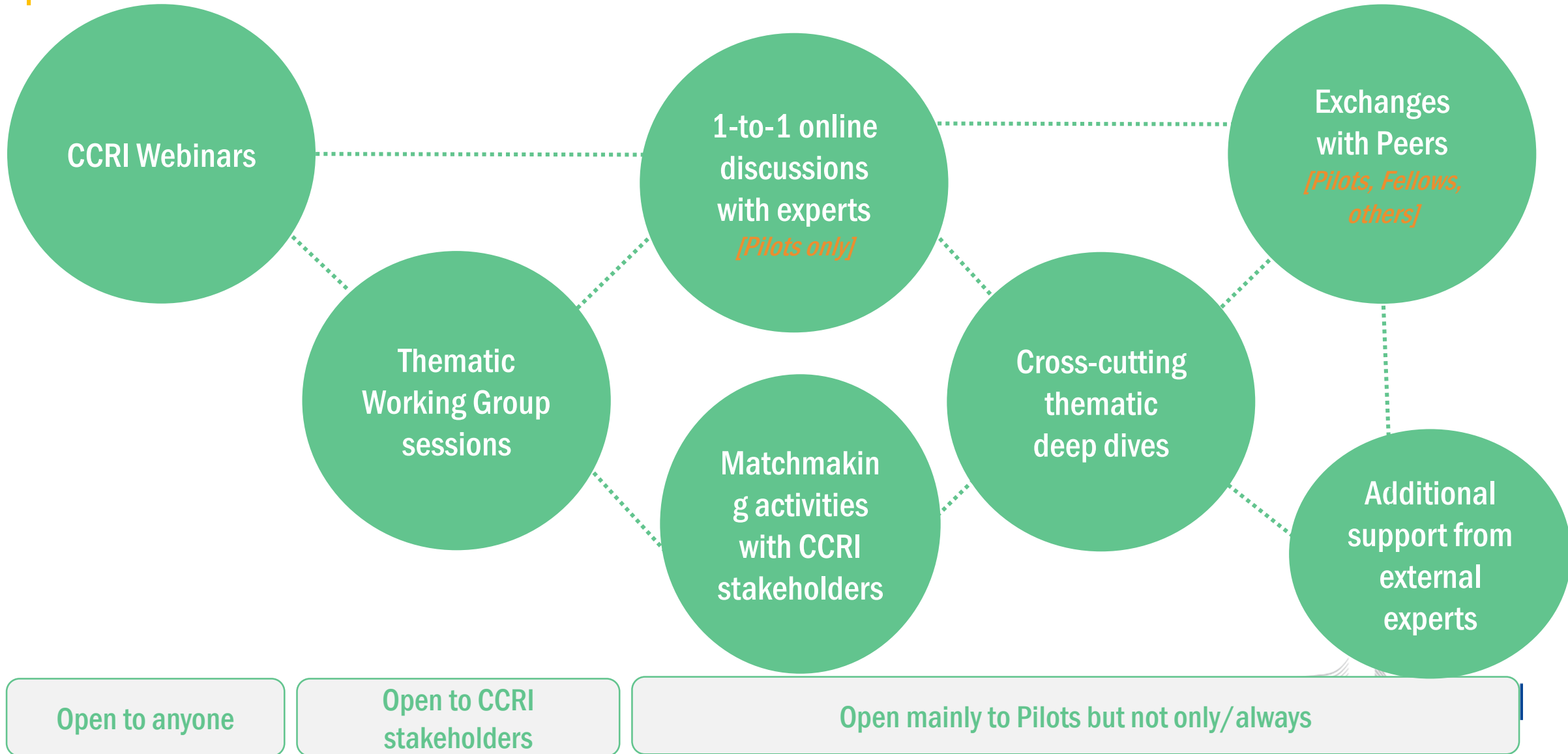
A circular inset image of an industrial refinery or chemical plant with tall distillation columns and pipes under a sunset sky.

TWG Circular Bioeconomy

- **Focus on:**
 - ensuring **healthy and diverse ecosystems** by implementing CE solutions,
 - **transition** of regions from linear, and often fossil-fuel-based, economies to **circular economies through decarbonisation** to help promote healthy ecosystems at both a local and regional scale,
 - **renewable and biological resources** from land and sea, like crops, forests, bio waste and wastewater to produce bio-based products.
- TWG will contribute to **modernise** and **strengthen** the EU local economies and the EU industrial base, facilitating bio-based value chains, more cost-effective socio-technological processes, while protecting biodiversity and the environment.
- **26 Members:** Pilots, Fellows, CCRI Projects and Associated Partners related to the circular bioeconomy theme.



Other support activities



Upcoming events

- Register for the 1st CCRI General Conference (8 Nov, Brussels//online)
- Stay tuned on the [upcoming events here](#).

#CCRIconference2023

Circular Cities and Regions Initiative 1st General Conference

- ✓ Explore
- ✓ Share
- ✓ Learn

8 November 2023
Brussels / Online

Register now



Circular Cities & Regions Initiative





<https://circular-cities-and-regions.eu/>



helpdesk@circular-cities-and-regions.eu



@EUScienceInnov



EU Science & Innovation



Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI)

Civil Society-oriented Circular Economy Funding Opportunities under Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe opportunities



- Cluster 6 WP2023-2024:**

Topic	Type of Action	Budget	Application period
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-01-1: Circular Cities and Regions Initiative's project development assistance (CCRI-PDA)	Coordination and Support Action	EUR 6M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-01-4: Systemic circular solutions for a sustainable tourism	Innovation Action	EUR 10M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-01-9: Circular bioeconomy start-up villages	Coordination and Support Action	EUR 2.5M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-02-2-two-stage: Increasing the circularity in plastics value chains	Innovation Action	EUR 10M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-02-4-two-stage: New circular solutions and decentralized approaches for water and wastewater management	Innovation Action	EUR 15M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024

Horizon Europe opportunities cont.

Topic	Type of Action	Budget	Application period
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-01-2: Circular solutions for textile value chains based on extended producer responsibility	Innovation Action	EUR 14M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-01-3: Innovative circular solutions for a furniture	Innovation Action	EUR 10M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-02-1-two-stage: Circular solutions for textile value chains through innovative sorting, recycling and design for recycling	Research and Innovation Action	EUR 15M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2024-CircBio-02-3-two-stage: Increasing the circularity in electronics value chains	Innovation Action	EUR 10M	17 Oct 2023 - 22 Feb 2024
HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-2: One hundred circular households	Innovation Action	EUR 18M	grant agreement

HORIZON-CL6-2023-CIRCBIO-01-2:

One hundred circular model households: making European households sustainable through inclusive circular practices

Innovation Action

*Indicative budget: 18 M€ in total
(6 M€ per project)*



Questions?
www.slido.com
#CL6INFODAY



HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-2



POLICY CONTEXT

- Implement the European Green Deal and the EU circular economy action plan (CEAP)
- Support the Sustainable Products Initiative
- Complement the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI)
- Expand the use of the Product Environmental Footprint method

Related impacts:
accelerate regional, rural, local/urban and consumer-based transitions, and improve on consumer and citizen benefits



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Significant, well-documented increase in **material efficiency** in participating households
- Significant **reduction of emissions** of GHG and other pollutants, including micro- and nanoplastic fibres from covered households, and increase of carbon removals
- Improvement of **living conditions** in participating households
- **Multiplier effect** regarding the replication of the approach and its benefits; leading by example
- **Lessons learnt** for a European rollout strategy and integration with sectoral strategies such as Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI)

HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-2



SCOPE

- Provide a **cost-free circular economy advisory service** to selected households
- Consolidate knowledge on **environmental impacts** from households and establish a simple and robust method for comparison
- Demonstrate how sustainable products or services can better meet the real **needs of citizens** for entertainment, communication, mobility, housing, etc.
- Identify individual needs and optimisation potential
- Stimulate **behavioural change** at the level of individual decisions
- Set ambitious and plausible **reduction benchmarks**
- Propose measures that are **easy to implement** and at least **cost-neutral**
- Tackle financing and amortisation issues
- From environmentally friendly purchasing, shared product use, swaps to optimised maintenance, upgrade, repair, down to waste disposal
- Analyse and edit results for **multiplication** through media and on the ground



KEEP IN MIND

- Respect zero pollution and non-toxicity principle
- No trade-offs between material and energy efficiency
- Work with NGOs and CSOs
- Joint activities with CCRI
- This initiative will also target social disparity
- Social and gender aspects are relevant

Thank you!

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<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>