



EU funding sources for innovation in the bioeconomy in 2021-27

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EU (research & innovation) funding...

... can be broadly divided into funding that falls under

- **Direct management** by the European Commission through executive agencies (e.g. **Horizon Europe**)
- **Shared management** with the Member States (e.g. **Rural Development Policy; Cohesion Policy**)

(and indirect management...)

For overviews see:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities_en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls_en



EU Green Deal



“... European funds, including for rural development, will help rural areas to harness opportunities in the circular and **bio-economy.**”



GREEN TRANSITION

- Cohesion policy
- Common agricultural policy
- Just Transition Fund
- Horizon Europe
- Recovery and Resilience Facility
- LIFE programme
- Connecting Europe Facility



Rural Development Policy (Common Agricultural Policy)

- R&D in rural development support
- Local Action Groups (LEADER/Fisheries)
- EIP-AGRI

Cohesion Policy

- R&D support and Seal of Excellence



Rural Development Policy

Part (“second pillar”) of the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)**

6 priorities

- **knowledge transfer**
- **competitiveness of agriculture**
- **food chain organisation and risk management**
- **enhancing ecosystems**
- **shift toward a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy**
- **social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development**

Main source of funding: European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) - **€95.5 billion** in 2021-27



Rural Development Policy

EAFRD-funded bioeconomy projects

[Tomato by-products](#) in the Netherlands



[Biogas facility](#) in Sweden



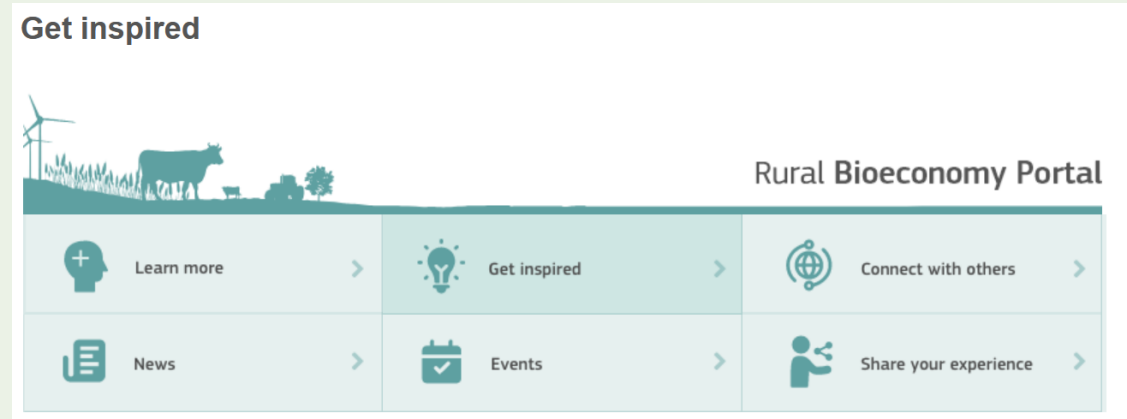
Rural Development Policy

European Network for Rural Development (ENRD):

- Rural Bioeconomy [Portal](#)
- [Thematic Group](#) on bioeconomy
- Various guidance documents

LEADER

- Over 3000 “Local Action Groups” (incl. some Fisheries LAGs)
- Engage local stakeholders in the design and delivery of strategies



[Producing and packaging biofuel \(PELLET\) from olive harvesting residues in Greece](#)



Rural Development Policy

European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability ([EIP-AGRI](#))

- **Interactive innovation:** co-creation and diffusion of solutions that are ready to be implemented in practice
- Key tools are **Operational Groups (OGs)** and temporary Focus Groups (FGs)
- Over 2000 OGs have received EAFRD support
- Opportunity for bioeconomy: over [70 OGs](#) and [9 FGs](#) by 2020
- EIP-AGRI Service Point offers support to set up OGs and provides [extensive resources](#) on the bioeconomy





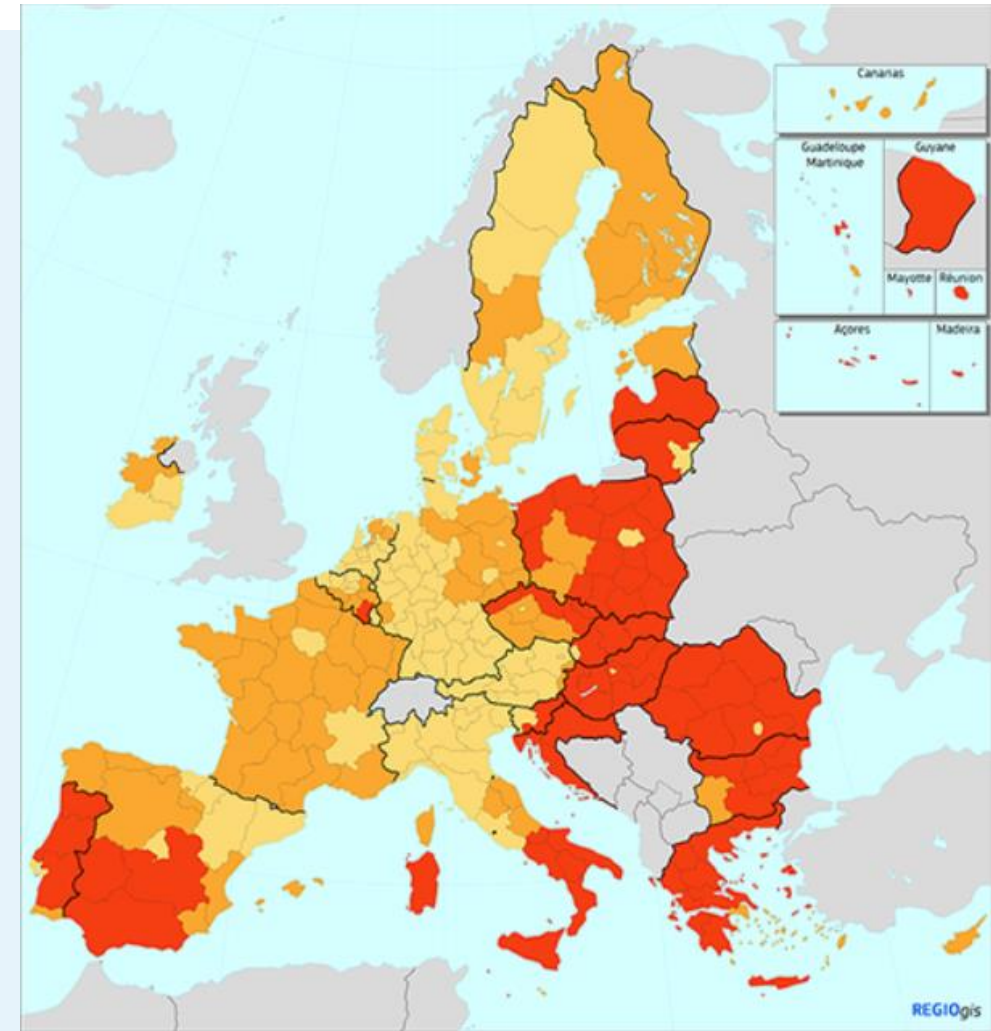
Cohesion Policy

EU Cohesion Policy

- aims to correct imbalances between countries and regions
- delivers on the Union's political priorities, including **green transition**

€392 billion in 2021-27

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**: social and economic development
- **Cohesion Fund (CF)**: environment and transport in the less prosperous EU countries
- **European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)**: jobs and socially inclusive society
- **Just Transition Fund (JTF)**: transition towards climate neutrality



Investment for jobs and growth goal (ERDF and ESF+) eligibility, 2021-2027

Categories of regions

- Less developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) less than 75% of the EU-27 average)
- Transition regions (GDP/head (PPS) between 75% and 100% of the EU-27 average)
- More developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) above 100% of the EU-27 average)



Strong focus on 2 of 5 Policy Objectives “**Smarter Europe**” and “**Greener Europe**” in 2021-27
R&D support typically provided to for **infrastructural measures** (ERDF, CF) or to enhance **capacities** (ESF) – providing the ground and potential for Horizon Europe

2021-27 programmes in Member States still under development, but [European Commission recommendations](#) to **use the funding also in the field of bioeconomy**, e.g.:

- develop alternatives to raw materials and use recycled materials as raw materials (BG, LV)
- capacity-building for all stakeholders involved in the transition to circular economy (e.g. RO)
- improve the knowledge base on the circular economy (e.g. BG)

Cohesion Policy as potential source for the [Seal of Excellence](#), which allows using alternative funding for unsuccessful Horizon Europe proposals



Find more information about the project at <https://be-rural.eu/>

Thank you for your attention

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 818478

