



European
eic INNOVATION
Council

EMPOWERING EUROPEAN INNOVATORS

European Innovation Council

EU Policies for Circular Economy

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Research and
Innovation



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- EU Green Deal

The EU aims to be climate neutral in 2050.

The European Green Deal is our plan to **make the EU's economy sustainable**.

We can do this by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities, and making the transition just and inclusive for all.

Reaching this target will require action by all sectors of our economy, including:

- investing in environmentally-friendly technologies,
- supporting industry to innovate,
- **rolling out cleaner, cheaper and healthier forms of private and public transport,**
- **decarbonising the energy sector,**
- **ensuring buildings are more energy efficient,**
- **working with international partners to improve global environmental standards.**

The EU will also provide **financial support** and technical assistance to help those that are most affected by the move towards the green economy.

This is called the [Just Transition Mechanism](#). It will help mobilise at least €100 billion over the period 2021-2027 in the most affected regions.

Policy areas

[Biodiversity](#)

Measures to protect our fragile ecosystem

[From Farm to Fork](#)

Ways to ensure more sustainable food systems

[Sustainable agriculture](#)

Sustainability in EU agriculture and rural areas thanks to the common agricultural policy (CAP)

[Clean energy](#)

Clean energy

[Sustainable industry](#)

Ways to ensure more sustainable, more environmentally-respectful production cycles

[Building and renovating](#)

The need for a cleaner construction sector

[Sustainable mobility](#)

Promoting more sustainable means of transport

[Eliminating pollution](#)

Measures to cut pollution rapidly and efficiently

[Climate action](#)

Making the EU climate neutral by 2050

- EU Circular Economy Action Plan

The European Commission has adopted a new [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) - one of the main blocks of the [European Green Deal](#), Europe's new agenda for sustainable growth.

The new Action Plan announces **initiatives along the entire life cycle of products**, targeting for example their design, promoting circular economy processes, fostering sustainable consumption, and aiming to ensure that the resources used are kept in the EU economy for as long as possible.

It introduces legislative and non-legislative measures targeting areas where action at the EU level brings real added value.

Timeline

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- 15 November 2019
 - [Offshore renewable energy](#)
 - 14 October 2019
 - [Renovation wave](#)
 - [Mathematics Strategy](#)
 - [Chemicals strategy for sustainability](#)
 - 17 September 2019
 - Presentation of the [2030 Climate Target Plan](#)
 - 08 July 2019
 - Adoption of the [EU strategies for energy, climate, innovation and hydrogen](#) to pave the way towards a fully decarbonised, more efficient and interconnected energy sector
 - 20 May 2019
 - Presentation of the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#) to protect the fragile natural resources on our planet
 - 20 May 2019
 - Presentation of the [Farm to fork strategy](#) to make food systems more sustainable
 - 11 March 2020
 - Proposal of a [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) focusing on sustainable resource use
 - 10 March 2019
 - Adoption of the [European Industrial Strategy](#), a plan for a future-ready economy
 - 4 March 2019
 - Proposal for a [European Climate Law](#) to ensure a climate neutral European Union by 2050
 - Public consultation open until 17 June 2020 on the [European Climate Pact](#) bringing together regions, local communities, civil society, businesses and schools
 - 18 January 2019
 - Presentation of the [European Green Deal Investment Plan](#) and the [Just Transition Mechanism](#)
 - 11 December 2018
 - Presentation of the [European Green Deal](#)

Actions

The new Circular Economy Action presents measures to:

- **Make sustainable products the norm in the EU;**
- **Empower consumers and public buyers;**
- **Focus on the sectors that use most resources and where the potential for circularity is high such as: electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients;**
- **Ensure less waste;**
- **Make circularity work for people, regions and cities,**
- **Lead global efforts on circular economy**

Quick Reference on CEAP Implementation

A SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT POLICY FRAMEWORK	
Legislative proposal for a sustainable product policy initiative	2021
Legislative proposal empowering consumers in the green transition	2021
Legislative and non-legislative measures establishing a new "right to repair"	2021
Legislative proposal on substantiating green claims	2021
Mandatory Green Public Procurement criteria and targets in sectoral legislation and phasing-in mandatory reporting on GPP	as of 2021
Review of the Industrial Emissions Directive, including the integration of circular economy practices in upcoming BREFs	as of 2021
Launch of an industry-led industrial symbiosis reporting and certification system	2022

KEY PRODUCT VALUE CHAINS	
Circular Electronics Initiative, common charger solution, and reward systems to return old devices	2021/2021
Review of the Directive on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment and guidance to clarify its links with REACH and Ecodesign requirements	2021
Proposal for a new regulatory framework for batteries	2020
Review of the rules on end-of-life vehicles	2021
Review of the rules on proper treatment of waste oils	2022
Review to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging and reduce (over)packaging and packaging waste	2021
Mandatory requirements on recycled plastic content and plastic waste reduction measures for key products such as packaging, construction materials and vehicles	2021/2022
Restriction of intentionally added microplastics and measures on unintentional release of microplastics	2021
Policy framework for bio-based plastics and biodegradable or compostable plastics	2021
EU Strategy for Textiles	2021
Strategy for a Sustainable Built Environment	2021
Initiative to substitute single-use packaging, tableware and cutlery by reusable products in food services	2021

LESS WASTE, MORE VALUE	
Waste reduction targets for specific streams and other measures on waste prevention	2022
EU-wide harmonised model for separate collection of waste and labelling to facilitate separate collection	2022

Methodologies to track and minimise the presence of substances of concern in recycled materials and articles made thereof	2021
Harmonised information systems for the presence of substances of concern	2021
Scoping the development of further EU-wide end-of-waste and by-product criteria	2021
Revision of the rules on waste shipments	2021

MAKING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY WORK FOR PEOPLE, REGIONS AND CITIES	
Supporting the circular economy transition through the Skills Agenda, the forthcoming Action Plan for Social Economy, the Pact for Skills and the European Social Fund Plus.	as of 2020
Supporting the circular economy transition through Cohesion policy funds, the Just Transition Mechanism and urban initiatives	as of 2020

CROSSCUTTING ACTIONS	
Improving measurement, modelling and policy tools to capture synergies between the circular economy and climate change mitigation and adaptation at EU and national level	as of 2020
Regulatory framework for the certification of carbon removals	2023
Reflecting circular economy objectives in the revision of the guidelines on state aid in the field of environment and energy	2021
Mainstreaming circular economy objectives in the context of the rules on non-financial reporting, and initiatives on sustainable corporate governance and on environmental accounting	2021/2021

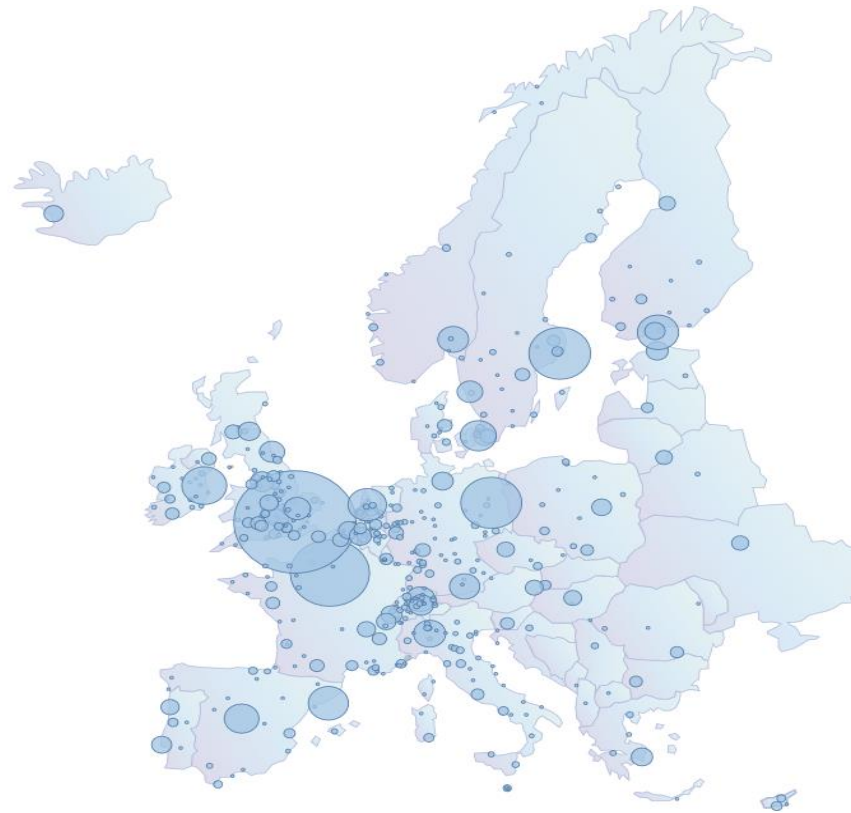
LEADING EFFORTS AT GLOBAL LEVEL	
Leading efforts towards reaching a global agreement on plastics	as of 2020
Proposing a Global Circular Economy Alliance, and initiating discussions on an international agreement on the management of natural resources	as of 2021
Mainstreaming circular economy objectives in free trade agreements, in bilateral, regional and multilateral processes and agreements, and in EU external policy funding instruments	as of 2020

MONITORING THE PROGRESS	
Updating the Circular Economy Monitoring Framework to reflect new policy priorities and develop further indicators on resource use, including consumption and material footprints	2021

- European Innovation Council (EIC)

The challenge in Europe: a financing gap coupled with a fragmented innovation ecosystem

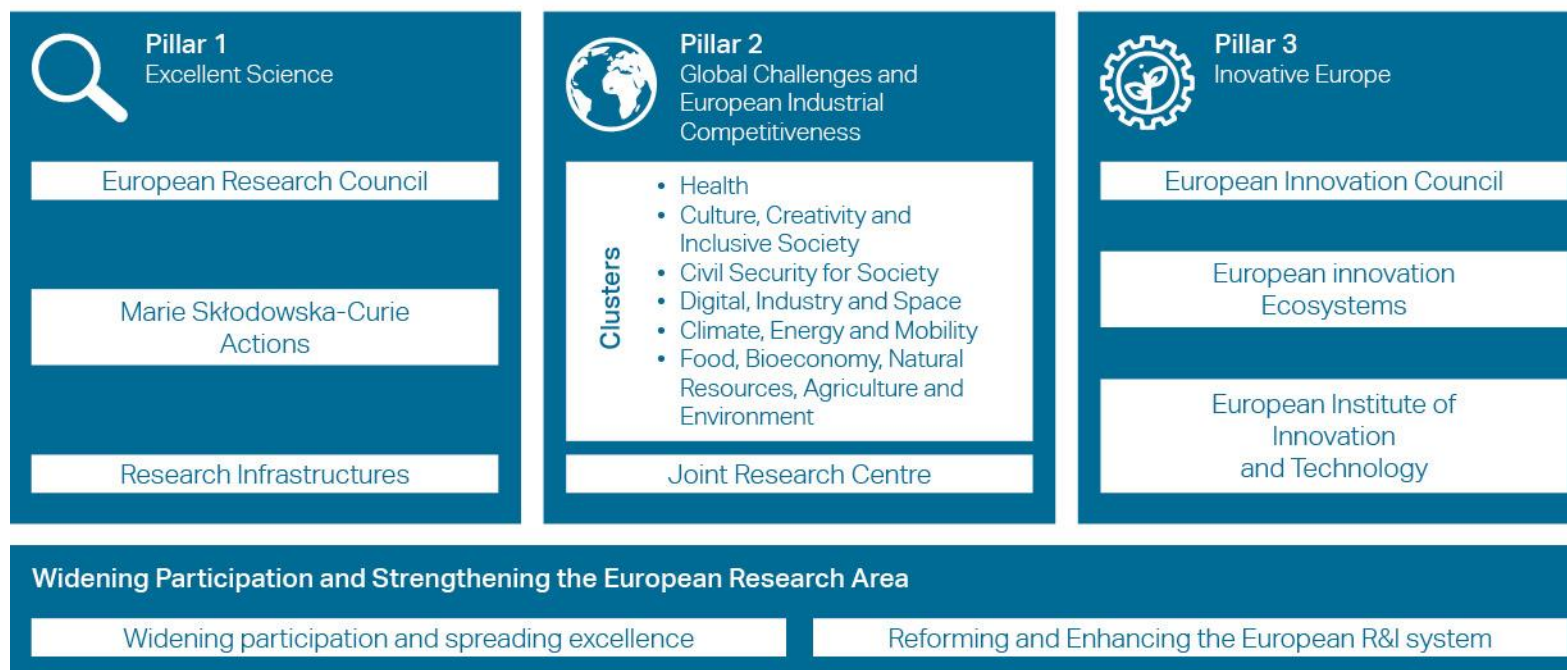
... and a truly connected European innovation ecosystem is only starting to form now



"Startup City Hubs in Europe" 2018 report

Pillar 3

Horizon Europe: Preliminary structure



The European Innovation Council

One stop shop for breakthrough & disruptive innovators

Open to all innovators, in any field, at any time

Highest potential innovators selected on basis of ideas and team

Agile funding from idea to investment

Pathfinder grants for advanced research on emerging technologies

Transition funding from proof of concept to innovation

Accelerator funding for innovative start-ups (<€2.5 million grant, <€15 million equity)

Crowding in private investment (VC, Invest EU)

Building ecosystems and communities

Access to mentoring & advisory services; to corporates & investors; to knowledge partners

Expert Programme Managers to engage with projects and communities

European Innovation Council

Pathfinder

- Early stage research on breakthrough technologies
- TRL 1-4
- Successor of FET (Open & Proactive)

Transition

- From proof of concept to viable business case
- TRL 4-6 (and business/ market readiness)
- Some pilots

Accelerator

- Development & scale up of deep-tech/ disruptive innovations by startups/ SMEs
- TRL 6-8 (and 9 for equity)
- Successor of SME instrument

- Mission to **identify, develop and deploy high risk innovations** of all kinds
- Focus on **breakthrough, market-creating, deep-tech**
- **Advisory Board** of leading innovators (science&tech, enterprise, investors, corporate, ecosystem)
- **Mainly “bottom up”** – interdisciplinary, new combinations, cross-sectoral. Also **targeted funding on strategic challenges**
- Access to **Business Acceleration Services** (coaches/ mentors, corporates, investors, ecosystem)
- **Pro-active management** (reviews, re-orientations, etc) with **Programme Managers**
- **Fast, agile processes** (applications, management, etc)
- **Follow up funding for results from Horizon (ERC, EIT, collaborative) & national programmes**

WHAT WILL THE EIC LOOK LIKE IN HORIZON EUROPE ?

EIC Advisory Board vision statement (27 April 2020)

1. *EIC to pioneer a European approach to global innovation challenges:*

- ✓ ***Unique*** in combining advanced technological research (DARPA like) with innovation accelerator
- ✓ ***Hallmark of excellence*** for innovators (like ERC for researchers)
- ✓ ***Overcome system biases***, e.g. in terms of high risk, gender, regions

2. *EIC to crowd in private investors:*

- ✓ ***Filling market gaps*** for financing high risk/ high impact ideas
- ✓ ***3-5 euro*** for every euro allocated by EIC
- ✓ Generating ***impacts from other EU and national programmes***

3. *EIC as funder & investor of choice for visionary ideas*

- ✓ Targeting ***deep-tech, interdisciplinarity, high risk*** to achieve high impact
- ✓ ***Simple, fast applications*** focusing on the innovator
- ✓ Hands on support from ***Programme Managers, mentoring and advice, partnerships***

Major novelties:

Accelerator blended finance

Transition calls

Advisory Board

Programme Managers

- Take home messages

- EU “Green” Policies will pave the way for a new EU society.
- Circular economy is one the milestones of EU Green Deal.
- To implement Circular Economy projects multidisciplinary teams combining legal, technological, business and financial know-hows are required.
- Ports development of Circular Economy projects will rely on the strategic capability of Ports management to attract the Ports Ecosystems actors in the design of sustainable long term port action plans.



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