

# EU funding opportunities:

Direct management programmes

27 September 2023

08:30-09:45 CET

Online

#SingleMarket30

# Agenda

1. News from the European Cluster Collaboration Platform  
**Nina Hoppmann**, *Team Member, European Cluster Collaboration Platform*
2. Funding programmes under direct management  
**Christophe Galand**, *Head of Unit, DG BUDG, European Commission*
3. Project examples and panel debate  
**Björg Dam**, *Project Manager, Life Science Cluster Denmark*  
**Eva Vicente Barragán**, *Operations Coordinator - Project Management Engineer, ICAMCyL*  
**Maurizio Malè**, *Cluster Project Manager, Venetian Cluster*
4. Funding opportunities  
**Nina Hoppmann**, *Team Member, European Cluster Collaboration Platform*

# Housekeeping rules

Chris Burns, presenter

- We will use **slido** to launch polls. Please scan the QR code to answer.
- Please use the **Zoom Q&A function to ask questions**, and the **chat function** to comment or share links
- If you want to speak: Please **raise your hand** and we will give you the floor.
- Please note that the session is being **recorded** and that the recording will be **published** on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform.

# NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

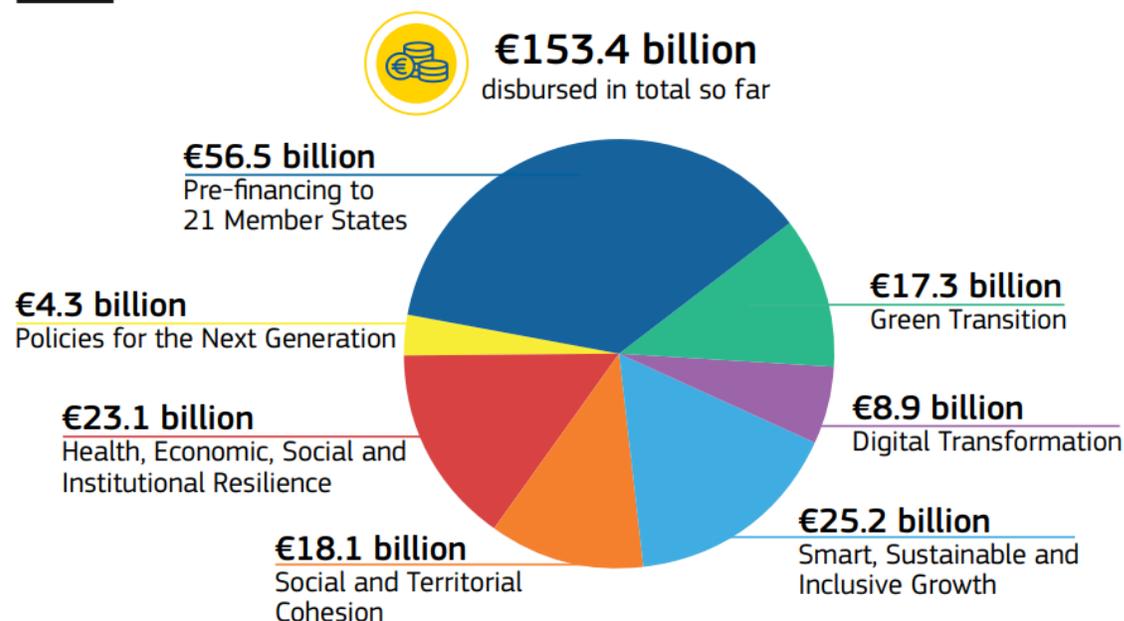
# NextGenerationEU: Implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility firmly underway

Publication of the second annual **report** on the [implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility \(RRF\)](#), the €800 billion reform and investment tool at the heart of NextGenerationEU

The report shows the progress made with the RRF to increase Member States' economic and social resilience and deliver on REPowerEU, the EU's response to the hardships and global energy market disruption caused by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Commission launched an [online interactive map](#) of **RRF-supported projects** in each Member State.

## Funds flowing towards RRF objectives, projects being rolled out



# Capacity building at the Cluster Booster Academy

21 cluster managers came together for the second Cluster Booster Academy in Torino for a 2-day training on 21-22/09.

Key topics were member engagement, providing new innovative services and identifying new members.

**The Cluster Booster Academy will return in 2024!**



# Join Clusters meet Regions!

The objective of the [‘Clusters meet Regions’ events](#) is to facilitate the implementation of good practices where clusters play an active role in regional economies and are **drivers for economic transition**, and to create and promote **collaborations between clusters and regional stakeholders** for the industrial development of the regions.

- **Lyon, France - 12-13 October 2023;**  
registration open
- **Prague, Czech Republic - 23-24 October 2023;**  
registration open
- **Düsseldorf, Germany – 8 November 2023;**  
registration open
- **Iasi, Romania – 21-23 November 2023**
- **Kraków, Poland – 11-12 December 2023**



# Clusters meet Regions: An #EUClustersTalk on clusters as drivers of regional economic transition

- **In-person** EU Clusters Talk at the EU Regions Week in **Brussels** on **12 October 2023, 11:30 – 13:00**
- Discuss with us the role of clusters in the green and digital transition of Europe's regions, how to collaborate with regional governments to strengthen the regional economy and build resilience, and results of "Clusters meet Regions"!
- Speakers:
  - **Marek Przeor**, DG GROW, European Commission;
  - **Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė**, AgriFood Lithuania
  - **Riikka Tanskanen**, Regional Council of Lapland;
  - **Wolfgang Münch**, DG REGIO, European Commission
- Registration until **30 September** on:  
<https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/programme/2023/sessions/2353>

**21<sup>st</sup>**  
**European Week of  
Regions and Cities**  
Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

**Clusters meet Regions:**  
An #EUClustersTalk on clusters as  
drivers of regional economic transition

12 October 2023, 11:30 - 13:00 CET

EUROPEAN CLUSTER  
COLLABORATION PLATFORM

#EURegionsWeek



# EU INDUSTRY DAYS 2023

4 - 6 OCT ————— MÁLAGA

[#EUIndustryDays](https://twitter.com/EUIndustryDays)



# Funding programmes under direct management

**Christophe Galand**

Head of Unit, DG BUDG, European Commission



# EU funding opportunities: Direct management programmes

**Christophe Galand**  
Head of unit BUDG A3

*#EUbudget, #EUSolidarity, #StrongerTogether*

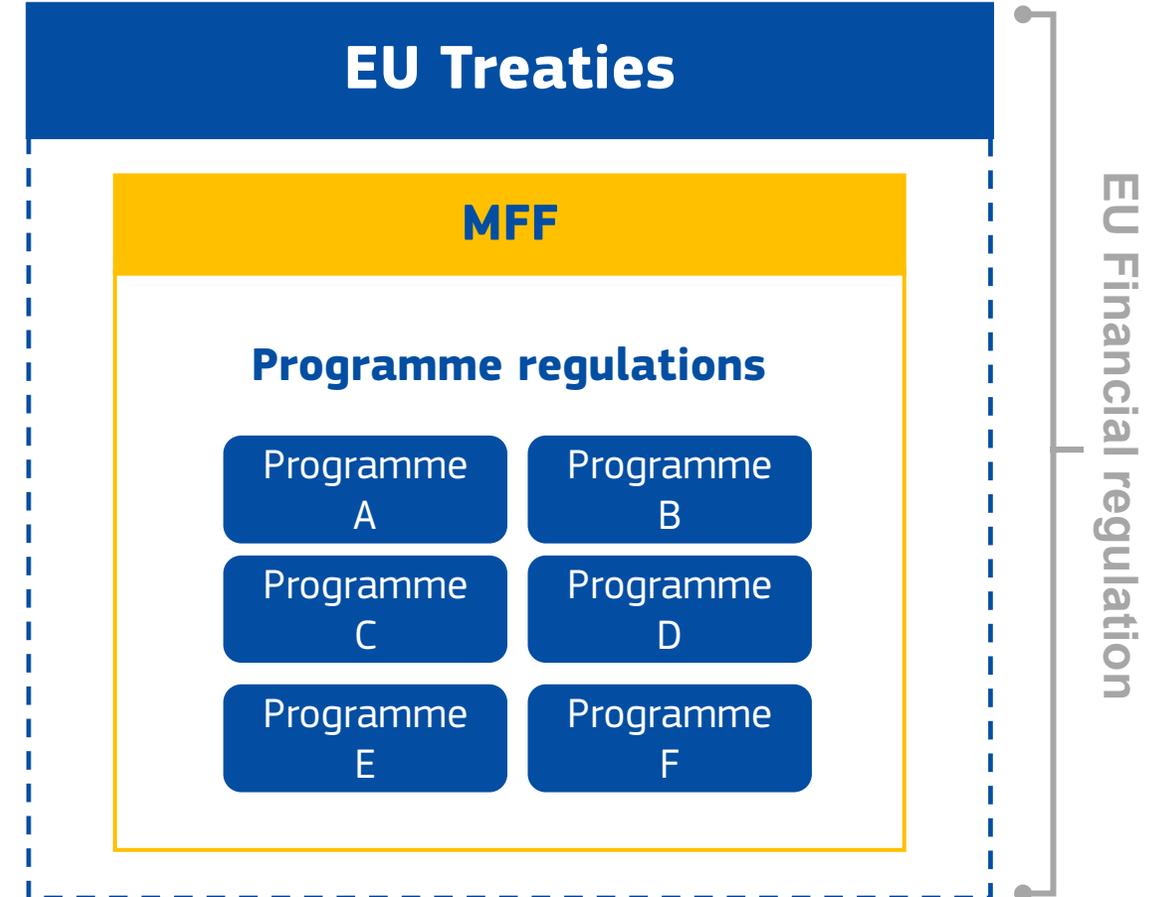
# EU budget legislation

## WHAT THE EU BUDGET CAN BE SPENT ON:

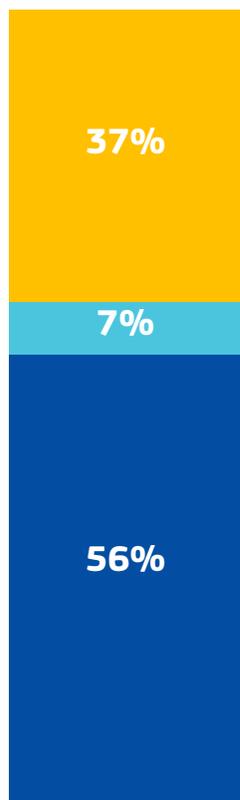
- [EU treaties](#): which policies can be financed.
- [Multiannual Financial Framework regulation](#): the overall size of the EU budget and allocations per programme.
- [EU Programmes' regulations](#): the scope of the actions to be financed.

## HOW WE CAN SPEND IT:

- [EU Financial regulation](#) the way the EU budget is executed (including financial actors' roles and obligations).



# Implementation management modes



(without RRF)

## Direct management

Funds are implemented by the European Commission, including its delegations and executive agencies

## Indirect management

Funds are implemented in cooperation with external entities (international organisations, decentralised agencies, national agencies, etc.)

## Shared management

Funds are implemented in cooperation with Member States' national or regional authorities

# Direct management in a nutshell

European Commission is directly responsible for **all steps** in a programme's implementation including:

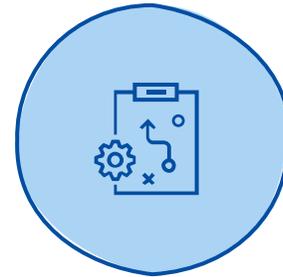
LAUNCHING THE CALLS  
FOR PROPOSALS



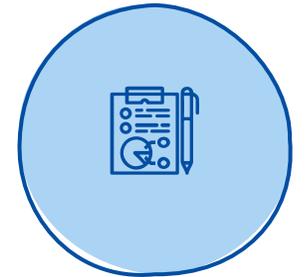
SIGNING GRANT  
AGREEMENTS



ASSESSING  
THE RESULTS



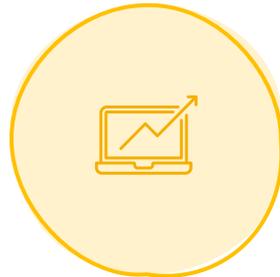
REPORTING ON THE OVERALL  
IMPLEMENTATION



EVALUATING SUBMITTED  
PROPOSALS



MONITORING PROJECT  
IMPLEMENTATION



MAKING  
PAYMENTS



# Heading 1: Single Market, Innovation and Digital



**Horizon Europe:** Scientific, technological, economic, environmental and societal impact; support to all forms of research and innovation.

**Connecting Europe Facility:** Supporting the delivery of key energy, transport and digital infrastructure cross Europe.

**Digital Europe Programme:** Aims to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe.

**Single Market Programme:** Empowering and protecting consumers; ensuring food safety, enabling EU small and medium-sized enterprises to thrive.

**European Space Programme:** EU space policy; satellite technology and innovation; data, navigation, and communication services; fighting climate change; disaster response.

## Heading 2: Cohesion and values

**Erasmus+**: Support the educational, professional and personal development of people in education, training, youth and sport.

**European Solidarity Corps**: For young people wishing to volunteer to help the disadvantaged, provide humanitarian aid, contribute to health and environmental action,

**Justice Programme**: Strengthening democracy, rule of law, and fundamental rights.

**Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme**: Protection and promotion of the rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

**Creative Europe**: Creative Europe is the European Commission's programme for providing support to the culture and audiovisual sectors.



## Heading 2: Cohesion and values



**Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU)**: Strengthen cooperation between the EU Member States and 6 Participating States in the field of civil protection.

**EU4Health**: Investing in resilient, equitable and modern health systems, improving the health of EU citizens and protecting people from cross-border health threats.

**Recovery and Resilience Facility**: Key instrument of NextGenerationEU to help the EU emerge stronger and more resilient from the current crisis.

## Heading 3: Natural Resources & Environment

### Programme for the Environment and Climate Action

**(LIFE)** To achieve the shift towards a sustainable, circular and resilient economy, protect and restore the environment, halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

**Innovation Fund** To bring to the market solutions to decarbonise European industry and support its transition to climate neutrality while fostering its competitiveness.



## Heading 5: Security & Defence



**Internal Security Fund:** Security of the Union; tackling radicalisation, terrorism, cybercrime, organised crime; protecting victims of crime.

**European Defence Fund:** Commission's key initiative to support, with the EU budget, collaborative research and development of defence capabilities.

# Types of funding



# Funding & tender opportunities

- Funding opportunities are explained on [Access to EU funding website](#)
- Calls for proposals under direct management are published on the [Funding and Tenders Portal \(SEDIA\)](#)

## Access to EU funding

Information on calls for proposals, funding programmes and application process, tendering process and opportunities.

[Find opportunities >](#)

# How to apply?

- **Before you apply:** What you should know before you start applying for EU funding?
- **Eligibility: who can get funding?** Beneficiary profiles and the funding opportunities available to them.
- **The application process:** How to apply for EU funding under direct management?
- **Award procedure and contract signature:** Each project proposal is scrutinised before funding is granted.
- **Managing your project:** What to expect once you are awarded a contract: reporting, deliverables, audits and communication.
- **Results:** Find out about the impact of EU programmes on citizens' lives and the results of EU-funded projects.

# To find more



## Read more

[Long-term EU budget and NextGenerationEU](#)

[The EU's 2021-2027 long-term budget & NextGenerationEU: facts & figures](#)

[The EU budget in motion](#)

[EU as a borrower](#)

[Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard](#)



## Follow us on social media:

[@JHahnEU](#)

[@EU Budget](#)

[@stephanie\\_riso](#)

# Thank you



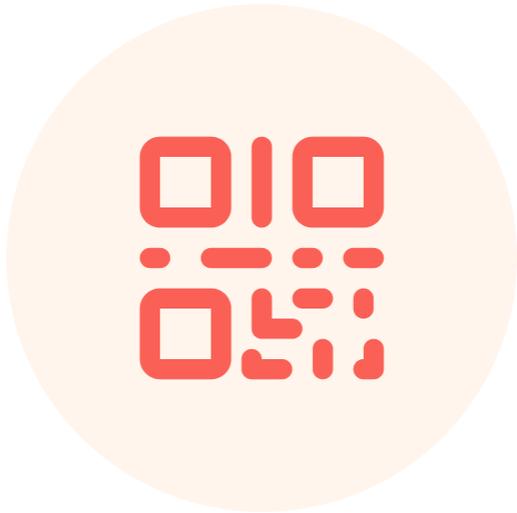
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**BEFORE WE GET STARTED...**

# slido



**Join at [slido.com](https://slido.com)  
#DirectManagement**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the joining instructions on this slide.

# slido



**I have implemented/am implementing a project funded by...**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# Project examples

**Björg Dam**, Project Manager, Life Science Cluster Denmark

**Eva Vicente Barragán**, Operations Coordinator - Project Management Engineer, ICAMCyL

**Maurizio Malè**, Cluster Project Manager, Venetian Cluster

# Danish Life Science Cluster

- We want to build partnerships, that can solve difficult societal challenges.
- We will unite all actors across the value chain in the health challenges in strategic partnerships, where the actors will focus on developing total solutions, that are based on new technology, new knowledge and new behaviour.

## Current EU projects:

INNAXE (Inclusive & aligned INNovation Agendas across Europe)

EXCELIVING (Excellent Living Environments)

CAIDX (Clinical AI-Based Diagnostics)

InnoCompTec

# Innovationskraft UFS Tillæg

## Internationalisering Horizon Europe

We have employees at every university, who sit in shared positions between the universities and the cluster. This gives us very good opportunity to find the right researchers and spinouts for current calls.

We are in a position to find relevant companies.

- Funded by: Agency for Higher Education and Science
- Focus: More Danish companies involved in Horizon Europe
- Activities:
  - Webinar, Talks, network events, articles etc.
  - Collaborations with experts in the field of funding
- Conclusions thus far:
  - Not enough knowledge about EU funds in the ecosystem



# Why do we choose EU funding

- Pros
  - Good opportunities for international collaborations and development within the EU and across the EU.
    - Both for the cluster and for its members
- Cons
  - Lacks flexibility:
    - Complexity regarding high degree of co-financing.
    - Lack of opportunity to mix EU funds.

When you look at it as a whole EU-funds are often de-prioritized, as it can be difficult to find the co-financing.



# The project



## The mining sector needs sustainable solutions

MINE.THE.GAP brings together SMEs from the raw materials and mining sector with companies that have solutions for a more digital, greener, and circular mining value chain. Through open calls and support services, MINE.THE.GAP makes business ideas a reality.

FOR A GREENER TOMORROW

### Top challenges and needs



## INNOSUP:

- 4.9 M€ funding
- 4.1 M€ for SMEs



This project has received funding from the European Union's EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020 under Grant Agreement No 873149

# Management

**ICAMCYL**  
 Centro internacional de materiales avanzados y materias primas  
 International center for advanced materials and raw materials



## 2 layers

~4.1 M€

~0.8 M€

Collaborative projects

**Level 1**

Direct financial support to SMEs

≤50k€

New interregional & intersectoral value chains

Business support services

**Level 2**

Business support services

≤10k€

Training and supporting activities

**Level 3**

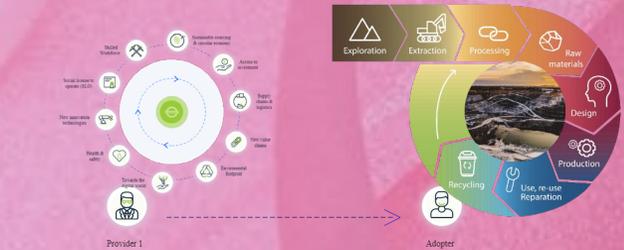
Access to new investments

Support packages selected by the SMEs

Follow-up & Helpdesk

Assistance scheme to secure long-term impact

UP TO 60k€ in DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO SMEs



### BEHIND THE PROJECT

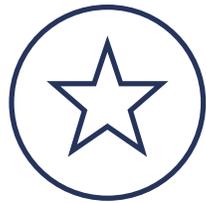
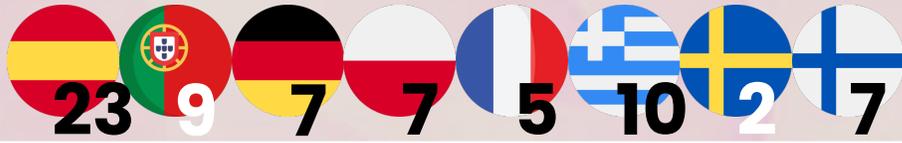
#### Our partners

MINE.THE.GAP is managed by a strong consortium of European partners that help SMEs to innovate and grow.



# Benefits challenges & tips

**ICAMCYL**  
Centro internacional de materiales avanzados y materias primas  
International center for advanced materials and raw materials



27

Products/Services/  
Technologies brought  
to the market

MTG Platform:

- Matchmaking
- Partnerships for projects

## Connect and collaborate

### Log in to the MINE.THE.GAP collaboration platform

MINE.THE.GAP wants to establish new collaborations between SMEs from the mining and raw materials sector and the fields of ICT, advanced manufacturing, resource efficiency, and circular economy. That's why MINE.THE.GAP offers SMEs a collaboration platform to find partners for new project proposals. By creating a MINE.THE.GAP profile, SMEs can access this internal space, present themselves, and search for companies interested in participating in the MINE.THE.GAP open calls.

[Create an account](#)

Username or Email

Password

Remember Me

LOG IN

[Lost Password](#)

## Collaboration with other EU projects

Achieving the green transition is important to us. That is why MINE.THE.GAP collaborates with other European projects to support green and circular solutions in the mining industry and other sectors. Only together can we bring about the change and help our companies in diversifying their business models and rethinking the value chains.



14-GREEN



Funded by European Union



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# Valuing Afforestation of damaged woods with Innovative Agroforestry



# LIFE VAIA

The LIFE VAIA project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union, under Grant Agreement LIFE20 CCA/IT/001630.

LIFE VAIA applies temporary agroforestry in damaged forests as a strategy to ensure economic survival of local communities and increase forest resilience and adaptation to climate changes

EU Clusters Talks – 27 September 2023



Maurizio Malè – VENETIAN CLUSTER

# LIFE VAIA – PILOT SITES OUTLINE



LIFE20 CCA/IT/001630

Agroforestry  
production with  
autochthonous plants in  
small temporary  
gardens

Apiculture

Irrigation systems  
powered by PV

Certifications  
(sustainability, organic,  
biodiversity)

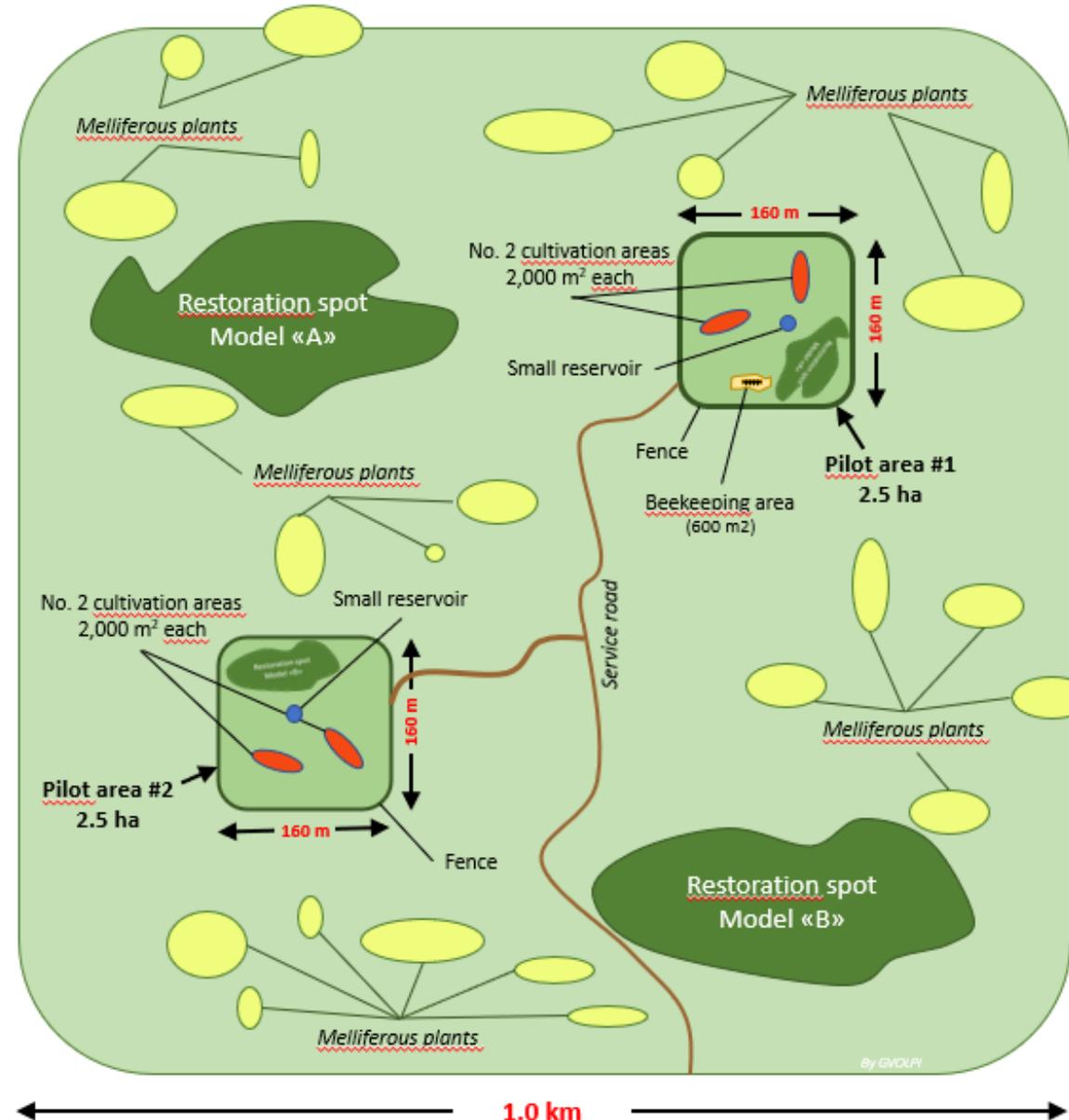
More possible  
economic activities  
(tourism, didactic, etc)

Reforestation for a  
higher  
biodiversity and  
resilience

Creation of small  
ponds for  
collecting water

Melliferous plants

Increase and  
montoring of  
biodiversity



## LIFE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



LIFE20 CCA/IT/001630

Financed: 60% from direct EU funds; 40% from own partner resources (including payslips of staff).

Around 5 Million € of total budget, including infrastructural works.

11 Partners, either public or private bodies (also SMEs).

Duration 5 years.

Improvement of environmental quality: biodiversity, lesser environmental impact.

Business → Close to market project: opportunity for enterprises to start or implement commercial activities (products, services).

# LIFE PROGRAMME – BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES



LIFE20 CCA/IT/001630

## Challenges:

- 40% of co-financing is quite high, more than other Programmes like Interreg.
- Reporting procedures: 3 months internal reporting + official reports.
- KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) very important to be defined and monitored.

## Benefits:

- Possibility of big projects, high budget and infrastructural works.
- Enterprises can participate, also to develop business activities.
- Many different calls, also for single enterprises (circular economy, environment, etc.), all in Funding & Tender Portal.
- Inclusion in European networks, exchanges with other projects.
- Marketing value: image for participating in a LIFE project.

# Thank you!

Email:

[maurizio.male@venetiancluster.eu](mailto:maurizio.male@venetiancluster.eu)



<http://lifevaia.eu/>



@FACEBOOK: [lifevaia](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/lifevaia>

YOUTUBE: LIFE VAIA

<https://youtube.com/channel/UC9UILBwLbj0lRHbEtInyUzg>



slido



**What are your takeaways for applying to the next calls?**

**i** Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Find calls for proposals and tenders

[!\[\]\(94e4ccd467d9274251f2ed1d991c09a2\_img.jpg\)](#)
[Brexit info](#)
[Report fraud](#)



### EU Programmes

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	Border Management and Visa Policy Instrument (BMVI)	Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)	Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	Creative Europe Programme (CREA)	Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI)
Customs Programme (CUST)	Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)	Erasmus+ (ERASMUS+)	EU External Action (RELEX)	EU4Health Programme (EU4H)	Euratom Research and Training Programme (EURATOM)
Europe Direct (ED)	European Defence Fund (EDF)	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund	European Parliament (EP)	European Social Fund + (ESF)	European Solidarity Corps (ESC)

### News

Sep 18, 2023  
**Travel unit costs rates' increase as of 1 January 2023**  
 On 26 July 2023 the Commission adopted an amendment to Decision C(2021)35 authorising the use of unit costs for the reimbursement of travel, accommodation and s...

Sep 17, 2023  
**Call for applications to join the Expert group on the Economic and Societal Impact of Research and Innovation (ESIR3)**  
 Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) has published a call for applications for experts for the Economic and Societal Impact of Research and ...

Sep 13, 2023  
**New webinar on IP Commercialisation and licensing**  
 Join the upcoming webinar on IP Commercialisation and licensing addressing the following fields:How to manage your IP before entering a business collaborationIP...

# Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- CirInWater: Lump sums to access training or consultancy services for **water-smart solutions**, especially for the agrifood & energy-intensive industries; deadline 2 October 2024
- DESIRE: Innovation and internationalisation of **e-Health solutions**; deadline 13 November 2023
- ELBE EUROCLUSTER for **Offshore Renewable Energy**: Financial support to innovation to respond to eight different challenges in the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) sector; deadline 30 September 2023
- E-Boost: Five calls to identify product innovations to reduce dependency on critical inputs and technologies in the E- BOOST value chains, to introduce new-to-firm products or services, and to engage actors from regions with different levels of economic development; targets are SMEs from the **mobility** ecosystem
- EuroBoostEX: Grant for **textile** SMEs to innovate through technologies and **adapt business processes** to enable the green and digital transition; deadline 8 November 2023
- FRIEND CCI: Call for **providers** offering solutions in **digitalisation, greening, and internationalisation** to collaborate with **Creative and Cultural** SMEs for the realization of funded projects; deadline 1 August 2025
- FRIEND CCI: Grants directed to the development and implementation of cross-sectoral projects aimed to bring innovation both at the level of products and at the level of processes/ technologies in **Creative and Cultural Industries**; deadline 30 September 2023
- GEMSTONE: Financial support for **manufacturing, technology and solution providers SMEs**, and in particular industrial equipment and tool providers, for implementation of a new green technology, service, product or business production process in a real operational environment; deadline 31 October 2023

# Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- GEMSTONE: Financial support for **training** related to **Green Manufacturing**; deadline 31 December 2024
- INGENIOUS: **Internationalisation** grants SMEs operated in **energy intensive industry** for business opportunities in Africa, Asia, North America and Latin America; deadline 30 September 2024
- INGENIOUS: **Training** grants to help SMEs improve their digital skills, green transition, resilience preparedness and reskilling and upskilling of the workforce; deadline 14 February 2025
- METASTARS: Call for **innovation services** for green technology development, digitalisation, upskilling and reskilling, internationalisation, and information security systems for SMEs from the **aeronautics, space, defence and ICT sectors**; deadline 31 December 2023
- POLREC: Innovation open call aims to support SMEs by funding their **polymer recycling** projects; deadline 31 October 2023
- RESIST: **Networking and marketing** FSTP for SMEs from the **Automotive – Mobility – Transport** ecosystem; deadline 20 December 2024
- RESIST: **Internationalisation** FSTP for activities in target markets; deadline 20 December 2024
- RESIST: **Coaching and mentoring** for assessment and feasibility services; deadline 1 November 2024
- SUSTAIN: Financial support to SMEs for developing new products, services or methods addressing the **smart building construction** challenges; deadline 1 November 2023
- **All calls here:** <https://clustercollaboration.eu/open-calls>

# Come to our C2Lab!

SMEs, clusters, research organisations, social and public entities are invited to join **an interactive workshop** to meet, network, exchange ideas, and initiative new project proposals. Guided by experts on project creation and management, you have the possibility to forge **new alliances and project consortia** for the topic of your interest. You can either join with a concrete project idea or offer your skills and knowledge in new areas.

**25-26 October 2023:  
Ljubljana, Slovenia**

**14-15 November 2023:  
Vilnius, Lithuania**



# Register for the next Talks

**4 October** Industry 5.0

**11 October** Takeaways from EU Industry Days

*Special invitation to in-person EU Clusters Talk:*

**12 October, Brussels, European Week of Regions and Cities**

Clusters meet Regions: An #EUClustersTalk on clusters as drivers of regional economic transition

**18 October** Cybersecurity

# Register on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform!

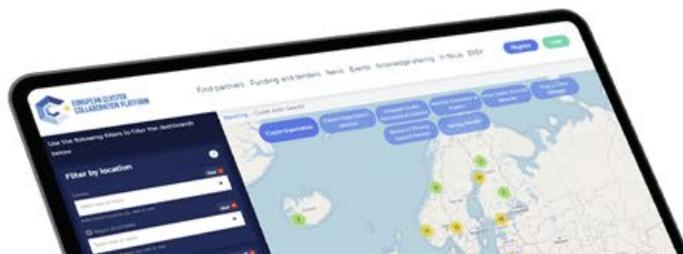
<https://clustercollaboration.eu/>

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration



The European online hub for industry clusters

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration



Find partners per country, region, sector or industrial ecosystem

EUCLUSTERS

THANK YOU

